



IKEA officials announced this week that Mark McCaslin (right) is the manager of the new Canton store. He and IKEA spokesman Joseph Roth discussed the store's design on Wednesday. They say the store will open sometime this summer.

IKEA picks manager, still on track to open this summer

BY CAROL MARSHALL
STAFF WRITER

It's a good thing for Mark McCaslin that IKEA furniture packs up and moves just fine. It's good because he's moved to Michigan - his third home in the eight years since he started working for IKEA - to be the store manager at the Canton location,

which will open this summer. IKEA announced this week that McCaslin has been appointed manager of the store, which will be the 28th IKEA in the U.S. once it opens. McCaslin is in town this week, and had his first opportunity to meet local officials and business owners at the Canton Chamber of Commerce luncheon

Wednesday at the Summit. He has relocated to the area from Long Island, N.Y., and has been with IKEA since 1998. As for the store, it is still in "construction mode," according to IKEA spokesman Joseph Roth, so the opening date is still uncertain. "We're really not in control of when we open until the con-

struction is finished," he said. McCaslin has been interviewing management candidates for the past four weeks, and soon they will be hired and trained. The store will employ some 400 workers, and 85 percent of them will be hired locally. Applications for employment are available online at <http://JobsAt.IKEA-usa.com>.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Nick McMahon, owner of McMahon Helicopters in Canton, is upset that FAA rules won't allow him to transport clients downtown to the Super Bowl on Sunday.

Grounded

Helicopter owner upset with Super Bowl flight restrictions

BY CAROL MARSHALL
STAFF WRITER

Sports fans, media folk and wealthy travelers have started arriving in the metro area for Sunday's Super Bowl at Detroit's Ford Field, bringing with them their cash and high spirits, and a much-needed, much-promised economic shot in the arm for local businesses. But one local business owner said, despite his high-flying hopes that he would reap the benefits, he won't see any of the \$300 million that game-related travelers typically pump into a host region during a Super Bowl week.

"We've turned down some \$50,000 in business - business that we thought we would be getting during the Super Bowl," said Nick McMahon, owner of McMahon Helicopters in Canton, a charter air transportation company.

Because of security reasons, Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) officials say temporary flight restrictions will be in place on game day, and McMahon won't be able to take advantage of the one-day opportunity to provide air taxi service to his

PLEASE SEE FLIGHT, A4

Super Bowl ticket winner gets ready for big game

BY CAROL MARSHALL
STAFF WRITER

For more than four years, Gary Martin has known what he's going to be doing this weekend. It's not that he's all that rigid in his scheduling. It's just that his plans are pretty super.

Martin, a Canton resident, won two tickets to Sunday's Super Bowl game in Detroit.

"I'm counting down the days now," he said earlier this week. "As the day gets closer and reality sets in, I'm getting more excited."

When he first found out he had won the tickets in a contest sponsored by the Detroit Metro Convention

& Visitors Bureau, he thought it was a hoax. For starters, he found out on one of the worst days in his recent memory - Sept. 11, 2001.

He also thought he was being duped because the bureau had sent him some paperwork to complete, and asked for his Social Security number.

"I said, 'No way. I'm not giving you that information,'" Martin said.

It wasn't until he'd done a little investigating that he realized he was indeed the big winner. And right away, he knew who would hold the second ticket - his wife, Mary Ann.

Mary Ann isn't a football fan, but she is excited



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Gary Martin (left) waited four years to receive his Super Bowl tickets from the Detroit Metro Convention and Visitor's Bureau. Michael O'Callaghan delivered the tickets to Martin's Canton home on Friday.

about the Rolling Stones playing during the halftime show, Martin said.

Martin hasn't picked his favorite to win when the Seattle Seahawks and the Pittsburgh Steelers hit the turf.

"I like both teams. If I had to tip the scale I would probably say Pittsburgh,

but I won't be disappointed either way," Martin said.

Martin is a 29-year veteran of Ford Motor Co. He works at the Ford Livonia Transmission Plant. He and his wife have two daughters attending Plymouth Salem High School, Megan, 17 and Kim, 15.

Passion, knowledge key to school service

BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER

As next week's deadline nears for filing nominating petitions to run for the Plymouth-Canton Board of Education, current Vice President Judy Mardigan has a bit of advice for those planning to run for the two open seats in the May 2 election.

"The important thing is to have passion for the issues," Mardigan said. "To want to see students succeed, and the district do well financially."

"Know that you're going to learn a lot of new things," she added. "It's like taking on another vocation."

Current board members attest it's much more than attending regular meetings on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month, with many spending an additional 15 hours a week on school business.

"It helps to adequately budget your time, you will need it," Trustee Tom

Wysocki said. "Some other things may have to be reduced or cut if you want to do an adequate job."

"For most people, it will take some time to learn about the district, the important impacts on our students and their learning," he added. "It's difficult to know everything. But you learn to know the general direction and policy, and make decisions and actions based on those over-arching policies."

While it seems like a daunting task, Mardigan said new board members receive plenty of help.


"Board members will mentor other board members, and it gets much easier," she said. "The issues don't get easier, but your understanding of the educational arena does."

Trustee Richard Ham-Kucharski ran in 1998 and 2002 before finally winning a seat in 2003.

"The first couple of times, I lacked

PLEASE SEE BOARD, A3


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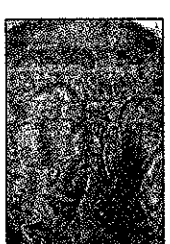
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Coming Sunday
on the **PINK** Page



Detroit's Marc Buchanan, founder of Pelle Pelle, designs SBXL jacket

AROUND CANTON

Preparing for IKEA


"Company's coming...are you ready?" is the theme of seven morning events scheduled during February in the various color districts in Canton's DDA District. Since the announcement that IKEA is coming to town, the Canton Community Marketing Committee has been working to help Canton businesses take advantage of the opportunity to attract IKEA shoppers to the other areas of the community. Store owners are encouraged to start planning now for "the day" when IKEA opens its doors this summer and thousands of visitors discover Canton.

The morning coffee meetings are sponsored by the Canton Chamber of Commerce and the Downtown Development Authority (DDA). Each meeting will start at 8 a.m. and end promptly at 9:30 a.m.

Topics of discussion will include the new color-coded branding along Ford Road, how to encourage the IKEA visitor to stay and take advantage of local businesses, new public safety plans concerning traffic and parking, and more. Meeting dates and locations are as follows:

- Tuesday, Feb. 7: Bailey's Pub & Grille
- Wednesday, Feb. 8: Max & Erma's Restaurant
- Thursday, Feb. 9: Canton Cinema 7
- Monday, Feb. 13: Outback Steakhouse
- Wednesday, Feb. 15: Panera Bread
- Thursday, Feb. 16: Carrabba's Italian Grill
- Tuesday, Feb. 21: Imagine Theatre

All business owners and business property owners in



Swearing in

Canton Township trustee Todd Caccamo (right) was officially sworn in with the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve on Dec. 21 in Perrysburg, Ohio, which is the home of the 1st Battalion, 24th Marines, Weapons Company. Caccamo, a former Marine who decided to re-enlist because of America's war against terrorism, says he is serving in the 4th Mobile Strike Platoon. He expects the battalion to be activated on June 1. The man swearing him in is Capt. Lakis, of the United States Navy.

Canton training center has gone to the dogs

BY CAROL MARSHALL
STAFF WRITER

It's official. Canton has gone to the dogs. But that's a good thing, if you ask Marilyn and Art Runde, who this month opened a canine training facility in their hometown.

"We were looking for something that we wanted to do in our retirement years," said Marilyn Runde. She's spent the last 35 years working as a dog groomer and trainer, but Art - who is a crane operator by day - was ready to consider a second career.

So in January the couple opened their 7,800 square foot training facility for show-bound dogs, called Canine Training and Sports Center.

Six days a week, the Rundes train pooches at all skill levels for competition at major dog shows, helping dogs with everything from non-competitive manners training (open to all dogs whose owners would like them to be more polite around the house) to agility, to socialization and obedience.

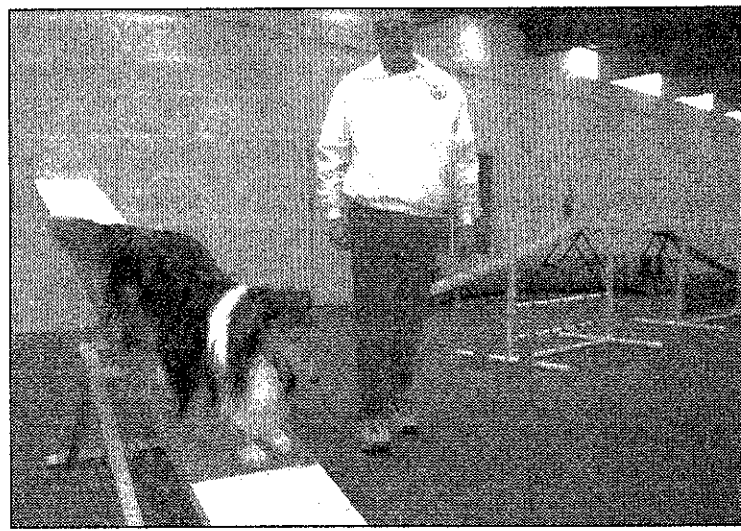
"We do all kinds of training - from conformation, what people call the beauty contest at the dog shows - to rally obedience to agility at all levels," Marilyn said.

The couple will soon add tracking and classes for dogs that are new to show preparation.

The pinnacle of preparation is to master the Master Agility Champion title.

"You've really done something if you get that far," Art Runde said. "If you get there, you're at the top of your game, the best of your sport."

But who is the athlete - the dog or the dog's handler?



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Art Runde works with his Shetland sheepdog, Lance, at Canine Training and Sports Center, a 7,800-square-foot training facility for show-bound dogs he and his wife, Marilyn, recently opened in Canton.

Both, said Marilyn, who said that in order for her to keep up with the couple's Shetland sheepdog, Lance, she had to get to Canton's Summit on the Park for 45-minute workouts four days a week.

It's easy to understand, since Lance can cover 21 obstacles and 160 yards in 35 seconds.

It takes a while to get a dog ready to compete.

According to Marilyn, a dog needs at least 6-12 months to train. It also requires a high level of comfort with the agility equipment.

Art Runde works in a shop on-site, building the apparatus needed for the dogs' agility training, and the facility also has a padded puppy room, where new trainees can get comfortable and do some one-on-one training, as well as work on their socialization skills.

The facility is in the process

of making changes and taking shape, and will include a retail area in its lobby where students - four-legged and two-legged - wait for their classes to start.

With an estimated 1,600-2,000 dog licenses being issued in Canton Township every year, the facility has a built-in market close to home, Marilyn said.

Though the Rundes rent the building which houses the school, they hope to buy it and eventually add more space.

"When that happens it will be the largest training center in Michigan," Art Runde said.

The Canine Training and Sports Center is located at 45570 Maben Road, north of Ford, just west of Canton Center Road. The center's grand opening will be noon-6 p.m. Feb. 4.

For more information, call (734) 451-9441.

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CORRECTION

The article Steeler Resolve that appeared last week should have said that Ben Roethlisberger attended Miami University (Ohio).

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EXERCISE FOR PREGNANT WOMEN

Pregnant women who do not have any medical or obstetric complications should be engaging in at least 30 minutes of moderate exercise most days of the week. This recommendation, made by the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology, is the same amount of exercise suggested for all individuals. Recent research, however, shows that non-pregnant women are more likely to get the recommended amount of exercise than pregnant women. For each year included in the analysis, at least 33 percent of pregnant women reported not participating in any physical activity. If you are pregnant and have any questions about the duration and strenuousness of exercise, consult with a physical therapist.

A physical therapist can help you determine which exercises are right for your body and your needs. Specializing in orthopedic and sports rehab, we are dedicated to traditional patient centered care coupled with cutting edge physical therapy technology. For further information about today's column, contact 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 patients are welcome.

P.S. Physical exercise helps pregnant women avoid back problems and prepares them for delivery.

Johan Cornuth, PT

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Board doesn't reflect growing diversity

Minority candidates urged to step up, run for school seats

BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER

As Plymouth-Canton Schools continues to grow in size, the ethnic and cultural makeup of the student population is slowly changing.

It's no surprise that of the 19,292 students served by the district, nearly 80 percent are white. However, Asians, African Americans, Hispanics and other ethnic groups make up the remaining 20 percent and continue to grow.

In many communities, the makeup of governing boards is diverse, much like the communities they serve. However, the Plymouth-Canton Board of Education's complexion is the same it's always been: seven white members.

"Plymouth-Canton is more African American, Latinos and other minorities, but the school board doesn't reflect that," said Virgil Humes of Plymouth, pastor of New Hope Baptist Church in Wayne.

Humes helped mediate racial problems in February 2001 concerning Martin Luther King Day. At that time, Humes noted the district needed to hire more minorities to reflect the makeup of the school community.

Shortly afterward, three African Americans were hired as principals to begin the 2002-03 school year — Cassandra Smith at Canton High School, Joyce Johnson at Central Middle School and Carolyn Washington at Hulsing Elementary.

"I think the administration should approach some of the leaders in our community and ask for potential candidates,"

Humes said. "It's still a good-old-boys network, and it's hard to break into that club. But if they were invited in, the others would welcome them."

Only a handful of people generally run for a seat on the school board, and Humes said the onus shouldn't be completely borne by the administration.

"They (minorities) need to step up and be involved in the process," Humes said. "But the reality is those school board members that are already there have great support mechanisms."

"There is very little of that with people of color," Humes added. "It would be good if someone would be courageous enough to step up."

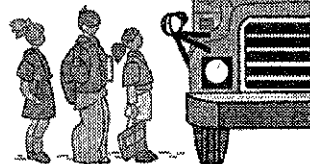
Allie Suffety, an alternative education teacher who last year was a co-sponsor of the P-CEP Diversity Council, said the more diverse the district gets, the more impact representation on the school board, as well as administrative and teaching levels, will have on students.

"There would be some merit to students seeing themselves in those roles, positions of power," Suffety said. "It allows a vision for students, to see that there is somebody like themselves they can believe in, and look at what they can eventually be."

Current school board Trustee Richard Ham-Kucharski, whose son is autistic, champions student issues relating to physical disabilities. He said he'd like to see the board more diverse.

"I think it would be a wonderful addition, and change the dynamics of the board,"

QUICK FACTS



Plymouth - Canton Schools

Plymouth-Canton Community Schools district:
Number of students: 18,200
Number of teachers: 1,000
Number of schools: 3 high schools, 5 middle schools, 15 elementary schools
Annual budget: \$140 million
Accreditation: North Central Accreditation
Founded: 1830
What you might not have known: It's the sixth-largest district in the state, and should pass Livonia as the fifth-largest by the end of the school year.

Ham-Kucharski said. "The current board tries very hard to become versed in diversity, but, obviously, we can't experience everything unless you are in that person's shoes."

Trustee Tom Wysocki said he'd like to see the Board of Education become more diverse.

However, he said it's the same old problem of very few candidates seeking a seat on the board, whether they be white, African American or of any other ethnic group.

"It would be good to have some diversity, but we haven't seen people step up to take that on," Wysocki said. "As a district, we're doing a fairly good job on diversity, with things like training sessions for employees. It's just not reflected on the board."

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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth-Canton's executive director of human resources, Ray Bihun (left), and trustees Barry Simescu and Carol Saunders listen to the state of the district's finances during a recent board meeting.

BOARD

FROM PAGE A1

the understanding of the issues inside the district," Ham-Kucharski said. "I made sure I got more involved at the district level, and not so much on the building level, to understand how big and complex the district really is."

"If you throw yourself into it and hit activities in the district to meet people, like PTO activities and other events, you can become effective," he added.

Ham-Kucharski said the position became more time-consuming than he originally thought, with every week a learning experience.

"The first year was learning boardsmanship and the complexities from a district-wide perspective that you can't get unless you are there," he said.

"You learn the nuances on how schools are run, state mandates and the pace of how fast or slow things change in a school district our size."

Bill Pratt of Plymouth Township, who ran for the board in 2002 and lost, said not having the endorsement of the Plymouth-Canton Education Association and its 1,100 teachers hurt him.

However, Pratt believes current candidates may have it easier since state law took the administering of the elections away from the school districts and to the trust of the municipal clerks, who send out many more absentee ballots.

- At least 18-years-old.
- Resident of the district for at least 30 days.
- Gather at least 40 signatures but no more than 100 or pay a \$100 filing fee by Feb. 7.

INTERESTED IN RUNNING?

Candidates wishing to run for a position on their local boards of education have two easy standards to meet before launching their campaigns.

First, they must be a resident of the community they wish to represent and, second, they must be a registered voter. Prospective candidates can then either gather signatures — at least 40 but no more than 100 — or pay a \$100 filing fee.

The duty of the local board of education is to set the policies that govern operations in the district, oversee budgets and take action on student-related

matters. The local school board is also responsible for finding and hiring a district superintendent.

The intermediate (or regional) school district has the same mandates as the local school district except in two regards. The intermediate district is, by definition, of a larger scope and deals with all school districts within its borders. The local school district deals with policy as it affects students, whereas the intermediate school district — which has very few students if any — deals with policy as it affects the member districts within its borders.

"The union approval weighed too heavily because of the small turnout," Pratt said. "At least now, the election gets a wider distribution."

Nominating petitions with 40 signatures are due by 4 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 7, at the

Plymouth Township clerk's office. In lieu of signatures, candidates can pay a \$100 filing fee to be put on the ballot.

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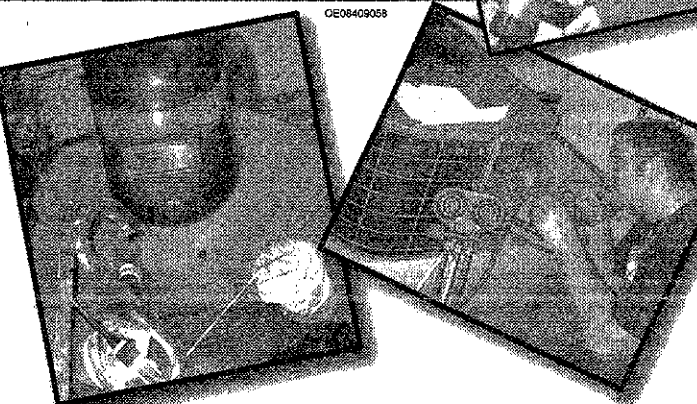
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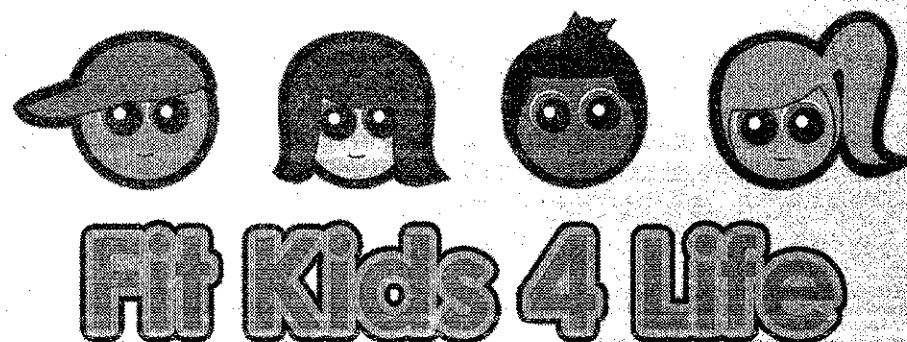
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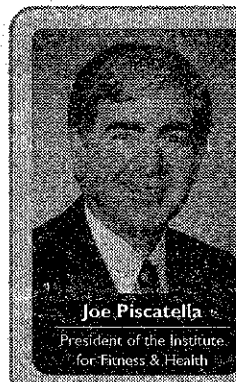
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MILITARY NEWS

Army grad

Army Pvt. Stanley J. Stanek has graduated from Basic Combat Training at Fort Knox, Ky.

During the nine-week train-

ing period, the trainee received instruction in drill and ceremony, weapons, rifle marksmanship and bayonet training, chemical warfare, field training and tactical exercises, armed and unarmed

combat, military courtesy, military justice, physical fitness, first aid, and Army history, traditions, and core values.

Stanek is the son of Theresa Stanek of Canton.

FOR THE RECORD

B
Jo Ann Boyne
 Boyne, 62, of Ellijay, Georgia, died Jan. 26.

John Michael Breen
 Breen, 81, died Jan. 28.

D
Sidney Dillick
 Dillick, 89, of West Bloomfield, died Jan. 26.

H
Emma Ruth Hedeman
 Hedeman, 95, formerly of Clarkston, died Jan. 25.

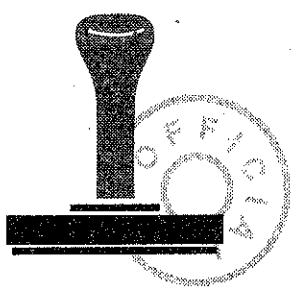
L
Mae K. Lock
 Lock, 94, of Birmingham, died Jan. 25.

M
James D. "Don" Mix
 Mix, 82, formerly of Canton and Westland, died Jan. 28.

R
Jane L. Ruthenberg
 Ruthenberg, 85, of Birmingham, died Jan. 31.

S
Lawrence Stock
 Stock, 74, of Fort Lauderdale, Fla., formerly of Farmington, died Jan. 14.

W
Robert "Bob" Warren
 Warren, 56, died Jan. 29.



For the Record appears in every edition of the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers*. Complete paid obituaries can be found inside today's newspaper in *Passages* on page B7.

FLIGHT

FROM PAGE A1

upscale clientele.

"The Super Bowl is considered an event with elevated risk from a security standpoint," said James Buford, Wayne County Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management director. "It's an event of national significance, so it's a potential target, even though there have been no credible threats directly related to the Super Bowl."

McMahon had been working with a Detroit riverfront bar and grill, which has allowed his helicopters to land on its property, just three nautical miles from Ford Field. He had been negotiating with some 20 customers to provide air transportation to and from the game. The wealthy customers wanted to step off their private jets and onto a helicopter to be transported to downtown Detroit minutes before kickoff.

The temporary flight restrictions will shut down the air space in a restricted area four-miles around Ford Field, starting at 4 p.m. on Feb. 5. Just

before midnight, planes will be able to depart from the area at a rate of 30 per hour. In an area from 10 miles to 30 miles outside the event, planes must fly in constant contact with the FAA, and have plans registered with traffic control. That means that McMahon's customers have said, "Thanks but no thanks; we'll get a car instead."

While there is a segment of customers who wouldn't mind arriving early and enjoying a bite to eat and few drinks or cups of cocoa before and after the Super Bowl, those people are not McMahon's clientele.

"These are not people like you and me, who would plan for weeks or months to go to the Super Bowl. They decide over cocktails the night before the game that they're going to hop in the jet and head to Detroit. These are folks who live in different ether than I do," said Willow Run Airport Director Sean Brosnan, of the jet set Super Bowl traveler.

While McMahon's business, which is typically slow on Sundays, may not see any Super Bowl traffic, Willow Run will have a significant increase over its usual five or six Sunday cargo flights. The airport is

expecting up to 100 aircraft between 10 a.m. Feb. 5 and 4 a.m. Feb. 6.

"It could be the busiest 16 hours we've ever had," Brosnan said. "We want people to be ready for that, and to know that it's an anomaly related to the Super Bowl."

Despite the sound of opportunity knocking, the airport authority will keep its landing fees the same as usual — \$1.50 per 1,000 pounds landed weight for aircraft more than 6,500 pounds (everything lighter is exempt).


"On average we'll be charging between \$15 and \$45 per aircraft," Brosnan said. "It's certainly not enough to do more than pay for our operating costs, and we're not gouging. It's about doing the job right. We'd like to hear people say that maybe Willow Run is a good alternative to flying in and out of Metro in the future."

But that's no consolation to McMahon, who this week had to turn away two clients who had hoped to hire aircraft all day for the game.

"As far as any charters go it's a total bust," he said.

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Granholt says 'boots on the ground' will beat DeVos money

BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER

Michigan Gov. Jennifer Granholm admits it will be tough to combat — dollar-for-dollar — a gubernatorial campaign by expected Republican challenger Richard DeVos of Grand Rapids.

However, Granholm is banking on the allegiance of her supporters to get out the vote as she seeks re-election in November.

"We won't be able to match them dollar-for-dollar on the air, but we have the boots on the ground to make sure we have people at the polls on election day," said Granholm to cheers by supporters at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Livonia Sunday. "I don't have billions of dollars, but we have more people than he does."

At that, nearly 75 people — who were personally invited — cheered and applauded Granholm, who plans to use her "jobs for today and tomorrow" campaign to meet and mobilize supporters across the state.

"Please tell people we have the most comprehensive economic plan of any state in the country, \$2 billion (21st Century Jobs Fund) to diversify our economy is very impor-

tant for our state," said Granholm. "We are the state that put the world on wheels, our niche should be alternative energy and fuel cells. We should be the state that makes America independent of foreign oil."

Granholm received more applause when she talked of growing jobs in the state, raising the minimum wage, a program to make health insurance available to a half-million people currently without health coverage and \$4,000 scholarships to college students.

"It makes you feel like you can go to college," said 15-year-old Joe Kalinski of Livonia, who said he never thought he'd see the governor. "We need to expand technologies and come up with new ideas. I like the fact she recognized hydrogen fuel cells, and to bring automotive back to Michigan."

Granholm has taken criticism from some for not moving Michigan forward. But, Mary Jane Bevelheimer of Plymouth Township said it's not all Granholm's fault.

"She's had a tough road to hoe because they're (Republicans) working against her," said Bevelheimer, who worked as a volunteer in the governor's first election campaign. "As a woman, I like her

politics, her emphasis on education and health care."

Martha Trafford of Canton Township volunteers for State Rep. John Stewart, R-Plymouth Township. However, the retired Livonia school teacher of 30 years said she's an independent, and will support the Democratic governor in her run for a second term.

"I'm very pleased with what Gov. Granholm has done," said Trafford. "I think she inherited a mess from the previous Republican governor, so she's had to make drastic cuts to maintain some semblance of a working economy in Michigan."

"She's tried to help the business community, brought jobs to Michigan and has made a commitment that she will find more funding sources for public schools," she said.

As the longest-ever serving member of the Wayne County Board of Commissioners (28 years), Kay Beard of Westland said intimate meet-and-greet opportunities, like the one in Livonia Sunday, should become a staple of Granholm's campaign.

"She needs to communicate directly with the people, which is what she does best," said Beard. "Let the people see and

hear her, and question her."

Maureen Miller Brosnan was a key member of Granholm's executive team in her initial run for governor. The Livonia resident, now a member of the State Transportation Commission, said she was having doubts about the future of Michigan, knowing the Ford Wixom assembly plant closing could just as easily been the Ford Livonia Transmission plant.

"I went to the State of the State with a lot of fear about what Michigan's future was looking like," said Brosnan. "But, I left a lot calmer, knowing we have somebody who knows what needs to be done; who has the energy, the ambition, the desire and the ideas to do it."

If Brosnan could give one bit of advice for the governor, it would be to be tougher on the Republican-dominated Legislature.

"I know she has tried to compromise in many, many situations, but apparently compromise isn't working so well," said Brosnan. "Maybe to advance her agenda, she needs to be more heavy-handed. The future of Michigan is at stake."

Granholm told her supporters she'd welcome the chance to debate DeVos.



Gov. Jennifer Granholm greets supporters Sunday in Livonia.

"I would do it in a heartbeat," said Granholm with a smile. "But, he won't take it. Let's talk about the issues, but he has no plan, he can only criticize," added Granholm. "I worry he has hired some of the most notorious people from

the right, national people who have done the most negative advertising in the history of the United States.

"It's going to get ugly."

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Schoolcraft offers tax preparation class

Two new accounting classes at Schoolcraft College will prepare you to prepare your own federal and state income taxes.

The 12-week classes are introductory.

Accounting 139, Michigan and City Taxes, begins Feb. 4, and meets from 9 a.m. to noon

on Saturdays.

Accounting 138 begins Feb. 9, and meets 6:30-9 p.m. on Thursdays. Schoolcraft College tuition fees are \$65 per credit hour for residents of the college district and \$97 per credit hour for nonresidents. For more information on the

classes: contact LaVonda Ramey at (734) 462-4400, Ext. 5122; e-mail Gerald Mellnick, the instructor in Accounting 138, at gmellnic@schoolcraft.edu; e-mail or William Breger, the instructor for Accounting 139, at wbreger@schoolcraft.edu.

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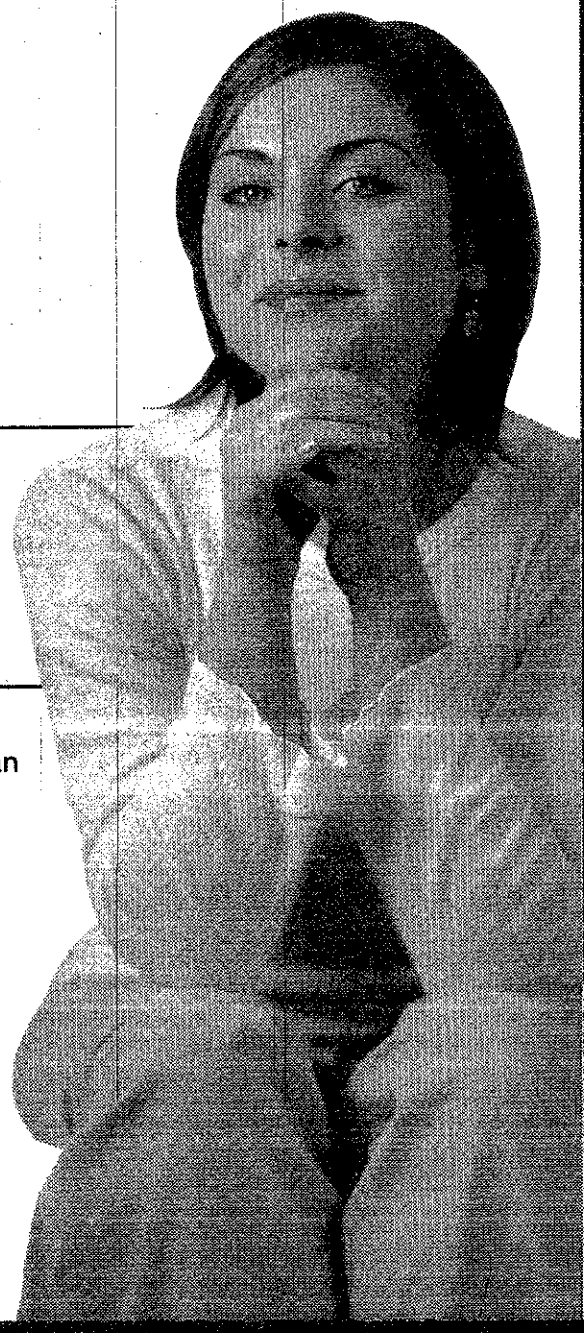
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OUR VIEWS

Canton invests in itself with ball

Despite a dreary economy, the Canton Community Foundation's Winter Ball was again a big success. About 570 of the community's most recognizable people showed up for the annual event, which celebrated its 12th year Jan. 21 at Laurel Manor in Livonia.

And while those in attendance enjoyed a gourmet dinner, rubbed shoulders and danced the night away, the real benefit of the ball is the fact that it helps pay for scholarships and important community programs. In fact, it is the foundation's largest fund-raiser of the year.

Although the event drew far fewer people than it has in the past — some 1,400 people attended in 1999 — it still brought in more than \$50,000. That will help fund 35 college scholarships offered through the foundation. The scholarships are open to not only Canton students, but also those in Plymouth and Plymouth Township.

The foundation also uses some of the money for grants to various community causes, such as the establishment of youth programs. In fact, since its inception more than a decade ago, the foundation has granted out more than \$800,000, according to Joan Noricks, the foundation's president.

It is true that many people — a virtual who's who of the Canton community — attend the event to network and perhaps expand their business opportunities. But it's certainly a lot easier spending the \$100 for a ticket, or more for different levels of sponsorship, knowing the money is really an investment in the community. How many parties can you say that about?

Some might argue that the ball is too expensive for the average Joe. Let's face it, most people can't really afford \$100 tickets, particularly with the state of the economy in the region. But that doesn't mean they can't still contribute to their community in some way.

Whether it is building homes with Habitat for Humanity, joining a local service organization like the Lions Club, or simply helping beautify a particular neighborhood, there are many ways to contribute to the Canton community that cost little or no money at all.

But for those who can afford it, the ball is a great event and fun, to boot.

Community involvement is a true measure of the health of any town, which is why it is important that Canton continues to invest in the foundation. By doing so, it is ultimately investing in itself.

Do homework before filing for school board

The filing deadline is fast approaching for school board candidates running for office May 2.

We hope they've done their homework.

Besides filing a nominating petition or \$100 fee with the county clerk's office by 4 p.m. Tuesday, candidates should also have an idea of what they're getting into.

It's more than being a warm body at a meeting twice a month.

School board members, who often get paid nothing, spend countless hours preparing for the tough decisions they'll have to make at those meetings about budgets, personnel, curriculum and other matters. They study reams of information provided to them by administrators in board packets and conduct their own research by talking to parents, students and teachers, visiting schools and observing programs in action.

Many of them also take classes through the Michigan Association of School Boards, where they learn about complicated school financing laws, state and federal mandates like No Child Left Behind, contract negotiations and other issues that directly impact education.

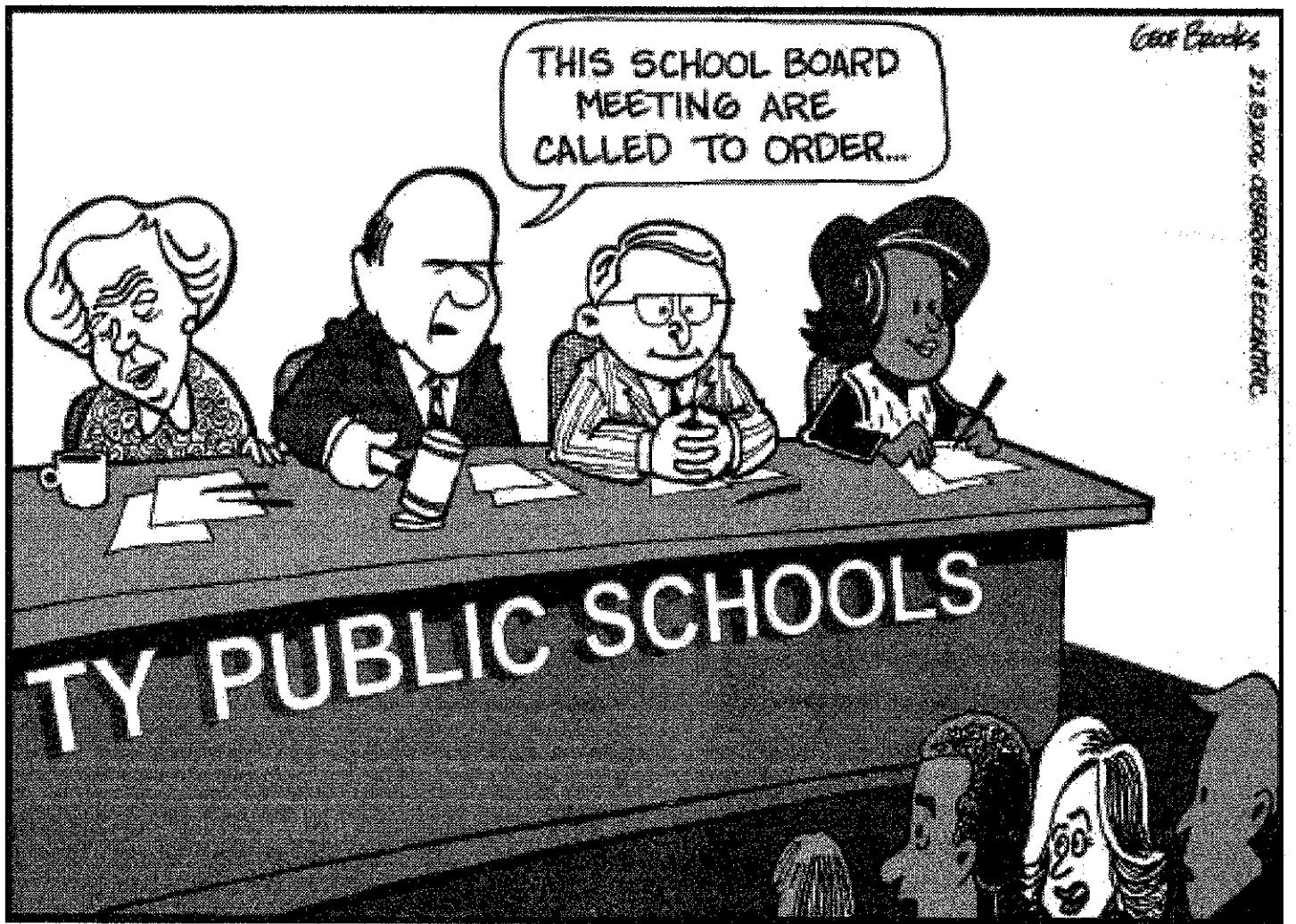
After preparing and training for meetings, school board members are expected to set aside their personal interests and vote for the good of the entire district. This may mean alienating neighbors or acquaintances who expect support for their school or program. It also may mean becoming the target of personal attacks.

Besides meetings, school board members are expected to attend and support the district's students at major athletic events, marching band competitions, drama presentations and awards ceremonies.

Those activities can conflict with family commitments or board members' other volunteer activities.

But those activities — where students' successes are celebrated — usually are the reason school board members run in the first place.

It's a commendable job, but one that takes dedication, passion and a love for children. Don't bid on it lightly.



"That's it! I'm running for the school board."

LETTERS

Auto workers not alone

First let me say that my sympathies go out to all of the displaced Ford workers and their families. They will have a difficult time ahead of them. That said, I must say that I am amazed that suddenly Ford's employment issues have become an Earth shattering event. I realize that the auto industry is the mainstay of Michigan's economy. However, there are many of us who have been dealing with this trauma of this economy for several years now.

My husband is about to be laid off for the third time in three years (three different jobs — indirectly related to the auto industry). He does not get paid holidays or employer paid medical. We paid over \$10,000 in medical for each of the last four years, including medical coverage and prescriptions, topping \$12,500 for 2005 alone. We are not alone. There are many families that have no option for any coverage; they must choose between food and housing or medical coverage. The Ford workers will have a lot of these issues, but I'm sure many executives will be blessed with severance packages and some sort of medical coverage for the next year or so.

The current "tragedy" with health care in our country is crippling individual families, small business owners, the Big Three and all the way up to big city government as evidenced by Detroit's budget crisis.

Someone somewhere in government needs to take the bull by the horns to deal with these issues. The cost for medical care these days is astronomical. Someone is making big bucks off of it; it is not the employers and it is certainly not the individual employees.

The economy is getting worse by the day and I for one believe health care costs are at the core of it.

Eileen Borg
Canton

Questioning Butler's abortion stance

U.S. Senate candidate Keith Butler appears like an attractive Republican candidate to challenge Debbie Stabenow (Re: "Butler says he can attract independents," in the Jan. 29 *Observer*). As a Republican, I can understand his anti-choice stance. As a Detroit resident, knowing full well about the countless unwanted infants that end up tortured and murdered in the city, I would think keeping abortions legal and available would be the compassionate thing to do. But then I forget that for anti-choice crowd, it's all about the fetus; they don't really care what happens to the child after birth.

Janusz M. Szyszko
Canton

MLK event was inspiring

I want to thank all those responsible for putting together such a tremendous program at the Village Theater on Martin Luther King Day. I was heartened by both the depth and breadth of what was offered that night. The photo exhibit of Dr. King, the musical performance by students from the Detroit School of Arts, the inspiring videos, and the prophetic words of Judge McCree creat-

ed an evening that was filled with inspiration, truth and challenge.

As Judge McCree noted in his speech, even though many laws have changed for the better in our country regarding racial discrimination, the challenge of defeating racism is far from over. That reality led Geneva Presbyterian Church, the church where I serve as pastor, to form an anti-racism team over two years ago. Our team is deeply committed to understanding and resisting racism in its many forms. Several members of the team were at the Village Theater and we all left feeling uplifted and edified.

Bryan D. Smith
pastor, Geneva Presbyterian Church
Canton

Michigan must rebound

Recently, Gov. Jennifer Granholm was quoted as saying that her five-point economic plan she introduced to the state was already creating jobs for Michigan citizens. In this era of globalization, we must build upon our strengths and diversify our economy to be competitive.

The numbers so far from this plan have been great, as 132 companies have announced expansions in Michigan and have invested over \$3.7 billion in the state this year. She also said that there were three crucial areas of success in this last year (2005) from this plan pertaining to: securing jobs, protecting families and educating our kids. Michigan hasn't seen the job total over 279,000 since 2003; the plan has also helped to keep 1,650 fugitives off the streets, protecting children at schools and child care facilities; and she has also demanded a new high school curriculum in which the standards are much more rigorous and will surely give youths a better education.

It's clear that Gov. Granholm knew what she was doing when she introduced this plan for Michigan and it has obviously helped Michigan to see a more diverse economy, create good paying jobs and, as the governor simply puts it, protect our quality of life. I have never really put much thought into Gov. Granholm and her ideas, but after reading this article, and having known about Michigan's poor economy, I have become much more interested in our state politics and policies.

It is important for Michigan's economy to rebound as quickly as possible. The population has been decreasing rapidly over the last few years, and hopefully Gov. Granholm's plan will help to bring people back to Michigan. Hopefully, with the promise of a well paying, secure job, people will not turn their backs toward Michigan and help to rejuvenate a crippled state. I know I feel more comfortable now, knowing that I will have a secure job in my future, in Michigan.

Dan Crosby
Livonia

Middle class shrinking

Should you care that the Wixom plant is closing? I think you should. Should you care that the same family that brought us the usual Detroit Lions for most of my natural life on this planet gave us this news today? I think you should.

What happened in Wixom is another classic example of the downsizing of the middle class in this country. We should have seen it, yet we did not. We watched that Fox-TV, no matter what substance altered our mind, yet, this goes by as just another news story worthy of the demise of America's promise, America's middle class.

Mark Barringer
Farmington Hills

Remove affirmative action

The proposal that is backed by the Michigan Civil Rights Initiative to ban race and gender preferences in universities I think is the best thing for the state of Michigan. I do not think it was fair that maybe someone who is African American with the same test scores as a white person should be picked instead of the white person because they are African American. How is that fair? It's not.

Just because someone is a different race does not mean that they should be picked over someone else. That would be like saying that you have brown hair and someone else with blonde hair was picked over you because you're brunette so you can not go to this college. In the past the affirmative action was placed so people with different diversities could attend college because they were being discriminated. This way the colleges would have a diversity of people. Today, I think it is time to remove affirmative action as long as the different diversities do not get discriminated.

I also think affirmative action should be removed because now it is discriminating the whites' rights. Someone who is white could qualify for a job but get rejected because the job might require a minority to reach that company's standard for affirmative action. This is discriminating whites because they can not have the job because they are white. Just like in the past, blacks got refused for certain jobs because they were black. Now if we were to take affirmative action away, I think people getting jobs will finally be fair and equal to everyone. I think it will help everywhere.

In conclusion, I think affirmative action has done what it was supposed to do. It would be better to do away with it once and for all.

Brittany Bishop
Livonia

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

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QUOTABLE

"I screamed. My husband was in the shower and I screamed so loud that he came running out, putting on his shirt and yelling, 'What's wrong? Are you OK?'"

— Canton resident Colleen Walter, discussing her response when she found out she and 18 of her friends will get to dance with the Rolling Stones during halftime of the Super Bowl

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Observer

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

Granholt's speech outlined her strategy for re-election

Anybody who doubts the political smarts of Gov. Jennifer Granholt would do well to look carefully at the State of the State address she delivered last week.

Other politicians in her shoes might have approached this speech with dread, for the state of the state is not, by any measure, anything to brag about. The governor is saddled with a terrible economy, a formidable (and fearfully well-financed) Republican opponent in Dick DeVos and a GOP-dominated Legislature that will do anything and everything it can to make her life difficult.

Yet Granholt responded with a speech that was both masterfully delivered and which showed a shrewd understanding of the probable electoral landscape come November.

As you listened to her speech, you could see her systematically clicking through a list of likely political targets, be they Democratic, independent or moderate Republican.

She had something for workers for small companies; for poor people without health insurance; workers scraping along on the minimum wage; college-bound kids and their parents; K-12 students and their families; and entrepreneurs and venture capital types.

She knows perfectly well that the Legislature is not about to approve any of her proposals, but politically, that won't hurt her a bit.

Wasn't it Harry Truman who laid out a similar set of challenges and won an upset victory for president in 1948 by campaigning against "a do-nothing Republican Congress?"

Let's consider Granholt's main proposals, and to whom they are likely to appeal:

■ She called for a new 401(k)-type savings retirement plan for employees of small businesses that don't offer pensions. Her idea was that the state should set up the apparatus for the program without kicking in any matching funds.

"People shouldn't be counting on Social Security for their retirement nest egg," state Treasurer Jay Rising told *The Detroit News*. "We know that 60 percent of firms with 25 employees or less offer no 401(k)."

Hard to see how conservative voters can argue against this. For years, Republicans have asserted that workers should take more individual responsibility for their own retirement.

■ The governor proposed creating a health insurance plan for the 550,000 working poor who have no health care coverage. That proposal will need approval from both the feds and the Legislature.

There was no clue as to what this would cost, or where the money would come from. But the half-million-plus Michigan folks affected certainly are not going to blame their governor for standing up for them — or reward the GOP for sneering at the idea.

■ Likewise, the low-wage workers who would stand to benefit by an increased minimum wage.

Granholt proposed increasing the wage by nearly \$2 an hour to \$6.85, effective January 2007. And she pledged to lead a campaign to place the boost on the statewide ballot this fall. What a wonderful way to appeal to union voters to turn out strong in the middle of a tough campaign!

■ College-bound kids and their parents, both increasingly concerned about increases in tuition, will be pleased by Granholt's proposal to re-jigger the Merit Scholarship program to award a full \$4,000 to students who complete two years of college.

There's more than politics lurking behind this one. In comparison with other states, Michigan's labor force falls far behind in percentage of workers with college degrees, and four grand for kids who stick it out for two years should be a pretty good incentive.

The prospect of a much tougher school curriculum — including four years of English and math, two of social studies and science and two years of a foreign language — might make kids in school nervous.

But most of them can't vote yet — and their parents, at least, are by now beginning to realize that merely getting a high school diploma without really knowing anything is hardly the route to a secure economic future for their children.

They'll look kindly on the governor's proposal. (Even the Republicans are unlikely to stop this one.)

■ The rapidly growing health sciences sector in Michigan cannot but be enthused at her call for repealing current medieval state restrictions on stem cell research that could lead to cures for diseases like diabetes and Alzheimer's and Parkinson's disease.

A fair number of companies that might locate in Michigan have said they won't come as long as the Legislature's head-in-the-sand attitude toward scientific research persists.

The overall picture is clear. If the major purpose of a politician's life and career is to get (re)elected, Granholt did a mighty fine job of preparing for political conflict coming this fall.

The only sad thing is that nowhere in her speech did she tackle the really fundamental issues facing Michigan and its urgent need to restructure our hemorrhaging economy. Those include the chronic structural state budget deficit, now at well over \$1 billion per year, and the archaic, arcane and business-unfriendly single business tax.

Worst of all may be the many cuts higher education has suffered in recent years, which have damaged the launch pad for creative innovation on which our economic future depends.

I know, I know. The governor knows perfectly well she won't get anywhere banging her head against a Legislature and a political system that is both unable and unwilling to deal with these issues. But sooner or later, somebody's got to. And as Moses could have told her, sometimes a leader just has to lead.

Phil Power is a longtime observer of politics, economics and education issues in Michigan. He would be pleased to hear from readers at ppower@hcnnet.com.

Village Theater helps prove that arts can lift up the spirit

can pretty much guarantee that when Johann Sebastian Bach was composing his *Coffee Cantata* sometime in the early 1700s in Germany, he never envisioned it being performed in a place called Canton, Michigan, which, of course, didn't even exist at the time.

Heck, even Cantonites of say 25 years ago probably couldn't have imagined that their rural township, with its vast corn fields and lack of a town center, would have its own symphony and performing arts theater one day.

Yet, there I was a couple of weeks ago, in the sold-out Village Theater at Cherry Hill, enjoying Orchestra Canton's wonderfully performed "Back to Bach" concert. It was exactly the kind of performance you would expect from a group of professional musicians. They brought several of Bach's compositions to life.

Particularly entertaining was the orchestra's take on Bach's *Coffee Cantata*, which featured a dazzling performance by guest vocalist Nadine Balbeisi, a soprano from Amman, Jordan, who stole the show. And, as usual, Orchestra Canton Music Director Nan Washburn kept the musicians in line as she conducted, while at the same time educating the audience about Bach and the pieces that were performed.

I think Bach would have been pleased with the performance.

The fact that "Back to Bach" was a sell-out is a sign that the arts are beginning to thrive in a town that was once home to a festival that revolved around flinging cow dung. It is exactly the kind of successful show that township officials had in mind when they conceived the idea of a performing arts theater roughly a decade ago.

Since it opened to much fanfare about two years ago, the 400-seat Village Theater has become the pre-eminent performing arts theater in western Wayne County. Not only is it a beautiful facility, it is also one that has gotten much use during its short existence.

Jennifer Tobin, the theater's coordinator, keeps a close tab on the number of people who use the facility, both the entertainers and the people who come to see them. And she said 2005 was an excellent year. More than 52,000 people attended shows at the theater last year.

Just as important, however, is the fact that close to 10,000 performers utilized the theater's facilities. There were a total of 1,355 performances, classes and rehearsals last year.

The Village Theater has become somewhat of a mecca for the performing arts in this area. Its existence has helped spawn a number of local theater groups, from acting troupes like the Spotlight Players (formerly the Plymouth Theater Guild) to the 60-piece Canton Concert Band. In fact, this newspaper gets calls all the time from people looking for publicity for the new theater group they have started. And they all tell me the same thing: They wouldn't have done it without the Village Theater as a vehicle for their productions.

The place has become somewhat of a lightning rod for the arts. And that's exactly what township officials had hoped when they opened the place.

The other thing that is great about the theater is the fact that it can also host events not necessarily related to the performing arts. The recent celebration honoring Martin Luther King Jr. and other civil rights leaders is just one example. The place has also been used for Canton Township Supervisor Tom Yack's state of the township address and events hosted by the Canton Chamber of Commerce.

Some people will always question the need for a publicly subsidized performing arts theater. And there is good reason for such skepticism, especially when the economy is in the shape it's been in.

But there is no denying what kind of impact the arts and live entertainment can have, particularly on children, who are inundated with far too much popular culture these days — from the junk that is on television to violence-laden video games that seem to be so prevalent.

I, for one, was inspired by Orchestra Canton's performance, which reminded me that good music can really lift the spirit. I also realized that a venue like the Village Theater can help lift up the spirit of a community.

To learn more about the Village Theater, including a schedule of its upcoming performances, visit the Web site www.canton-mi.org/CPAEC/about.asp.

Kurt Kuban is editor of the *Canton Observer*. He can be reached via e-mail at kkuban@hometownlife.com or by phone at (734) 459-2700.

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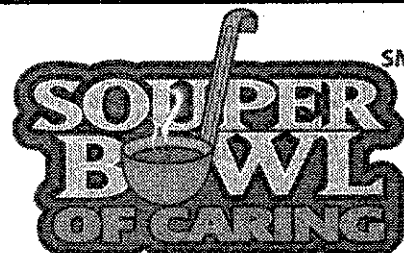
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Turn your table into a field. If you have a rectangular table, drape it with a piece of green fabric and draw on the yard lines and the end zones with white fabric paint.

Use your empty dishwasher or washing machine to ice down extra can and bottles of drinks. When the ice melts, the water just drains away.

Set up a football pool and give gag gifts to the biggest losers.

Give away door prizes, like team t-shirts and other NFL paraphernalia.

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Section B

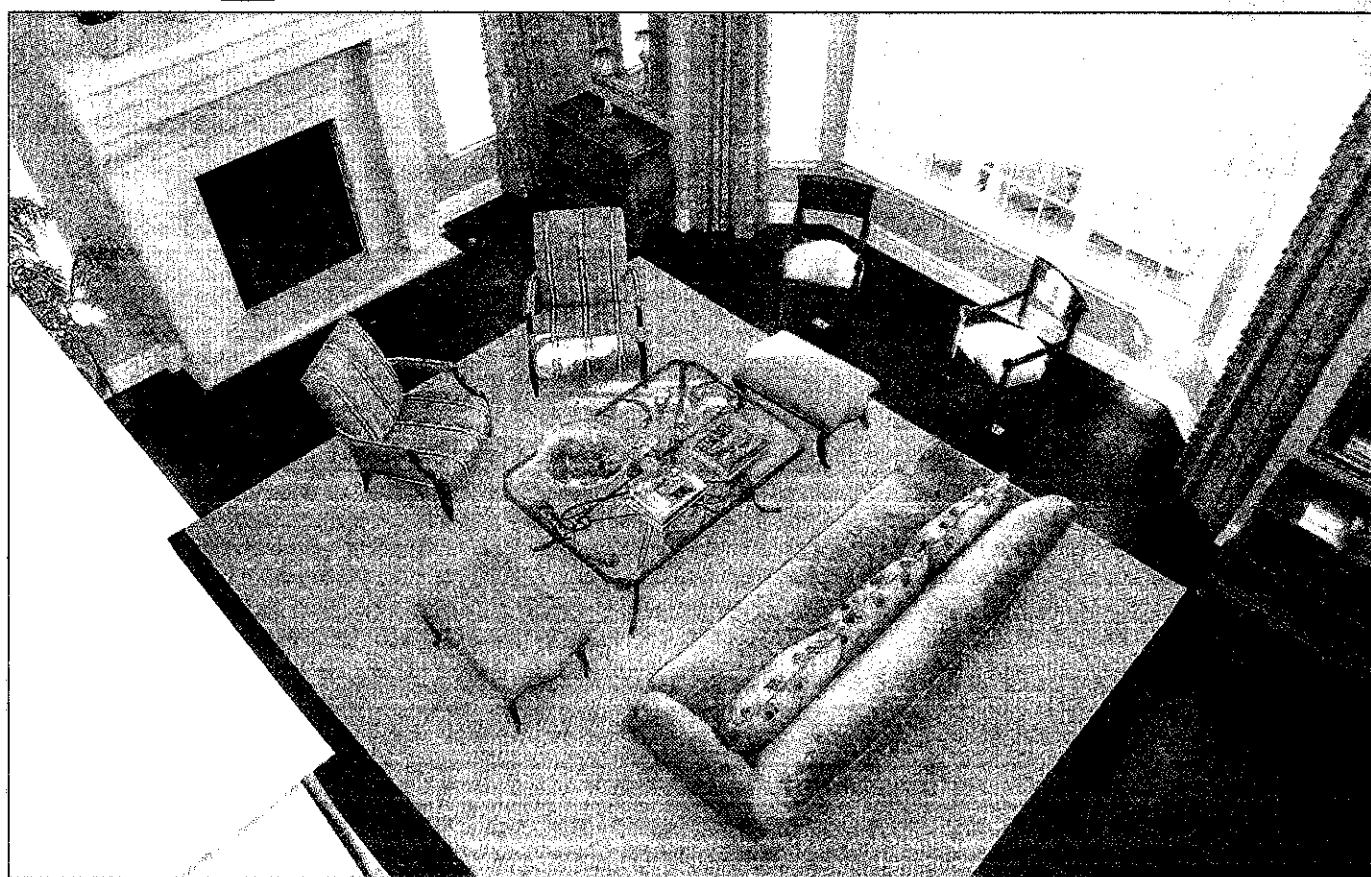
Thursday, February 2, 2006

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mklemic@hometownlife.com
www.hometownlife.com

Dressed to impress



This young woman's room is dressed in "sassy" green and raspberry colors.



PHOTOS BY LAWRENCE MCKEE | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Ponicali home in Bloomfield Hills features such spectacular elements as soaring ceilings and large-scale furnishings. It will be the site of the Preview Party for this year's Snow Ball to benefit Variety - The Children's Charity.

Home offers spectacular setting for Snow Ball preview party

BY MARY KLEMIC
STAFF WRITER

Simply spectacular.

The Ponicali residence in Bloomfield Hills features clean lines, as well as details that embellish; and furnishings both large and small in size. It's a smooth combination that both invites and impresses.

Mike and Kay Ponicali have lived in the newly constructed house since April.

This month it will be the site of the Preview Party for this year's Snow Ball benefit for Variety - The Children's Charity (see related item).

"We fell in love with the setting more than anything," Kay said.

The setting is breathtaking, a wooded area that is often visited by herons. It seems far away from busy roads.

The interior is breathtaking as well, with such elements as ceilings 22 feet high and beautiful antiques throughout. Most of the colors are soft variations of tan.

Kay did the interior decorating herself, asking advice from designer friends Nancy McGowen of McGowen Associates at Chapman House in Rochester, Jeffrey King of Jeffrey King Interiors in Birmingham and Lucy Earl of Jones-Keena & Co. in



Kay and Mike Ponicali stand in their foyer. They have lived in the newly constructed home since April.

PLEASE SEE PARTY, B4

VARIETY'S 10TH ANNIVERSARY SNOW BALL

■ **What:** A black-tie dinner, live auction of fantasy packages, and entertainment, presented by Variety - The Children's Charity. Proceeds benefit children with special needs in metropolitan Detroit.

■ **When:** 6 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 25.

■ **Where:** The Townsend Hotel Ballroom, 100 Townsend at Pierce, south of Maple (15 Mile) and east of Southfield Road in Birmingham.

■ **Tickets:** \$300 Friend, \$400 Patron, \$500 Benefactor.

■ **Preview Party:** A preview party for patrons and benefactors will take place Thursday, Feb. 16, at the home of Michael and Kay Ponicali in Bloomfield Hills.

■ **Information:** The Variety Office, 30161 Southfield Road, No. 301, Southfield 48076, phone (248) 258-5511.

When shopping for an iPod, consider a Creative alternative

Pods are sexy, no doubt about it. But I'm not buying one, and here's why: An iPod won't play any of the music I've bought from online stores like Buy.com, Musicmatch and Napster.



Tech Savvy

Rick Broida

That's because the majority of these stores distribute songs in a format called WMA, and iPods don't support WMA files.

Instead, they play only AAC

files, which come from only one source: Apple's iTunes store. (Okay, iPods play MP3s, too, but few stores sell songs in that format.)

Sorry, Apple, but I like to shop around. I also like newfangled music-subscription services like Napster To Go and Yahoo Music Unlimited, which let me download all the songs I want for a nominal monthly fee.

Currently, iTunes offers no such option.

That's one reason I'm so jazzed about the Creative Zen Vision:M (creative.com), a WMA-friendly alternative to Apple's fifth-generation iPod (the one that plays

video). Though priced \$30 higher, the \$329 Zen offers a lot more features, including an FM radio tuner/recorder, a microphone for recording voice notes, and even an Outlook conduit for viewing your contacts, calendar and to-do list.

It also plays video just like the iPod, but with a much more colorful screen. Technically speaking, the Zen displays 262,000 colors to the iPod's 65,000. I wouldn't say videos look four times better on the Zen, but they're definitely better.

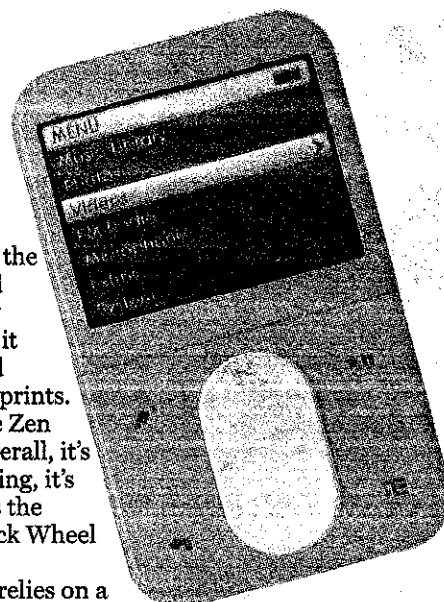
DESIGN

You can buy the Zen in black, white, blue, green or pink. The

black version looks the coolest (the colored models are actually kinda chintzy), but it scratches easily and shows lots of fingerprints.

Indeed, while the Zen looks pretty cool overall, it's no iPod. For one thing, it's thicker, and it lacks the iPod's awesome Click Wheel control.

Instead, the Zen relies on a kind of touchpad that will seem familiar to notebook PC users. You slide your finger up and down to scroll through menus and song



Creative's video-playing, photo-viewing, radio-tuning Zen Vision:M isn't perfect, but it's a better iPod than the iPod.

PLEASE SEE BROIDA, B8

Accents

Expo

The William D. Ford Career-Technical Center, 36455 Marquette in Westland, will host its annual winter Open House-Technology Expo 6-8:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 9.

The public may attend. Admission is free.

Attendees will have the opportunity to see student projects and activities from all 23 technical programs, sample culinary arts prepared foods, meet program instructors and interact with college and industry representatives.

Displays of current high-efficient, state-of-the-art technology in home heating and cooling will be presented by various companies serving on the center's HVAC advisory board.

Counselors will be available to conduct tours and answer questions about enrollment. Door prizes will be awarded. Call the center at (734) 419-2100 for more information.

Dream kitchens

Dream Kitchens, an open house and lecture at Michigan Design Center in Troy, will take place 5-8 p.m. Thursday, March 16.

Visitors will be able to tour the MDC showrooms from 5-6:30 p.m.

Complimentary 20-minute consultations with local design professionals will be available during the open house.

Renowned kitchen design expert Ellen Cheever, ASID, will share professional tips on creating a dream kitchen from 6:45-8 p.m.

Cost is \$20 per person or \$30 per couple. The price includes the open house, light refreshments and one copy of the book *Great American Kitchens Collection*.

The book features dozens of award-winning kitchens from across the country along with information and insider advice on the hottest trends and newest innovations in kitchen technology.

MDC is at 1700 Stutz, north off Maple (15 Mile), between Coolidge and Crooks. Call (248) 649-4772 or visit michigan-design.com.

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The dispenser comes with a removable, soft rubber, orange squid that is a toy. Suggested retail price for one dispenser is \$3.49 to \$3.99. A package of four retails online for about \$14.99.

SquidSoap can be bought at select grocery stores and pharmacies and at www.squidsoap.com.

Call (866) 240-4253 or visit the Web site for information.

You can evaluate life expectancy of home

If you're a conscientious consumer, you know how long milk lasts, how long bread lasts and even how long you can keep that frozen turkey. But do you know how long your roof or furnace will last?

Craig Lee of The HomeTeam Inspection Service of Northville has some advice for homeowners who are looking to start the New Year with a clean slate – or asphalt.

"When we perform home inspections, we offer a detailed report on the condition of your major appliances and household systems at the time of inspection," said Lee.

"And while we can't offer a guarantee on life of your home or its parts, an inspection does give you something to start with when determining your overall home maintenance plan for the next five to 10 years."

Taking good care of your home can end up paying dividends in the future with less household emergencies and more planned – and budgeted – renovations, Lee said.

"Life expectancy can vary greatly depending on the quality of materials used, the installation, how it's been maintained and even some environmental factors, but the National Association of Home Builders can give an accurate estimate to the average life cycles of these household items," Lee said.

One of the most important and fundamental parts to a home is the roof, which can last anywhere from 15 to 100 years, according to the NAHB estimates.

An asphalt shingle roof can last anywhere from 15 to 30 years on average, depending on what kind of materials were used during installation and if the roof has sustained weather damage through excessive moisture or wind.

A slate roof can last much longer – even up to 100 years – but it may not suit the overall design of your home.

Maintaining your home's exterior can be done through painting wood shingles, vinyl or aluminum siding or other weatherproofing treatments.

Waterproofing, which can be used on wood siding or decking, must be reapplied every one to five years, depending on the products used.

Vinyl siding can last up to 50 years with minimal maintenance.

If your home has wood shingles, it may be time to consider replacing or treating the outside in order to prevent wood rot or unsightly chipping.

"If you have a good working roof over your head, it may be time to concentrate on the inside," Lee said.

One major household item that you don't want to find yourself without is your water heater.

Whether you have a gas or electric water heater, it may last on average 11 to 14 years, depending on how it has been maintained and other factors.

Other major appliances – including dishwashers, refrigerators and electric ranges – can last from 10 to 20 years, the NAHB says.

"During an inspection, if we discover a possible problem with a water heater or furnace, or any other major appliance, we often recommend to the homeowner to bring in an appliance expert who can give you a solid evaluation and an estimate to fix or replace the questionable component," Lee said.

For more tips on life expectancy, or for tune-up suggestions and other maintenance guidelines, visit www.hometeaminspection.com or call Craig Lee at (734) 420-4611.

HOW MANY YEARS

HOME COMPONENTS WILL LAST

According to the National Home Builders Association, these numbers represent the maximum number of years you can reasonably expect various components of your home to last.

Life expectancy may vary greatly, depending on quality of material, installation, maintenance, environmental factors and use.

Dishwasher: 10 years

Range (gas or electric): 17 to 19 years

Fiberglass or cast-iron bathtub: 10 to 15 years

Water heater (gas or electric): 11 to 14 years

Ceramic or laminated countertops: 10 to 15 years

Garage door opener: 10 years

Wall and trim paint: five to 10 years

Exterior paint: 10 years

Washer: 13 years

Dryer: 14 years

Refrigerator: 17 years

Carpet: 11 years

Asphalt shingle roof: 15 to 30 years

Aluminum siding: 20 to 50 years

Vinyl siding: 50 years

Pervious concrete drains water

Q: Every time it rains or when the snow melts, we have a puddle problem on the concrete walk that goes around our house. I've heard that there's a new kind of concrete that drains water. Is this true? If so, how does it work?

A: Yes, there is a type of concrete that actually allows water to flow through it into the ground. It is known as pervious concrete. It is only new to Michigan; pervious concrete has been used in the South and on the West Coast since the 1970s.

Pervious concrete is a concrete

pavement with a large volume (15 to 35 percent) of interconnected voids or empty spaces. Like conventional concrete, it's made from a mixture of cement, coarse aggregates and water. However, it contains little or no sand, which results in a porous open-cell structure that water passes through readily. These factors allow pervious pavements to approach natural ground cover in heat absorbing and storage capacity. Certain types of porous

pavement can pass 3 to 5 gallons of water per minute, which is far greater than most conceivable rain events and highly effective in controlling storm water drainage. Pervious concrete improves safety for walks and driveways because water will flow through it and not form puddles or icy areas. Call the Michigan Concrete Association at (800) 678-9622. Prepared by the Michigan Concrete Association, a non-profit organization serving the Michigan ready-mix industry.

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Annie

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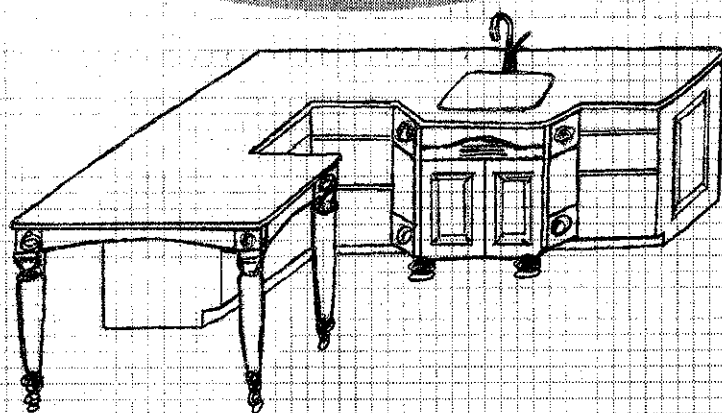
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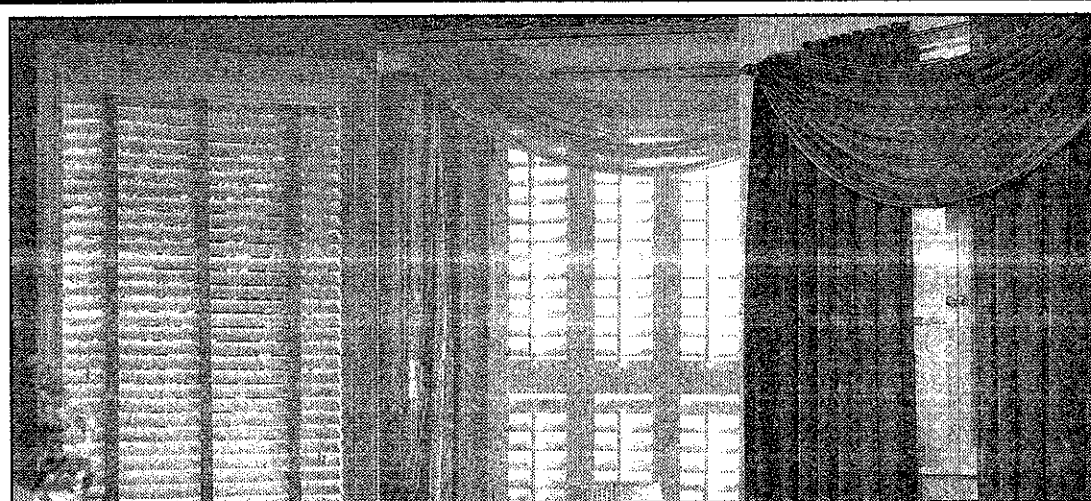


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GARDEN CALENDAR

Farmington Garden Club

The Farmington Garden Club will meet at noon Monday, Feb. 6, at the Longacre House, on the west side of Farmington Road between 10 and 11 Mile.

The topic will be flower arranging. Guests are welcome.

Della Haydon, an accredited flower show judge and past president of the Farmington Hills Flower Arrangers Guild, will show the basics of design as well as tips for more advanced arrangements.

Hardy Plant Society

The Hardy Plant Society will meet 7 p.m. Monday, Feb. 6, at Congregational Church of Birmingham, on Woodward at Cranbrook Road in Bloomfield Hills. Beth Rowley of Four Seasons Garden Center will talk about Basics of Design. A former architect, Rowley decided five years ago to follow her loves of horticulture and design and work at Four Seasons. Guest fee \$3. For information, call (248) 589-2286.

The group's Web site is www.hardy-plantsociety-greatlakes.org.

Hill & Dale

The Hill & Dale Garden Club will have a general meeting 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 9, at the Heritage Park Visitor's Center, on Farmington Road between 10 and 11 Mile. Past president Jean Moran will give a presentation on Masterpiece Floral Designs on a Budget. The public may attend.

For more information, contact Mar Scawley at (248) 333-3108 or stemar@comcast.net.

Livonia Garden Club

The Livonia Garden Club will meet 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 7, at the Livonia Senior Center, Five Mile and Farmington roads.

Kathy Israel, certified master gardener and Michigan State University board member, will present a program about foliage plants that provide color, texture and interest for the garden landscape. Visitors are welcome.

Orchid Festival

English Gardens will host its fourth annual Orchid Festival, featuring two weekends of free seminars, visits from growers and a display of more than 50 varieties of orchids.

The festival takes place at all six English Gardens stores during February, which is National Orchid Month.

Scheduled seminars include Introduction to Orchids (1 p.m.) and Orchid Re-potting Techniques (3 p.m.), both Saturday, Feb. 4; Advance Orchid Growing (1 p.m.), Sunday, Feb. 5, and Sunday, Feb. 12; Growing Beautiful Orchids (1 p.m.) and Orchid Re-potting Demonstration (3 p.m.), both Saturday, Feb. 11.

Orchid growers will discuss the different orchid varieties, orchid care and tips for re-blooming, as well as answer questions.

Among the featured speakers will be John Doherty of Zephyrus Orchids, Lawrence J. Ohlman III of Orchids by Ohlman, and Don Garling from Michigan State University.

For more information about the English Gardens Orchid Festival, visit www.englishgardens.com or contact one of the English Gardens locations, which include: West Bloomfield, 6370 Orchard Lake Road, (248) 851-7506; Royal Oak-Troy, 4901 Coolidge Highway, (248) 280-9500; Dearborn Heights, 22650 Ford at Outer Drive, (313) 278-4433; and Ann Arbor, 155 N. Maple at Jackson in the Maple Village Shopping Center, (734) 332-7900.

Matthaei Botanical Gardens

Throughout history, plants have ignited passion – for adventure, for knowledge, for love. Whether a matter of aroma or taste, medicinal properties, or seductive powers, plants have always held a fascination for cultures around the world.

During February, Matthaei Botanical Gardens and Nichols Arboretum (MBGNA) will highlight "plants of passion" with public lectures, tours of the Conservatory, and a family day event. All events will take place at Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro in Ann Arbor.

Reservations are strongly recommended for each event. Call (734) 647-7600 for reservations and more information.

■ **Plants of Passion: Forbidden Fruits**, a lecture by MBGNA curator David C. Michener, is scheduled 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 4. The talk will be followed by a walk in the Conservatory to see featured plants, including the chocolate tree, camellias and gardenias. Docents will be on hand to answer questions. Cost is \$10 for the public, \$7 for MBGNA members. Seating limited to 100.

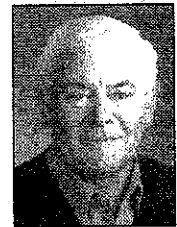
■ **Chocolate**, a lecture by Patrick Fields, AKA "Doctor Chocolate," is scheduled 1 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 19. Chocolate tasting will follow the talk. Cost is \$15 for the public, \$10 for MBGNA members. Seating limited to 100.

■ **Family Day** at the Gardens is scheduled 1-3:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 26. Enjoy a scavenger hunt in the Conservatory, have a snack and listen to stories told by Jean Gordon, and pot a chocolate mint plant (one per child) to take home. Cost per child is \$7 for the public, \$5 for MBGNA members.

Appliance repairs are harder today, but don't give up

You may be the type of person who seldom attempts to fix anything around the house. It's simply too much strain on your normal good nature and you get angry, frustrated and moody, only to call someone in to finish the job.

I understand you. As a matter of fact, I've converted a few million people like you to become excellent do-it-yourselfers.



Appliance Doctor

Joe Gagnon

Many highly educated professionals have come up to me and thanked me for saving them money and bragged about their new-found sense of pride. They fixed an appliance and had never done so before.

Women have broken out in tears as they told me of their level of accomplishment in fixing an appliance. The problem with the tears is that I start crying as well.

A friend called me the other night to tell me his 1986 Maytag dishwasher wasn't washing dishes anymore and just made a humming noise when he turned it on. He called to ask me for confirmation on buying a new one.

I wouldn't do it, and I insisted that he fix this one. I told him that the belt was either broken or stretched and that all he had to do was replace this \$20 belt.

He argued that he couldn't do it, and I asked him if he could still drive a car. ("If you can put the ignition key into the slot, you surely can put a screwdriver into a screw.")

The next day he removed two screws that hold the lower kick panel on the front, reached under there and pulled out a broken belt. He bought a new one, slipped it onto the motor pulley, stretched it onto the pump pulley and fixed his own dishwasher.

It now works like brand new, and he tells me I saved him \$500. I hope he gets another 20 years out of that old dishwasher.

HARDER TO REPAIR

The above is a true story that shows the simplicity of repairs that were needed. The question now is, are major appliances still that easy to repair?

With the removal of warranties recently announced, what are you going to say when the service technician tells you it will cost you \$300 to fix your \$500 appliance? Try, "Holy smokes, I've got to fix this thing myself. It costs too much to get it done."

Yes, you can still do some of the repairs yourself, but not as many as in the past. The manufacturers aren't making it easy, incorpo-

Yes, you can still do some of the repairs yourself, but not as many as in the past. The manufacturers aren't making it easy, incorporating so much electronics into them that are almost impossible to self-diagnose. They have even changed the screws that hold things together, and it's tough to find a screwdriver to match the configuration of the screw head.

rating so much electronics into them that are almost impossible to self-diagnose.

They have even changed the screws that hold things together, and it's tough to find a screwdriver to match the configuration of the screw head.

It's as if there is a trick to even getting inside some of these products.

ASK FOR INFORMATION

As a do-it-yourselfer, you have to make friends with people in the appliance repair industry who are willing to give you the information necessary to help you save money.

These types of businesses aren't as plentiful as they once were. The industry has lost some 10,000 appliance repair companies in the past 15 years, but some are still around.

The homeowner in this country still has the ingenuity and presence of mind to figure out how things work.

Sometimes all it takes is an explanation of the mechanics of things.

I don't want you to give up because it looks impossible to remove the front panel on a washer or dryer. Trust me, it comes off.

The days of buying an appliance, using it and not worrying about it are over. The high cost of these products today and that they don't make them like they used to will cause all of us to take better care of them.

Use the simple, common sense maintenance instructions that are in the operating manual.

Compare it to buying a used car with 200,000 miles on the odometer. Don't drive it hard, don't abuse your major home appliances. Stay tuned.

Joe Gagnon can now be heard on WWJ-950 and WXYT-1270. He is a member and past president of the Society of Consumer Affairs Professionals. His phone number is (248) 455-7281. Do you have a question about an appliance or a problem you have with an appliance? E-mail your question to kabramczyk@hometownlife.com and it will be forwarded to Joe Gagnon.

HOME CALENDAR

Home decor

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

Call (248) 541-0010, e-mail ContactUs@HabermanFabrics.com or visit www.HabermanFabrics.com.

The schedule includes Lip Cord Workshop, Monday, Feb. 6 (fee is \$25); Simple Upholstered Ottoman, Wednesdays, Feb. 8-22 (\$60); Advanced Curtain, Thursdays, Feb. 9 to March 2 (\$80); and Beginner Pillow, Mondays, Feb. 13-27 (\$60).

In the Feb. 6 workshop, learn how to join twisted lip cord flawlessly, blending the ends together to make it look continuous. Your pillows will never be the same again once you learn this valuable technique.

In the curtain class, learn how to make pleated draperies, a classic, ever-popular window treatment. You'll make a custom window treatment for your home. Create a personalized look by changing the style and spacing of the pleats, or choose the more informal tab-top drape.

In the ottoman class, learn simple upholstery techniques as you transform an old footstool, bench or table into a trendy ottoman. The first session will be demonstration and the "tear-down" of your base. You'll rebuild, reupholster and trim your new piece in the remaining two sessions.

In the pillow class, beginning sewers will learn the basics while making two decorative square or rectangular pillows, using bias-cut, fabric-covered cording and inserted trims. Learning how to use a rotary cutter, cutting bias and using a zipper foot to cover cording will be included. Many of the

techniques taught will apply to future home decorating classes.

Family treasures

Shannon's Organizing Service will present Preserving Family Treasures 7-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 7, at Utica High School.

Contact professional organizer Shannon Burdick for registration information at (248) 854-7037 or shannon@SOSorganizing.com.

Whether you are a busy parent trying to keep up with things, or an empty nester paring down on your belongings, this class is for you.

People are torn between their sentiments and the stress of deciding what to do with such precious treasures as photos, children's art work and family heritage. The class will help you decide what to save, and the best way to save your belongings.

Organizing family

Shannon's Organizing Service will present Organizing Your Busy Family 7-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 8, at Royal Oak Kimball High School.

Contact professional organizer Shannon Burdick for registration information at (248) 854-7037 or shannon@SOSorganizing.com.

The class will show you how to bring a sense of calm to your life by learning ways to balance your time spent on work and family.

Antiques show

The Detroit Institute of Ophthalmology will host its ninth annual antiques show, Visions to Remember/Eyes on Antiques, Saturday-Sunday, Feb. 11-12, at the Eleanor and Edsel Ford House Activities Center, 1100 Lake Shore Road in Grosse Pointe Shores.

More than 25 dealers from around the country will display and sell fine furni-

ture, quilts, Asian items, jewelry, crystal, silver and other pieces.

Proceeds benefit the visually impaired and blind throughout southeast Michigan. Friends of Vision, DIO's volunteer group, manages the show.

Hours are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. both days. Admission is \$8. A silent auction and door prizes will be featured.

Dumouchelle Art Galleries will provide verbal appraisals of small, hand-carried items for \$5 per item both days. A preview party will take place 6:30-10 p.m. Friday, Feb. 10. Tickets are \$75, \$100 and \$150; reservations are required. The Grosse Pointe Animal Adoption Society will have adoptable dogs at the party.

For more information, call (313) 824-4710 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. weekdays, or visit www.eyeson.org.

Make centerpieces

The Center for Lifelong Learning at Henry Ford Community College will offer a course on how to make corsages, centerpieces and bouquets Mondays, Feb. 20 to March 20.

The class will take place at HFCC's Dearborn Heights Center at 22586 Ann Arbor Trail, between Warren Avenue and Outer Drive.

Participants should bring a notebook, pen or pencil and wire cutters. All other supplies will be provided.

The cost is \$179 for Dearborn School District residents, \$199 for non-residents. To register or for more information, call (877) 855-5252 or visit www.hfcc.edu/CL2. For more information about HFCC, visit www.hfcc.edu.

Participants will learn how to create handmade floral pieces using basic floral-handling techniques, design principles and creative tips from internationally known floral educator and designer Robbin Yelverton.

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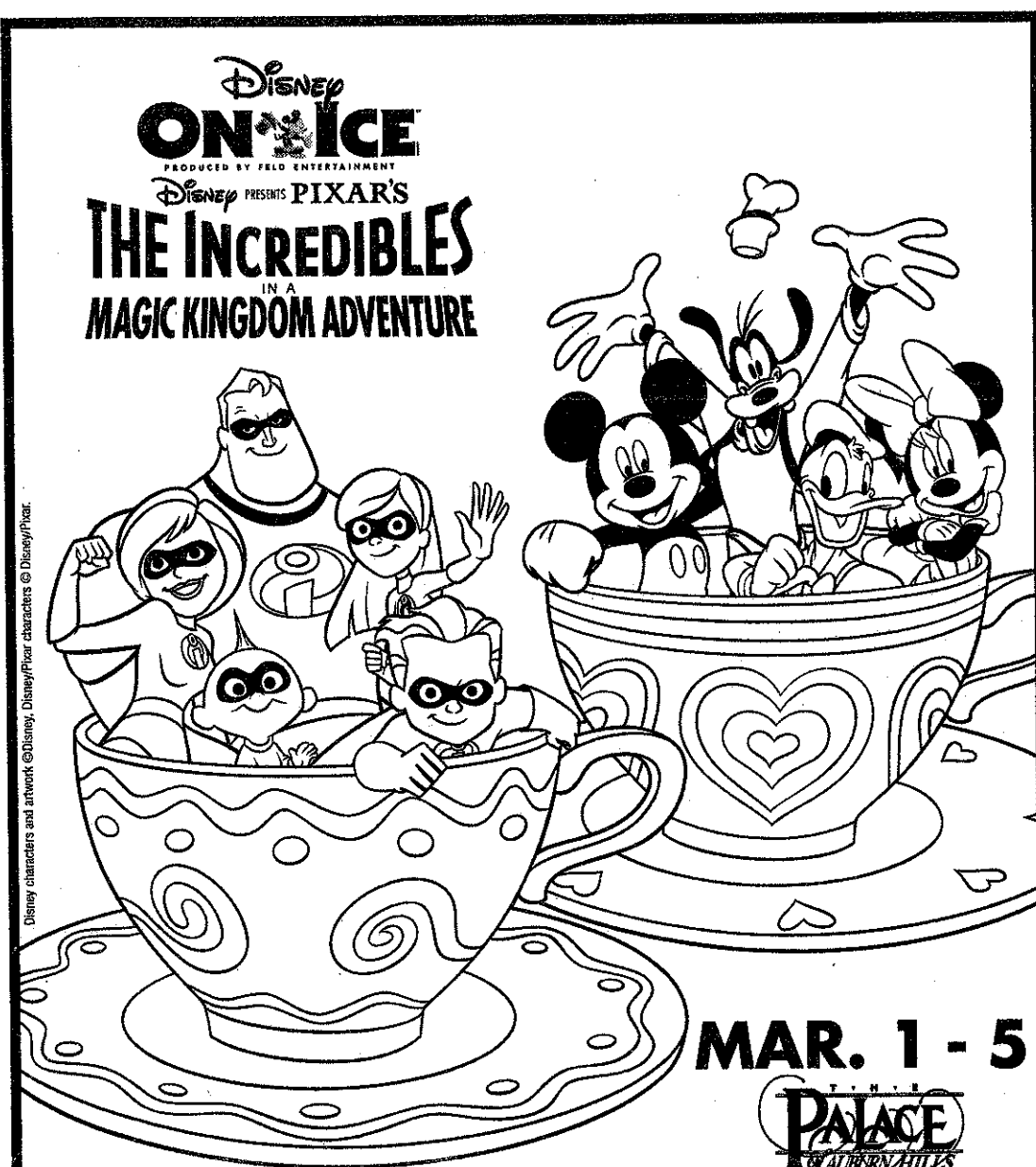
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MAR. 1 - 5



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The Observer & Eccentric
Disney On Ice Coloring Contest
36251 Schoolcraft Rd.
Livonia, MI 48150

Winners will be posted in the Feb. 23rd edition.

www.disneyonice.com

Employees of The O&E, Palace Sports & Entertainment and Feld Entertainment, Inc. are not eligible to win.

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PARTY

FROM PAGE B1

Birmingham. Through Earl, the Ponicals obtained two small black leather chairs from the 1940s, and two small metal tables called the "man and woman" tables (each with a base in the shape of a human figure).

The chairs and tables are in the living room, which also has bigger pieces, including a baby grand piano, a giant round ottoman and a large mirror.

In the adjacent foyer, with a dramatic curving staircase, are French antiques – a dresser from 1760 and an off-white love seat.

The cozy study contains Chinese antiques – a pair of chairs and a carved horse.

LARGE SCALE

Spacious areas include the kitchen and great room.

White marble tops the counters and island in the modern kitchen.

Five Parsons chairs, rose in color, ring a round wooden table that was tinted to match the ebony-stained oak flooring that is here and throughout the house.

In the great room, a tall vertical painting that belonged to renowned designer Brian Killian stands on the mantel and reaches toward the soaring ceiling. Giant andirons are in the fireplace.

Shades of yellow and red are in the drapes, area rug, upholstery and pillows.

The dining room features a large, colorful painting of woods that suggests the outside view, and chandeliers that were in the foyer of the Ponical home in France.

CHILDREN'S ROOMS

The Ponicals' son and daughter have their own colorful bedrooms.

The daughter's bedroom is in mouthwatering tones of raspberry and a shade called "sassy" green.

These colors are also on the cushion in an alcove that is near a table with a child-size tea set, and on the handmade doll dresses in a frame.

The son's room is dressed in blue and tan, with beadboard on half of the walls.



The round table in the spacious kitchen was stained to match the ebony-colored flooring.

Because he likes dogs, dogs are in the decor: in the pattern on a window seat cushion, and in photos taken by Kay's brother in Paris that line the room. The room also contains two little arm-chairs.

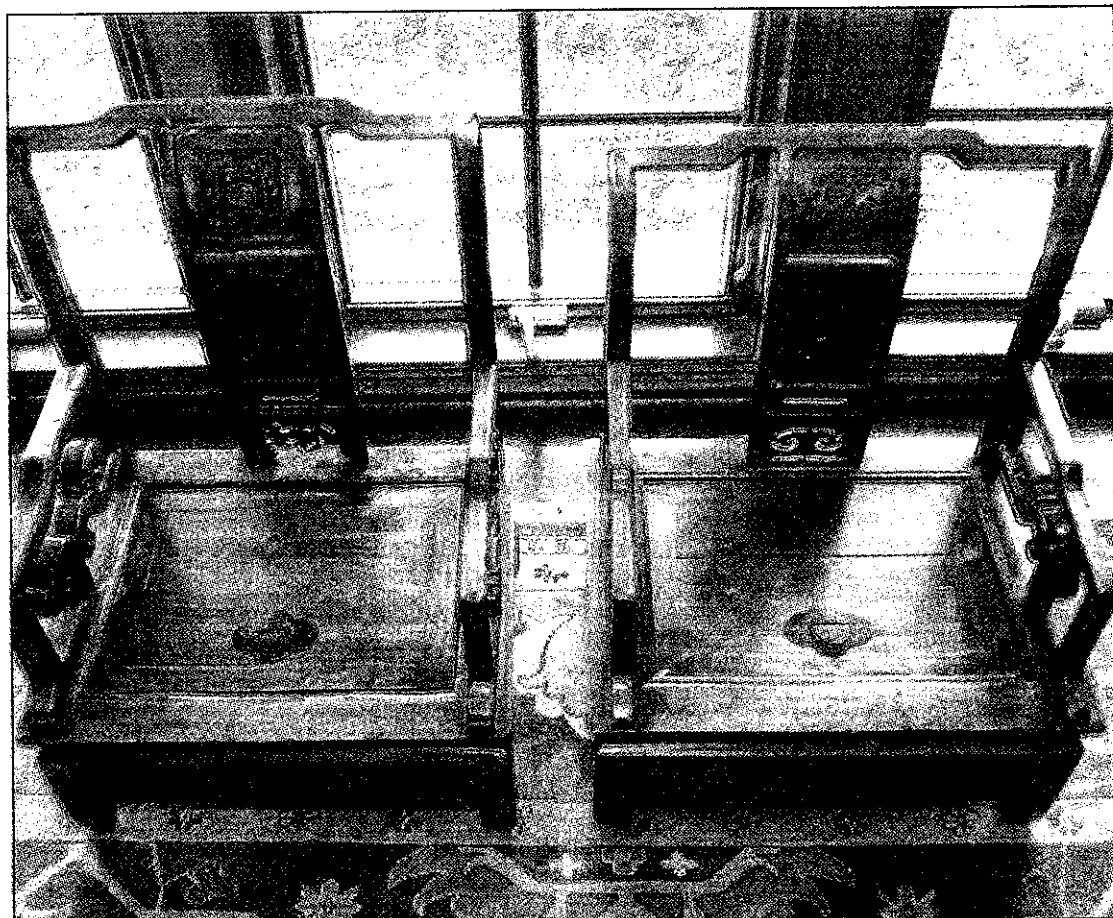
Mike Ponical's father was one of the original founders of Variety in Pittsburgh.

"It was very important to him," Mike said.

BENEFIT

Variety has 50 chapters and 15,000 members around the world.

The Detroit chapter touches all of southeastern Michigan, and has more than 2,000 volunteers who raise money for local charities to help children with special needs.



PHOTOS BY LAWRENCE MCKEE | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Two antique chairs stand in the study.

The Snow Ball, now in its 10th year, includes a black-tie dinner, a live auction of fantasy packages, and entertainment. It has raised more than \$1.6 million for Variety over the last nine years.

Bruce Kridler and Richard Gershenson, both of Birmingham, are co-chairs of the 2006 Snow Ball. "This is going to be an event unlike any we've had in the past 10 years," Kridler said.

This year's event will feature small plates of a seven-course meal. Performers will interact with attendees. Entertainment will include the Simon Vitale Orchestra and Deborah's Stage Door Dancers.

"It's going to be a great party, very fun," Kridler said. "There will be great entertainment throughout the evening."

Among the auction items are a stay at a private estate in Bermuda, a baseball trip to St. Louis with Hall of Fame shortstop Ozzie Smith, a New York package involving front row seats at *Late Night with David Letterman* and dinner at the Friars Club, and a stay at the Sonoma Inn with a tour of the Monticello vineyards.

Rob T. Allen of Birmingham is creator, executive producer and director of the Snow Ball.

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If you want to submit an item for the religion calendar, fax it to (734) 591-7279 or write: Religion Calendar, Observer Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150. The deadline for an announcement to appear in the Thursday edition is noon Monday.

FEBRUARY

Bible study groups

The Wednesday group meets 10 a.m. to noon on the first and third Wednesday of each month (Feb. 15), the Thursday group 7-9 p.m. on the first and third Thursday of each month (Feb. 2 and 16), in the rectory at St. Michael's the Archangel Catholic Church, Plymouth and Hubbard, Livonia. The Wednesday group is studying Women of Courage in the Bible, the Thursday group The Letters of St. Paul from Prison. Classes are small and informal and based on the Little Rock Scripture Series. For information, call (734) 261-1455.

Bible study

Mark: The Beginning of the Gospel (Chapters 1-8) begins 7-8:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 2, at St. Aidan Catholic Church, 17500 Farmington, Livonia. The three units include a presentation by David Conrad, director of faith formation, question/answer session and

discussion of Jesus and the first disciples (Feb. 2, 9, 16, 23), Jesus and the 12 (March 9, 16, 23, 30), and Jesus and the mission of the 12 (April 20, 27 and May 4, 11). Chapters 8-16 will be studied later in the year. To register, call (734) 425-5950.

Spaghetti dinner

3-7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 3, Riverside Park Church of God will be serving a spaghetti dinner to raise money for missionaries, at 11771 Newburgh and Plymouth, Livonia. Minimum donation is \$3.50 per adult, \$1.50 children 12 and under. There will also be baked goods that can be purchased separately. Prizes will be awarded throughout the evening. Take out available. Orders can be placed at (734) 464-0990.

Gospel music

Evening of Inspiration brings the gospel to the biggest game on earth for one night in the Gospel Music Capital of the World, the City of Detroit during Super Bowl XL. With an evening of inspirational music, soul-stirring testimonies from NFL players and surprise guests, the concert kicks-off Super Bowl Weekend 7:45 p.m. Friday, Feb. 3, at Masonic Temple. The event features Patti LaBelle, The Winans, Mary Mary, The Clark Sisters and Hezekiah Walker and the Love Fellowship Choir. There will be surprise guest appearances. Tickets are \$45-\$75 and available at

Ticket Master locations in Detroit (248) 645-6566 or TicketMaster.com. A non-refundable service fee applies. For information, visit www.superbowlgamecelebration.com.

Mixer card night

7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 3, in Knox Hall, at Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile, Northville. Presented by Single Adult Ministries, no card skills are required. Free childcare. Call (248) 374-5920.

Orthodox music workshop

The Music Ministry of the Council of Orthodox Christian Churches of Metropolitan Detroit conducts a two-part workshop on Communicating God's Word Through Song, Gesture and Service Friday-Saturday, Feb. 3-4. The Friday session is free. Registration for Saturday is \$25 plus \$5 for lunch. For information, call (313) 274-1226 or send e-mail to damiann@juno.com.

Toboggan fun

Junior high students will be going to "The Fridge" toboggan shoot at Waterford Oaks Park 3-9:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 4, leaves at 3 p.m. from the Memorial Church of Christ, 35475 Five Mile, Livonia. Cost is \$12. Dress warm. Call the church at (734) 464-6722.

Family game night

6-8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 4, at First United Methodist Church, 6443 Merriman, Garden City. Cost is \$2 per

person, \$5 per family. Proceeds go towards Fall Family Retreat. The church will have different games/cards to play or bring your games and teach someone else a new game. For information, call (734) 425-5653.

Acoustic concert

Folk singer Terry Gonda performs 7 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 4, in the coffee-house venue at Unity of Livonia, 28660 Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Inkster. Gonda recently released her first CD - love, lose, repeat, she has performed in England and the U.S., and was a finalist in the 2003 Susquehanna Music Festival song-writer competition. Admission \$10. Call (734) 421-1760.

Marriage preparation

Samaritan Counseling Services regularly offers a special Saturday workshop for engaged couples as they prepare for marriage. The next workshop will be 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 4, at First Presbyterian Church, Ann Arbor. The workshop encourages couples to address many aspects of marriage and teaches techniques for effective communication and conflict management. For details and registration, call (734) 677-0609.

Gospel quartet

10:45 a.m. Sunday, Feb. 5, Riverside Park Church of God hosts a southern gospel quartet known as The

Journeyman, at 11771 Newburgh and Plymouth, Livonia. This unique group comes from West Virginia and is being featured at churches throughout Michigan. A love offering will be taken during service to support their ministry. Call (734) 464-0990.

Superbowl XL party

A safe, sober family event 6 p.m. (dinner) Sunday, Feb. 5, game on the big screen TV at 7 p.m., at Unity of Livonia, 28660 Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Inkster. Bring a dish to share if you wish, free ham sandwiches, pop and chips. If you aren't a fan, there will be board games for adults and movies for children. The community is invited. For information, call (734) 421-1760.

Grief workshop

From grief to new hope begins 7-8:45 p.m. Monday, Feb. 6, continue for 8 Mondays in Room A105 at Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile, Northville. No charge. Pre-register by calling (248) 374-5966.

Lutheran course

For all Lutherans - old, new and anyone in between, begins 7-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 7, and continues weekly through March 28, at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 39020 Five Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 464-0211.

Play and potluck

Presented by Wise Guys 'N Gals Senior Group, a play by poet and author

James Dillet Freeman at noon Thursday, Feb. 9, at Unity of Livonia, 28660 Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Inkster. Have you ever wondered what the three most important things you have done in your lifetime are? In the play a king wonders and when he passes away, in order to continue on, he music find out. Bring a dish to share if you can. If you can't, come anyway. Features Wise Guys 'N Gals members Sharolyn White, Chet Latka and Marilyn Wells. For information, call (734) 421-1760.

Divorce workshop

Begins 7-9:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 9, and runs for 7 weeks until March 23, at Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile, Northville. Cost is \$30 for pre-registration, \$20 returning participants, \$35 at door. Cost includes the book Growing Through Divorce by Jim Smoke and a closing night dinner. For information, call (248) 374-5920.

Valentines wanted

Trinity Episcopal Church is collecting valentines to be distributed to the residents of Willow Creek Assisted Living in Belleville. Home made or store bought valentines can be signed with your first name and dropped off by Feb. 10 at Trinity church, 11575 Belleville Rd., Belleville (734) 699-3361. For more information, call Linda at (734) 484-5033.



EMMA RUTH HEDEMAN

Age 95, a retired solar astronomer, of Annapolis and formerly of Falls Church, Va., and Clarkston, Mich., died of heart disease Jan. 25 at her home. Born Nov. 25, 1910, and raised in Baltimore, Miss Hedeman graduated from Eastern High School where she excelled in academics, particularly math and science. In 1931 she graduated from Goucher College and received a master of arts degree in mathematics from Duke University in 1936. She began her career as a math teacher at Eastern High School in Baltimore. During World War II she was a member of the WAVES in the Naval Reserve. She was a lieutenant senior grade meteorologist from 1942 to 1945 and was stationed in Seattle. In 1948 Miss Hedeman obtained a master of science degree in astronomy from the University of Michigan and began a long career as a solar astronomer with the university's McMath-Hulbert Solar Observatory. Along with her colleague, Helen W. Dodson, she completed research which was frequently published and her work is still used today. Among her many papers are "Time Variations in Solar Activity," "Catalogue of Solar Particle Events, 1955-1969" and "Experimental Comprehensive Flare Indices for Certain Flares, 1970-1974." A world traveler, she attended conferences and gave talks at astronomy meetings all over the world. She completed one entire around-the-world-trip in 1973 and at age 86 took a trip through the Panama Canal. While Miss Hedeman never married, she was like a mother to her many nieces and nephews, her family said. In particular, she always pushed her nieces to excel and made it a point to expose them to as many educational experiences as she could, bringing them along on her world travels, and doing what she could to further their educations, they said. An avid genealogist, she traveled to Germany to trace her parents' families and organized large family reunions where she would present her latest research. Her work is still used today as her relatives continue to research their ancestry. Surviving are her brother, Dr. John L. Hedeman of Annapolis, and many nieces, nephews, grand-nieces and grand-nephews. She was the daughter of the late Emma Elizabeth Koppelman Hedeman and Walter Rider Hedeman and the sister of the late Norman and Walter Hedeman. A memorial gathering will be held from 3 to 5 p.m. Sunday at Taylor Funeral Home, 147 Duke of Gloucester St. Burial will be private. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Goucher College, 1021 Dulany Valley Road, Baltimore, Maryland 21204 for scholarships. On line condolences may be made at: www.johnmtaylorfuneralhome.com.

SYLVIA LAYNE

Age 89, of San Rafael, California passed away peacefully at her home Saturday, January 28, 2006. Born in Toronto, Canada, she later moved to Detroit where she met her husband (predeceased) of 62 years, Herman. In 1977 they moved to Marin County, CA where Herman established a rubber stamp business. Survived by four sons David (Judy) Layne of San Rafael, Irwin Layne (Jayne Preston) of La Paz, Mexico, Ron (Valerie) Layne of San Rafael, and Joel (Carole) Layne of Livonia, Michigan. Ten grandchildren and eleven great-grandchildren. Sylvia will be missed by all. A Graveside Memorial will be held on Thursday, February 2, 2006 @12:30 p.m. at Mount Tamalpais Cemetery, 2500 Fifth Avenue, San Rafael, California. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Hospice of Marin Foundation, 17 East Sir Francis Drake Blvd., Larkspur, CA 94939.

JANE L. RUTHENBERG

Age 85, of Birmingham, January 31, 2006, Wm. Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak. Jane and her husband William Ruthenberg were both long time teachers with Birmingham Public Schools. Jane was teaching at Pierce School for years and then taught at the Pembroke Elementary School in Birmingham for many years, retiring in 1986. Graduate of Eastern Michigan University, degree in education and received her masters in education at University of Michigan. One of Jane's pleasures was gardening and she was also an excellent seamstress. Survived by her husband of 68 yrs. William Ruthenberg. Her daughter, Linda Ruthenberg of Birmingham and one son Michael W. of Bloomfield Hills. Visitation is Thursday, from 2 to 4 p.m. Funeral Service will be held at the Wm. R. Hamilton Co., 820 E. Maple, Birmingham. Friday, February 3, 2006, 10:00 a.m. Interment at White Chapel Memorial Cemetery will be private.

LAWRENCE STOCK

Age 74, of Ft. Lauderdale, FL., formerly of Farmington, passed away on January 14, 2006. Mr. Stock, a retired educator, taught at Ft. Lauderdale High School for 40 years. He traveled widely and used slides from these travels to teach his students. He was an avid gardener and his favorite phrase was "cultivate your garden," meaning your mind. He leaves two sons, Mike and John of Ft. Lauderdale, two granddaughters, brothers Jim of Michigan, Vince of Hawaii, and sisters Lorraine Christensen of Farmington and Mary Corby of Hawaii.

RALPH JR. WALLOT

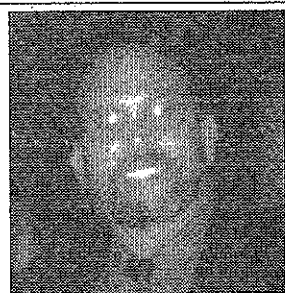
Age 49, January 28, 2006 of Waterford, formerly of Livonia. Father of Stephen and R.J. Son of Ursula Wallot. Brother of Catherine Long (Lawrence), Christine Beyer (Daniel), Raymond (Tami), Charles (Debi) and Gayle Lenz. Memorial visitation Saturday 12-7pm at the Harry J. Will Funeral Home, 34567 Michigan Ave., Wayne.

JAMES D. "DON" MIX

Age 82, passed away January 28, 2006. He was born on March 25, 1923, in Bradford, Arkansas, to the late Juddie and Sybil (Reddit) Mix. On December 25, 1941, he married Violet Jones. He was formerly of Canton and Westland, prior to moving to South Lyon 11 years ago. James is survived by his wife Violet Mix of Green Oak Twp., three children: Jerry (Sharon) Mix of WA, Karen (Bob) Glenn of Westland, Cindy (Sanford) Reed-Norman of Bloomfield Hills, three siblings: Charles Mix, Renard Mix, Emmalee Markin, six grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. Funeral Service was held on Wednesday, February 1, 2006 at Phillips Funeral Home in South Lyon. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society, 2010 Hogback Road, Suite 6, Ann Arbor, MI 48105.

VIC V. TOMEI

Age 57, of Plymouth, died January 29, 2006. He was born February 22, 1948, in Villa S' Angelo, Italy. He is survived by his wife, Rosemary; his children, Eric Tomei, Melissa (Alex) Shalhoub, and Amanda Tomei; his parents, Domenico and Sestina Tomei; his sister, Bina Tomei; his sister-in-law, Patricia (Gordon) Dickey; his nephews, Scott (Emily) Dickey and Bradley Dickey; and his great-nephew, Cass Dickey. Funeral from St. John Neumann Church, 44800 Warren Road, Canton, Thursday, 10:30am. Friends may visit at church beginning at 10am. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Habitat for Humanity or St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Church in Detroit. Arrangements entrusted to Schrader-Howell Funeral Home.



ROBERT "BOB" WARREN

January 29, 2006. Age 56. Beloved husband of Colleen for 32 years. Loving father of Kimberly, Megan Bedford (Aaron), Thomas and Lindsey. Dear grandfather of Tucker Bedford. Brother of Sue Hart (the late Bob), Linda Marks (Roger) and Lee Anne Treloar (Rob). Son-in-law of Mary Lou Milliken. Brother-in-law of Kevin (Deb), Keith (Susan), Tim (Laura) and Terry (Kristin) Milliken, Maureen Adams (Chuck) and Katie Fordon (John). Also survived by numerous nieces and nephews. Family will receive friends at A. J. Desmond & Sons Funeral Home, 2600 Crooks Rd. (btwn Maple & Big Beaver) Thursday 4:00-8:00pm and Friday 2:00-8:00pm. Scripture service Friday 7:30pm. Funeral Mass Saturday 11:00am at Holy Name Church, 630 Harmon at Woodland, Birmingham. Visitation begins at church 10:30am. Memorial tributes to The American Red Cross, P.O. Box 37243, Washington, DC 20013 or the American Heart Association, 3816 Papsphere Circle, Chicago, IL 60674. View obituary and share memories at: www.DesmondFuneralHome.com

JOHN MICHAEL BREEN

Age 81, January 28, 2006. Beloved husband of Lois. Loving father of Michael (Gail) and John (Mary). Dear grandfather of Jasmine. Proud Navy Veteran of WWII. Scout Leader for 25 years. World Medical Relief Volunteer for 20 years. Funeral Service was held Wednesday, February 1, 2006, at Harry J. Will Funeral Home, Livonia.

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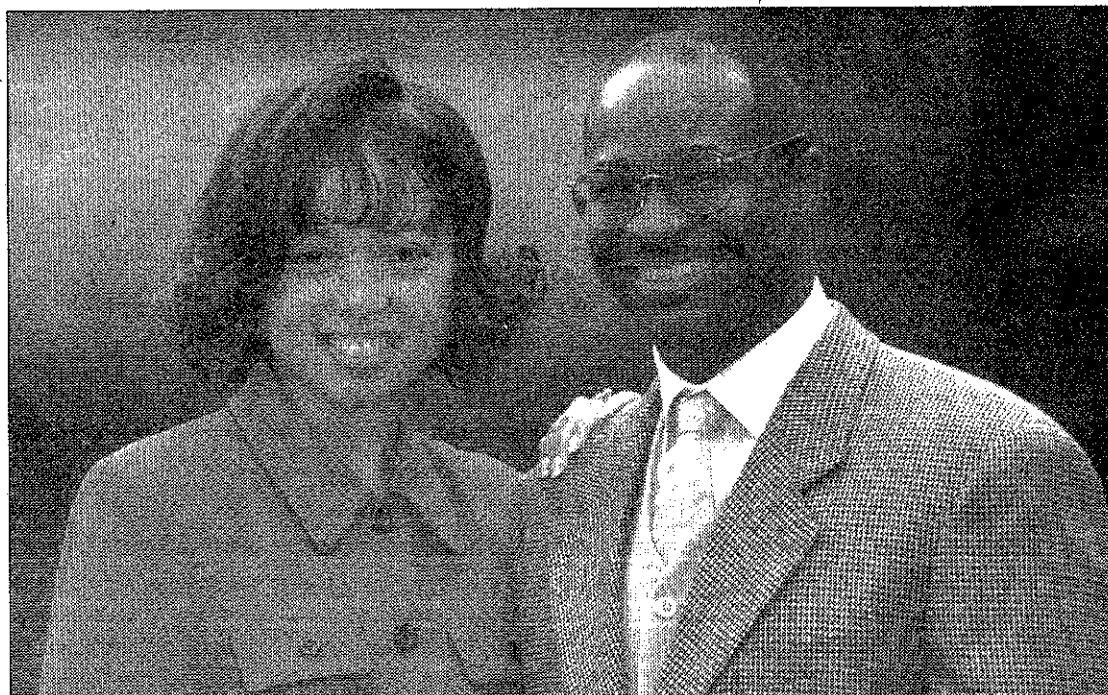
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ask for Char or Liz



Rev. Leonard Cheeseborough and wife Adrienne

Ministers work together for good of community

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER

The Rev. Debra Klein remains positive, yet disappointed, that clergy from only five of about 70 churches in Livonia turned out for an interfaith prayer service hosted by the city's ministerial

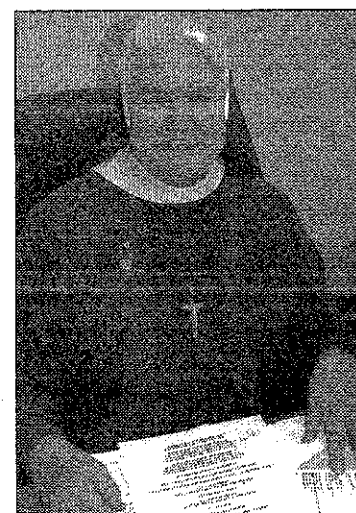
organization at Madonna University on Jan. 14. The Riverside Park Church of God pastor learned the value of cooperation as a member of the Greater

Morristown Ministerial Association in Tennessee. By combining resources the churches and city helped those in need, spiritually and financially. The Livonia Ministerial Organization (LMO) hopes to use a similar format for resolving issues within the community.

"We were working as one so no one would fall through the cracks as far as getting help. That's what we're trying to do here, to offer something to benefit pastors in spiritual growth, churches communicating as a whole and bringing us together to worship under one God," said Klein who arrived in Livonia in June and now serves as LMO vice president.

Klein fears a difference in doctrines is keeping ministers from joining the Livonia organization which was re-activated by the Rev. Leonard Cheeseborough of Raindrop African Methodist Episcopal Church, nearly two years ago. A similar organization existed in the 1970s and 1980s.

Sister Nancy Marie Jamroz believes it's not doctrinal differences as much as busy schedules that prevent ministers from joining. As vice president of Madonna University, her time is limited, but she feels by pooling resources everyone in the community benefits.



Sister Nancy Marie Jamroz

"We do need an interfaith organization in Livonia to serve all walks of faith," said Jamroz, a member of the Felician Sisters of the Roman Catholic church. "As ministers of God's family, God would want us to minister as one. We're conscientious in getting this moving. There was a press conference in May or June in response to the racism controversy concerning Wal-mart. A council member challenged us to work on this issue."

Engelbretson

Livonia Mayor Jack Engelbretson wholeheartedly supports the organization that promotes sister and brotherhood. Cheeseborough initially asked to meet with the mayor about forming the ministerial group.

"When Rev. Cheeseborough came in to my office interested in re-establishing the ministerial organization how grateful the city was that the clergy would partner with us," said Mayor Jack Engelbretson who's attended nearly all of the ministerial meetings held every other month. "I believe the city has an interest in having that channel of communication."

After receiving encouragement from his meeting with

Engelbretson, Cheeseborough began approaching church leaders. More than 40 ministers gathered for that first luncheon. Since then attendance at meetings has dwindled. Undaunted, the organization has scheduled a series of speakers throughout 2006 including Bruce Wong who talks about leadership on March 9. Wong is president of Michigan Theological Seminar in Plymouth.

"Our mission is to come together and share knowledge of the ministry to uplift one another and be in a place of fellowship so that if some event occurs in Livonia area we can come together and not be strangers to one another, to share ideas and encourage one another in the ministry using the Bible to guide us in our beliefs and leaving out our own denominational Biblical doctrine which has divided the members," said Cheeseborough whose church presently holds services at 11 a.m. Sundays at Madonna University and on special occasions at Chinese Gospel Church.

Rev. Dennis Skiles "would like to like to see more participation not only of pastors but people in the religious life - youth leaders, secretaries, anyone who wants to come together with other people and pray." Skiles, of Unity Church of Livonia, regularly attends meetings of the Livonia group as well as the Dearborn Ministerial Association.

"The organizations are important because they allow a place where we can respect each other, the diverse ways, we pray. We need respect for each other. The biggest problem in the world today is not respecting one another's faiths. That creates a lot of turmoil."

For more information about LMO or to be on the mailing roster, call (248) 752-0500 or send e-mail to revcheese@raindropame.com.

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Citrus: Great for eating - and cleaning

BY JAMES AND MORRIS CAREY
FOR AP WEEKLY FEATURES

Winter is when oranges, tangerines and grapefruits are harvested in Northern California.

The end result becomes glazed oranges, dried oranges, orange juice, orange soda, lemonade, grapefruit juice and more.

But best of all, we end up with a whole line of cleaning and deodorizing tools as a byproduct of good eats.

■ **Lemon oil** - Not lemon juice, lemon oil. Lemon oil is absolutely the very best glass cleaner we know of. If you have calcium buildup on your shower then you need lemon oil.

Simply use a piece of extra-fine steel wool dipped in lemon oil to clean a shower door that you currently can't see through because of the lime deposits.

Once the door is clean, then wipe the surface down with a fresh coat of lemon oil and future lime deposits won't have a chance.

By the way, we also use car wax to protect glass in the shower when lemon oil isn't available.

■ **Lemon juice** - Not lemon oil, lemon juice. Have a recipe that requires half a lemon and don't know what to do with the rest of the juice? Lemon juice is highly acidic and is a great cleaning agent.

Pure lemon juice is great for removing stains on many of the new solid surface countertops. Best of all it is nontoxic - and you can even drink it.

■ **Lemon rind (peel)** - Not lemon oil and not lemon juice. The peel is what we're talking about here.

Grab a lemon and rub the whole piece of fruit firmly between your hands. The warmth of your hands and the pressure you apply to the skin will extract lemon oil from its skin and your hands will smell wonderful.

That's why a lemon rind is so absolutely perfect as a deodorizer for your garbage disposal. In this case it wouldn't be a cleaner, but a deodorizer instead!

Drop the rind down the disposer and in no time the fragrance of lemon will permeate the air around your sink.

Before using the lemon rind we mix a cup of water and a cup

of vinegar (any kind) into an ice tray and make cubes. We mix the water in with the vinegar because the vinegar won't freeze on its own.

By the way, be sure to mark the ice tray so that the next batch of cold drinks doesn't end up with a surprise flavor.

Drop the cubes down the disposer and the ice will coagulate grease and oil and at the same time will act as an abrasive, instantly cleaning the grease and grime in your disposal.

We always follow this procedure with at least on half of a lemon rind. (You can use an orange rind if you like.)

■ **Orange** - Orange oil, orange juice and orange rinds can be used for the same purpose as lemons. However, be careful when shopping for citrus-based cleaners at the store.

Often companies will advertise their cleaner as "Lemon Cleaner" or "Orange Cleaner" when in fact the active cleaning ingredient isn't citric acid at all, but some other chemical instead.

This is important because citric acid is nontoxic and often its pleasant fragrance is used in

combination with very dangerous chemicals.

So, when you buy a product that says it is an orange or lemon cleaner, double-check to make sure what the active cleaning ingredient really is. It's better to be safe than sorry.

Tip: Bake orange or lemon rinds in your oven on low. Your home will smell sweet and fresh all day long. Sprinkle on a little cinnamon if you like to step things up a notch.

■ **Grapefruit** - Grapefruit also is a great cleaner. Cut one in half, dip the exposed fruit in a dish of salt and you have the best marble cleaner money can buy. Caution here: Don't leave the citric acid on the surface any longer than it takes to remove a stain. Flood with fresh water and towel dry immediately.

And don't use citric acid to clean marble when it isn't stained. If fresh, clear water will do the trick then that's all that should be used.

And, that's all there is to it. 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.

Revisit winterization to lower heating bills

BY DAVID BRADLEY
FOR AP WEEKLY FEATURES

The expected surge in natural gas prices this winter will force owners of 55 million homes heated by natural gas to revisit home energy conservation measures.

Energy efficiency that was good enough in years past won't be adequate to offset hefty bumps in the cost of natural gas, not to mention steep hikes in heating oil. Owners will need to step up and make certain their homes are weather-worthy.

Less than 20 percent of homes built before 1980 are insulated to current standards according to the Department of Energy.

The DOE has updated recommended amounts of insulation, and millions of homes fall well short of new standards that reach as high as R-49 for attics. That's roughly 14 inches of insulation.

Gale Tedhams, insulation product manager for Owens Corning, says many homes built after 1980 don't have adequate insulation because local building codes aren't updated with the most recent DOE suggestions.

Owners of those homes may be in for an icy wake-up call, too. Attics draw attention because the open space is a big source of heat loss and is usually easy access for do-it-yourselfers.

Well-insulated attics should be cold. Warm air that drifts into thinly protected attics can melt snow atop roofs and the runoff can re-freeze to create roof-damaging ice dams. Icicles dangling from eaves are a sure sign that air inside the attic is too warm.

If your attic doesn't have at least 12 inches of insulation, Tedhams says it is OK to lay paperless rolls of insulation atop existing insulation including cellulose or vermiculite, both of which have a tendency to settle and compact over time. Attic insulation is key, but it's merely a good start for homeowners. Every nook and cranny left open to icy winter drafts is so much

heat lost.

Douglas Faulkner, acting assistant secretary of energy efficiency for the DOE, says he's surprised at how many homes aren't nearly as efficient as possible.

"Homeowners don't realize that by making a few inexpensive, home improvements they can save 30 percent or more on their home-heating costs," he said.

States, too, are getting into the conservation act. Michigan and New York, for example, have set up networks of contractors who use high-tech equipment to perform sophisticated in-home energy audits.

John Vacher, a sales associate for Home Depot, says drafts can be stifled in minutes with weather-stripping around windows and doors.

Expansion foam works well for pesky small openings that caulk won't fill, such as behind switch plates on exterior walls or "any small opening where a pipe or wire enters the house," said Vacher.

Another suggestion is to staple paper-faced insulation along exposed ceiling joists in unfinished basements or crawl spaces. Cut insulation to stuff in open crevices at the juncture of basement walls and the ceiling.

Pump expansion foam insulation in small 1/2-inch to 2-inch openings around the foundation. Open curtains and blinds during sunlight hours to maximize warmth of the sun. Close these at night to further stop cold air. Keep window panes clean on the southern exposure of the house to allow every bit of toasty sunshine to enter the house.

On the Net: Homeowners can receive a free energy savers booklet prepared by the DOE and Owens Corning. Log on www.owenscorning.com for more information. Other Web sites for information on saving home energy:

■ www.aceee.org (American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy)
■ www.energystar.gov (U.S. Department of Energy)

BROIDA

FROM PAGE B1

lists, then tap it to make a selection.

I don't love this control, but it works well enough, and the Zen's interface is just as easy to navigate as the iPod's.

MUSIC

In the music department, the Zen scores a slam-dunk victory over the iPod. As I mentioned earlier, it's compatible with loads of online stores and subscription services.

Plus, there's the FM tuner, arguably the iPod's most sorely lacked feature. The Zen can even record radio, though I wish it let you schedule recordings like you can with a VCR. If you want to catch, say, an NPR program for later listen-

The Zen Vision:M may not have the iPod's sex appeal or point-and-click video store, but it's definitely the better of the two players. It has more features, longer battery life, a superior screen, and much broader support for online music.

ing, you'll have to record it manually.

VIDEO

If you have a Media Center PC and/or a TiVo, you'll be glad to know you can copy recorded TV shows and movies to your Zen.

However, it can be a complicated process, and Creative

provides no instructions. Bad, Creative. Bad!

Apple makes on-the-go video much easier thanks to iTunes, which allows you to buy and download TV shows just as easily as you buy and download music. All it takes is a few clicks. Of course, you'll pay \$1.99 per episode for the privilege.

Shows recorded on a Media Center or TiVo cost nothing.

SOFTWARE

Speaking of iTunes, Apple's music manager may not be perfect - its interface is actually a bit on the confusing side - but it conveniently puts everything under one roof: music, videos, podcasts and all the rest.

The Zen, meanwhile, forces you to use four different utilities to accomplish various tasks. It's too bad Creative

can't put together a more integrated application.

BETTER THAN IPOD?

The Zen Vision:M may not have the iPod's sex appeal or point-and-click video store, but it's definitely the better of the two players.

It has more features, longer battery life, a superior screen, and much broader support for online music.

To put it another way: You can have my Zen when you pry it out of my cold, dead fingers.

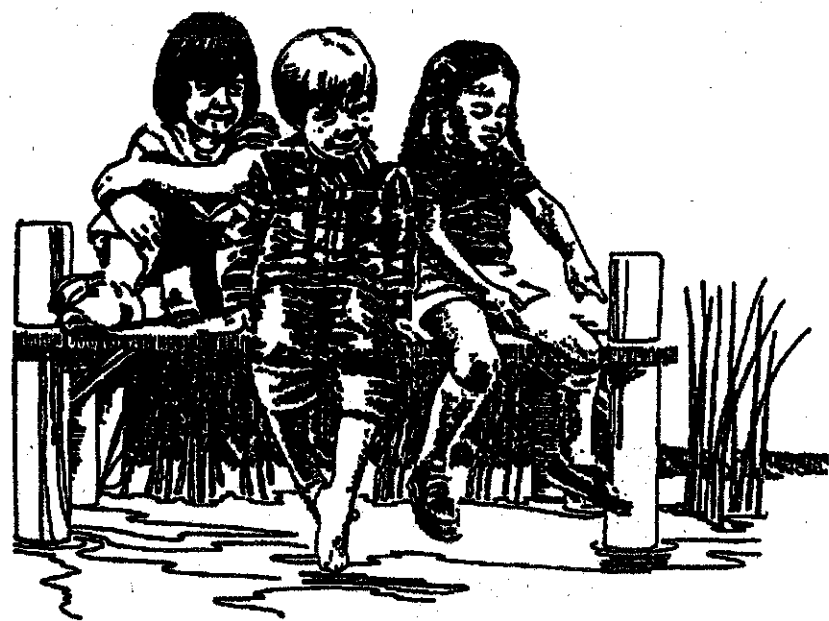
Rick Broida writes about computers and technology for the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers*. Broida, of Commerce Township, is the co-author of numerous books, including *How to Do Everything with Your Palm Handheld*, fifth edition, and *101 Killer Apps for Pocket PC*. He welcomes questions sent to rick.broida@gmail.com.

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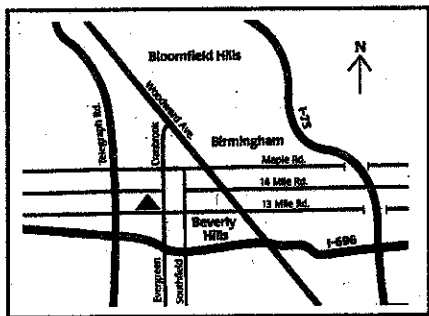
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Matt Prentice serves this Jumbo Shrimp Cocktail.

Ready. break!

Prentice caters
some super parties



Citrus glaze glistens on lobster corn dogs, nestled on Napa cabbage slaw.

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK
STAFF WRITER

Matt Prentice remembers one of his first meetings with someone on the staff of Dan Gilbert, the owner of the Washington Redskins.

The staff person described a cool food concept used by a chef in Florida. She asked Prentice whether he could come up with a similar, creative concept - a mashed potato station.

Prentice listened, then laughed.

"I created that station a decade ago," Prentice told her. And then he informed her that the chef who created it in Florida learned about it from Prentice.

So much for "drab" Michigan food.

Prentice hopes Detroit can put its best culinary foot forward the next few days, as he and other local caterers are currently in the midst of a weeklong soiree of catering events.

A BLITZ OF PARTIES

Prentice will cater a party for Gilbert at Compuware headquarters Friday night. Tonight (Feb. 2) he's got the Hispanic scholarship fund dinner at Coach Insignia with special guest Lions quarterback Jeff Garcia.

He'll be feeding 300 people on the ESPN staff on Saturday and Sunday. Throw all that in with the expected bustle of the 11 restaurants and delis in the Matt Prentice Restaurant Group, which includes Coach Insignia, the Flying Fish Tavern, Northern Lakes Seafood Company, Etouffee, Morels, An American Bistro, Shiraz, Milk and Honey, Thunder Bay Brewing Co., Deli Unique and Plaza Deli.

All that activity comes on the heels of the Auto Show where he and his staff catered

a press conference for 2,000, lunch with 2,500, including Jaguar and Volvo officials, a party of 400 for Ford Motor Co., another party of 200 for Lincoln Mercury dealers and 200 Wall Street analysts, all the week of Jan. 9.

"Auto Show is the busiest time of year for me," Prentice said. "It's even busier than the holidays. What makes it hard is the staff is fatigued from the holidays, and then we roll right into the Auto Show, and this year we're rolling right into the Super Bowl."

Everyone's excited. Catering is a lot different than running a restaurant in planning, Prentice said, but there also are fewer surprises in catering. "With the restaurants, sometimes you know what's coming, sometimes you don't."

Conversely, "the bar is definitely higher with catering," Prentice adds. Catering large wedding parties and significant events is a "Super Bowl" in and of itself in the culinary world, Prentice said.

"It is an important - if not the most important - day in their life, and you can't afford to let 'em down."

Prentice created a Super Bowl menu that he recently served at his restaurant and that he offers at parties featuring lobster corn dogs and prawn cocktails. "We're trying to do things that people will talk about," Prentice said. The lobster corn dog was developed by former chef Joe Bachman, who recently left Prentice's restaurant group to return to the Philadelphia area, and chef Dave Hubbard of Coach Insignia.

Prentice said caterers should try to listen to the host and their likes and dislikes. "I want it to be an expression of the

Getting ready for the game

TURKEY CHILI

Chili is a perfect Super Bowl dish. At the same time, people tend to watch it after the holidays when diets are considered. This chili is flavorful yet low in calories and healthy. If you want some more calories, top it with sour cream, grated cheddar and your favorite salsa.

- 1 ounce vegetable oil
- 16 ounces cooked white beans
- 3 pounds ground turkey
- 2 cups diced onion
- 2 cups leeks (whites only) diced
- 2 cups celery diced
- 1 poblano pepper, minced and seeds removed
- 6 large plum tomatoes, seeded and diced
- 1/4 cup chili powder
- 1 tablespoon salt
- 1 tablespoon dried basil
- 1 teaspoon white pepper
- 1 teaspoon dried oregano
- 1 tablespoon ground cumin
- 6 ounces tomato paste
- 1/4 cup parsley chopped
- 1/4 cup cilantro chopped
- 1 quart rich chicken stock or Campbell's Chicken Broth
- 1 quart water

Heat oil in heavy-gauge pot. Add ground turkey and cook thoroughly. Add onion and leeks and sauté until translucent.

Add remaining ingredients (except for cilantro, cooked beans and parsley) and bring to a simmer. Simmer for 1-1/2 hours, water will have evaporated. Then fold in cooked white beans, parsley and cilantro. Simmer for 5 more minutes, adjust seasonings and enjoy. Yields 1 gallon.

Recipe courtesy of Matt Prentice, owner and chef of Matt Prentice Restaurant Group.

PLEASE SEE PRENTICE, B11

Long Flat features wines from top Aussie regions

With a new range of classic varietals, grown in some of the most respected Australian regions, Long Flat wines have been re-introduced to the United States.

"Most Americans think of Australia as one huge vineyard," said Hugh Cuthbertson, Long Flat wine director, "but in the 150 years that Australians have been growing grapes and making wines, we have discovered some special places where wines show first-rate quality



Focus on
Wine

Ray and Eleanor
Heald

and real distinction."

The new Long Flat wines present an Australian wine tour that includes a taste-visit to the South Australia appellations of the Barossa Valley, Coonawarra,

Adelaide Hills and Eden Valley, as well as the Victoria appellation of Yarra Valley. Each appellation has earned accolades for the wine varietal represented.

TASTING TOUR

In the Eden Valley, first planted in 1847, altitude is most important in determining climate. In the southern reaches of the Valley with altitudes of 1,600 feet or more, riesling is king. Cool climate at higher

altitude offers riesling correctly matched to topography. For this part of the taste tour, the 2004 Long Flat Eden Valley Riesling \$15 that captures citrus and lime aromas, is crisp and refreshing on the palate and delightful with fresh fish or crab.

Just east of Adelaide are the hills of the same name that present a maze of valleys and slopes in a cool climate, ideal for growing sauvignon blanc, the most widely planted variety

along with chardonnay and pinot noir. Try the 2004 Long Flat Adelaide Hills Sauvignon Blanc \$15, boasting lifted citrus and melon character, perfect with fresh oysters or spicy Asian cuisine.

The Yarra Valley, northeast of Melbourne, Victoria, continues the wine appellation journey. It is also well-situated for growing cool climate varieties such as chardonnay. The 2004 Long

PLEASE SEE WINES, B10

Side dish

Tea drinkers note

The World Tea Expo, which calls itself the nation's premier marketplace for the tea industry, has scheduled the first tea auction ever to be held in the United States, according to the Associated Press.

The auction, featuring specialty teas from Nilgiri, India, is to take place on March 29, during this year's Expo at the Las Vegas Hilton March 27-29.

The tea auction, organized by the World Tea Expo, the Nilgiri Planters Association, and the Tea Board of India, will give buyers an opportunity to bid on 42 of the Nilgiri region's finest teas. The evening before the event there will be a special tasting of all the teas to be auctioned.

The World Tea Expo describes itself as the first trade show in North America dedicated solely to the tea industry, aiming to provide resources for the industry and spur its growth.

Organizers say they expect this year's show to be attended by about 200 companies from around the world and 3,000 buyers. Events that have been planned to inform, entertain and connect members of the industry include demonstrations on cooking with tea, Chinese and Japanese tea ceremonies, an Iced Tea Shake-Off competition, and 45 educational seminars.

Information and registration is available on the Web at: <http://www.worldteaxpo.com>.

More than mustard

Local restaurants, caterers and wineries and, yes, mustard and specialty food companies from around the world plan to present their best at the 13th Annual Napa Valley Mustard Festival, through April 1.

It's the season when the wild mustard is in bloom over the region's fields, vineyard gardens and hillsides, according to the Associated Press. Mustard (the condiment) shares center stage with a flowering mustard backdrop at what organizers call a marathon of food, wine and art events.

The Napa Valley Mustard Festival describes itself as a nonprofit community service organization. Information about tickets and a calendar of events is available by telephone from Summers-McCann, event producer, at (707) 938-1133; by e-mail from info@mustardfestival.org, and on the Web at: <http://www.mustardfestival.org>.

Third printing

It looks like chefs and home cooks have taken a liking to *Charcuterie: The Craft of Salting, Smoking and Curing*.

Written by author Michael Ruhlman and chef Brian Polcyn and released in November, owner of Five Lakes Grill in Milford and instructor at Schoolcraft College in Livonia, *Charcuterie* has entered its third printing at Norton Publishing.

The book highlights charcuterie and smoking, salting and preserving of meats, fish, poultry and other foods.

Enjoy super recipes from HoneyBaked Ham

If you're pressed for time, you might want to consider purchasing a ham and using a few short cuts for this year's Super Bowl party.

You can easily use HoneyBaked products to create unique and easy dishes with recipes like the Super Bowl Sandwich Loaf, Touchdown Turkey Pasta Salad and All-Star Ham Wraps.

HoneyBaked offers several options to please any crowd. HoneyBaked sandwich trays include a variety of gourmet sandwiches, while the party platter includes signature meats and cheeses for guests to build their own sandwich creations.

Don't forget fresh deli salads, and cookie, brownie and cheesecake trays. With this many choices, you're sure to please every football fan.

SUPER BOWL SANDWICH LOAF

- 1/4 cup mayonnaise
- 3 tablespoons capers
- 3 tablespoons Dijon mustard
- 1 teaspoon Worcestershire
- 1/2 teaspoon balsamic or cider vinegar
- 1 teaspoon dried thyme
- 2 cups chopped HoneyBaked Ham
- 2 hard boiled eggs, finely diced
- 2 cups chopped HoneyBaked Turkey Breast
- 1 whole dill pickle, finely diced
- 3 green onions, finely diced
- 1/2 cup parsley, chopped
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 1 pound loaf of French bread

In a small bowl combine mayonnaise, capers, mustard, Worcestershire, vinegar and thyme and set aside.

In a larger bowl combine the ham, turkey breast, eggs, green onions, dill pickle and parsley. Add the caper mayonnaise mixture to the chopped meat mixture and blend thoroughly.

Cut about 1 1/2 inches off each end of the loaf of bread.

Using a serrated knife, hollow out the center of the loaf, pulling out the soft center and leaving 3/4 to a 1/2-inch shell. (Reserve for other uses)

Stand the loaf on end and stuff it with the meat filling, using a wooden spoon to pack it tightly.

Place the ends back on the sandwich, wrap it in foil and refrigerate for at least four hours.

To serve, simply slice it into 1- to 2-inch wedges. This is a sturdy sandwich that's best made several hours, or even a day ahead.

TOUCHDOWN TURKEY PASTA SALAD

- 1 1/2 cups small pasta shells
- 1 tablespoon salt
- 1/2 cup olive oil
- 1/4 cup white wine vinegar
- 1/4 teaspoon crumbled sage
- 1/4 cup green bell pepper, finely diced
- 1/4 cup pimento, finely diced
- 1/2 cup mayonnaise
- 1 tablespoon Dijon mustard
- 3 celery ribs, diced
- 2 cups HoneyBaked Turkey Breast, diced
- 1 tablespoon capers
- 2 tablespoons scallion, finely sliced
- 2 hard boiled eggs, chopped

Boil the shells and salt according to package directions. Rinse with cold water and drain.

Make a simple vinaigrette dressing, using olive oil, vinegar and sage. Season well with salt and pepper.

Once pasta is drained mix together with green pepper, pimento and vinaigrette.

Line a pasta bowl or large serving plate with curly lettuce leaves and place pasta on lettuce forming a ring around the edge and a depression in the middle of the pasta.

In a separate bowl mix together mayonnaise, mustard, celery, turkey breast and capers.

Fill the indentation in the pasta with mixture and garnish with eggs and scallion. Serves 4.

ALL-STAR HAM WRAPS

- 4 or more large flour tortillas
- 3 ounces softened cream cheese
- 1 tablespoon prepared horseradish
- 1 tablespoon Dijon mustard
- 1/4 teaspoon pepper
- 1-2 tablespoons of milk
- 2-3 slices of HoneyBaked Ham
- Thinly sliced tomatoes
- Spinach or arugula leaves

Set aside tortillas to come to room temperature.

In a small bowl, beat together cream cheese, horseradish, mustard, pepper and milk (to soften and blend).

Divide and spread the cheese mixture down the center of each tortilla, leaving about 2 inches at one end clear for rolling up burrito style.

Next, evenly layer the ham, tomatoes and spinach (or arugula) leaves on top of the cheese, leaving about an inch from the edges and 2 inches from the bottom on each tortilla.

Fold the unspread area of the tortilla up and then turn tortilla a quarter turn and roll up jelly-roll fashion.

Wrap the base of each of these sandwiches with a napkin or half a paper towel, roll it around the base leaving enough towel left over that it can be folded up and around the end of the sandwich. Serves 4.

Recipes courtesy of HoneyBaked Ham. Founded in 1957 by the late Harry J. Hoenselaar, The HoneyBaked Ham Company has over 300 stores in 38 states and is the nation's leading retailer of spiral-sliced and glazed gourmet hams. For The HoneyBaked Ham Company store nearest you, call 1-800-379-8899.

WINES

FROM PAGE B9

Flat Yarra Valley Chardonnay \$15 exudes baked apple with a nice oak presence and complex, layered flavors that are great with fettuccine carbonara, for which cream sauce and smoky bacon match perfectly with the wine.

Just an hour's drive north of Adelaide, the most famous Australian wine region is the Barossa Valley. First planted in 1847, it is the Napa Valley of Australia. The center of the appellation is 50 miles from the Gulf of St. Vincent, which accounts for its continental climate, perfect for growing red wines, particularly shiraz and cabernet sauvignon. Here you'll find traditional bush vines (head pruned), dry farmed with low yields and concentrated flavors.

Try the 2004 Long Flat Barossa Shiraz \$15, showing the signature of the Barossa Valley with ripe plums, dark chocolate, black pepper and spice. This sturdy red is best with roasted lamb shanks or aged, hard cheese, a wonderful winter combination.

Situated midway between Melbourne and Adelaide, Coonawarra has unique soil composed of rusty red clay loam, known as "terra rossa," over a limestone ridge. This small appellation is only 12 miles long by two miles wide, but produces some of Australia's best cabernet sauvignon. Typical Coonawarra cabs cover a flavor spectrum from black currant and plum to red cherry without being tannic or astringent.

The 2003 Long Flat Coonawarra Cabernet Sauvignon \$15 has aromas that include blackberry, cassis, and chocolate with a hint of mint.

WINE PICKS

We divided our last CHARDONNAY taste-off into oaky and moderately oaky styles. Here are the winners.

Pick of the Pack: 2004 Sebastiani Sonoma County \$13 has a nice dollop of oak for this price.

Oaky Style

2003 Arnold Palmer \$15
2004 Robert Hall Paso Robles \$16 (buttery and toasty oak)
2003 Gallo of Sonoma Laguna Ranch \$24 (toasty oak)
2003 Thomas Fogarty Santa Cruz Mountains \$25
2003 Grgich Hills Napa Valley \$38

Moderately Oaky

2004 Chateau St. Jean Sonoma County \$14
2004 Rodney Strong Sonoma County \$15
2004 Valley of the Moon \$16
2004 Stuhmiller Alexander Valley \$23
2003 Cuvelon Carneros \$24

Wallet friendly with tempered oak
2003 Concannon \$10
2003 Hogue Columbia Valley WA \$10

2004 Hess Select \$10
2004 Virgin \$10
2004 Cousino-Macul Antiquas Reservas \$10

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.

Long-cooked meats, roast beef or lamb are a great accompaniment.

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

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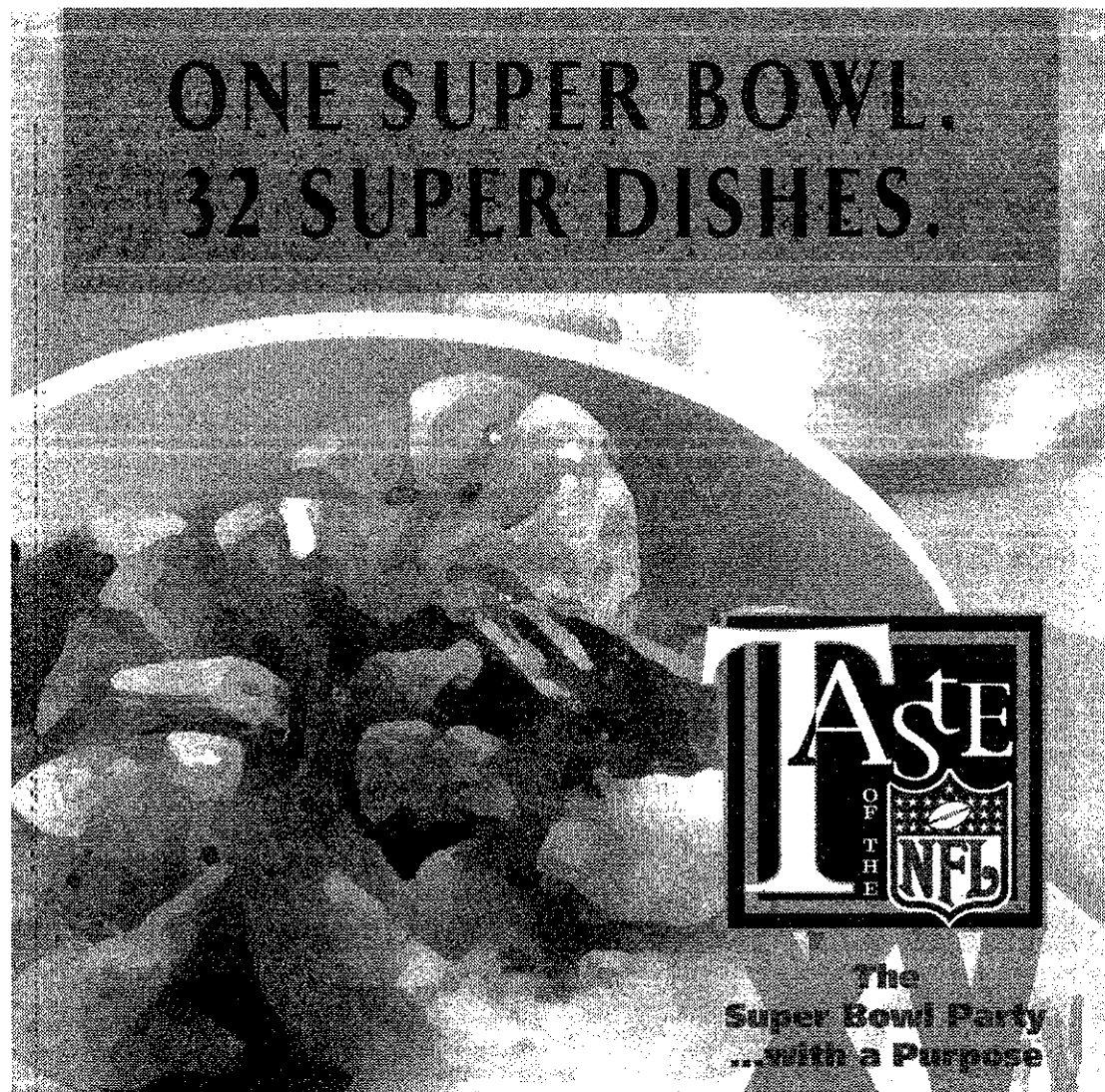
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PRENTICE

FROM PAGE B9

host, not mine," Prentice said. "You try to figure that out by listening to the host. You really want it to be a reflection of the host. In the case of Dan Gilbert, (Gilbert's assistant) has described to me what he wants to accomplish. He wants to show off and have people have a great time."

Gilbert's party will include a sweet table with chocolate footballs and other chocolate treats with the Redskin insignia on them. "You try to be a little whimsical with football," Prentice said. "It's very serious food and a serious atmosphere, but they come to the Super Bowl to let go."

"If you can do it in a serious way and have fun, they'll leave town and see that Detroit has a lot of good stuff and good food, and this is the right way, and a good way to get good press. That's the way to do it."

THROWING YOUR OWN

Prentice believes hosts should create special foods, following their own taste buds as a guide when entertaining at home for the Super Bowl.

"The biggest single mistake is to go outside of their own taste and they perceive what people want," Prentice said. "The people make the party and the entertainment makes the party. Some people try to do too much or do too many courses."

Keep it short and sweet, he says. "For a Super Bowl with about 15-20 people, I'd put on a turkey and white bean chili with tortilla chips and great homemade salsas and have a nice warm bean dip with it," Prentice said. "Do some simple seafood, like rock shrimp with spicy black beans." (See accompanying recipes for your own Super Bowl party.)

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LOBSTER CORN DOGS WITH CITRUS GLAZE AND NAPA CABBAGE SLAW

Citrus glaze

6 ounces orange marmalade
3 ounces cider vinegar
2 ounces honey
2 teaspoons peeled and grated fresh ginger
1/2 teaspoon sesame oil
1/2 ounce whole grain mustard
2 teaspoons Dijon mustard
1 tablespoon fresh chopped cilantro

To make citrus glaze, bring marmalade, vinegar, honey and ginger to a boil in a thick-gauge saucepan. Turn heat to a simmer and reduce mixture by one-third.

Remove mixture from heat and cool slightly. Stir in sesame oil, Dijon and whole grain mustard and cool completely.

Add cilantro.

Mixture is ready to serve. Drizzle over fried corn dogs or serve on the side as a dipping sauce. This sauce serves six.

Batter

1 cup yellow corn meal
1 cup all-purpose flour
2 ounces corn starch
17 ounces soda water

For the batter, mix dry ingredients in a large bowl. Slowly whip in soda water. Let rest 5 minutes before using.

Slaw dressing

1/4 teaspoon kosher salt
1/2 ounce sherry vinegar
1/2 teaspoon shallots, minced
1/2 teaspoon fresh rosemary, minced
1/2 teaspoon fresh thyme, minced
1/4 teaspoon fresh milled black pepper
6 ounces walnut oil

To make the slaw dressing, combine first six ingredients.

Add walnut oil in a thin stream while stirring contin-

uously. Chill.

Napa slaw

6 cups Napa cabbage (shredded)
1/2 cup red cabbage (shredded)

To make Napa slaw, remove outer leaves of Napa and red cabbage and shred remaining leaves. Mix with slaw dressing. Chill.

Corn Dog Assembly

6 10-inch bamboo skewers
3 4-ounce lobster tails
Corn dog batter
Dressed Napa slaw

To assemble corn dogs, cut lobster tail lengthwise and remove meat from shell. Thread the cut lobster meat through a 10-inch bamboo skewer.

Dip lobster stick into corn dog batter then slowly place into a pre-heated 325° F deep fryer for 3 minutes or until golden brown.

Lean fried corn dog on prepared Napa slaw and drizzle with citrus sauce.

FRIED ROCK SHRIMP WITH SPICY BLACK BEANS AND RED PEPPER BEURRE BLANC

This recipe is, perhaps, Matt Prentice's favorite appetizer. It is a bit of work but the beans can be made well ahead and held in the refrigerator.

"Your guests will not be able to stay away from it as I find it to be addictive," Prentice said. "While I adore this appetizer, the finest praise I have ever heard on it was from Chef Pete Peterson of Tapawingo who after tasting it smiled and then said 'perfect.'"

BLACK BEANS

4 ounces ginger puree
2 ounces minced garlic
1/2 teaspoon cumin
1 tablespoon ground coriander
3 ounces honey
2 ounces sesame oil
1 pound Michigan black beans
1 quart and 2 cups water

3-1/2 ounces balsamic vinegar
salt and pepper to taste

Combine all ingredients except vinegar. Simmer till the beans are tender.

Add vinegar and season.

SHRIMP

5 pounds fresh rock shrimp
1 pound toasted bread crumbs
1 tablespoon salt
1 teaspoon white pepper
1 tablespoon paprika
1 teaspoon dried thyme
Vegetable oil, as needed

Mix bread crumbs with salt, pepper, paprika and thyme. Heat oil to 350° F. Toss the rock shrimp with the bread crumbs and fry them approximately three minutes until they are done.

To assemble, heat the beans, then place them on a large platter. Top them with rock shrimp and top the shrimp with the Beurre Blanc sauce.

Beurre Blanc Sauce

2 tablespoons minced shallots
1 cup Chardonnay
1 cup cider vinegar
2 cups heavy cream
1-1/2 pounds unsalted butter
1/2 cup roasted red pepper (chopped fine)
salt and pepper, to taste

Combine shallots, wine, and vinegar in a stainless pot and bring to a boil. Allow it to reduce to au sec (almost dry). Add cream and reduce until thick enough to coat the back of a spoon. Cut butter into small pieces. Reduce heat on cream mixture and add butter slowly a few pieces at a time while whisking briskly. Continue this process until all butter is incorporated. Add red pepper and season.

Note: This sauce must be held warm in a water bath until it is served.

Recipes courtesy of Matt Prentice, owner and chef of Matt Prentice Restaurant Group

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 kabramcz@hometownlife.com or fax (734) 591-7279.

Exquisite Daal Curries

Add healthful flavor to your meals with Beans, Peas and Lentils (known as Daal in Indian cuisine). Learn how to make a rice and bean pilaf and explore how to cook crunchy lentil papadums. Bring a dish cloth. A material fee of \$13 is payable to instructor. Class offered through Birmingham Community Education, 6:30-9:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 6, at Derby Middle School, Room 114, 1300 Derby Road, Birmingham, \$39. To register, call (248) 203-3800 or on-line at www.communityed.net.

Healthy Cooking Classes

Enjoy vegetarian, whole foods cooking classes with macrobiotic chef Valerie Wilson. Learn how to prepare healthy, delicious meals for you and your family in a relaxed atmosphere as students get "hands-on" experience preparing the recipes. Each class is scheduled 6-9 p.m. in Garden City and includes discussions on the healthy benefits of ingredients. Upcoming classes include a two-week series Feb. 15 and 22, fee \$60 (\$30 each class); Healthy Pizza Cooking Class on March 15 (\$30) and Mid Eastern Cooking Class on March 22 (\$30). Details of all classes can be found at www.macroval.com. Visit the Web site or call (734) 261-2856 for more information.

Breads of India

Students will learn to make flat bread, layered bread and stuffed bread, then prepare a curry and cucumber-yogurt salad to accompany our breads. A material fee of \$13 is payable at class. Bring a cup measure, wide bowl and two dish towels. Class offered 6:30-9:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 16 through Birmingham Community Education, Derby Middle School, Room 114, 1300 Derby Road, Birmingham, \$39. To register, call (248) 203-3800 or on-line at www.communityed.net.

Vino Mania

The Community House in Birmingham will host Vino Mania, a unique wine event that combines wine tasting, wine games, food and live jazz music, at 7:30-10:00 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 9. Event hosted by certified sommelier Nidal Daher. Registration fee is \$50 and you must be 21 or older to attend. To register, contact The Community House, 380 S. Bates, Birmingham at (248) 644-5832, or online at www.communityhouse.com.

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 plans.

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.

Schoolcraft classes

Culinary Seminars are offered through Schoolcraft College Continuing Education and Professional Development for winter 2006. The campus is located at 18600 Haggerty in Livonia. Call (734) 462-4448 for information or visit webadvisor.schoolcraft.edu

Here are some of the classes:

Cooking 101

Learn basic cooking terminology and techniques, how to use basic knives and hand tools, and safe and sanitary methods for food preparation. (This class is a prerequisite for all of Schoolcraft's Continuing Education "hands-on" classes or chef's approval.) Class is scheduled 5-7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 15, and 5-9 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 16, instructor is Jeff Gabriel, certified master chef. Fee is \$105.

Hands-On

These classes require Cooking 101 or chef's approval to register. Wear a white chef's jacket, dark pants and comfortable shoes for all hands-on classes. You'll need a tool kit consisting of a set of knives, peeler, spatula, dough cutter, thermometer and measuring spoons.

The following classes, instructed by certified master chef Jeff Gabriel are scheduled: European Bread Making, 5-10 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday, March 14; Soup It Up, 5-9 p.m., Thursday, March 23; Saute Like a Pro, 6-9 p.m. Tuesday, April 4; Stewing & Braising, 5-9 p.m., Tuesday, April 18, and Outdoor Grilling, 5-9 p.m., Tuesday and Thursday, April 25. Class fees range from \$109-\$139.

Wines of the Southern Hemisphere

Instructor Lee Hershey discusses the wines of Argentina, Australia and South Africa. Explore and taste these multi-varied wines. Students must be 21 years of age. Class runs five weeks, 7-9 p.m. Mondays, starting Feb. 6. Fee is \$152.

Fish Preparation

Learn to choose high quality fish, identify differences in pricing and properly clean your fish. Learn how to prepare it from Brian Polcyn, certified executive chef. Class is scheduled 6-10 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 7, fee is \$139.

Cooking Light

Learn to prepare quick healthy meals. Learn low-fat cooking techniques at this class scheduled 6-9 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 9, fee is \$81.

Polish Cooking

Learn how to make perfect pierogis (Polish dumplings), golabki (stuffed cabbage) and kielbasa and other traditional Polish entrees. Sample all the wonderful Polish dishes with instructor Jeff Gabriel, 5:30-8:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 23, fee is \$109.

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Savory lentils and chicken sausage are a quick fix

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

This lentil-chicken sausage combination is a comforting, savory dish of the kind that suggests slow cooking but, happily, demands only 30 minutes of the cook's time. Don't be surprised that the smart recipe comes from a chef designated a "fast expert."

The chef is Annie Wayte, who supervises fashion designer Nicole Farhi's restaurants in London and New York City.

LENTILS WITH CHICKEN SAUSAGE

- 1 cup French green lentils (7 ounces)
- 4 cups chicken stock or low-sodium broth
- 1 carrot, cut into 1-inch pieces
- 1 celery rib, cut into 1-inch pieces
- 1 small onion, quartered, plus 1 large onion, cut through the root end into eight wedges
- 1 garlic clove
- 2 tablespoons canola oil
- 4 thyme sprigs
- 1 cup baby spinach leaves, coarsely chopped

Salt and freshly ground pepper
4 precooked chicken sausages (3/4 pound)
1 1/2 tablespoons balsamic vinegar

In a medium heavy soup pot, combine the lentils with the chicken stock. Cover and bring to a boil.

In a food processor, pulse the carrot, celery, quartered onion and the garlic until finely chopped. In a large skillet, heat 1 tablespoon of the oil. Add the

vegetables and the thyme and cook over moderately high heat until softened, 3 minutes; scrape into the lentils, cover and cook over moderate heat until the lentils are tender, 20 minutes. Stir in the spinach; season with salt and pepper.

Meanwhile, heat the remaining 1 tablespoon of oil in the skillet.

Add the onion wedges and sausages and cook over moderate heat, turning occasionally, until the onions are softened, 8

to 10 minutes. Add the balsamic vinegar and cook for 1 minute.

Thickly slice the sausages. Stir the sausages, onions and any accumulated juices into the lentils; discard the thyme sprigs. Spoon the lentils and sausages into bowls and serve.

Makes 4 servings.

Nutrition information per serving: 494 cal., 24 g total fat (4.8 g saturated), 39 g carbo., 9 g fiber.

Wine suggestion: a berry-inflected merlot.

DINNER CALENDAR

Here is a list of special dinners at area restaurants. Please forward information at least two weeks before event to Ken Abramczyk, Taste editor, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150, fax to (734) 591-7279 or e-mail kabramcz@hometownlife.com.

Romantic Moonlight Sleigh Ride
Fifteen-minute sleigh ride, dinner, Friday, Feb. 10, Saturday, Feb. 11, and Valentine's Day, Tuesday, Feb. 14, dinner specials, bread, salad, soup or slaw, potato and more, \$39.95 per adult and \$15 per child, reservations required, Historic White Horse Inn, Oak and High Street in Metamora, (810) 678-2150, www.historicwhitehorseinn.com

Century Grill
The Ultimate Valentine's Day Girls' Night Out Chocolate Buffet with Menopause The Musical® on Valentine's Day, Feb. 14 at 333 Madison in Detroit. Tickets are \$75 and include dinner, a chocolate buffet for dessert, ticket to the show, all non-alcoholic beverages, tax and gratuity. Reservations are available now for all Century Grill dinner packages by calling (313) 963-9800.

Zenaida Chocolate Lounge
Special Valentine's Day menu with prix fixe menu, \$30 per person for dinner, dessert prix fixe menu is \$12 per person with chocolate fondue, chocolate truffles and hot chocolate with chili pepper, Feb. 10, 11 and 14, 414 S. Main, Ann Arbor, (734) 994-7042.

Valentine's Day Beer Dinner
Try fire-roasted jalapeno and turkey sausage; gulf shrimp, artichoke and leek stew; roasted apricot pork loin and molten chocolate lava cake, a different brew for each of the four different courses, 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 14, \$29.95 per person, Thunder Bay Brewing Co., Great Lakes Crossing, I-75 and Baldwin roads, (248) 454-8486

Eurasian Grill
Olive oil and balsamic vinegar wine tasting dinner, four-course dinner by executive chef Michael Fung; tasting of olive oils and balsamic vinegars with Alvis Balarin of Trattoria Laguna in Venice, Italy; Dawn Bause, author of Romantic Italian Recipes and their Complementary Wines, book signing; portion of proceeds benefits Susan G. Koman Breast Cancer Foundation in Detroit; \$85 per person; 4771 Haggerty Road, just north of Pontiac Trail in West Bloomfield, (248) 624-6109.

Fox & Hounds
Two Valentine's Day shows (Feb. 19), Broadway Classics, appetizers, champagne, prime rib dinner, beer and wine, dessert, second act of musical melodies precedes dinner, 39560 Woodward (just south of Long Lake Road), (248) 644-4800.

Bake these chili fries for crispy flavors

BY J.M. HIRSCH
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

It sounded daunting, but ended up being an easy challenge.

I wanted chili-seasoned french fries that were as crispy and flavorful as those gorgeous deep-fried wedges you find at carnivals - all golden and fatty - but healthy enough that I wouldn't feel pangs of guilt feeding them to my toddler.

Parker long has eaten everything we do, and sometimes a bit more (last night he grabbed a scrap of raw red onion from the cutting board and promptly ate the whole thing). So if I was to make fries, they would have to be baby-friendly.

That meant the fries couldn't actually be so. And that was fine by me. The reality for home cooks is that deep frying is too much hassle and mess to be a frequent option.

OVEN CHILI FRIES

- 4 large russet potatoes
- 4 tablespoons olive or vegetable oil
- 1 tablespoon cumin
- 1/2 tablespoon chili powder
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper, to taste

Preheat oven to 475° F.

Cut each potato in half lengthwise, then cut each half into about six long wedges. Alternatively, cut each potato into thin rounds. A mandoline (a hand-operated device that evenly slices vegetables) also can be used to cut uniform wedges or rounds.

Transfer the cut potatoes to a large zip-lock plastic bag. Add the oil, cumin and chili powder. Seal the bag and shake to evenly coat the potatoes. Transfer the potatoes to a baking sheet and arrange in a single layer.

Bake for 50 minutes, or until the fries are crisp. For more even crisping, use a spatula to flip the fries after 25 minutes. Season with salt and pepper. Serve hot (and with gobs of ketchup).

Makes 4 servings.



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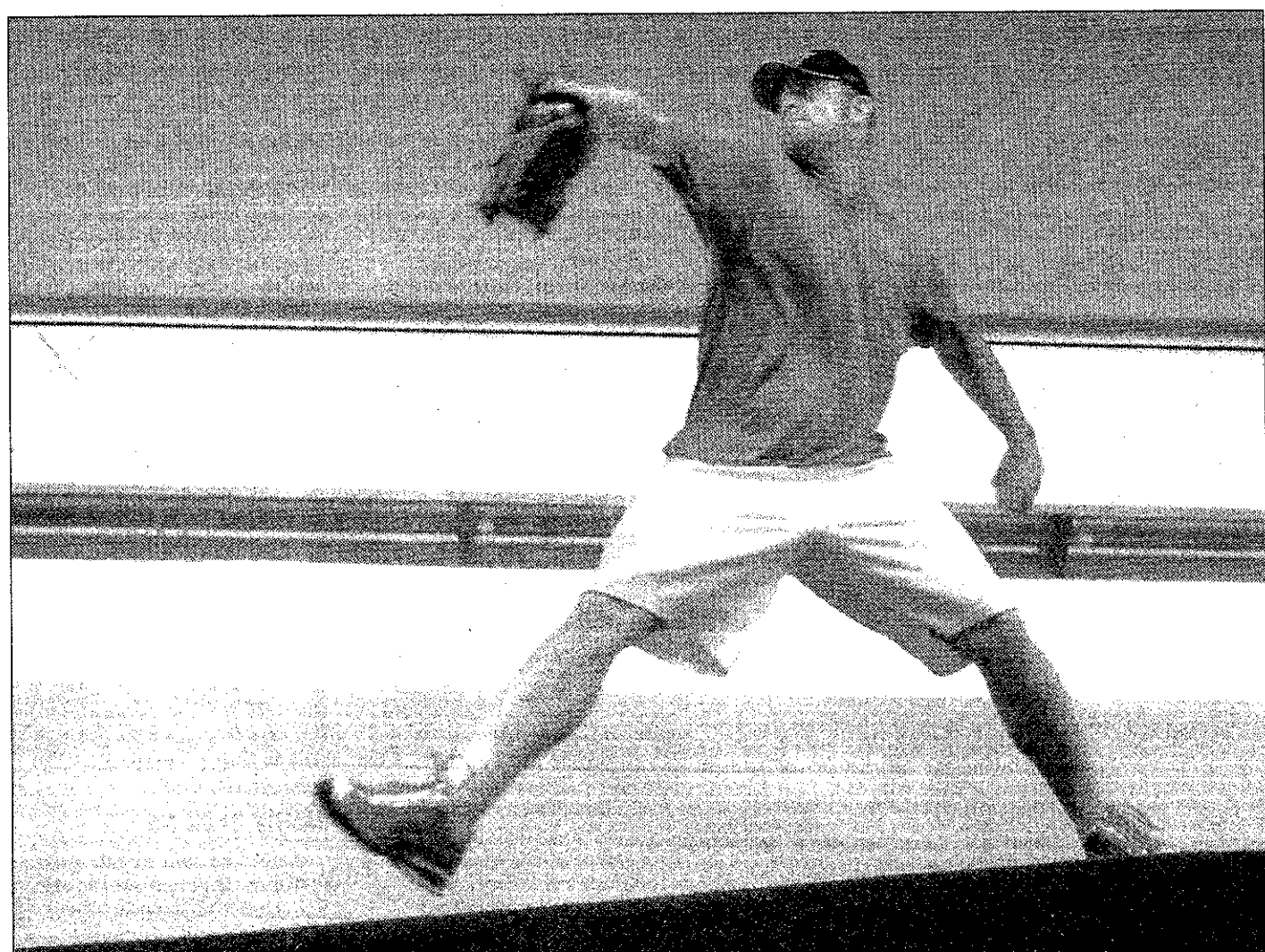
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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Detroit Tigers pitcher Nate Robertson delivers a pitch to Dennie Taft during a pre-spring training workout session at Velocity Sports Center in Canton. Robertson, a Canton resident, has been working out at Velocity Sports and at High Velocity since the beginning of November.

Spring Training 'North'

Professional pitchers use Canton facilities to stay in shape

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

The temperature was a Florida-like 70 degrees, there wasn't a cloud in sight and the sweat dripping from Nate Robertson, Charlie Haeger and Anthony Tomey early Monday morning was spring-training quality.

The three professional baseball pitchers weren't in Lakeland, Fla., the spring home of the Detroit Tigers. They were enduring one of their off-season training workouts inside

Canton's High Velocity Sports and Velocity Sports Performance facilities, which — except for palm trees and freshly squeezed orange juice — offer the trio all the comforts (and agony) of regular spring training.

"Working out like we do up here makes the spring training workouts we'll be going through in a couple of weeks a lot easier, especially the endurance part," said Haeger, 22, a knuckleball-throwing member of the Chicago White Sox's 40-man

PLEASE SEE **PITCHERS, C3**



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Charlie Haeger

'Working out like we do up here makes the spring training workouts we'll be going through in a couple of weeks a lot easier, especially the endurance part.'

Charlie Haeger
Chicago White Sox pitcher

Inability to find hoop dooms 'Cats

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

If you cross paths with the snake that continues to bite Plymouth's basketball team, keep your distance.

The thing must be huge by now. The snake-bit Wildcats dropped another frustrating game Tuesday night, 44-38, to visiting Walled Lake Western. The loss dropped Plymouth to 4-8 overall and 2-4 in the Western Lakes Activities Association. The Warriors improved to 7-5 and 2-4, respectively.

The Wildcats misfired on several shots within a four-foot radius of the

PREP HOOP

basket, which coach Tom Van Wagoner said has been a recurring theme this season.

"Tonight is the way our whole season has gone so far," Van Wagoner said. "We're getting the shots we want; we're just not cashing in. We've been missing easy shots all season, which is why we're only shooting 33 percent as a team."

"We've been running contact layup drills in practice to improve the kids' concentration, but it didn't work tonight."

The Warriors could relate with being snake-bit after losing their previous three games by a total of five points.

"For the first time this season, I had a few butterflies before the game tonight because this was such a must-win situation for us," said Western coach Darrin Kennings. "I wasn't happy with our rebounding in the first half, but the kids got better position in the second half. I thought Denard Branch played more aggressively tonight, which was key for us."

Branch, who is averaging 23.0 a game this season, scored a game-high 22 for the winners. The Warriors' next-highest producer was Brandon Ballard, who netted five. Senior forward Josh Le Duc had a huge game for the Wildcats, compiling 15 points and 12 rebounds. He also added a monster dunk with 43 seconds left that cut Plymouth's deficit to 42-38. Sophomore center Jake Hager added eight points for Plymouth.

Sidelines

Wisniewski recalled

Canton native James Wisniewski was recalled by the Chicago Blackhawks Tuesday from the American Hockey League's Norfolk Admirals. Wisniewski appeared in 44 games for the Admirals, scoring five goals while adding 21 assists. The 21-year-old defenseman was the Blackhawks' fifth-round pick (156th overall) in the 2002 NHL Entry Draft.

Wisniewski was the 18th Plymouth Whalers alum to make an NHL roster.

Grid All-Stars

A pair of local football players and one coach were honored by being selected to participate in the 26th Annual Michigan High School All-Star Football Game set for July 22 at Spartan Stadium in East Lansing. Kickoff is set for 2 p.m.

The head coach of the East squad will be Canton's Tim Baechler, who guided the Chiefs to the Division 1 final game in November. Among the players Baechler will be coaching are Canton offensive lineman Ryan Jonik and Salem quarterback/defensive back Kevin Bradley.

Lacrosse meeting

A meeting will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 9, in the Canton High School cafeteria for all parents of prospective Plymouth-Canton-Salem lacrosse players.

It is important that all parents attend the meeting as registration packets will be distributed at that time. Contact Phyllis Ikegami at (734) 420-2293.

Saberette show

The Plymouth Saberette pompon squad is presenting the Saberette Variety Show on at 7 p.m. Feb. 17-18 in the Salem High School Logan Auditorium. Tickets are \$5 in advance or \$7 at the door.

For tickets, see a Saberette or contact Mary Schulz at trixi1971@hotmail.com or Judy Bono at judy_b21@yahoo.com.

3-on-3 hoop

Northville Parks & Recreation is hosting a 3-on-3 basketball tournament Saturday, March 25, and Sunday, March 26, at the Hillside Recreation Center in Northville. The team fee is \$85, which includes T-shirts and awards to the first-place teams.

The tourney will be divided into four age brackets for both girls and boys: 8-10, 11-13, 14-15 and 16-17. Registration forms can be picked up at the rec department office at 700 W. Baseline Road in Northville.

Baseball clinic

The annual Salem Varsity Baseball Skills Clinic for players between the ages of 7 and 14 will be held March 25 and April 1 at Salem High School.

For more information, contact Ron or Pat Myers at (734) 459-4026; or at pcmymers@hotmail.com.

Pats outlast CC, Canton to defend Observerland crown

BY BRAD KADRICH
STAFF WRITER

When you've got the target on your back, the best way to keep from getting hit is to stay far ahead of the bullets.

That's exactly what defending champion Livonia Franklin did Saturday at the annual Observerland wrestling tournament.

The Patriots, who won their first Observerland title a year ago, sent 10 wrestlers to the semifinals Saturday at Churchill High School, built an insurmountable 35-point lead before the finals even started, and coasted to their second straight championship.

Franklin had eight wrestlers in the finals and out-distanced Novi-Detroit Catholic Central, 240.5-225. They finished with one champion and seven silver-medalists.

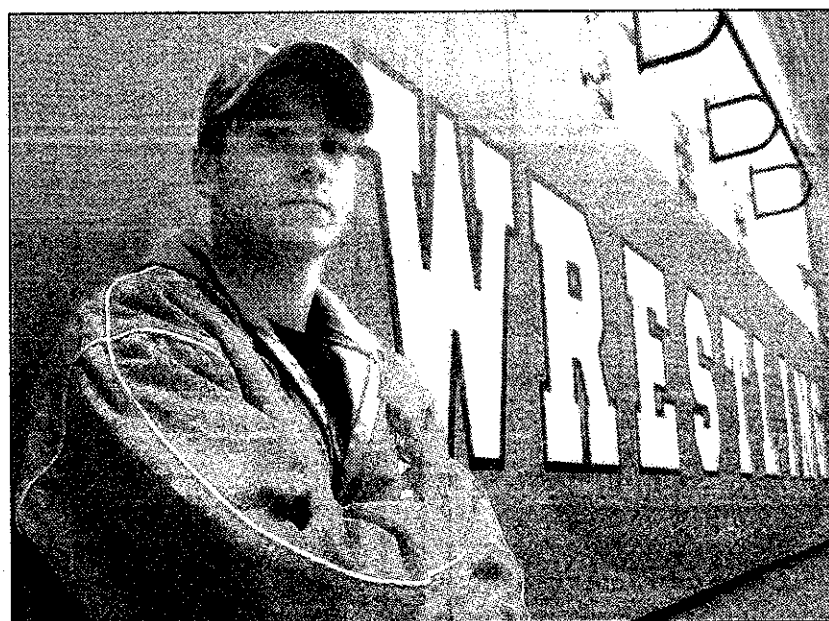
"Going in, I told our guys if everyone wrestled to their seed, we'd win," Franklin coach Dave Chiola said. "They went a little above the target we set for them, and that helped us do it. Up until the finals, that was the best we've wrestled in two years."

For the second straight year, senior Mike Warren was Franklin's only individual champion, capturing the 125-pound title with an exciting 10-9 victory over Cory Mervyn of Salem. Warren was named lower-weight Most Valuable Wrestler.

Warren won the title with a reversal in the final 10 seconds of a match he said was one of his toughest.

"Truthfully, it was one of the hardest matches I've ever wrestled," said Warren, who lifted his record to 30-8. "It feels

PLEASE SEE **OBSERVERLAND, C2**



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton wrestler Konrad Konsitzke has been a leader both on and off the mat for the Chiefs over the past four seasons. The senior is now 30-3 this year following his 3-0 effort at Saturday's Observerland Invitational.

Hard-working Konsitzke finds wrestling 'pin'nacle

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

Konrad Konsitzke's knowledge of wrestling techniques and strategy was virtually nonexistent on the November day in 2002 when he strolled into the Canton High School wrestling room for the first time.

"I had some friends who were wrestling and I thought it might help me for football, so I decided to give it a shot," remembered Konsitzke, a freshman at the time.

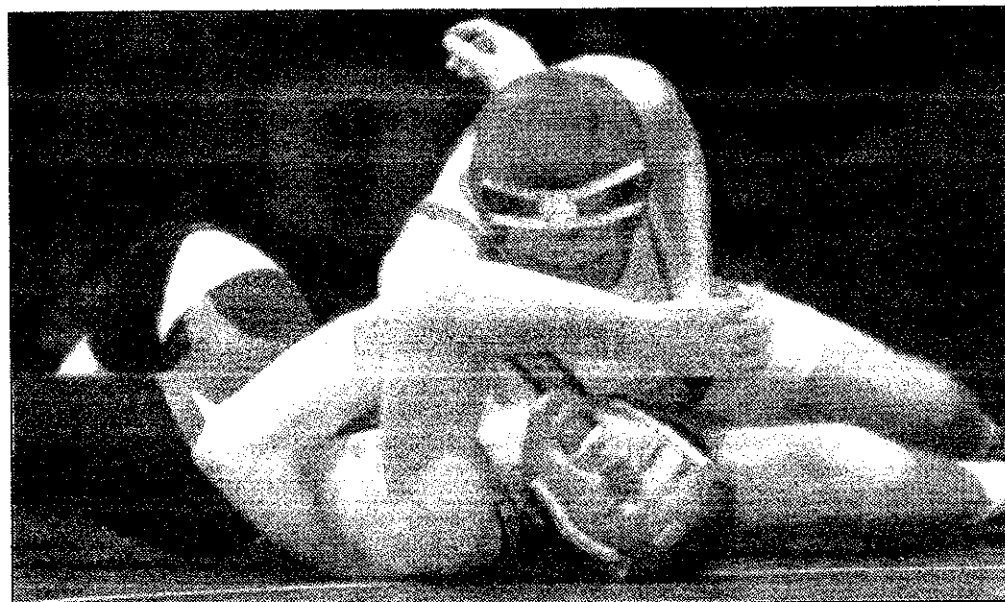
"I had never wrestled before that first day of practice, but I was ready to learn."

Learn, he did.

Over three years and 100-plus victories later, Konsitzke finds himself among the elite 140-pound grapplers in Division 1. Last year, he compiled a spectacular 44-9 record and missed a trip to the D1 state meet by just a few points.

The Canton senior's mat success is notable because he has served

PLEASE SEE **KONSITZKE, C2**



TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton's Corey Phillips works on a pin against Livonia Franklin's Josh Billiau in the championship match of the 130-pound weight class at Saturday's Observerland Invitational. The Chiefs finished third behind Franklin and Novi Catholic Central.

OBSERVERLAND

FROM PAGE C1

great.” Franklin got silver medals from Jon Roos (at 119 pounds), Josh Billiau (130), James Jones (135), Nate Turco (152), Blake Karkoska (171), Chris Van Camp (189) and Greg Schuyler (215). By contrast, Catholic Central sent five wrestlers to the finals, and all five came away champions. Anthony Cosme beat Roos 9-6 at 119; Andrew Nadhir beat Jones 22-7 at 135; Sean Dong pinned Ali Youssef of Plymouth in 2:24 at 145; Matt Farmer edged VanCamp 2-0 at 189; John Kinville beat

Schuyler 8-3 at 215. But the Shamrocks, who beat Franklin in a dual meet a week earlier, trailed by 35 points before the finals started and couldn't make up the ground. “I thought we'd come in and win it,” Shamrock coach Mike Rodriguez said. “But (Chiola) had his kids juiced up for it, and that's great. It makes it more interesting. Our kids made a strong finish.” Canton put four wrestlers in the finals — including champions Corey Phillips (130) and Konrad Konsitzke (140) — and finished a distant third with 176 points. John Glenn, despite having no wrestlers advance to the finals, finished fourth with

138.5 points. “You never want to be satisfied with third place,” Canton assistant head coach Mike Pantaleo said. “We had a lot of kids who wrestled well. We're still growing as a team, and our kids are still learning. A few things didn't go our way (Saturday) so we just have to work harder and get better.” Only two other teams had multiple champions. Livonia Stevenson's Adam Kokenakes won at 152 pounds, while Cody Rize beat Franklin's Karkoska 6-4 in a controversial overtime decision on which Rize was awarded a takedown at the final buzzer. Redford Union's heavy-weight Matt Shileikis, voted

one of three upper-weight Most Valuable Wrestlers, and Ken Nelson (103) were titlists. Coach Russ Swinson was pleased for his wrestlers, but said he wasn't surprised by Franklin's victory. “I know Catholic Central beat them in the dual meet last week, but I still thought they were the team to beat,” Swinson said. “I thought it would be closer.” North Farmington's Anthony Victor coasted to a 13-0 decision over Livonia Churchill's Josh Kelly in the 160-pound final. Churchill's Alex Fowler edged Canton's Ryan Schnettler, 4-3, for the 112-pound crown. bkadrich@hometownlife.com | (734) 459-2700

KONSITZKE

FROM PAGE C1

as one of the catalysts for the school's stunning wrestling reversal, which has seen Canton evolve from a Western Lakes Activities Association also-ran to one of the conference's most consistent and feared teams. Last spring, with Konsitzke playing a major role, Canton earned the school's first Division 1 district title when it knocked off the state's No. 1-ranked team, Livonia Churchill, in a district semifinal showdown. “During my freshman year, I was wrestling on the junior varsity at 130, but our varsity guy at 140 got hurt, so I moved into that spot,” Konsitzke said. “I was horrible (he went 4-14), but the experience helped me a ton. I was wrestling against a lot of older, more experienced guys, so I learned a lot that year.”

RECORD REVERSAL

It wasn't long before the hard-working, intensely competitive Konsitzke grew into one of the team's leaders — both on the mats and off. This year, the Chiefs' captain has been instrumental in his team's 22-4 start, building a record of 30-3, which includes a 3-0 mark at Saturday's Observerland Invitational, at which he captured the 140-pound crown. “Konrad is, without a doubt, the emotional leader of this team,” said Canton coach Casey Randolph, who took over the head-coaching duties during Konsitzke's freshman season. “He gives 100 percent all the time and his teammates feed off Konrad's intensity and drive. The other kids on the team work hard to try to raise themselves to his level.”

“Konrad has all the tools — the skill, the work ethic and the dedication — to be a phenomenal collegiate wrestler.” Randolph said Konsitzke is at his best when the odds are stacked against him.

“He's one of those kids who thrives off being the underdog,” Randolph said. “In one of our first meets this year, at Jackson Parma Western, Konrad was seeded third at 140, which upset him a little bit. He ended up taking first place in convincing fashion, beating the top-seeded kid 2-0 in solid, no-mistake fashion. That match epitomized Konrad — the underdog who ends up finishing first.”

Konsitzke said his wrestling experiences have helped make him a better all-around athlete and person.

“I have a lot more perseverance now and I'm mentally tougher because of the wrestling camps I've attended and because of coach Randolph's practices,” Konsitzke said.

FROM BENCH TO STAR

Konsitzke experienced a series of extremes during his senior football season with the Chiefs. After serving as a second-string defensive back during the Chiefs' first four games, following an injury to a starter, he was inserted into the starting line-up as a line-backer during Canton's Week 5 game against Northville. Konsitzke's gutsy, all-out play earned him a permanent starting berth that he carried all the way through Canton's Division 1 championship game loss to Rockford. “It was an awesome experience for me, especially because I started out the year as a backup,” he said. “I was down a little bit at the beginning of the season because I wasn't starting, but then I figured, hey, this is the last time I'll ever be playing football, so I'm going to have fun no matter what happens.”

“I think the highlight of the season for me was beating Dakota in the semifinal game. No one expected us to beat them. When the game ended, it took a few minutes for it to sink in that we were actually going to the finals.”

FAMILY BACKING

Konsitzke said he has been fortunate throughout his athletic career to have the backing of his family, including his parents, Konrad and Bridgette.

“My grandma and grandpa Konsitzke have also been huge supporters,” he said. “They live in Brighton, but they have attended just about every wrestling match and football game I've played in since I was a little kid.”

Next to athletics, Konsitzke's favorite hobbies include hunting and fishing. In fact, one of his most-prized possessions is his camouflage hunting hat that he had specially embroidered with a “Canton Wrestling” patch.

“Hunting is a family affair for us,” Konsitzke said. “We have some land up in Emmett in the ‘Thumb’ and just about every Sunday during hunting season everybody in my family except my mom goes up there to hunt. It's my Zen. It's a little slice of heaven where I can get away from everything.”

Konsitzke may not have time to make his weekly trek to Emmett during the weekend of March 9-11.

That's the weekend of the individual wrestling state finals at the Palace of Auburn Hills.

Less than four years after picking up a sport he knew little about, that may be the weekend he hunts down and pins a Division 1 state championship.

ewright@hometownlife.com (734) 953-2108

OBSERVERLAND INVITATIONAL RESULTS

15th annual OBSERVERLAND INVITATIONAL WRESTLING TOURNAMENT Jan. 28 at Churchill
TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Livonia Franklin, 240.5 points; 2. Novi-Detroit Catholic Central, 225; 3. Canton, 176; 4. Westland John Glenn, 138.5; 5. Livonia Stevenson, 134.5; 6. Plymouth, 111; 7. Salem, 109; 8. Redford Union, 100.5; 9. Livonia Churchill, 93; 10. Lutheran Westland, 79.5; 11. North Farmington, 46; 12. Wayne Memorial, 42; 13. Livonia Clarenceville, 34; 14. Farmington, 26; 15. Garden City, 23; 16. Farmington Hills Harrison, 1.
CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS
275 pounds: Matt Shileikis (RU) pinned Donnie Laramie (Canton), 2:21; 3rd place: Kyle Brown (LF) p. Shaun Bailey (P), 1:41; 5th: Jim Morasso (CC) decisioned Kevin Hanika (WJG), 1-0.

103: Ken Nelson (RU) dec. Jamie Preiss (WM), 6-5; 3rd: Mike Haar (Canton) dec. Tommy Myshock (LS), 4-3; 5th: Namic Kerimov (Farm.) p. Barrett Schwarzlose (CC), 4-02.
112: Alex Fowler (LC) dec. Ryan Schnettler (Canton), 4-3; 3rd: Niekio Ianni (CC) p. Steve D'Annunzio (P), 2-32; 5th: James Benitez (LF) dec. Seth Wald (NF), 8-4.
119: Antonio Cosme (CC) dec. Jon Roos (LF), 9-6; 3rd: Nick Steiger (Salem) dec. Tim Hecksel (LC), 11-4; 5th: Brandon Nikula (WJG) dec. Sam Santilli (Canton), 3-1.
125: Mike Warren (LF) dec. Cory Mervyn (Salem), 10-9; 3rd: Jon Reale (LS) dec. Jared Stephens (WJG), 3-0; 5th: Greg Roberts (LC) dec. over Steve Ludke (GC), 12-5.
130: Corey Phillips (Canton) p. Josh Billiau (LF), 1:53; 3rd: Steve Korpus (P)

won by major dec. over Dan McCahill (WJG), 14-5; 5th: Dwuan Burris (RU) p. J.P. Gaffke (LC), 5:07.
135: Andrew Nadhir (CC) won by technical fall over James Jones (LF), 22-7; 3rd: Rowdy Glasgow (WJG) p. Robert Bytner (LW), 2:22; 5th: Matt Stott (Salem) p. Raz Markosian (LS), 2:23.
140: Konrad Konsitzke (Canton) dec. Jake Bennett (Salem), 15-12; 3rd: Robert Price (CC) dec. Jacob White (Cville), 6-5; 5th: Jim Wood (WJG) p. Austin Phillips (LF), 0:50.
145: Sean Dong (CC) p. Ali Youssef (P), 2:24; 3rd: Dennis Tullio (LF) dec. Edward Manier (WJG), 5-0; 5th: Ziad Kharbush (LS) p. Dennis Villarreal (Farm.), 1:33.
152: Adam Kokenakes (LS) dec. Nate Turco (LF), 8-5; 3rd: Ryan Brown (CC) dec. Stephen Kemp (LW), 6-4; 5th: David Wood (WJG) won by major dec. over Jon

Hagar (P), 11-3.
160: Anthony Victor (NF) won by major dec. over Josh Kelly (LC), 13-0; 3rd: Marwan Faraj (Canton) dec. Billy McNally (LS), 4-2; 5th: Andrew Hein (WJG) dec. Stefan Gatt (CC), 6-1 (overtime).
171: Cody Rize (LS) dec. Blake Karkoska (LF), 6-4 (OT); 3rd: Brent Robbins (Cville) dec. Mike Carrier (CC), 9-3; 5th: Stedman Frye (WM) dec. Vince Daroff (P), 8-3.
189: Matt Farmer (CC) dec. Chris VanCamp (LF), 2-0; 3rd: Alex Amberg (Canton) dec. Jacob Tuomi-Galindez (LW), 9-4; 5th: Joey Kowtko (WJG) dec. Dan Inson (LS), 6-5.
215: John Kinville (CC) dec. Greg Schuyler (LF), 8-3; 3rd: Alex Smith (Salem) won by injury default over Shamir Garcia (WJG); 5th: Odell Johnson (RU) dec. James Refenes (LW), 6-4.5

Rocks' net crew spikes Northern

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

Another match, another sweep for the Salem volleyball team. The Rocks continued their successful run through the Western Lakes Activities Association Monday night with a 25-15, 25-16, 25-19 triumph over Walled Lake Northern in a match played in the Salem gymnasium. The win lifted Salem's record to 26-3 overall and 5-0 in the WLAA. “We played great defense and our libero, Nikki Mersch, had a

great match,” said Salem coach Amanda Suder. Mersch was her usually steady self from the back row, recording a team-high 20 digs. Also contributing to the one-sided victory were Teresa Coppiellie (20 kills, 11 digs and two blocks), Lauren Price (12 kills and 12 digs), Lauren Kurtz (eight kills and two blocks) and Jansan Falcuson (34 assists). Katrina Cope also had a stellar night, notching six blocks. **WILDCATS FALL** Livonia Stevenson remained perfect (5-0) in the WLAA with

an impressive road victory at Plymouth Monday night. Despite playing without their No. 1 setter, the Spartans prevailed 25-22, 25-14 and 25-11 to improve to 22-4-3. The host Wildcats slipped to 25-7 overall and 2-3 in the conference. Plymouth was playing at full strength for the first time close to two weeks thanks to the return of its top front-row player, Jeanine Moise. However, the Wildcats failed to jell, according to coach Kelly McCausland. “Our chemistry was off and nobody stepped up,” said McCausland. “At times, it looked

like the girls had never played together before. There was no consistency and we didn't keep our intensity level up.” **PCA VICTORIOUS** The Eagles enjoyed a successful homecoming match Friday night against Ypsilanti Calvary Christian, winning 25-16, 25-10 and 25-15. A trio of players shined for the Eagles: Kelsie Tietjen (18 kills and 12 digs), Brooke Harris (15 digs, 20 assists and 11 service points) and Bre Ruark (20 digs, four kills, nine assists and 11 service points).

THE WEEK AHEAD

BOYS BASKETBALL
Friday, Feb. 3
Plymouth at Livonia Franklin, 7 p.m.
Westland John Glenn at Canton, 7 p.m.
Salem at W.L. Western, 7 p.m.
BOYS SWIMMING
Thursday, Feb. 2
Plymouth at W.L. Western, 7 p.m.
Wayne Memorial at Canton, 7 p.m.
Salem at Westland John Glenn, 7 p.m.
BOYS WRESTLING
Thursday, Feb. 2
Plymouth at Canton, 6 p.m.
Salem at Livonia Churchill, 6:30 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 4
Plymouth at Memphis Invitational, 9 a.m.

Canton at Battle Creek Invitational, 10 a.m.
GIRLS GYMNASTICS
Thursday, Feb. 2
Salem at W.L. Consolidated, 7 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 4
Canton Varsity Invitational at Plymouth High School, 10 a.m.
ICE HOCKEY
Thursday, Feb. 2
Canton at Redford Unified at Redford Ice Arena, 7:15 p.m.
Friday, Feb. 3
Salem at Canton at Arctic Edge Arena, 8 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 4
Plymouth at W.L. Central

at Lakeland Ice Arena, 1:20 p.m.
University Liggett at PCS Penguins at Arctic Edge Arena, 8:30 p.m.
GIRLS VOLLEYBALL
Thursday, Feb. 2
Zoe Christian at PCA, 7 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 4
Canton at A.A. Pioneer Invite, 8 a.m.
Salem at Schoolcraft Varsity Invite, TBD
MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
Saturday, Feb. 4
Madonna at Indiana Tech, 3 p.m.
Schoolcraft at Oakland CC, 3 p.m.
WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
Saturday, Feb. 4
Indiana Tech at Madonna, 1 p.m.
Schoolcraft at Oakland CC, 1 p.m.
ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE
Friday, Feb. 3
Whalers at Kingston, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 4
Whalers at Belleville, 7:15 p.m.
Sunday, Feb. 5
Whalers at Ottawa, 2 p.m.

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Observer & Eccentric NEWSPAPERS

MASON CHIP CCHA

PITCHERS

FROM PAGE C1

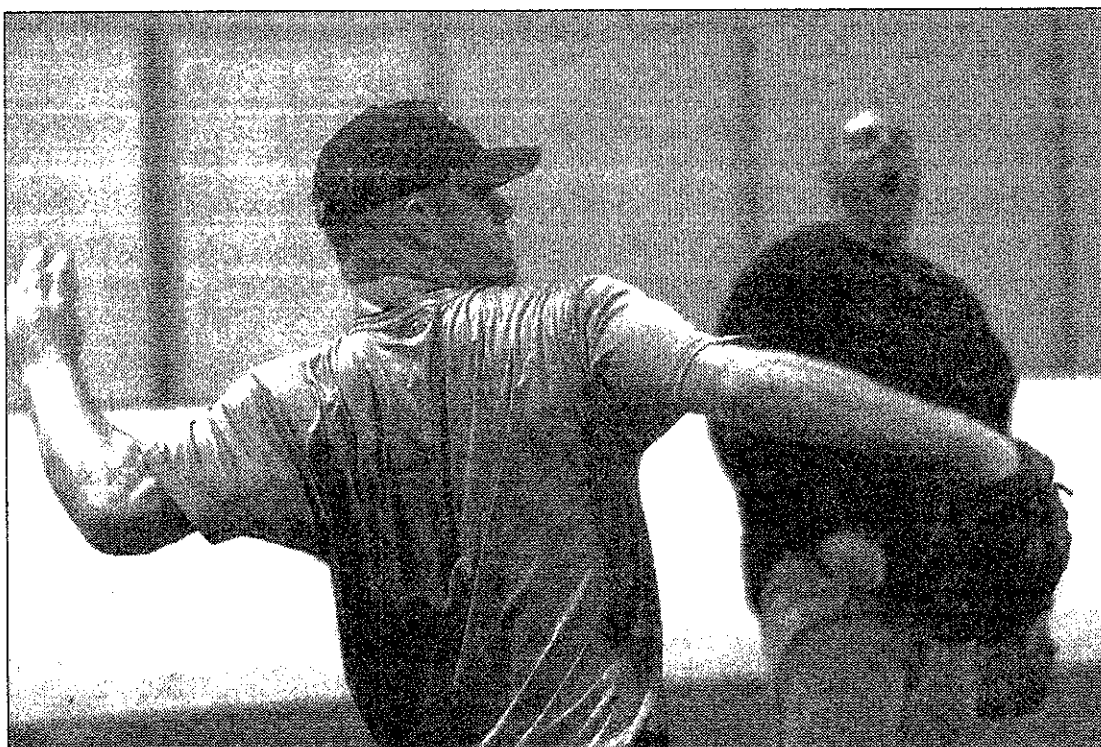
roster and former flame-thrower at Redford Catholic Central. "This is an outstanding set-up for us. We have everything we need to get in shape."

WEEKDAY RITUAL

Since early November, Robertson, a Canton resident, and Tomey, who resides in Novi, have been meeting every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 9 a.m. sharp at High Velocity (Haeger, a Plymouth resident, joined them about a month ago). They play long toss on one of the facility's spacious indoor soccer fields for about 15 minutes to loosen up their arms before heading across the street to Velocity Sports Performance.

The three-month-old facility located on the second floor of the Arctic Edge Ice Arena provides them with everything from a portable pitching mound to a mountain of free weights.

Most importantly, it offers



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Anthony Tomey (background) lets out a yawn as he watches Detroit Tiger pitcher Nate Robertson unleash a long-toss throw to Charlie Haeger early Monday morning at High Velocity Sports. The three professional pitchers workout regularly at High Velocity and the Velocity Sports Center during the off-season

them former Detroit Tigers strength-and-conditioning coach Dennie Taft, who has served as the center's per-

formance director since it opened in early November. Taft guides the pitchers through their daily workout

regimens, which sometimes last up to four hours.

"Dennie pushes us hard and we push each other," said

Tomey, 24, an ironman relief pitcher who helped lead the West Michigan Whitecaps to a Class A title in 2005.

"Working out by yourself can get kind of boring, so it's nice to be able to work with a couple of guys you can relate to."

"This facility is unbelievable," said Tomey, as he prepared to throw from a dimensionally perfect pitcher's mound. "It has everything we need. I'm in phenomenal shape right now thanks to these workouts, and spring training doesn't even start for two more weeks."

NO PLACE LIKE HOME

Robertson, 28, has lived in Canton since 2003 when he was acquired by the Tigers in a trade with the Florida Marlins.

The hard-throwing left-handed starting pitcher is the lone Tiger to make suburban Detroit his year-round home.

"I love Canton and this entire area," said Robertson, as he worked on a series of shoulder-stretching exercises with Detroit Tigers assistant athletic trainer Steve Carter. "I've always been a rural kind

of guy, so when my wife and I moved here, we bought a house just off Beck Road. When we moved in, there was nothing but fields behind us. Well, the fields are filled with houses now, but we still love it here."

Robertson said his off-season workout routine has changed since he broke into the major leagues four years ago.

"My workouts haven't intensified, but they have definitely evolved," Robertson said. "Instead of just strengthening my arm and shoulder, I work on everything now, all the core muscles."

"It's not just weights, either. There are a lot of things athletes can use now to get stronger, including medicine balls."

"In the clubhouse in Anaheim, they have pictures on the walls of Babe Ruth working out with a medicine ball. It just shows you how things have come full circle with the workouts."

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Public Hearing Canton Leisure Services Comprehensive Master Plan

The public is invited to attend a Public Hearing regarding the Canton Leisure Services Comprehensive Master Plan during the regular meeting of the Township Board, beginning at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 14, 2006, in the Board Room of the Canton Administration Building, 1150 Canton Center Rd. S.

Publish: February 2, 2006

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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, February 16th, 2006 for the following:

GOLF COURSE MATERIALS - SAND, FERTILIZER AND PROTECTANTS

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.

TERRY G. BENNETT, CLERK

Publish: February 2, 2006

CE06049090

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Charter Township of Canton, 1150 Canton Center S, Canton, Michigan will accept sealed proposals at the Clerk's Office until 3:00 p.m., Thursday February 9th, 2006 for the following:

ENGINEERING DESIGN OF SITE IMPROVEMENTS FOR THE SHELDON SCHOOL SITE

The proposal must address the company's ability to provide the following services:

- Design of storm sewer and detention facilities, including abandonment of existing sewer.
- Design of site grading.
- Topographic and boundary survey.
- Preparation of Bid Documents
- Construction staking.
- Construction Administration and Inspection
- Preparation of Final Measure Plans

Request for Proposal Documents are available for pick up at **3RD Floor Leisure Services**, Canton Township Hall, 1150 South Canton Center Road, Canton, MI 48188. All proposals must be submitted in a sealed envelope clearly marked with the proposal name, company name, address and telephone number and date and time of proposal 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.

TERRY G. BENNETT, CLERK

Publish: January 26 & February 2, 2006

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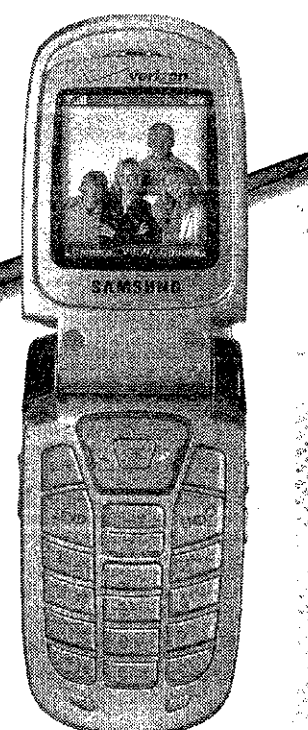
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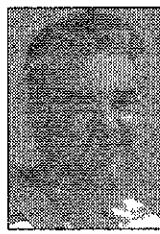
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SBXL is here! Stoney shares his m

The Super Bowl. It is finally here. The years of buildup and angst comes to a head as the nation's sports fans and media turn their attention to Detroit.

There is something else besides the parties and fun. It is called a football game and this should be a good one. Hopefully, the Steelers and Seahawks will create special memories for millions of fans. Each Super Bowl has at least one special moment to those who watched — here are mine, and some have little to do with the actual game.

1. Packers 35, Chiefs 10. I remember watching the game on both the NFL station (CBS) and the AFL station (NBC). I was 9 years old and rooted for the Chiefs.
2. Packers 33, Raiders 14. My dad's boss went to the game and brought me back a program. Of course, that was thrown away years later.
3. Jets 16, Colts 7. The big upset. I remember Jimmy Orr all alone trying to get his Baltimore quarterback Earl Morrall to throw him the ball. I tried to broadcast the game on a reel-to-reel tape recorder. Who can forget Joe Namath walking off the



Mike Stone

4. Chiefs 23, Vikings 7. Hank Stram wearing that suit with what looked like his game plan rolled up. I hated the Vikings.
5. Colts 16, Cowboys 13. Jim O'Brien's field goal late in the game giving Tom Landry and the dastardly Cowboys a well-deserved loss.
6. Cowboys 24, Dolphins 3. They finally got Tom Landry the title. I remember Mike Ditka and Lance Alworth scoring touchdowns for the Cowboys.
7. Dolphins 14, Redskins 7. Garo Yepremian almost blowing the perfect season for Miami with possibly the biggest blooper in Super Bowl history.
8. Dolphins 24, Vikings 7. I could not figure out why the game was being played at Houston's Rice Stadium. Larry Csonka was a beast in this snoozefest.
9. Steelers 16, Vikings 6. Dwight White tackling Fran Tarkenton in the end zone was the only score in a thrilling 2-0 halftime score.

10. Steelers 21, Cowboys 17. A terrific game with a long Terry Bradshaw to Lynn Swann touchdown pass.
11. Raiders 32, Vikings 14. The Vikings going scoreless in the first half in all four of their Super Bowl appearances. I remember John Madden smiling from ear to ear.
12. Cowboys 27, Broncos 10. Watching this from my dorm room made this Cowboys victory easier to take. Butch Johnson made a spectacular touchdown catch.
13. Steelers 35, Cowboys 31. Bradshaw with four TD passes.
14. Steelers 31, Rams 19. Can you say Vince Ferragamo? He led the Rams to a 19-17 lead after three quarters before Bradshaw's 73-yard bomb to Stallworth.
15. Raiders 27, Eagles 10. The first one I ever attended and my first trip to New Orleans. My Eagles got throttled.
16. 49ers 26, Bengals 21. Since I was not living here or at the game, I did not care that the game was held in Pontiac. I remember the Niners' Archie Reese doing a little dance on his back after their huge goal line stand.
17. Redskins 27, Dolphins 17. One lasting memory that is shared by many. On fourth-and-one, John Riggins running over Don McNeal 43 yards for a touchdown.
18. Raiders 38, Redskins 9. Working this game for the NBC station in D.C. Dancing to 99 Luftballons at Confetti's three nights in

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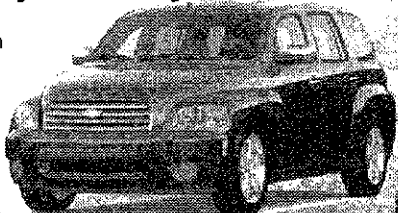
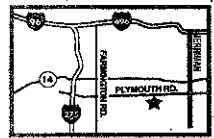


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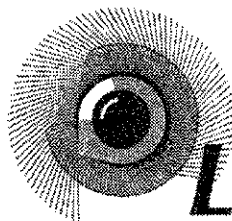
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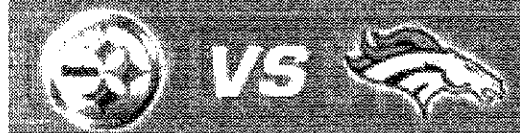
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Memories of Super Bowls past

row and then watching the 'Skins' balloon burst on Jack Squire's interception of Joe Theismann's screen pass for a score before half.

19. 49ers 38, Dolphins 16. Joe Montana's three TDs. Who thought it would be the only Super Bowl appearance of Dan Marino?

20. Bears 46, Patriots 10. Who could forget the Patriots leading in this game? It was 23-3 at the half, but the lasting memory is that of William (The Refrigerator) Perry's 1-yard touchdown while Walter Payton did not score.

21. Giants 39, Broncos 20. Took a picture with Darryl Strawberry and Dexter Manley before the game. My friend and I walked around the top of the Rose Bowl since we had no seat, just an entry pass.

22. Redskins 42, Broncos 10. Trailing 10-0 after the first quarter, Doug Williams throws four scores in the second quarter: it was 35-10 at the half.

23. 49ers 20, Bengals 16. A great game. Cincy takes the lead with just over three minutes left. Joe Montana marches the line down the field and hits John Taylor for the winning score with 34 seconds left.

24. 49ers 55, Broncos 10. All I remember is Montana threw six touchdowns and I won 200 bucks on the game.

25. Giants 20, Bills 19. How could Scott Norwood miss?

26. Redskins 37, Bills 24. Mark Rypien won a Super Bowl. Mark Rypien won a Super Bowl.

27. Cowboys 52, Bills 17. Troy Aikman with four touchdowns. Jim Kelly getting hurt.

28. Cowboys 30, Bills 13. I remember two things about this one. Buffalo actually led at the half and how weird it was to say Eddie Murray, Super Bowl champion.

29. 49ers 49, Chargers 26. Steve Young's six touchdowns - do I need to say anything else?

30. Cowboys 27, Steelers 17. Neil O'Donnell throwing the ball right to Larry Brown, not once, but twice.

31. Packers 35, Patriots 21. Desmond Howard going nuts - and Reggie White's three sacks while watching the game on a huge screen at the Windsor Casino.

32. Broncos 31, Packers 24. Pack were 14-point favorites. John Elway got the monkey off his back. Terrell Davis scores a late TD.

33. Broncos 34, Falcons 19. A ho-hum game, but Elway wins MVP to finish career on top. Eugene Robinson, arrested for soliciting a hooker the night before the game, gets burned on an 80-yard bomb to Rod Smith.

34. Rams 23, Titans 16. Great game. Kurt Warner to Isaac Bruce gives the Rams a late lead. Steve McNair drives Tennessee down the field, hits Kevin Dyson with a slant pattern, but he is

tackled at the 1 by Mike Jones as time expires

35. Ravens 34, Giants 7. Trent Dilfer vs. Kerry Collins. Wow! Ravens defense was amazing. Dilfer wins a Super Bowl.

36. Patriots 20, Rams 17. Tom Brady drives team for winning score. Adam Vinatieri's field goal as time expires. Seeing U2 perform with the wall of names was moving.

37. Buccaneers 48, Raiders 21. Could not figure out how Dexter Jackson with two interceptions could get MVP over Dwight Smith, who also had two picks, but both of his were for scores.

38. Patriots 32, Panthers 29. Where did this classic come from - 37 points in the fourth quarter? Brady, again the MVP, sets up Vinatieri's winning field goal.

39. Patriots 24, Eagles 21. I shook hands with George Bush and Bill Clinton before the game. Sitting in stands with my three best friends from Philadelphia. I rooted for the Eagles, but it was not the same having been gone 19 years.

40. Steelers 23, Seahawks 17. Drink several bloody marys. Charlie Batch replaces the injured Ben Roethlisberger and leads Steelers to last-second touchdown drive. Jerome Bettis plows in for the winning score. Now wouldn't that be a memory for the ages? Listen to Mike Stone 3-6 p.m. weekdays on the *Stoney and Wojo Show* on WDFN-AM (1130) Sports Radio.

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Chiefs overcome early deficit to tame Zebras

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

Wayne Memorial guard Justin Collop was a proverbial thorn in the side of the Canton basketball team during the first quarter of Tuesday night's Western Lakes Activities Association contest, pumping in 10 points.

But it was the Chiefs who came out smelling like a rose as they contained Collop over the final three quarters and survived the Zebras' upset bid, 48-36. Surging Canton is now 9-3 overall and 5-1 in the WLAA.

"We played solid defense in the second half and we made Collop work for everything he got," said Canton coach Charlie Paye. "He's a heck of a player, but we shut him down pretty good in the second half."

"I thought Andy Larsen gave us good energy off the bench, with 10 points and nine rebounds."

Junior forward Ryan Waidmann led the winners with 18 points and seven rebounds. Steve Paye added 11 points and six boards, Rob Eppler contributed seven points and Andre Bridges chipped in with six rebounds and four assists.

LIVONIA STEVENSON 68, SALEM 62: The Spartans outscored the Rocks 22-13 over the final eight minutes to secure the important WLAA Lakes Division victory.

With the loss, Salem slipped to 3-9 overall and 3-3 in the WLAA. The Spartans improved to 7-5 and 4-2 with their first

road victory of the season.

Tony Lenardon and Luke Knochel both twined 19 points for the winners, who also got 12 points from Ben Schroeder. Knochel was locked in from beyond the arc, hitting five three-pointers.

Senior forward Billy Leddy led an incredibly balanced Salem attack with 14 points and seven rebounds. Also playing well for the Rocks were Grant Stone (12 points), Brian Baumgart (12) and Joe Halewicz (11).

"Brian Baumgart did a nice job tonight of catching the ball and posting up," said Salem coach Bob Brodie.

The visiting Spartans led 16-14 after one quarter before Salem rebounded to grab a narrow 34-33 halftime lead. Salem carried a 49-46 advantage into the final quarter.

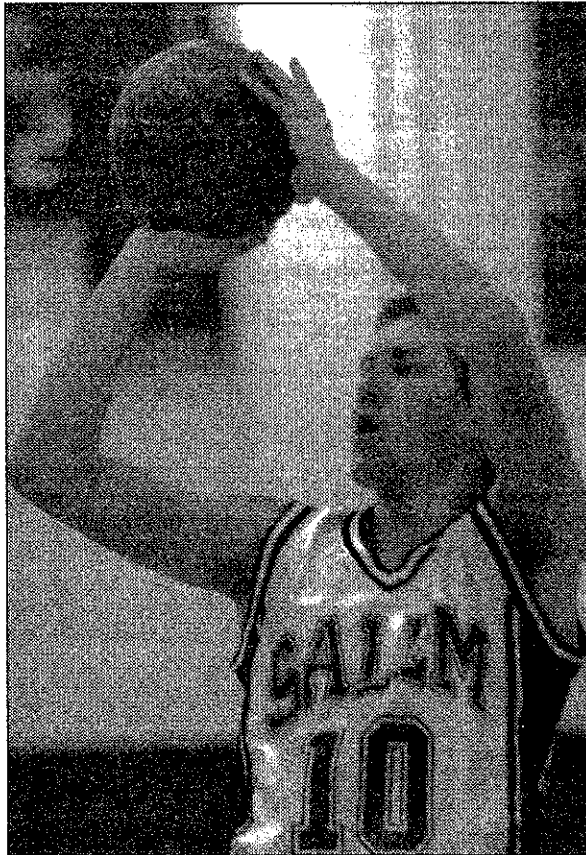
"It was pretty even most of the game," Brodie said. "They had a hot shooting hand, especially in the fourth quarter when they made three threes. Plus, they hit their free throws down the stretch."

"We had some scoring opportunities in the fourth quarter, but the ball just wouldn't go down."

Both teams made 11-of-16 free throws.

The Spartans played without top rebounder Andy Madeleine, who was out with bronchitis.

"We scrapped one out, but we couldn't rebound the ball at all," Stevenson coach Bill Dyer said. "It was like pulling teeth, but we showed some poise down the stretch and hit some big shots. We also got a couple of big rebounds from Chris Mulcahy."



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Salem's Billy Leddy netted a team-high 14 points in the Rocks' 68-62 loss to Livonia Stevenson Tuesday night. Leddy also yanked down seven rebounds.

Govans lead PCA to wins

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

Plymouth Christian Academy's Govan brothers — Justin and Devyn — left a lasting impression on Sterling Heights Bethesda Christian in a Michigan Independent Athletic Conference basketball game Tuesday night.

Led by freshman Justin Govan's 11 points and 17 rebounds and Devyn Govan's eight points and seven boards, the Eagles edged Bethesda, 38-33, to improve their record to 7-5.

"Justin had a huge game," said PCA coach Doug Taylor. "He got all of his points in the second and third quarters, then I let our seniors lead us down the stretch. Justin hit 5-of-6 free throws, too, which was big."

PCA broke an 8-8 first-quarter tie by outscoring the Eagles 15-6 in the second quarter to secure a 23-14 halftime advantage. Host Bethesda cut their deficit to two with 90 seconds left, but PCA hung on for the win.

"Bethesda has a really good team, so we were happy to get out of there with a win," said Taylor.

Other players who played well for the winners were Trevor Zinn (seven points), Ryan Barber (eight rebounds) and Matt Saagman (six rebounds, three assists and six points).

PCA, which hit 7-of-12 free throws, will travel to state-ranked Allen Park Inter-City Baptist on Friday to tangle with the Chargers.

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1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:30
FRI/SAT LS 11:30

NANNY MCPHEE (PG)
12:20, 2:30, 4:40, 6:50, 9:00
FRI/SAT LS 11:10

THE LAST HOLIDAY (PG-13)
12:00, 2:20, 4:40, 7:00, 9:20
FRI/SAT LS 11:40

TRISTAN AND ISOLDE (PG-13)
1:20, 3:55, 6:30, 9:05
FRI/SAT LS 11:40

THE SQUID AND THE WHALE (R)
1:00, 7:20

RUMOR HAS IT (PG-13)
3:00, 5:10, 9:20
FRI/SAT LS 11:30

CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2 (PG)
12:10, 2:40, 4:55

PRIDE AND PREJUDICE (PG)
7:10, 9:50

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CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS AGENDA FEBRUARY 9, 2006

Notice is hereby given that there will be a meeting of the Zoning Board of Appeals THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2006 AT 7:00 P.M. The meeting will be held in the Board Room at the Township Administration Building located at 1150 S. CANTON CENTER ROAD, CANTON, MI 48188. The following Agenda will be discussed:

Pledge of Allegiance to the flag

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

Acceptance of Agenda

- Gregg Elstro of Mongolian Opp. Co., 642 E. Nine Mile Road, Ferndale, MI 48220 for commercial property located at 42089 Ford Road, south side of Ford Road between Lilley and Haggerty Roads, appealing Sign Ordinance, Chapter 102, Article II, Section 102-35, (1), a, c, wall sign variance. Zone C-3.
Parcel 053-99-0012-008
(Building) **(TABLED FROM JANUARY 12, 2006 MEETING)**
- Tim Hader of Schonsheck, Inc., 51331 W. Pontiac Trail, Wixom, MI 48393 representing U.S. Storage Depot, 1400 E. Michigan Avenue, Saline, MI 48176, for commercial property located at 41984 Ford Road, north side of Ford Road between Haggerty and Lilley Roads, appealing Sign Ordinance, Chapter 102, Article II, Section 102-35, (1), a, wall sign variance. Zone C-3.
Parcel 044-99-0009-701
(Building) **(TABLED FROM DECEMBER 8, 2005 MEETING)**
- City Sign Co. of Baymont Inn & Suite, 41211 Ford Road, Canton, MI 48187 representing Dualite Sign Co. of La Quinta Corporation, 909 Hidden Ridge, Suite 600, Irving, TX 75038 for commercial property located at 41211 Ford Road, appealing Sign Ordinance, Chapter 102, Article II, Section 102-35, (4), a, b, d, ground sign variance. Zone C-4
Parcel 050-99-0009-004
(Building) **(TABLED FROM JANUARY 12, 2006 MEETING)**
- Theodore R. Johnson of TJ Design Strategies, Ltd., 2311 W. 22nd Street, Suite 208, Oak Brook, IL 60523 representing Costco Wholesale of Costco Wholesale, 999 Lake Drive, Issaquah, WA 98027 for vacant industrial property located south side of Michigan between Beck and Belleville Roads, appealing Sign Ordinance, Chapter 102, Article II, Section 102-35, (1), a, wall sign variance. Zone C-3.
Parcels 132-99-0003-701
132-99-0003-702
(Building)

Approval of the January 12, 2006 Minutes

Publish: February 2, 2006

0E0840891

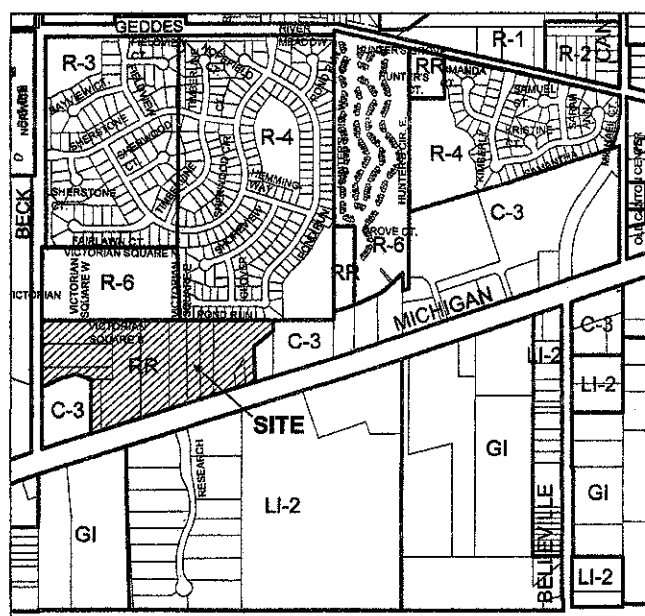
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PLANNING COMMISSION CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

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

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Act 184 of the Public Acts of 1943 of the State of Michigan, as amended, and pursuant to the Zoning Ordinance of the Charter Township of Canton that the Planning Commission of the Charter Township of Canton will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, February 6, 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:

SCHAFER DEVELOPMENT REZONING - CONSIDER REQUEST TO REZONE PARCEL NOS. 131 99 0001 000, 131 99 0002 000, 131 99 0003 000, 131 99 0005 000 (PART OF), 131 99 0006 000, 131 99 0007 000, 131 99 0012 000, 131 99 0013 000, 131 99 0014 000 AND 131 99 0015 000 FROM RR, RURAL RESIDENTIAL TO C-3, REGIONAL COMMERCIAL. Property is located north of Michigan and east of Beck Road.



SECTION 33

Written comments addressed to the Planning Commission should be received at the Canton Township Administration Building, 1150 Canton Center S. prior to Thursday, February 3, 2006. In order to be included in the materials submitted for review.

Vic Gustafson, Chairman

Publish: January 15 & February 2, 2006

0E0840782

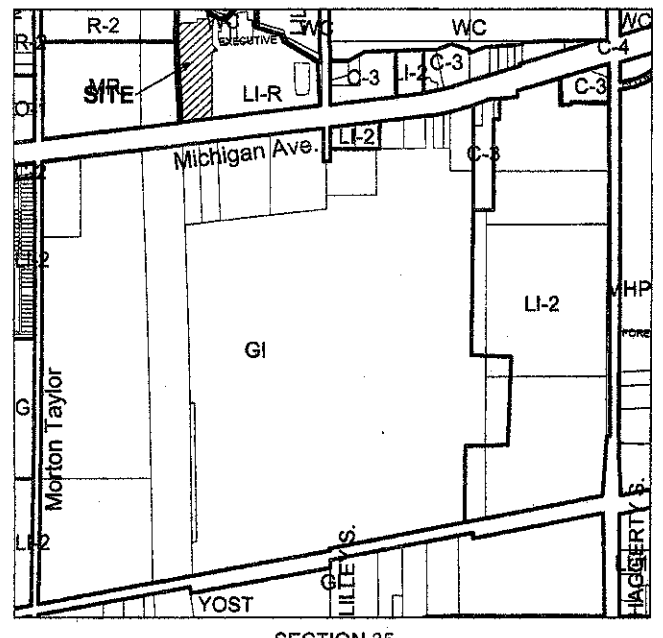
Please recycle

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, February 6, 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:

SINGH EXECUTIVE PARK REZONING - CONSIDER REQUEST TO REZONE PARCEL NO. 138 02 0004 000 AND PART OF THE REMAINING COMMON AREA FOR SINGH EXECUTIVE PARK CONDOMINIUMS FROM LI-R, LIGHT INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH DISTRICT TO C-3, REGIONAL COMMERCIAL. Property is located north of Michigan Avenue and west of Lilley Road.



SECTION 35

Written comments addressed to the Planning Commission should be received at the Canton Township Administration Building, 1150 Canton Center S. prior to Thursday, February 3, 2006. In order to be included in the materials submitted for review.

Vic Gustafson, Chairman

Publish: January 15 & February 2, 2006

0E0840848

Plymouth icers sailing since holiday break

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

Apparently, it took a break to fix the Plymouth hockey team.
A holiday break.

No team in the area has skated much better than the Wildcats since the beginning of January as they have reeled off a 6-1-1 streak, including Friday night's 3-0 whitewashing of Western Lakes Activities Association rival Northville. Plymouth improved to 9-4-3 overall with the win and 3-3-2 in the WLAA.

The shutout was junior goalie Justin Desilets' second consecutive.

"The kids are coming together nicely," said first-year Plymouth coach Chuck Dubois. "They're doing things on the ice I wasn't sure I'd be seeing this season. It took a while for the team to adjust to the new system we put in, but it's working now. Hopefully, we can keep playing like this."

Mark Olivier put the Wildcats in front with what proved to be the game-winner when he scored off assists from Ryan Stamm and Mike Manner at the 7:40 mark of the opening period. Stamm made it 2-0 five minutes into the second period off assists from Adam Lazorka and Mike Barile, and Chuck Webb added an empty-netter with 1:00 left in the contest.

G.P. SOUTH 1, PCS PENGUINS 0: Alli Morawski's even-strength goal with 6:30 left in the second quarter lifted the Blue Devils to a thrilling victory over Plymouth-Canton-Salem Tuesday night in a game played at the Arctic Edge Arena in Canton. The setback was the first of the season for PCS, which dropped to 14-1-1 overall and 11-1-0 in the Michigan Metro High School Girls Hockey League. South improved to 12-1 in the league.

Carolyn Sweeney registered the win between the pipes for South, stopping 17 shots. PCS netminder Kristie Kowalski recorded 28 saves.

"We had some good scoring chances, but their goalie did a good job of keeping the puck out of the net," said Penguins coach Lori Callahan. "The puck just didn't bounce our way tonight and we didn't play as well as we've played in the past."

"Even though we lost, the girls were very positive after the game. They know we have six games left to work on our game and improve. We'll watch the video tomorrow and see where we need to get better."

Callahan praised the play of Kowalski and Adrienne Cercone, who she said, "played hard and pushed the puck up the ice the entire game."

PCS 8, WALLED LAKE 0: On Saturday, the Penguins struck for three goals in the first period and five more in the second to overwhelm the Wild in a game played at the Suburban Ice Arena. Kristie Kowalski notched the shutout in goal for the winners.

Offensively, PCS was paced by Stephanie Murray (three goals), Kelsey Nikkila (three assists), Ashley LeBlanc (two assists, one goal), Lisa Ealy (two assists), Keely Kowalski (two goals) and Kristen Schwan (two goals).

FRANKLIN 6, CANTON 3: The power-play turned out to be a charm Jan. 25 as Livonia Franklin skated to a 6-3 Western Lakes Activities Association boys hockey victory over host Canton at the Arctic Edge.

Franklin trailed 2-1 after one period, but scored on all five power-play opportunities, including three goals in the second period to take 4-2 lead.

"We came out really slow the first period, we were outplayed and outshot," Franklin coach Terry Jobbitt said. "The second period with played with a lot of heart and outshot them 13-7."

Bryan Kozlowski led Franklin with two goals and one assist, while Steve Stahl, D.J. Tracy and Alex Chisholm contributed a goal and one assist apiece.

Anthony Farthing had the other goal for the Patriots, now 6-6-3 overall and 2-1-1 in the Western Division of the WLAA.

Steve South finished with two assists, while Justen Mitchell, Brandon Pump, Derek Cripe and Sean Nisun added one each.

Brad Barath led Canton (3-11-2, 1-4-1) with a pair of goals, while Jesse Pletsch had the other.

Kevin Tollison collected two assists, while J.P. LaFontaine and Brett Giacomino added one

each.

Franklin goaltender Austin Mesler made 30 saves, while Canton's Kevin Swanberg had 22.

"Our penalty killing and power-play were perfect," Jobbitt said. "That's what won the game - special teams along with good goaltending from Austin."

STEVENSON 9, SALEM 0: Mike Jahn's first career hat trick propelled WLAA leader Livonia Stevenson (17-1-1, 6-0) to the Lakes Division triumph Jan. 25 over the Rocks at Edgar Arena.

Stevenson scored three goals in each period en route to the victory.

"Our goal was to play hard from the start of the game until the finish," Stevenson coach Mike Humitz said. "We wanted to play the game at our pace. I thought for the most part we accomplished that goal."

Shawn Anderson added two goals and one assist in the victory, while Marcus and Michael Voran each contributed a goal and three assists.

Ryan Zucal added a goal and assist. Corey Matson tallied the Spartans' other goal, while Michael Gibbons recorded his first career points with a pair of assists.

Other assists went to Jason Mifsud and Sean Lerg.

Stevenson netminder Jeff Pashnick had to make only three saves to record the shutout.

Salem goalie Ralph Asperwall made 25 saves for the Rocks.

STORAGE USA

Notice is hereby given that on (February 20th, 2006), Tate & Co. Auctioneers, Executive Administrator for Storage USA, will be offering for sale under the judicial lien process, by public auction, the following storage units. The goods to be sold are generally described as household goods. The terms of the sale will be for cash only. Storage USA reserves the right to refuse any and all bids. The sale will be at the following location: Storage USA, 6729 CANTON CENTER RD., CANTON, MI 48187 AT 12:30 PM.

Lawrence Sharp B27	10x10	Misc. Household goods
Janice Davenport B33	10x15	Misc. Household goods
Daniel A. Fowler B56	10x15	Misc. Household goods
Larry McCullough D134	5x10	Rubber totes, misc.
Alan Ray Brown D153	10x20	Misc. Household goods
Terral Hurd E176	10x20	Misc. Household goods
William Staten or	10x20	Couch, Asian hutch,
William H. Staten H281		coffee table
Hester Barksdale I316	10x15	Misc. Household goods

Publish: February 2 & 9, 2006

CE08409093

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, February 16th, 2006 for the following:

GASOLINE AND DIESEL FUEL 2006

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.

TERRY G. BENNETT, CLERK

Publish: February 2, 2006

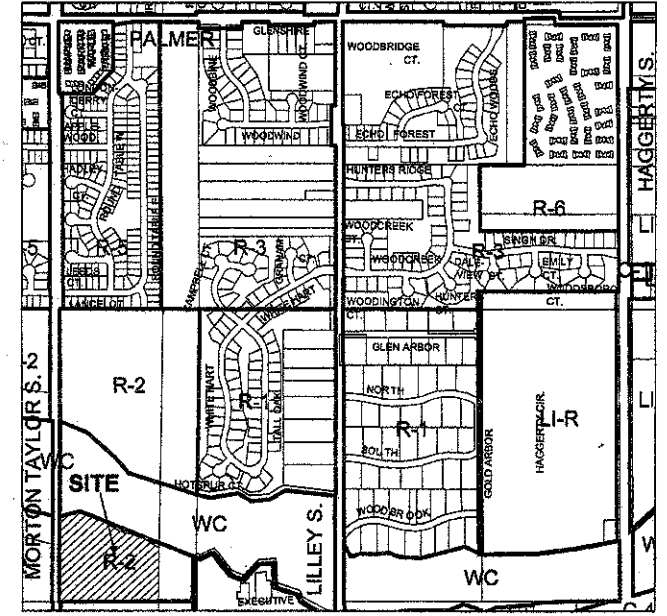
CE08409802

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, February 6, 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:

J.C. LLC REZONING - CONSIDER REQUEST TO REZONE PARCEL NO. 103 99 0001 003 FROM R-2, SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL TO MR. MULTIPLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL. Property is located north of Michigan and east of ort ton Taylor Road.



SECTION 26

Written comments addressed to the Planning Commission should be received at the Canton Township Administration Building, 1150 Canton Center S, prior to Thursday, February 3, 2006, in order to be included in the materials submitted for review.

Vic Gustafson, Chairman

Publish: January 15 & February 2, 2006

CE08409484

Charter Township of Canton Board Proceedings- January 24, 2006

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton was held Tuesday, January 24, 2006, at 1150 Canton Center S. Supervisor Yack called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. **Roll Call** Members Present: Bennett, Kirchgatter, LaJoy, Yack, Zarbo Members Absent: Caccamo, McLaughlin Staff Present: Director Minghine, Director Santomauro, Director Conklin, Director Faas **Adoption of Agenda** Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried by all members present. **Approval of Minutes** Motion by Bennett, supported by Zarbo to approve the Board Study Minutes of January 3, 2006. Motion carried by all members present. Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve the Board Meeting Minutes of January 10, 2006. Motion carried by all members present. **Payment of Bills** Motion by Kirchgatter, supported by Zarbo to approve payment of the bills as presented. Motion carried by all members present.

Expenditure Recap for January 24, 2006

General Fund	101	\$	624,292.89
Fire Fund	206		88,287.39
Police Fund	207		141,339.82
Summit Operating	208		27,429.75
Cable TV Fund	230		1,856.71
E-911 Utility	261		24,161.52
Auto Forfeiture(wwa)	267		1,702.03
Federal Grants Fund	274		3,668.22
Auto Theft Grant	289		15,413.71
Downtown Dev Authority	294		20,140.00
Cap Proj-Road Paving	403		14,844.46
Golf Fund	584		9,220.45
Water & Sewer Fund	592		736,219.37
Construction Escrows	702		121.80
Post Employ. Benefits	736		40,832.01
Saltz Road Paving	803		692.50

Total - All Funds 1,755,222.63

PUBLIC HEARING: PUBLIC HEARING FOR LEXINGTON SQUARE I & II SUBDIVISION REQUEST TO CREATE STREET LIGHT SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT. (CLERK) Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter, to open the Public Hearing at 7:02 p.m. to consider the petition of two (2) streetlights in the Lexington Square I & II Subdivisions. Motion carried by all members present. David Ebbe, 233 Princeton Street, President of the Homeowners Association for Lexington Square Subdivision, along with the majority of the Board from the Homeowners Association attended in support of the Special Assessment District. Motion by Zarbo, supported by Bennett, to close the Public Hearing at 7:05 p.m. to consider the petition of two (2) streetlights in the Lexington Square I & II Subdivisions. Motion carried by all members present. Motion by Bennett, supported by Zarbo, to approve the 2006 Lexington Square I & II Subdivisions street lighting Special Assessment, authorize the construction and maintenance of two (2) 100 Watt Sodium Vapor Ornamental Streetlights, Lunar Optic Grandville Leaf Luminaire (black with gold ribs and bands) mounted on two (2) twelve (12) foot main street fiberglass posts on cement foundations, black finish installed at the following locations: northeast corner of Yale Street at Cherry Hill Road and also on the north side of Dartmouth Street at Sheldon Road and authorize the Township Clerk to sign the agreement. Motion carried by all members present. **CONSENT CALENDAR: Item 1. REQUEST FOR BLANKET PURCHASE ORDERS FOR 2006 -WATER BILLING DIVISION. (FBD)** Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve purchase orders to Matrix Printing Systems, Inc. in the amount of \$9,000 for the printing of water bills and envelopes, to Lasertec, Inc. in the amount of \$6,500 for the printing and processing of water bills, the US Postal Service in the amount of \$30,000 for water bill postage for 2005 and City Services, Inc. in the amount of \$8,000 for radio reading of water meters (Water Billing Division budget accounts #592-560-729-0000, Postage, #592-560-818-0000, Contracted Services and #592-560-900-0000, Printing & Publishing accounts.) Motion carried by all members present. **Item 2. AUTHORIZE PLACEMENT OF SIGNS FOR CANTON LEISURE SERVICES EVENTS. (LSD)** Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to authorize the placement of signs for Leisure Services events in accordance with the Canton Township Sign ordinance. Motion carried by all members present. **Item 3. RE-APPOINTMENT TO THE BUILDING BOARD OF APPEALS. (MSD)** Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to re-appoint Bob Paciocco to the Building Board of Appeals. (Term expiring December 31, 2010). Motion carried by all members present. **Item 4. SPECIAL COMMUNITY EVENT STATUS AND THE INSTALLATION OF SIGNS FOR THE PLYMOUTH/ CANTON MUSIC BOOSTERS' SPRING ARTS & CRAFTS ENSEMBLE. (MSD)** Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve special event status and placement of signs (approximately 78 signs at major intersections on March 5 or 6 and will be removed by March 13) for the Plymouth Canton Music Boosters' Spring Arts & Crafts Ensemble to be held at Canton High School on Saturday, March 11, 2006. Motion carried by all members present. **Item 5. CONSIDER APPROVAL FOR 2006 BLANKET PURCHASE ORDERS. (MSD)** Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve the 2006 Public Works and Fleet Maintenance blanket purchase orders as required under the Township Purchasing Policy." Motion carried by all members present. **Item 6. APPROVE ANNUAL BLOCK PARTY ROAD CLOSURE PERMIT. (PSD)** Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter, resolved that the Canton Board of Trustees does hereby resolve that: 1. The Township of Canton requests an annual permit to temporarily close certain County Local Roads for a block party@ or similar activity. 2. The Township of Canton shall indemnify, save harmless, and defend Wayne County, the Wayne County Department of Public Services, its officials, agents, and employees against any and all claims, suits, and judgments of every name and description arising out of the temporary road closures authorized by this permit. Such responsibility of the Township shall not be construed as a liability for damage caused by or resulting from the sole negligence of the County, its agents, or its employees. 3. The Township of Canton designates and authorizes, Terry G. Bennett, Clerk to sign this permit on its behalf. Motion carried by all members present. **Item 7. REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION OF BLANKET PURCHASE ORDERS FOR 2006. (PSD)** Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter, to authorize the blanket purchase orders for the Department of Public Safety. Motion carried by all members present. **Item 8. TRANSFER ALL STOCK IN 2005 CLASS "C" ON-PREMISE LICENSED BUSINESS WITH DANCE PERMIT, LOCATED AT**

43845 FORD ROAD, CANTON, MI 48187, CANTON TOWNSHIP, WAYNE COUNTY, BY DROPPING RUSSEL D. JOHNSON, DECEASED AS STOCKHOLDER THROUGH TRANSFER OF 90,000 SHARES OF STOCK TO THE RUSSEL D. JOHNSON TRUST; JOHN F. JOHNSON, SUCCESSOR TRUSTEE. (CLERK) Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter, to approve the request from The Nail, Inc. to transfer all stock in 2005 Class "C" On-Premise Liquor Licensed business with dance permit, located at 43845 Ford Road, Canton, MI 48187, Canton Township, Michigan, 48187, Wayne County, by dropping Russel D. Johnson, Deceased, as Stockholder through transfer of 90,000 shares of stock to the Russel D. Johnson Trust; John F. Johnson, Successor Trustee. Motion carried by all members present. **Item 9. SPECIAL COMMUNITY EVENT STATUS AND INSTALLATION OF A SIGN FOR THE SUPER BOWL XL NFL CHARITIES BOWLING CLASSIC. (MSD)** Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter, to approve special event status and placement of a sign for the Super Bowl XL NFL Charities Bowling Classic to be held at the Canton Super Bowl located at 45100 Ford Road on February 3 and 4, 2006. Motion carried by all members present. **GENERAL CALENDAR: Item 1. CONSIDER J.C. DEVELOPMENT REZONING. (MSD)** Motion by Bennett, supported by LaJoy to adopt the resolution for rezoning request of J.C. Development. Motion carried by all members present. **RESOLUTION OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON Rezoning Request of J.C. Development** WHEREAS, the petitioner has requested approximately 25.12 acres located on the north side of Michigan Avenue between Morton Taylor and Sheldon Roads be rezoned from O-1, Office District to C-3, Regional Commercial District WHEREAS, the requested rezoning WOULD be in conformity with the Future Land Use Map of the Comprehensive Plan; and WHEREAS, the Canton Township Planning Commission recommended APPROVAL of the request; NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton, Michigan does hereby APPROVE the request of the petitioner to rezone property identified by property tax EDP Nos. 133-99-0004-000, 133-99-0006-000, and 133-99-0007-000 from O-1, Office District to C-3, Regional Commercial District. **Item 2. CONSIDER SITE PLAN FOR WARREN WOODS PRIVATE DRIVE. (MSD)** Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to adopt the resolution for site plan for Warren Woods Private Drive. Motion carried by all members present. **RESOLUTION OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON Site Plan for Warren Woods Private Drive** WHEREAS, the Project Sponsor, Mr. Ziyad Anbari, has requested site plan approval for Warren Woods Private Drive to be located on Warren Road between Beck and Ridge Roads, identified as tax EDP # 019-99-0021-004; and, WHEREAS, the Planning Commission reviewed the site plan and made a recommendation to approve the request to grant site plan approval, as summarized in the attached written analysis and recommendation. NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton, Michigan does hereby approve the request of the petitioner, Mr. Ziyad Anbari, to approve the site plan for the proposed Warren Woods Private Drive subject to any and all state and local development regulations and further subject to any conditions recommended by the Planning Commission and staff, as described in the analysis and recommendation attached hereto and made a part hereof. **Item 3. PURCHASE NEW PHONE SYSTEM AT THE CANTON SPORTS CENTER AND PHEASANT RUN GOLF CLUB. (LSD)** Motion by Bennett, supported by LaJoy to authorize phone system upgrades for Canton Sports Center, in the amount of \$14,370 from Capital Outlay-Equipment account #101-755-977-0000 and Pheasant Run Golf Club, in the amount of \$9,302 from Capital Outlay-Buildings account #584-756-976-0000 to Allied Communications, 17600 Northland Park Ct., Southfield, MI 48075, for a total amount of \$23,672. Motion carried by all members present. **Item 4. CONSIDER WAIVING BID/QUOTE PROCEDURE AND AUTHORIZE REBUILDING OF APPARATUS PUMP ON FIRE DEPARTMENT UNIT #88-E4 AS AN EMERGENCY REPAIR. (MSD)** Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to waive receipt of bids and authorize R&R Fire Truck Repair to perform necessary emergency pump repairs to Fire Department apparatus #88-E4 at a cost of \$8,385.00. The Fleet Supervisor will generate a Purchase Order for the total amount of \$8,385.00 from the 592-000-110-1500 account and complete a repair order back-charging the Public Safety-Fire Department 206-336-932-0000 account. Motion carried by all members present. **Item 5. CONSIDER AWARDED THE CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL PROGRAM TO HYDRO DESIGNS INCORPORATED. (MSD)** Motion by Bennett, supported by Zarbo to award the Cross-Connection Program to Hydro Designs, Inc. in the amount of \$34,848.00 (Cross Connection Control Services, account number 592-441-809-0000) per year. Motion carried by all members present. Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to award the Cross-Connection Program to Hydro Designs, Inc. in the amount of \$34,848.00 annually for a three (3) year contract term and authorize the Township Supervisor and Clerk to execute the Agreement. Motion carried by all members present. **Item 6. CONSIDER PURCHASE OF RICOH AFICIO COPY/FAX/SCANNER. (PSD)** Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve the purchase of a RICOH Aficio 3035SPF with stapler finisher, fax compatibility, scanning and extended paper supply in the amount of \$7443 through a State of Michigan bid package from IKON Office Solutions Great Lakes District, PO 802558, Chicago, IL. Police and Fire Capital Outlay accounts 207-301-977-0000 and 206-336-977-0000. Further I move to approve the maintenance agreement for this purchase for an amount of \$1350 accounts 207-301-818-0000 and 206-336-810-000. Motion carried by all members present. **Item 7. WAIVE THE BIDDING PROCESS AND PURCHASE (27) X 26 TASER ELECTRO-MUSCULAR DISRUPTION (EMD) UNITS. (PSD)** Motion by Bennett, supported by LaJoy to waive the bidding due to a sole manufacture and approve the purchase of twenty (27) Tasers and corresponding accessories through Michigan Taser Distributor, 32938 Scone St., Livonia, MI 48154 from an amount of \$26,996.47. Police Capital Outlay 207-301-977-0000, Item #10. Motion carried by all members present. **OTHER:** Supervisor Yack stated there will be a Study Session on the Rental Inspection Program on Tuesday, January 31, 2006 at 7:00 p.m., Administration Building, First Floor, Board Room, 1150 Canton Center S., Canton, Michigan, 48188. **ADJOURN:** Motion by Zarbo, supported by Bennett to adjourn at 7:33 p.m. Motion carried by all members present. - Thomas J. Yack, Supervisor - Terry G. Bennett, Clerk - 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 web site www.canton-mi.org after Board Approval.

Publish: February 2, 2006

CE08408695



Salem gymnasts edge Brighton

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

Salem's gymnastics team was "beam"ing following its hard-earned 141.35-141.03 victory over Brighton Monday night. The win, which came on the heels of Saturday's third-place showing at the Salem Invitational, propelled the Rocks' record to 2-2.

"We were excellent on the beam again tonight," said Salem coach Dana Driscoll. "We've only had two falls in five meets, which is excellent."

The Rocks were paced by freshman Katie Koetting, who registered a 36.15 all-around, which was good enough for second overall behind Brighton's Nicole Drouillard's 36.55. Sarah Bugosh (35.25) and Brittany Young (35.15) also turned in strong all-around totals for the winners.

"The more success Katie gets, the more she is blooming into a leadership role," said Driscoll. "She's always been good, but she's getting better and better with every meet."

Driscoll also praised the efforts of Young, who won the uneven bars with a 9.2, and Autumn Collins, who tied for first with Young on the beam with a 9.1

SALEM 141.35
BRIGHTON 141.03
Monday at Plymouth H.S.
ALL-AROUND: 1. Nicole Drouillard (B), 36.55; 2. Katie Koetting (S), 36.15; 3. Lauren Dilullo (B), 35.70; 4. Sarah Bugosh (S), 35.25; 5. Brittany Young (S), 35.15; 6. Rachael Page (B), 34.625.
VAULT: 1. Nicole Drouillard (B), 9.4; 2. Katie Koetting (S), 9.1; 3. Lauren Dilullo (B), 9.0; 4. Sarah Bugosh (S), 8.8; 5. (tie) Rachael

Page (B) and Autumn Collins (S), 8.6.
UNEVEN BARS: 1. Brittany Young (S), 9.2; 2. Alexis Johnson (B), 9.15; 3. Katie Koetting (S), 8.8; 4. Nicole Drouillard (B), 8.75; 5. Sarah Bugosh (S), 8.65; 6. Rachael Page (B), 8.5.
BALANCE BEAM: 1. (tie) Brittany Young (S) and Autumn Collins (S), 9.1; 3. Lauren Dilullo (B), 9.0; 4. Katie Koetting (S), 8.8; 5. Nicole Drouillard (B), 8.7; 6. Sarah Bugosh (S), 8.6.
FLOOR EXERCISE: 1. Nicole Drouillard (B), 9.7; 2. Katie Koetting (S), 9.45; 3. Rachael Page (B), 9.325; 4. Sarah Bugosh (S), 9.2; 5. Katerina Kariotis (S), 8.7; 6. (tie) Autumn Collins (S) and Brittany Young (S), 8.65.

CHIEFS WIN

Canton upended Hartland, 141.15-138.10, Tuesday night to improve its record to 6-1 overall and 5-1 in the Western Lakes Activities Association.

"Alyssa Kelley (the Chiefs' No. 1 gymnast) was out with a sore back, but overall, it was one of our best performances of the year," said Canton coach John Cunningham. "We started on the bars, which isn't easy. We brought three girls up to the 'A' team tonight and they all did a nice job."

"Several of the girls tried new routines tonight and performed well, and Kara Ahern successfully completed her first Tsuk vault. Overall, Kate Staley was our most consistent performer."

Andrea Houdek turned in a season-best score in the all-around, ringing up 32.30 points.

On Saturday, the Chiefs will host the annual Canton Invitational, which will bring together 17 of the top teams in the state. The meet is set to begin at 10 a.m. in the Plymouth High School gymnasium.

CANTON 141.15
HARTLAND 138.10

Tuesday at Hartland H.S.

(following are Canton gymnasts places and scores)
ALL-AROUND: 1. Kate Staley, 35.90; 2. Kara Ahern, 35.75; 3. Jessie Murray, 34.85; 4. Kaitlyn Burns, 34.65; 5. Andrea Houdek, 32.30.
VAULT: 1. Kate Staley, 8.9; 3. Kaitlyn Burns, 8.8; 4. Kara Ahern, 8.5; 5. Jessie Murray, 8.4.
UNEVEN BARS: 1. Kate Staley, 9.1; 2. Jessie Murray, 8.95; 4. Kara Ahern, 8.7.
BALANCE BEAM: 2. Kara Ahern, 9.3; 3. Kate Staley, 9.0; 4. Kaitlyn Burns, 8.8; 5. (tie) Andrea Houdek and Jessie Murray, 8.7.
FLOOR EXERCISE: 2. Kara Ahern, 9.25; 3. Kaitlyn Burns, 9.05; 4. Kate Staley, 8.9; 5. Jessie Murray, 8.8.

ROCKS 3RD

Salem turned in a stellar effort at Saturday's Salem Invitational, finishing third in the talent-laden 15-team field. Farmington won the meet with 147.375 points, followed by Brighton (142.700), Salem (141.950), Northville-Novi (139.525) and Saline (133.075).

Salem received a strong performance from freshman Katie Koetting, who compiled a 36.375 all-around score. Sarah Bugosh also shined for the Rocks, netting an impressive 35.575 all-around.

Other Rock standouts included Autumn Collins (9.10 vault and 9.00 floor) and Brittany Young (9.125 beam)

PLYMOUTH SLIPS

Plymouth's young but improving gymnastics team lost to Trenton Monday night due to a lack of healthy gymnasts. The Wildcats were missing several competitors due to illness or injury.

Performing well for the Wildcats were



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Salem's Brittany Young, pictured above in a meet earlier this year, was instrumental in the Rocks' victory over Brighton Monday night.

Patricia Burns (7.2 on the vault), Katie Hale (third on the floor exercise), Jordan Brodehl (third on the vault with an 8.35) and Courtney Pickard (fourth on the vault with an 8.10).

The Wildcats are now 1-5 on the season.

PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

The Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools invites all interested and qualified companies to submit a bid for **Allen Elementary School Gym Flooring Replacement**. Specifications and bid forms are available by contacting Laura Hagan of the PCCS Maintenance Department at (734) 416-2953. Sealed bids are due on or before 1:00 p.m., Tuesday, February 21, 2006 and should be addressed to Dan Phillips, RE: Gym Floor Replacement Bid, Plymouth-Canton Community Schools, 454 South Harvey, Plymouth, MI 48170. 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
THOMAS WYSOCKI, Secretary

Publish: January 26 & February 2, 2006

CE0840658

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 48106
(734) 394-5260

Publish: February 2, 2006

CE0842663

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, February 16th, 2006 for the following:

INFLATABLE ATTRACTIONS

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.

TERRY G. BENNETT, CLERK

Publish: February 2, 2006

CE0840658

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 Miller Elementary 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; (248)-427-8400; FW Dodge Plan Room, Southfield; Construction Association of Michigan Plan Room, Bloomfield Hills; Daily Construction Reports Plan Room, Detroit; Builders Exchange, Grand Rapids; 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 / 112:Caulking & Firesafing / 113: Hollow Metal/Wood Doors/Finish Hardware / 114:Aluminum Windows/Storefront; Entrances, Glass & Glazing / 115:Metal Studs, Drywall IFS / 116:Hard Tile / 117:Acoustical Treatments / 118:Carpet & VCT Flooring / 120:Painting / 121:Visual Display Boards / 122: Signage / 124:Wood Flooring / 125:Toilet Partitions / 128:Pre-Manufactured Casework / 130:Window Treatments / 139:Cross Corridor Fire Doors / 140:Plumbing / 142:HVAC / 143:Electrical / 160:Pre-Pricing of Vertical Unit Ventilators (for reference only).

A pre-bid meeting will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 7, 2006 at the Main Office of the Construction Manager, McCarthy & Smith located at 24317 Indoplex Circle, Farmington Hills, Michigan 48335. 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 2:00 p.m., Tuesday, February 21, 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

Publish: February 2, 2006

CE0840658

Take this simple quiz:

I prefer spending:

A

MORE MONEY

Hmmm. You must be some sort of trust-fund baby—we're very happy for you. So you may not want to switch to TDS because of our super-low price, but you will definitely want to consider switching because our service is head and shoulders above the rest (and if you don't believe us, just ask our customers).

B

LESS MONEY

Thought so. Switch to TDS and you can get great phone service from \$11.99 per month* for the first six months. Enjoy lots of great features. And add only the long distance minutes you actually use. But you'd better call now so you can start spending less money as soon as possible.

Spend less, save more. Call toll free today!

1-800-493-3333

Hurry! Offer ends February 28.

* Offer ends February 28, 2006, and is available in WI and MI only. Promotional price is good for the first six months of a 24-month service agreement, after which the price returns to the regular rate. Early termination incurs fees. Other terms and conditions may apply. Please call for details. Prices apply to new, residential service only and do not include local, state, or Federal taxes or fees associated with the FCC or Emergency 911. Long distance applies to domestic calls to all 50 states. ** Requires Caller ID compatible phone—not included. †† Must be a TDS Metrocom voice-service customer to qualify for high-speed Internet. High-speed Internet is a distance-sensitive technology—speeds and availability may vary. Promotional price is good for the first six months of a 24-month service agreement, after which the price returns to the regular rate.

† J.D. Power and Associates 2005 Residential All-Distance Telephone Customer Satisfaction Study™ Study conducted among 10,292 customers who receive their local and long distance service from one provider. The North Central Region includes 5 states. www.jdpower.com

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