

THURSDAY February 23, 2006

Observer

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Extended 'family' feels McNamara loss

BY TONY BRUSCATO STAFF WRITER

When former Wayne County Executive Edward H. McNamara died early Sunday morning from heart failure, he left behind a large family.

There is Lucille, his wife of 57 years, his five children and five grandchildren.

However, McNamara's "family" stretches well beyond, as will be visible by the more than 1,200 mourners expected to pay their final respects at his funeral Friday in Most Holy Trinity Church Catholic Church in Detroit.

Many who knew McNamara cherished his longtime, committed friendship. And, those who worked with McNamara as part of his Democratic political machine – many of whom were mentored into public service leadership positions of their Friends remember the former Wayne County Executive, Page A3.

own – feel the loss just as deeply. McNamara's son, Kevin, of Canton said his father "had a knack for finding the best in people and making people feel important. He had a gift for glib, and liked to talk to anyone he could find. He always said he couldn't believe people thought he was important."

While the official cause of death is listed as heart failure, McNamara had been battling mantle cell lymphoma, a rare form of cancer, for several years.

"His bone marrow was gone because of the chemotherapy, and his heart was only working 20 percent," said Kevin McNamara. "His kidneys shut down about midnight.

"He gathered enough strength to say 'I love you' to



Former Wayne County Executive Ed McNamara, who passed away Sunday morning, "had a knack for finding the best in people and making people feel important," according to his son, Kevin.

the grandchildren," Kevin said. "A minute before he died, he got the biggest smile on his face and was looking at all the kids. We

were all crying ... and smiling ... too."

McNamara's political career started early, when he ran as a

McNamara's son to run for commission

Kevin McNamara, Canton resident and son of former Wayne County Executive Ed McNamara, became Friday the first to file to run for Wayne County Commission.

He filed one day after Wayne County Commissioner's 11th district representative John Sullivan announced that he would not run again for County Commission. Instead, Sullivan will run for a 3rd Circuit Court judgeship.

The filing was also just two days before the senior McNamara died of heart failure on Feb. 19.

protest candidate for the school board in Dearborn Township (now Dearborn Heights) because of a millage increase. Kevin McNamara, who is a member of the Schoolcraft College Board of Trustees, filed Friday with Wayne County Elections Division to run for the commission's 11th district seat, which includes the communities of Canton, Belleville, Sumpter, Van Buren and Wayne. The deadline to file is May 16. Other possible candidates for the commission seat are Canton residents Gerald Law, former State Sen. Loren Bennett, and Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Board of Education President Mark Slavens.

He was elected to the Livonia City Council in 1962, and

PLEASE SEE MCNAMARA; A2

Play a hand for the troops during event

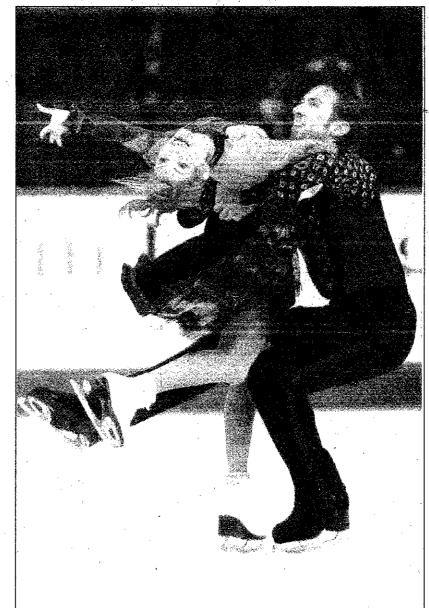
BY KURT KUBAN STAFF WRITER

Canton resident Nicole Kline, a 2000 graduate of Salem High, has organized a poker run Saturday that will include stops at several

Hometown heroes Belbin, Agosto skate their way to silver medals

> BY ED WRIGHT STAFF WRITER

Belbin, 21, lives in Canton while Agosto, 24, is a resident of



A silver-lined wave of excitement flowed through Canton's Arctic Edge ice arena Tuesday, one day after Tanith Belbin and Ben Agosto used their skates to etch their names into the United States Winter Olympics record book.

Belbin and Agosto, who have honed their ice 'I really feel that this dancing routines at medal really belongs to a the Arctic Edge since the summer of lot of people who put in 2003, captured an ice-dancing silver years and years and years medal Mondav night in Torino, of hard work ... and never Italy. It was the first were able to break ice-dancing medal won by an through." American duo since 1976 when Colleen Ben Agosto O'Connor and Jim Silver medal winner Millns earned a bronze.

Skaters who dream of someday following in Belbin and Agosto's silver footsteps trained with an extra zip in their routines Tuesday afternoon on the Arctic Edge's two rinks in the afterglow of their training colleagues' accomplishments.

"It's been pretty exciting around here the past month leading up to the Olympics, but especially the past few days," said Arctic Edge general manager Craig O'Neill, referring to the buzz that has accompanied Belbin and Agosto's medal quest. "And while it's exciting for everybody here at the Arctic Edge, I also think it's been an exciting time for everyone who lives in Canton because everybody feels like one of their own has accomplished something very special." Farmington Hills.

Edging out Belbin and Agosto were two-time world champions Tatiana Navka and Roman Kostomarov of Russia, who earned 200.64 points to the Americans' 196.06. Ukrainians Elena Grushina and Ruslan Goncharov took the bronze with a score of

195.85. "I really feel that this medal really belongs to a lot of people who put in years and years and years of hard work . . . and never were able to break through," Agosto told USA Today

Monday night. The Americans' second-place show-

ing was made possible thanks to a last-minute federal law that was passed during the last week of December that permitted the Canadian-born Belbin to become an American citizen. Athletes must be citizens of the same country to compete together in the Olympics.

"It's been a long year," Belbin told USA Today Monday night. "This is certainly the most challenging performance I've ever given because of all the heightened pressures that come with the Olympic Games and the hurdles that we've had to overcome."

Adrienne Lenda, a coach for the Arctic Figure Skating Club, was one of the first Americans not in Italy to find out about Belbin and Agosto's silver-coated performance, which was completed approximately six hours before it was aired on a tape-delayed basis

PAUL/MICHELLE HARVATH COURTESY OF U.S.FIGURE SKATING

Ben Agosto and Taneth Belbin dance Flamenco during the free dance competition in Torino, Italy. The skating pair, who train at Arctic Edge arena in Canton, won the silver medal Monday.

on NBC. Lenda is the girlfriend of very the skaters' coach, Igor Shpilband.

"Igor called me on his cell phone right after they found out the scores as they were walking to the press conference," Lenda said.

"I was right in the middle of teaching a student, so I couldn't talk long, but he said, 'We got silver, the Russians got gold and the Ukrainians got bronze,' He was ecstatic. I talked to him for quite a

while about 15 minutes later.

"Both Tanith and Ben are great kids. They're friendly, energetic, focused and disciplined. And they lead their own private lives; they're not rink rats. They have a lot of different things in their lives other than skating that are important to them." O'Neill said the Olympics skaters'

success is reflected in the rising

PLEASE SEE SILVER, A4

local VFW and American Legion halls. Proceeds from the event will go to Operation Morale, a non-profit organization she set up to send care packages to American troops currently serving overseas.

Kline said she started Operation Morale last year after getting letters from her husband, Allen Zsuzsics, a petty officer in the U.S. Navy who spent about a year in the Arabian Gulf offering support to American troops in Iraq. In his letters, he told her how bad he felt for the large number of sailors who never received any mail from back home. Since then Operation Morale volunteers have shipped care packages to thousands of troops fighting in Iraq and elsewhere. And it keeps growing.

According to Kline, she currently has care packages for 600 troops from all military branches. The packages include letters from school children, snacks, games, Chapstick, muscle wraps, and other goods frequently needed by the troops in Iraq. Unfortunately, her group doesn't have the funds to pay the \$10 postage to send the packages. That's where the poker run comes in.

In addition to the Mayflower-Gamble Post in Plymouth, other VFW posts participating include the Harris-Kehrer and Bova posts in Westland. There will also be two stops in Dearborn — the American Legion post on Telegraph and the Whiskey Bar and Grill.

Registration for the event is between noon and 2 p.m. at the Bova VFW post in Westland, which is located on Hix Road just south of Warren. At each stop, participants will receive a playing card to use for a poker hand. At 6 p.m., everyone will return to the Bova post, and the player with the best hand will win a prize. There will also be raffles, free pizza, and other activities. "The support for our troops has kind of been slipping, because of other events like Hurricane Katrina. We really need to support them and let them know how important they are," she said.

For more information about the event, call Nicole Kline at (734) 274-1806, or visit the Web site www.operationmorale.com.

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MCNAMARA

FROM PAGE A1

AZ -

eventually served 17 years as mayor of Livonia before serving 16 years as Wayne County executive.

FAMILY CAME FIRST

Kevin McNamara said despite his father's busy political life, "he was always around and coached." But, even when the elder McNamara was working, he found a way to keep his children close.

"If he brought pop, chips and M&M's home, we knew he just volunteered us for something," Kevin McNamara said. "I think he did it to have us along with him."

McNamara's daughter, Colleen McNamara, said her father's death is tough for her because she talked with him every other day.

"Besides being my dad, he was my best friend," she said. "He used to build ice skating rinks for us in the backyard at our home at Six Mile and Inkster (in Livonia). And, considering how busy he was, he always made sure he was hon

As much as McNamara was a father to his children, he was also a father figure to those he helped mentor.

He leaves a much more extended family behind than just the immediate family," said Gov. Jennifer Granholm. "I think we loved him as though he were a father to us."

Granholm was Wayne County corporation counsel when her name surfaced as a possible candidate for state attorney general, the position to which she was elected prior to becoming governor

"I remember exactly where we were sitting (in his office), and he said to me, 'My advice to you is don't do it if it's about you, it's about changing the world," recalled Granholm, who visited McNamara twice before he died. "His first rule was that if you govern well, the politics will take care of themselves.

"He had the confidence and spotted something in me that I didn't even see, and it was so affirming," added Granholm. "He told it like it was, and was very straightforward with people. But, he was also very funny and astute, with an incredibly gentle side to him, an utterly

ne for dinner."	sweetheart of a man."
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POSTAL PERIODICAL I	REQUIREMENTS
The Canton Observer - Publication NO. USPS 663-6	70 Published every Thursday and Sunday.

Periodical postage is paid at Livonia, Michigan 48150.

36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150

Colleen Pobur of Plymouth said accepting a Wayne County position with McNamara was "the smartest thing I ever did."

MENTOR TO MANY

"He assessed his people and figured out what they were best at, even if they didn't know," said Pobur, who was director of concessions and quality assurance during construction of the new McNamara terminal at Detroit Metropolitan Airport. "We were a family, and when you think about how many lives he changed by being our boss ... building an organization that nurtured and developed people. I don't believe there will ever be another organization that did the kinds of things we did in his 16 years as county executive."

McNamara is credited with the \$1.6 billion expansion of Metro Airport, which bears his name. He also formed the Detroit-Wayne County Stadium Authority that built Comerica Park and Ford Field; plus led the construction of the Dickerson jail in Hamtramck, a new juvenile detention facility and medical examiner's office. He took a county that was \$135 million in debt and balanced the budget for 16 consecutive years.

McNamara also inspired many of his employees to pursue careers in public service, including Granholm, former Wayne County Prosecutor and current Detroit Medical Center CEO Mike Duggan, and Wayne County Sheriff Warren Evans. Those he mentored remem-

ber the plaque in his office which read "We can do anything we want as long as nobody cares who gets the credit."

"Some people like being powerful public officials, but he understood what we needed to do to make life better for other people," said Evans. "Ed McNamara was a heavyweight, but he was a down-to-earth person."

Bob Osborn, 84, of Northville Township knew McNamara for 58 years, and often played golf with him at Hilltop Golf Course in Plymouth Township, where McNamara moved after leaving political life.

"Until a few months ago, we'd meet with a couple of friends every Wednesday and play nine holes," said Osborn, who will be a pallbearer at tomorrow's funeral. "We'd (Osborn and his wife, Sharon) have lunch with Ed and Lucille once a week at Doyle's (Tavern in Plymouth). We could meet there and just be private. Ed was just an ordinary sort of guy when you got him away from politics."

Osborn and McNamara met while working at Michigan Bell after both were discharged from the Navy in 1946. In 1963, the two formed a partnership that created the Oasis domed golf complex in Northville.

GOOD FRIEND

"He's helped so many people in his lifetime and never asked for anything back," said Osborn. "He was just interested in helping people develop to the best of their abilities."

As the most powerful Democrat in Michigan, McNamara led the state drives during Bill Clinton's two presidential campaigns.

"There was a time when President Clinton was getting off the plane at Willow Run Airport during a campaign visit," recalled Pobur, "and when he saw Mr. and Mrs. McNamara he opened his arms wide and yelled, 'It's the McNamaras."

The former president, who is out of the country, issued a statement with his condolences to the McNamara family.

One blemish on McNamara's record is the federal government's investigation into potential wrongdoing by his administration, contracts for Metro Airport and campaign contributions.

"It's like living a nightmare," said McNamara in a December 2002 talk to the Plymouth Noon Rotary Club. "I think we've tried very, very hard to run a good county."

No charges were ever filed against McNamara during the

CORRECTION

retirement in 2002. Previously, he was Livonia's mayor from 1970-86, a Livonia councilman from 1962-70 and a school board member in Dearborn Township (now Dearborn Heights) from 1954-59.

McNamara funeral set for Friday

Visitation continues today,

Livonia Mayor Ed McNamara

at Livonia's Neely-Turowski

Funeral Home. Viewing will

take place from 1-9 p.m. at

the funeral home located on

He will also lie in state

Detroit's Most Holy Trinity

Catholic Church before the

10:30 a.m. Burial will be at

Livonia's Parkview Cemetery.

Mr. McNamara, 79, died

early Sunday from heart fail-

Hospital. He had been suffer-

recent weeks, a complication

of his treatments for cancer.

He was diagnosed with lym-

phoma more than two years

A Plymouth Township resi-

dent at the time of his death.

McNamara spent 45 years of

his life as an elected official.

Executive from 1987 until his

Lucille McNamara said her

"He'd bring it home, and we'd

husband would talk with her

often about life at the office.

discuss most everything that

was going on," she said. "But, he

had wonderful, talented people,

so they were able to work out

tial of people.

most things. Ed had a wonder-

ly man," she said. "He loved to

play with his children, and he

Children were a passion for

McNamara. In 1989, McNamara

raised more than \$600,000 and

provided assistance to 200 stu-

loved his grandchildren."

established the McNamara

Scholarship Fund, which has

dents. After leaving office in

2002, McNamara used that

Most Holy Trinity, where he

ed his Irish heritage.

money to begin a scholarship fund for the preschool through

sixth-grade Montessori school at

often went to Mass and celebrat-

"When Ed began emptying

ful talent for realizing the poten-

"And, he was wonderful fami-

He was Wayne County

course of the investigation.

ure at Detroit's Harper

ing from pneumonia in

ago.

funeral, scheduled to begin at

Friday for one hour at

Five Mile west of Middlebelt.

Feb. 23, for former Wayne

County Executive and

The Detroit native served two years in the U.S. Navy and earned a political science degree from the University of Detroit. He worked 22 years for the Michigan Bell Telephone Co. until he was elected full-time mayor of Livonia in 1970.

Also in that year, he made an unsuccessful run for lieutenant governor. His running mate Sander Levin, now a Congressman, lost to William Milliken by 46,000 votes.

McNamara is survived by his wife of 57 years, Lucille, five children and five grandchildren.

Memorials in Mr. McNamara's honor can be made to the American Heart Association or the Edward H. McNamara Scholarship Fund

his political war chest after leaving office, he gave \$35,000 to establish the scholarship fund for the school," said the Rev. Russ Kohler, pastor of Most Holy Trinity. "The next year, because of Ed's donation, someone gave \$100,000. And, for the past few years, there has been a charity golf event at St. John's (golf course in Plymouth Township) that raises about \$80,000 a year for the school."

Friday's funeral will begin at 10:30 a.m. with tributes by the McNamara family, Granholm and Duggan, with the funeral Mass commencing at 11 a.m. featuring the Holy Trinity children's choir. The church seats about 1,200 people, with the service to be broadcast for the overflow crowd inside a nearby union hall.

"I think Ed's real legacy is that people who worked for him ended up with careers and professions, when all they originally wanted was a job," said Kohler.

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Dangerous roads. Slippery sidewalks. No milk in the fridge.

Please recycle this newspaper

The photo of Scott Klinker in the Feb. 16 At Home section was by Justin Maconchie.



McNamara in tales and quips - over the years

Bates bucks Big Ed

The four corners at Farmington/Five Mile were once home to three gas stations and Bates Hamburgers.

In the 1970s, city officials, led by McNamara, wanted to create a downtown area at the intersection – so they tried to "entice" each business to move. "I told Harry Tatigian (then city attorney), 'You get rid of those gas stations and get rid of Bates," McNamara said.

The gas stations sold and moved, but Noble Bates wouldn't leave his gold mine location. City officials decided condemning the site would have been too costly, so the city's famous burger joint stayed put.

Pitching and dunking

Among his accomplishments in Livonia, Ed McNamara is credited with helping found the Livonia Spree in the 1973 – a festival set up to celebrate the city's birthday in 1950 (and thus rhyming "Spree 23").

McNamara was quick to credit others. "I come up with the ideas, and then I get out of the way, because I don't know what the hell to do next," he said.

At the first Spree, the mayor knew what to do. He pitched – versus Livonia Supt. George Garver – during a softball game between city and school district officials. No word on who won that game.

McNamara also took another leadership role at Spree – spending time in the dunk tank at the festival.

In the driver's seat?

McNamara always liked to tell the story that when he ran unsuccessfully for lieutenant governor on the 1970 Democratic ticket – with now-U.S. Rep. Sander Levin running for governor – McNamara's driver and aide was a young Jim Blanchard, who later won election himself as Michigan governor.

Uniting Italians

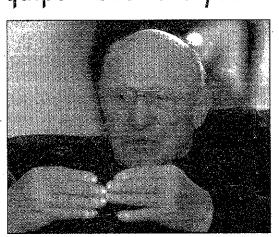
An Irish-American, McNamara actually had a role in forming the Italian American Club of Livonia almost 30 years ago.

In an Observer story in the fall of 2004, Mary Galasso told of her friendship with Mary Panacki and other Italian-Americans: "We first got together for a fund-raiser for Ed McNamara, Oct. 13, 1977. After we said, why don't we get together as a club? You had to have established your heritage. We wanted to promote and keep the culture of the Italian people."

What's in a name?

Colosi Sicilia '03

In an *Observer* story from 1984, then-Mayor McNamara was asked about being remembered after his service. The man who led Livonia into maturity said he didn't need anything to be



Ed McNamara's political career started as a protest candidate for the school board in Dearborn Township (now Dearborn Heights) and ended when he retired after 16 years as Wayne County executive.

remembered by. He was asked about Bicentennial Park on Seven Mile. "I feel I almost brought that park about single-handedly. But I don't expect it to ever be called McNamara Park."

In December 1990, the city council voted to officially rename the park Edward H. McNamara Bicentennial Park.

Some people might think the city's 160-unit senior housing complex – McNamara Towers – was named for him. It's actually named in honor of the former U.S. Sen. Patrick McNamara of Michigan, who served from 1955-66.

Dealing with a loss

McNamara's trademark humor showed in his description, in a story years ago, of how he lost a state Senate race in 1965. He blamed the boundary lines. "If Christ had been a Democrat, he couldn't have won in that district," he said.

Still quipping

As Livonia's former mayor, McNamara still made appearances – even showing up at Mayor Jack Engebretson's State of the City last year. Last fall, he was among the first people inaugurated into a City Hall of Fame, showing up to accept the honor and share some humor.

McNamara reminded listeners how the controversial Wonderland property had once been an airport. "Neighbors would like to see it back that way," he mused. "What's an airport compared to Wal-Mart?"

McNamara also recalled how Sister Francilene of Madonna University once asked him what it was like to switch political jobs from Livonia to Wayne County. His reply: "It's kind of like going from a convent to a house of prostitution ... And she never asked me again." Compiled by Dave Varga, from Observer files and staff reports

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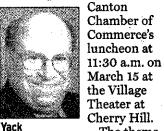
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LOCAL NEWS

State of the Township address

Canton Township Supervisor Tom Yack will deliver his annual State of the Township address at the



The theme of Yack's speech will be "Canton: Behind the Scenes" for 2006. Yack's program will include an informative video presentation of the behind the scenes efforts in the township. Yack has been Canton's Supervisor since 1988.

The luncheon is open to chamber members and the public. Cost is \$20 per person, and reservations are necessary. Admission includes networking opportunity, full buf-fet luncheon, and program. Reservations can be made by contacting the chamber at (734) 453-4040 or visiting the chamber's online registration form at

www.cantonchamber.com/eve ntsform.asp.

Basketball raffle

The Plymouth-Canton Kiwanis Breakfast Club is raffling off two tickets for the first and second rounds of the NCAA Basketball tournament to be held at the Palace of Auburn Hills.

The tickets will be good for

AROUND CANTON all games played March 17 and March 19 and are valued at \$360. Raffle tickets are

being sold for \$10 each and only 250 tickets will be sold. The drawing takes place 8 a.m. March 7 at the Plymouth Cultural Center; you don't have to be present to win.

Proceeds from the raffle benefit the programs of the Plymouth-Canton Kiwanis Breakfast Club. Projects planned include donating dic-tionaries to all third-graders in Plymouth-Canton schools, scholarship for a graduating senior and support for First Step, Angel Tree Prison **Ministries and Salvation** Army Adopt-a-Family programs.

For more information email Deborah Torzy at dtorzy@hotmail.com or call (734) 453-9904.

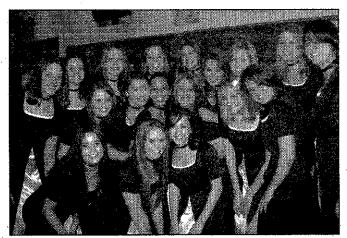
Army grad

Elizabeth "Libbey" Olson, a 2002 graduate of Plymouth Christian



on Nov. 18. She also completed her advance individual training at Ft. Jackson in January, becoming a chaplain's assistant. She is currently stationed at Ft. Riley, Kan. Olson is the daughter of Stephen and Janet Olson of

Canton. She joins her father



Madrigal magnificence Plymouth-Canton High School's Madrigal Choir achieved a Division One

Rating at the MSVMA High School Solo and Ensemble Festival. With this rating the ladies will progress to the State Solo and Ensemble Festival, which takes place at Eastern Michigan University April 7-8. Soloists Maggie Burr and Kristin Cosens also received a first division rating and will be performing at the State Festival as well.

and grandfather as an Army volunteer. Her father served in Vietnam and her grandfather, Richard G. Olson of

Dearborn, in World War II.

'Golfapalooza'

The Jen Possible Golfapalooza is scheduled for May 5 at Fellows Creek in Canton. The event is a fundraiser for Jennifer Hayse, a Visteon engineer and a mother of two, who learned she had breast cancer in 2003. Proceeds will help the family pay for cancer treatments.

The golfing event, which begins with a shotgun, 4-

person scramble at 9 a.m. The cost is \$95 per person and dinner for \$30. Entry fee includes 18 holes of golf, a continental breakfast and lunch at the turn. Dinner to follow. Other fundraising opportunities include a silent auction, raffle drawings, a putting competition, skins, Texas hold'em holes, and more. Registration deadline is

April 7.

To reserve a spot, contact Todd Laird at (313) 755-0182 or Mike Michela at (313) 722-1018. To learn more about Jennifer's story or to make a donation, visit www.jenpossible.us.

Frank Chrzanowski Chrzanowski, 81. died Feb. 15. G

DEATHS

Clarkston, died Feb. 19.

Moore, 79, of Canton, died.

Park, 80, formerly of South Lyon, died

Pickens, 74, of Troy, died Feb. 16.

Ryan, 69, of Pickney, died Feb. 19.

Trainor, 81, formerly of Royal Oak, died

Wibel, 21, of West Bloomfield, died Feb.

Donna K. (McKinley) Zimmerman

Zimmerman, 76, died Feb. 20.

Scott, of Wayne, died Feb. 16.

Pastor J. Earl Moore

Velma E. "Pat" Park

Patsy Ruth Pickens

Eugene E. Prevost

Prevost, 77, died Feb. 16.

Feb. 6. 👒

Beverly Ryan

Tom Trainor

Feb. 17.

20.

Martha M. Scott

Ashley Ann Wibel

Joyce Ann Greenwell Greenwell, 58, of Westland, died Feb. 14.

Ann M. Henry

Henry, 82, of Plymouth, died Feb. 20. Eric S. Holliday

Holliday, 43, of Southfield, died Feb. 4. **Robert Arthur Husted** Husted, 53, died Feb. 20.

John Romeo Lanzon Lanzon, 78, formerly of Garden City,

died Feb. 20. Patricia A. Lewis (nee DeBruyne) Lewis, 64, of Howell, died Feb. 21.

George M. Losie Losie, 92, of Howell, died Feb. 19.

Lorriane Mastrofini Mastrofini, 73, of Livonia, died Feb. 11.

Edward H. McNamara McNamara, 79, formerly of Livonia,

died Feb. 19. **John Vincent Mitchell**

Mitchell, 18, of Livonia, died Feb. 18. Christina A. "Chris" Moore

Moore, 45, of Waterford, formerly of

SILVER FROM PAGE A1

popularity of the facility's learn-to-skate program.

"What they've done has brought great awareness to the arena and what we have to offer," O'Neill said. "During every Olympic year, there's an increase in the number of skaters, but it's even more this

found inside today's newspaper in Passages on page C8. year. A year ago, we had about 140 in our learn-to-skate program. Now, we're over 250." O'Neill said he expects Belbin and Agosto to return

Complete paid obituaries can be

around March 1 to begin train-ing for the World Championships that are scheduled for later next month. "After the World

Championships, they'll go on tour in April and May," he said, "so they don't get a lot of time to rest."

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A4 (C)

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LOCAL NEWS

A6 Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, February 23, 2006 (C)

Class size affected by plan cuts Keeping King's dream alive

BY TONY BRUSCATO STAFF WRITER

Middle school class-size increases, additional split classrooms, the end to field trip transportation and increases in lunch prices are all part of a plan by the Plymouth-Canton Board of Education to trim nearly \$943,000 from the 2006-07 budget.

In the first of what are expected to be several budget sessions before final recommendations are approved in early June, trustees gave the preliminary go-ahead for the administration to proceed with the cuts. They include (potential savings in parantheses):

■ Split classes (\$555,565): The administration indicates there are 15 possible split class opportunities which could save 9.5 teaching positions and their salaries.

Middle school class size increases (\$118,014): Raising the middle school class size from 28.75 students per class to 29.5 could lower the middle school full-time staff by two teachers.

Administrative emeritus program (\$116,098): A program that saves a portion of salaries and benefit costs of administrators who announce plans to leave within a year.

Field trip reduction (\$78,274): The district would discontinue transportation for field trips, which is paid for by school groups. Administrators say it would reduce the number of miles put on buses, and ultimately cut down on the number of new buses purchased. Schools could still contract with private transportation services.

Lunch price increases (\$45,000): Elementary lunch-

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es would increase from \$2.25-\$2.50; middle school to remain at \$2.75; high school to increase from \$2.75-\$3.

High school athletic leadership reduction (\$30,000); All three athletic directors are expected to receive layoff notices at the end of March, with their salaries and duties to be renegotiated.

"The class size increases are the hardest for me," said vicepresident Judy Mardigian, a staunch supportér of lower class sizes for nearly a decade.

'This is a modest change, but something we don't want to do. My concern is where are we going to be two years out, what kind of changes are we going to have to make then?"

At the same time, the school board approved \$484,000 in additions to next year's budget, including \$180,132 for three full-time reading specialists at the Title 1 elementary schools; \$122,599 for an arts coordinator: \$122,599 for an assistant principal at the Park; and \$59,007 for a middle school intervention teacher.

The preliminary net budget reduction is \$458,600. District officials say that would still leave a budget deficit of \$6.46 million, which doesn't include potential salary

increases for the unionized employees, including the Plymouth-Canton Education Association, which represents 1,100 teachers.

Administrators expect to use the fund balance to erase the remainder of the 2006-07 deficit, which would leave approximately \$2.8 million to face a projected 2007-08 budget deficit of 5.6 million.

"The things we picked are the last line of cuts before we cut into the core of education," said Superintendent Jim Ryan. "I think the next line of cuts goes into the being of what we really are at Plymouth-Canton."

Part of the \$120.2 million bond issue on May 2, if passed by voters, includes \$2.3 million to reimburse the general fund budget for Canton property on Cherry Hill road for a new middle school. The district is also hopeful to reap financial benefits of selling 25 acres of land at Joy and Beck roads in Canton.

Working in the Plymouth-Canton's favor is a projected 500 new students next year, which would boost the district's state funding by \$2.8 million.

tbruscato@hometownlife.com (734) 459-2700

STAFF WRITER

When Coretta Stott King, the widow of Dr. Martn Luther King, Jr., died Jan 31, Canton resident Michael Dudley started asking himself questions.

"For four decades, she was the keeper of her husband's dream, the face behind his message and mission," Dudley said. Now it's our turn to pick up the dream and make it reality, he added.

"Where do we go from here?" he said.

That question will be discussed at a presentation at The Village Theater at Cherry Hill's Biltmore Room this weekend.

The Sunday evening event will start at 7 p.m., when a memorial observance for King will be held. Then Dudley and his wife, Andrea (both are ministers who have established Dudley Ministries) will present inspirational music and messages from the civil rights movement. "What I'm hoping is that this evening is the launch pad for a dialogue," he said.

Dudley's interpretation of King's dream is really in the roots of the American Dream life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. What's required to achieve the dream, he said, is guality education for all, equal employment opportunities, and everyone to succeed.

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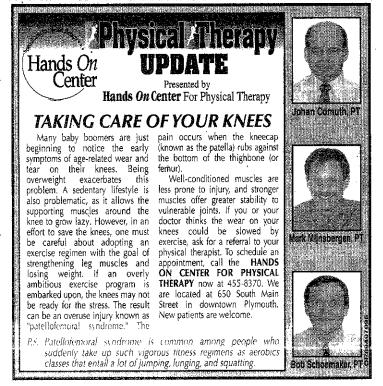
"Canton's assets provide the potential for change," he said, adding that because Canton is increasingly diverse and has those educational opportunities which lead to professional and economic success, as well as a strong cultural community, the township could serve as a model for communities who haven't come as far.

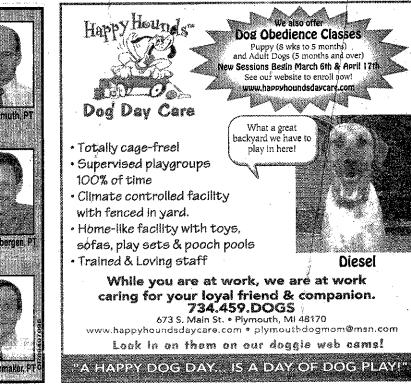
"First we need to create an awareness that the work is largely unfinished," he said. "Many of our social ills are systemic."

But beyond awareness is action, Dudley added. And that's what he hopes will happen if dialogue like the one he's planning Sunday can occur.

"If everyone just does their part, we will make significant strides in creating a model for our generation." he said

The King tribute, "Keepers of the Dream," is free and open to the public. Doors open/at 6:30 p.m., and the photo exhibit, Countdown to Eternity," a chronicle of the final three vears of Dr. Martin Luther King's work, will be available for viewing. The Village Theater at Cherry Hill is located at 50400 Cherry Hill in Canton. For more information, e-mail Michael Dudley at dudleyministries@yahoo.com.





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EDWARD H. McNAMARA (1926-2006)



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Wayne County Executive Ed McNamara and golf legend Jack Nicklaus at McNamara's annual golf outing at Hawthorne Valley Golf Course in Dearborn Heights.



Wayne County Executive Ed McNamara and U.S. Rep. John Dingell talk during a fund-raiser for President Bill Clinton. At right is Bryan Amann, a former county commissioner who is currently an attorney living in Canton Township.



Ed McNamara and Gov. John Engler attended the opening of the Schoolcraft College McDowell Center in 1994.





Ed and Lucille McNamara were married June 26, 1948. Lucille was at his side throughout his long and storied political career.

McNamara gives his sister, Mona Sikora, a big hug during an election party.

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O Deserver O PINION

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, February 23, 2006

A8

(C)

Van Buren bond deserves support

Voters in the Van Buren Public Schools district will head to the polls Tuesday to decide whether to approve a \$111 million bond to build a new, state-of-the-art high school in Van Buren Township. If built, the school will replace Belleville High School, which dates back to 1926.

It has been well-documented that Canton residents living within the district boundaries, including about 3,000 registered voters, haven't been very satisfied with VBPS and have even tried to defect to Plymouth-Canton Schools. But the state of Michigan has made it clear that isn't going to happen.

Van Buren officials, still stinging from the last bond defeat, tried to include the public as much as possible in the planning process for this bond proposal. Although the bond would be a fairly significant tax increase — about \$400 per year for the owner of a \$275,000 home — it deserves the support of not only voters districtwide, but also by those in Canton.

There is no question that Canton residents have some justified complaints, including the fact that their children must travel a great distance to get to school. But there is also no question that Belleville High School is an inadequate facility, especially in a district that is seeing tremendous growth. And much of that growth is in Canton, where another 1,400 homes are planned.

In return for voters' support, district officials must acknowledge the need for a new elementary school in Canton. The district already owns land on Beck Road near Michigan Avenue, and should make this a priority. They cannot continue to take their Canton residents for granted.

At the same time, the Canton residents must do what is best for their children. If they are going to attend VBPS, they need to get the best education possible. A new high school will help them do that.

McNamara touched lives, made county a better place

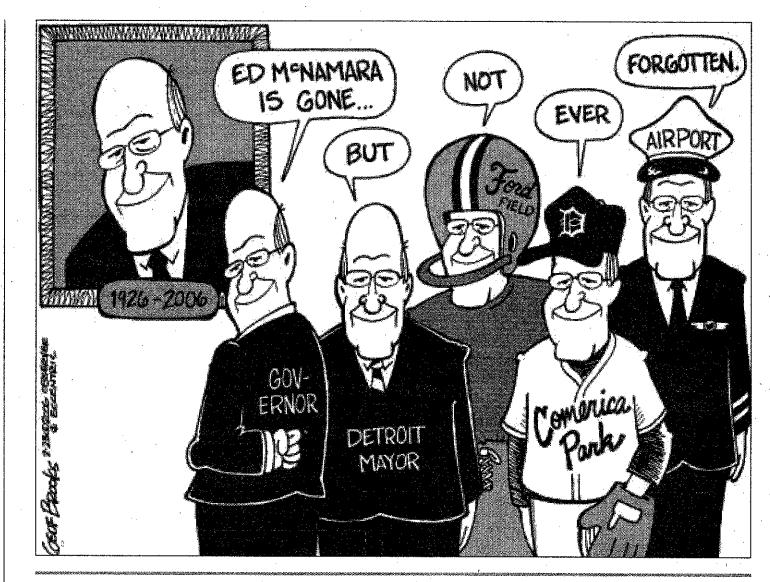
Whoever said "ours is a government of laws, not of men" didn't know much about government. The best constitution, charter, laws and ordinances are no good unless leaders of wisdom and character administer them.

That's what the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers editorial page in 1982 said in our endorsement of Livonia Mayor Edward H. McNamara in the Democratic primary for Wayne County executive.

McNamara went on to the lose that race. Fortunately for Wayne County and southeastern Michigan, he came back four years later and the rest is political history.

McNamara, 79, died last Sunday in Harper Hospital surrounded by family.

Although McNamara will be remembered for the terminal at Detroit Metropolitan Airport which bears his name, the McNamara legacy is larger than a single building and a single office.



Bond election too costly

Now that Michigan election laws have changed school precincts polling sites to the regular election precinct locations, it is interesting to see how little the public school districts care to minimize the cost that this change entails. With many districts crying broke, districts such as Van Buren Public Schools have forged ahead with bond elections that do not have any other issues on the ballot. The result is that election costs are borne entirely on these school districts. In Canton Township alone, the cost is estimated to be about \$20,000 for a VBPS election, Since VBPS spreads into five municipalities, it could be suggested that this election will cost more than \$100,000.

Considering that this election could have been held in May, this is an unnecessary expense that VBPS could have easily avoided. This is a district that has said it cannot afford to change light bulbs in classrooms. How can it afford this costly election? If this bond is bassed, it will roll these expenses into the bond. In effect, onto the the taxpayers. It is bad enough to pay once, but districts have a habit of floating bonds again and again until they pass. Had these same election laws been active in 2004, the cost of trying to pass a bond for a new high school would have exceeded \$200,000 in two elections. Whether a resident is for or against this bond, voters should be outraged by the actions of the VBPS board. There is a May election for two seats on the VBPS board, which will again cost the district dearly. They could have easily saved this expense had there been some fiscal responsibility on their part. Evidently, this board has little interest in curbing administrative costs, at a time when they should be making wise use of every penny they get from taxpayers. For those Canton residents living in VBPS, remember to vote Feb. 28. This election may serve one good point: A strong turnout by Canton residents will show VBPS that they have a large opinionated electorate in their Canton precincts that cannot be ignored.

LETTERS

daunting task of holding the government responsible and accountable to the people.

I know for a fact that the editor, Mr. Kuban, does support the war on terror. He supports our vets — current, past and present — and comes from a family of vets and patriots. His disagreeing with me about the necessity of being in Iraq is not being un-American — it's being a responsible and accountable American citizen (as well as a good journalist).

Lastly, I have never seen greater support for American vets than from the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers.

I'll do my best to defend your First Amendment right. You do your best to continue to exercise it. I would be sorely upset if you didn't because as a Marine, I no longer have that luxury. My mission accomplishment and coming home safely from Iraq may depend upon it.

Todd Caccamo Canton Township trustee

Trustee's decision irresponsible

The only cure for this that I can see is either to have officers continuously posted there to stop or curb the abuse before a really terrible accident happens or to take a tip from Texas and think about putting a curb on the left side of the right lane from Warren going south on Haggerty to enforce the right lane cheaters to turn right or lose the bottom of their cars.

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This is an ongoing, everyday problem. I know. That is my route to work and many times I have had people from the right lane try to drive through the side of my car to take my place in the line that I have been waiting in for the light to change.

Barb Boley Wayne

Cheney is hypocrite

So, the day that Vice President Dick Cheney shot Harry Whittington was one of the worst days of his life. What about the day he sent American servicemen

As county executive, he will be remembered for the two new sports stadiums in downtown Detroit. He was in part a reason baseball's All-Star Game in 2005 and more recently Super Bowl XL chose Detroit. The new youth home, the new county morgue and the massive cleanup of the Rouge River are all examples of his leadership.

Closer to home, McNamara will be remembered as mayor and champion of Livonia, one of the state's largest and most prosperous communities. After three terms on the Livonia City Council, McNamara challenged an entrenched incumbent and became the first Livonia city councilman to be elected mayor.

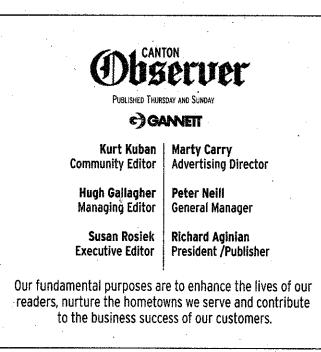
A proven administrator and one who ran a tight fiscal ship, McNamara displayed the skill and tenacity that would propel him onto the county scene in the late 1980s.

McNamara was good for Livonia and Livonia was good for McNamara. He had a vision for developing the city. Along with other elected leaders and advisers he liked to call his "kitchen cabinet," McNamara set out to make Livonia one of the state's largest, most prosperous and livable cities.

A powerful presence and political personality — even in his early political years — McNamara was a no-nonsense, pragmatic politician with a quick wit and an infectious smile.

A guiding force in the development of Livonia, he made sure the city would be a good place to live, work and play.

Ed McNamara leaves a legacy rich in accomplishment. Yet friends inside and out of the political arena will remember him for his genuine kindness and quick wit. Over the years as he honed his political skills, the lessons and values of his early life — the importance of family of friends — were just as high on his list of accomplishments. Ed McNamara touched thousands of lives and made them better. He will be missed.



Brian Kositz Canton

Observer supports troops

Thanks for your support, Canton Observer. Now let me support you. I dread the day when the press or the people stop questioning the government. Questioning the purpose for a war or the execution thereof, or any number of other issues, is essential to our liberty and freedom. Not posing these questions would be unpatriotic and a disservice to our founding fathers, fallen warriors and our fellow Americans. Blind patriotism is not being American - it's being irresponsible. Many an evil plan around the world has been cloaked in nationalism and blind patriotism. Blind patriotism makes me think of the swastika-lined streets of Germany in the 1940s. Liberty and freedom come with the critical and

I have to respectfully disagree with Kurt Kuban's piece "Caccamo's decision to join up should make us all proud," Feb. 16.

To me, Todd Caccamo's running for the office of township trustee, re-enlisting in the Marines and then not resigning from his trustee position so someone else could be appointed, is plainly irresponsible and shows his lack of concern for the township he serves.

Some say, and I agree, that this is a political maneuver. He ran his original campaign for trustee wrapped in an American flag and his re-enlistment is just more of the same.

Caccamo's antics while on the board of trustees betrays his immaturity and his decision to re-enlist and not resign his trustee seat proves it.

I spent four years in the military during Vietnam and Mr. Caccamo does not fool me one bit.

> Janusz M. Szyszko Canton

Intersection becoming dangerous

The intersection of Warren and Haggerty is becoming both a frustration and a danger to travelers in Canton. There is a posted sign in the right lane going north on Haggerty at Warren that says, "Right Lane Must Turn Right." This sign is continually ignored during both rush hours each and every day, except for the rare occasions that the Canton police decide to post an officer there. Inquire of them and I know they will be able to tell you that they were able to ticket at least one and more than likely more abusers of the law when they were there.

I have seen many cars bully their way back into the line of traffic from the right lane after passing the numerous cars that were waiting through several lights because other cars have already cut the line off at the intersection from that lane.

This poses a great danger and is a traffic violation — illegal lane usage. and women to Iraq to die for a lie? How does that stack up on the scale of bad days?

Cheney's and Bush's hypocrisy and lack of principles take my breath away. They purport to support our Constitution while doing their level best to destroy the freedoms it protects through illegal wire taps, illegal detentions, the abolition of free speech and the intermingling of religion and government. They purport to promote democracy while undermining free elections if they don't like the result (even here in the U.S. — remember who really won in 2000?).

Those who wield power should look into their hearts before they take actions that affect other people's lives. It's easy for someone like Bush or Cheney to send someone else's child to die so they and their wealthy friends can make even more money from oil. It's easy for them to pretend (perhaps even to themselves) that their motives are pure.

But as Cheney just found out, it's not quite so easy when it's your own hand pulling the trigger.

> Rachel McCormack Canton

SHARE YOUR OPINIONS

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"We told him we're running one of the most efficient school districts in the state and we're still running a budget with problems ... He listened, but didn't indicate he had any plans to change anything. I wish somebody would finally address the inequities of Proposal A."

QUOTABLE

- Barry Simescu, Plymouth-Canton school board member, on his conversation with Dick DeVos, Republican candidate for governor

OTHER OPINIONS

McNamara led his band and Domestic eavesdropping could state is better because of it

wasn't surprised at the news that Ed McNamara had passed away. After all, he was 79 years old, had undergone a quadruple bypass and suffered from lymphoma. But I felt a real sense of hurt, because Mac was one of the giants of Michigan politics and somebody I've known for more than 40 years.

Ed McNamara was already on the Livonia City Council when I started my newspaper career back in 1965. I wrote the editorial in the Livonia Observer in 1970 that endorsed him in his upset victory against incumbent Livonia Mayor Harvey Moelke. Mac once said, "There's no greater honor than to be mayor of your hometown."



He was right, and during his 16 years as mayor, he took Livonia from a struggling suburb whose most notable feature was a race track to one of the most thriving cities in Michigan. When he won the race for

Phil Power

Wayne County executive in 1986. I couldn't have been more pleased. Most people don't remember - or don't want to remember - /

what Wayne County was like back in the 1980s. Broke. Disorganized. Badly managed. Largely corrupt. An embarrassment to the entire state.

McNamara put Michigan's biggest county back on track. He fixed the budget mess, balancing the books for 13 straight years. He led the effort to save the Rouge River, once indistinguishable from a sewer, and he drove the negotiations that led to the building of Comerica Park and Ford Field in downtown Detroit.

And he was the prime mover in building the gleaming new McNamara terminal that has made Detroit Metropolitan Airport one of the very best in the country.

Great achievements, all.

But as I reflect on Mac's career, I'm drawn to less obvious parts of his legacy that are, in fact, more important.

First, people. Possibly because they tend to think mostly about themselves, most political powers never develop a farm team. Ed McNamara recognized and promoted a group of able men and women who will serve Michigan for many years to come.

He launched the careers of Jennifer Granholm, once Wayne County corporation counsel, then Michigan attorney general and now governor; Mike Duggan, former Wayne County prosecutor and now CEO of Detroit Medical Center; Saul Green, former U.S. attorney; and Freman Hendrix, the former deputy mayor for Dennis Archer who was

All haircuts!

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defeated last November by another McNamara protégé, Kwame Kilpatrick.

Some might call McNamara a kingmaker. I prefer to think of him as a very rare politician who recognized that one of the primary obligations of a good political boss is to find, recruit, motivate and protect a cadre of able people who can continue his work.

McNamara had a good eye for talent, and what was most unusual for a traditional and proudly Irish politician of his generation, his team was diverse: men and women, white and black, urban and suburban. His style was down to earth and unassuming. He was never one to read, let alone believe, in his own press releases.

His first question was always, "How do we get this done?" and he then went after his goals with energy and creativity and passion. He had a quick temper, and his quarrels repeatedly and memorably with the UAW and Detroit Mayor Coleman Young - were legendary.

In that context, I've always felt the Detroit newspapers were unfair to McNamara, constantly criticizing him for money-raising improprieties that eventually led to trouble with the law. He was never shy about raising money, in large part because he recognized the only way you got things done in rough-andtumble Wayne County politics was to have a stash bigger than anybody else's.

I remember calling him at home at 3 p.m. one summer afternoon in 1970 from Grand Rapids, where gubernatorial candidate Sander Levin was trying to decide who to pick as his running mate.

"If you want to be the nominee for lieutenant governor, you'd better get up here as quickly as you can," I told him. "Don't know if I want to do that," he answered. "I want to talk to Lucille (his wife). I'll call you back.

Within 10 minutes he called back and was in Grand Rapids in two hours. John O'Meara, now a federal judge, and I spent two hours grilling him in a stuffy room in the old Pantlind Hotel. He passed – and brought his own Irish wit to a narrowly losing campaign.

Along with Gov. John Engler, Ed McNamara was Michigan's most capable and powerful politician in recent memory. He created a machine, but the machine got done what needed to be done. He was a kingmaker, but his people have turned out to be able and far-seeing. He was personally down-to-earth, but his vision was far-reaching.

I'm sorry he's gone. We sure need people like him today.

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.

be case of history repeating

he U.S. Congress finally got around to holding its hearings on the matter of

eavesdropping on Americans. When President George W. Bush made the statement that a court order was not necessary in order to wiretap the telephones of American citizens, it raised a few eyebrows. However, I don't doubt that a select few in Washington knew about this before it broke in the press.

Personally, when I heard that eavesdropping on telephone conversations was taking place, my reaction was just simply, "it's been done before." What I don't understand is the

number of people I talk to who act like this has never gone on in America before. Well, it has.

When history repeats, we seem to be left scrambling to find the precedent. What did our forefathers do when they faced this issue? Did they suffer any consequences for their actions? Or did they escape punishment from

In the 1950s, television journalist Edward R. Murrow went head-to-head with and exposed Sen. Joseph McCarthy and his nonstellar tactics used against Americans. During the time that McCarthyism was in place, many careers and reputations were ruined when American citizens were accused of being communist and/or having an association with the Communist Party.

Americans were spied on and followed and harassed and threatened and traumatized during the McCarthy era.

McCarthy was a man who clearly misused his power and authority, all under the cloak of ridding America of communists. Eventually, he was exposed for his misdeeds and soon ended his terror on Americans. But by then, the damage was done.

J. Edgar Hoover became the head of the FBI in 1924 and during his tenure brought eavesdropping to an art form. Hoover conducted undercover surveillance on numerous Americans and distrusted many around him.

During the 1960s, Hoover's wiretapping list included notable Americans such as Dr. Martin Luther King, Malcolm X, both John Personally, when I heard that eavesdropping on telephone conversations was taking place, my reaction was just simply, 'it's been done before.' What I don't understand is the number of people I talk to who act like this has never gone on in America before.

(C) A9

and Robert Kennedy and even Eleanor Roosevelt, whom he despised for her muchtoo-liberal views. And that was just the short list

The 1970s brought more of the same with America's all-time favorite self-proclaimed non-crook: President Richard M. Nixon. It was not that long ago when our television screens were plastered with images of hotel break-ins and high-level cover-ups and I remember the press being outraged.

And when the press was outraged, it prompted the American people to be the same. It was unthinkable that an American president could conduct himself in such a manner.

The oval office was Nixon's personal playground for taping without people's permission or even their knowledge. The White House tapes quickly became his undoing andleft Nixon a broken and shamed man.

History has given us many examples and we Americans have to be aware that no matter what the disguise, whether it be war, or the so-called threat of communist or unfore²⁵ seen invaders of our land, our rights need to be protected.

If our rights are not protected we run the risk of not having any rights at all. When that happens, we will no longer be able to call ourselves Americans.

I once heard it said that "Those who do not learn the lessons of history are doomed to repeat the mistakes of history." I hope we have learned our lessons, this time.

Bobbie Jones is a Belleville resident. She can be reached via e-mail at workhard36@aol.com.

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Bobbie

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COUNTY NEWS

Patterson: Public 'rage' over zoo vote may lead to a deal

BY ALEX LUNDBERG AND JULIE BROWN STAFF WRITERS

-A10

(*)

The Detroit City Council may have rejected a plan to turn operations of the Detroit Zoo over to its own zoological society but the resulting public outrage at the zoo's possible closure may give the institution another shot.

The Detroit City Council voted 7-2 Saturday night to reject a plan proposed by Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick to allow the Detroit Zoological Society to take over management of the zoo in Royal Oak. The council vote came just a bill authorizing \$4 million in state aid expired Saturday. The aid was contingent on council approving the plan to turn operations over to the society.

As of press time, the council was reconsidering its decision with a re-vote expected sometime early next week.

The zoo could close as early as May if an agreement isn't reached.

Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson said the Detroit Zoo is a beloved regional asset (second only to Mackinac Island) and it would be a shame to see it close.

But, solutions out of the county complex in Pontiac for anything in the Detroit City Council's sphere of influence are never going to be wellreceived.

"If Oakland County gets involved and comes up with a plan it'll be DOA," Patterson said. "There's an animus on the council to anything involved with Oakland County."

He called the plan to turn the zoo's operations over to the Detroit Zoological Society a "win-win" for everyone involved; Detroit retains ownership, the zoo's budget shortfalls are picked up and the taxpayers don't take a hit. But. because of the antipathy he described, the council would rather risk closing the venue than cede any control.

Which is why, he said, there may be good news on the horizon.

"The council underestimated the public's reaction," Patterson said. "Rarely have I seen such an outpouring of rage from taxpayers."

All of this, he said, is just brinksmanship and short-lived at that. When Mayor Kwame

Kilpatrick comes back from his trip to Africa - and the full extent of resident feeling about the zoo is understood by the city council - Patterson said he's confident there will be a deal put together.

State Rep. Glenn Anderson, D-Westland, thinks the society taking over operations is sound. "I'm hopeful we'll continue to have that in the southeast Michigan area," Anderson said of the zoo.

He was in committee Tuesday morning and hadn't heard a lot of zoo-related comments in the state House, but anticipated a flood of e-mails from concerned residents. (Monday was the Presidents Day holiday.) Anderson believes the Detroit City Council will reassess its actions.

"Reality sometimes forces you to do other things." He understands the council's reluctance to hand over zoo operations, but believes the zoological society has the zoo's best interests at heart and will be good caretakers.

"I don't know that I would say there is" a racial element to the council decision, Anderson said. "They've got a huge deficit I know to deal with." The state's funds are limited as well, he added.

"I'm certainly hopeful things will be worked out," Anderson said. "I think things will be worked out, that the zoo will be saved."

Don and Elaine Bain of Plymouth Township, members of the Detroit Zoological Society, were upset by the council's decision. Don Bain described it as a "giant political

mess." He suggested a regional

millage to support the facility.

Elaine Bain, who teaches eighth-grade English at East Middle School in the Plymouth-Canton district, shares her husband's concerns. "You can't come back if you close yourself down," she said of Detroit.

"I don't think the City Council acted responsibly. They chose to care more about themselves."

Her students had thoughts on possible zoo closing:

Brendan Zarem, 13, of Canton: "I think it's very disturbing. There are a lot of kids who will be missing out on the experience."

Ashley Hoener, 14, of Canton: "I think it's unfair that Mayor Kilpatrick spent money on fixing Detroit for the Super Bowl," but not on zoo animals. She enjoys visiting the zoo, usually with her mom.

Cassie Hardin, 13, of Canton: "I was very surprised. I have so many memories there." She has learned a lot at the zoo, and goes with her dad to see the gorillas. She's learned about reptiles and how to treat animals.

2 S 12



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SBT effort extended

BY ALEX LUNDBERG STAFF WRITER

Vowing to give his repeal of the Single Business Tax ballot drive the most time possible to get off the ground, County Executive L. Brooks Patterson is extending the deadline for monetary pledges through next week.

The new deadline for pledges, the last deadline, is Feb. 28.

At a press conference in the county offices Tuesday, Patterson said the original 12day deadline announced at his State of the County address would not work.

"If we had to live with the first projection, the drive would be over today," Patterson said. "We've raised \$350,000 in pledges. There are others but they're not solid. We're going to continue to beat the bushes through next Tuesday."

At the State of the County address, Patterson announced he would spearhead a drive to end the SBT by ballot initiative if residents and resident businesses would pledge the \$800,000 needed to hire a public relations and law firm to put the initiative on the November ballot.

PAYING TAXES

Wayne County Treasurer Raymond J. Wojtowicz has extended office hours for the fourth consecutive year to address delinguent taxes. Delinquent property taxes for year

ending 2003 must be paid prior to March 1 or the property may be foreclosed by order of Wayne County Circuit Court.

The Wayne County Treasurer's office will be open 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m Saturday, Feb. 25, for walk-in tax payments. Delinguent tax information is available 24 hours a day by accessing the Wayne County Treasurer's Web site at www.treasurer.waynecounty.com.

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Section B

Thursday, February 23, 2006

Mary Klemic, editor (248) 901-2569

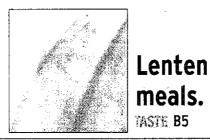
Fax (248) 644-1314 mklemic@hometownlife.com www.hometownlife.com

This show's going to the dogs

Installing washer bearings too much

DOG: SHOW B2

APPLIANCE DOCTOR B3



Observer



Shelley Roberts shows the family's residence, which features cheery colors and a variety of collections. This house, and others in Bingham Farms, Birmingham, Franklin and West Bloomfield, will be on the Heart of the Home tour to benefit the Groves High School graduation party.

House on tour has

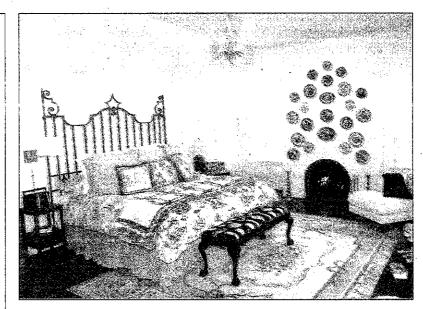
BY MARY KLEMIC STAFF WRITER

ven if it's a gray day outside, it's like fair weather in the Birmingham home of Jeff and Shelley Roberts. Cheery colors in the decor, the

character and personality of a variety of collections on display, and the comfortable combination of antiques

HEART OF THE HOME TOUR

What: A tour of beautiful homes in West Bloomfield, Franklin, Bingham Farms and Birmingham, presented by the Groves High School Parent Senior Committee to benefit graduation events at the high school. Maps will be distributed to ticket holders on tour day. When: Noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, March 5. Tickets: \$25 for Friends, \$50 for Patrons. The Patron ticket includes the tour and a reception immediately afterward. Tickets can be bought at the Groves High School main office at 13 Mile and Evergreen; at the Apple Tree Room on Franklin Road between 13 and 14 Mile in Franklin; or by sending a



Building permits

"If you're building an impressive body of work" for your home - with new windows, remodeling, with major plumbing or electrical work - you need to know if and when you need a building permit or why codes are good and building inspectors are your friend," say James and Morris Carey, writing for AP Weekly Features.

"Basically, all codes serve one purpose: to ensure proper workmanship and, ultimately, your safety. You need to know when the scope of your' work causes codes to kick in and why.

"Knowing codes will even help you communicate with the tradespeople you hire. There's also a new international residential code, published in March 2000, meant to replace various regional ones.

"Check with your local municipal permits and inspections department to find out what code is now being used in your area."

Boston bound

Scott Kunst, owner and head gardener of Old House Gardens in Ann Arbor, who has lectured locally, has been invited to judge, lecture, and lead a bulb walk at the New England Spring Flower Show in Boston in March.

Kunst will give a slide presentation - Heirloom ulbs: Unique,

and reproductions fill the nome with warmth and freshness.

"This is a very lived-in house," said Shelley Roberts, president and CEO of The Community House in Birmingham. "You can touch everything."

The public will be able to bask in this "sunshine" Sunday, March 5, when the residence is one of the houses on the Heart of the Home tour to benefit the senior graduation party at Groves High School (see related item).

There is plenty of room for entertaining at the Roberts home, such as a side patio (a favorite party place of the couple's teenage son) and a large kitchen that features two dishwashers.

The house was built in 1926. It was "significantly renovated," in Shelley's words, since the Roberts family moved there in 1995.

"We tried to keep as much of the look as when it was built in the 1920s as we could," she said.

This included keeping the archway between the foyer and living room. and adding similar archways to adjoining areas. The original wood

PLEASE SEE TOUR, B4

stamped, self-addressed envelope, with a check payable to **Groves PTA Graduation** Committee, to Shelley Roberts, 320 Suffield, Birmingham 48009.

Information: Call Shelley at (248) 645-0513 or e-mail shellevroberts@communityhouse.c om.

The master bedroom is dressed in blue, yellow and white. Throughout the house are combinations of antiques and reproductions.



The bright colors and designs in the dining room are found throughout the house.

Computer game teaches kids to have fun playing piano

s a rule, I'm in favor of anything that simplifies learning. In the future, we'll be able to adopt new skills by downloading programs directly to our brains.

anything to do with mar-

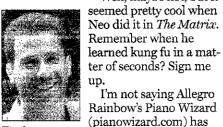
tial arts, robot overlords

or Keanu Reeves, but it

does promise to speed up

the process of learning to

play piano.



Tech Savvy

Rick Broida

Piano Wizard combines an electronic keyboard with a computer video game. The players (students?) tap color-coded Well, maybe not, but it piano keys in time with what's happening

fun.

on screen. What's happening on screen is that musical notes - often in the form of ani-mated, colorful, child-friendly pictures rise from the bottom. The goal is to tap the corresponding piano key when the note reaches the keyboard at the top of the screen

It also promises to make it a lot more

If you've ever seen Dance Dance Revolution at the arcade, it's a lot like that - except that instead of stamping your feet in time with the music, you're tapping piano keys.

Doesn't sound much like a piano lesson, does it?

The idea behind Piano Wizard is to let youngsters start "playing" the piano before they have to dive into the confusing language of music notation.

After mastering the game's beginner level, they progress to intermediate, "transition" (in which real musical notes are shown on a staff) and advanced.

TRYING IT OUT

Having seen the product at the Consumer Electronics Show in January, I was pretty gung-ho to try it out.

Specifically, I was gung-ho to get my 6year-old daughter started on it. Like most parents, I want my children to be musical.

Nah, who am I kidding - I want them to play Carnegie Hall.

Piano Wizard won't get them there, but

PLEASE SEE BROIDA, B4



The Piano Wizard game works in conjunction with an actual electronic keyboard connected to your PC.

Endangered, Amazing Saturday, March 11. He'll lead an early-bird tour of the bulb exhibits the next. mornina.

For more information on the show or to order tickets, visit www.masshort.org.

Old House Gardens is a mail-order nursery specializing in heirloom bulbs.

Its bulbs have been featured in Horticulture magazine, Country Living and The New York Times, and on Martha Stewart Living. They are growing at Mount Vernon, the Smithsonian, the Denver Botanic Garden and Hearst Castle. Kunst lectures frequently around the country.

Floral arrangement

A Floral Arrangement Workshop will take place 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, March 18, in the

Music 🔮 Room at the Henry Ford 3 Estate Fair Lane,

on the University of Michigan Dearborn campus.

At the workshop, make a spring floral arrange ment with fresh flowers and greens to take home with you.

Cost is \$45, including materials. Workshop proceeds benefit the Henry Ford Estate Gardens.

Seating is limited, and reservations and pre-pay are required. Call (313) 593-5580 or (313) 593-0514.

Professional florists from Christopher's Personal Touch will teach the class, which is designed for adults only.

HOME CALENDAR

Home decor

(*)

Classes taught by professionals take place 7-8:30 p.m. Tuesdays at Fancy Color Paints and Interiors, 3883 Rochester Road in Troy. In Updating Kitchen Cabinets (Feb. 28), learn how to restore and rejuvenate your kitchen cabinets.

In Painting Tile, Brick and Paneling (March 7), learn easy techniques for updating tile, brick and paneling that will result in a durable, long-lasting surface.

For registration information, call Troy Adult Education at (248) 823-5100, Róchester Adult Education at (248) 726-3165, Birmingham Adult Education at (248) 203-3800, Huntington Woods . Adult Education at (248) 541-3030 or Royal Oak Adult Education at (248) 588-5050.

Antiques exposition

The Southfield Pavilion Antiques Exposition will take place Friday-Sunday, Feb. 24-26, at the Southfield Municipal Complex, 26000 Evergreen at Civic Center Drive (10-1/2 Mile). Hours are 2-9 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, noon to 5 p.m. Sunday. *Admission is \$6 regular, \$5 with any ads or listings of the event, free for ages 12 and under. One paid admission is good for all three days of the show. Now in its 26th season, the exposition will feature a diverse selection of fine American, European, Oriental and tribal antiques and art. Antiques merchants from across the country, noted authors and nationally known experts will exhibit and sell their collections. Dining and free parking will be availabie.

Online show previews are at www.antignet.com/M&M. Auction

The Frank H. Boos Gallery will conduct an auction 6 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 23, at the gallery at the Antiques Centre of Troy, 2830 W. Maple, Suite 206, at Maple and Coolidge.

*For more information, call (248) 643-\$1900, visit www.boosgallery.com or email artandauction@boosgallery.com. The auction will feature property belonging to the estate of Brian Killian, the estate of a prominent Tennessee collector, the Roz and Sherm Boutique, and numerous other estates and private collections. Show Ball

"The 10th annual Snow Ball will take place 6 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 25, at the Townsend Hotel Ballroom, 100 Townsend at Pierce, south of Maple (15 Mile) and east of Southfield Road in ·Birmingham.

The event includes a black-tie dinner,

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live auction of fantasy packages, and entertainment, presented by Variety -The Children's Charity. Proceeds benefit children with special needs in metropolitan Detroit. Tickets are \$300 Friend, \$400 Patron.

\$500 Benefactor. For information, contact The Variety Office, 30161 Southfield Road, No. 301, Southfield 48076, phone (248) 258-

5511. Organizing family

Professional organizer Shannon Burdick will present Organizing Your Busy Family 7-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 28, at Utica High School. For registration and other information, contact Burdick at (248) 854-7037 or shannon@SOSorganizing.com. Bring a sense of calm to your life by learning ways to balance your time spent on work and family. Burdick will provide information on managing your children's schedules, getting family members to contribute, and methods to help establish effective routines geared toward your family's individual needs.

Faux finish

Faux Finish Techniques is a class offered Tuesday, March 7, at The Community House, 380 S. Bates in Birmingham.

Faux finish is a fun, creative and relatively inexpensive decorating technique that can be applied to a variety of items.

In this fast-paced, hands-on workshop, students will learn approximately six techniques and tips that will make any project look fabulous, and will complete sample boards to take home. Cost is \$23, plus a \$15 materials fee payable to instructors Bob and Esther Kerr. Wear old clothes and bring plastic gloves.

To register, call The Community House at (248) 644-5832, or visit www.communityhouse.com. Simple curtain

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

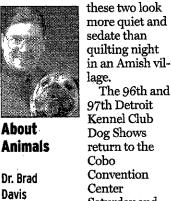
Call (248) 541-0010, e-mail ContactUs@HabermanFabrics.com or visit www.HabermanFabrics.com. In Simple Curtain (Wednesdays, March 8-22), beginners will learn how to sew as they dress up living room, bedroom, kitchen or bathroom windows. Fee is \$60.

Make a simple rod-pocket window treatment, lined or unlined, to use alone or over blinds or shades. You'll leave class with a custom curtain that fits your decor.

mirst the Major League 🖩 Baseball All-Star Game lit up downtown.

Then the Super Bowl brought the city to life in the middle of winter.

Now, an event returns that could make



Convention Center Saturday and Sunday, March

18 and 19. OK, OK - MAYBE the All-Star Game and the Super Bowl are a little bigger.

Snoop Dogg, despite the obvious name tie-in, won't be performing a special show. Jimmy Kimmel won't be visiting, but then he also won't be making jokes about how the winning dog's breed might celebrate the victory by rioting in the streets.

They won't be rolling out the red carpet at the entrance for the participants, but they might roll out newspapers over any exposed carpeting.

ON VIEW

This show is one of only six bench shows in the country, which means the dogs remain on view throughout the event, not just going home after judging.

While this would seem to be tedium for the dog owners, for people going to the show it means the opportunity to get to see their favorite breeds, even if they miss that breed's show time.

(If you want to see bulldogs, and they show at 9 a.m., but you .now up at 10 a.m., they will still be there for you to see. Not as cool as seeing the competition, but certainly a fun way to enjoy your breed of choice.)

They didn't make Jerome Bettis stay in Ford Field for

everyone to get a close-up look throughout Super Bowl week. One point for the Dog Show. Beyond seeing your favorite breed, the show allows you the opportunity to see and visit with breeds you've never heard of.

Dog Show has special excitement

One person I know fell in love with the personality, the look and the fur of Soft-coated Wheaten Terriers, later getting one for a pet. She realized quickly that this was the breed for her.

Unlike the two teams in the Super Bowl, the Dog Show features 150 breeds.

If you wanted to see the Lions at the big game, other than a life-size cutout picture at the NFL Experience, you were out of luck. Another point for the Dog Show.

Think of it like the Auto Show, except the cars don't drool and shed. (Maybe some of the new concept cars do, but none that I know of.)

Also, there are no scantily clad models standing in front of each dog, smiling incessantly and showing off the dog's features. OK, one point for the Auto Show.

COMPETITION

Competition makes a dog show. Watching the dogs compete against each other can tell you where the breed is going in the future. Are Labs getting thicker or

more slender and energetic? Are German Shepherds getting lower or higher in the hind end? Are Dalmatians crazy or - wait, there's no alternative with that one. The DKC will feature 150 breeds and varieties, each competing to see who is closest to the perfect specimen of their breed.

It would be as if Brad Pitt, Tom Arnold and Carrottop were competing for who was closest to the ideal man. (Go ahead, debate it with your friends.)

The dogs come from all over the country, not mostly from New York and Boston, which definitely gives the dog show a point over the All-Star Game.

Judges look for weaknesses in the dogs, and pick a best in each breed. (The weaknesses can be very subtle, and often are things

only an expert can see.)

Viewers tend to pick out favorites as they watch each group, some picking based on knowledge, some because they just love how one of the dogs looks. (Hey, that beagle looks just like Uncle Harry!)

Yes, people second guess the judges' choices, which the show shares in common with the Super Bowl - no points.

The winners from each breed then compete against other members of their group, such as Terriers, Working Dogs, or Toys. The winners of those groups then compete against each other to see who will be the Best in Show.

The winner of Best in Show, while exalted by peers and possibly given treats, doesn't bark to Mark Champion that he or she is "Going to Disneyworld," or even a dog park, for that matter. Point for the Super Bowl.

ESPN will be covering the final judging Saturday night, taping it for future broadcast.

Fans of the finalists cheer every time the judge looks at their favorite, and there's a genuine excitement in the air.

No one will wave a "Terrier Towel," wear a poodle wig, or have their face painted white with black spots to show their devotion to their home breed (unless they get the idea here). Another point for the Dog Show over the Super Bowl.

ADMISSION

The show bench times, when the dogs will be on display, run 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, but spectators can begin entering at 9 a.m. both days.

Best in Show judging begins each evening after the group judging, at about 6 p.m.

(They hold two dog shows back to back to draw more owners from across the country. More points available means more higher quality dogs will show up. You're less likely to come in from far away for a oneday, one-show event.)

Tickets are available at the door, and cost \$12 for adults, and \$8 for seniors and for children under 12. (I am awarding

the dog show two points for the dramatically lower costs than either the Super Bowl or the All-Star Game.) By the way, only dogs in the show are allowed don't bring your pooch!

OTHER FEATURES

Along with the show, there are a number of exhibits, including first aid, bird dog training, obedience trials, tracking dog demos, agility trials and terrier races. These are included with admission, another point for the Dog Show.

The breeders at the Dog Show generally enjoy talking about their particular breed, but be courteous. Don't touch or take a picture of a dog without asking, or talk to a person who's grooming a dog or about to enter a competition ring.

Unlike professional sports, where yelling at players and managers is acceptable, here being courteous means a lot.

These aren't millionaires, but are generally average people who are trying to make the next generation of their type of dog better than this generation.

They are there to compete, and so showing them courtesy you would expect in the same circumstance would always be a good choice.

Consider a trip to the Dog Show - a good time and a great day. If you or your family have never been, you owe it to yourselves. It can be the opportunity to enjoy downtown and to get ideas for a new member of the family.

Check out www.detroitkennelclub.com for more details.

Of course, it's not as big as the All-Star game, or the Super Bowl, and likely never will be.

Maybe if they started putting Roman numerals after it. Detroit Kennel Club Dog Shows XCVI and XCVII? Hmm ... maybe not.

Dr. Brad Davis is medical director for the VCA of Garden City, 2085 Inkster Road, Garden City 48135. Mail guestions and comments there. He is also one of the hosts of the nationally syndicated radio show Animal Talk; visit www.Animaltalkradio.com. E-mail questions or comments to questions@animaltalkradio.com.

Sportsmen's Dog Training Club show set



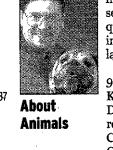
BY MARY KLEMIC STAFF WRITER

These are "dog days" of a spe-

"This is an opportunity for people to learn what their dogs can be taught to do," said Cathi Winkles of Bloomfield Hills,

in the area, drawing about 230 entries, Winkles said. The Sportsmen's Dog Training Club, founded in 1942, was Michigan's

The Sportsmen's Dog Training Club facility is in Ferndale on Vester Street, north of Nine Mile and east of



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The prestigious Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show in New York was televised last week. And this weekend, the Sportsmen's Dog Training Club of Detroit Inc. will conduct its 74th and 75th All-Breed Dog Obedience Trials. The event will take place 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 25 and 26, in the Community Arts Building at the Michigan State Fair Grounds, on Woodward at Eight Mile in Detroit.

training director.

They get to see dogs heel and roll over and jump. (Handlers) do hand signals."

General public admission is \$3 for adults, \$1 for seniors and ages 12 and younger, and free for ages 2 and younger.

For more information, call Jolie Kaufmann-Laker at (248) 892-9740. The popular event, which fea-

tures a wide variety of dogs, has an impressive pedigree.

It is one of the largest shows

first dog training organization.

Entrants and visitors come from all over the Midwest and beyond, including Chicago, Ohio, Kentucky and Ontario, Winkles said.

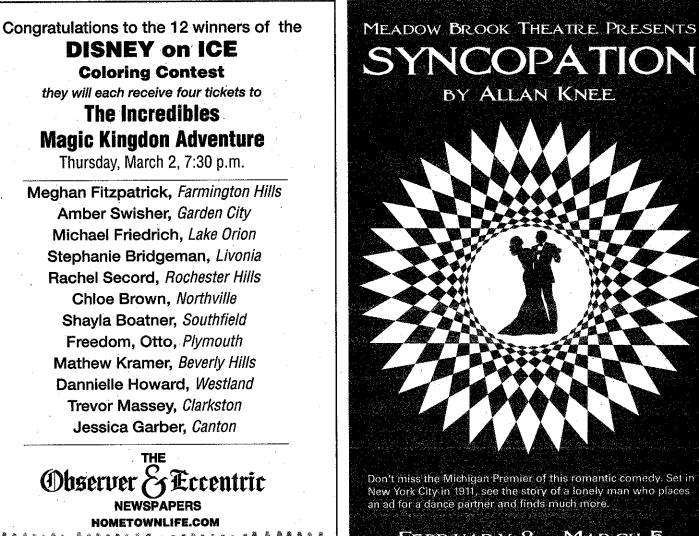
"We occasionally get people who come up from Florida," she said. "(Another) was from South Dakota, and others are from out west."

The trials are demonstrations of dog training skills and control. Rally trials, added last year, involve a timed course.

Woodward. It conducts classes, open to the public, in dog obedience, rally obedience, agility, confor-

mation, canine good citizen and puppy training. Agility consists of a timed course of jumps, tunnels, weave poles and contact obstacles.

Conformation classes prepare handlers and dogs for breed competition. They teach how to present a dog to its best advantage, and proper ring procedures and etiquette.





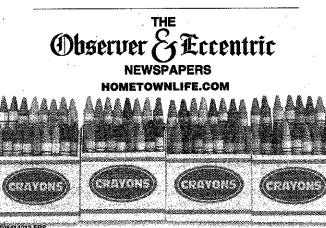


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Coloring Contest they will each receive four tickets to The incredibles Magic Kingdon Adventure Thursday, March 2, 7:30 p.m. Meghan Fitzpatrick, Farmington Hills

Amber Swisher, Garden City Michael Friedrich, Lake Orion Stephanie Bridgeman, Livonia Rachel Secord, Rochester Hills Chloe Brown, Northville Shayla Boatner, Southfield Freedom, Otto, Plymouth Mathew Kramer, Beverly Hills Dannielle Howard, Westland Trevor Massey, Clarkston Jessica Garber, Canton



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GARDEN CALENDAR

MBH Garden Club

Oakland University's Meadow Brook Hall Garden Club will meet at 10 a.m. Friday, Feb. 24, in the Coach House adjacent to the hall on the OU campus, off Adams in Rochester. Guest speaker will be Dawn Venzina, a member of the Organization for Bat Conservation at the Cranbrook Institute of Science. She will explain the benefits of bats in the environment, and how to attract

them to gardens and yards and preserve their habitats. Non-member donation \$5. Reservations aren't required.

For more information, call (248) 608-0485 or (248) 310-8793, or visit www.meadowbrookhall.org.

Master composter

The Southeastern Oakland County Water Authority Master Composter Program for environmental gardeners will begin 6:45-8:30 p.m. Thursday, March 2, at the Birmingham Department of Public Services Building, 851 S. Eton in Birmingham. The program includes six classroom sessions, assignments and required volunteer service. Class fee is \$30. For the program flyer and/or to register, call Karen Bever at SOCWA at (248) 288-5150, or e-mail LFDean@aol.com. The program is sponsored by the SOCWA Healthy Lawns and Gardens Programs to help promote waste reduction, water quality protection and earth-friendly landscapes. Master composters learn about making and using compost, compost bin options, healthy lawn care, natural mulches, sustainable landscapes, healthy soils, benefits of compost, and cycles of nature.

Downriver Rose Society

The Downriver Rose Society will meet 7-9 p.m. Wednesday, March 1, at the Brownstown Community Center, 21311 Telegraph, south of Sibley and north of West Road.

Loretta LeVasseur of St. Charles, Mich.. will speak on David Austin's English Roses.

The public may attend. Admission is free.

For more information, call Mike at (877) 860-5364 or Nancy at (734) 461-1230. David Austin has revolutionized the world of garden roses with a new generation that he calls "English roses." He has introduced more than 100 varieties of easy-care roses that have the fragrance and charm of old-fashioned antique roses.

LeVasseur grows many of Austin's roses in her garden near Saginaw. She will share tips for success with these beloved beauties.

Metropolitan Rose Society

The Metropolitan Rose Society will meet at 7:15 p.m. Friday, March 3, at the Royal Oak Senior/Community Center, 3500 Marais, east of Crooks and north of 13 Mile.

Jeff Ball will be the speaker for the

disease, pest infestation and watering problems.

Participants will also learn how to pot and repot orchids, and the temperature and sunlight requirements for orchids to bloom.

Cost is \$26 for Dearborn School District residents, \$29 for non-residents. To register, or for a complete list of CL2 courses, call (877) 855-5252 or visit www.hfcc.edu/CL2.

Herb conference

The 19th annual Michigan Herb Associates Conference will take place Wednesday-Thursday, March 8-9, in Wells Hall on the Michigan State University campus in East Lansing. Scented geranium is the 2006 Herb of the Year. The theme of this year's conference is Herbal "Scent" Sations. The conference will feature programs on herb culture, crafting and cooking. Registration will start at 8:15 a.m., the program at 9:15 a.m.

The conference is open to the general public. Walk-ins may register for one or both davs.

Preregistration rates are \$65 for both days and \$35 for one day for MHA members; \$85 for both days and \$55 for one day for non-members. Walk-ins add \$10 to the rates.

Tickets for the luncheon (\$10 each day) and banquet (\$30) must be reserved by Monday, Feb. 27. You may bring your own lunch or go out to eat. Conference information and forms are available at www.hrt.msu.edu/herb/.

Noel Kingsbury

Goldner Walsh Nursery will present An Evening with English Gardener Noel Kingsbury 7 p.m. Thursday, March 2. Cost is \$29.50 per person. For reservations and information, call (248) 332-6430. The event is part of the Cabin Fever Lecture Series at Goldner Walsh, 559 Orchard Lake Road in Pontiac. The evening will include a lecture, presentation, question-and-answer session and book signing. Refreshments will be served.

Kingsbury is popular in England. He is a garden designer and writer and a horticultural TV and radio personality. His presentation will address the hold of the English garden over the imagination of non-English gardeners. Kingsbury, who loves American landscapes and flora, will encourage the audience to look at the success of the English garden in providing intimacy and harmony and how this might be achieved using inspiration from a variety of sources.

More Orchids for Beginners

Home gardening courses offered by Henry Ford Community College's Center for Lifelong Learning include More Orchids for Beginners, Saturday, March 4. at HFCC's Dearborn Heights Center. 22586 Ann Arbor Trail between Warren Avenue and Outer Drive. Participants will study the Cattleya, Laelia, Oncidium, Angracoid and Vanda orchids. They will learn how these

Installing washer bearings too big a job

received an e-mail that said, "How do I install bearings on a 30-year-old Whirlpool washer? I am a 51-year-old woman who cannot afford a

> course of three years. "I read your column all the

> > time, Mr. Gagnon. Thank you for your help." Ŵv dear

readers, in 10 years of writing Gagnon this column and 21 years of

doing the radio show, I have received many thousands of letters, phone calls and e-mails, but this has to be one of most rewarding I've received.

Now, you may be asking, "Why? It's just someone asking how to fix something." But stop and think a minute. This message came from a woman and that makes it even more special. I have constantly stressed that women can fix things and my

new machine, and it is slowly dying over the



BIG JOB

words have always been those of

encouragement. Do it, try it, call because that's the only way you me, I'll help you. I feel darn good about what I do, and in this case I don't mind bragging about it.

Now comes the sad part of my response to this woman: Don't attempt to do this job!

It's not that you can't do it. Heck, I taught a woman how to change the bearings years ago and she went on to work for a national repair company. It's just that she had to change bearings in a half-dozen machines before she got it right.

The same applied to a lot of technicians I trained. It takes a while to learn it and do it properly. It's a big job that takes special tools to pull out the bearings and install new ones.

When you pull out the basket drive, which is really the clutch assembly, you will find the shaft is all worn as well. You can't replace the bearings without changing the clutch assembly, and if you do that wrong, you ruin the new bearings.

While you're doing all of this, you are pounding on this machine with a sledge hammer can loosen things up.

With all this hammering you are disturbing the tub seals, which are made out of rubber and have been there for 30 years. These seals will also have to be replaced, and while you're doing that you will notice a corrosion factor where the bolts go through the tub.

You'll have to use a special metal compound around those holes, or else after you're all done with the job, water will leak all over the place.

In the end, you have spent a lot of money for parts and involved hours of your busy schedule in doing a job that surely would help your self-confidence but cause a letdown in the end.

Your Whirlpool washer built 30 years ago was designed and began production somewhere around 1949.

It was engineered like a Russian tank of World War II. It was of heavy-gauge metal and made to take a beating. I'm sure there are still a few million in America's homes being used to keep clothes clean and satisfying consumers' needs.

A big question remains prevalent today for homeowners: What do I buy now that my old washer is giving up the ghost?

B3

(*)

There are still some good washers being produced and sold today, but don't expect them to last a 30-year period. Simply put, they just don't make them like they used to.

From a good washer, you can expect a 12- to 14-year life span and you can also expect some, service calls during that period.

Some of the cheaper washers might only last from five to seven years, so it's important that you make some inquiries about what you should buy.

You might also think about extended service contracts, proga vided they aren't priced out of sight. I must thank the woman for the e-mail she sent me, and I leave her with one thought: With that computer you have, you can find Web sites that are dedicated to consumer comments about all sorts of washers and major home appliances. Joe Gagnon can now be heard on WWJ-950 and WXYT-1270. His phone number is (248) 455-7281. E-mail your question to mklemic@hometownlife.com and it will be forwarded to Joe Gagnon.

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evening. The public may attend. Admission is free. For more information, call (248) 689-9529

Ball has been a garden writer for 26

years. He has written eight books and made 12 videos, and was the "Garden Guy" on The Today Show.

Plant pest problems

Gardening classes offered at The Community House in Birmingham include Solving Common Pest and **Disease Problems, four sessions** (including one Saturday off-site lab) beginning Thursday, March 2. The Community House is at 380 S. Bates. Fee for this class is \$143. To register and for more information, call (248) 644-5832 or visit www.communityhouse.com.

The Ins and Outs of Plants class at the Michigan School of Gardening, or equivalent experience, is a prerequisite.

Perennials, seeds

English Gardens hosts free seminars 1 p.m. Saturdays at all six English Gardens locations. Scheduled topics are Perennial Gardening (Feb. 25) and Starting Seeds Indoors (March 4). The locations include stores in West Bloomfield, (248) 851-7506; Royal Oak-Troy, (248) 280-9500; Dearborn Heights, (313) 278-4433; and Ann Arbor, (734) 332-7900. At the Feb. 25 seminar, learn about favorite perennials (plants that come

back year after year), and how to select plants, combine colors and provide proper care during and after the growing season so you can create a colorful, beautiful garden using perennials.

At the March 4 seminar, English Gardens experts will share their knowledge of growing flowers and vegetables from seed. Learn which varieties work best, and what's required to get the best results. Get a head start on the season and grow your own transplants.

Orchids for Beginners

Home gardening courses offered by Henry Ford Community College's Center for Lifelong Learning include Orchids for Beginners, Saturday, Feb. 25, at HFCC's Dearborn Heights Center, 22586 Ann Arbor Trail between Warren Avenue and Outer Drive, Suzanne Bucki of the Michigan Orchid Society will explain common orchid species and how to recognize signs of

orchids differ, how to propagate them, and why certain species only grow in a specific region. Cost is \$26 for Dearborn School District

residents, \$29 for non-residents. To register, or for a complete list of CL2 courses, call (877) 855-5252 or visit www.hfcc.edu/CL2.

Landscape tips

Gardening classes offered at The Community House in Birmingham include Landscape Tips, Wednesday, March 8.

The Community House is at 380 S. Bates. Fee for this class is \$23. To register and for more information, call (248) 644-5832 or visit www.communityhouse.com.

The Michigan School of Gardening class will feature start-up tips for the homeowner who wants to take charge of an existing landscape, make changes or start new. Participants will discover practical advice that will save time and money in planning, digging and plantina.

Instructor Karen Sierzega earned her Certificate of Gardening of Fine Arts from the Michigan School of Gardening and is a certified master gardener. She owns and operates Through the Arbor, which designs, installs and maintains residential gardens and landscapes.

Hill & Dale

The Hill & Dale Garden Club will have a general meeting 7 p.m. Thursday, March 9, at the Heritage Park Visitor Center, on Farmington Road between 10 and 11 Mile.

Beth Liskiewicz of Steinkopf's Nursery in Farmington Hills will present What's New with Grubs. The public may attend. For more information, contact Mar

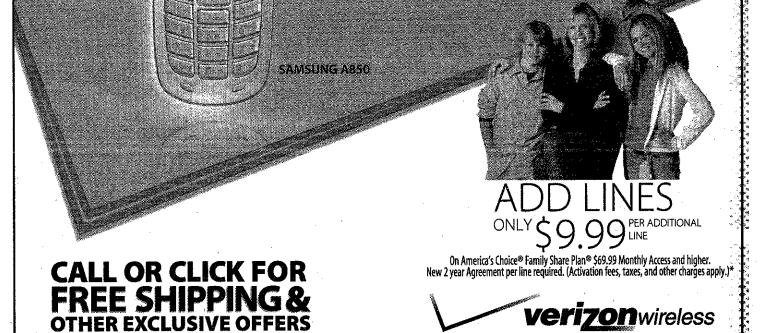
Scawly at (248) 333-3108 or stemar@comcast.net.

Family day

Family Day at the Gardens is scheduled 1-3:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 26, at Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro in Ann Arbor.

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 Matthaei Botanical Gardens and Nichols Arboretum members.

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



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TOUR

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FROM PAGE B1

floors are intact, and hardware has a 1920s look.

A music room was built on to the house in the 1930s. The doorway was removed so the area is now part of the living room, providing more space for party guests.

"We used it almost like a sunroom, with white wicker furniture," Roberts said.

SUNNY COLORS

The house is dressed in shades of blue and yellow.

In the living room, the area rug is blue with a white pattern and the drapes are sunny vellow. The sofa has a bright floral pattern, and the upholstery on chairs features rows of colorful squares.

A portrait of Roberts and her daughter as a young girl hangs on a wall. On a nearby table is a smaller painting, by coincidence in similar tones and also of a mother and child. Roberts found it in a store.

Pieces from Roberts' Victorian collection are among those shown in the room, including a chair covered in needlepoint, a screen and a papier-mâché writing box.

A coffee table holds some of her Judaica collection, and



Needlepoint pillows are among the collections at the Roberts home.

Jeff's antique cane collection is in a nearby antique bamboo stand.

The roomy kitchen is like two separate kitchens, one with a granite-topped island. Walls are covered with tiles ordered from France that bear paintings of food.

A rooster design is carved into the backs of the chairs along a table at one end of the kitchen. Small figures of chefs line the window sills.

Besides the dishwashers, a warming oven and a butler's pantry are convenient elements.

"The kitchen works great for parties," Roberts said.

The dining room walls are yellow with white trim. A floral design covers the drapes and area rug.

Chairs have pastel upholstery. Antique place markers with tiny flowers are on the table.

In the family room, the walls were faux painted by Hal Mills in a wood grain design. The room contains a trestle table with hand-carved Windsor chairs. Shelves hold Jeff's collection of Kingsley Amis books.

UPSTAIRS

Upstairs, the renovation converted several small bedrooms into four bedrooms with four baths. There's a small, handy laundry on the second floor – the regular laundry is in the basement.

Furnishings in the master bedroom are combinations of blue, yellow and white. Blue plates, arranged by a friend, are on the wall above a fireplace that is framed in blue bricks.

An old French chandelier with a touch of blue among its crystals hangs in the center of the room. The headboard at the bed used to be an old gate. The many other collections

on display include Staffordshire, bird cages, quimper, kiddush cups, and tall brass candlesticks from churches.

TOUR

Each house on the tour will feature arrangements by area floral designers and music performed by members of the Groves Orchestra.

The graduation party is alcohol-free and takes place at the high school, which is specially decorated for the event.

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BROIDA

FROM PAGE B1

it may get them interested. We've been testing one out for about a month. My daughter and 3-year-old son went ape over it at first, neither one wanting to relinquish the keys to the other. Eventually, he went back to trucks, but she stuck with it. She had fun playing the game and was always excited when she got a good score (though the game provides positive feedback regardless of how you fare).

After a few weeks, however, her interest waned - and I think I know why. The software is entirely open-ended. There's no starting point, no introduction to basics like fingering and hand placement, and no progression.

Instead, the software presents you with various songs and lessons (all part and parcel with the main game), effectively saying "Have at it."

Meanwhile, the interface can be confusing, especially for a child who can't read or is just learning. Even the Easy Mode seems a little, well, hard, if only because nothing is clear-cut. No steps are defined.

Êven something as simple as controlling the game speed gave us trouble. We couldn't find anything in the instructions (which are sparse at best) that explained how to do it. Eventually we found the answer deep inside the company's online knowledge base.

Particularly disappointing, Piano Wizard has no "free play" mode, no way to just sit at the keyboard and make your own music.

Lessons are all well and good, but sometimes children (and, ahem, adults) just want to plink the keys and enjoy some unstructured fun.

Allegro Rainbow sells a variety of Piano Wizard packages. If you already own a MIDI keyboard, you can buy the software and a USB interface cable for \$79.95. At the other end is a complete package, including a 49-key keyboard, for \$199.95.

Piano Wizard is definitely a fun way for youngsters to get some initial exposure to the piano, perhaps encouraging them to take formal lessons or explore music further.

But it's no substitute for a piano teacher.

Rick Broida writes about computers and technology for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. Broida, of Commerce Township, is the co-author of numerous books, including How To Do Everything with Your Palm Handheld, 5th Edition, and 101 Killer Apps for Pocket PC. He welcomes questions sent to rick.broida@gmail.com.



Please join Walsh College for the



EMPTY BOWLS - Pick a bowl, eat soup, help a cause.

Page B5-

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Thursday, February 23, 2006

PACKAGES - Enjoy winter in the wine country.

Ken Abramczyk, editor (734) 953-2107 Fax: (734) 591-7279 kabramczyk@hometownlife.com www.hometownlife.com

6

6

Lenten meals Many enjoy more fish meals

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK STAFF WRITER

Mardi Gras (or Fat Tuesday) marks the last big bash before the beginning of austerity, a break in the so-called gluttonous lifestyle enjoyed by many of us.

Many diners will celebrate with bowls of jambalaya. Others will gulp down those delicious beloved paczki that Detroiters get googly-eyed over every year.

The following day, Ash Wednesday (this year it is March 1), marks the beginning of Lent for millions of Christians worldwide. Many of the faithful will abstain from meat consumption on Fridays for the next 40 days, until Easter Sunday on April 16. That means many will gather at fish fries at churches or local halls. Others

may just cook their own fish at home. Even without the Lenten season,

consumers are eating more fish. John Pardington, owner of Holiday Market in Canton, said there's "no question about it."

"They're really getting away from the fish and chips meals," Pardington said. "We've seen a steady decline in those kinds of meals over the past 20 years, and there's a definite increase in the sales of fresh fish."

But why the increase when seafood often costs more than chicken, pork or vegetarian selections? "It's variety," Pardington said. "I think they love the seafood, if it's done correctly. Tuna or swordfish on a grill is just unbelievable. And you don't need a pound per person.

"People are more health conscious than ever before. They're eating less processed foods, (salmon) is high in Omega 3, and to lose weight, many of the diets are calling for more seafood consumption."

A FEW SHOPPING TIPS

For those of you who wish to cook fish at home, here's a quick primer. What to look for when purchasing? Isaac "Ike" Alhermizi, owner of Pomeroy's Market in West Bloomfield, believes customers should have enough faith in the store owner's purchases that the fish would be fresh. Ten to 12 items are transported fresh to Pomeroy's daily, Alhermizi said. Whitefish can be transported to the

PLEASE SEE FISH, B7

Chef cooks Join chef Paul Penney as he demonstrates sim-

as he demonstrates simple two-burner recipes for onboard meals at the Detroit Boat Show, which runs daily through Feb. 26 at Cobo Center. Enjoy tasty samples

after each demonstration, plus take home handouts with easy-tofollow recipes and instructions.

Penney will cook up some of Michigan's most popular game fish: walleve, trout and salmon. He will also focus on chowders, salads, and impressing guests with simple, yet delicious. meals. Cooking techniques will focus on how to work around limited space, storage, and access to shopping which oftentimes are the challenges of onboard cooking.

Admission to the boat show is \$11 for adults, children under 12 are free with an adult. Discount tickets are available at www.detroitboatshow.net . Two for one admission is offered weekdays.

Hours are 3-9 p.m. Thursday and Friday, 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday and 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday. Parking is available at Cobo Center and surrounding lots. For more information on the boat show, visit www.detroitboatshow.net , or call 1 (800) 224-3008.

Demonstration times



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BY DANA JACOBI

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR CANCER RESEARCH

Baja California is the current hot spot for celebrities seeking romantic sunsets and privacy. But long before the thin and famous arrived, this long strip of beach was already known for fine fishing and great surfing. The surfers, coming off the beach to fuel up, discovered fish tacos, the local specialty.

Food historians agree that, as long as there has been fish, fire and ground corn, Mexicans probably have cooked fish and eating it wrapped in a tortilla. Food lovers insist that in Baja the combination was refined into the crisp, rich, cool-and-spicy fish taco that is messy to eat but irresistible for food lovers.

No one will ever know which of many Baja street vendors perfected the fish a hage for

taco. At its most authentic, beer-battered fish is deep-fried and wrapped in a small tortilla along with shredded iceberg lettuce, topped with a creamy sauce, salsa and an essential squirt of fresh lime juice. Eventually, an entrepreneur saw its potential and opened a fish tacos place in Mission Bay, Calif. The first in a McDonald's-like chain, there are now countless sites serving fish tacos, including the San Diego ballpark.

Better news is that, as the demand for fish tacos moved north and east, so did the desire for a healthier version, and now you can get them made with grilled or baked fish in some places.

My preference is pan-frying a firm, white fish, such as cod, in just a touch of oil until the fish is golden and crisp on the outside. Adding shredded cabbage to

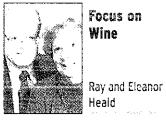
PLEASE SEE TACOS, B7

Try Paul Hobbs Vina Cobos wines

5 n Focus on Wine on April 7. 2005, we wrote about the California wines of Paul Hobbs. Yet, there's another side to this talented winemaker and his wines.

In 1988, three years before Hobbs had his first California harvest, he was invited to Argentina by Nicolas Catena to make chardonnay. This experience introduced Hobbs to winemaking in Argentina.

"I fell in love with (Argentina's) unique malbecs," Hobbs explained, "a varietal which rarely stands alone in its native southern Bordeaux." It



seems a paradox that malbec, the predominant grape variety in Argentina, never achieved greatness in France.

Hobbs had the fortune to meet Andrea Marchiori and Luis Barraud, the wife-andhusband winegrowing and winemaking team that matched Hobbs' fascination with malbec. "Together, we took the challenge to unearth and polish this ancient black beauty; this diamond in the rough," Hobbs said.

MENDOZA WINEMAKING

Wincgrowing in Argentina is centered around Mendoza, the largest winegrowing province, bordering the eastern foothills of the Andes mountains, separating Chile from Argentina. The Andes block the humid air from the Pacific Ocean to the west and provide the vineyards with dry, unpolluted air that reduces the risk of disease and the need for frequent, costly spraying.

With only eight inches of rainfall annually, the water resource for vineyard irrigation comes from the winter snowfall in the Andes. Irrigation is accomplished by a network of canals and furrows flooding the vine rows.

The Marchiori Vineyard, source of Hobbs Vina Cobos wines, is located at 2,900 feet above sea level in a semi-desert region that experiences hot, dry winds by day, refreshed by cool nights. Although frost is rare, summer hail is a serious risk to the vines. To prevent damage, vineyards are protected with netting.

In the climate of the high desert, grapes develop thick skins and the resulting wines exhibit complex flavors and aromas with textures provided by silky tannins. Vina Cobos Malbec is crafted from 50- to 80-year-old vines. These wines of structure and big fruit are best paired with grilled meat. The Argentine barbecues that feature meat grilled over wood fires are known as asados.

PLEASE SEE WINES, 86

Thursday and Friday, 12:30, 2 p.m., 3:30 p.m., 5 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Saturday, and 12:30, 2 and 3:30 p.m. Sunday.

Banana briefing

We hardly need to be told to go bananas food-wise. Handy and nutritious, this fruit is a staple in the shopping cart; bananas are a sensible, portable snack besides being a versatile ingredient to add to dishes ranging from fruit salad to Caribbean-flavored meat and fish courses. A feature in the March issue of All You magazine includes a brief quide to bananas. Basically, the feature says, bananas divide into two categories: the eating or dessert banana, and the cooking banana, or plantain. There are at least 150 species of banana plants, but here are the supermarket varieties you are most likely to see:

Cavendish banana. This is the long, yellow one we know best. It has a thick skin that withstands bruising, and it's available year-round. Dwarf banana. This is

a medium-size fruit with a thinner skin and sweeter taste than the Cavendish. One type, the lady finger banana, is 4 to 5 inches long and has thin, yellow skin and very sweet flesh.

■ Plantain. This very large, firm, angular variety is sometimes green, brown or reddish in color. Its starchiness makes it ideal for frying or baking, like a potato.

Red banana. This is a short; chunky banana with a purplish red peel. It is firm-fleshed and sweet.

WINES

(*)

B6

FROM PAGE B5

PAUL HOBBS ARGENTINE WINES

Paul Hobbs Argentine wines are arranged in three tiers by price and quality. Standing alone on the top tier is the Vina Cobos 2003 Cobos Malbec, Marchiori Vineyard \$150, a muscular wine with velvety tannins and a very long finish. The densely colored wine is introduced by aromas of plums and blackberries which are mirrored on the palate, a real treat.

The middle tier of luxury wines is called Bramare, an Etruscan word meaning "to yearn for" and was chosen to honor the Italian heritage of the Marchiori family. The 2004 Bramare Chardonnay (\$60) is a big, unctuous wine that lingers long on the palate. It is deep gold with aromas and flavors of peaches and apricots, accompanied by new French oak spiciness one of the best chardonnays we've tried in the last year.

The 2004 Bramare Cabernet Sauvignon (\$70) is an outstanding cab with an intriguing combination of spice, black currant and cherry, plus fine tobacco and cedar with a long, elegant finish. The 2003 Bramare Malbec (\$85) exhibits aromas of chocolate, berry and burnt sugar. It has firm, yet silky, tannins; a real mouthful.

The third, value tier is known as the Nativo Collection. Each wine is given an animal name and each is an excellent example of the varietal for the money (\$25). This may be the place to discover Hobbs Argentine wines before investing in the upper tiers, plus they have the advantage of greater availability. The malbec is named El Felino (cat), the merlot is LaGarto (lizard) and the cabernet sauvignon is Cocodrilo (crocodile).

8 T H

Yep, got scores, too.

WINE PICKS

Whether it's a big, juicy steak, grilled lamb chops or

a pepperoni and mushroom pizza, California RED ZIN-FANDEL is a good choice.

irv: Picks of the pack: 2003 Frank Family Napa Valley \$35 and 2003 C.G. DiArie Shenandoah Valley S25 Good deals under \$20: 2003 Kenwood Sonoma County \$16

🔳 2003 Greg Norman Lake County \$15 2002 Pedroncelli Mother Clone Dry Creek Valley \$14 🔳 2003 Sebastiani Sonoma County \$13 2003 Kendall-Jackson. Vintner's Reserve \$12 Wallet friendly: 2003 Wild Bunch (blend) \$10 Michigan Riesling scores big: With its 2004 Semi-Dry **Riesling, Shady Lane** Cellars in Suttons Bay captured the prestigious

Schott Zwiesel Best of Class Gold Medal at the recent San Francisco Chronicle competition, the world's largest review of American wines.

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

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.

A N N U A L

Pick a bowl, eat soup and help

Pewabic Pottery is hosting the 12th annual Empty Bowls for Gleaners Food Bank fundraiser 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 25.

Guests begin by selecting a ceramic bowl hand-crafted by local artists, Pewabic students and area children. Guests are then invited into the kiln room to enjoy soup until 2 p.m. and shopping until 6 p.m. Bowls range from \$10 to \$20 a piece, and there are no presales of any of the bowls for this event. All of the profit goes to Gleaners Food Bank. There will also be a silent auction of artist bowls with proceeds going to Pewabic's museum and education programs.

The menu includes soup, bread and water with the soups being donated from local area restaurants. Bread is being donated by Metropolitan

Bakery of Detroit.

Pewabic Pottery is a 103year-old nonprofit organization dedicated to the preservation of the Arts & Crafts ideals while advancing contemporary ceramic arts.

Pewabic Pottery is open to the public year round and offers classes, workshops, lectures and tours to children and adults. The Pottery continues to create tile for architectural installations and offers galleries that showcase over 60 ceramic artists and a museum store for purchasing handmade Pewabic items.

Visitors are welcome, free of charge, during regular business hours Monday - Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 4 p.m.

To learn more about Pewabic Pottery call (313) 822-0954 or to donate online, visit

Pottery can be found at 10125 E. Jefferson Ave. in Detroit across the street from Waterworks Park.

Community Food Bank has been securing surplus food from farmers, grocery retailers, food distributors and processors that would otherwise go to waste and making it available to the hungry in southeastern Michigan.

Gleaners Community Food Bank distributes nearly 2 million pounds of food monthly to more than 300 agencies.

Over 65,000 meals are served by these agencies each day.

To learn more about **Gleaners Community Food** Bank contact Ruth Ellen Mayhall at (313) 923-7855 or visit www.gcfb.org.

www.pewabic.org. Pewabic

Since 1977, Gleaners

Enjoy winter wine country packages

Michigan wineries and nearby lodging facilities are teaming up to offer winter packages. Visitors get plenty of extra attention during this slower time of year, and snow-covered vineyards provide seasonal beauty. You can enjoy a glass of wine with a special friend or curl up with a good book by a cozy fire.

Whether your destination is Traverse City, Saugatuck or Jackson, wineries and lodging partners are ready to greet you.

In Suttons Bay, the Inn at Black Star Farms has a **Romantic Winery Package that** includes a private wine tasting, massage, gourmet breakfast and a bottle of sparkling wine. The Vineyard Inn, located on Suttons Bay, has Murder Mystery Weekend packages for the detective in you; and at either Grand Beach or Sugar Beach in Traverse City, a Wine

FOOD DRIVE

and Dine Package includes a \$50 dinner voucher for The Bowery, plus wine tasting and a bottle of wine.

Saugatuck isn't just a summer destination... winter is also a good time to visit this lakeside town. Twin Gables Inn offers a Wine Lovers Weekend package that includes a private tour and tasting at Fenn Valley Vinevards, a bottle of sparkling wine, \$60 dinner certificate and more.

If you're looking for a winter getaway closer to Detroit, Sandhill Crane Vineyards, near Jackson, offers packages with two local B&Bs. Both include wine tasting, a bottle of wine, logo wine glasses and gift certificates for nearby Charlie's Pub and Grill or Common Grill.

For those who would rather plan their own weekend, there are special winter rates at

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

Italian Wine Dinner

many of wine country's nicest spots.

The Inns at Chateau Chantal and Chateau Grand Traverse are wonderful places to spend a quiet weekend by a fire, and you can tour nearby wineries at your leisure. All across the state, you'll find bed-andbreakfast inns that offer close proximity to wineries and an opportunity to enjoy Michigan's beautiful winter season.

For additional information, and a complimentary Michigan Wine Country magazine, with maps to the wineries, visit

www.michiganwines.com or contact the Michigan Grape and Wine Industry Council at (517) 241-1207.

The magazine is also available at all Michigan wineries and Travel Michigan Welcome Centers.

turing house made croutons, white balsamic vinaigrette, red onion and Gorgonzola cheese, Pappardelle pasta with a yeal, beef and sausage ragu, a tenderloin steak pounded thin; pan sautéed and topped with a tomato basil "Ammoghio" sauce, served with sun dried tomato polenta and Italian

green beans and a caramel pecan

tartlet for dessert. Dishes are

matched with appropriate wines.

and gratuity. Call (734) 427-9500.

Tickets are \$55 per person, plus tax

Space is limited to the first 40 people.

appetizer, a Tuscan bread salad fea-

TASTE CALENDAR

If you have an item for the Taste calen-* dar, 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.

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 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. for more information.

Gluten Free and Loving It

Students will learn the secret behind a, gluten-free lifestyle and learn to make Roasted Pepper Rolls with Tzatziki and Capers; Wild Rice, Mushroom and Leek Stuffed Chicken with White Wine Sauce; Baked Sweet Potatoes Dauphinoise and Eggplant, Sundried Tomato and Feta Lettuce Wraps. Class is 7:30-9 p.m. Monday, Feb. 27. A list of other glutenfree meals and where to get the glutenfree items used in class will be provided. Students will sample and take home all the recipes taught in this class. Session costs \$30. To register for classes, contact The Community House, 380 S. Bates, Birmingham, call (248) 644-5832, or visit online at www.com-sci munityhouse.com. 200Soup for You

Learn about a Basic Seafood Chowder, a Basic Broccoli Chowder and a Basic Black Bean Soup to build on. Instructor Peter Engelhardt is Executive Chef at The Community House in Birmingham. Class is scheduled 7:30-34 9:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 28. Session is \$30. To register for classes, contact The Community House, 380 S. Bates, 1582 Birmingham, call (248) 644-5832, or visit online at 30

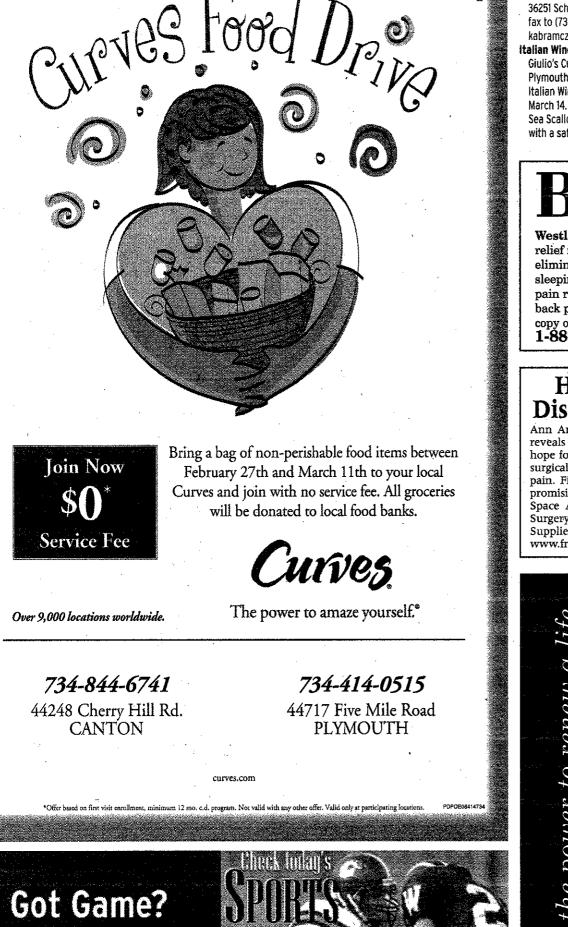
www.communityhouse.com. Culinary classes

Birmingham Community Education offers the following culinary classes in Room 114 at Derby Middle School, 1300-. Derby Road, Birmingham. Class fee is \$39 plus \$13 materials fee payable at first class, bring a dish towel and your appetite. Classes are Delectable Chicken Curries, March 6: Flavors of Delhi Bazaar March 13, and Dosa: A South Indian Specialty, March 20. To register call (248) 203-3800 or on-line at www.communityed.net.

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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 Five 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.



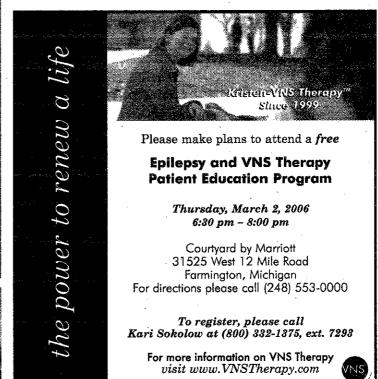
Giulio's Cucina Italiana, 31735 Plymouth Road in Livonia, hosts an Italian Wine Dinner at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 14. The menu includes a Jumbo Sea Scallop wrapped in bacon, glazed with a saffron beurre blanc for an

Back Pain?

Westland, MI - According to a recently released back pain relief report, most back pain sufferers have no idea how to eliminate their pain. Some use heat, others ice. From sleeping on the floor, to pillows underneath the legs, back pain relief techniques very. But thanks to a free report, local back pain sufferers finally know exactly what to do. To get a copy of the free "Back Pain Relief Report", call toll-free, 1-888-744-2225. (Toll-free, 24 hour recorded message)

Herniated Disc Technology Discovered by NASA Scientists

Ann Arbor - A new free report has recently been released that reveals how breakthrough medical technology is offering new hope for sciatica sufferers. Discover how research has proven nonsurgical decompression 86% successful in treating debilitating back pain. Find out how NASA's accidental discovery led to the most promising treatment today. For your free report entitled, "How Space Age Technology Is Solving Back Pain Without Drugs Or Surgery!" Call 1-800-293-2595 for the toll-free recorded message. Supplies are limited - call now. If phone lines are busy, visit: www.freediscreport-4u.com OE08412966



VisTa Gala

Food and jazz will be served with a touch of elegance at VisTa Gala 2006 Schoolcraft College's black-tie fundraiser Saturday, March 25, featuring food with international flair prepared by Schoolcraft culinary students; guests will stroll through six instructional kitchens, choosing from hot and cold appetizers, hot entrees, breads, pastries and desserts: music by Matt Michaels Trio, tickets are \$150 per per son, patrons also can bid on one item, a five course meal for 50 people with wine at the American Harvest Restaurant, call (734) 462-4400, Ext. 5008.

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: Hands-On

These classes require Cooking 101 or chef's approval to register. Wear a white, chef's jacket, dark pants and comfort able 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, 540 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday, March 14 and 16; Soup it Up, 5-9 p.m., Thursday March 23; Saute Like a Pro, 6-9 p.m. Tuesday, April 4; Stewing & Braising, 59 p.m., Tuesday, April 18, and Outdoor 🕴 Grilling, 5-9 p.m., Tuesday and Thursday, April 25 and 27. Class fees range from \$109-\$139.

Polish Cooking

Learn how to make perfect pierogis (Polish dumplings), golabki (stuffed cab bage) and kielbasa and other tradition; al Polish entrees. Sample Polish dishes with instructor Jeff Gabriel, 5:30-8:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 23, fee is \$109.

FROM PAGE B5

market on the day it is caught. while others can reach the store between 24 and 48 hours from when they are caught, he said.

"Look at the eyes of the fish," Alhermizi said. "The fish should have clear eyes."

Use your nose. Don't patronize a fish counter that has an overpowering "fishy" odor. Try asking the clerk to let you sniff your selection taking care, of course, not to get too close.

²If the fish smells unpleasant, don't buy it.

"Good fish has the scent of the sea," Pardington said. "Salmon has a cucumber smell inside the cavity. Ocean perch has a fuller aroma than cod. But fresh fish should smell like the sea, like cucumbers.'

According to Peggy Departy of Busch's Markets, when buying whole fish, look for moist skin, a shiny skin with firmly attached scales. (If unscaled, look for a bright color.) "The fish should have bright red, moist gills, crystal clear eyes and a fresh smell," Deparry said.

When buying fillets or steaks, look for firm flesh, clear white or red color, depending on the variety of fish, and even coloring, moist appearance and a fresh smell."

⁹When you take your fish home, rinse it under cold water before wrapping and refrigerating it, she said.

6 33

TACOS

FROM PAGE B5

the iceberg lettuce adds more nutrition and health-protective substances. The cool freshness of this mix sets off the warm fish. If you prefer to use a prepared salsa, be sure to add a splash of fresh lime juice.

The contrast of warm fish, creamy mayo, tangy salsa and crisp veggies makes for a delicious but guilt-free meal.

FISH TACOS

2 ripe large tomatoes, seeded and chopped 1/2 medium red onion, finely chopped 1-2 serrano chile peppers, seeded and finely chopped Juice of 1 lime % cup reduced-fat mayonnaise 1 teaspoon ground cumin

Odor is the only universal characteristic that can be used across all fish species, according to ChefTalk.com. If a fish has a "fishy odor" the product is already in decline and as a result will taste fishy. If a retail fish counter smells "fishy," you are probably in a place that does not sell the best.

The fish should have a fresh, glossy sheen to it, Pardington said. "The eyes should be shiny, not sunken," Pardington said.

DEMAND IS UP

Alhermizi sees an increase in business at this time of year. "Some of our biggest customers are from Weight Watchers. They'll buy from us five days a week. With the Jewish holidays, (customers will) order whitefish or pickerel for gefilte and Chaldean holidays, they'll order whitefish and catfish."

Keep the fish clean and cold, according to Consumer Reports. A typical piece of finfish or shellfish will have a high-quality shelf life of eight or nine days after it's caught if stored at 32° F but less than half that if stored at 42° barely above refrigerator temperature

When you are in the store, shop for fish last.

1 tablesooon canola oil

by 1-inch pieces

8 (6-inch) corn tortillas

lettuce

aside.

1 pound cod or other firm white

2²/₃ cups finely shredded green

cabbage (1/2 small head)

1/2 cups finely-shredded iceberg

1/2 cup minced cilantro leaves

Salt and ground black pepper

To make the salsa, combine

peppers and lime juice in a bowl.

Season to taste with salt and set

In another bowl, combine the

mayonnaise and cumin. Season

to taste with black pepper and

preferably heavy, skillet over

Cook until golden on all sides

set aside. Heat the oil in a large,

medium-high heat. Add the fish

and opaque in the center of the

thickest part, about 2 minutes

per side, 8 minutes in all, turn-

the tomatoes, onion, serrano

Preheat oven to 350ºF.

fish fillet, cut in eight 4-inch

Check that fish are displayed in trays on ice and are separated from each other. Store employees should be wearing disposable gloves. Buy the freshest-looking fish.

If the fish still has a head, it should have clear eyes and bright red gills. If it's already filleted or steaked, make sure its flesh looks firm. Avoid any fish with gaps between muscle fibers, any that look slimy or dried out, or any with blood spots or blemishes. Gill color is also an excellent

indication of freshness. Because the gills are responsible for oxygen exchange with the blood, they are generally deep red in color. Similar to the bloodiness characteristic, gills that are brown in color suggest a lack of freshness.

When cooking, Deparry said to measure the fish at its thickest point. In a pre-heated 450° oven, cook exactly 10 minutes for each measured inch of thickness, 15 minutes if enclosed in foil or baked in a sauce, Deparry said. "For frozen, unthawed fish, double the cooking time," Deparry said. "Fish will continue cooking once removed from the stove."

kabramcz@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2107

Where do you enjoy a Friday night fish fry? Many Christians celebrate Lent and observe meatless Friday meals, and often eat fish at their local churches. If you have a local favorite fish fry, let us know and we'll run it in a list in the Taste section. Send information to Ken Abramczyk, Taste editor, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, 48150 or e-mail kabramczyk@hometownlife.com

Meanwhile, wrap the tortillas

in foil. Warm them in the oven

until moist and soft, 5 minutes.

To serve, place 2 tortillas on each

of four dinner plates. Sprinkle^{1/3}

over each tortilla and add a dol-

lop of mayonnaise. Place a piece

the salsa and spoon a generous

amount over each taco. Serve

Makes 4 servings.

of fish on top. Add the cilantro to

Per serving: 313 calories, 9 g.

total fat (1 g. saturated fat), 36 g.

carbohydrate, 25 g. protein, 6 g.

dietary fiber, 279 mg. sodium.

Dana Jacobi is author of The Joy of

Soy and recipe creator for American

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Institute for Cancer Research.

Orthodontic

ciation

cup cabbage and¹/₄ cup lettuce

cake turner.

immediately.

Celebrate Mardi Gras with a Creole dish

Whether you celebrate Mardi Gras this year in its traditional hometown or elsewhere, you can mark the festivities with a Creole dish, including one you can easily make yourself.

In the 18th century, the Spanish who governed New Orleans called all residents of European heritage criollo. The name evolved into "Creole" and implied refinement, culture and elegance.

Today, Creole cooking suggests influences of Spanish, French and African cuisines. It is considered more sophisticated than Cajun cooking. Creole food traditionally uses a lot of butter and cream while Cajun food features pork fat.

Neither style of cooking, however, needs to be high in fat.

Creole cooking uses tomatoes and Cajún cooking has more spices. Both include green peppers, onions and celery. All of these ingredients provide flavor without fat. A Creole or Cajun dish actually has many of the requisites of healthful eating, including vegetables, rice and beans.

Sweet green bell peppers, for example, are a good source of vitamin C and provide some

vitamin A as well. Stuffed with brown rice, beans, onions, cheese and corn, peppers can make a Creole-style main dish that's filling and healthful.

Basmati rice is known for its fine texture and nut-like flavor and aroma. Brown basmati offers the unrefined, whole grain, which provides far more fiber, vitamins, minerals and natural phytochemicals than refined grains, thus helping to reduce the risks of cancer and heart disease.

Brown basmati rice is available in many grocery and specialty stores. The rice keeps the stuffed peppers in the recipe below fluffy and light. Yet this Creole-style dish makes a meatless entrée that is both tasty and filling. It is a fitting way to mark Mardi Gras, or to serve any day in the Lenten weeks that traditionally follow.

CREOLE STUFFED PEPPERS

- 4 medium areen bell peppers 2 cups cooked brown basmati rice
- 1 cup canned pinto beans, rinsed and drained
- ¾ cup frozen, drained canned or fresh corn kernels
- ¾ cup finely chopped onion 1/2 cup (2 ounces) crumbled feta
- cheese 1/2 teaspoon dried basil

Salt and freshly ground black pepper

2 teaspoons olive oil · 1 tablespoon lemon juice

Preheat oven to 375ºF. Spray 8-inch square baking dish with cooking spray.

Cut tops off the bell peppers and remove seeds. Reserve tops. If necessary, to help peppers stand firmly, trim a slice off bottom, taking care not to cut through. Set aside.

In large bowl, combine rice, beans, corn, onion, cheese and basil. Season with salt and pepper, if desired. Spoon filling into" bell peppers, packing lightly and mounding tops. Place the peppers in a baking dish and cover a with reserved tops. Place baking dish on middle rack in oven. Carefully add water to baking dish to a depth of $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches.

Bake until peppers are soft when pierced with knife, about 45 to 50 minutes. Remove pepper tops and discard. In small bowl, combine oil and lemon juice. Spoon mixture over peppers. Let stand 20 minutes. before serving.

Makes 4 servings. Per serving:, 293 calories, 7 g. total fat (3g. saturated fat), 48 g. carbohydrates, 10 g. protein, 9 g. dietary fiber, 362466 mg sodium. мŝ

Recipe courtesy of the American Institute for Cancer Research.

Lentil soup overflows with good flavors drained

Just the thought of lentil

This version, from the March issue of Real Simple magazine, round out its rich flavor spectrum: leeks and kale, tomatoes basil, plus a dusting of Parmesan cheese, if you like.

WINTER LENTIL SOUP

(Hands-on time 20 minutes, start to finish 1 hour) 4 leeks, white and light green parts only 1 bunch kale 1 tablespoon olive oil 28-ounce can whole tomatoes,

6 cups water 2 sweet potatoes, peeled and cut into/z inch dice 1/2 cup brown lentils 1 tablespoon fresh thyme leaves 2 teaspoons kosher salt ¼ teaspoon black pepper 12 fresh basil leaves (optional) ¼ cup (1 ounce) grated Parmesan (optional)

Slice each leek in half lengthwise, then slice each half into//inch-thick half-moons (about 2 cups). Place in a large bowl of cold water and swish to remove any grit. Drain and pat dry.

Remove the stems from the kale. Stack the leaves on top of one another and slice them crosswise into/_inch-wide strips; you'll need 3 cups.

Heat the oil in a saucepan over medium heat. Add the leeks and

More Within Reach

cook for 3 minutes. Add the tomatoes and cook, breaking them up with a spoon, for 5 minutes. Add the water and bring to a boil. Stir in the kale, sweet potatoes, lentils, thyme, salt, pepper and basil (if using). Sim mer until the lentils are tender, " about 30 minutes. Spoon into individual bowls. Sprinkle with the Parmesan (if using).

To freeze: Omit the Parmesan. Let the soup cool, then ladle into large resealable bags, filling each one halfway. Store for up to 3 months. To reheat: Thaw overnight in the refrigerator or 🗄 thaw partially in the microwave. Warm in a covered saucepan over medium heat for 20 minutes. Ladle into individual bowls and sprinkle with the Parmesan (if using). Makes 6 servings.

(Recipe from Real Simple magazine, March 2006)

DIXON HOME REMODELING CO

মন্ত্র গর্জ

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS ing the fish with tongs or a pan-

soup, a classic favorite, can arouse heady associations of warm, savory satisfaction.

overflows with good things to and sweet potato, thyme and







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You'll prepare these carrots gingerly

Cooks think of herbs and spices as flavor-enhancers. But thanks to their health-protective phytochemicals, they can also help fight against cancer and other diseases, much like those found in fruits, vegetables, whole grains and other plant-based foods.

B8

(*)

Fresh ginger, for example, contains a pungent substance called gingerol. And when ginger is dried and stored, another substance, zingerone, is formed. Both substances are believed to have antioxidant and anti-inflammatory effects and, therefore, may be cancerprotective.

In addition to cancer and other chronic diseases, ginger has been used to treat nausea, motion sickness and other digestive ailments. Some people chew on candied ginger, while others take ginger cap-

Duck breast recipe calls for quick cooking

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A menu that includes duck could convey a nice sense of occasion. Happily for cooks, this doesn't call for advanced skills or hours of your time.

The following recipe is one that a home cook can prepare in less than 20 minutes – but that doesn't include reading the recipe carefully first, and doing the requisite shopping for ingredients.

The duck breasts are served with polenta for a Provençal flavor, rich with Mediterranean nuances.

This doesn't mean a caloric overload; duck breast is a good source of lean protein, as low in calories as chicken breast.

Serving suggestion: Serve with green beans or wilted spinach.

DUCK BREASTS PROVENÇALE

(Preparation 5 minutes, cooking time 15 minutes) 1 precooked polenta log (about 1 pound)

4 White Pekin duck breast halves (6 ounces each) 2 teaspoons herbes de Provence

blend 1/4 teaspoon olive oil

1 cup low-sodium chicken broth

sules or drink a tea made from hot water steeped with candied ginger or a few slices of fresh ginger root.

The American Institute for Cancer Research promotes a largely plant-based diet which includes herbs and spices as the most healthful way to eat. This diet, rich in vegetables, fruits, whole grains and beans, has both short- and long-term benefits. It can often help with weight management as well as offer protection from chronic diseases like cancer.

The AICR rule of thumb is two-thirds (or more) of a plate filled with a variety of vegetables, fruits, whole grains and/or beans, and one-third (or less) animal protein.

A largely plant-based diet does not have to be dull or tasteless. Fresh herbs and spices are one way to enliven flavor while adding more health-protective substances. These gingered carrots are a

pretty, nutritious side dish that complements most entrées.

GINGERED CARROTS

1/2 cup golden raisins Hot water

5-6 medium carrots (10-12 ounces)

Boiling water, just enough to cover carrots

2 teaspoons finely-minced fresh ginger

1 teaspoon fresh lemon juice 2 teaspoons butter or margarine 2 teaspoons brown sugar 2 teaspoons cornstarch 1 teaspoon grated lemon zest Pinch of salt, if desired

In a medium bowl, combine raisins and just enough hot water to cover them. Let stand about 15 minutes. Meanwhile, peel and slice carrots diagonally into 1/2-inch slices. Place in a medium pot of boiling water, add ginger and lemon juice. Cook 6 to 7 minutes. Drain.

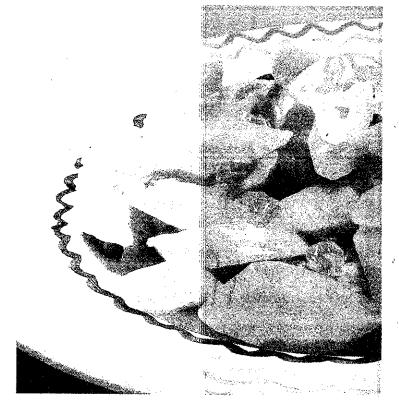
Drain raisins, reserving 3/4 cup liquid, and set aside. In a skillet, melt butter or margarine over medium heat. Add brown sugar and cook 30 seconds.

In a separate bowl, mix together reserved raisin water and cornstarch. Add to butter/brown sugar mixture. Cook about 1 minute, or until thickened.

Add raisins and carrots and cook 1 minute. Add lemon zest and salt, if desired. Serve immediately.

Makes 4 servings. Per serving: 124 calories, 2 g. total fat (1 g. saturated fat), 26 g. carbohydrates, 1 g. protein, 3 g. dietary fiber and 55 mg sodium.

Recipe from the American Institute for Cancer Research.



www.hometownlife.com

These gingered carrots are a pretty, nutritious side dish that complements most entrées.

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Imagine getting more for less. With HAP's Medicare Advantage plans, you get all your Medicare-covered benefits:

 1/4 cup chopped pitted Kalamata olives
1/4 cup chopped oii-packed sundried tomatoes

1 tablespoon capers, rinsed 1 tablespoon chopped parsley

Heat oven to 425 degrees Fahrenheit.

Bring large pot of water to boil; cook polenta log according to package directions while preparing duck and sauce.

With small, sharp knife, remove skin from duck breasts. Season breasts on both sides with herbes de Provence. In 10-inch nonstick skillet, heat oil over medium-high heat. Add breasts; brown on both sides, about 2 minutes per side. Transfer breasts in one layer to baking dish or another skillet and place in oven; cook about 6 minutes for rare, 8 minutes for medium-rare and 10 minutes for medium, turning breasts once after 4 minutes.

While breasts are in the oven, make pan sauce. Pour off fat from skillet breasts were browned in. Add chicken broth, olives, tomatoes and capers; simmer until liquid is reduced to about 1/2 cup.

Remove polenta log from water; open package and mound polenta on 4 plates, dividing it equally. Cut each breast crosswise on a slight angle into 4 to 5 slices about 1/2-inch thick; fan 1 breast over polenta on each plate and spoon sauce over duck and polenta. Sprinkle with parsley.

Makes 4 servings.

Nutrition information per serving: 193 cal., 5 g fat, 136 mg chol., 401 mg sodium, 8 g carbo., 1 g fiber, 28 g pro.

(Recipe for AP developed by the Duckling Council. Information and recipes on the Web: http://www.duckling.org.)



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* Paid spokesperson; Doris Biscoe is powered by HAP.

www.hap.org

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Section C

Thursday, February 23, 2006

Ed Wright, editor (734) 953-2108 Fax (734) 591-7279 ewright@hometownlife.com www.hometownlife.com



Chiefs headed for Battle Creek

BY BRAD KADRICH STAFF WRITER

Never mind the Canton Chiefs trailed Novi Detroit Catholic Central 30-28 in a prep wrestling team regional at Plymouth High School Wednesday night.

Forget the fact he needed a win to give his team the first regional championship in school history.

And ignore the idea he was just a sophomore trying to bear up under all that pressure. Because Steve Cox did. Cox pinned CC's Mike Wikter in 3:18

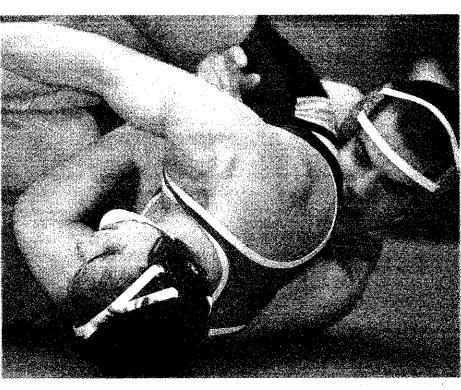
of the 130-pound match and allowed

his Chiefs to shock the Shamrocks, 34-30, in the regional final. The win sends Canton (28-4) -for the first time - to the state quarterfinals March 3-4 at Kellogg Arena in Battle Creek.

And Cox just shrugged it all off. "I was just trying to have fun," the sophomore said. "I felt the pressure at first, then just decided to have fun and that allowed me to relax."

He was the only one. With the crowd and both teams constantly coming to their feet, the meet see-sawed back and forth from the opening bout, when CC's

PLEASE SEE WRESTLING, C3



HOCKEY – Penguin skaters topple Pioneers

HOOPS – Canton advances to WLAA semis

TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton's Joe Wilson turns Catholic Central's Ryan Brown to his back during the 152-pound match of the team regional finals at Wednesday night at Plymouth High School.

'Rally' big show Salem overcomes 2-0 deficit to upend rival Wildcats in 5

BY ED WRIGHT STAFF WRITER

Plymouth's volleyball team did just about everything imaginable to Salem's unbeaten conference record Monday night in the Rocks' gym.

The Wildcats spiked it, bumped it, slammed it and dented it.

Everything except break it. Plymouth soared to a commanding advantage by winning the first two games in the bestof-five match, however, the Rocks demonstrated they're as resilient as they are talented by rebounding to survive with a heart-pounding, five-game victory: 23-25, 20-25, 25-12, 25-19 and 15-11.

On "Senior Night," Salem closed its Western Lakes

deserves a lot of credit for that. They played great.

"Our passing and serve reception were hurting us the first two games. What it came down to in the end though was our defense. Our defense stepped up in the last three games."

Plymouth may not have won, but the Wildcats definitely earned a "Dangerous When Healthy" tag. Playing in their first conference match in over a month with a full, injury-free (for the most part) roster, the Wildcats played like the team coach Kelly McCausland expected to see all season during the first two games.

"In games one and two, the girls played with the attitude that they had nothing to lose," McCausland said. "The third game was the key. We made some unforced errors and Salem seemed to get the momentum back. "It was nice seeing what we're capable of when we have everybody healthy. Hopefully, this will carry over to Saturday." Junior outside hitter Teresa Coppiellie paced the Rocks with 31 kills and 13 digs. Playing in her last home match, senior Lauren Price notched 19 kills, 18 digs and three aces. Freshman setter Jansan Falcuson played with the poise of a senior, racking up 42 assists, 10 digs and four block assists, while junior



OLGC football

The Our Lady of Good Counsel (OLGC) football program will hold its parents meeting for the 2006 season at 7 p.m. on Thursday, March 30, in the school's gymnasium. OLGC is located at 1151 William St. in Plymouth.

OLGC offers teams for boys in third through eighth grades (as of the fall of 2006). Families that belong to one of the following parishes are eligible: OLGC, St. Kenneth, Our Lady of Victory, St. Mary's of Wayne, St. **Richard, St. Thomas** a'Becket, Divine Savior, **Resurrection, St. James** (third- and fourthgraders only) and St. John Neumann. Parents of interested players should attend the meeting. Program information and registration materials will be distributed.

For more information, contact Mike Nelson at mikenelson@ameritech.n et; or (734) 737-9935. Also, information about the program can be found at www.olgcfootball.net.

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. The clinic, which costs

\$25 and has four ses-

sions to choose from,

T-shirt.

includes three hours of

instruction, snacks and a

For more information.

contact Ron or Pat Myers

at (734) 459-4026; or at

pcmmyers@hotmail.com.

Baseball sign-ups.

The Greater Canton Youth Baseball and

Softball Organization has

started registration for

the spring 2006 season.

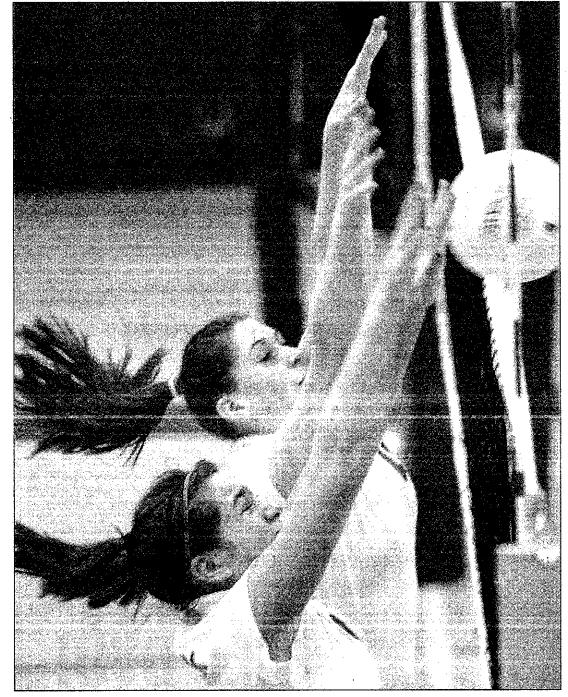
csc.canton-mi.org or you

For more information, call (734) 394-5489. Ann Arbor run

Registration forms are

available online at

can visit the Canton Sports Center or the Summit on the Park for walk-in registration.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

A block during Monday's match against Plymouth proved to be a hair-raising experience for Salem's Jansan Falcuson (foreground) and Lauren Kurtz. Kurtz finished with nine blocks and Falcuson recorded 42 assists in the Rocks' fivegame victory.

Activities Association schedule with a perfect 11-0 mark, which earned it a top seed in Saturday's conference tournament at Livonia Churchill. The Rocks, who had dropped just one game in conference play prior to Monday, are 39-7-1 overall.

Plymouth slipped to 6-5 in the WLAA and 29-10 overall.

"I was still confident when we were down 2-0, but I knew there were some little things we needed to tweak if were going to come back," said Salem coach Amanda Suder. "We were a little out of sync the first two games and we were doing things we haven't done all season. But Plymouth

PLEASE SEE SALEM, C4

PCA cagers win thriller over 'Riders

BY ED WRIGHT STAFF WRITER

Tuesday night's basketball game between Plymouth Christian Academy and Bloomfield Hills Roeper started as a battle of threes and ended with a battle of Z's.

In a contest highlighted by 32 three-point-shot attempts, PCA's "Z" - sophomore guard Trevor Zinn - converted a driving layup with 8.3 seconds left to give the Eagles a thrilling 47-46 victory over the visiting Roughriders. Roeper's "Z" senior guard Erik Zinser - had sliced through the lane and drained a running scoop shot over at least four outstretched arms 25 seconds earlier to put Roeper ahead, 46-45.

The Roughriders failed to get off a decent shot on their final possession. With two-tenths of a

PLEASE SEE PCA, C6

Belbin, Agosto inspire skaters

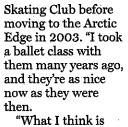
Arctic Edge skaters say silver medalists are 'real people'

BY ED WRIGHT STAFF WRITER

Success hasn't spoiled Canton-based silver medalwinning ice dancers Tanith Belbin and Ben Agosto during their march to Winter Olympics glory.

In fact, the pair are worthy of gold medals when it comes to congeniality and assisting their fellow skaters, according to a pair of local figure skaters who train with the silver medalists at the Arctic Edge in Canton.

"They're both very friendly and down-to-earth people," said 20-year-old Livonia resident Lisa Zielinski, who has known the duo since they all trained together at the Detroit



great about Tanith and Ben is that they do a lot in the community. Last year they Torrie Vicek organized a fund-raiser for the Tsunami relief effort. They're both great role models

for young skaters." Belbin and Agosto became the first United States icedancing team to win a medal since 1976.

Edging out Belbin and Agosto for the gold were twotime world champions Tatiana Navka and Roman Kostomarov of Russia, who earned 200.64 points to the Americans' 196.06.

Ukrainians Elena Grushina and Ruslan Goncharov took the bronze with a score of 195.85.

Plymouth resident Torrie



Lisa Zielinski

Vlcek, 14, said neither Belbin nor Agosto let the international success they've enjoyed even before the Torino Olympics inflate their egos.

"If you walked into the Arctic Edge during the week when they were here and you didn't know who they were, you'd think they were just two average people," Vlcek said. "Ben has helped me a lot with my skating and Tanith is amazing, too.

"I was really hoping they would win the gold, but silver is just as good. Everybody here is very happy for them."

Arctic Edge general manag-

er Craig O'Neill said Belbin and Agosto usually arrive at the facility between 9 a.m. and 10 a.m. on training days.

"They usually train for a couple of hours, then they leave," O'Neill said. "They're not really into coaching yet, but it wouldn't surprise me if they got into that one day after their competitive skating days are over. They both work well with the younger skaters."

Vlcek said she didn't want to find out the results of Monday's ice dancing competition until it aired on a tapedelayed basis on NBC six hours after the event was over. Unfortunately, her plan was foiled.

"I didn't even look at my instant messaging during the day on Monday because I knew if I did, I'd find out who won," she said, smiling. "But I ended up finding out they won the silver early Monday night. Even though I knew, it was still fun watching the actual competition."

Online registration is open for the 33rd annual Dexter-Ann Arbor Run, presented by Comerica

Sunday, June 4. The featured race is the **RRCA Michigan Half-**Marathon Championship. Other runs include 10K and 5K run and walks. All races follow picturesque Huron River Drive to the finish on Main Street in downtown Ann Arbor.

Runners can run the river, enjoy the post-race carnival atmosphere, then take the family a block down Main Street to sample the offerings. of the Taste of Ann Arbor Festival. Proceeds benefit the Champions for Children Campaign, spearheading fund raising for the new C.S. Mott Children's Hospital.

Honorary chair Tyrone Wheatley will walk the 5K in support of the fund. Complete information is available at www.dexterannarborrun.com.

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

LOCAL SPORTS

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, February 23, 2006

Perfect Play Inc. to host Penguin skaters topple Pioneers, 3-1 'March Madness' clinic

training company whose staff consists of former NBA, NCAA and European pro players, will be hosting a "March Madness Basketball Blitz" on Saturday, March 4, at Lifetime Fitness in Canton.

The tutors of Perfect Play, including former NBA player Brandon Williams and ex-University of Michigan star Fimmy King, will host three group sessions of workouts that improve participants' agility, speed and defending and shooting skills. Other tutors include Troy Coleman, Ann Marie Carravallah, Dan Young and Saddi Washington. Along with the sessions,

Perfect Play Inc., a basketball there will be several skills contests, including "Defender Challenge," "Dribble Relay," "Three-Point Challenge" and a free-throw contest.

The times of the sessions are 8-9 a.m. (ages 10-11), 9:30-10:30 a.m. (ages 12-13) and 11 a.m.-noon (ages 14 and up). The cost is \$10 per player and only 20 players per age group will be accepted.

To register, call (734) 769-9839; send an e-mail to info@perfectplayinc.com; or visit the company's Web site at www.perfectplayinc.com.

Registration forms can be dropped off at the "Members Activities" desk at Lifetime Fitness in Canton.

On Friday, the Plymouth-Canton-Salem girls hockey team bounced back from just their second loss of the season six nights earlier by ousting Ann Arbor Unified, 3-1, in a game played at Yost Arena on the University of Michigan campus.

The victory improved the Penguins' record to 17-2 overall and 15-2 in the Michigan Metro High School Girls Hockey League. On Feb. 18, PCS dropped a 5-2 decision to Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook. The Penguins and Pioneers were knotted at 1-1 with 3:12 remaining when Kristen

Schwan tallied an unassisted

PREP HOCKEY

goal for the game-winner. Less than two minutes later, Adrienne Cercone added an insurance goal into an empty net.

With just one regular-season game remaining - Saturday's match-up at Harper Wood Regina – the Penguins have clinched second place in the ning Saturday, March 4.

of 21 shots. league's Western Division an a first-round bye in the state play-The Penguins and Cranes battled to a scoreless draw through offs, which will be held at the Arctic Edge in Canton beginthe first period before Katie

PCS's Lisa Ealy gave her team

a 1-0 lead against Ann Arbor 12 minutes into the game with an unassisted goal. Following a scoreless second period, the Pioneers' J.J. Chronis knotted the game at 1-1 at the 10:53 mark of the third period.

The Penguins outshot their hosts, 52-21, but were stymied time and time again by Pioneer goalie Clarice Grantham. Kristie Kowalski played well between the pipes for PCS, stopping 20

Zimmerman scored with 8:43 left in the second to give her

team a 1-0 advantage. Ashley LeBlanc assisted on the goal. Cranbrook tied the game at 1-1 six minutes later on Aerial Magidson's lamp-lighter.

PCS regained the lead, 2-1, on an Ealy goal from Amy Coleman and Zimmerman, but Cranbrook netted the final four goals to notch the win.

"We didn't play well and Cranbrook played really well," said PCS coach Lori Callahan. "Cranbrook seemed to have more energy and enthusiasm than we did. We kept up with them in the first and second periods, but in the third they took over."

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON NOTICE TO PUBLIC BOARD OF REVIEW APPOINTMENTS

Notice is hereby given by the undersigned, Terry G. Bennett, Clerk of the Charter Township of Canton, County of Wayne, State of Michigan to all residents of the Charter Township of Canton: that all persons protesting their assessment must complete petitions prior to appearing before the Board. A personal appearance is not required. All petitions must be received in the Assessor's office by March 18, 2006 at 12:00 p.m.

The Board of Review will be held in the Canton Township Hall on the first floor, at 1150 S. Canton Center Road. Entry into the building can be accessed through the front doors of Township Hall. Please come prepared, as an eight (8) minute limit before the Board will be strictly adhered to.

The Following is the schedule for March Board of Review:

Tuesday,	March 7, 2006	Organizational Meeting 4:00 p.m5:00 p.m.
•		(No Appointments)

- Monday, March 13, 2006 Hearings from 9:00 a.m. -- 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Appointments Only)
- Tuesday, March 14, 2006 Hearings from 1:00 p.m. -- 5:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. (Appointments Only)

Saturday, March 18, 2006 Hearings from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. First Come, First Serve (Walk-in-Schedule)

Please be advised entry the building on Tuesday, March 14th after 5:00p.m.and Saturday, March 18th can only be accessed through the front entrance of the Township hall.

If you have any questions regarding the March Board of Review, you may call Jana Shaw, Secretary to the Board of Review (734) 394-5111.

> TERRY G. BENNETT, CLERK Charter Township of Canton

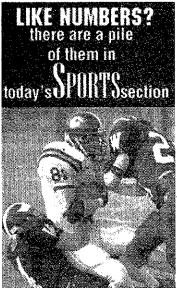
Publish: February 23, 26, March 2, 5 & 9, 2006

Whalers silence the Storm, 6-4

The Plymouth Whalers snatched a victory from the jaws of defeat Saturday night, and in doing so remain in first place in the Ontario Hockey League's West Division.

Chris Terry's seventh goal of the season with 3:15 left snapped a 4-4 tie and the Whalers went on to defeat the Guelph Storm, 6-4, in an OHL game played before 3,066 at the Compuware Sports Arena. Plymouth (28-24-1-3) need-

ed the victory to stay in first place in the OHL West.



Saginaw (29-25-1-0) defeated Windsor, 7-3, Saturday. Trailing 3-0 at one point in

the second period and 3-1 after 40 minutes of play, the

Whalers tied the game in the third on power-play goals by John Armstrong (11th) at 1:42 and Mike Letizia (12th) at 3:53. Plymouth took its first lead on another power-play goal from Steve Ward (12th) at the 7:26 mark. Guelph tied the game on a power-play goal by Ryan Parent at 13:42, but Terry scored the game-winner

3:03 later when he skated into the Guelph zone on the right wing and snapped a shot by Storm goaltender Jason Guy.

Guelph head coach Dave Barr pulled Guy in the final minute of play for an extra attacker and Guelph's Rafael Rotter rang a shot off the cross-bar. But Letizia picked up a loose puck at the hash mark in his own zone and scored on the empty net to give Plymouth a two-goal cushion.

After a scoreless first period, Guelph led 3-1 in the second

period on goals by Jason Pitton (26th), Matt D'Agostini (23rd) and Ryan Callahan (43rd). Andrew Fournier started the Plymouth comeback by scoring his 15th at 8:43 of the second period.

That set the stage for the third period and the Plymouth victory.

Plymouth is home on Friday when it hosts Erie at the Compuware Sports Arena. The Whalers are set to host London on Saturday.

Salem gymnasts oust Wildcats

Freshman Katie Koetting placed first in the all-around and won the yault and floor exercise to lead Salem to a 143.55-129.25 triumph over Plymouth Monday night in a meet held in the Plymouth High School gymnastics room.

Koetting's 36.55 all-around bested teammate Brittany Young (35.75) by less than a point. Jordan Brodehl was the lone Wildcat to break into the top six spot in the all-around when she posted a season-best score of 35.15.

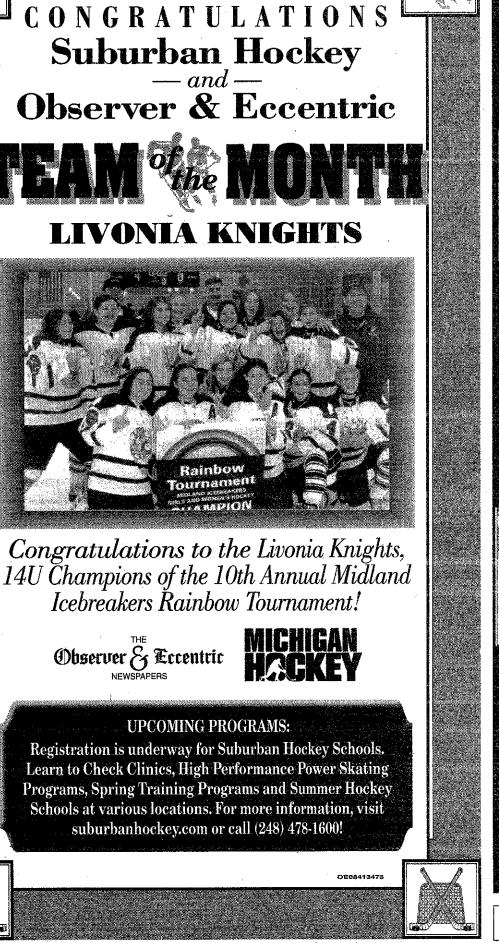
Young also had a fine night for the Rocks, winning the uneven bars competition (9.0) as well as the balance beam (9.45).

The victory improved Salem's dual-meet record to 6-3 heading into today's Western Lakes Activities Association meet at Walled Lake Central High School. Plymouth slipped to 1-8 with the setback.

SALEM 143.55 PLYMOUTH, 129.25 Monday at Plymouth H.S. ALL-AROUND: 1. Katie Koetting (S), 36.55; 2. Brittany Young (S), 35.75; 3. Sarah Bugosh (S), 35.45; 4. Autumn Collins (S), 35.40; 5. Jordan Brodehl (P), 35.15; 6. Katerina Kariotos, 34.35. VAULT: 1. Katie Koetting (S), 9.05; 2. Autumn Collins (S), 8.95; 3. Jordan Brodehl (P), 8.90; 4. Sarah Bugosh (S), 8.85; 5. Katerina Kariotos (S), 8.6; 6. Ashley Brimmer (P), 8.4. UNEVEN BARS: 1. Brittany Young (S), 9.0; 2. Katie Koetting (S), 8.9; 3. Sarah Bugosh (S), 9.65; 4. Autumn Collins (S), 8.9; 4. Sarah Bugosh (S), 9.65; 4. Autumn Collins (S), 8.9; 5. Sarah Bugosh (S), 9.65; 4. Autumn Collins (S), 8.9; 5. Sarah Bugosh (S), 9.65; 4. Autumn Collins (S), 8.9; 5. Sarah Bugosh (S), 9.65; 4. Autumn Collins (S), 8.9; 5. Sarah Bugosh (S), 9.65; 4. Autumn Collins (S), 8.9; 5. Sarah Bugosh (S), 9.65; 4. Autumn Collins (S), 8.9; 5. Sarah Bugosh (S), 9.65; 5. Autumn Collins (S), 9.0; 5. Sarah Bugosh (S), 9.65; 5. Katerina (S), 9.0; 5. Sarah Bugosh (S), 9.65; 5. Katerina (S), 9.0; 5. Sarah Bugosh (S), 9.65; 5. Katerina (S), 9.0; 5. Sarah Bugosh (S), 9.6; 6. Ashley Brimmer (P), 8.4; 5. Sarah Bugosh (S), 9.6; 6. Ashley Brimmer (P), 8.4; 5. Sarah Bugosh (S), 9.6; 6. Ashley Brimmer (P), 8.4; 5. Sarah Bugosh (S), 9.6; 6. Ashley Brimmer (P), 8.4; 5. Sarah Bugosh (S), 9.6; 6. Ashley Brimmer (P), 8.4; 5. Sarah Bugosh (S), 9.6; 6. Ashley Brimmer (P), 8.4; 5. Sarah Bugosh (S), 9.6; 6. Ashley Brimmer (P), 8.4; 5. Sarah Bugosh (S), 9.6; 6. Ashley Brimmer (P), 8.4; 5. Sarah Bugosh (S), 9.6; 6. Ashley Brimmer (P), 8.4; 5. Sarah Bugosh (S), 9.6; 6. Ashley Brimmer (P), 8.4; 5. Sarah Bugosh (S), 9.6; 6. Ashley Brimmer (P), 8.4; 5. Sarah Bugosh (S), 9.6; 6. Ashley Brimmer (P), 8.4; 5. Sarah Bugosh (S), 9.6; 6. Ashley Brimmer (P), 8.4; 5. Sarah Bugosh (S), 9.6; 6. Ashley Brimmer (P), 8.4; 5. Sarah Bugosh (S), 8.6; 6. Sarah Bugosh (S), 8.5; 5. Sarah 3. Sarah Bugosh (S), 8.65; 4. Autumn Collins (S), 8.5; 5. Jordan Brodehl (P), 8.4; 6. Katerina Kariotos (S), 8.35. BALANCE BEAM: 1. Brittany Young (S), 9.45; 2. Sarah Bugosh (S), 9:35; 3. Katie Koetting (S), 9.2; 4. Autumn Collins (S), 9.1; 5. Jordan Brodehl (P), 8.85; 6. Katerina Kariotos (S), 8.25. FLOOR EXERCISE: Katie Koetting (S), 9.4; 2. (tie) Brittany Young and Jordan Brodehl (P), 9.0; 4. Autumn Collins (S), 8.85; 5. (tie) Sarah Burosh (S) and Katerina Kariotos (S), 8.6. DUAL-MEET RECORDS: Salem, 6-3; Plymouth, 1-8.









WRESTLING

16 local grapplers qualify to move to individual regional

BY ED WRIGHT STAFF WRITER

Call them the "Sweet 16." That's how many local wrestlers qualified Feb. 18 for Saturday's Division 1 individual wrestling regional tournament at Southgate Anderson High School.

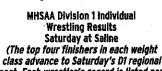
The top four placers from each of the 14 weight classes at last Saturday's district meet at Saline High School advanced. The individual state tournament is set for March 9-11 at the Palace of Auburn Hills.

Team-wise, Canton enjoyed the most productive day as seven Chiefs advanced, including Corey Phillips, who placed first at 130 pounds, and Konrad Konsitzke, who won the 145-pound division. Phillips is now 47-2 while Konsitzke stands at 43-3.

They will be joined by teammates Marwan Farai (second at 160), Donnie Laramie (third at 275), Ryan Schnettler (fourth at 112), Kiel Price (fourth at 171) and Tom Bonnell (fourth at 215).

Led by second-place finishers Steve D'Annunzio (112) and Ali Youssef (145), Plymouth advanced five grapplers into Saturday's regional. Other Wildcats moving on are Steve Korpus (third at 130), Jon Hagar (third at 145) and Danny Jammoul (third at 215).

A pair of Salem competitors earned first-place honors: Jake Bennett at 140 and Jeremy Henderson at 189. Nick Steiger (second at 119) and Corv Mervyn (third at 125) also moved on.



meet. Each wrestler's record is listed next to his name below. The names of the local wrestiers who advanced are highlighted.) 103 pounds: 1. Ken Nelson (Redford Union), 41-6; 2. Al Vellathottam (Novi), 26-4; 3. Namic Kerimov (Farmington), 36-8; 4. Tommy Myshock (Stevenson), 34-12. 112: 1. Alex Fowler (Churchill), 15-4; 2. Steve D'Annunzio (Plymouth), 33-6; 3. Trevor O'Connor (Novi CC), 20-10; 4. Ryan Schnettler (Canton), 31-13. 119: 1. Antonio Cosme (Novi CC), 37-16; 2. Nick Steiger (Salem), 27-16; 3. Jonny D'Anna (Northville), 20-14; 4. Tim Hecksel (Churchill), 17-14.

125: 1. Mike Warren (Franklin), 40-5; 2. Greg Roberts (Churchill), 30-13; 3. Cory Mervyn (Salem), 27-18; 4. Jon Roos (Franklin), 40-5

130: 1. Corey Phillips (Canton), 47-2; 2. Josh Billiau (Franklin), 39-6; 3. Steve Korpus (Plymouth), 34-11; 4. Jon Paul Gaffke (Churchill), 11-13. 135: 1. Andrew Nadhir (Novi CC), 43-5; 2. James Jones (Franklin), 30-9; 3. Austin Phillips (Franklin), 27-18; 4. Jonathan Fox (Yosi-Lincoln), 30-15

140: 1. Jake Bennett (Salem), 41-7; 2. Robert Price (Novi CC), 39-11; 3. Alex York (Stevenson), 32-12; 4. Jeremy Young (Novi), 21-21.

145: 1. Konrad Konsitzke (Canton), 43-3; 2. All Youssef (Plymouth), 40-0; 3. Jon Hagar (Plymouth), 33-9; 4. Adam Kibner (Redford Union), 25-17. 152: 1. Sean Dong (Novi CC), 43-0; 2. Tommy Coleman (Saline) , 38-5; 3. Luke

O'Brien (Saline), 37-9; 4. Nate Turco (Franklin), 33-13. 160: 1. Blake Karkoska (Franklin), 40-4; 2. Marwan Faraj (Canton), 39-8; 3. John

Farmer (Novi CC), 21-5; 4. John Wolfe (A.A Huron), 17-11.

171: 1. Cody Rize (Stevenson), 42-4; 2. Josh Kelly (Churchill), 28-7; 3. Joe Armstrong (Saline), 32-13; 4. Kiel Price (Canton), 23-

189: 1. Jeremy Henderson (Salem), 32-2; 2. Matt Farmer (Novi CC), 19-6; 3. Chris VanCamp (Franklin), 40-8; 4. Joe Kinville

(Novi CC), 12-8. 215: 1. John Kinville (Novi CC), 41-3; 2. Greg Schuyler (Franklin), 33-12; 3. Danny Jammoul (Plymouth), 7-2; 4. Tom Bonnel (Canton), 29-19.

275: 1. Joe Everett (Saline), 35-3: 2. Matt Shilekis (Redford Union), 38-5; 3. Donnie Laramie (Canton), 40-6; 4. Jimmy Zak (Saline), 9-2

WRESTLING

FROM PAGE CI Andrew Nadhir stopped Canton's Corey Phillips 16-13 at 135 pounds.

The biggest lead all night was nine points, and CC on three different occasions grabbed a six-point edge. But each time, Canton wrestlers got right back in it. The Chiefs voided at 145 to

fall behind 9-3, but Joe Wilson earned a 17-2 technical fall to pull Canton within 9-8.

When CC's John Kinville pinned Canton's Donnie Laramie in the heavyweight match, CC led 24-15. But Carl Lucke came right back and stuck CC's Barrett Schwartzlose in 1:03 at 103 pounds and Ryan Schnettler earned a 9-1 major decision over Trevor O'Connor at 112 to put Canton in front.

"They bumped some kids to try to take us out in three weight classes, because (O'Connor) had beaten us twice on Saturday (at individual districts)," Canton coach Casey Randolph said. "We knew that bump was coming, and we were ready for it."

Canton's Sam Santilli beat CC's Nieko Ianni 7-4 at 119 and then the Shamrocks' Antonio

and 4:30 pm for an appointment.

Tuesday, March 7

Monday, March 13

Cosme pinned Adam Fleischmann in 3:24 at 125 to set up Cox's heroics.

"It was a matter of who got on their backs the most," Shamrock coach Mike Rodriguez said. "I thought we were in the running when our heavyweight pinned their heavyweight, because (Laramie) is a big guy. But somewhere along the line, we lost track of things." The Chiefs also got major

decisions from Konrad Konsitzke, who beat Robert Price 13-0 at 140 pounds, and Marwan Faraj, an 11-3 win over John Farmer at 160 pounds.

The win over Catholic Central followed a 58-6 pounding of Ypsilanti Lincoln in the semi-final.

Catholic Central reached the final by virtue of a 37-18 win over Livonia Franklin.

Canton wrestles in the state quarterfinal Friday, March 3, likely against Rockford, which took a 30-1 record into Wednesday's regional at Grand Haven. Results of that regional weren't available at press time.

The trip to Battle Creek also allows the Chiefs to achieve the three goals they set for themselves heading into the season: Set a school record for wins;

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH

NOTICE OF HEARING

ASSESSMENT BOARD OF REVIEW

9 am - Noon Organizational Meeting

2 pm - 5 pm Hearings by Appointment

2 pm - 5 pm Hearings by Appointment

6 pm - 9 pm Hearings by Appointment

2 pm -5 pm Hearings by Appointment

OE08404783

NOTICE OF HEARING given that the Plymouth Township Board

Hearings are by appointment, please call 354-3267, between 8 am

Wednesday, March 159 am - Noon Hearings by Appointment

Saturday, March 18 9 am - 11 am First Come - First Served

All persons protesting their assessment must complete petitions

prior to appearing before the Board. A personal appearance is not

required. Appeals by mail will be accepted if received by March 18,

Other hearing dates and times may be scheduled as needed.

of Review will meet on the following dates and times:



TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

1

Canton's Corey Philips (right) ties up with Catholic Central's Andrew Nadhir Set during their 135-pound match in the team regional final Wednesday.

win the district championship, which they did last week; and go to Battle Creek.

"The kids turned it up and pulled together when they had to," Randolph said. "It's amazing the things these kids have accomplished. (But) getting there is never good enough. The first thing we'll do (Thursday) is re-set our goals."

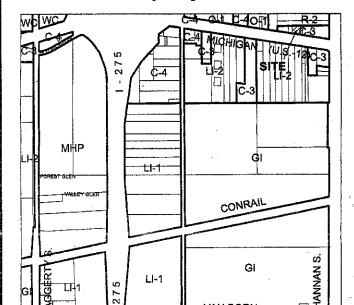
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REGIONAL TEAM DUAL WEDNESDAY, FEB. 22 CANTON 34

NOVI-CC 30 135 pounds: Andrew Nadhir (CC) d. Corey Phillips (C), 16-13: 140: Konrad Konsitzke (C) md. Robert Price (CC), 13-0; 145: Sean Dong (CC) void; 152: Joe Wilson (C) tf. Ryan Brown (CC), 17-2; 160: Marwan Faraj (C) md. John Farmer (CC), 11-3; 171: Mike Carrier (CC) d. Kiel Price (C), 7-5 OT; 189: Matt Farmer (CC) p. Alex Amberg (C), 5:09; 215: Tom Bonnell (C) d. Joe Kinville (CC), 7-2; 275: John Kinville (CC) p. Donnie Laramie (C), 1:51; 103: Carl Lucke (C) p. Barrett Schwartzlose (CC), 1:03: 112: Rvan Schnettler (C) md. Trevor O'Connor (CC), 9-1; 119: Sam Santilli (C) d. Nieko Ianni (CC), 7-4; 125; Antonio Cosme (CC) p. Adam Fleischmann (C), 3:24; 130: Steve Cox (C) p. Mike Wikter (CC), 3:18.

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

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, March 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 special land use request as provided in Section 27.03 of the Canton Township Zoning Ordinance:



Please recycle this newspaper

HEALTH SYSTE

2006The Board of Review will be held in the Board Meeting Room of Plymouth Township Hall, 42350 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth, MI 48170. Please come prepared as a ten (10) minute time limit before the Board of Review will be strictly adhered to.

Publish: February 16, 19 & 23, 2006

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O EIGHT BELOW (PG) 12:00, 1:25, 2:25, 3:50, 1:50, 6:15, 7:15, 8:40, 9:40 FRI/SAT LS 11:05

MRS. HENDERSON PRESENTS (R) 3:45, 6:10 CAPOTE (R) 1:00, 3:10, 5:20, 7:30, 9:45

THE WORLD'S FASTEST NDIAN (PG-13) :20, 4:00, 6:45, 9:25

KING KONG (PG-13) 2:05, 8:30

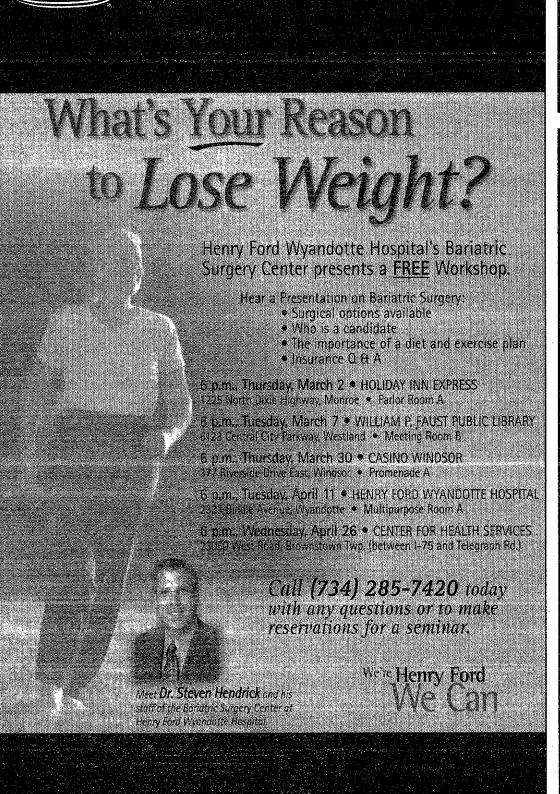
NANNY MCPHEE (PG) 12:55, 3:05, 5:15, 7:25, 9:35 FRI/SAT LS 11:45







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VAN BORN SECTION 36

CANTON AUTO SALES SPECIAL LAND USE - CONSIDER REQUEST FOR SPECIAL LAND USE APPROVAL FOR AUTOMOBILE SALES AS REQUIRED IN SECTION 17.02B.3 FOR PARCEL NO. 141 99 0003 000. Property is located north of Michigan Avenue and west of Hannan Road.

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.

OE08412957

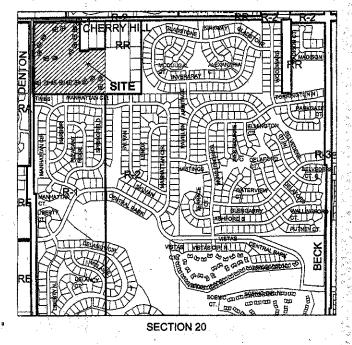
Publish: February 23, 2006

PLANNING COMMISSION CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

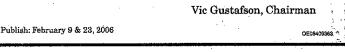
PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON, WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN.

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

CHERRY HILL GARDENS PDD AMENDMENT - CONSIDER REQUEST TO AMEND THE PDD AS PERMITTED IN SECTION 27.04 OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE INCLUSIVE OF PARCEL NO(S). 078 03 0001 000 THROUGH 078 03 0126 000. Property is located south of Cherry Hill and east of Denton Road.



Written comments addressed to the Planning Commission should be received at the Canton Township Administration Building, 1150 Canton Center S. prior to Thursday, March 2, 2006 in order to be included in the materials submitted for review.



LOCAL SPORTS

www.hometownlife.com

(CP) Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, February 23, 2006

THE WEEK AHEAD

BOYS BASKETBALL Friday, Feb. 24 Plymouth at Wayne Memorial, 7 p.m. Livonia Churchill at Salem, 7 p.m. W.L. Central at Canton, 7 p.m. Inter-City Baptist at PCA, 7:30 p.m. BOY'S SWIMMIN Thursday, Feb. 23 WLAA Conference prelims at Salem, TBA Friday, Feb. 24 WLAA Conference diving at Salem, TBA

Saturday, Feb. 25 WLAA Conference finals at Salem, TBA **BOYS WRESTLING** Saturday, Feb. 25 HISAA individual regional at Southgate Anderson, TBA GIRLS GYMNASTICS Thursday, Feb. 23 Plymouth, Salem and Canton at WLAA tourney at W.L. Central, noon ICE HOCKEY

Friday, Feb. 24 WLAA cross-over games at Lakes Division sites Saturday, Feb. 25 PCS Penguins at H.W. Regina, 8 p.m **GIRLS VOLLEYBALL** Saturday, Feb. 25 Salem. Plymouth and Canton at WLAA tourney at Livonia Churchill, 8 a.m. PCA at U-M Dearborn Tourney, 9 a.m. **ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE**

Friday, Feb. 24 Whalers vs. Erie Otters at Compuware Arena, 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 25 Whalers vs. London Knights at Compuware Arena, 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 26 Whales at Saginaw Spirit, 2 p.m.

TBA - time to be announced.

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	•Adventurers Camp •Trailblazers Camp •Circle C Ranch Camp •Teen Xreme Camp	Ages 7-9 Ages 10-12 Ages 10-15 Ages 13-15	March 26, 200 April 3, 2006 May 21, 2006
	•Horsemasters Camp •Counselor-In-Training •Teen Travel Camps	Ages 12-15 Ages 16-17 Ages 13-16	A-XC
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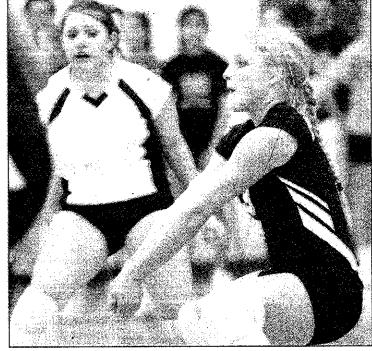


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HOME EQUITY LOAN





BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth's Lauren Stemberger receives a serve during Monday's match with Salem as teammate Brandi Swyhart looks on.

SALEM

FROM PAGE C1

middle hitter Lauren Kurtz proved to be instrumental in the Rocks' game-three rally with nine blocks, six kills and one ace.

Courtney Seiler (20 digs) and Nikki Mersch (17 digs) also played well for the winners.

Jeanine Moise, who had missed much of the previous month with a knee injury, led the Wildcats with 14 kills and five block assists. Moise's strong play was complemented by Jackie Dorre (12 kills), Lindsay Vogelsberg (21 digs), Brandi Swyhart (21 digs), Lauren Stemberger (15 digs), Sarah Haskins (30 assists) and Brittany Hengesh (seven block assists).

"Kim Klonowski only had four kills for us, but she stepped up and did a great job in the middle for us with her blocking," said McCausland.

The always-tight opening game proved to be an indicator of things to come. The widest lead by either team was three points (Plymouth led 6-3 and Salem led 9-6). With the game tied at 23-23 and Price serving, Plymouth's Janet Hanchett registered a kill to put her team up 24-23. The Wildcats won it on a Moise block.

Salem led the second game

The Rocks stayed alive by winning game three due in large part to the serving of Falcuson (six straight points during one stretch) and the powerful front-row play of Coppiellie and Price, who combined for seven game-three kills.

With the score tied at 9-9 in game four, Salem took control with five straight points behind the serving of Price and Kurtz's blocking. The Rocks sent the match into the fifth game on sizzling kills by Coppiellie.

Salem never trailed in the fifth and deciding game, which was highlighted by five kills each by Price and Coppiellie. STEVENSON 3, CANTON 0: Maria

Mezzadri had a dozen kills and a pair of aces and Amber Sharp added 18 digs as Stevenson swept Canton, 25-18, 25-12, 25-13, in a Western Lakes Activities Association volleyball match.

Amanda Alpert chipped in eight kills and four aces, Theresa Hamilton had four kills and three aces and Ashton Judis contributed 18 assists for Stevenson (35-9-3 overall, 9-2 conference).

"Stevenson has a good, solid team," said Canton coach Kristi Drinkhahn. "Kelsey Bailey had a phenomenal match for us."

Bailey recorded 10 digs, five kills and five assists. Lisa Western contributed five kills, four assists and six digs, and Marie Martin chipped in with four kills, five digs and two block assists.

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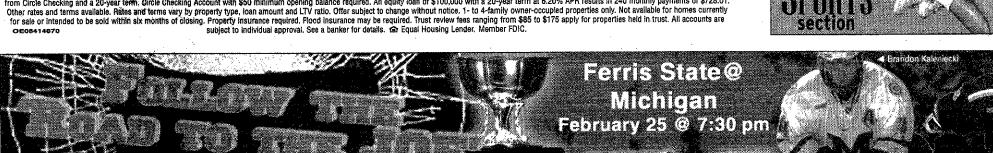
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CCH

17-16 before Plymouth ripped off a decisive 6-0 run that was sparked by five straight service points (including four aces) from Vogelsberg.

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ON FSI

Observer & Eccentric

DETROIT

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Charter Township of Canton Board Proceedings-February 14, 2006

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton was held Tuesday, February 14, 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 Caccamo, Kirchgatter, LaJoy, McLaughlin, Yack, Zarbo Staff Present: Director Minghine, Director Durack, Director Santomauro, Director Conklin, Director Faas Adoption of Agenda Motion by Bennett, supported by Zarbo to approve the amended agenda adding G-27: QVF Equipment Grant Agreement to the General Calendar. Motion carried unanimously. Approval of Minutes Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve the Board Study Minutes of January 17, 2006. Motion carried unanimously. Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to approve the Regular Board Minutes of January 24, 2006. Motion carried unanimously. Motion by Bennett, supported by LaJoy to approve the Board Study Minutes of January 31, 2006. Motion carried unanimously. Citizens Non Agenda Item Comments: Dr. Linda Olsen, Van Buren Public Schools, wished to thank Clerk Terry Bennett and staff for the assistance on the upcoming election on February 28, 2006 for a new Van Buren High School, located on Howe Road. Dr. Olsen stated two (2) additional Town Hall meetings will take place before the election on Wednesday, February 15, 2006, at 7:00 p.m. and Tuesday, February 21, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. at the Van Buren, High School. Payment of Bills Motion by Kirchgatter, supported by LaJoy to approve payment of the bills as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Expenditure Recap for February 14, 2006					
General Fund	101	\$	715,326.18		
Fire Fund	206	i	112,411.65		
Police Fund	207		276,885.56		
Summit Operating	208	l.	113,736.32		
Street Lighting	219	ł.	18,511.39		
Cable TV Fund	230		5,288.22		
Twp Improvement	246		1,182.50		
E-911 Utility	261	i.	333.63		
Auto Forfeiture(wwa)	267		766.81		
Federal Grants Fund	274		4,012.69		
Auto Theft Grant	289	:	500.03		
Downtown Dev. Auth.	294	1	27,311.10		
Cap Proj-Summit Const	402		261.32		
Cap Proj-Road Paving	\403	-	96,583.88		
Golf Fund	584		11,296.22		
Water & Sewer Fund	592		704,951.98		
Trust & Agency Fund	701		5,706.00		
Construction Escrows	702	÷	9,977.45		
Post Employ. Benefits	736		42,711.63		
Total - All Funds			2.147.754.56		

PUBLIC HEARING: PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED LEISURE SERVICES COMPREHENSIVE MASTER PLAN AND FORMAL ADOPTION OF THE PLAN, LSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to open the Public Hearing at 7:08 p.m. on the proposed Leisure Services Comprehensive Master Plan and formal adoption of the plan. Motion carried unanimously. Motion by Bennett, supported by Zarbo to close the Public Hearing at 7:14 p.m. on the proposed Leisure Services Comprehensive Master Plan and formal adoption of the plan. Motion carried unanimously. Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve the following resolution adopting Canton Leisure Services Comprehensive Master Plan. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Bennett, Kirchgatter, LaJoy, McLaughlin, Yack, Zarbo Nays: Caccame Motion carried.

RESOLUTION, Canton Leisure Services, Comprehensive Master Plan Resolution of Adoption Board of Trustees of the

Charter Township of Canton

WHEREAS, the Leisure Services Department of the Charter Township of Canton has developed a Comprehensive Master Plan which describes the physical features, existing recreation facilities and the desired actions to be taken to improve and maintain recreation facilities during the period between 2006 and 2010, and WHEREAS, a public comment session was held on February 14, 2006, to provide an opportunity for citizens to express opinions; ask questions and discuss all aspects of the Comprehensive Master Plan, and

WHEREAS, the Leisure Services Department of the Charter Township of Canton has developed the plan for the benefit of the entire community and to adopt the plan as a document to assist in meeting the leisure needs of the community, and WHEREAS, after the public hearing, the Charter Township of Canton Board of Trustees voted to adopt said Comprehensive Master Plan. NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Charter Township of Canton Board of Trustees hereby adopts the Canton Township Leisure Services Comprehensive Master Plan as a guideline for improving Leisure Services for the residents of the Charter Township of Canton. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this Resolution be sent to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. I, Terry Bennett, Charter Township of Canton Clerk, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and original copy of a resolution adopted by the Charter Township of Canton Board of

DATE FOR MERS PENSION COVERAGE. (ACSD)

Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve the attached resolutions changing the Municipal Employees' Retirement System of Michigan Defined Benefit Pension Program (MERS) effective date from January 1, 2006 to March 1, 2006 for POAM (Police Officers and Public Safety Service Officers), Firefighters, Police Captains (Deputy Chiefs), and Police Lieutenants and Sergeants. Motion carried

unanimously RESOLUTION FOR ADOPTING MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF MICHIGAN

DEFINED BENEFIT PROGRAMS

The BOARD OF TRUSTEES of the CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON, whose fiscal year is January 1 to December 31, desires to make available to its eligible employees benefits provided by the Municipal Employees' Retirement System of Michigan (MERS), as authorized by 1996 PA 220. Benefits available are those provided under the Plan Document of 1996.

IT IS RESOLVED that pursuant to the Initial Actuarial Valuation ____ by MERS actuary, MERS benefits dated stated in Section I below are to be provided to the following employee division: CANTON POLICE OFFICERS AND PSSOS.

Please note: If no Initial Valuation has been done y MERS' actuary on the specific benefit program (or combination of programs) selected below: or the Initial Valuation is more than one (1) year old at the time MERS' coverage becomes effective as provided under Section 4 of this Resolution; then, per Retirement Board requirements, this resolution will not e implemented until a current actuarial valuation is done by MERS' actuary and necessary supporting contribution rates certified.

1. Benefit programs/formulae selected are: 2.8 Multiplier, V10/FAC3/ F50(25)

2. The required employee contribution is 6.0%. 3.1. Prior service credit with this municipality/court rendered previously by each covered employee in the division is subject to and shall be credited as provided under Section 2C(3) of the MERS Plan Document and MERS Initial Actuarial Valuation and Supplemental Valuation Procedure (as approved by the Retirement Board on September 28, 1999), whose respective terms are incorporated by reference.

Choose only one:

Β.

C.

D.

All prior service from date of hire. A.X

Portion of prior service (actual service up to years); or %.

Prior service proportional to assets transferred.

No prior service (if D selected, go to Section 4).

3.2 The Initial Valuation discloses the actuarial reduction in the employer's future contribution rate that will occur where assets of a preceding qualified plan (whether defined benefit or defined contribution plan) and/or other source are transferred to MERS. 3.3 In all asset transfers, the employer shall furnish MERS with all necessary and specific information required by MERS on the allocation of employer and employee contributions and investment earnings, along with taxable and nontaxable status on the employee contribution portion.

4. The effective date of this Resolution for making deductions for the employee contributions specified above, and for the payment of necessary employer contributions to MERS, as required in the Plan Document, shall be the same date that MERS' coverage begins, which is March 1, 2006.

5. For municipalities, Plan Section 41 requires adoption by affirmative vote of a majority of the governing body; for courts, see Plan Section 41A. A complete copy of the fully executed collective bargaining agreement (if applicable), and certified copy of the complete official minutes or other official authorizing action for the open meeting at which this resolution was adopted must be forwarded to MERS with this resolution. Certified this day of . BY: TITLE: Clerk of Canton Township, Terry G. Bennett

RESOLUTION FOR CHANGING MERS BENEFITS In accordance with the MERS Plan Document of 1996, the CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON, Municipality Number 8233 adopts the following benefits for : CAPTAINS - 20 (Reporting Unit No. MERS Division No. and Name).

A "division" is defined as an employee or group of employees covered by the same benefit program and the same employee contribution program. Each division has a specific MERS number and name, such as "Div, 10, General-Admin.," and is part of a Reporting Unit, such as: "01."

Valuation Supporting Supplemental date \mathbf{is}

BENEFIT MULTIPLIER From: 2.5% To: 2.8% Effective Date: March 1, 2006

EMPLOYEE CONTRIBUTION RATE New Rate: 6.0% I CERTIFIED THAT THE ABOVE WAS ADOPETED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES February 14, 2006 .

BY: TITLE: Clerk of Canton Township, Terry G. Bennett RESOLUTION FOR CHANGING MERS BENEFITS

accordance with the MERS Plan Document of 1996, the CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON, Municipality Number 8233 adopts the following benefits for : FIREFIGHTERS - 05 (Reporting Unit No. MERS Division No. and Name)

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, February 23, 2006

Charter Township of Canton does hereby approve the Fifth Annual Liberty Fest Parade for June 17, 2006, beginning at 9:00am and ending at approximately 11:00am.; that Michigan Department of Transportation is hereby requested to grant permission to close Ford Road at Canton Center to Lilly Road. The Charter Township of Canton will assume liability for any damage claims which may arise as a result of the road closure, and Supervisor Yack is hereby designated and authorized to sign the road closure permit on behalf of the Township. Motion carried unanimously. <u>GENERAL</u> <u>CALENDAR:</u> Item 1. CONSIDER SITE PLAN FOR CHERRY OAKS PLAZA PHASE II. (MSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by Zarbo to adopt the resolution for site plan for Cherry Oaks Plaza Phase II. Motion carried unanimously. RESOLUTION OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES CHARTER TOWNSHIP

C5

(CP)

OF CANTON

Site Plan for Cherry Oaks Plaza Phase II

WHEREAS, the Project Sponsor, Mr. John Gargaro, has requested site plan approval for Cherry Oaks Plaza Phase II to be located on Lilley Road between Cherry Hill and Saltz Roads, identified as tax EDP # 055-99-0016-003; and, WHEREAS, the Planning Commission reviewed the site plan and made a recommendation to approve the request to grant site plan approval, conditioned upon receipt of confirmation that the hedge screen along the north property line is acceptable to the adjacent property owner and that notes are added to the landscape plan regarding screening of utility meters and disposal containers, 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. John Gargaro, to approve the site plan for the proposed Cherry Oaks Plaza Phase II subject to the aforementioned conditions and 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 2. CONSIDER SITE PLAN FOR SINGH SABHA TEMPLE. (MSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to adopt the resolution for the site plan for Singh Sabha Temple. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON

Site Plan for Singh Sabha Temple

WHEREAS, the Project Sponsor, Mr. Bryan Amann, has requested site plan approval for the Singh Sabha Temple to be located on Canton Center Road between Palmer and Geddes Roads, identified as tax EDP # 112-99-0025-000; 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 NOW the attached written analysis and recommendation. THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton, Michigan does hereby approve the request of the petitioner, Mr. Bryan Amann, to approve the site plan for the proposed Singh Sabha Temple 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. CONSIDER PRELIMINARY PLANNED DEVELOPMENT FOR CLARIDGE PARK. (MSD) Motion by Kirchgatter, supported by McLaughlin to adopt the resolution for preliminary PDD for Claridge Park. Roll Call Vote: Caccamo, Kirchgatter, LaJoy, McLaughlin, Yack, Zarbo Motion carried. Clerk Bennett removed herself from the dais due to a conflict of interest. RESOLUTION OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON

Preliminary PDD for Claridge Park

WHEREAS, the Project Sponsors have requested Preliminary Planned Development District approval for Claridge Park located on 32 acres on the west side of Denton Road north of Geddes Road; and, WHEREAS, the Planning Commission found the preliminary PDD plan to be CONSISTENT with the development objectives of the Township and recommended APPROVAL subject to completion of the items listed in the analysis; and, WHEREAS, the Board has reviewed the proposed preliminary PDD plan and determines the proposal to be CONSISTENT with the Zoning Ordinance regulations and development objectives subject to the conditions described in the analysis and recommendation form attached hereto and made a part hereof. NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton, Michigan does hereby APPROVE the Preliminary Planned Development District for Claridge Park located on the west side of Denton Road north of Geddes Road on Parcel Nos. 120 99 0010 704, 120 99 0011 702, 120 99 0012 702, 120 99 0013 702 AND 120 99 0014 702 (part of), subject to completion and submittal of the identified items prior to consideration of the final PDD and all other regulations of the Township. Item 4. CONSIDER PRELIMINARY PLANNED DEVELOPMENT FOR RIDGEWOOD MANOR. (MSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by Zarbo to adopt the resolution for preliminary planned development for Ridgewood Manor. Motion

carried unanimously. RESOLUTION OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES CHARTER TOWNSHIP

Trustees at a Regular Meeting thereof held on the fourteenth day of February, 2006. Thomas Yack, Supervisor

Terry Bennett, Clerk CERTIFICATION The undersigned, being duly qualified and acting Clerk of the Charter Township of Canton, does hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution duly adopted by the Township Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton at a meeting of said Township Board of Trustees held on February 14, 2006. Terry Bennett, Clerk

CONSENT CALENDAR: Item 1. AMEND RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE EFFECTIVE DATE FOR MERS PENSION COVERAGE FOR THE AFSCME UNION. (ACSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve the attached resolution changing the Municipal Employees' Retirement System of Michigan Defined Benefit Pension Program (MERS) effective date from February 1, 2006 to April 1, 2006 for the AFSCME Union. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION FOR ADOPTING MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES'

RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF MICHIGAN DÉFINED BENEFIT PROGRAMS

The BOARD OF TRUSTEES of the CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON, whose fiscal year is January 1 to December 31, desires to make available to its eligible employees benefits provided by the Municipal Employees' Retirement System of Michigan (MERS), as authorized by 1996 PA 220. Benefits available are those provided under the Plan Document of 1996.

IT IS RESOLVED that pursuant to the Initial Actuarial Valuation by MERS actuary, MERS benefits dated stated in Section I below are to be provided to the following employee division Canton Full Time AFSCME Union, Local 3860 Employees Please note: If no Initial Valuation has been done by MERS' actuary on the specific benefit program (or combination of programs) selected below: or the Initial Valuation is more than one (1) year old at the time MERS' coverage becomes effective as provided under Section 4 of this Resolution; then, per Retirement Board requirements, this resolution will not e implemented until a current actuarial valuation is done by MERS' actuary and necessary supporting contribution rates certified.

1. Benefit programs/formulae selected are: B-4/F55(15)/FAC3/V-10 2. The required employee contribution is 5.0 %.

3.1 Prior service credit with this municipality/court rendered previously by each covered employee in the division is subject to and shall be credited as provided under Section 2C(3) of the MERS Plan Document and MERS Initial Actuarial Valuation and Supplemental Valuation Precedure (as approved by the Retirement Board on September 28, 1999), whose respective terms are incorporated by reference.

Choose only one:

All pror service from date of hire. A. X

Portion of prior service (actual service up to years); or %. B.

Prior service proportional to assets transferred C.

D. No price service (if D selected, go to Section 4).

3.2 The Initial Valuation discloses the actuarial reduction in the employer's future contribution rate that will occur where assets of a preceding qualified plan (whether defined benefit or defined contribution plan)and/or other source are transferred to MERS. 3.3 In all asset transfers, the employer shall furnish MERS with all necessary and specific, information required by MERS on the allocation of employer and employee contributions and investment earnings, along with taxable and nontaxable status on the employee contribution portion

4. The effective date of this Resolution for making deductions for the employee contributions specified above, and for the payment of necessary employer contributions to MERS, as required in the Plan Document, shall be the same date that MERS' coverage begins, which is APRIL 1, 2006

For municipalities Plan Section 41 requires adoption by affirmative vote of a majority of the governing body; for courts, see Plan Section 41A. A complete copy of the fully executed collective bargaining agreement (if applicable), ind certified copy of the complete official minutes or other official authorizing action for the open meeting at which this resolution was adopted must be forwarded to MERS with this resolution.

BY: TITLE: Certified this day of Clerk of Canton Township Terry G. Bennet, Item 2. AMEND RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING EFFECTIVE

A "division" is defined as an employee or group of employees covered by the same benefit program and the same employee contribution program. Each division has a specific MERS number and name, such as "Div, 10, General-Admin.," and is part of a Reporting Unit, such as: "01."

Valuation Supplemental is date Supporting

BENEFIT MULTIPLIER From: 2.5% To: 2.8% Effective Date: March 1, 2006 EMPLOYEE CONTRIBUTION RATE New Rate: 6.0%

I CERTIFIED THAT THE ABOVE WAS ADOPETED BY THE **BOARD OF TRUSTEES February 14, 2006.**

BY: TITLE: Clerk of Canton Township, Terry G. Bennett

RESOLUTION FOR CHANGING MERS BENEFITS In accordance with the MERS Plan Document of 1996, the CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON, Municipality Number 8233

adopts the following benefits for : SERGEANTS & LIEUTENANTS - 02. (Reporting Unit No. MERS Division No. and Name). A "division" is defined as an employee or group of employees covered

by the same benefit program and the same employee contribution program. Each division has a specific MERS number and name, such as "Div, 10, General-Admin.," and is part of a Reporting Unit, such as: "01."

Supporting Valuation date Supplemental is

BENEFIT MULTIPLIER From: 2.5% To: 2.8% Effective Date: March 1, 2006

EMPLOYEE CONTRIBUTION RATE New Rate: 6.0%

I CERTIFIED THAT THE ABOVE WAS ADOPETED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES February 14, 2006.

BY: TITLE: Clerk of Canton Township, Terry G. Bennett Item 3. AMENDMENT-FEDERAL GRANTS BUDGET FUND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT. (ACSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve the following budget amendment in the Federal Grants Fund for the Community Development Block Grant program:

\$15,520.98 Increase Revenues

Increase Appropriations \$15,520.98

This budget amendment decreases the Federal Grants Fund budget from \$239,222 to \$223,701.02. Motion carried unanimously

CONSIDER APPROVAL FOR 2006 BLANKET PURCHASE ORDERS. (CLERK) Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve the blank purchase orders to Printing Systems for \$8,000 (101-191-740-000) for election supplies and Election System and Software for \$13,000, (101-191-818-000), Contracted Services for election programming and supplies. Motion carried unanimously. Item 5. APPROVE LEISURE SERVICES BLANKET PURCHASE ORDERS FOR 2006. (LSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to authorize blanket purchase order list for Leisure Services Department for 2006. Motion carried unanimously. Item 5. APPROVE LEISURE SERVICES BLANKET PURCHASE ORDERS FOR 2006. (LSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to authorize the attached blanket purchase order list for Leisure Services Department for 2006. Motion carried unanimously. Item 6. APPROVE APPOINTMENT TO THE SENIOR ADVISIORY COUNCIL. (LSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve the appointment to the Senior Advisory Council of Lynn Walgenbach, to fill the un-expired term of the late Julian Kozlowski. The term will commence immediately and expire on December 31, 2007. Motion carried unanimously. Item 7. SPECIAL COMMUNITY EVENT STATUS AND THE INSTALLATION OF SIGNS FOR CHRISTMAS IN ACTION. (MSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve special event status and placement of signs (on April 23, 2006 and removed Sunday, May 7, 2006) for the Christmas in Action Work Day, April 29, 2006. Motion carried unanimously. Item 7. SPECIAL COMMUNITY EVENT STATUS AND THE INSTALLATION OF SIGNS FOR CHRISTMAS IN ACTION. (MSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve special event status and placement of signs (on April 23, 2006 and removed Sunday, May 7, 2006) for the Christmas in Action Work Day, April 29, 2006. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 8. RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE FIFTH ANNUAL LIBERTY FEST PARADE AND AUTHORIZATION TO SIGN MDOT ROAD CLOSURE PERMIT. (SUPERVISOR) Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter that the Board of Trustees of the

Preliminary PDD for Ridgewood Manor

WHEREAS, the Project Sponsors have requested Preliminary Planned Development District approval for Ridgewood Manor located on 212 acres south of Geddes Road and west of Barr Road; and, WHEREAS, the Planning Commission found the preliminary PDD plan to be CONSISTENT with the development objectives of the Township and recommended APPROVAL, subject to completion of the items listed in the analysis; and, WHEREAS, the Board has reviewed the proposed preliminary PDD plan and determines the proposal to be CONSISTENT with the Zoning Ordinance regulations and development objectives subject to the conditions described in the analysis and recommendation form attached hereto and made a part hereof. NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton, Michigan does hereby APPROVE the Preliminary Planned Development District for Ridgewood Manor located south of Geddes Road and West of Barr Road on Parcel Nos. 122 99 0002 000, 122 99 0003 000, 122 99 0005 701, 122 99 0006 000, 122 99 0007 000, 122 99 0008 000 (part of), 122 99 0011 000, 123 99 0003 000, 123 99 0004 000, 123 99 0005 000, 123 99 0015 000, subject to revisions and completion of the items identified in the analysis and subject to all other regulations of the Township. Item 5. CONSIDER PRELIMINARY PLANNED DEVELOPMENT FOR GRANDVIEW ESTATES. (MSD)

Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to adopt the resolution for preliminary PDD for Grandview Estates. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON

Preliminary PDD for Grandview Estates

WHEREAS, the Project Sponsors have requested Preliminary Planned Development District approval for Grandview Estates located on 166.5 acres located south of Geddes Road between Denton and Barr Roads; and, WHEREAS, the Planning Commission found the preliminary PDD plan to be CONSISTENT with the development objectives of the Township and recommended APPROVAL subject to completion of the items in he analysis; and, WHEREAS, the Board has reviewed the proposed preliminary PDD plan and determines the proposal to be CONSISTENT with the Zoning Ordinance regulations and development objectives subject to the conditions described in the analysis and recommendation form attached hereto and made a part hereof. NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton, Michigan does hereby APPROVE the Preliminary Planned Development District for Grandview Estates located south of Geddes Road between Denton and Barr Roads on Parcel Nos. 121 99 0012 000, 121 99 0013 000, 121 99 0014 000, 121 99 0015 001, 121 99 0015 002, 121 99 0024 002, 121 99 0025 000, 121 99 0026 000, 121 99 0027 000, 121 99 0028 000, 121 99 0029 000, 121 99 0030 000, 121 99 0032 000, 121 99 0033 000, 121 99 0034 000, 122 99 0038 000, 124 99 0001 000. 124 99 0002 000, 124 99 0003 005, 124 99 0004 000, 124 99 0010 000, subject to completion and submittal of the identified items prior to consideration of the final PDD and subject to all other regulations **CONSIDER PRELIMINARY** of the Township. Item 6. PLANNED DEVELOPMENT FOR SOCIETY PARK. (MSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to adopt the resolution for preliminary planned development for Society Park. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON

Preliminary PDD for Society Park

WHEREAS, the Project Sponsors have requested Preliminary Planned Development District approval for Society Park located on 191.62 acres north of Geddes Road and west of Denton Road; and, WHEREAS, the Planning Commission found the preliminary PDD plan to be CONSISTENT with the development objectives of the Township and recommended APPROVAL subject to completion of the items listed in the analysis; and, WHEREAS, the Board has reviewed the proposed preliminary PDD plan and determines the proposal to be CONSISTENT with the Zoning Ordinance regulations and development objectives subject to the conditions described in the analysis and recommendation form attached hereto and made a part hereof. NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton, Michigan does hereby APPROVE the Preliminary Planned Development District for Society Park located north of Geddes Road and west of Denton Road on parcel nos. 119 99 0001 000 (part of), 119 99 0002 001, 119 99

(Continued On Page 6C)

LOCAL SPORTS

PCA

FROM PAGE C1

second left, PCA's defense forced

a jump ball. With the possession

arrow pointing its way, Roeper

got another opportunity, but

Zinn swatted the ball out of

Roughriders' desperation out-

The victory evened PCA's

the Michigan Independent

dropped two games behind

for the MIAC Blue title.

Inter-City Baptist in the hunt

Zinn was the No. 1 option for

Athletic Conference's Blue

record at 9-9 overall and 3-6 in

Division. The setback was costly

for Roeper (12-6 and 7-3), which

PCA coach Doug Taylor said

We practice end-of-the-game

Roeper coach Ernie Righetti

harm's way during the

of-bounds tip play.

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, February 23, 2006

MU to offer new PE minor

This fall term, Madonna University will offer a new physical education minor for students interested in earning a secondary teaching certificate or coaching high school sports.

The University forecasts this new minor will attract local high school athletes who are interested in studying the human body, health and wellness and kinesiology and, who will go on to seek coaching positions.

Chuck Henry, a full-time faculty member who runs the Athletic Department's "Champions of Character" program at MU developed the P.E. minor and will also be teaching several courses.

"Data from our student surveys revealed an interest in this minor," Henry said. "Many students believe this will be an important, positive factor in seeking out a teaching position."

According to the U.S. Department of Labor statistics, teaching jobs are expected to continue to grow 2004-2014, especially among secondary schools as baby boomers continue to retire.

Opportunities will vary by geography and subjects taught.

CITY OF PLYMOUTH

2006 MARCH BOARD OF

REVIEW SESSIONS

Median annual earnings of kindergarten, elementary, middle, and secondary school teachers ranged from \$41,400 to \$45,920 in May 2004.

Madonna University is a liberal arts university for men and women. The main Livonia campus is conveniently located at I-96 and Levan Road in Livonia and offers 70 careeroriented undergraduate and 22 master's degree programs. Classes are also offered at the Orchard Lake Center and the Downriver Center in Southgate.

Call Chuck Henry at (734) 432-5591.

the game-winning shot. Please recycle plays like that about once a week," Taylor said. "Trevor is a great ball-handler and he made a nice move and shot to win it."

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 *Transportation Center Roof Replacement*. A pre-bid meeting will be held on Friday, February 24 at 10:00 a.m. at 1002 Mill Street, Plymouth, MI. After the pre-bid, 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 2:00 p.m., Thursday, March 9, 2006 and should be addressed to Dan Phillips, RE: Transportation Roof Replacement Bid, Plymouth-Canton Community Schools, 454 South 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: February 23 & March 2nd, 2006

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON INVITATION TO 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, March 9th, 2006 for the following:

WEED CUTTING SERVICES

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 23, 2006

game.

The Eagles launched 24 triples and made 10. Junior guard Matt Saagman, who finished with a game-high 16 points, buried 4-of-9 shots from beyond the arc while Zinn, who netted 14, drained 3-of-7 treys.

"Our game plan coming into the game was to shoot a lot of threes," Taylor said. "Roeper had a size advantage on us inside, so we thought we had a better chance from outside. Considering how under-sized and inexperienced we are compared to them, I thought the kids did a nice job.

"The times we did get in trouble tonight offensively were the possessions when we didn't make four or five passes and didn't make their match-up zone move. When we did make the passes, we shot for a lot higher percentage.

Roeper defeated PCA, 55-42, two weeks ago.

Eagle junior guard David Koscielny hit three triples and finished with nine points while

declined comment following the Devyn Govan contributed six points and six rebounds before fouling out with 3:37 left.

Junior center Jordan Robinson paced the Roughriders with 13 points and 10 rebounds. Senior forward Perry Keydel added 10 points and eight boards while Zinser. who lit up the scoreboard with 22 points in the two teams' previous meeting, was held to eight points by the Eagles' box-andone defense.

The game was tight throughout as Roeper grabbed a 13-12 lead after eight minutes before PCA rebounded to secure a 23-22 advantage at the intermission.

The drama-filled fourth quarter featured five lead changes. PCA hit 18-of-42 field goals (42.8 percent) and 1-of-4 free throws. Roeper connected on 16-of-48 from the field (33 percent) and 12-of-18 freebies (66 percent).

The Eagles return to action Friday when they host Inter-City at 7:30 p.m. ewright@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2108

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON ACCESS TO PUBLIC MEETINGS

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

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

Publish: February 23, 2006

Publish: February 23, 2006

OE08413802

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON **INVITATION TO 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, March 9th, 2006 for the following:

PRINTING & MAILING OF THE DISCOVER CANTON BROCHURE

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

OE08414080

OE08414067

this newspaper

The City of Plymouth will be conducting the 2006 March Board of Review and will convene in the City Commission Chambers, 201 S. Main Street, Plymouth, MI 48170, for an Organizational Meeting on Tuesday, March 7, 2006 from 9:00 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. and appointments from 9:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

The regular Board of Review session will begin:

Wednesday, March 8, 2006 from 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Tuesday, March 14, 2006 from 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Wednesday, March 15, 2006 from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday, March 20, 2006 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Other hearing dates and times may be scheduled as needed. Hearings are by appointment only. COMPLETED 2006 BOARD OF **REVIEW PETITIONS ARE NECESSARY and must be submitted** to the Front Office located on the First Floor of City Hall before an appointment can be made. The "Deadline" for submitting petitions for all persons wishing to appeal in person before the Board of Review is Wednesday, March 15, 2006 by 5:00 p.m.

A resident or non-resident taxpayer may file a petition with the Board of Review without the requirement of a personal appearance by the taxpayer or a representative. An agent must have written authority to represent the owner. Written petitions must be submitted by Wednesday, March 15, 2006 by 5:00 p.m.

Copies of the notice stating the dates and times of the meetings will be posted local newspapers.

All Board of Review meetings are open meetings in compliance with the "Open Meetings Act."

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact (734) 453-1234, ext. 253 or 252.

	Linda J. Langmesser City Clerk:	
	, · ·	
23,2006		
	OE084139	95

Notice is hereby given that the following units will be sold to the highest bidder by way of open auction on 03/03/06 at approximately 9:00 a.m. or there after at the following locations:

Shurgard Storage of Canton North *2101 Haggerty Rd*Canton*

734-981-0	300	,
2032	Hamilton	Household Items
4207	McGhee	Household Items
4209	Hayes	Household Items
4253	Diaz	Household Items
4294	Jacobs	Household Items
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3068	JOHN BICKNELL	HOUSEHOLD
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Publish: Febru	ary 16 & 28, 2006	
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(Continued From Page 5C) 0003 001, 119 99 0007 000, 120 99 0002 000, 120 99 0003 000, 120 99 0004 701, 120 99 0006 000, 120 99 0009 001, 120 99 0015 000 AND 120 99 0016 000, as presented, subject to completion and submittal of the identified items prior to consideration of the final PDD; and all other regulations of the Township. Item 7. CONSIDER PURCHASE OF WATER METERS AND METERING CONTROL **DEVICES FOR 2006. (MSD)** Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to accept the bid from Etna Supplies Company and approve a purchase order not to exceed \$865,101.00, and authorize the Public Works Division to purchase 200 - two inch water meters, 600 -one inch water meters, $600 - 5/8 X_{-}$ inch water meters, 2000Radio Read Transceiver Units (MXU's) and associated support control equipment during the 2006 calendar year. Funding to come from FY2006, Account# 592-000-111-0003, Roll Call Vote: Aves: Bennett, Kirchgatter, LaJoy, McLaughlin, Yack, Zarbo Navs: CONSIDER Caccamo Motion carried. Item 8. THE PURCHASE OF REPLACEMENT VEHICLES FOR THE MUNICIPAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT. (MSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve the purchase of One (1) 2006 GMC 4X4-2500 pickup at \$19,135.00 from Red Holman GMC, under the Oakland County Cooperative Purchasing Agreement, all to be funded from the Water and Sewer Fund. Motion carried unanimously. Item. 9. CONSIDER AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF THE \$6,000 INVOICE FROM THE MICHIGAN DEPARTEMNT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY FOR CANTON'S STORM WATER DISCHARGE PERMIT. (MSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by LaJoy to authorize payment of the invoice in the amount of \$6,000.00 for Canton's Storm Water Discharge Permit. Fees were budgeted in account number 101-445-928-0000, Storm Water Permit Fees. Motion carried unanimously. Item 10. CONSIDER ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY DEDICATION ON CANTON CENTER ROAD SOUTH OF SUMMIT PARKWAY. (MSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to approve the dedication of a 60-foot road right-of-way for the Canton Center Road parcels for Tax Numbers, 71-109-99-0001-000, 71-109-99-0002-000, 71-109-99-0003-000 and 71-109-99-0004-000 and authorize the Township Supervisor and Clerk to sign the attached waivers and quit claim tleeds. Motion carried unanimously. Item 11. CONSIDER ACCEPTING NORTHWEST CONSULTANTS INC., PROPOSAL FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR THE CANTON CENTER & GEDDES INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENT PROJECT. (MSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to accept the proposal submitted by Northwest Consultants, Inc. to provide professional engineering services for the Canton Center & Geddes Intersection Improvements for an amount not to exceed \$50,889 (account no. 403-506-803-0000) and to provide inspection at the rate of \$432 for an 8-hour day if determined necessary. Motion carried Item 12. CONSIDER PURCHASE OF unanimously. COMPUTER FORENSICS EQUIPMENT. (PSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to approve the purchase of the computer forensics system, FRED, with upgrades from Digital Intelligence, 1325 Pearl St., Waukesha; WI 534186 for an amount of \$6,849 including shipping. Police Capital Outlay, Account # 207 301 977 2580 Computers, item # 14 Computer Workstation. Motion carried unanimously. Item 13. CONSIDER PURCHASE OF SIX (6) 2006 FORD POLICE INTERCEPTORS ASSIGNED TO PATROL. (PSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve the purchase of six replacement patrol interceptors from Signature Ford, 3942 W. Lansing Road, Perry, MI 48872 through the Macomb County Bid #23-05 in the amount of \$124,842.00. Police Capital Outlay 207 301 977 2580, Item # 12, Vehicle Replacement (6). Motion carried unanimously. Item 14. APPROVAL OF TPOAM CLERICAL UNION CONTRACT. (ACSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve the collective bargaining agreement between Canton Township and the Canton TPOAM union to run from January 1, 2005 through December 31, 2008. Motion carried unanimously. Item 15. APPROVAL RESOLUTION ADOPTING MERS PENSION PLAN FOR TPOAM CLERICAL UNION. (ACSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve the resolution adopting the Municipal Employees' Retirement System of Michigan Defined Benefit Pension Program forI the Canton TPOAM Union Employees. Motion carried unanimously. Item 16. RESOLUTION DEFINING A DAY OF WORK FOR MERS RETIREMENT PURPOSES. (ACSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by Zarbo to approve the resolution, which defines a day of work for the Canton TPOAM Clerical Union employees as eight hours for MERS retirement purposes. Motion

carried unanimously Item 17. AMEND CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT PLAN. (ACDS) Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve the following amendments to the Charter Township of Canton Employee Retirement Plan, 1) To remove the current two loan limit, 2) To provide for withdrawal of after tax employee voluntary contributions and 3) To allow the Plan Administrator to offset costs by deducting funds from the employee's account. Motion carried unanimously. APPROVE THE AMENDED NATIONWIDE Item 18. DEFERRED COMPENSATION PLAN. (ACSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by LaJoy to approve the amended and restated Nationwide 457 (B) Deferred Compensation Plan document. Motion carried unanimously. Item 19. LEASE RENEWAL FOR HUMAN SERVICES CENTER. (ACSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to approve renewal of the Lease with Growth Works for the operation of the Human Services Center for a three year term, beginning March 1, 2006 and ending February 28, 2009. Motion carried unanimously. Item 20. PURCHASE 48 DELL BRAND DESKTOP AND LAPTOP COMPUTERS, 5 HEWLETT PACKARD/COMPAQ BRAND FILE SERVERS & MICROSOFT SQL SERVER 2005 SOFTWARE. (FINANCE) Motion by Caccamo, supported by Yack to table the purchase of 48 Dell brand Computers, 5 Hewlett Packard Compaq brand file servers and 1 Microsoft SQL Server License for a total price not to exceed \$125,350. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Bennett, Caccamo, LaJoy, Yack, Zarbo Nays: Kirchgatter, McLaughlin Motion carried. Item 21. AWARD CONTRACT FOR THE 2006 CANTON LIBERTY FEST FIREWORKS. (LSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by Zarbo to waive the bid process and to award the contract for the 2006 Liberty Fest fireworks display to Wolverine Fireworks Display, Inc., 205 West Seidlers Road, Kawkawlin, MI 48631 in an amount not the exceed \$25,000 and charge the expense to the Recreation Budget -Contracted Services Special Events Account #101-691-\$18-4000. Motion carried unanimously. Item 22. APPROVE GENERIC UPGRADE AND JOB TITLE FOR A. LOCKMONDI. (LSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve the generic upgrade for Amy Lockmondy retroactive to December 21, 2005. Motion carried unanimously. Item 23. RENEW LAWN AND CEMETERY MAINTENANCE CONTRACT FOR 2ND YEAR OPTION. (LSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to renew the 2006 lawn and cemetery maintenance contract to Metro Tech Landscaping, 6851 Merriman Road, Romulus, MI 48174 in the amount of \$50,275.80. Motion carried unanimously. Item 24. APPROVAL OF LEISURE SERVICES PARTNERSHIP/ SPONSORSHIP POLICY. (LSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to approve the Leisure Services Partnership/ Sponsorship Policy #0:06. Motion carried unanimously. Item 25. APPROVE LEASE EQUIPMENT FOR PHEASANT RUN GOLF CLUB. (LSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by/Kirchgatter to waive the normal bidding procedures and authorize the lease of maintenance equipment for Pheasant Run Golf Club to W.F. Miller Co., P.O. Box 605, Novi, MI 48376, in the amount of \$24,719.39, with expense charged to Pheasant Run Golf Club account #586-756-983-0000 capital equipment and to authorize the Supervisor and Clerk to sign the lease on behalf of the Township. Motion carried unanimously Item 26. CREATE AND FILL FOR A CONTINUING PART-TIME CLERICAL POSITION FOR THE SUPERVISOR'S OFFICE. (SUPERVISOR) Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to create and fill a continuing part-time position in the Supervisor's office pursuant to the TPOAM contract. Motion carried unanimously. Item 27. QVF EQUIPMENT GRANT AGREEMENT. (CLERK) Notion by Bennett/supported by LaJoy to approve the grant agreement between the Charter Township of Canton and the State of Michigan, Michigan Department of State for the Qualified Voter File Infrastructure Upgrade; HAVA Digitized Signature Refresh Project and authorize the Jownship Clerk to sign the agreement. Motion carried unanimously, OTHER: Supervisor Yack stated there will be a Study Session of February 21, 2006, at 7:00 p.m. Administration Juilding, First Floor, Board Room, 1150 Canton Center S., Canton, Michigan 48188. ADJOURN: Motion by Zarbo, supported by Bennet to adjourn at \$:45 p.m. - Thomas J. Yack, Supervisor – Terry G Bennett, Clerk –

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

Publish: February 23,2006

www.hometownlife.com

Canton advances to WLAA semis

BY ED WRIGHT STAFF WRITER

Tuesday night's rematch between the Canton and Walled Lake Northern basketball teams may have lacked the drama of Friday night's onepoint, last-second Chief victory, but it made up for it in importance.

Canton advanced to thesemifinal round of the Western Lakes Activities Association tournament by knocking off the host Knights, 61-53. The Chiefs, who improved to 14-4 overall and 10-2 in the WLAA, will host Walled Lake Central in Friday night's semifinal showdown. The Vikings, who upended Canton, 64-54, on Jan. 17, advanced to the WLAA semis by walloping Westland John Glenn, 70-40, on Tuesday.

"We know Walled Lake Central has a very good team and that we'll have to play our best to move on," said Canton coach Charlie Paye. "I know they'll be ready to play and we will, too."

Junior center Ryan Waidmann, whose layup with three second left lifted the Chiefs over Northern on Friday, victimized the Knights again with 14 points and six rebounds. Canton's balanced attack also featured strong efforts from Andre Bridges (11 points and four assists), Andy Larsen (11 points), Steve Paye (11 points, seven rebounds and four assists) and Josh Butler (nine points).

Nick Bortz scored a teamhigh 15 points for the Knights, who slipped to 8-9 overall and 5-7 in the WLAA.

"We hit five threes tonight, which helped open up our inside game," said Paye.

The Chiefs led 30-25 at the half before extending their advantage to 45-34 with eight minutes to play.

Canton struggled from the line, nailing just 10-of-19 shots. Northern, on the other hand, connected on 6-of-7 free throws

SALEM 52, WAYNE MEMORIAL 47: Sophomore guard Grant Stone scored 19 points and junior forward J.P. Truesdell contributed eight for the victorious Rocks, who improved to 4-14 overall and 4-10 in the WLAA. The Zebras slipped to 3-10 and

4-15, respectively. 'A lot of players r BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Salem junior forward J.P. Truesdell, pictured above in a game earlier this season, scored eight points in the Rocks' 52-47 victory over Wayne Memorial Tuesday night.

Rocks secure the lead by sinking 6-of-8 fourth-quarter free throws.

Salem hosts Livonia Churchill on Friday. The opening tip is set for 7 p.m.

PLYMOUTH 65, LIVONIA **CHURCHILL 56:** Sophomore guard Brandon Roberts scored 16 points – 12 coming on four triples - to lead the Wildcats to a convincing victory over the visiting Chargers. The win improved the Wildcats' overall record to 7-11. Churchill slumped to 1-17.

"It was a nice team win for us," said Plymouth coach Tom Van Wagoner. "All 11 players played and everybody scored." The 65-point night matched

a season high for the Wildcats. "We shot the ball well tonight and played better

defensively, even though we gave up more points than we have recently," Van Wagoner said. "Our press was effective tonight."

Complementing Roberts on the offensive end were senior forward Josh Le Duc (13 points 10 rebounds LaBroderick Caldwell (eight points) and Alex Harvey (seven points). Brad Evans netted 13 for the Chargers, Ryan Rosenick added 12 and the team's leading scorer, Joel Hall, tallied 11, all in the fourth quarter. Larry Wilson chipped in with 10. They only missed four shots in the first quarter," Churchill coach Jim Solak said. "They got off to a good start. We made a couple of good runs, but (Plymouth) got off too fast for us." Plymouth led 18-10 after one quarter and 37-23 at the half. The Wildcats led by as many as 20 in the third quarter.

and 13 rebounds to lead the Wolverines to a Michigan Independent Athletic Conference Red Division win over host Calvary Christian. Jack Anleitner (16 points) and Terrell Pierce (14 points and 12 rebounds) also turned in stellar performances for the winners. Doug Birk and Aaron

Pericod both twined eight points to lead Calvary. We moved the ball well on

offense and mixed up our defense with a man-to-man and zone," said Agape coach Keith Anleitner.

The Wolverines led 13-7 after one quarter and 30-17 at the half.

The non-conference triumph boosted Agape's record to 11-5 while Calvary slid to 4-12.

The only rough spot for the Wolverines was their shaky free-throw shooting (8-of-19).

ewright@hometownlife.com (734) 953-2108

HOOP EVENTS

Canton Leisure Services will be offering a 3-on-3 basketball tournament and hoop shoot competition Saturday, Feb. 25, in the Summit on the Park gymnasium. Registration for the hoop shoot \bar{b} egins at 9:30 a.m. The 3-on-3 teams must be registered before 11 a.m.

Kids between the ages of 8 and 15 years old are eligible to compete in the hoop shot contest, which gives competitors 60 seconds to score points from various locations on the court. The Canton winners will advance to a regional competition. The entry fee for the 3on-3 tournament is \$45 per team. Pre-registration prior to the day of the event can be completed at the Summit. The tournament, which is for boys and girls who are in grades third through eighth, will begin at noon. Teams are guaranteed two games and division winners will receive awards. Contact the Canton Sports

Center at (734) 483-5600.

FOOTBALL MEETING The next meeting of the

170

17394 Haggerty Road

(in the College Park Shop-

ping Plaza)

p:734.464.4466

M-F: 8 a.m.—8 p.m.

SAT: 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Plymouth Wildcats Football Booster Club will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 7, in Room 401 of Plymouth High School. All parents of current and future Wildcat football players are encouraged to attend the meeting. The club meets on the first Tuesday of each month.

YOUTH GOLF

Plymouth's Fox Hills Golf and Banquet Center will serve as one of 105 national qualifying sites for the 2006 Mutual of Omaha Drive, Chip & Putt competition. The event, a free golf skills competition for kids between the ages of 7 and 14, will be held Thursday, July 20, at 4 p.m. at Fox Hills.

More than 35,000 youngster throughout the country are expected to compete in the DĈ&P.

Winners from each local event will have the opportunity to compete in regional championships and possibly represent their hometowns at the national championship in October. Visit

www.TheGolfChannel.com.

YOUTH HOCKEY

Youth hockey players can skate on the same ice as the **Ontario Hockey League's** Plymouth Whalers and have fun at the same time.

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(CP)

The Compuware Sports Arena is gearing up for its 2006 Youth Spring League, a house league that runs from April 1-May 31. Sign-up costs run from \$210 (mini-mites and mites) to \$220 (squirt) and \$235 (pee wee).

Parents signing up their chil- 39 dren before Feb. 20 will receive a \$20 discount. The registration deadline is March 13. Parents must provide a copy of 14 their children's birth certificate and proof of USA Hockey membership - usually a USA Hockey membership card, an IMR form or a copy of your 2005-06 roster.

Costs include all ice times, jerseys, referee fees and team registration fees. Registration forms can be picked up at the Compuware Sports Arena, or check on-line at www.compuwarehockey.com. Call (734) 453-6400.

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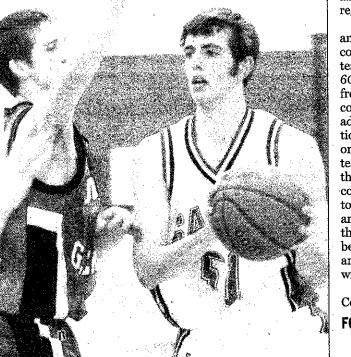
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they all contributed, which is what you like to see at this point in the season," said Salem coach Bob Brodie. "We played well defensively. When we played them Friday night, they had eight threes, but tonight we held them to three. They have great quickness and they take it to the glass well and we were so conscious of that Friday that we gave them too many open shots from the perimeter. We did a better job defending the outside shots tonight,"

Mike Lee paced the Zebras with 14 points. John Hill added 13

Wayne led 16-8 after one quarter and 22-21 at the half. The contest was knotted at 35all with eight minutes left before Salem built a sevenpoint advantage down the stretch. Stone helped the

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The Wildcats travel to Wayne on Friday to tangle with the Zebras.

CANTON AGAPE 60, YPSI CAL-**VARY CHRISTIAN 44: Derek** Leathers racked up 17 points

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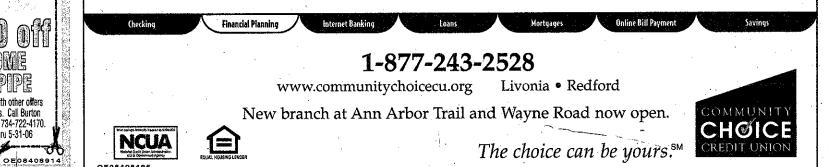
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"MY BANK ACTED AS IF I HAD ALL THE TIME IN THE WORLD."

don't have a ton of money yet, but I know Lit's easier to save for retirement if I start now. I asked my banker for advice and got a handful of pamphlets instead. That's when I went to Community Choice Credit Union. They helped me consider my options, including setting up an IRA. I was surprised to learn that a credit union could do that. But they do everything my bank did - with a lot more personal interest. So I started my retirement plan and now do all my other business there too. Community Choice – they're the right choice

and anyone can join.

Dena, Community Choice member, on her soapbox about financial institutions.



BELIEFS & VALUES

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, February 23, 2006



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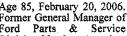
ASHLEY ANN WIBEL

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(*)

21, of West Bloomfield, February 20, 2006. Beloved daughter of Rick and Toni. Cherished sister of Roy. Dear granddaughter of Marjorie Wibel and Anthony (the late Anna) Anselmo. A student at the University of Michigan, Ashley also volunteered as a summer camp counselor at Arbutus/ Hayo-Wenta. Friends may visit Thursday, 3-5pm and 7-9pm at the Pixley Funeral Home, Godhardt-Tomlinson Chapel, Keego Harbor. Funeral 10am Friday from Advent Episcopal Church, 3325 Middlebelt, West Bloomfield. Memorials to the church are appreciated.

CHESTER V. BARION



Division-North America, Vice President of Ford of Europe World War II Navigator and War Hero Husband of Donna. Father of Phyllis, Vincent and Doris. Step-father of Lisa Erik, Brenda, Julie and Jeffrey. Uncle of John LeClair and survived by five grandchildren and seven great grandchildren. Funeral service, Wm. R. Hamilton Co., 820 E. Maple Rd., Birmingham, Friday, February 24th. at 10:00 A. M. Visitation Thursday, 6-8:30 P.M. Tributes may be made to charity of choice.

HELEN T. BURKE,

Age 78, died peacefully with her fam-ily at her side in Vero Beach, Florida. She is survived by her husband, Charles J. Burke, her children Maureen and Garrett, and her grand-children, Jordan and Elizabeth. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests that donations be made to Ovarian Cancer National Alliance, 910 17th Street NW, Washington, DC 20006, (202) 31-1332, www.ovariancancer.org. Arrangements are under the direction of Strunk Funeral Homes, Vero Beach, Florida.

JOHN VINCENT MITCHELL

February 18, 2006. Age 18 of Livonia. Beloved son of Harold and Christine. Dear brother of Katie (Mark Stralka) Mitchell. Loving grandson of Elaine and Vincent Mitchell and the late John and Helen Kearney. Visitation was at the Harry J. Will Funeral Home in Livonia. Celebration of Life Mass Thursday 11am at St. Aidan Catholic Church, 17500 Farmington Road, Livonia, instate 10 am. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the John V. Mitchell Scholarship Fund. Contact the funeral home for details, 734-591-3700.

KATHLEEN E. LUTKUS

"Kit", February 20, 2006. Longtime resident of Farmington and Farmington Hills. Graduate from nigan Univer

DONNA K. (McKINLEY) ZIMMERMAN,

Feb. 20, 2006 age 76. Beloved wife of Paul. Dear mother of Jeff, Dan (Beth) & Patti (Ted), Grandmother of Jeff, Susan, Jared, Stephanie, Jackie, Mark & Erik. sister of Dick, Derald & Dneyse. Service Fred Wood Funeral Home (Rice Chapel) 36100 5 mile one mile W. of Farmington Rd. Friday 11:00 am. Visitation Thursday 3-9 pm.



ANN M. HENRY

Age 82, of Plymouth, died February 20, 2006. She was born March 15, 1923, in Detroit. She was a devoted member and volunteer at Our Lady of Good Counsel Church in Plymouth. She is survived by her children, Susan Wooley, Janet Baron, David (Carolyn) Henry, Joann (Frank) Garzarella, Snow, Daniel (Marla) Henry, and Frederick Henry; 15 grandchil-dren; 13 great-grandchildren; her sis-ter, Rose Lutz; and her brothers, Frank (Barb) Schaller, and AI Schaller. She is preceded in death by her husband, Robert Edward; her son, Robert Henry; her sons-in-law, Bill Wooley and Roger Snow; her brother, Michael Schaller; and her brother-in-law, John Lutz. Funeral from Our Lady of Good Counsel Church, 47650 N. Territorial, Plymouth, Friday 10:30am. Friends may visit at church beginning at 10am. Visitation at Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 280 S. Main, Plymouth, Thursday 2-9pm. Scripture Service Thursday 7pm. Memorials may be made to the American Heart Association.

PATRICIA A. LEWIS (nee DeBruyne)

Age 64, passed away Feb. 21, at the long-term care home in Howell, which is being renamed for her, The Patti Lewis Care Home. Her passing culminates her journey through Alzheimer's Disease. She was born on Nov. 16, 1941 in Ann Arbor, MI to William and Monica (Otto) DeBruyne. Patti graduated form St. Thomas High School in Ann Arbor and attended U of M. On September 9, 1961 she married Jack Lewis in Ann Arbor. They lived in Royal Oak, MI for many years before relocating to Muncie, IN; New Jersey; Dayton, OH and them following her diagnosis of early-onset Alzheimers Disease to Novi, MI. Patti's credit union career began in the Royal Oak Postal Employees Credit Union. Her greatest love was her family. Patti is survived by her devoted husband, Jack, their four wonderful children. Michael of Commerce Twp, MI; Kathy (Craig) Woll of Hobe Sound, FL; Steve of Atlanta, GA; and Scott (Lynn) of Wolverine Lake, MI and six beautiful grandchildren, Kelsey and Kyle Lewis, Adam and Shane Woll and Kaitlyn and Rachel Lewis; her father, Bill DeBruyne and sister, Betty (Tom) Lane of Ypsilanti; along with many dear friends and extended family members. We will all miss Patti's warm heart, gentle manner and easy smile. The family wishes th thank everyone for their love and support. Visitation will be Thurs., Feb. 23, 4-8 p.m. with services on Friday, Feb. 24 10 a.m. at Muehlig Funeral Chapel Ann Arbor. Burial will follow at Old St. Pat's Cemetery on Whitmore Lake Road. Memorial contributions may be made to the Patti Lewis Care Home, 205 Francis Drive, Howell, MI 48843.



FRANK CHRZANOWSKI

Died peacefully, February 15, 2006. Born August 6, 1924. Preceded in death by his wife of 48 years, Dorothy (Bonnie) Meredyk, and two brothers, Robert and Basil. Surviving are his children Frank, Mary McKenzie, Linda Olejniczak, and Donna Crossley; nine grandchildren, and 15 great-grandchildren. Also sur-viving are sisters Rita Pearl, Julia Bantau, Betty Pampa, Jean Cingel, and Joanne Scott. A World War II survivor, Mr. Chrzanowski was a parish-ioner of St. Raphael Catholic Church for over 50 years. Frank was an avid bowler, receiving several trophies and awards. He will be buried, with military honors, at Great Lakes National Cemetery in Holly, Michigan, on March 23, 2006.



ROSEMARY S. CHAPMAN

Age 79, of West Bloomfield, formerlongtime resident of Brooklyn, Y., passed away on February 20, 2006. She was born on July 17, 1926 to Frances and Theodore Stevens of Brooklyn, NY and was the middle of three sisters (Catherine and Frances, CSJ), who both preceded her in death. Rosemary is survived by her four children, Joseph (Claudia), James (Bonnie), Steven (Sonja), and Rosemary (Robert) Belke and was a very proud grandmother of ten. Rosemary was a former employee of the New York office of the FBI and a dedicated employee of over 38 years at St. Josephs College in Brooklyn, New York. She was a excellent cook and enjoyed hosting many family get-togethers. She was also accomplished at knitting and created countless sweaters and afghans for friends and family. Rosemary will always be remembered for her generosity and courage, particularly in the three years following her stroke. A memori-al service will be held 2:00 PM,

Age 46, passed away Saturday, February 18, 2006 in Orange Park, FL. She received her Bachelor's Degree in Nursing in 1981 and her Master's Degree in Health Administration in 1988. She served in the U.S. Navy as an OR Nurse and was stationed in California, Tennessee, Japan, and NAS. While at NAS she deployed to Saudia Arabia for Desert Shield/Storm. While deployed she became severely ill with Hemorrhagic Fever and was airlifted back to the U.S. and was medically retired in 1996. While in the Navy she received the Meritorious Unit Commendation Award, National Defense Service Medal, Southwest Asia Service Medal, and Kuwait Liberation Medal. She was preceded in death by her par ents, John and Helen Stymelski. She is survived by her husband of 13 years, Dave Mosborg; children, Cynthia and Alexander, and numerous family members and friends. The family will receive friends from 5:00-8:00 PM 5:30 PM Rosary Thursday, February 23, 2006 at JACKSONVILLE MEM-ORY GARDENS FUNERAL HOME 111 Blanding Blvd., Orange Park, FL Funeral services in celebration of her life will be held at 2:00 PM Friday, February 24, 2006 at Orange Park United Methodist Church, 2051 Park Avenue, Orange Park, FL with Rev Matt Berryman officiating. Interment will follow in the Garden of Prayer at Jacksonville Memory Gardens. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Women's Military Memorial, P.O. Box 560 Washington, DC 20042-0560, Soul Food Ministry at Orange Park United Methodist Church, or Valery Stymelski Mosborg Nursing Scholarship Fund in c/o Robert Beaty First National Bank, 1775 Eagle Harbor Parkway, Orange Park, FL 32003.

VALERY ANNE MOSBORG



THOMAS EDISON TRAINOR,

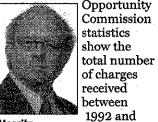
An 81-year-old engineer and pilot, passed away peacefully in his home on Feb 17, 2006, from respiratory failure complicated by Post-Polio Syndrome. Mr. Trainor was born in Olivet Michigan in 1925 and graduated from the Olivet High School. Just before turning 18 he contracted polio, which he survived but it left him with one paralyzed leg and other difficulties. Upon recovery from polio he attended and graduated from Western Michigan University. While at WMU he learned to fly airplanes. He joined the Flying Broncos and attended several flying competitions, where he won award for his flying skills. He met Valta Dingman while teaching shop at the high school in Lakeview, Michigan. They wed in 1952 and moved to Royal Oak. Mr. Trainor worked at Chrysler as an engineer. This included time in the Redstone Missile division as a modeler. He retired in 1987. In 1953 he bought his first airplane, a 1936 Aeronca C-3. Eventually he acquired the remaining factory inventory of Aeronca K and Aeronca Engine parts. He restored two Aeronca K airplanes, one of which is on display at the EAA Pioneer Museum in Oshkosh, WI. He was restoring his third K when he passed away. He is survived by his wife, 5 children, one sister, and 5 grandchildren. His wife is Val Trainor of Troy. His children are Tim Trainor of Muskegon, Sally Trainor King of Eatonville WA, Terri Trainor Clark of Troy, Nancy Trainor Otto of Lansing, and Todd Trainor of Brighton. Memorial service is scheduled for 11:00 a.m. Saturday March 4th at the Congregational Church Birmingham in Bloomfield Hills at the corner of Woodward and Cranbrook Road. Condolences can also be left at www.aeronca.com/k. The family asks that any contributions be sent to Beaumont. Hospice, 1200 Stephenson Hwy Troy, MI 48083.



Attorney to address religious issues in the workplace

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN STAFF WRITER

Attorney George Mesritz isn't the only one to notice an increase in religious discrimination claims filed against employers. U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity



Mesritz

doubled (www.eeoc.gov/stats/religion.html).

2005 nearly

A spiritual awakening among born again Christians and a diversified workforce are forcing employers to address religious issues before they reach litigation. One of Mesritz's cases involved the discharge of an employee who was told not to talk about his religion during work time. He didn't follow the directive and was fired.

Even though the Civil Rights Act of 1964 prohibits discrimination against employees based on religion, the case was dismissed in Jackson County and the decision upheld on appeal. The employee had been discussing religion in a work area and had been warned. A principal at Miller

Canfield law firm in Detroit, Mesritz has been handling labor and employment cases for nearly 30 years, 18 at Miller Canfield. As part of the firms Morning Update training and education program designed for employers, the longtime Birmingham resident discusses Religion in the Workplace 8-8:45 a.m. Wednesday, March 8, in the firm's office at 150 W. Jefferson, Suite 2500, Detroit. For those unable to attend, the presentation will be available over the Internet.

their own human resources department they should look to them for advice on how to deal with religious issues."

www.hometownlife.com

The Morning Update program has provided ongoing training for employers on a variety of topics for the last five years. This is the first time anyone who's interested will be able to sign on to the Internet for Mesritz's lecture. In addition to allowing 10 to 15 minutes of questions at the end of the educational session, visitors will be able to receive answers via the Internet. For access information, contact Virginia Herrick, Miller Canfield seminar and events coordinator, at (313) 496-7548 or send e-mail to herrick@millercanfield.com.

The May update focuses on the Americans with **Disabilities** Act.

"We offer how to topics, how to handle claims of sex harassment, discipline and discharge, updates on the law in various areas," said Mesritz. "This is for any employer interested in these topics and learning."

Steve Spreitzer thinks education is the answer to deter religious discrimination in the workplace. As interfaith coordinator for the National Conference for Community and Justice, the Plymouth Township resident says in order to respect another person's beliefs, one must first learn about religious practices such as Ramadan during which



University of Michigan. Former Kindergarten teacher at Longgfellow School in Hazel Park. Wife of the late Daniel F. Lutkus. Survived by two daughters - Judy Duda of Goodrich, MI and Jane Gertz of Farmington Hills, three grandchildren and two great grandchildren. Graveside services 11:00 AM Thursday at White Ťroy, Cemetery, Chapel MI. Memorials may be made to the Hazel Park Lions Club Scholarship Fund, 24105 John R., Hazel Park, MI 48030. Arrangements by McCabe Funeral Home, Farmington Hills. www.mccabefuneralhome.com

MARTHA M. SCOTT

February 16, 2006 of Wayne. Beloved wife of the late William. Dear mother of Christine Scott-Shaffer, Mike (Muriel), Jeffrey (Karen) and Theresa Bazin (Robert). Loving grandmother of Cheryl (Jim), William (Shannon), Keri (Bob), Michael, Matthew and Kelly. Great grandmother of Taylor, Ethan, Lydia, Green, and Sean. Funeral Services were held Monday, Feb. 20, 2006 at the Harry J. Will Funeral Home, 34567 Michigan Ave. Wayne.

PATSY RUTH PICKENS

Age 74, died February 16, 2006, at her home in Troy. Mrs. Pickens was born August 24, 1931, in Kansas City, Missouri. Formerly of Birmingham, Mrs. Pickens was a member of the Birmingham Athletic Club and the Village Club. She enjoyed golfing and playing bridge. Mrs. Pickens was a member of First United Methodist Church in Birmingham. Mrs. Pickens is survived by her husband, Hunter E., daughter, Ann Pickens Clark sons, Hunter D. Nicholas), and Pickens and Will Pickens. She is also survived by her grandson, Alexander. and sister, Cissy Howell. Visitation was held Sunday, along with a Service of Remembrance. A memorial service will be held in March at First United Church in Birmingham. Memorials appreciated to Hospice of Michigan, 400 Mack Avenue, Detroit, Michigan 48201, or charity of donor's choice.



ROBERT ARTHUR HUSTED

Age 53, February 20, 2006. Beloved husband of Kerry. Dear father of Marshall and his fiancé Laurie. Brother of John (Linda) Husted and Ken Husted. Uncle of Jenny Husted. Visitation Thursday, 12 - 9 pm, and Friday, 10 to 12 noon, followed by a 12 noon funeral service at Querfeld Funeral Home, 1200 Oakwood, Dearborn.

GEORGE M. LOSIE

Of Howell, MI. Age 92, died Sunday, February 19, 2006 at Glacier Hill Nursing Center in Ann Arbor. He was born August 25, 1913 in Big Rapids, MI the son of Earl J. and Ethel M. (Wood) Losie. He graduated from Redford High School in Detroit, MI in 1931 and joined the Civilian Conservation Corp (CCC) that summer and worked in Riggins, ID. He became a social worker for the Old Age Assistance Bureau and then during WW II he worked as a Lathe Operator and continued until his retirement on his 72nd birthday. His greatest loves were his wife and children and the building of their summer home in Leland, MI. George married Dorothy Lucille Schwartz on October 16, 1936 and he is survived by their daughters; Judith Maser of Novi, MI, Dottie Beare of Howell, MI and Mary Jane (William) Rutila of Shelby Twp. MI, brother, Éarl J. Losie of Atlanta, GA; grandchildren Matt (Julie) Maser of Northville, MI, Bart (Kristy) Maser of Thousand Oaks, CA, David Beare of Fort Smith AR, Temma (Michael) Severino of Holt, MI, Jeffery (Renee) Rutila of Troy, MI, Todd (Colleen) Rutila of Warren, MI, and Kim (BR) Bohan, Wesley Chapel, FL and great grandchildren Blake and Brandt Bohan, Ian, Aaron, Michael Rutila, Matthew and Michael Maser and Benjamin and Alaina Maser. George was preceded in death by his wife Dorothy, and brothers, Charles F. and James E. Losie. A Celebration of George's Life will be held 11:00 AM Friday, February 24, 2006 at Borek Jennings Funeral Home, Lamb Chapel in Howell (517-546-0100) with John Entenman, officiating. Interment will follow at North Farmington Cemetery. Memorial con-tributions may be given to Hospice of Michigan; envelopes will be available at the funeral home where the family will receive friends from 5-8 PM Thursday. Please sign George's guestbook and share a memory with his family at: www.borekjennings.com.

Friday, February 24th at: Sunrise Assisted Living of West Bloomfield, 7005 Pontiac Trail, West Bloomfield, MI 48323, (248) 738-8101. A funeral mass will take place at 10:00 on Saturday, February 25th at: St. Williams Catholic Church, 531 Common St, Walled Lake, MI 48390. (248) 624-1421. Internment will take place at a later date in Rockland Lake, NY. The family would like to express their gratitude to the staff of Sunrise of West Bloomfield, Helping Hands, & Odyssey Hospice for their kindness and support.



JOHN ROMEO LANZON

Age 78, died February 20, 2006, after a long battle with Parkinson's Disease. He was born March 30, 1927, in Gary, Indiana, grew up in Detroit, raised his children in Garden City, and spent his later years in Novi and Port Huron. He served in the United States Army during World War II, being stationed in the Aleutian Islands. He began his professional career with the Bruning Company, rising to the position of Division Manager, and he held other management positions with Address-Multigraph and OCE. He was an avid golfer and ballroom dancer. His tall, lean stature and wavy hair cut a striking appearance, particu-larly on the dance floor. He was a kind, generous, fun-loving man, a true friend and a devoted family man, loved and relied upon by all who knew him, with a keen mind and a wonderful sense of humor. He is survived by three loving children, Chervl Nowak Karen Lanzon, and Craig (Angela) Lanzon; his grandchildren, Mark Nowak, Alex Lanzon, Mathew and Jennifer Evans; the mother of his children, Laura Lanzon; his sisters, Jean Schroder, Sally (Bill) Schepke, Shirley Meissner, and Linda Kozak; his brothers. Richard (Veronica) and Roger Lanzon; his sister-in-law, Pauline Kachemba; his brother-in-law, Robert Pena; and many nieces and nephews. Wilma Kinney, who provided care in his later years, and many close friends, will miss him. Funeral from Our Lady of Good Counsel Church, 47650 N. Territorial, Plymouth, Saturday 10:30am. Friends may visit at church beginning at 10am. Visitation at Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 280 S. Main, Plymouth, Thursday 4-9pm and Friday 1-9pm. Prayers Friday, 5:30pm. Memorials may be made to the Michigan Parkinson Foundation or Superior Woods Healthcare Center

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obinary are published at no cost. All additional lines will be charged at \$4 per line Marmay place a picture of your loved one for an additional cost of oniv \$6. Symbolic embleros may be included at no cost. (example:American Flaes, religious symbols, etc.)

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DEALING WITH RELIGION

"Employers are more and more having to deal with religious issues at work," said Mesritz. "One of the reasons for the increase is that more and more employees are comfortable bringing religious issues to work.

"Employers are faced with issues such as what do you do when an employee feels compelled to share the Word based on their religious principles and other employees don't want to hear it. Employers need training on that to properly balance rights of employees."

According to Mesritz, the most common religious issue in the workplace involves practices and requests not to work on Saturdays, Sundays or overtime because of religious restrictions. The Civil Rights Act of 1964 requires employers to provide "reasonable accommodation" for religious practices unless doing so would result in "undue hardship" for the employer.

"Employers should get some advice in dealing with these issues because they can be very difficult," said Mesritz, who represents employers exclusively. "The objective is a productive, harmonious work force and avoiding escalating problems which can lead to litigation. If the company has

Muslim adults observe a month of fasting from dawn to sunset.

Founded in 1927 as the National Conference of Christians and Jews, the Detroit-based NCCJ human relations organization provides diversity training for corporations, local and regional municipalities, school districts, civic organizations, and small businesses. Call (313) 567-6225 or visit www.nccj-mi.org.

"We just did a symposium with the Oakland County Employment Diversity Council called Religious Diversity in the Workplace," said Spreitzer. "It's a hot issue as globalization gets closer and closer to us, how do we deal with the whole person in the workplace. Religion is a secondary dimension of diversity but a very important one and makes for a much more productive workplace."

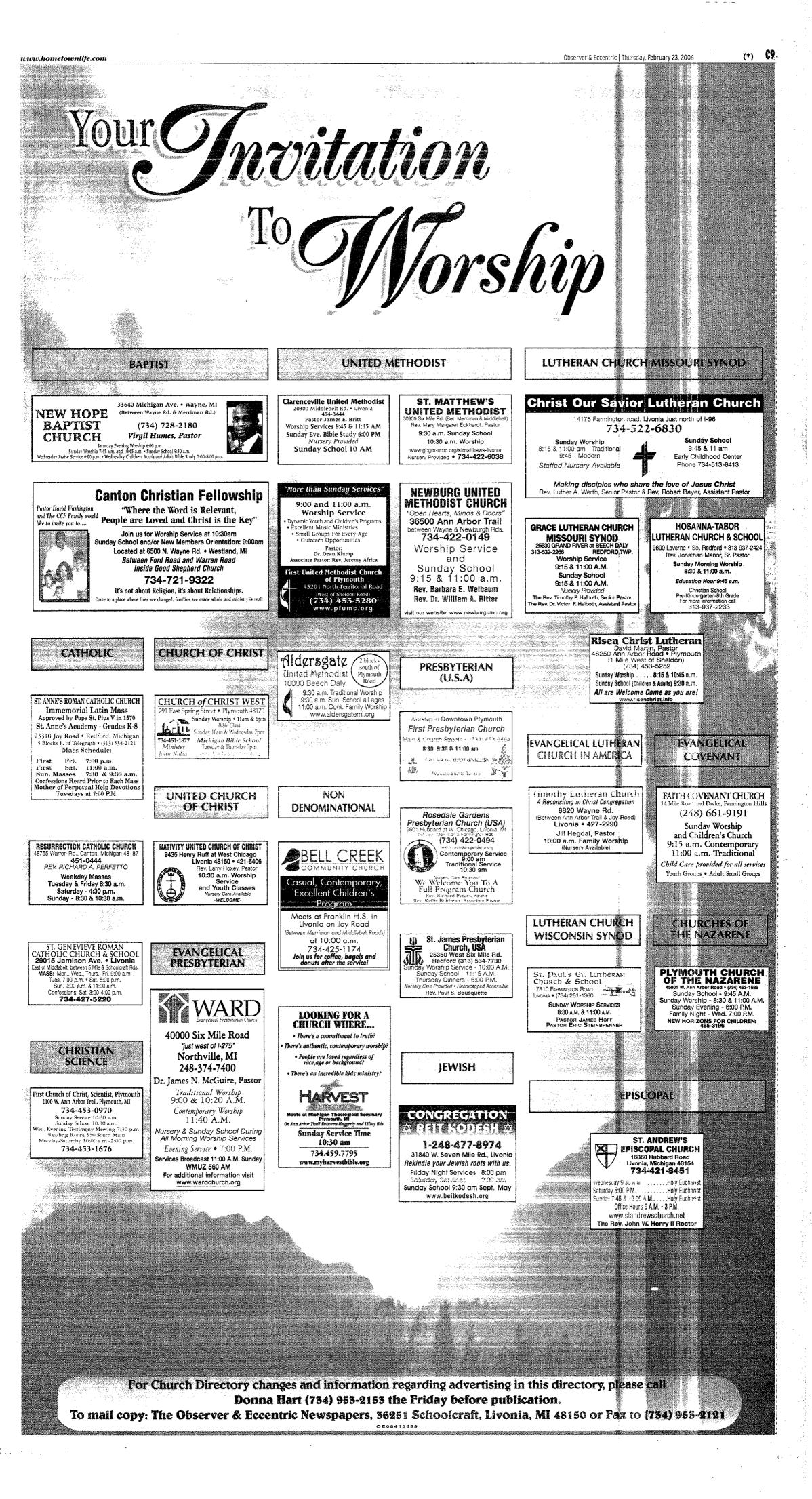
As executive director of the Council on American-Islamic Relations, Michigan Chapter, Dawud Walid hears about incidents of religious discrimination that cause friction in the workplace.

HANDLING TENSIONS

"Some employees come to us and complain. We contact the employer," said Walid. "In some cases it's just ignorance of the employers. We provide them with sensitivity training. If it doesn't work we refer the people to Michigan Department of Civil Rights and the EEOC, and in instances which can't be resolved to an attorney.

"There is verbal taunting, making fun of Muslims how they pray, or mocking the head scarf that females wear."

For information about sensitivity training, call CAIR at (248) 569-2203 or log on to www.cairmichigan.org.





and license fee. Cash due is after \$2,500 cash back.



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Section F

Thursday, February 23, 2006

Julie Brown, editor (734) 953-2111 Fax: (734) 591-7279 jcbrown@hometownlife.com www.hometownlife.com

Couples find real estate and marriage go together

BY JULIE BROWN STAFF WRITER

Noel and Lee Bittinger know how important it is to get along in a marriage. That strong marriage has kept them going over the last couple of decades working together as Realtors.

"It's very difficult to do," said Noel, who owns RE/MAX Classic of Canton with her husband. "All we talk about is real estate. It's all business."

They were married about a year before going into the field. The Bittingers, who have no children and have two dogs, agree a compatible marriage is a must for a harmonious working relationship.

"He does the brokerage end of it," said Noel Bittinger, who now recruits agents and lists properties. They have three buyer agents to show homes, while Lee operates the business in general.

"I'm one of his Realtors. basically, one of the many Realtors," she said. She's asked most often how the two get along working all day and then going home.

"It's a very common question." She finds they can bounce ideas off each other. The Canton residents can "build each other up and be better at what we do."

When they were showing houst es, the Bittingers went separately although they were in tandem for listing appointments. More recently, they've divided their job duties more.

Another couple working together are Realtors Mike and Mary Gladchun of RE, MAX on the Trail in Plymouth. They met as students

'We like it because we enjoy being together all the time.'

Mike Gladchun RE/MAX on the Trail

at Eastern Michigan University and now work as agents and own the Plymouth business.

"We like it because we enjoy being together all the time," said Mike Gladchun, who's been married to Mary 28 years and in business since 1983. He attributes their success to working together.

"We do lunch together, we do dinner together." They've always enjoyed real estate and don't mind the time it requires.

"It's really consumed us for the past 14 years," he said. "It's time consuming, but we enjoy it." The Gladchuns of Plymouth Township have no children, but do have lots of nieces and nephews.

of nieces and nephews. Last year, they decided to encoll in flight school at Mettetal Airport, where he finished in October and she's finishing now That's a diversion they ve enjoyed and helps them get up North more quickly.

The Gladchuns sell in the 1-275 corridor, Plymouth, Canton, Northville and Novi. He has a sales and marketing background, which helps, and praises Mary's people skills.

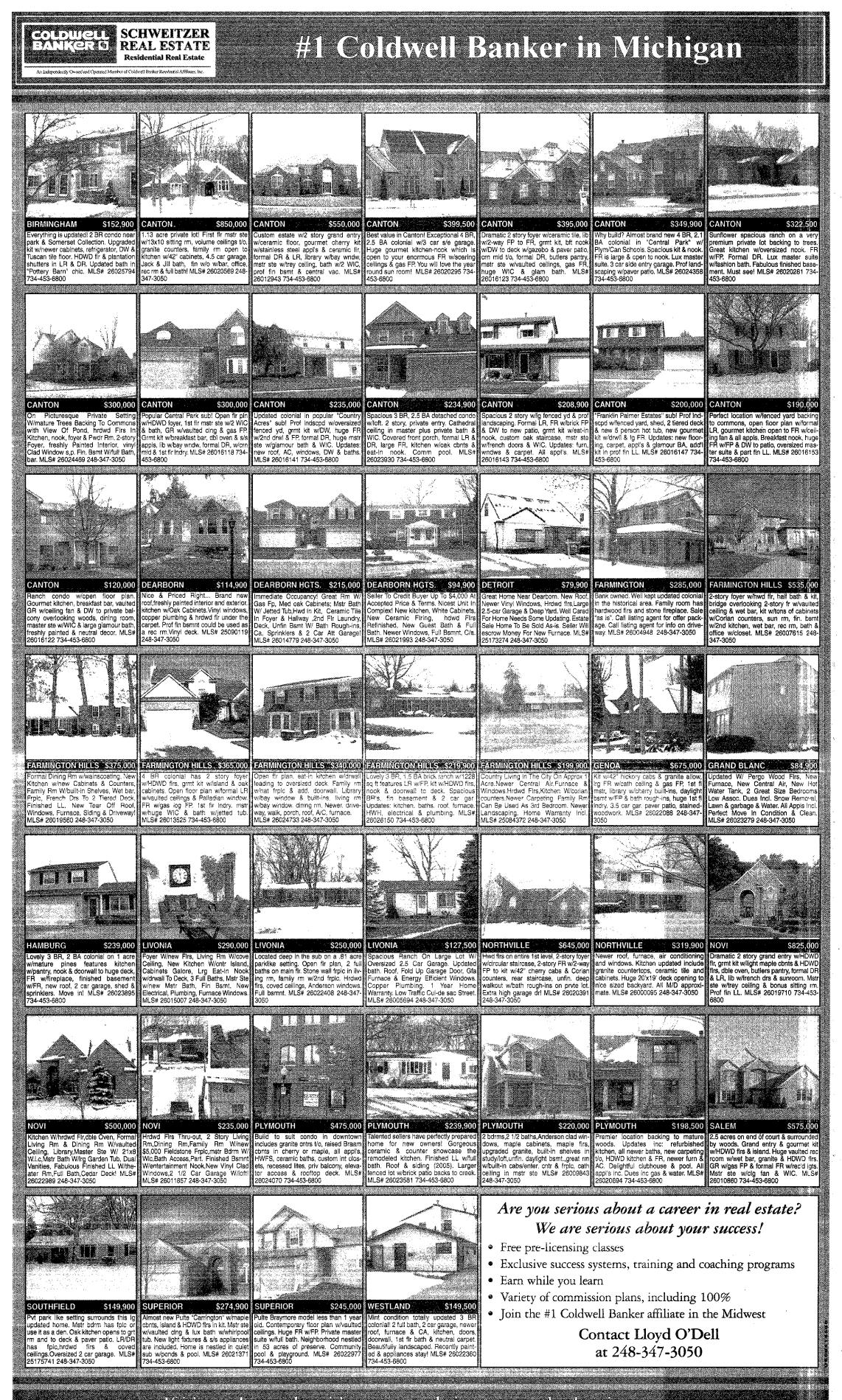
"It's not for everyone but it's great and works for us," he said. "It's a win-win-win all the way for us. We're extensions of each other and just enjoy being together."





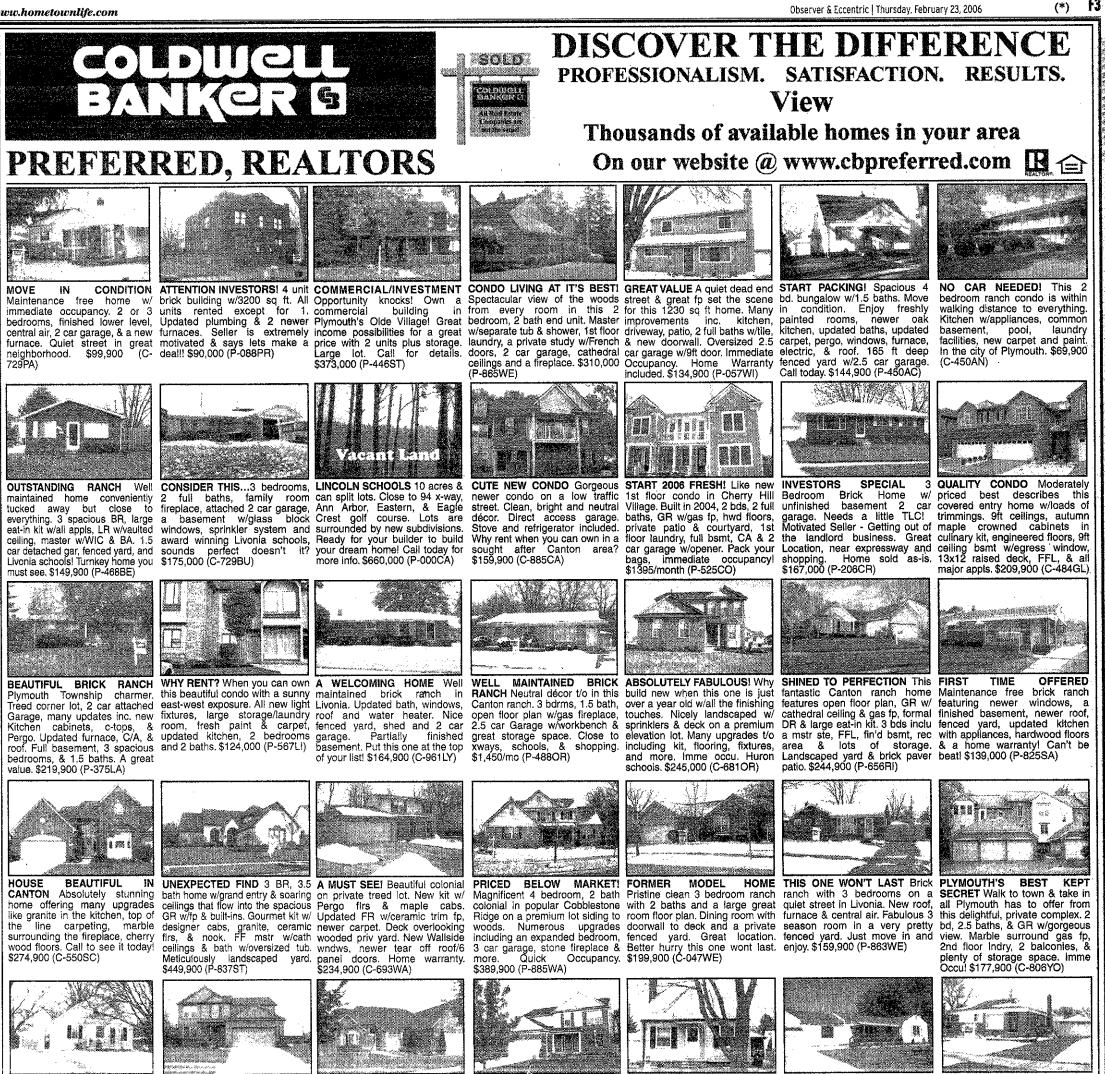
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Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, February 23, 2006



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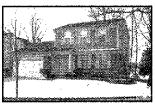
BEAUTIFULLY GROOMED One acre parcel with this immaculate 3 bedroom home, Large country front porch, hardwood floors, fireplace, formai living room, Hardwood floors, oversi doorwall to private yard and garage, vinyl windows and m nearly one full acre to call your 3 block from the element own. Great location. \$199,500 school. \$165,900 (C-835MO) (C-248MA)



UNBEATABLE PRICE SCENIC POND VIEWS CANTON COLONIAL This St. LIVONIA CONDO Nice floor plan Immaculate townhouse features Beautifully decorated 3 bd home James colonial is loaded with valited ceiling, attd garage, set on a premium lot backing to upgrades. Built in 2002, extensive sq ft. Cathedral ceilings, gas laundry, all appliances stay, 2 master bath w/double sinks & basement corner jetted tub. Daylight painted & ready for it's new bedroom, 2.5 baths, & basement corner jetted tub. Daylight painted & ready for it's new bedroom, 2.5 baths, & basement prepped for bath, owner. \$325,900 (P-670BR) when were to see, call todayl formal Living & dining rooms. A basement & Plymouth Canton see! \$211,900 (C-360LA) schools. \$244,000 (P-366HI)



HOME SWEET HOME Comfortable colonial with a large family room off of the updated kitchen w/lots of cabinets. floors, garage, vinyl windows and more! 3 block from the elementary





Open floor plan, GR w/gas fp & recessed lights. Spacious kit w/ island, hwd, all appl. & adjoining breakfast room w/view. FF mstr ste w/ private bath & soaking tub plus 2 bds & loft on the 2nd floor.

APPEAL

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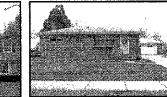
COUNTRY FEEL Have space & convenience in this Plymouth Township ranch. 3 bds, lots of Deck w/hot tub, & updates, located on a half acre lot. A must see! \$235,000 (P-850MA)



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3 BR brick ranch. Home has been lined street. New windows to be lovingly cared for & offers 6 panel installed & \$1,000 painting doors, newer carpeting, updated allowance to buyer at closing. Kitchen floor, stove, & fridge. 2 \$125,900 (C-021ME) car garage & a huge backyard. Home warranty included for the luckuchurge \$154,900 (P-607MA) lucky buyer. \$154,900 (P-607MA)



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LOCATION FLAIR, FASHION, FUN! Canton colonial. Formal DR flanked by designer ceramic & paint. Paver patio, curved staircase, side entry garage, bridge overlooking Great Room. So much more to see. \$389,000 (P-110NO)



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& microwave. Stunning ceramic rented for the semester. Newer tile flooring from foyer thru kit. furnaces, siding, hwh's, exterior Beautiful new bathroom w/tile. doors, & excellent parking New carpet & paint t/o w/crown behind house. Call for more details. \$199,500 (P-218SU)

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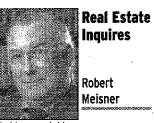
Contribution raises legal issues

Q. Our timeshare condo board is thinking about making a contribution to the American Red Cross for Hurricane Katrina since some of our members live in the area. While I think it is a good cause. I am concerned about the precedent; what do you think?

A. Most of the time the condo documents and articles of incorporation of the association will define the purposes of the condominium which are generally limited to taking care of the condominium premises and issues directly related to the maintenance and operation of the condominium. While the cause may be

just, the association would not have, in my opinion, the authority to make such a charitable contribution. Moreover, it would set a bad precedent as who has determined one good charity as opposed to another. Obviously, a personal contribution that individual members of the association make would not be a problem. You should write the board of directors and advise them that

unfortunately they have committed an ultra vires act and may be



held accountable for the contribution if the association makes it.

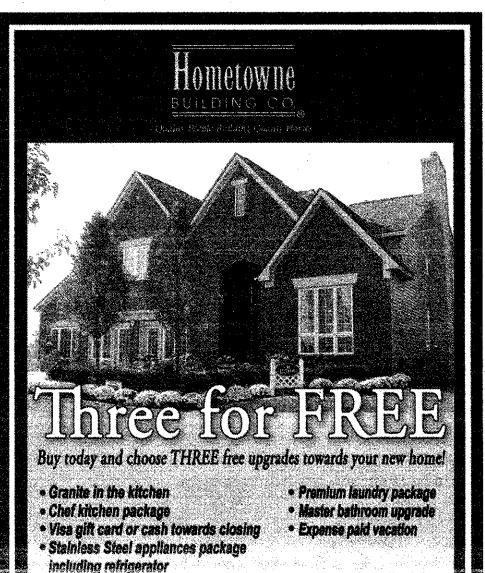
Q. Our purchase agreement provides that we accept the property "as is" except as otherwise provided in our disclosure statement. We have now found that there are problems with the representations made on the disclosure statement. Do you think we have a chance to collect from the seller because of roof problems that we now experience are moldy?

A. I think you have a good argument based upon a recent Court of Appeals decision which affirmed a jury verdict for plaintiff for damages arising from mold caused by a leaking roof in a condominium pur-

chased from a seller even though there was an "as is" clause in the purchase agreement. The court found that the plaintiff was entitled to rely on the defendant's representation in the seller's disclosure statement that the roof did not leak. Testimony in that case was deemed sufficient to create a factual question regarding whether the defendant had knowledge of a prior roof leak but represented that there was no such leak in the seller's disclosure state-

ment. Therefore, I would seek an attorney's advice in connection with this claim

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and author of Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track, second edition. It is available for \$9.95 plus \$1 shipping and handling. He wrote Condo Living: A Survival Guide to Buying, Owning and Selling a Condominium, available for \$24.95 plus \$5 shipping and handling. For information, call (248) 644-4433 or visit bmeisner@meisner-associates.com.



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These are the Observer & Eccentric-area residential realestate closings recorded the weeks of Sep. 26-30, 2005, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales Canton 41647 Singh \$303.000 \$174,000

2170 Antique 48556 Antique 2159 Arcadia \$168,000 42942 Arlington \$225,000 43151 Avon \$223.000 43230 Barchester \$237,000 43417 Barclay \$325,000 40420 Blythefield \$196,000 40456 Blythefield \$170,000 40474 Blythefield \$158,000 40510 Blythefield \$202.000 2353 Brookhaven \$228,000 5825 Castlegate \$330,000 8330 Chatham \$210,000 7606 Chichester \$288.000 8737 Columbia \$247.000 1557 Commodore \$189,000 575 Constitution \$200,000 645 Constitution \$235,000 432 Cornell \$270,000 49199 Dominion \$491.000 1986 E Roundtable \$237,000 6974 E Sprind \$280,000 2662 Emily \$390,000 8125 Endicott \$201,000 8145 Endicott \$196.000 8185 Endicott \$196,000 8286 Endicott \$171.000 2057 Franklin \$136,000 43999 Fredericksburg \$190,000 45605 Graystone \$168.000 42272 Hartford \$230,000 1576 Heron \$242,000 39728 Hillary \$180,000 45585 Holmes \$255,000 42307 Jenninos \$219.000 45015 Lemont \$216,000 42524 Lillev Pointe \$125,000 42533 Lilley Pointe \$126,000 46621 Maidstone \$245,000 \$460,000 48318 Manhattan 6428 Marshall \$325,000 44977 Middlebury \$354,000 1418 Mistwood \$165,000 2054 Mistwood \$218,000 198 N Village \$40,000 210 N Village \$40,000 276 N Village \$40,000 36572 Grandon 3376 Napier \$237,000 18365 Grimm 8413 New Haven \$458,000 14272 Hix 8612 New Haven \$403,000 12245 Inkster 8156 Newbury \$191.000 37918 Jamison 8192 Newbury \$186,000 33325 Kentucky 44430 Newburyport \$130,000 15060 Knolson 1609 Orchard \$118,000 38790 Meeting House 7220 Parkway \$260,000 11037 Melrose 2264 Pinecroft \$197,000 31585 Merriwood Park 45208 Prestbury \$215,000 29860 Munder 47932 Red Run \$356,000 34646 Northland

HOMES SOLD IN WAYNE COUNTY \$297.000 432 Roosevel 293 S Village \$40,000 8578 Sandpiper \$225,000 8639 Sandpiper \$247.000 \$177.000 42024 Saratoga 42176 Saratoga \$184,000 44477 Savery \$95.000 43615 Simsbury \$222,000 \$345.000 51210 Sleepy Hollow \$245.000 51223 Sleepy Hollow \$242,000 48854 Stanton \$615,000 6544 Sturbridge \$209,000 43724 Sweet Cherry \$222,000 1717 Thistle \$281.000 43479 W Arbor Way \$142,000 46592 W Oak Manor \$315,000 \$445,000 47900 Wadebridge 7242 Wadebridge \$472,000 1357 Wagon Wheel \$223,000 \$275,000 8417 Westchester 40950 Westfield \$277,000 824 Wildwood \$262,000 1183 Wildwood \$254,000 5634 Willow Creek \$194.000 \$242,000 6860 Woonsocket Garden Citv 5715 Arcola \$133,000 31026 Birchlawn \$188,000 31445 Donnelly \$164.000 28467 Florence \$149,000 30762 Ford \$160.000 6728 Hawthorn \$144,000 28444 Kathryn \$160,000 28674 Krauter \$114,000 32105 Windsor \$138,000 Livonia 20025 Antago \$120,000 20138 Antago \$160,000 \$330.000 16750 Bell Creek 9830 Berwick \$203.000 20251 Brentwood \$165,000 14089 Brookfield \$150,000 16359 Country Club \$248,000 14364 Denne \$193,000 \$295,000 34552 Dover 14096 Ellen \$220,000 14224 Ellen \$200,000 30490 Elmira \$157,000 18928 Filmore \$124,000 18849 Floral \$150.000 18910 Floral \$105,000 15980 Garv \$255,000 15992 Gary \$308,000 19033 Gillman \$135.000 28519 Gita \$225.000

34036 Parkdale \$207,000 15633 Penn \$247,000 34980 Perth \$242,000 29926 Richland \$175,000 38171 Richland \$212.000 13999 Rica \$203,000 31064 Schoolcraft \$200,000 32939 Scone \$180,000 9901 Shadvside \$235,000 14750 Stonehouse \$200,000 37119 Sunnydale \$226,000 14744 Susanna \$195,000 31807 W Chicago \$248,000 30531 Wentworth \$300,000 29578 Westfield \$165.000 27981 Whitcomb \$185,000 34207 Wood \$260,000 14447 Yale \$224,000 Plymouth 9039 Ball \$214,000 50545 Beechwood \$230,000 9460 Brookline \$179,000 10368 Chestnut \$255,000 49421 Commons \$520,000 49567 Cooke \$472.000 41317 Crabtree \$247,000 770 Deer \$175,000 13166 Drury \$354,000 1310 Elm \$640,000 14833 Farmbrook \$263,000 41229 Five Mile \$323,000 879 Forest \$193,000 48951 Fox \$478,000 664 Jener \$393,000 44444 John Alden \$240,000 43220 Joy \$205,000 44600 Joy \$113,000 42522 Lakeland \$205,000 12271 Landers \$420,000 8855 Mavflower \$270,000 47024 N Territorial \$490,000 40110 Newport \$130,000 40619 Newport \$102,000 40525 Pinetree \$205,000 \$289,000 44550 Pinetree 301 Pinewood \$125.000 49948 Plymouth \$175,000 49844 Pointe Xing \$190,000 305 Red Ryder \$275,000 375 Red Ryder \$205.000 377 Red Ryder \$235.000 381 Red Ryder \$233,000 385 Red Ryder \$350,000 43075 River Bend \$268,000 649 S Harvey \$181.000 1199 S Sheidon \$177.000 13440 Saint Andrews \$120,000 11500 Spicer \$269,000 11625 Spicer \$219,000 11721 Sycamore \$147,000 9060 Tavistock \$225,000 263 W Ann Arhor \$190,000 51278 W Hills \$405,000 12964 Wendover \$315,000 \$178,000 12413 Woodgate 780 York \$170,000 1074 York \$185,000 Redford 8970 Arnold \$156,000 25740 Beech \$154.000 \$93,000 16637 Beech Daly 17142 Centralia \$142,000

12741 Columbia \$160,000 13501 Dixie \$125,000 18515 Garfield \$102,000 9936 Grayfield \$125,000 9901 Kinloch \$126.000 19341 Kinloch \$129,000 15067 Kipke \$195,000 15587 Leona \$45,000 18319 Macarthur \$143,000 20054 Macarthur \$72,000 12837 Marion \$164,000 12637 Mercedes \$113,000 24957 N Sylbert \$145,000 19948 Negaunee \$120,000 17272 Olympia \$128,000 20084 Poinciana \$109,000 14140 Royal Grand \$192,000 19191 Seminole \$108,000 9102 Telegraph \$375,000 \$125,000 11390 Virgil 25251 W Chicago \$113,000 26737 W Chicago \$137,000 15567 Wakenden \$106,000 15665 Wakenden \$139,000 27087 Westland \$135.000 11301 Wormer \$138,000 Westland 28054 Ann Arbor \$215,000 37180 Baker \$303,000 1425 Restrice \$132,000 34508 Bock \$141,000 30569 Bradford \$137,000 6715 Caribou \$139,000 31263 Cooley \$150,000 \$117,000 8021 Coventry 313 Daniel \$178.000 36538 Deer Run \$190,000 39286 Dillingham \$193,000 39343 Dillingham \$200,000 6230 Ferraina \$242.000 37068 Gilchrist \$160.000 37157 Gilchrist \$134,000 38688 Glenwood \$184,000 2078 Golfview \$233,000 33300 Hidden \$256.000 541 Lansdowne \$223.000 1566 Lestie \$147,000 \$167,000 32551 Mackenzie 29036 Manchester \$100,000 29264 Manchester \$100,000 2543 Muirfield \$246.000 6115 N Berry \$129,000 6025 N Crown \$125,000 8599 N Hubbard \$110,000 7417 N Wildwood \$149.000 34514 Nancy \$164,000 8265 Opal \$312,000 8355 Rickie \$178,000 1859 S Karle \$115,000 \$316,000 38514 Shelby 181 Stephanie \$210.000 30550 Stewart \$163,000 30580 Stewart \$158,000 35300 University \$150,000 37190 Vista \$329,000 38190 Warren \$206,000 38716 Watson \$318,000 31231 Windsor \$132,000 7507 Woodview \$79,000 \$84,000 7662 Woodview \$79.000 7572 Woodview

SINGLE FAMILY COMMUNITIES BELLEMEADE GRRIAGE WORD AUGUSTA TWP. Fnow \$249,900 734.451,9608 PONTIAC 80UTH LYON Consignce the FROM \$179,800 248,334,7900 FROM 5234,900 810,829,2264 From \$279,000 248.448.1439 FROM \$239,900 248,884,1335 CONDOMINUM COMMUNITIES NORTHPOINTE PARKLANE DEARBORN AREA woodhaven FROM \$129,900 734,875,7550 FROM \$119,900 313.381.7900 Information Centers Open Daily 11am - 6pm Closed Thursdays www.hometownebuilding.com BROKERS MELLIOM \bigcirc Hurry! Offer ends soon! Restrictions may apply. See sales associate for details.

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42721 Redfern

\$232.000 \$150,000 \$250,000

\$235.000

19197 Norwich 32857 Oakley 9180 Oporto

18780 Norwich

\$279,000 \$182,000 \$170,000

\$220,000

\$196,000

\$207,000

\$93,000

\$178.000

\$196,000

\$207,000

\$230,000

\$225,000

\$195,000

\$310.000

\$360,000

\$175,000

Timothy

Phillips

fascinating – stories.

Regarding mortgage

loans for each season of a

Planning is the key to home ownership

^{**}hroughout my years as a mortgage loan officer, I have come to marvel at the incredible diversity of my clientele. I have dug millionaires out of debt trouble, I have found mortgages for folks mere days after bankruptcies, and I have created mortgage solutions for cash-strapped builders seeking to double the size of their own homes.

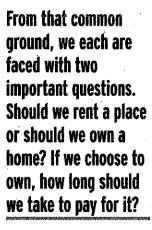
With every family I have encountered, there

person's life. Despite all the variables and client diversity, however, I find that all of us have two profoundly simple things in common. We each have a place to live, and we each work to pay our bills are unique - and often the largest of which is presumably our rent or our mortgage payment. funding, I have written in From that common the past that one size cerground, we each are tainly does not fit all, and that there are different

faced with two important questions. Should we rent a place or should we own a home? If we choose to own, how long should we take to pay for it?

For most, renting for the long term is frankly a very poor financial choice. Thus, the only significant decision is whether we want to have lower monthly mortgage payments for a very long time, or whether we want to completely own our homes much sooner.

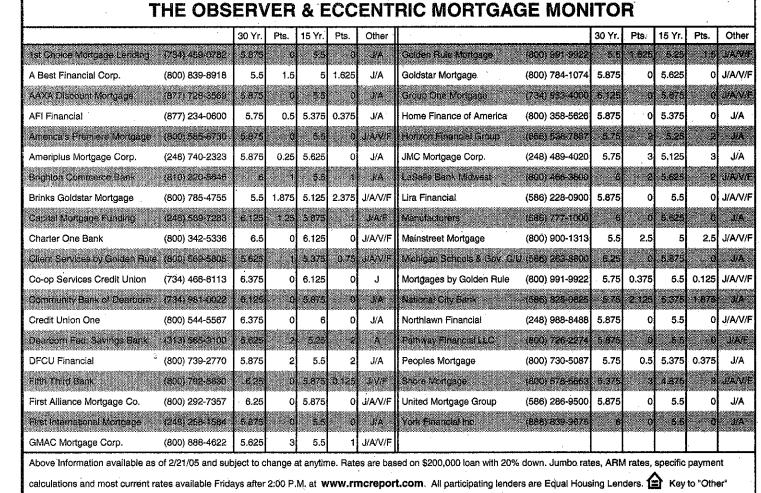
Borrowers can own their homes many years earlier either by selecting a shorter-term mortgage or by voluntarily paying additional money towards their loan's principal every month. An extra \$100 per month towards the principal of a \$100,000 30-year mortgage will shorten its term by about 10 years. Alternatively, choosing to



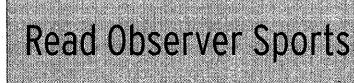
wisely invest that \$100 instead may allow you to pay off your future mortgage balance with the profits.

Today's TIMBIT! Many families spend more time planning a vacation than they do their personal finances. Because having a place to live is of primal interest to each of us, you should seriously develop a plan to own your own home completely. Get professional guidance, if you need it.

Timothy Phillips is a mortgage banker and newspaper columnist, Visit www.PhillipsHQ.com for free information online or call him toll-free at (866) 369-4516. Homebuyers should always consult a professional for guidance specific to their situation.



Column - J = Jumbo, A = Arms, V = VA, F = FHA, R = Reverse Mtg. and NR = Not Reported. © Copyright 2006 Residential Mortgage Consultants, Inc., All Rights Reserved



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Our personalized marketing plan for your home will achieve positive results.

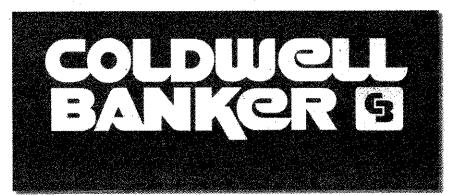
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We're productive.

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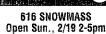
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attached garage. Close to

COMPLETELY RENOVATED in & out. 2 bdrm, deck, air Large corner lot. Great starter home or investment property Positive cash flow. Immediate occupancy, \$75,000. Call (248) 346-6108 3360



Rochester

& Sat., 2/25, 2-5 S. of Tienken to Timberline, left on Snowmass. 2 story colonial in prestigious Shadow Woods Sub, 4 bedrooms, 2½ baths Florida room, great room formal dining, eat-in kitchen formal living room. 1st floor laundry, xlarge 2 car garage bsmt, numerous amenities galore, finished updates. over 2800 sc. ft. living area

car attached fenced yard buyers only. (734) 699-2935 Open Sun., 2/26, 12-3pm garage, v/patio. Updated windows, itchen, appliances & more. (Just Reduced!) 26041 TOWNLEY 3 bdrm, 1 bath bungalow. "It's All About \$156,500. (93WAR) 315 sq. ft. \$165,000 Century 21 Row 734-464-7111 SOUTH LYON **Call the inman Team** Results" erver & Eccentric **Bicyclers Welcome!** (248) 374-6873 New custom 3200 sq.ft home reduced \$70,000, pri-Remerica United Realty Classifieds vate, wooded cul-de-sac, Huron Valley Bike Traill Open 2/23, 1-5 pm or by Appt.1 28702 Hovey Lane, 1 mile S. of 1-96 & Milford **By Owner** 47720 Grand River, Novi MADISON HGTS 878 Venoy CHARMING RANCH 3 bdrm. brick ranch, w/bsmt on quiet Westland st. Updated kitchen, bath, windows, roof. Appt.! remodel kitchen Hardwood floors, & bath , immed Hardwood floors, immed. occup. \$156,900. c-248-894-6327, w-313-964-2039 Rd to Travis to Hovey Lane. Stone, Granite, Maple, Spa, 4 full Baths. \$480,000 Ceramic & hardwood floors throughout. 2.5 car garage, full bsmt. REDUCED price \$167,400. (734) 751-1564 734-646-3355 AnnArborRealEstate.com **FABULOUS PRICE** AUCTION On this 3 bedroom brick ranch, remodeled kitchen, 3410 Pergo floors in living room & hall, 3 car garage in-sulated & drywalled, newer MICHIGAN'S TROY: NEW CONSTRUCTION **GREAT VALUE I-96 CORRIDOR** windows, roof & furnace Only \$129,900. 1st. Floor master ste. Immediate occupancy/Perfect location off Rochester Rd./ [Builder's Closeout] WOW! lean & sharp decor/hardwood 4 bed Lakefront Homes home with remodeled kitchen & bath, 2 car garage on a double lot, \$139,900. **Condominiums**, Home Sites. private showing call: NEWLY LISTED Development Land 3 Bedroom ranch on almost Duane J. Bauer and More an acre lot! Large kitchen, finished basement, 2 car garage, many updates, \$159,900. newer

Metropolitan Consolidated Association of Kealtors OE08407495 Mortgage/Land 3850 Manufactured Homes 3740 (3790) Northern Property Contract HARRISON, MI Clean, nice, neat, 1 bdrm home. Partially CASH For owner-financed \$1325.00 mortgages, court settlements Moves You In furnished, nice yard near town. Avail. March 1, option to rent, \$400/mo. + utilities & business notes, annuities, lot-Like new 3 bedroom doublewuide with large island kitchen. Total payments tery winnings. 877-298-2040 security. 734-427-1607 Cemetery Lots 3880 \$655/m **Century Homes Sales** Lots & Acreage/Vacant 3820 (734) 595-7535 CADILLAC MEMORIAL (on approved credit) **GARDENS WEST** 4 plots, Apostle section. \$500 each. 586-775-6393 HIGHLAND Spectacular 1/2 ALMOST NEW!! acre, walk-out lot, next to golf 3 Bedroom, 2 bath course and Preswick Village GLEN EDEN MEMORIAL \$12,900 Golf Club. \$56,500. (248) 640-2183 Livonia, 2 burial plots. \$1050 ea, Garden of Ascension. Call \$550 per month including site. NORTHVILLE -2 beautiful (727) 787-7641 **Century Homes Sales**



1







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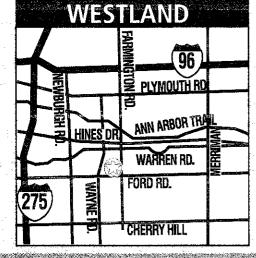
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F10 (*) Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, February 23, 2006





Homes For Rent 4050	Homes For Rent 4050	Vacation Resort/Rentals)00's	Help Wanted-General 5000	Help Wanted-General 5000	Help Wanted-General 6000	Help Wanted-General 6000
LIVONIA 3 bdrm ranch, master bdrm suite w/ fireplace, air, all appliances, \$1095, 2 yr, lease	SOUTHFIELD Small remod- eled 2 bdrm w/garage. All appliances. \$700/mo + depo- sit. Pets OK. 248-737-1795.	SIESTA KEY/ SARASOTA Close to beach & village. Beautiful Mediterranean 3 bdrm villa avail wkly. (248) 723-0866		hs and reers	Associate Director Independent Senior Apart- ment community looking for an energetic individual with excellent marketing and sales	BOOKKEEPER Quick books for part time and temporary assignments fax resume and wage require-	CANTON Township Job Fair	CARPET CLEANERS TECHNICIANS & ASSISTANTS NEEDED Experience helpful
incl. membership to Livonia Rec Center, 3 blocks away. (248) 943-2963 LIVONIA 3 bdrm, 1.5 baths.	SOUTHFIELD - Nice 3 bdrm on large wooded lot, appliances, 2 car garage, \$995/month. ShareNet Realty 248-642-1620	Living Quarters To Share CANTON/YPSILANTI:	5000	5300Hup Wanted-Enterhalmment 5320Students 5340lobs Wanted-	skills. Forward resume to livo- nia809@earthlink.net or fax (734) 522-1161, Meadows of Livonia.	ments to 248-349-3724 BOUTIQUE FASHION COORDINATOR Start immedi- ately. Full time, some	The Charter Township of Canton is hosting a JOB FAIR on Friday, February	but not needed. Will train. Good driving record. Good person- ality. Good benefits. Westland
Lg kitchen. 2.5 car garage. Fireplace, full bsmt, fenced yard. \$1150 + security/ first/ last. (734) 464-3137	SOUTHFIELD 13 Mile/ Green- field area. 3 bdrm. Birmingham Schools. Newly redecorated, new windows. (248) 540-2370	Executive, new home, 5 acres, wooded, huge room, cable, laundry & utilities incl. \$355. (734) 658-8823	5028Help Wanted- Office Clerisal 5030Help Wanted-	Female/Mate 6369Childcare Services- Licensed	Associate Rep COLLEGE STUDENTS High School Seniors/Grad-	evenings. Vesa-586-978-9411 BRIDGEPORT OPERATOR Gage exp. 5 yrs min. 248-474-5150 or	24th 4:00-7:00 pm and Saturday, February 25th 10:00-12:00 pm at Cherry Hill School, 50440	CHILD CAREGIVER needed for ages 1-2 vrs. old. Christian
LIVONIA 3 Bdrm. home available, '0' Down, rent to own, or land contracts. 734-521-0198	TROY 4 Bdrm. Colonial, 2.5 baths, attached garage, bsmt., N. of 16. \$1800/mo. 248-765- 1161	HOME TO SHARE • Many locations • Pre-gualified leads	Engideering 5040Help Wanted-Dental 5060Help Wanted Medical 5080Help Wanted-	5370	uates: \$17.25 base-appt., flexible schedules, customer sales/service, all ages 18+, cond. apply. (248) 426-4405	investments57@yahoo.com Farmington Hills BUTCHER/COUNTER HELP	Cherry Hill, Canton, Mi 48187. Canton Township is hiring for several part- time/seasonal positions. Come prepared to com-	child care, part time. 9am- 6pm, Mon-Thurs. Northville First Care. (248)349-8875
LIVONIA 3 Bdrm. ranch, 1100 sq.ft., 2 car garage, 1.5 bath, finished bsmt, Middlebelt/Ply- mouth. \$1200. 248-377-1511	WEST DEARBORN: 3022 Academy. Clean 3 bdrm. Appliances. Carpet. No pets \$875 mo. 313-574-4123	www.Home-Mate.com Matching hosts & guests Since 1979 248-644-6845 HOUSE MATE WANTED	Food/Baverage 5100Help Waated- Haalth & Fitness 5110Help Wanted-Professional	5420Nursing Care & Homes 5500Summer Camps 5600Education/Instruction 5620Business & Professional	ASST. MANAGER Exp with computer. Good cus- tomer service/ people skills. full time, Fax resume to 248-615-7798 or	Fulltime for Birmingham gro- cery. Some experience. 248-644-5510 CANVASSARS	plete an employment application. Job descrip- tions with complete qualifications are avail- able on the Canton	CLEANERS NEEDED Novi Area. Evening hours MonSat., 15-20 hrs/week. \$8.50/hr. Couples weicome. Refer to Job VLM.
LIVONIA 3. Bdrms. Rent w/ option to buy. 13th month free. Many updates! \$1250/mo. Call Bob (734) 476-7125	WESTLAND 2 bdrm in Norwayne, \$650 rent. 734-968-2636	Female to share 3 bdrm bun- galow in Inkster \$400/mo. incl everything. Friendly pets OK. 313-274-0441	5120Help Wanted-Sates 5200Help Wanted-Part-Time 5240Help Wanted-Domestic	Services 5700Automeys/Legal Counseling 5720Help Wanted-Tax Services	call 248-615-7788 Auto Westside GM Dealer needs Parts Delivery Driver. Full time.	Michigan's leading home improvement co. is looking for full-time,self-motivated can- vassars. Pay range is \$350-	Township website at www.canton-mi.org or may be viewed at the Canton Township Human	248-478-2054 CLEANERS NEEDED Saline Area. MonFri. 11am- 3pm -\$9-\$10/hr. & MonFri.
Livonia AAA 3 bdrm. brick ranch, finished bsmt., appli- ances, very clean. \$1350. 313-550-8119, 734-462-1408	WESTLAND 2 Bdrm duplex. Nice, clean, nice court, Available Feb. 28. \$675 mo. 313-418-9905.	LIVONIA Great area, clean, quiet, spacious home. Full house privileges, laundry. Private bath, Utilities incl.	5260Help Wanted Chuples	5740Business Opportunities 5770Tutoring	Benefits. Must have clean driv- ing record and be willing to work. Apply in person to Kenn Nelson, Gordon Chevrolet, 31850 Ford Rd., Garden City.	\$1600 wkly: Overtime & paid training available. Sales expe- rience preferred, but not nec- essary. Contact Dave Jones: 734-634-6575 or Brian	Resources Division, 1150 S. Canton Center Rd. Canton, MI 48188. APPLICANT MAY BE REQUIRED TO APPLY	7pm-11pm-\$8.50/hr. Couples Welcome. Refer to Job WCA. 248-478-2054 CLEANING - OFFICE
LIVONIA schools. 3 bdrm remodeled 1550 sq. ft. brick ranch. Finished bsmt, fire- place, deck, 2 car garage.	WESTLAND 2 bdrm, carpeted. \$650/mo. with option to buy. Ross Realty. 734-326-8300	\$400/mio. 734-513-9690 Reems For Rent 4140	soco-seeo Employment	Help Wanted-General 6000	AUTO BODY TECHNICIAN CRESTWOOD DODGE (734) 421-5700	Brooks 734-748-9790 CAREGIVER NEEDED Dependable, motivated, self reliant. Work weekends, occa-	FOR HIS/HER DRIVING RECORD, AT OWN EXPENSE, THROUGH THE SECRETARY OF STATE.	Part-Time, Eves. Offices in Southfield or Livonia (248) 615-3554 COMPUTER PROGRAMMER
New appliances. \$1300 mo. (734) 641-9898 LIVONIA/PLYMOUTH 1632 sq. ft. 3 bdrm tri-level, 1.5 bath,	WESTLAND 4 bdrm, 2 bath, built in 1995, 1st floor master, 2nd floor laundry. \$1400/mo. D&H Properties 248-737-4002	CANTON - Near I-275. Non- smoking & non-drinking male. Quiet, \$295/mo. New. No lease. 734-394-1557			AUTO PARTS Growing Kia dealership is locking to fill a Parts Advisor position. Candidate must have	sional weedays. Farmington Hills. Call 248-357-8032 Carpenter - Finish Exp. archi- tectural woodwork installer.	The Charter Township of Canton does not discrim- inate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or	Web Master, Photoshop, & data entry. Call 248-974-5960. CONCESSION & JANITORIAL
family room, 2.5 garage. No pets. \$1099 - 248-514-2612 NEW HOMES FOR RENT 3 bdrm, 2 bath, \$699/mo.	WESTLAND 4 bdrm, finished bsmt, garage, option, \$950; 3 bdrm ranch, Livonia schools, garage, \$850. 248-788-1823.	TRIPLE A DELUXE MOTEL A/C, Jacuzzi in rooms, maid service, HBO. Low daily/wkly rates. Tel-96 inn 313-535-4100	341	MANAGER Career-minded individual needed to manage a mid- size apartment community in Westiand. Experience a	Reynolds & Reynolds experience. Import back- ground preferred. Please send resume Attn: Lee Derrick DICK SCOTT KIA	Please send resume to: PO Box 930347 Wixom, MI 48393	disability in employment or the provision of services. An Equal Opportunity Employer.	workers needed. Flexible hours. Novi area. Please call 248-662-0114 for appt. CONTROLLER
All appliances and a/c Included. Pets Welcome 888-304-0078 COLLEGE PARK ESTATES	Westland RENT TO OWN Livonia Schools, 1700 sg.	Royal Inn 248-544-1575 Fairlane 248-347-9999 Relax Inn 734-595-9990 WAYNE Room for rent with	Help Wanted General 5000 ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE	must. Competitive salary and benefits. Fax resume 248-358-3779	41840 Michigan Ave. Canton, MI 48188 AUTO TECHNICIANS CRESTWOOD DODGE	CARPENTERS (Rough Framing) Seeking an experienced & entry level car- penter for a rough framing &	A word to the wise, when looking for a	Exp. and self-motivated. Fax resume and salary require- ments to: (248) 569-9535.
51074 Mott Rd. Canton Mi 48188 (Between Geddes & Mich Ave. off Ridge Road).	ft. brick ranch, 4 Bdrm, 2 baths, 2½ car garage, on ½ acre. Call agent, Diane 734-516-8043	house privileges. Nice area. \$450/mo. (incl utilities). 734- 722-6960 Office/Retail Space For Paul acco	PROFESSIONAL Anchor Lamina Inc, requires an experienced self motivated,	APPLY TODAY IMMEDIATE OPENINGS PLYMOUTH- NOVI AREAS	(734) 421-5700 AUTOMOTIVE Gordon Chevrolet has imme-	full service remodeling compa- ny. Benefits and paid vacation. Call 734-449-8075 or fax resume to 734-449-8076	great deal check the Observer & Eccentric Classifieds!	This Classification continues in Section G
*on select homes Skyline/Clayton Retailer	WESTLAND, LIVONIA, CANTON Limited homes now available and going fast! Bruised credit	Rent/Lease Buckingham Office Park Middlebelt Rd., N/ of I-96.	fast paced, detail oriented, accounting professional Must have excellent communication skills and have advanced Excel, Word and A/R skills.	•GENERAL LABOR •MAIL SORTING •ORDER PICKER •PACKAGING •WAREHOUSE	diate openings for Service Technicians in several areas of repair. Experience preferred. Apply in person, 31850 Ford Road, Garden City, MI or call Rick (734) 458-5270	IT Man	ager	
bath. Garage. All appliances included. \$950/mo. + \$500 security. 18934 Northville Rd.	OK - we help with special financing to move you in today! 248-478-5660. WESTLAND- Updated 3 bed-	Campus setting, Great Parking, Private Entrances. 575 – 7,200 sq. ft. CMS (248) 549-0900	Must have 5+ years A/R exp. and minimum Associates Degree. Competitive benefit package and bonus plan. Qualified only, submit your	Background Check Drug Testing Required Apply in person	Rick (734) 458-5270 BARBER NEEDED 5649 Merriman, Garden City. clientale waiting.	candidates to m	company in Lansing anage IT department sers, Responsibilities v	with 120 desktop
ate Occupancy. Country Charmer; 3,000 sq. ft.; rent reduced \$1,600. 248-473-7428	room, air, appilances, deck, fenced yard. Ford & Wayne Rds. \$925/mo. 248-346-6108	FARMINGTON HILLS Retail Space Great Exposure.	salary requirements Attn: HR, P. O. Box 2540, Farmington Hills, MI 48333- 2540 or HR@lamina.com	8:30am.to 4pm Monday-Friday 7878 South Telegraph Rd. Taylor, Mi 4312-299-9825	734-293-5212 BIOLOGY/CHEMISTRY	design, planning environment; sup	, and implementation pervising network adm anaging networking, d	n in a LAN/WAN hin and database
NORTHVILLE: Spacious 3 bdrm, 2 bath. Patio, garage. Nice yard. \$1175 mo. No pets. 877-722-5448.	Mobile Home Rentals 4070 CANTON We have new homes for rent. Pets welcome.	1300 - 4480 sq.ft. Excellent Rates. CERTIFIED REALTY INC. 248-471-7100	ACCOUNTS Payable/Human Resources	APPOINTMENT SETTER Ideal for anyone who can- not get out to work. Work part-time from your home,	QUALITY CONTROL Plymouth, MI Beverage Company is seeking a full time Quality Control	development, ar providing second	nd reporting initiatives d level desktop suppo dicies and procedure	for the company; rt; developing and
NOVI 5 acre home, tri-level, 3 bdrm, 2 bath, Walled Lake Schools, \$1300/mo. + utilities. (248) 888-8400	Call Sandy at Sun Homes for details at: 888-304-8941 Skyline/Clayton Retailer NEW HOMES FOR RENT Deta underson	NORTHVILLE Professional office space available in quiet Northville Chiropratice office. Approx. 200 sq. ft. \$500 734-377-1257	Anchor Lamina Inc, requires an experienced self motivated, fast paced, detail oriented, accounting and human resource professional. Must	scheduling pick-ups for Purple Heart. Call 9-5, Mon-Fri. (734) 728-4572	Technician. Responsi- bilities include water analysis, cleaning and sanitizing tanks and filters, and filling of tanks.	and planning for have a bachelor	future growth. Quali s degree, previous ex etwork administration	fied candidates will perience in project
PLYMOUTH A MUST SEE - PRIVATE HOME- 2 Bdrms., 2 baths. 2 fireplaces, bar, deck. Available 3/1/06.	Pets welcome. \$899 CALL LINDA AT SUN HOMES 888-302-9655 Clayton/Skyline Retailer	NOVI - OFFICE SUITE 440 sq.ft. 9 Mile & Novi Road area. Utilities incl. \$475/mo. 248-349-0260 ext 202.	have excellent communication skills and have advanced Excel, Word and A/P skills. Must have experience in oavroll, benefit and HR	ASSEMBLER You will assemble small components of rubber and metal parts. Manual dexterity is extremely important! Some	Qualified candidates will have 2 years of college biology or chemistry, or 1year experience in Quality Control in the food/	and IT managen	nent in some or all are d written communica	eas of responsibility.
\$1200/mo. 734-637-0263 PLYMOUTH Completely up- dated 1930's 2 bdrm., bsmt. garage, C/A, \$900 + security. Gorgeous! 734-576-0894	Southern Rentals 4090	REDFORD TWP. Office Suites 400 sq. ft1670 sq. ft.	administration. ADP exp. a plus. Competitive benefit package and bonus plan. Qualified only, submit your	computer exp. helpful. We require recent work experience in a non-automotive (small units) assembly environment.	beverage industry, or allied field. This position is for the night shift. Additional weekend overtime will be	Netwo		
REDFORD 4 Bdrm. home w/bsmt &	canal w/ pool. 3 bdrm, 2 bath, Annual rental. 248-785-1199	Beautifully redecorated. Great Rates including utilities	salary requirements Attn: HR, P. O. Box 2540, Farmington Hills, MI 48333-2540 or HR@lamina.com	Rate of pay is \$8.75 per hour. Benefits include Profit sharing/ 401(k); health, drug, dentai,	required to support the needs of the business. Please send resume to Attn: QC Tech, P.O. Box		nistrator_	· · ·
garage. Could be '0' Down, \$750/mo. 734-521-0198 REDFORD 5 & Beech. 3 bdrm.	Vacation Resort/Rentals (110) CHARLEVIOX 4 bdrm, 2 bath,	CERTIFIED REALTY INC. (248) 471-7100	Local News	short/long term disability, and life insurance; vacation, and sick/personal days. Located	701248, Plymouth, MI 48170. Or fax resume to (734) 416-3810. E-Mail:	Medical services	company in Lansing	seeks qualified
New paint, carpet, windows, bath. No pets. \$750 mo. +	home, sleeps 7, avail year-	Lease/Option To Buy 4580	Online	near 10 Mile and Grand River. Resumes will be accepted	hr_manufacturing@ hotmail.com EOE	candidates to a	dminister network and	l provide first level

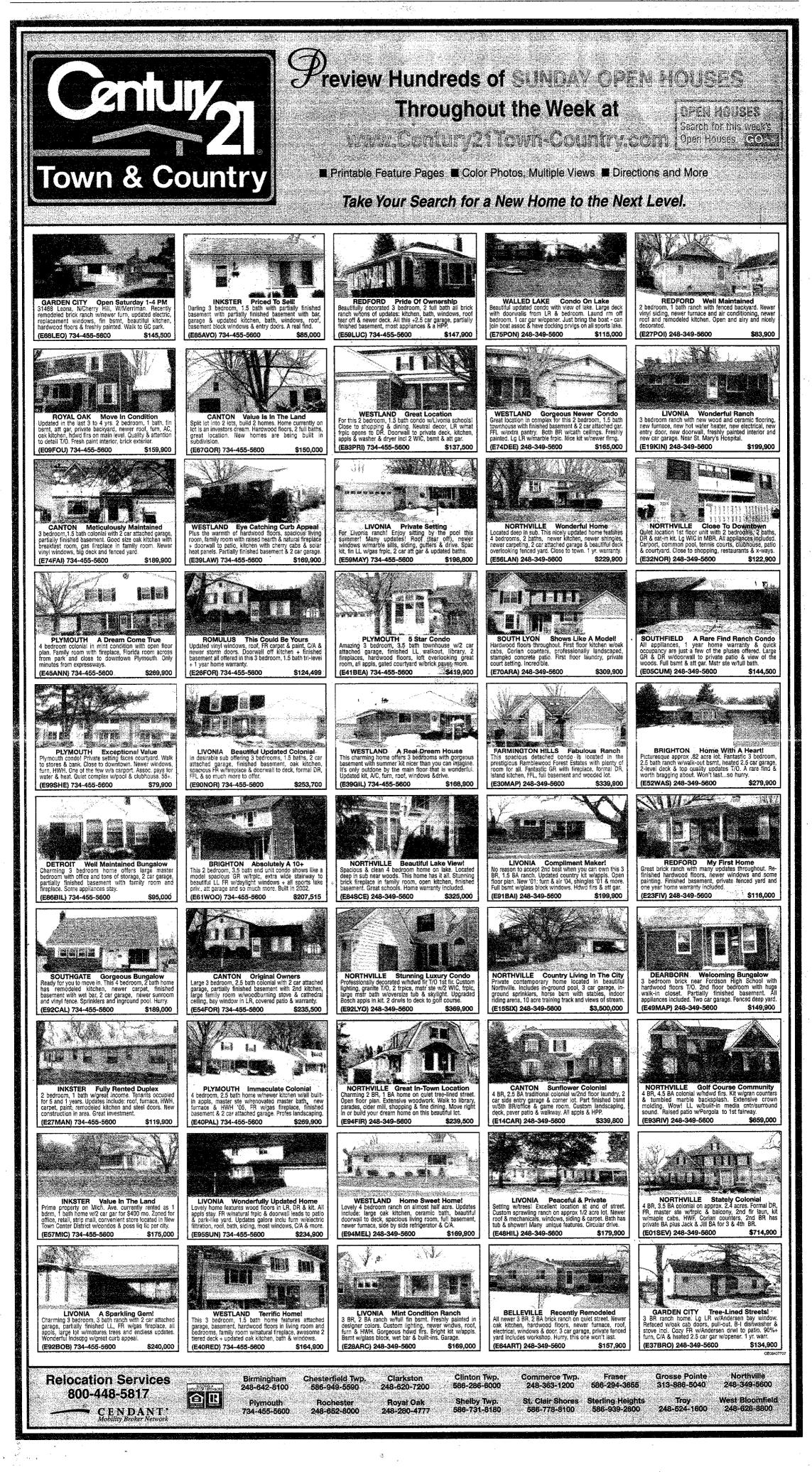
M Employment



www.hometownlife.com



F12 (*)



www.hometownlife.com

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, February 23, 2006

GL



248-851-1900 GOLF COMMUNITY-SOPHISTICATION & ELEGANCE! Spectacular lot overlooks woods, golf course. Hardwood firs, soaring ceilings. Toffee maple, granite kit. 5BR, 4.5BA. Conservatory. Incredible master suite. Fin. LL. (25083789) \$1,059,000



734-326-2000 CANTON NOT A COOKIE CUTTER VERSION OF EVERY OTHER! 2 Front doors, stamped concrete patio, lush landscaping, hardwood floors, 2 story Great Room with bridge, 2 sided FP, 4 BR, 3.5 BA, part. fin. bsmt, lush master w/jetted tub. (25163287) \$459,900



734-326-2000 CANTON GET BACK TO NATURE !This 4 BR, 2.5 Bath Colonial overlooks a nature preserve. Spacious Open Floor Plan with loft overlooking a 2 story Great Room with fireplace & bay window. (25161716) \$292,900



NORTHVILLE 248-348-6430 RAVINES OF NORTHVILLE EXECUTIVE HOME! 4 BR, 3.5 BA, Gourmet kitchen w/granite island, FR with vaulted ceiling. Spacious master suite. Jack-n-Jill bath .Extensive use of crown molding & wainscotting. 349-6200 (26017279) \$599.900



LIVONIA 734-591-9200 Homes In 1 - In-Law Au Pair Quarters! 2 Homes in separated by breezeway and different entrances. 3 fireplaces total, some exposed hardwood, gorgeous 2+/- acre wooded lot and 3 outbuildings. 3200+/- SQ FT. (25165367) \$374,900



NORTHVILLE 248-348-6430 BEAUTIFULLY LOCATED! 4 BR, 4.5 BA home backs to commons. Large kitchen with cabinets galore. Master suite w/2 WIC & glamour BA. 2 way FP from FR to library. Fin. LL. 349-6200 (25179998 \$549,850



734-326-2000 CANTON HARD TO FIND! It isn't often that a 4 BR Cape Cod in Glengarry becomes available! Great oom w/Gas FP for cold Michigan winters, & 2 tiered Deck for Summer, D/R & Library. (25171376) \$359,900

.75 ACRE OF COUNTRY LIVING! Well-maintained

3BR, 3BA home loaded with updates on 3/4 acre

country setting. Formerly used for senior care -- can

be business or personal residence. (26019600)

734-455-7000

\$249,900

\$204.900

734-591-9200

734-591-9200



CANTON 734-455-7000 BEAUTIFULLY WOODED! Private cul-de-sac setting backing to woods. Over 3400 sq.ft. Colonial plus an entertainers basement. 4BR/3.5BA. 2 Fireplaces. Hardwood floors. 3car garage. (26020968) \$489,900



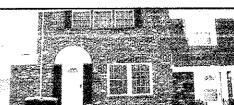
WIXOM Relax and Enjoy Your Surroundings! A must see, builders model on private street. One of the most desirable neighborhoods in Wixom! Home features large open floor plan with hardwood floors. (26004180) \$334.900

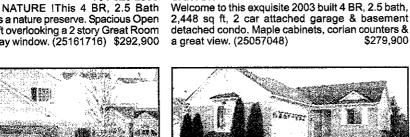


Stylish, Newer Canton Colonial! Sizable Family Room with gas fireplace and recessed lighting. Open, flowing kitchen, large dining room with doorwall to deck and wooded view. Wide open basement. (26005791)\$234,900



PLYMOUTH 734-455-7000 DRIVE BY AND FALL IN LOVE ! 3BR/1BA Ranch. LR with vaulted ceilings, new kitchen. Cozy FR with FP, doorwall to deck. Tons of updates: kit, furn. HWH, front door, windows, pedestal BA, blown-in \$199,900 insulation, (26022429)



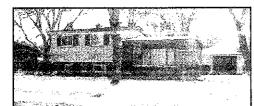


CANTON

BRIGHTON

(25120222)

248-851-1900 WIXOM AMOST NEW 3 BEDROOM CONDO 2.5 bath, 2 car attached garage. Whirlpool in master. Full basement. Many upgrades. Shows beautifully. \$224,900 (26009717)





734-326-2000 LIVONIA FABULOUS DETACHED CONDO To Die Forl Fantastic 2 Bedroom Ranch with 2.5 Baths, 2 car attached garage, main floor laundry and a fireplace too. (26017837) \$214.900

Lake View - Wooded Setting - Gorgeous!!! 1900+/-

finished SQ FT. Updates galore last year include

kitchen, bath, finished basement, morel Florida room with hot tub. LR with cathedral ceiling. Wrap-around



FARMINGTON HILLS

LIVONIA Attractive 3 BR brick ranch. 1300 sq ft of quality living area. Family room with fireplace, finished basement, two baths, 2 car garage, landscaped & fenced yard, new furnace & A/C. (26001870)

REDFORD

REDFORD

734-591-9200

\$279.900

734-591-9200

\$189,900

248-348-6430

\$149,900



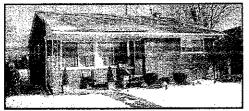
3 BR, 2.5 BA, 2200+/- finished sq ft. Hardwood, FR

with fireplace, master with full bath, HUGE Florida

room! Treed lot, great value! (25154185) \$174,900

PLYMOUTH

734-455-7000 A LOT OF HOME FOR THE MONEY! Prime downtown Plymouth location. 3BR/1.5BA, new FR carpet, hardwood floors under BR carpet. Freshly painted. New furnace in '99. Large, beautiful with hot tub. LR wi back-yard. Priced to sell. (26020749) \$194,900 deck (25141767) back-yard. Priced to sell. (26020749)



WESTLAND

CANTON

CANTON

CANTON

FARMINGTON HILLS

HOWELL

CANTON 248-348-6430 TOTALLY UPDATED RANCH WITH LIVONIA SCHOOLS! Newer gourmet kitchen w/built-in ovens. New Pergo floors, new windows & doors. Fin. bsmt of room. Great location, clubhouse & pool. 349-6200 & deck in yard. All 6 appliances stay (some brand new). 349-6200 (26019989) \$150,000



WESTLAND 734-326-2000 RAINBOWS END! Gorgeous oak kitchen, newer cottage windows, newer pergo flooring, jacuzzi, 2.5 car garage, fresh paint & carpet, newer lights & 6 panel doors, appl. stay. (26016847) \$134,900



RARE 3 BR CONDO W/BASEMENT & GARAGE!

Updated & freshly painted. Neutral throughout. Lots

WAYNE 734-326-2000 WALKING DISTANCE TO SCHOOLS! Well kept 3 BR ranch featuring a new bathroom, updated kitchen, freshiy painted, above ground pool, large lot, new doorwall, vinyl windows, located on dead end street. (26020739) \$132,000



Location, quality, value & charm! You'll love this brick

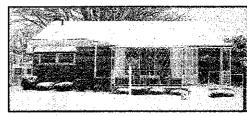
3 BR ranch. Clean, tastfully decorated. Updates

include kitchen, elec., copper plumb, fin. bsmt w/FP.

Landscaped yard w/sprinkler system. 2 car garage. (26001489) \$149,900

Attractive 1.5 story Bungalow in North West Redford. Updates incl: New furn & C/A, windows, roof (tear-off), hardwood floors, new carpet & paint. Beautiful fenced backyard w/patio. All appl. stay. (26004415) \$105,000 NORTHVILLE 248-348-6430

UPDATED CONDO, READY FOR YOU TO MOVE IN! 3 BR, 1.5 BA, neutral decor, newer kitchen, hardwood floors, FP w/mantle in LR, all BR w/celling fans, part. fin. bsmt. w/rec room. 349-6200 (25150121) \$174,000



248-348-6430 REDFORD PLEASANT 3 BR RANCH CLOSE TO SCHOOLS! Freahly painted, newer carpet, kitchen floor, windows &A(C) move-in ready. Full fin. bsmt, 2 car detached garage in fenced yard. 349-6200 (25139161) \$139,900





LIVONIA 248-348-6430 GREAT STARTER OR RETIREMENT HOME! Upper end unit with doorwall to balcony overlooking commons & pool. Master w/WIC, LR, carport, appliances included. Immediate occupancy. 349-6200 (25166129) \$85,900

734-591-9200 LIVONIA 734-455-7000 New Construction. 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths with 2,392 so ft beautiful HOME SWEET HOME! 4BR/2,5BA Colonial, Master Suite w/ bonus room, balcony with deck, fashion BA, WiC. LR with French doors. Lg. FR w/FP, Lg. deck w/hot tub off kitchen. A yard filled with trees, bushes, & flowers. (26005044) \$459,900 open floor plan w/oak hardwood floor t/o 1st floor. Oak cabinets with a butiers pantry with sink. Livonia Schools. (25061872) \$324.900 LIVONIA 248-348-6430 NOVI Exceptional contempory home in Livonia Think Frank Lloyd Wright!! Ancer, newer klichen wigranite counters, stone freplace, sky-lights, attached 2.4 car garage. A one of a kind home. 349-6200 (26002791) \$296,500 warranty. 349-6200 (25157102) \$129,000 734-455-7000 FAIRWAYS WEST BEAUTY! 4BR/2.5BA Canton Colonial. Formal DR, GR, library. Master suite w/sitting room/nursery. 3car garage. immediate occupancy. (25159689) \$425,000 CANTON 734-455-7000 CHERRY HILL VILLAGE BEAUTY! Priced way below cost. 2BR/ 2BA ranch condo w/20x40 bsmt. 2car attached garage. 1st floor laundry. Kit w/hardwood, maple cabs, stainless appliances and granite. Fabulous master suite. (25166871) \$239,900 LIVONIA 734-591-9200 Great 3 BR, 2 BA, 1490 sq ft bungalow in Livonia on double lot. 2 car, 2 story garage. Beautifully treed lot is splitable for the next owners. Lg. eat-in kit & formal dining room, Ig. mstr BR too. (26022238) \$161,500 CANTON 248-348-6430 Call it home in Canton on a CT location! Many updates, 3 BR Coloniai. Huge FR, natural fireplace, ceramic floors, furnace, roof, A/C, H20 heater, and gutters are all updated. Attached 2 car ga-rage. 349-6200 (25178789) \$232,000 248-348-6430 LIVONIA Cute Bungalow Within walking distance of schools & park. Newer windows, beautiful hardwood floors t/o fenced yard. Seller offering \$2000 toward buyers closing cost. 349-6200 (26003905) \$149,000 MILAN BLOCKS FROM DOWNTOWN MILAN! New pergo flooring in for-mal DR & kit. Updated bath w/oak cabinets, newer roof, Andersen windows, circuit breakers, drywall & lighting. Immed. occup. Hurry 200 (25083883) \$134,000 MILAN 248-348-6430 734-455-7000 NORTH CANTON CONDO! Great buy on this 2BR, 1.5BA, Canton Condo w/bsmt. Needs work but has great potential. Two-story townhouse style, end unit. (25172868) \$109,900 DEARBORN 248-348-6430 BEAUTIFUL BRICK 4 BR CAPE COD HOME Kitchen witable space opens to FR with natural fireplace. FR leads to brick paver patio. C/A. 2.5 baths. Partly fin. bsmt. 1st floor BR. 340,e300 bh (25040502) \$227 500 248-348-6430 NORTHVILLE OWN A LITTLE PIECE OF HEAVEN! 3.5 acres. Beautiful proprty. Secluded yet close to everything. Custom built ranch. Tons of upgrades. Granite kit, amazing LL w/2020 additional sq ft. 349-6200 BH (25166299) \$570,000 paver patio. C/A. 2.5 par 349-6200 bh (25080502) \$227,500 FARMINGTON HILLS 734-591-9200 Spacious 2000 ag ft ranch on 3/4 acre lot. Prime location. Large kitchen overlooking 4 seasons room. Living room with fireplace. California Closels. (26007709) \$215,900 NORTHVILLE 248-349-6200 LOVELY CONDO IN COVES OF NORTHVILLE! Contemporary 2 BR, 2.5 BA wiviews of pond. Huge GR with fireplace, opens onto deck. All appliances incl. Direct access to 2 car garage wilots of storage. 349-6200 (25009365) \$179,900 734-455-7000 COUNTRY DREAM RANCH! Picture perfect brick home on large lot (close to 1/2 acre) with a park-like setting. 3BR, FP, A/C, 2 car garage. Rebuilt in 1999. (26011623) \$192,815 -248-348-6430 NOVI

Beautiful Novi Home! 3300 sq ft of luxury living! Quiet court setting overlooks woods. Flowing floor plan. Perfect for entertaining. Award winning Novi schools. 349-6200 BH (25152594) \$499,900 248-437-3800 Your ittle slice of heaven! 3600 sq ft Colonial on 3.5 private acres with 6 BR, 2 mstr sultes, huge wrap around porch & deck w/hot tub. Fin.LL W/O with fieldstone fireplace. (25169968) \$419,500

248-851-1900 CONDO IS PRICED TO SELL! Best price in subl 2 story Great Room, library loft. Kitchen w/tail maple cabinets, hardwood floors. Recessed lights, air cleaner, bsmt plumbed. Deluxe master ste. 1st floor laundry. (25072615) \$239,900

248-348-6430 SOUTH LYON

734-455-7000 SOUTH LYON PLYMOUTH VACATION AT HOMEI 4 BR/5 BA Cape Cod. First floor master, 2nd master up. Finished bsmt, 3 car garage, inground pool & hot tub, 3 fireplaces on almost an acre. (25137626) \$534,900

4 bedroom, 3.5 bath Cape Cod. High end upgrades incl. hand milled 5 inch natural oak piank hardwood floors, maple cabs, granite cntrs. BA incl high end cerm. tile. Raised brick paver patio & morel (26023266) PLYMOUTH

PLYMOUTH 734-455-7000 PREMIUM LOT WITH WOODED BACKDROP! Walk to downtown from spacious ranch loaded w/updates in the last 5 years. 3BR, 2.5BA, FR, Bonus Room, wooded lot, etc., etc. (26001085) \$349,900 PLYMOUTH 734-455-7000

DOWNTOWN PLYMOUTH CHARMER! 3BR/1.5BA Tri-level. LR, FR, New kitchen--ail appl. stay, incl. washer/dryer. Satiny hardwood foors abound. 2 carer gar. Newer furn & vinyl windows. Deep lot. Court setting. (26021424) \$222,900 PLYMOUTH 734-591-9200

Charm & Character thruout this ranch with large front porch, 100x135 double tot & walking distance to Downtown Plymouth. Well main., 3 BR, 2 BA, bsmt, 2 car gar & more. (26019683) \$189,900

REDFORD 248-348-6430 \$2000 Holiday Bonus Cash Brick ranch has many updates in past 2 years. Tearoff roof, windows, furnace, rebuilt garage, ext doors. On quiet dead-end street. 349-6200 (25174141) \$129,900

REDFORD 734-591-9200 Cute & Clean 3 BR bungalow with rec room. Garage with workshop. Recently Decorated. Nice hardwood flooring. Newer furnace & more. (25181068) \$119,900

734-591-9200

REDFORD Charming Redford Bungalow with hardwood. Tastefully decorated, totally updated kitchen. Hardwood in excellent shape. Living Room with cove celling. Newer windows, HWH, circuit breakers. Stylish wood blinds. (26016514) \$115,000

248-437-3800

Gorgeous Colonial with open floor plan! 2 story foyer w/hard/wood floors. Spacious kitchen and family room for entertaining. Master suite with sunken tub and walk in closets.Relax on screened in porch. (26017269) \$339,900 248-437-3800

Privacy, pond & scenic views! This ranch on 2.6 acres awaits with its open floor plan, maple cabinets and hardwood floors in kitchen, stone wall fireplace, finished LL and outbuilding. (25157839) \$277,900

248-851-1900

WESTLAND PRIDE OF OWNERSHIP! 3 BR, 2.5 BA, Livonia schools. 1st floor laundry, hdwd, new carpet. Open floor plan, high calling, dual staircase. Deep bsmt. Mrs. Clean lives here, totally move-in condition. (25150977) \$289,000 WESTLAND

734-591-9200

WESTLAND Livonia Schools. 3 bedroom brick ranch. Many updates. C/A, sprinkler, finished basement with kitchen, 2.5 car garage, circular driveway. (2517/1632) \$189,900 249 6420 WESTLAND 248-348-6430

TLAND 248-348-0590 Very Nice! Very neutral! Very nearly new! S BR, 2.5 BA Colonial w/professionally fin. bsmt. Bullt in 2001, home is bright, neutral & in move-in condition. Newer sub w/ sidewalks & close to everything. 349-6200 bh (25156459) \$189,900

734-591-9200

Major updates have been done. New kitchen offers raised oak panel cabs w/vinyl floors. Both baths are new with ceramic tile, sinks, toilets & fixtures, 90+ efficient furn, new windows. All appl. stay. (26015935) \$174,900 WESTLAND

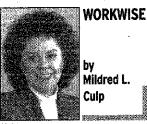
WESTLAND

734-591-9200

Great Location. Well maintained 2 BR, 1.5 BA, condo (end unit). Kit. features granite counter tops. Living Rm has FP for the cool winter evenings, bsmt & attached garage. Livonia Schools. (26006125) \$149,900

2 (*) Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, February 23, 2006

THE TRUE COLORS OF GOSSIP



Gossip is widely thought to be negative and to reflect poorly upon the speaker. What is its role at work?

Kevin Kniffin, University of Wisconsin-Madison College of Letters and Science honorary associate fellow, and David Wilson, professor of Biological Sciences and director of the evolutionary studies program EvOS, State University of New York at Binghamton, write in Human Nature, a professional publication, that "gossip . . . include(s) positive and negative talk about commonly associated people." They maintain that it creates value for both the individual and group, that it can reshape a person's behavior or prompt the rejection of it altogether.

Another paper in press at the Journal of Applied Social Psychology agrees with the two-sided perspective on gossip in the Human Nature article. Francis McAndrew, professor of Psychology and Environmental Studies, and then-student Megan Milenkovic of Knox College in Galesburg, Ill., maintain that "gossip can serve as a strategy of status enhancement and function in the interests of individuals." However, it also can serve as a vehicle for "information about others that can give us guidance for leading our own lives and/or increased feelings of selfworth . . . serv(ing) as both a form of antisocial behavior and as a means of controlling antisocial behavior." IN PRACTICE

McAndrew and Milenkovic maintain that gossip that serves the individual is judged less severely than "gossip that occurs in response to the violation of a social norm." In other words, they do not perceive all gossip as negative.

Outside of scholarship, however, there is a marked tendency to view it as negative. For example, Michelle Reina of the consulting firm Chagnon & Reina Associates Inc., in Stowe, Vt., has researched the issue of trust in more than 100 organizations. She views gossip as a trustbuster: "Gossip contributes to distrust and mistrust," she says. "It occurs when people choose not to speak directly to an individual with sound intent or give the person the benefit of a doubt."

Anna Maravelas, president of Thera Rising Inc., of St. Paul, Minn., says to stay away from gossip, for these reasons:

Gossipers engender mistrust.Your relationship with the target will

suffer. - The target will find your pleasant behavior to his face hypocritical.

- Gossip creates stress in individuals

and groups. - The victim will probably retaliate in

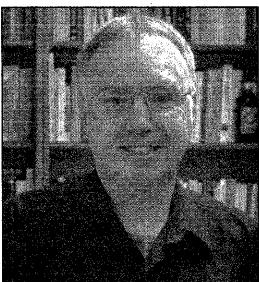
96 percent of cases. – The negativity of gossip damages your health.

Reina points to the harmful intent behind gossip or its (unintentional) potential negative impact. Gossip doesn't exist "when there is the presence of positive intent and people are being responsible for what they're communicating," she maintains. Gossip arises when people are irresponsible and driven by negative intentions. She perceives its destructive nature, when compelling people to doubt themselves, wonder if they're trustworthy or question why others would be speaking about them in this manner.

Maravelas follows the dictionary definition of gossip as "personal or intimate rumors or facts, especially when malicious." Non-negative chattiness doesn't qualify as gossip from her perspective: "In Minnesota, we call this 'visiting.' The word 'gossip, at least in the Midwest, conveys (negativity)."

Doesn't helpful information transmitted as gossip at work have a role in the workplace, much as information not transmitted in the same manner? It may be a little more difficult to disentangle, but its core value remains. For example, if a person discusses negative information about his company to alert people to the need for change, that is gossip that is helpful.

How do you know when to pass along information to another person? Diane Dawson, CEO of downtownwomensclub.com, a professional network and career website for businesswomen, advises you to restrain yourself unless the information is available



Francis McAndrew does not perceive all gossip as negative.

publicly. McAndrew and Milenkovic view gossip as extremely complicated: "People actively seek information about others that will be most useful in social competition," they write. "We seek exploitable, damaging information about high status people and non-allies; we actively disperse statusenhancing information about our allies; and we keep a very watchful eye on our friends." Information from this vehicle seems to be the source of a problem in gossip.

Yet, gossip itself doesn't have to be. (Dr. Mildred L. Culp comments upon the workplace in national media. Copyright 2006 Passage Media.)

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Observer S Eccentric NEWSPAPERS

Finding Auto Info on The Web

Advertising Feature





BY DALE BUSS

Lexus has made its web site the most useful for newvehicle shopping among all auto manufacturers, with Pontiac and Suzuki finishing in second place, according to a semi-annual survey by J.D. Power and Associates.

The other top performers in order were Hummer, BMW, Kia, Saab, Mazda, Subaru and Mercury. The worst rankings were achieved by Volkswagen, then Audi; third-worst was Mercedes-Benz, then Chrysler. Saturn, Infiniti, Volvo, Nissan, Mini and Jeep rounded out the bottom ten makes, in reverse order, in J.D. Power's research.

At a time when 57% of new-vehicle buyers visit at least one manufacturer web site before buying a new vehicle - and most visit several manufacturer sites how an auto maker performs online is more important than ever. In marketing terms these days, you could almost say it's crucial.

"Our improving performance is part of a dedicated philosophy and focus that's simple: When the majority of auto shopping is happening on the web, you'd better make sure that your web site is built to facilitate that the best way you can," said Mark-Hans Richer, marketing director for Pontiac.

Lexus, the Toyota luxury brand, "scores at the top by upsetting the fewest shoppers," says Dennis Galbraith, senior director of digital marketing for Westlake Village, Calif.-based J.D. Power. Only 6% of Lexus.com visitors in this survey rated it poorly, the strongest result ever noted for lack of disappointment in any site. On the other hand, the lowest finishers in the survey

were troubled by slow speeds, Galbraith said. Lexus provides information at quick speeds for

users whether they're on a broadband or a dial-up connection, Galbraith noted. "Fundamental for us since the beginning has been to try to make the site as robust as possible but not limit the average consumer's ability to get information quickly," says Robin Pisz, national interactive and relationship-marketing manager for Lexus. "We'll be serving up lot smore multi-media on the site in the future, such as videos. And with our audience being predominantly broadband, we can provide them with more of that type of experience."

The brand also strives for "simple, straightforward



The 2006 Pontiac Solstice.

web design" that is friendly to its market of mostly boomer and older consumers," Inouye said. That includes larger vehicle images, better fonts and other improvements to optimize the fact that the resolution of computer screens is improving. "Older consumers want to see details," she said.

Galbraith also complimented Lexus's decision to provide ample definition of technical terms. "It's like reading something complex with an imbedded dictionary to help you," he said.

Pontiac.com's strength is "easy navigation," Galbraith said, including a "flyout" design that allows visitors to delve into model details directly from the home page. "We think through the site the way a shopper would," said Richer.

For example, the site recently moved to the home page its link to information about trade-in appraisals. In the past we buried it somewhere in the site because it didn't seem as sexy as other things," he said. "But we've found that it's very important to consumers to know what their current car is worth, and it facilitates the online-shopping process."

Richer conceded that, "not long ago, marketers were trying to add more steak than sizzle online. We still believe in sizzle," he said. (And the fact that Pontiac.com can feature a model as intriguing as the new Solstice roadster on its site helps a lot in the sizzle department.) "But first and foremost, web-site activity

is about shopping. You have to take care of that before anything else."

Pontiac's greater focus on the web is underscored these days by its partnership with Google. In a promotion that's been going on about a month now, Pontiac refers to Google in its TV ads, making it the first major marketer to refer to the king of search engines in its mainstream advertising, Richer said. And in local advertising, dealer groups urge viewers to "Google Pontiac."

"It's already driving a certain level of behavior and comparisons that work in our favor," Richer said. "Leads are up 50% and search queries are up 100% because of it."

Saturn's showing in the study underscored the fact that ease of web use and a brand's larger marketing purposes don't always completely coincide. Saturn ranked fifth from the bottom, Galbraith said, in part because the Skye model that it featured on the home page during early November, when the survey was conducted, ran small. Saturn instead focused on a large image of a Christmas package from Target Stores.

But the brand's promotion with Target – to provide a \$500 gift card for the store as a bonus with a vehicle purchase - "was a very effective promotion," said a Saturn spokesman. "We had a year over year sales increase." Moreover, he said, Saturn went back to a larger vehicle picture after the holidays.



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Education **Seminars**

The Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan is sponsoring the following:

🖬 8:30-10:30 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 28, "So You Found the Land ... Now What?" at BIA Headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100, Farmington Hills. Registration fees, including continental breakfast, are \$20 for BIA or Apartment Association of Michigan members and \$40 for nonmembers and guests. Registration, (248) 862-1033.

) 🔳 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesdays, March 1 and 8. and Thursdays, March 2 and 9, Certified Sales Professional Course, at Charter One, Troy. **Registration** fees are \$425 for SMC members and \$475 for BIA and Apartment Association of Michigan members. (248) 862-1033.

🗰 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Friday, March 3, Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Act safety seminar, at BIA headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Farmington Hills. Registration fees are \$20 for BIA or Apartment Association of Michigan members and \$40 for guests. (248) 862-1033.

6-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 8, "What's Your Sales DNA?", at Somerset Inn, Troy. **Registration** fees are \$49 for SMC members and \$69 for BIA or Apartment Association of Michigan members. (248) 862-1033.

8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday, March 7, "Land Development, Site Planning & Zoning", at BIA headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100, Farmington Hills. Registration fees. including breakfast, lunch and course materials, are \$140 for Remodelors Council members and \$160 for BIA members and guests. (248) 862-1033. noon to 1 p.m. Wednesday, March 15, "Masonry Flashing -What Is Its Importance?", at BIA headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100, Farmington Hills. Registration fees are \$20 for BIA or Apartment Association of Michigan members and \$40 for nonmembers and guests. Participants should bring a bag lunch. (248) 862-1033. 8:30 a.m. to noon Friday, March 17, "Extreme Makeover Marketing", at AAM headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Farmington Hills. Registration fees, are \$69 for PMC members and \$79 for **BIA** members and guests. (248) 862-1033. 📕 8 a.m. to noon Tuesday, March 21, "Customer Service & Homeowner Relations", at BIA headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100, Farmington Hills. Registration fees, are \$145 for BIA or Apartment Association of Michigan members and guests. (248) 862-1033. े 🗱 6-10 p.m. Thursday, March 23, "Wild Game Dinner and Texas Hold 'em Tournament" at St. John's Armenian Cultural Center, 22001 Northwestern Highway, Southfield. Registration fees, including dinner, are

\$65 for BIA or Apartment Association of Michigan members and \$80 for guests and non-members. Table top sponsors are available for \$300. Bar sponsorships are available for \$500. (248) 862-1060. 🖀 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, March 24, "Builder's License Preparation Course," at BIA headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100, Farmington Hills. Registration fees are \$200 per class for BIA or Apartment Association

of Michigan members, guests and nonmembers. (248) 862-1033. 🖀 8:30-10:30 a.m. Tuesday, March 28, "Workplace Spanish for Builders and Contractors", at BIA headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100, Farmington Hills. Registration fees, including one-hour audio CD, are \$50 for BIA or Apartment Association of Michigan members, \$75 for guests and nonmembers, (248) 862-1033.

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Oakland Builders Institute will offer:

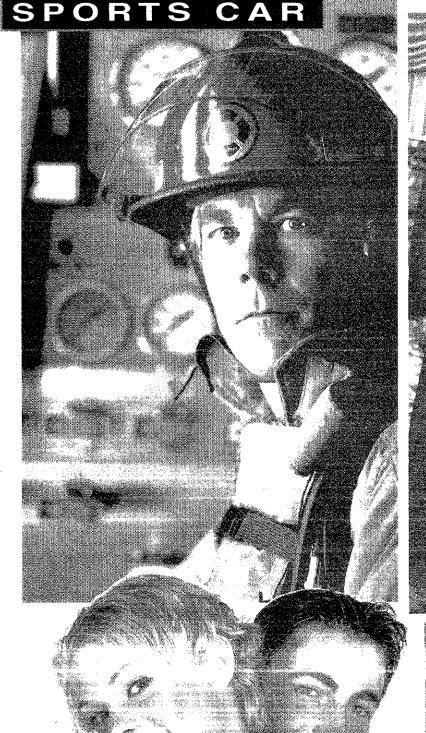
📓 6-10 p.m. Monday/Ŵednesday, Feb. 27 & March 1, Basement Remodeling, Walled Lake Middle School, 46720 W. Pontiac Trail, Walled Lake. The cost is \$99 plus \$10 for textbook and materials. Pre-registration is required by-Thursday, Feb. 23, Bloomfield Hills Community Education. (248) 433-0885. 6-10 p.m.

Monday/Wednesday, Feb. 27, and March 1, 6, and 8, "Michigan State Builder's License Examination," The Community School, 30415 Shiawassee, Farmington, \$190 plus \$30 for course textbook and sample questions. Pre-registration is required no later than Thursday, Feb. 23, Farmington Community Education. (248) 489-3333. ■ 6-10 p.m. Tuesday/Thursday, Feb.

28 & March 2, 7, 9 "How

To Build Your Own Home," Berkshire Middle School, 21707 W. 14 Mile, Beverly Hills. The cost is \$190 plus \$30 for two textbooks. Pre-registration is required by Friday, Feb. 24, Birmingham Community Education. (248) 203 - 3800.**6-10** p.m. Tuesday/Thursday, Feb. 28, and March 2, 7, 9, "How To Build Your Own Home," South Lyon High School, 1000 N. Lafayette St., \$190 plus \$20 for textbooks. Pre-registration is required by Friday, Feb. 24, South Lyon Recreation Department. (248) 437-8105.

6-10 p.m. Monday/Wednesday, March 6 and 8, Basement Remodeling, Henry Ford Community College, Dearborn Heights Campus, 22586 Ann Arbor Trail. The cost is \$99 plus \$10 for textbook and materials. Pre-registration required by Thursday, March 22, Henry Ford Community College. (313) 317-1500.







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