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OBSERVER LIFE - SECTION C



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SUNDAY
March 5, 2006

CANTON Observer

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DDA dials up pact with station

BY CAROL MARSHALL
STAFF WRITER

Johanne Maggard passes through Canton every week to get to work at WVMV-FM (known to fans as Smooth Jazz V98.7), where she's an account manager.

She's watched the community grow and has watched closely as the business community has grown right along with the nighttime population.

Then last spring she brought her daughter to play in the Canton Cup soccer tournament, and when Maggard looked around the township, she heard music. Jazz music, to be exact. She knew then that Canton had become the kind of community to which her radio station could bring live performances.

"I called Kathleen (Salla, Canton Downtown Development Authority director) and we got together to talk about what we could do. About three hours of brainstorming later, I had a proposal," Maggard said.

The proposal was for two four-week concert series, which for now has been dubbed the "Canton Color Tour," playing on the DDA's new marketing plan which has assigned colors to the various areas of Ford Road.

The performances would be on a portable stage which the DDA purchased last year. The concerts would take place at locations along Ford Road - in parking lots and the like - with the final concert in the summer series at either the Summit on the Park or The Village Theater at Cherry Hill.

"The final concert would bring in a nationally renowned artist," said the station's sales manager, Sheryl Coyne.

The DDA committed \$50,000 in its 2006 budget and unanimously approved the promotion at its February meeting. In exchange for Canton's financial support and use of the stage, the township will receive radio station advertising - 100 half-minute spots, as well as advertising by way of e-mail to 60,000 WVMV listeners.

The idea is to attract the station's listeners - who Coyne said tend to be affluent adults - into Ford Road businesses. The station and representatives from the DDA will talk to property owners at the various strip malls to inquire about liability and insurance, the issue that halted the program back in November when it was first brought to the DDA for consideration.

The concerts will start in May, and the summer season will be in July or August.

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(734) 459-2700



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton resident Katie Ling, here teaching self-defense techniques to Deborah Chase, started her own business, The Protection Connection, in order to teach personal safety as well as fitness and physical confidence to women.

Minister of (self) defense Instructor wants to help women stay safe

BY CAROL MARSHALL
STAFF WRITER

When it comes to your safety, there is just no room for good manners.

But the primary mistake women make is being too polite, said Canton resident Katie Ling, who will later this month teach a safety seminar designed to teach people how to defend themselves without weapons.

"The only weapon we use in this seminar is a key chain," Ling said.

Just three years ago, Ling took her first Kung Fu class in order to learn about personal safety techniques, she said.

"I just wanted to feel safe anywhere I am, whether I'm at home or walking alone," she said. By May 2004, she'd earned

her black belt, and was able to start teaching, something which has become a passion and a mission for her. She hopes one day to be able to give up her day job as a landscaper and teach full time.

'I just wanted to feel safe anywhere I am, whether I'm at home or walking alone.'

Katie Ling
Canton resident

She started her own business, The Protection Connection, in order to teach personal safety as well as fitness and physical confidence to women.

"The sole purpose of The Protection Connection is to help girls, teens, young adults and women increase their level of safety, health and overall well-being," said Ling.

Having the confidence to put their own safety first is a major obstacle for many women, according to Ling.

PLEASE SEE DEFENSE, A4



Kung Fu black belt Katie Ling will teach a seminar on self-defense for women next week in Livonia.

Suspect in baby death bound over

BY CAROL MARSHALL
STAFF WRITER

A 23-year-old Canton man accused of killing his girlfriend's 8-month-old baby was bound over for trial Thursday.

Carlee Hines Jr. was charged with murder following the Jan. 10 death of Eryck Fossett. He was in 35th District Court in Plymouth March 2 for a preliminary examination.

According to Hines' five-page statement, which Sgt. Rick Pomorski read aloud in court Thursday, Eryck had been fussy and crying during the day on Jan. 9. Hines was watching Eryck at Hines' mother's home, where he, the baby and the baby's

mother lived. The baby's mother, 20-year-old Erica Rodwell, left for work at approximately 9 a.m., and because she worked two jobs, didn't come home until after 9 p.m.

During the day when Eryck was in his care, Hines, who is not the baby's biological father, was irritated because the baby was crying and wouldn't stop.

"He was playing a video game, and was losing, and he was upset about that, coupled with the fact that the baby wouldn't stop crying," Pomorski said.

He gave up on the game and put Eryck in his high chair and fed him. But the baby continued to cry, Pomorski said.

"He took him upstairs, and he shook him, but he wouldn't stop crying. At that point, he said he hit the baby a couple of times, and the cries changed to whimpers," Pomorski said.

Hines said he put the baby to bed. Rodwell came home at some point after that, and didn't check on Eryck before she and Hines went out for the evening, according to Assistant Prosecutor Lora Weingarden.

The next morning, Hines called for help when he couldn't wake the baby, Pomorski said. According to the medical examiner, the baby had a torn spleen and liver, as well as broken ribs.

Hines is being held without bond at the Wayne County Jail. He's scheduled to appear in Wayne County Circuit Court March 16.

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Canton nurse responds to different calling

BY CAROL MARSHALL
STAFF WRITER

It was a calling of sorts when Canton nurse Lorelei Papke-O'Donnell inquired about helping in the hurricane devastated area of New Orleans. At the time, back in September after Hurricane Katrina had blasted the Gulf Coast, the United States Surgeon General's office said she wasn't needed.

But come Christmastime, when the first couple of waves of volunteers were ready to return home for the holidays, she got the phone call.

"They told me the holidays are a tough time of year to get

people to leave their homes to volunteer, and going there now is not as glamorous as it was back in September," Papke-O'Donnell said. "They needed help."

She called her husband first. Then she talked to her boss at the University of Michigan Hospital, where she works as a manager of clinical nursing in the hospital's vascular access services.

"I got their full blessings, and decided to go," she said.

She arrived Dec. 10, and for 19 days was tasked with the duty of helping to set up a medical clinic in a triple-wide trailer parked in a Walgreens parking lot in Chalmette, La.,

in the heart of the infamously affected St. Bernard Parish.

She wasn't sure what she would find there but saw in a hurry that the area was still largely unlivable, despite the fact that many residents had stayed.

The area was at the time she was there, and up until she left, still without electrical power. The mobile clinic she helped to set up was powered by gas generators. The building itself was set up in a parking lot which was still covered in places with silt and dried mud not yet washed away since the hurricane.



Canton nurse Lorelei Papke-O'Donnell (back, second from left) with the rest of her team in the in the hurricane-devastated area of New Orleans.

PLEASE SEE NURSE, A4

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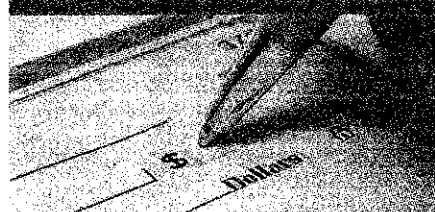
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Early childhood night

The Plymouth-Canton Schools Early Childhood department hosts a parent information night for the 2006-07 school year on Tuesday, March 7, at Discovery Middle School.

Applications will be available on-line the following day.

There will also be a Preschool Site Nite 6:30-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 15. Parents will be able to visit classrooms, meet the staff and talk with parents currently enrolled in the program.

District preschool sites are at Canton High School, Hoben Elementary, Fiegel Elementary, Hulsing Elementary and Tanger Center.

For further information call (734) 416-6190 or visit the Web site at <http://web.pccs.k12.mi.us/earlychildhood>

State of the Township address

Canton Township Supervisor Tom Yack will deliver his annual State of the Township address at the Canton Chamber of Commerce's luncheon at 11:30 a.m. on March 15 at the Village



Yack

Theater at Cherry Hill.

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 buffet 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/eventsform.asp.

Web addition

The Canton Public Safety Department has recently added an Emergency Management section to its web site, explaining what Canton's Emergency Management Division is and what it is

responsible for providing to the community.

Also included is an information section that includes a variety of documents and handouts available for downloading or printing, related to public safety and emergency preparedness. This section includes handouts on preparing for natural weather emergencies, information on the pandemic flu, a family preparedness guide for the home and a Site Emergency Planning Workbook for businesses, schools and stores, just to name a few.

Public safety officials say the Web site will "continue to grow in order to provide up-to-date information on all issues related to emergency preparedness and public safety."

The Canton Public Safety Web site may be accessed at www.canton-mi.org/public-safety. For further information contact Emergency Management Planner Kathy Rich via e-mail at Kathleen.rich@canton-mi.org or call (734) 394-5357.

Cookbook sale

United Home Health Services, a nonprofit home care agency located in Canton,

is sponsoring a cookbook sale as a fund-raiser for their Patient Support Fund.

There are 25 different mini-cookbooks to choose from with titles including From the Grill, A Taste of Italy, Five Ingredients or Less, and Crockery Cooking, just to name a few. There are also gift jar cookbooks available.

Each book, which sells for \$5.50 apiece, contains between 136-155 recipes, has a laminated hardback cover for extra durability, and a built-in, self-standing easel for easy recipe viewing.

The proceeds go to United's Patient Support Fund. This fund is used for home care patients who cannot afford basic items such as food, clothing, and medications. It is also used for medical equipment such as walkers, tub benches, canes, and commodes for patients who need these devices but just cannot find the means. Finally, because of this fund, United is able to provide home care services to patients who lack medical insurance.

To purchase a cookbook or to make a donation, please contact Mary Jane Swanson at (734) 981-8820.

Women Wanted

The Canton Business & Professional Women meets 6-8:30 p.m. Monday, March 13, at Waltonwood Carriage Park, 2000 N. Canton Center Road in Canton.

The meeting is a chance to network with other business women in the community and to see what the Canton BPW has to offer. The group's stated

goal is "to promote full participation, equity and economic self-sufficiency for America's working women." Women looking for leadership development, informative programs, business contacts, networking opportunities, mentor relationships, friendships, community awareness, professional growth, political advocacy and a national, state and local voice in women's issues are encouraged to join.

Waltonwood Carriage Park is located just south of the Meijer parking lot on the east side of Canton Center Road, south of Ford Road and north of Cherry Hill.

For more information or to RSVP for the meeting, contact June Nicholas at junenicholas@comcast.net or by phone at (313) 610-2561.

Rummage sale

The Plymouth Salvation Army hosts its annual rummage sale and bake sale 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Friday, March 31.

This year, the Army is offering tables for rent for any crafters or vendors who would like to showcase their wares. The cost of the tables is \$25, with all proceeds going to support The Salvation Army's World Services, a program that places missionaries in 110 countries worldwide, usually under very difficult circumstances. The Plymouth Salvation Army is located at 9451 S. Main St. in Plymouth. For more information call (734) 453-5464.

Habitat applications

Habitat for Humanity of

Western Wayne County has scheduled an application orientation 7 p.m. Monday, March 13, at Geneva Presbyterian Church, 5835 N. Sheldon in Canton (north of Ford and west of Sheldon, across from Baker's Square).

All interested individuals who would like to apply for a Habitat home are invited to the orientation. The session will last approximately 90 minutes. The orientation will include a video presentation, history of Habitat, question-and-answer segment and distribution of applications.

Applicants will be given the option to complete the application at the session and submit with required documentation or return the completed application within two weeks with requested documentation.

Required documentation includes copy of drivers license, W-2 forms or pay stubs (at least three months), federal tax returns from previous year, current utility statements (water, gas, electric and telephone), social security cards of all family members and a \$10 application fee (money order or check made payable to Habitat Western Wayne County).

Habitat conducts employment references, credit checks and all necessary procedures to confirm the ability to pay. The three criteria are (1) demonstration of need, (2) the ability to pay (3) applicants willingness to partner (attend required classes and completion of sweat equity).

For more information, visit Habitat's Web site at www.habitatwcc.org or call (734) 459-7744.

MARSP meeting

All public school retirees in southeast Michigan are invited to join the Northwest Wayne County Chapter of the Michigan Association of Retired School Personnel at its next luncheon meeting 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, March 8, at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 19801 Farmington Road in Livonia.

After the corned beef-and-cabbage luncheon, Gordon Draper will do a travelogue of Borneo and Malaysia. Make a reservation by calling (248) 477-9764. The cost is \$9.

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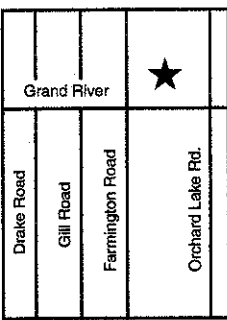
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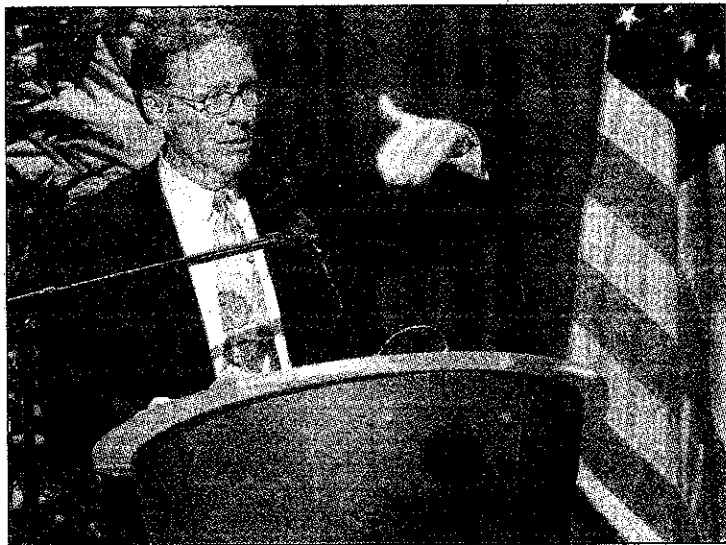
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TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

State School Superintendent Mike Flanagan makes an appearance Tuesday at the Village Theater of Cherry Hill in Canton.

Flanagan makes Canton appearance

Delta Kappa Gamma is an international organization made up of women who work in the educational field, so it's natural to expect members of the local chapter, Gamma Gamma, would be excited to hear from the state's top education official.

And that's what will happen at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill Tuesday, when State Superintendent of Schools Michael Flanagan appears to talk about the status of education in Michigan, including what's going on now and the future of education in the state.

Organizers are encouraging educators, superintendents, parents and community members to attend Flanagan's appearance, scheduled 4:30-6 p.m. Tuesday. There is no charge to attend, but donations to the chapter's student scholarship fund will be "welcomed at the door," organizers said.

The Village Theater is located at 50400 Cherry Hill in Canton.

Gamma Gamma is a chapter which includes women from all levels and subject areas of education. The group includes teachers and administrators, retired and non-retired members from many buildings in the school district. Chapter officials say the chapter "provides a strong professional and

social networking opportunity.

In addition to the scholarship fund, the chapter sponsors its annual craft show and quilt raffle, held each fall at West Middle School. The project raises money for scholarships for Plymouth-Canton students who are planning a career in education.

The chapter is currently supporting 12 students, who each receive \$1,000 per year, on a grant that's renewable up to five years.

The chapter also collects items and donations for places such as the First Step shelter for women and children and Ronald McDonald House.

In addition to professional and social networking, the state and international organizations offer many scholarships, grants, travel opportunities, workshops and conferences for members. To be eligible for membership, a woman must have at least three years' work experience in the educational field.

Chapter meetings are held once a month during the school year, generally 4:30-7:30 p.m. on a Tuesday, in clubhouses, restaurants, libraries and homes of members. Most meetings have a program or speaker, a business meeting, and most include a meal. Chapter dues are \$54.

For information, call (734) 416-3061.

Music boosters get 'craft'y

BY BRAD KADRICH
STAFF WRITER

The Plymouth-Canton Music Boosters learned a few things from last year, when they hosted their first Spring Arts and Crafts Ensemble.

That's why the boosters are confident this year's event, set for 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, March 11, will be an even bigger success.

"Everything was new last year, so in a way it was easier this year," co-chair Cathy Beattie said. "But we also added more things this year, so it was still a challenge."

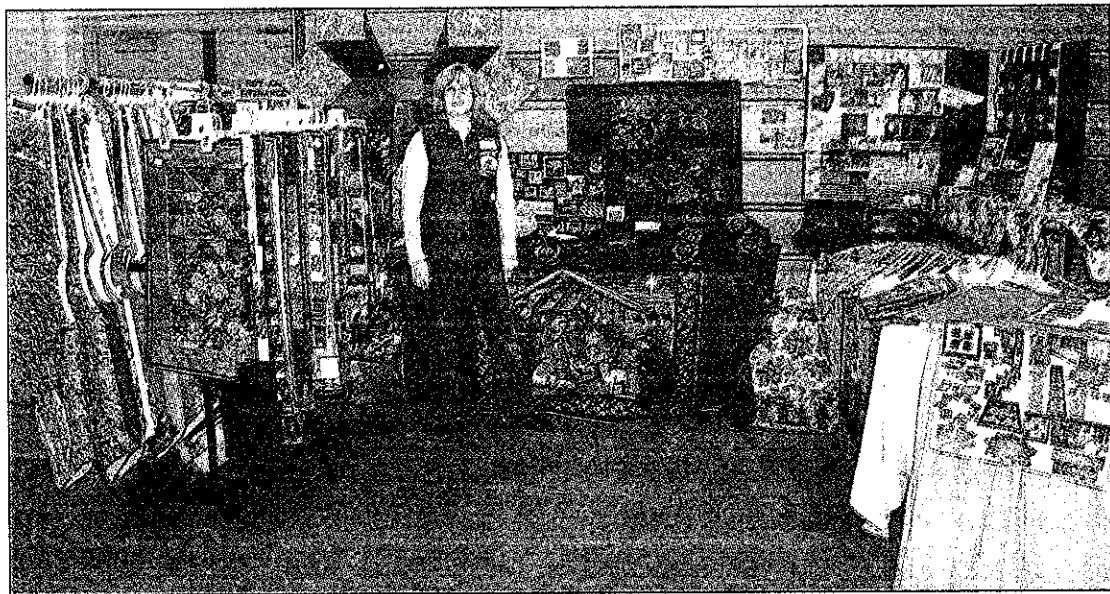
Organizers have added a couple of things, changed a couple of things and enhanced some existing elements for the second-annual show at Canton High School. For instance, they introduced music into the first show; it worked out well, so there will be even more this year, provided by students from the school's music programs and other local musicians.

The music will be used as background, to enhance the event, not to overwhelm it, Beattie said.

Last year's show included an auction, for which organizers went around town soliciting donations for auction items.

This year, items from some 100 exhibitors actually taking part in the ensemble will be auctioned off in a "tin can" auction.

"Since the 'Tin Can' auction will represent items from exhibitors, not only can they



This year's Plymouth-Canton Music Boosters Spring Arts and Crafts Ensemble is expected to draw some 100 exhibitors, such as Canton's Christine Popoff.

CRAFTY EXHIBIT

- What: Plymouth-Canton Music Boosters Spring Arts and Crafts Ensemble
- When: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, March 11
- Where: Canton High School
- How much: Admission is \$2
- Why: Proceeds benefit the Plymouth-Canton music program
- Features: Some 100 exhibitors in a juried show featuring local art and handmade crafts. Music throughout the day; bake sale; food courts

buy tickets to win the items, but those items also represent what's at the show," Beattie said. "It's also good advertising for the exhibitors. We advertise their products and where they're located within the show."

Cookbooks will be on sale, breakfast and lunch items will be available, and the event also includes a bake sale, a food court and (for the first time) a coat check.

Lessons learned last year should help draw even more than the 1,500 people who attended last year's show,

Beattie said. They sent postcards to their exhibitors, who could then forward the cards on to potential customers, inviting them to the ensemble.

Exhibitors also told them they'd prefer a shorter show, which is why this year's event has been shortened by two hours.

According to Beattie, everything at the show is "handmade, original, unique items," including everything from photography to florists, from pet to children's items. The items range from soap and stained

glass to ceramics and "lots of jewelry."

"We're appealing to a wide range of people," Beattie said. "We're covering a very wide range of items that should appeal to a large group of people."

Organizers are hoping to draw at least as many people as they did last year. The ensemble has quickly become one of the boosters' biggest fund-raisers (the other one is the Great Lakes Invitational band competition). Beattie said the fund-raisers are important because not all of the costs are covered by the school district's budget.

"It doesn't cover what we need to go on our trips, taking kids to competitions and nationals, and buying instruments," Beattie said. "We do a lot of thing with the money, so it's very critical. Without it, the kids wouldn't be able to do the things they're able to do."

The other thing organizers like about the ensemble is it allows artists to support the arts. "Everyone in the show are artists and craftsmen," Beattie said. "They're supporting the band, which is also the arts. It

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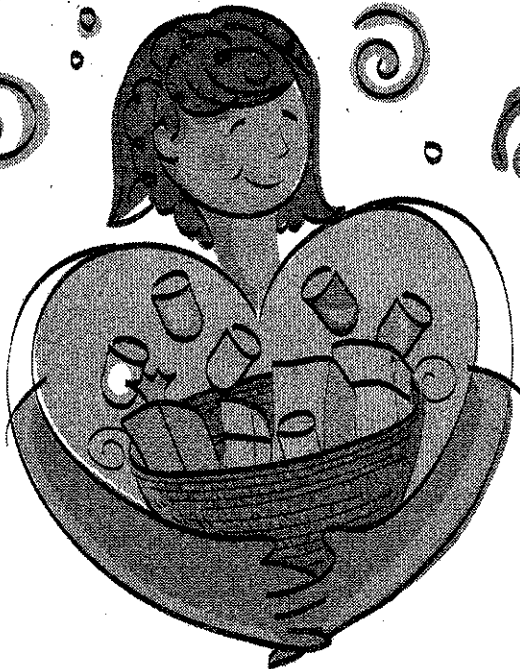
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DEFENSE

FROM PAGE A1

"What happens is they're too polite," she said. "If someone offers to help you with your groceries, or asks you for help with something, you feel like it would be rude to say no. But when it comes to your safety, it's always OK to be rude."

Ling has taught student groups at Eastern Michigan University and the University of Michigan, as well as to groups of young children and senior citizens.

Ling's class will be 6:30-8:30 p.m. March 10 at Deborah Chase School of Dance, 29820 Joy, Livonia. Cost is \$60 per person, with a 5 percent discount for groups with five people or more. For more information, visit online at www.ProtectionConnection.biz, or call Ling at (734) 649-8478.

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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Katie Ling teaches Deborah Chase a thing or two about self-defense. Ling earned a black belt in Kung Fu in 2004.

NURSE

FROM PAGE A1

A little mud on the pavement is not a high priority, as most of the homes and buildings - the ones still standing - have yet to be repaired. She flipped through a photo album full of pictures of house after house creeping with mold and rotting studs and flooring.

"I think that most people don't realize they're still looking for bodies. People are still missing," she said.

And the survivors who are still in the area are in need of the elements of basic survival - water, power, food and medical care.

Papke-O'Donnell and a team

of health workers with her provided basic health care, immunizations, health screenings and referrals. They had an operational pharmacy, which turned out to be very important because the Walgreens directly behind them was still dark and locked up.

For some of the 220 clients who waited for hours at the clinic each day it was open, the services were life-saving. For others, it just wasn't enough.

One man came to the clinic, reporting that he had thyroid cancer. He was scheduled for surgery, but that was back in September, and all the hospitals had closed during the disaster, and there are many which still aren't open.

"He said his hospital was gone and now it's too late, and he's dying," Papke-O'Donnell said. "That kind of thing was a daily event for us."

They treated wounds and heart attacks for people who had returned and had started gutting their homes. They tracked an unusually high

number of patients with productive coughing symptoms, a snapshot survey which was alarming enough to bring the state's chief medical officer to the region to investigate.

As rewarding as the experience was, Papke-O'Donnell doesn't yet know what to make of it, and if she will be called to return.

"It's still pretty raw. It took a while to get settled again," she said. "This experience is not done with me. I don't know what to do with it, but I know it's not done."

What she does know is that people still need help. They need the basics - clothing and blankets - and they need volunteers, particularly skilled tradesmen who can help with gutting houses and business, and who are experienced in foundation work.

"They're a mere four months away from hurricane season again," Papke-O'Donnell said of the survivors. "And they feel desperate and forgotten."

Donations to help rebuild the Chalmette community are being collected at: St. Bernard Kiwanis Foundation, 100 Intermodal Drive, Chalmette, LA 70043, attn: Robby Shwalter. Donations are tax-deductible. Medical supplies can be sent directly to: St. Bernard Regional Medical Center, 8101 W. Judge Perez Drive, Chalmette, LA 70043.

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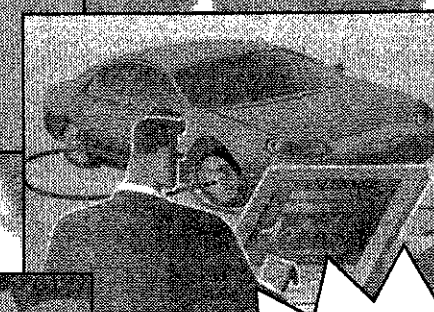
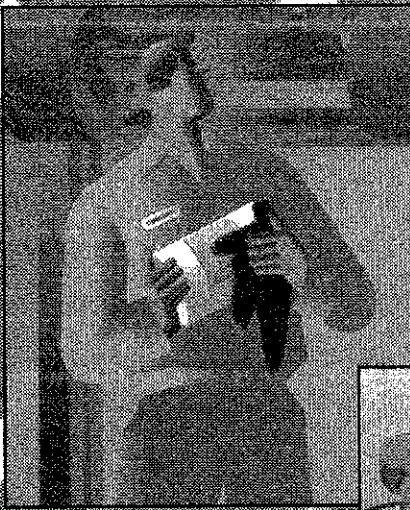
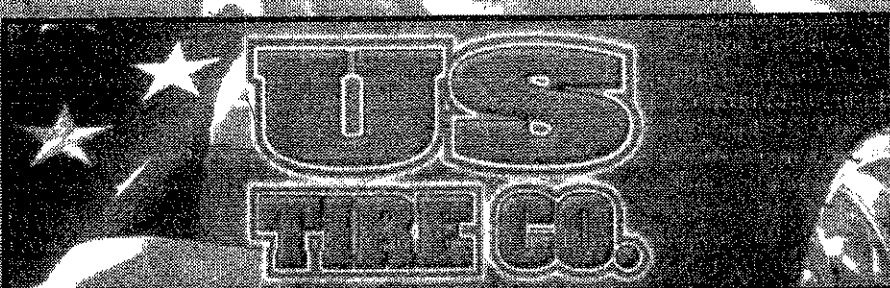
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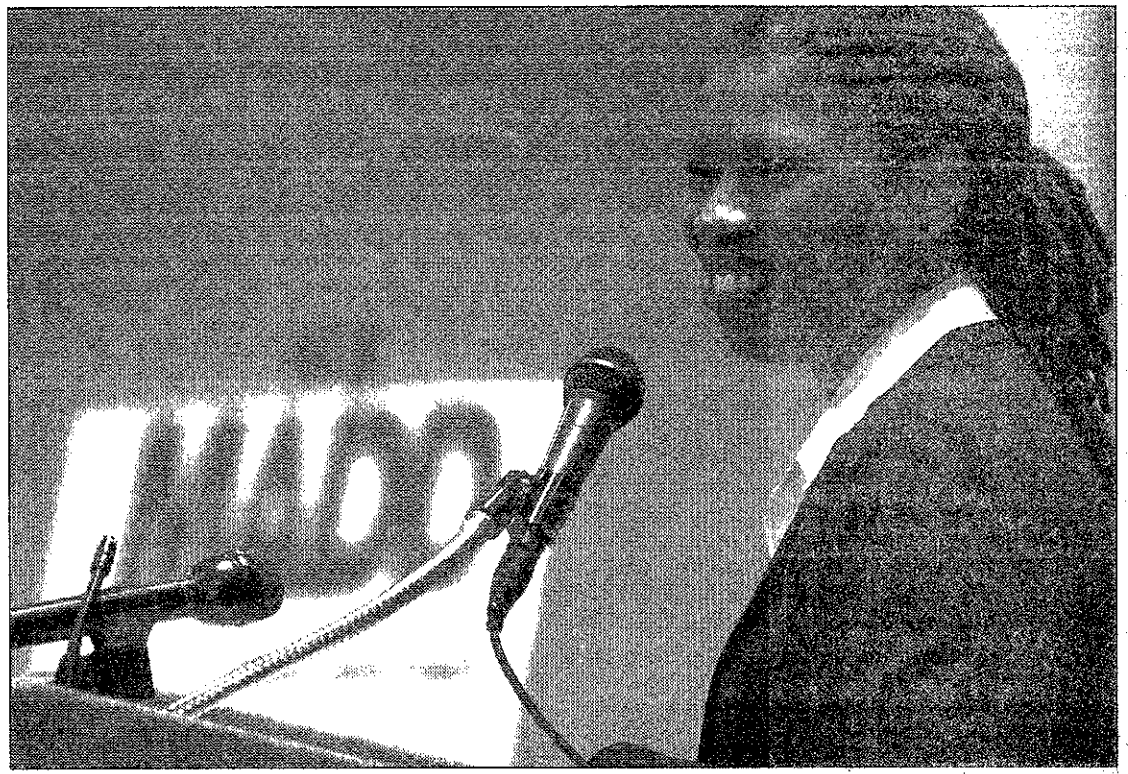
DEATHS

A
Peter J. Achille
 Achille, 91, formerly of Livonia, died Feb. 27.
Helen J. Adams
 Adams, 65, of Auburn Hills, died Feb. 24.
B
Nancy S. Blevins
 Blevins, 65, of Auburn Hills, died Feb. 27.
Lawrence W. Blunk
 Blunk, 95, of Plymouth, died March 1.
Eleanor M. Budd
 Budd died Feb. 27.
C
Frank Leroy Cochran
 Cochran, 87, of Westland, died Feb. 27.
Virginia "Ginny" Cunningham
 Cunningham, 76, formerly of Plymouth, died Feb. 26.
F
Marie A. Frey
 Frey, 92, of Lake Orion, died Feb. 24.
G
Laura J. Gray
 Gray, 87, of Farmington Hills, died March 1.
H
David K. Hammond
 Hammond, 64, of Royal Oak, died Feb. 24.
J
Lillian Ruth Jacobsen
 Jacobsen, 87, formerly of Troy, died Feb. 28.
K
Rose M. Kitt
 Kitt, 92, of Canton Township, died Feb. 27.
B. Elizabeth "Betty" Knight
 Knight, of Bloomfield Hills, died Feb. 26.
Rosemarie Kostecke
 Kostecke, 59, died Jan. 19.
M
Dr. Raymond F. Madigan
 Madigan, 82, of Livonia, died.
Teresa Jean McConaughy
 McConaughy, 46, of Labertville, died March 1.
Carolyn Wright McGarity
 McGarity, 68, formerly of Birmingham, died Feb. 23.
Donald H. McKeon
 McKeon, 90, of Grand Blanc, died Feb. 10.
Stanley Moraniec
 Moraniec, 69, of Bloomfield Hills, died Feb. 24.
Bethelene L. Morris
 Morris, 86, of Rochester, died Feb. 26.
R
Marilyn J. Ratzemberger
 Ratzemberger, 73, of Lake Orion, died Feb. 28.
Franco A. Rea
 Rea, 56, of Livonia, died Feb. 27.
S
Mary Elizabeth Shaw
 Shaw, 85, of Farmington Hills, died Feb. 24.
Russell L. Simonson Sr.
 Simonson, 88, of Clarkston, died Feb. 25.
Harold E. Smith
 Smith, 85, of Westland, died March 2.
Lois Smith
 Smith, 89, of Rochester Hills, formerly of Kalamazoo, died Feb. 25.
Cathy E. Spehn
 Spehn, 37, of Rochester, died Feb. 28.
T
Mary Tyghem
 Tyghem, 87, died March 1.
W
Beulah R. Weir
 Weir, 75, of Rochester Hills, died Feb. 25.
Westley "Pete" Winrick
 Winrick, 76, of Goodrich, died Feb. 24.
Charles Lee Worthington
 Worthington, 61, of Plymouth, died March 2.
 Complete paid obituaries can be found inside today's newspaper in Passages on page C4.

MADD praises police for drunk driving arrests

BY DAN WEST
 STAFF WRITER

Twenty-nine police officers from across Wayne County were praised by Mothers Against Drunk Driving for life-saving work by aggressively arresting drunk drivers. Livonia's David Goldberg, Westland's Kenneth Percin and Canton's Michael Wells were among the honorees at Thursday's event, emceed by Channel 2 reporter Ron Savage, a former firefighter. The county's MADD chapter organized Thursday's luncheon, funded by the Livonia law firm, Cochran, Foley and Associates, at Livonia's Burton Manor. The program was designed to spread MADD's message of safety by lauding police personnel who led their respective agencies with drunken driving arrests in 2005.



TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Executive Director of the Wayne County chapter MADD Ne'chole McClendon speaks during the MADD Lifesaver Award luncheon Thursday afternoon at Burton Manor in Livonia.

"You are saving lives by getting drunk drivers off the streets," the chapter's executive director Ne'chole McClendon told the award-winning officers.

The chapter's senior victim advocate, Pam Karvonen of Livonia, said the officers just don't arrest intoxicated motorists, but they also spend extra time to demonstrate patience and compassion to families of those killed and hurt in drunk driving crashes.

"We've talked to some victims who said they were lucky their crash wasn't worse, but I think the lucky ones are those

who aren't harmed at all by a drunk driver," Karvonen said. "Because of your (the officers') efforts, we have a lot of lucky people walking around today."

Wayne County CEO Robert Ficano said the changing culture over the past 20 years has made more people aware of their responsibilities when they consume alcohol. Ficano talked about how alcoholics were common in television sitcoms and no one knew what a designated driver was 20 years

ago, but that has changed with the educational efforts of MADD and enforcement efforts of police.

"Changing culture is like trying to turn an ocean-liner around," Ficano told the crowd of 150 police officers, firefighters and drunken driving victims. "It takes time. You can't do it on a dime. But we are starting to see less drunk driving crashes because you are getting drunk drivers off the road."

"The entire southeastern Michigan community appreciates what you do."

MADD praised Goldberg, who led Livonia police with more than 30 drunk driving arrests last year during his regular midnight shift. The 1976 Bentley High School graduate owned a small business in the city, the former Action Sports Apparel, but he said he switched to a "more secure" career and became a police officer eight years ago.

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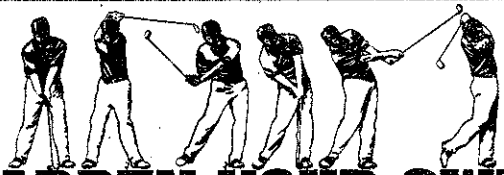
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Zoo vote pleases residents

BY JULIE BROWN
STAFF WRITER

Wednesday's vote by the Detroit City which will keep the Detroit Zoo open pleased local residents.

"I'm just glad the zoo's not closing," said Debbie Borst of Plymouth Township, a member of the Detroit Zoological Society. The Detroit City Council voted Wednesday to turn zoo operations over to the zoological society.

Borst, her husband and five children enjoy their trips to the zoo, including the kids' field trips in first and second grade. "They always like that, too." She noted that officials might likely want to have reopened the zoo in 10 years

if it had closed.

"The cost of doing that would be just prohibitive. At least they're thinking ahead," said Borst, whose 10-year-old daughter was particularly happy about the news. "She loves to go to the zoo."

Officials at the Detroit Zoo are relieved. "We're pleased that the council voted yes," said zoo spokeswoman Patricia Mills Thursday.

"Now we can move forward. It was very heartening to see all the support that we had from the public and our members and the media," Mills said. "No one wanted to see the zoo close, including members of City Council. We're very happy."

There's still the issue of

state funding, "which we should know about soon." A total of \$4 million will be needed from the legislature. "We're hopeful," Mills said. If state funding comes through, the agreement would soon take effect.

"It'll be pretty seamless for the visitors. It'll be business as usual," she said. Zoo staffers will take care of the animals and guests as before.

Information on the zoo is available online at www.detroitzoo.org. There's a link to the far right, "Support the Zoo," for membership, volunteering and donations. For information, call (248) 398-0900.

Groups partner to fight hunger

What does it take to package 9,500 meals in two hours to help fight hunger and starvation around the world?

Ask representatives of Community Financial, the Kiwanis Club of Colonial Plymouth and the nonprofit organization Kids Against Hunger, and they'll say it takes commitment, organization and teamwork.

Community Financial recently offered its Plymouth headquarters office as an after-hours venue for more than 60 credit union staff, volunteers, family members and Kiwanians to package protein-rich meals that include dried chicken, soy, vegetables and rice. Each packet feeds 12 children or six adults. Community Financial team members also contributed nearly \$1,000 to the food packaging effort through its monthly Jeans



Community Financial team members, volunteers, family and Kiwanis Club of Colonial Plymouth work together at food stations in the credit union's Plymouth headquarters to help package meals for Kids Against Hunger.

for Charity campaign.

Kiwanis Club of Colonial Plymouth has been spearheading the awareness program for Kids Against Hunger in southeastern Michigan for more than two years. They recently donated a new MaxiVan and trailer


used to transport supplies to local volunteer groups for packaging and also for delivering finished packets to shipping points.

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12:30, 1:50, 2:50, 4:10, 5:10, 6:30, 7:30, 8:50, 9:50
FRI/SAT LS 11:10

DAVE CHAPPEL'S BLOCK PARTY (R)
12:45, 3:00, 5:15, 7:30, 9:45
FRI/SAT LS 12:00

TRANSAMERICA (R) 7:20, 9:30
FRI/SAT LS 11:40

EIGHT BELOW (PG)
12:00, 2:25, 4:50, 7:15, 9:40

MRS. HENDERSON PRESENTS (R) 12:10, 7:40

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

THE WORLD'S FASTEST INDIAN (PG-13) 2:20, 5:00, 9:55

NANNY MCPHEE (PG)
12:50, 3:00, 5:10

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Students want academic rigor if it's relevant to their goals

At a recent state Senate committee meeting on the proposal to require 18 high school credits, two students from Woodhaven High School came forward to bravely offer their views on the subject. They each gave strong, telling testimony that spoke volumes about our educational system, about continuing feelings about class differences and about a clash of expectations.



Hugh Gallagher

Jake Taylor, a senior at Woodhaven, told the committee, chaired by Sen. Wayne Kuipers, R-Holland, that he was learning welding in order to pursue a trade as a boiler maker. He passionately argued that his career goals were every bit as valid as those of future doctors, lawyers and scientists and shouldn't be shunted aside if new credit standards are adopted.

"Some can't afford college and some have to start working after graduation," he said. He also made the valid point that he could start earning a good income a lot sooner than someone who goes away to college.

As the son of a pipefitter (who was something of a jack of all trades), I think Jake makes some good points. Not all good jobs will require a bachelor's degree, and we will have a continuing need for health care technicians, carpenters, plumbers, electricians, machinists and, yes, boiler makers. And these jobs do and will pay good wages. But even these positions will require some post high school training and will require the kind of solid academic base proposed in the state's requirements. And, unfortunately, some of these jobs in the traditional factory setting will not be done in this country where wages have become prohibitive for some corporations.

Katie Williams, another senior, had to wait a while to make her presentation, anxiously rolling and unrolling her written presentation. She had several concerns: the credit requirements will cut into sports time, they will cut into social time, they require costly tutoring that many parents can't afford and that they aren't relevant to her interest in pursuing some kind of dental education.

The argument about social time is not one to impress many adults, who watch fierce foreign competition dragging our economy down. And many would argue that students who love sports will find a way to make the time.

But the most important question Katie asks is, "What do these requirements have to

They dropped out because nobody seemed to care enough to push them to do their best.

do with me?"

The state Department of Education is pushing a mantra that goes "rigor, relevance, relationships" with the added phrase "rigor without relevance is meaningless." Unfortunately, many students have a hard time grasping the relevance of $x + 23 = 2x + 45$, especially as it applies to welding or dentistry. (Or journalism for that matter).

But it is relevant to being educated and it is, often, relevant to skilled trades. In fact Jeremy Hughes, deputy state superintendent of public instruction, argued Monday that the math credits could be earned in the context of career tech classes and would be more relevant if they were.

And here's the kicker. On Thursday, the Bill & Melissa Gates Foundation released a survey of high school dropouts, conducted by the Peter D. Hart Research Associates. They found that nearly two-thirds of high school dropouts would have worked harder if expectations had been higher. They didn't drop out because school was too hard; they dropped out because school was too easy. They dropped out because nobody seemed to care enough to push them to do their best. They dropped out because they were "unchallenged, unmotivated, bored and unsupported."

Economics, family illness and becoming a parent were other reasons cited.

According to the survey of 470 dropouts ages 16-25, nearly 50 percent said they left school "because their classes were boring and not relevant to their lives or career aspirations" and a majority said that their schools did not motivate them to work hard.

The survey also reports that 62 percent of those surveyed had C or better grades and 70 percent reported that they were confident they would have met graduation requirements.

If the legislature approves some form of mandated requirements and schools begin to implement them, they need to understand the concerns of Jake, Katie and those students who couldn't be bothered to finish high school.

Rigor, relevance, relationships. Yes!

Hugh Gallagher is the managing editor of The Observer Newspapers. He can be reached by e-mail at hgallagher@oe.homecomm.net, by phone at (734) 953-2149 or by fax at (734) 591-7279.

There's plenty of room for wildlife outside of the zoo

Let's stray into dangerous territory: The Great Outdoors.

I believe the wildness of nature is best appreciated through a thick pane of glass — even in summer. Roughing it means not having cable TV. I haven't watered my lawn in three years. Somehow it remains green, although I don't think it's made up of grass anymore.

The point is, I don't purport to know anything about nature. But all the commotion over the Detroit Zoo and its possible closing got me thinking about a little realized fact of Detroit and its environs. There's a lot more wildlife out there than we realize.



Greg Kowalski

I don't mean the spiders under the stairs that we co-exist with or the occasional fly that finds a way into the living room. I'm talking about real creatures of the forest.

One night a few years ago, my neighbor came pounding on my door at about 10 p.m.

"You have to help me," she said, clearly upset. "There's a giant rat on my porch."

I grabbed a flashlight and followed her to her house.

"There," she pointed.

I aimed my flashlight into the corner. Two beady eyes stared back at me and a mouth filled with impressive little teeth hissed open.

"That's not a rat," I said. "It's a 'possum."

A fat 'possum. Somehow it had adapted to a tight urban neighborhood where there weren't even many trees.

We gave it some cheese (I don't know if 'possums eat cheese) and left it alone. That wasn't the only 'possum I've ever seen roaming the city streets. Or the only wild animal.

There are plenty of pheasants in the expansive empty fields that litter Detroit. I've also seen bats and other assorted flying creatures. I don't know what they were, but they were not pigeons or sparrows.

A while ago, not far from downtown Birmingham, a resident found a dead owl in a tree in front of his home. It was a pretty big owl,

There are plenty of pheasants in the expansive empty fields that litter Detroit. I've also seen bats and other assorted flying creatures. I don't know what they were, but they were not pigeons or sparrows. A while ago, not far from downtown Birmingham, a resident found a dead owl in a tree in front of his home.

too. And who knows what's in Quarton Lake, although the carp have all been fried.

Wild deer also are plentiful in the Birmingham-Bloomfield area. There was a whole herd, or flock, or whatever you call them, living in the Woodward-Lone Pine area. I haven't seen any roaming the neighborhood south of Eight Mile Road, except at Belle Isle, but frankly I'm surprised I haven't. There are huge empty spaces that would be ideal habitat for some wild animals.

I'm not suggesting that if the zoo had gone under we should have released the animals into the wide open fields of Detroit, although there are huge stretches of vacant lots that would suit a lot of them fairly well. But the banks of Grand River really are not a place for crocodiles, and lions would not be comfortable roaming the slopes of Mt. Elliott.

But I've often felt that someone should conduct wildlife tours of urban areas.

Some of the areas have gone back to their original state, with wildflowers abundant in the summer. Indeed, in some areas you can get an idea of what the metropolitan area was like more than a century ago. There are vast spaces interspersed with a few houses. It's fascinating in one way.

And sad in another.

Greg Kowalski is editor of the *Birmingham Eccentric*. He can be reached at (248) 901-2570 or at gkowsalski@hometownlife.com.

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SPORTS

section

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Ficano proposes biotechnology partnership with MSU

BY HUGH GALLAGHER
STAFF WRITER

A partnership with Michigan State University to develop biotechnology could do for Wayne County what the microchip did for Silicon Valley.

That was the message Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano delivered Wednesday in his annual State of the County address at the Wayne County Building in Detroit.

"You've heard the buzz — every day people are talking with excitement about biotechnology and alternative fuels made of corn, soybean and grain," Ficano said. "That's a hallmark of biotechnology. It's environmentally friendly. It also creates jobs of diverse skill levels."

Ficano introduced a plan to partner with MSU to develop E85, an alternative fuel that's 85 percent ethanol and 15 percent gasoline, and other biotech patents.

"We're putting our plan in motion. I'll present a proposal to Lansing this month that exempts alternative fuel from taxes," he said.

Ficano also proposes funding to increase the number of E85 gas stations in the county. Currently there is only one station in Dearborn Heights. Ficano said he hopes to have 20 stations open by 2007.

"Last year alone, MSU received eight new biotech patents that can be licensed for commercial businesses to cre-



Ficano

ate jobs here," Ficano said. Ficano and MSU will seek state funding for research and development.

He also proposed that local communities work with the county to create an Agricultural Renaissance Zone to create research and manufacturing centers in the area around Detroit Metro Airport.

"We want to make sure our new biotech facilities have the same tax benefits as others in Michigan," he said.

Ficano said he supported the federally funded \$100 million grant to design a mass transit system between Ann Arbor and Detroit.

"I continue to encourage all elected officials to come together on adopting a transit system plan that will not be bogged down in politics and special interest agendas," he said. "We have the momentum. Now let's move to get it done."

Nancy White in Macomb County, L. Brooks Patterson in Oakland County, Mayor Kilpatrick in Detroit, myself — we're all ready to move. The governor is ready to move. This is a true sign of regional coop-

eration. Let's get our region moving now!"

Ficano declared the state of the county "stable and steady," citing three consecutive balanced budgets. The county is trying to eliminate \$56 million in deficits in county funds left over from 2003, 2004 and 2005 fiscal years.

Ficano renewed his proposal for a land bank that would clear title on vacant, tax-delinquent properties and free them up for redevelopment through county low-interest loans. The County Commission rejected an earlier proposal on the land bank because of differences about representation on the land bank board.

Ficano announced that a One-Stop Business Resource Center will be opening in Detroit soon to help small and medium-sized businesses.

The county executive said he will continue to promote economic globalization.

"Choosing to ignore the globalization of business or being angry about it will not lessen the harsh realities at home," he said. "In fact, it is counterproductive, we must discourage self-pity and the hand-wringing. We must capitalize on our opportunities."

He said his trip to China convinced him that Chinese leaders are interested in

investing in the Detroit metro area. He introduced two representatives from the Tempo Group, who will be building a 480,000-square-foot facility in

Canton that will employ 200.

He also proposed a Wayne Reads! program that would promote reading by providing books for mothers of new-

borns, literacy workshops and early childhood development tutors.

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SBT petition drive to go forward

BY ALEX LUNDBERG
STAFF WRITER

Despite a tight time frame and discouraging early projections, County Executive L. Brooks Patterson's initiative to repeal the state's Single Business Tax will move forward to the petition phase.

At a press conference Tuesday afternoon, Patterson said the effort will move on. "I'm pleased to announce that we've reached our goal," he said. "We've taken in more than \$615,000 in pledges and have another \$185,000 in underwritten corporate loans."

Originally, the plan as announced at the State of the County address was to raise \$800,000 in pledges for the effort. A week later, based on lackluster fund raising, he amended that figure to \$600,000. At the Tuesday conference, he said the fund-raising effort would continue as the petition drive got under way.

Whatever the financial goals set or met, he said the response to the effort was a sign that the times are ripe for change.

"To achieve numbers this strong is evidence that we're ready for change in Michigan," Patterson said.

Changes, he said, are needed. Citing statistics that place Michigan near or at the bottom of the heap for job creation, job retention and personal income growth, he said the SBT has to go to make the state a more attractive place to start or expand a business. Others have made similar, ground up changes in their tax and business structure.

"In the 1980s, Ireland was the doormat of Europe, not somewhere you would want to do business," he said. "Now it's the second strongest economy in Europe."

The SBT generates about \$1.8 billion in revenue for the state's general fund. Patterson's plan says nothing about where replacement funds would come from. The petition drive, he said, would be an intervention for the state.

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Rockford ends Chiefs' best-ever mat run

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

In the spring of 2003, first-year Canton wrestling coach Casey Randolph took several members of his struggling team to Battle Creek so they could get a taste of the state wrestling finals.

"I told the freshmen, 'We're going to be here someday,'" Randolph recalled Friday afternoon, as he stood on the main floor of Kellogg Arena, the site of the state finals. "They looked at me and said, 'You sure about that?'"

Randolph's three-year-old pledge became reality Friday when the Chiefs squared off against state powerhouse Rockford in a state quarterfinal match at Kellogg Arena. The Rams won, 52-19, but the one-sided setback didn't diminish the pride Randolph felt for the foundation-builders of Canton's up-and-coming mat program.

"The biggest thing is that I want to make sure these kids understand what they have accomplished this year," said Randolph. "I couldn't be more proud of a group of athletes than I am right now.

"I knew the match today could go one of two ways. I knew that we would either fight them tooth-and-nail, or that we could lose like this. It didn't go our way, but at least we got in their face and wrestled aggressively. A lot of the pins they got came very late in matches."

Canton knew going in that beating Rockford would be a tall order. The 32-1 Rams' roster was stocked with 11 individual state qualifiers, three unbeaten grapplers and four former state champions. Seven wrestlers on their roster had exceeded 40 wins heading into Friday's

quarterfinal. In comparison, state power Temperance-Bedford has zero 40-win performers.

But the Chiefs also knew they had a shot at advancing because of their solid nucleus of wrestlers that included state qualifiers Corey Phillips, Konrad Konsitzke and Donnie Laramie, and other key contributors like Marwan Faraj, Alex Amberg, Tom Bonnell and Joe Wilson.

The Chiefs opened the match like a

PLEASE SEE WRESTLING, B3

Not to be denied

Chargers capture district net crown

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

It was 11:30 Friday night, she had just endured six-plus hours of high-intensity volleyball, carried her Livonia Churchill team to its third-consecutive district title in a dramatic five-game triumph over Northville and, yes, Lauren Krupsky was tired.

But it was a sweet fatigue, the kind that often follows unforgettable championships.

"If music would have played after that last point, it would have been the 'Hallelujah Chorus,'" said a drained, but smiling Krupsky, moments after she led the 56-3 Chargers from the brink of elimination to a 25-8, 23-25, 18-25, 25-21, 15-11 victory over the feisty Mustangs. "I was tired in that last match — I think a lot of us were — but we wanted it so bad.

"There was a time during the fourth game when I thought it was over for us, but once we got the momentum back, we didn't let it go."

Churchill advanced to the finals in impressive fashion by sweeping state-ranked Salem in three games in the first-round before upending always-dangerous Plymouth in the semis, 21-25, 25-21, 25-18, 25-17.

The Mustangs, who drew a first-round bye, knocked off South Lyon in three games in the semis. The Lions defeated Canton in four games in the other first-round showdown.

The title match had as many

PLEASE SEE CHARGERS, B5



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Salem senior outside hitter Lauren Price goes high to block a shot during Friday's season-ending, three-game loss to Livonia Churchill. The Rocks finished 43-8-1.

Neal-led Whalers win 5-2

Left wing James Neal scored a disputed goal and added two assists to lead the Plymouth Whalers to a 5-2 victory over the Saginaw Spirit in an Ontario Hockey League game played Friday night at the Compuware Sports Arena.

Defenseman Steve Ward scored two goals for Plymouth, while center Evan Brophey had a goal and an assist, and defenseman Ryan McGinnis added an empty-net goal for the Whalers. Jesse Gimblett and Ryan Berard scored for Saginaw.

The victory moved Plymouth into a tie for first place in the OHL West with Saginaw. Both teams have 65 points. Ward gave Plymouth a 1-0 lead with his 13th goal at 4:30 of the first period when his blast from the left point through traffic eluded Saginaw goaltender Francois Thuot. Gimblett tied the game at 1-1 with his 20th — a backhand shot at 6:26. Neal, Brophey and Wes Cunningham completed a 3-on-1 break in the Saginaw zone with Brophey tapping home Neal's shot from the right dot for his 16th at 17:13 of the first period to give Plymouth a 2-1 lead.

Neal scored what proved to be the game-winning goal at 16:32 of the second period when he secured Chris Terry's pass in front of the Saginaw goal, cut to his left and appeared to tuck the puck underneath the bar for his 16. The goal light went on to signal a goal, but play continued. At the next whistle, referees Mark Hicks and Bard Beer and linesmen Joe Celestin and Geoff Rutherford conferred and awarded Plymouth the goal. Television replays confirmed the puck was clearly in the net.

Ward scored his second goal of the night at 6:15 of the third period.

Canton's Tollison is likable leader

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

Who am I?
I wear a red-and-white No. 19 hockey jersey. I'm not the biggest guy on the ice, but I play with as much heart as anybody. My head coach's name is Mike.

I'm the captain. And I've earned the respect of my coaches and teammates with my always-hustling, heads-up style of play.

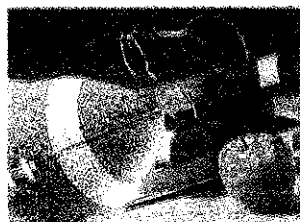
Steve Yzerman, you guess?

Good try, but you're off by about \$1.3 million.

The player in question is Canton's Kevin Tollison, whose skills — both on the ice and off during the past three seasons — have proven to be invaluable to the Chiefs in much the same way Yzerman's presence has been priceless for the Red Wings during his storied career.

ALWAYS RELIABLE

Tollison was probably the Chiefs' steadiest player



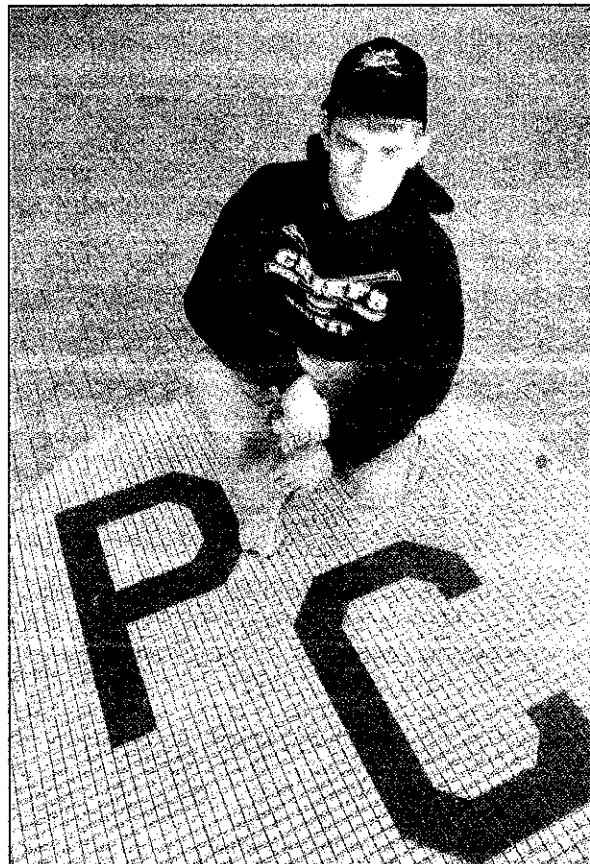
Prep Profile

this season, despite undergoing a position switch that would send many skaters for a loop. A forward-turned-defenseman, Tollison's five goals and 16 assists put him near the top of the team's scoring chart.

However, it was the intangibles the smooth-skating senior brought to the ice that were most important to coach Mike Behen's squad.

"Kevin is a wonderful kid with a great personality and a lot of talent," said Behen. "He's a great leader because everybody likes him; everybody looks up to him. His social skills are way advanced. As far as

PLEASE SEE TOLLISON, B2



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton senior hockey player Kevin Tollison made a successful move from forward to defense this season. Despite the transition, he was still among the Chiefs' leaders in points.

Anleitner's 25 spark Agape to huge victory

Jack Anleitner's hot offensive hand and stellar team defense led Canton Agape Christian to a 59-32 victory over Taylor Baptist Park Friday night. The victory improved the Wolverines' record to 14-5 heading into Thursday night's Class D district tournament at Westland Huron Valley Lutheran.

'We played exceptional defense tonight and held them to just 13 points in the first half. Jack had his best offensive night of the season and he had three three-pointers.'

Keith Anleitner
Agape coach

points and 14 rebounds) and Mark Mullett (eight points).

Baptist Park was paced by Caleb Thompson's 14 points and Halston Hodges' 10.

Agape buried 9-of-12 free throws while Baptist Park hit 6-of-11.

Sidelines

Registration

Spring fever is in the air and youth baseball and softball players are getting ready for the upcoming season. The Greater Canton Youth Baseball and Softball Association is still accepting registrations for the spring season.

You can register your players (ages 4 and up) by visiting the Web site csc.canton-mi.org for the registration forms, or stop by the Canton Sports Center or Summit on the Park during regular business hours to register.

For more information, call (734) 394-5489. The final mass registration day is scheduled for 5-8 p.m. Sunday, March 12, at the Summit.

5K run

The Shamrock and Shenanigans 5K Run and Walk, which benefits the C.S. Mott Children's Hospital's "Save A Heart" program, will be held Sunday, March 12, in downtown Ann Arbor.

The event, which will be sponsored by Conor O'Neill's Irish Pub & Restaurant and the Ann Arbor Track Club, is set to begin at 1:30 p.m. at 318 S. Main Street with the Blue Care Network Kids Dash. The 5K run and walk will immediately follow.

The family event will include live Irish music, bagpipers, Irish dancers and face-painting for the kids. Online registration is available at www.aatrackclub.org/shamrock.

For more information, contact Caroline Kaganov at caroline@conoroneills.com or (734) 665-2968.

Randolph honored

Canton High School wrestling coach Casey Randolph was named the Division 1, Region 3 Coach of the Year recently by the Michigan Wrestling Association. It is the second year the 30-year-old Randolph has been honored with the award.

Randolph, a former state champion wrestler at Hudson High School, guided the Chiefs to a 28-5 record and the school's first berth in the Division 1 state meet. In four years at the helm, he has led Canton to two district titles and one regional championship.

Hockey tryouts

The Michigan Hurricanes Midget A travel hockey team, which will consist of players born in 1990 and 1991, will be holding tryouts from 8:10-9:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 15, from 12:10-1:30 p.m. on Sunday, March 19, and from 8:10-9:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 22. The cost is \$15 per skate.

The team plays out of Compuware Sports Arena in Plymouth Township.

For more information, contact coach Lee McCarty at (734) 392-0888 or at mccarty1984@comcast.net; or visit www.eteamz.com/mihurricanes.



Great Kicks

The Plymouth Kicks '98 U8 boys select soccer team captured the North American Indoor Soccer Championship Division 1 title on Feb. 11-12 in Columbus, Ohio. The team outscored their opponents 40-7. The team consists of Bowen Burdette, Matt Cook, Ben Ethier, Nick Freda, Michael Kulczycki, Tyler Laurentius, Brian Oldani, Jason Ren, A.J. Santavy, Aiden Shennan, Brian Sockow and Daunte Toppi. The team's coaching staff includes Rich Kulczycki, Feng Ren and Keith Sockow. The team is managed by Lou Laurentius.

Canton icers sidelined by Mustangs

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

PREP HOCKEY

Canton battled Northville to a 1-1 draw during the first period of Wednesday night's Division 1 pre-regional final hockey game at the Novi Ice Arena.

Unfortunately for the Chiefs, it turned out to be the calm before the Mustangs' storm.

Northville, which registered a tie and one-goal victory over the Chiefs during the regular season, scored twice in the second period before exploding for five more goals in the third to skate away with an 8-2 victory. The setback ended the Chiefs' season at 7-15-3. Northville will take a 12-13-1 mark into this weekend's regional final against Brighton.

Northville's Derek Mohacci and Anthony Deneau both recorded hat-tricks to ice Canton's post-season run. The Mustangs outshot the Chiefs, 35-18.

"I thought we came out and played well in the first period, but we didn't seem to have the same intensity level after that," said Canton coach Mike

Behen. "They were much quicker than us, too. The kids are very disappointed right now because we thought we had a good chance of winning tonight."

"We're very young and inexperienced on defense and in goal. If you're going to win, you have to be strong in those two positions."

Behen made the unorthodox move of pulling his goalie for an extra attacker with just over nine minutes left in the game and his team trailing, 5-1, but the move worked — at least temporarily — when the Chiefs' offensive pressure immediately intensified.

"I did what I thought needed to be done to win," Behen said. "It doesn't matter if you lose 4-1 or 10-1: a loss is a loss."

Less than a minute after Behen pulled goalie Kevan Swanberg, the Chiefs were whistled for a penalty, so Swanberg was re-inserted. Even though Swanberg was lifted for large chunks of the

remainder of the period, the Mustangs only managed to score on the empty net once.

Canton broke the scoring ice first when Andy Barylski picked up a loose puck between red line and blue line, skated in and lased a backhand past Northville goalie Scott Ozog to put the Chiefs up, 1-0, with 7:55 left in the opening period. The lead was short-lived as Deneau scored from Tim Fick just over two minutes later.

Swanberg was strong in the first period, turning away 11 Mustang shots.

With Canton trailing 5-1, Derek Trosper handled a smooth pass by C.J. Wies on the doorstep of the goal crease and flipped the puck past Ozog to keep the Chiefs' hopes alive. However, Northville retaliated with three goals over the next four minutes.

"I'm proud of the way everybody on this team came and competed every day, at practices and games," Behen said. "There were only about three games that we weren't in at the end of this year."

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'Hoop Shoot' attracts big turnout

Canton Leisure Services hosted the Michigan Parks and Recreation Basketball Hoop Shoot on Saturday, Feb. 25, at the Summit on the Park. Over 60 players participated in the competition, which challenges players to a 60-second hot-spot scoring contest from different points on the court.

Kevin Weisz had the overall top score of 34 points in the one-minute contest. The top finishers in their respective age divisions were: Shane Raymond, Ryan Hovermale, Ashwin Kumar, Kevin Weisz, Paige Slominski, Michelle Talukder and Allie Sweeney, all of whom will represent Canton in the regional competition in Saline on March 12. The Hoop Shoot finals will be held during half-



CANTON LEISURE SERVICES

Pictured above is action from the Feb. 25 3-on-3 basketball tournament held at the Summit on the Park in Canton. Twenty-seven teams competed in four age groups.

time of a Detroit Pistons' game on April 9.

Later that day, 27 teams competed in the annual Winter Break 3 on 3 Tournament. Following are the championship teams:

■ 3rd-4th grade: Wolves

(Sam Brown, Jim Fiscus, Viet Ngyen, Joey Van Houten);

■ 5th-6th grade: Pistons (Devin Slominski, Clay Behrman, Mike Boes); and

■ 7th-8th grade: Cobras (Cody Blakiza, Corey Hall, Joe Pacinte, Brian Wyer).

TOLLISON

FROM PAGE B1

hockey, he does everything I ask him to do. When I asked him to move from forward to defense this season, he agreed, even though he's been a forward for most of his life.

"And he's not only become a good defenseman, he's been an outstanding defenseman. He's not going to out-physical you, but he's always in position and he gets the job done."

TYPICALLY SOLID

A typical Tollison play unfolded early in the second period of Wednesday night's pre-regional final against Northville. With the score knotted at 1-1, the Mustangs intercepted a pass in Northville's zone, then headed down the ice on a 2-on-1 break. The "1" was Tollison.

After zipping three passes back and forth, the Northville player on the left wing attacked the net with the puck. Tollison deftly skated into his path and

re-directed the puck harmlessly against the boards. The play didn't show up in the post-game boxscore, but it was as vital as any goal that was scored.

IN THE BEGINNING...

Tollison's hockey origins can be traced back to the "roller" version that he played with friends and neighbors in the street outside his Canton home since he was in elementary school. He didn't lace on his first pair of ice hockey skates until he was 10.

"The transition from roller hockey to ice hockey was pretty easy for me," Tollison said. "I didn't have any problems with it, probably because I had been playing roller hockey for so long. I liked ice hockey right away because it was such a physical game and a team sport. It's always been fun for me."

After playing primarily forward during his youth hockey days and his first three years at Canton, Tollison took this

year's move to defense in stride.

"Coach told me during our summer league last summer," Tollison said. "I told him it was fine by me. I miss not being able to score as much as I used to, but there are a lot of things I like about playing defense."

Canton's season may have been somewhat disappointing, but two of their victories came against cross-campus rival Salem.

"Beating Salem was a highlight because we hadn't won a game against them before this season," said Tollison. "It was nice for a change to be able to go to school the next day knowing we won."

Tollison didn't hesitate when asked to pick out the highlight of his entire high school career.

"When I was a sophomore, I got to play on the same line as my brother, Kyle," he said. "That was fun."

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Spartans outshoot Canton

Livonia Stevenson connected on 22-of-26 free throws Wednesday night to beat Canton, 56-45, and claim the third place in the Western Lakes Activities Association boys basketball playoffs in the consolation final at Plymouth High School.

Stevenson, getting a team-high 13 points from junior guard Luke Knochel, enters Class A district play with an 11-9 overall record.

Canton falls to 14-6. Stevenson led 19-16 at half-time and took control in the third quarter when Knochel got hot with eight straight points, including a pair of three-pointers to spark a 16-7 run.

The Spartans, who also got 14 and 10 points, respectively, from seniors Tony Lenardon and Andy Madeleine, made 17-of-18 free throws in the second half.

"We lost by 19 the first time we played them (Feb. 14) so in the first half we approached the game differently," Stevenson coach Bill Dyer said. "If we wanted to win we wanted to get a quick lead and take care of the ball."

"After we got up by 12 (in the quarter, then we took care of the ball and made free throws."

Canton, which was 15-of-21 from the foul line, got 15 points from Andre Bridges and 13 from Ryan Waidmann.

WRESTLING

FROM PAGE B1

bowl of Rice Krispies that had just been drenched with milk — they snapped, crackled and popped the Rams during the first two matches and held a seemingly solid 10-0 advantage. Bonnell, a 215-pound senior, led the early surge with a 10-2 major decision over Rockford's Tom Felix. After junior heavyweights Laramie dominated with a resounding 10-second pin over Rich Vandermyer, it looked like the Chiefs were on their way.

However, over the ensuing four matches, the Rams proved why they're 33-1 and ranked 40th in the nation as they racked up 23 straight points thanks to three pins and a technical fall. Phillips stopped the bleeding for the Chiefs with a 9-3 victory at 130 over Mike Debruyen, but Rockford reeled off five straight wins — four more pins and a technical fall — to secure a 52-13 advantage.

Canton finished the contest like it started by winning the final two matches. Senior Marwan Faraj closed out his illustrious high school career with a 5-2 victory over Brandon Calkins and senior Alex Amberg closed out his spectacular career with a 7-3 triumph over Brian Twiest.

"The draw worked out in our favor and we got off to a good start," Randolph said. "But they bumped their 152-pound kid up to 160, which I thought they'd probably do, and we lost at 140 which was tough."

"I moved Marwan up to 171 because I wanted him to go out on top, which he did. Rockford's program has a lot of tradition. Their coach has been there 31 years and has won about eight regionals. I've been here four. I think we have a good thing building here. I have the best freshman class I've ever had, so the future looks bright."

ROCKFORD 52 CANTON 19
Friday at Battle Creek
 215 pounds: Tom Bonnell (C) won by major decision over Tom Felix, 10-2.
 275: Donnie Laramie (C) pinned Rich Vandermyer in 10 seconds.
 103: Kyle Waldo (R) pinned Mike Haar in 4:33.
 112: Zach Johnson (R) pinned Ryan Schnettler in 2:15.
 119: Alex Gorton (R) pinned Sam Santilli in 5:01.
 125: Jeff Shutch (R) won by technical fall over Steve Cox, 18-2.
 130: Corey Phillips (C) decisioned Mike Debruyen, 9-3.
 135: J.J. Johnson (R) won by technical fall over Drew Sutton, 16-1.
 140: Alex Murray (R) pinned Konrad Konsitzke in 3:37.
 145: Dustin Anderson pinned Joe Wilson in 1:15.
 152: Jeff Cole (R) pinned Joe Sanders in 4:43.
 160: Ben Bennett (R) pinned Brian Brubaker in 2:53.
 171: Marwan Faraj (C) decisioned Brandon Calkins, 5-2.
 189: Alex Amberg (C) decisioned Brian Twiest, 7-3.
RECORDS: Canton, 28-5; Rockford, 33-1.

FIELD OF DREAMS

There will be a "Soccer Field of Dreams" update meeting at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, March 22, in the Plymouth High School distance-learning lab.

The agenda will include a summary of the program's funding and facilities successes to date and an informational presentation by Plymouth-Canton Schools Superintendent Dr. Jim Ryan regarding the May 2 bond election that includes funding for the "Soccer Field of Dreams"

project. Members of the P-CEP soccer booster clubs are encouraged to attend along with their friends and any other interested citizens. Call Bob Harris at (734) 416-1360.

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.

The Compuware Sports Arena is gearing up for its 2006

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Youth Spring League, a house league that runs from April 1 to May 31. Sign-up costs run from \$210 (mini-mites and mites) to \$220 (squirt) and \$235 (pee wee). The registration deadline is March 13. Parents must provide a copy of 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.

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 sessions to choose from, includes three hours of instruction, snacks and a T-

shirt. Contact Ron or Pat Myers at (734) 459-4026; or at pcmyers@hotmail.com.

BASEBALL REGISTRATION

The Greater Canton Youth Baseball and Softball Organization has started registration for the spring 2006 season. Registration forms are available online at csc.cantonmi.org or you can visit the Canton Sports Center or the Summit on the Park for walk-in registration. For more information, call (734) 394-5489.



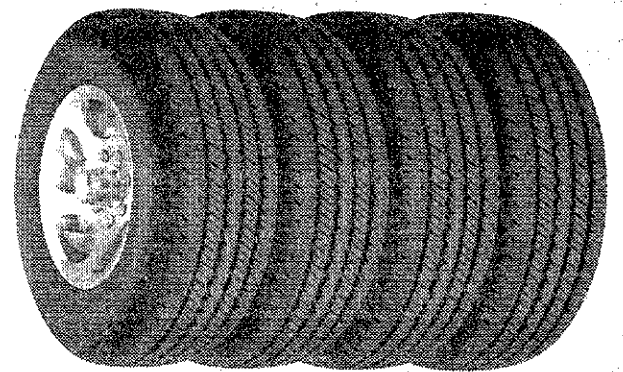
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- Competitive Prices



MARCH TIRE MANIA

\$25⁰⁰ MAIL-IN REBATE
ON A SET OF 4 GOODYEAR TIRES



- \$25.00 mail-in rebate on the retail purchase and dealer installation of four Goodyear tires.

Expires March 31, 2006. Goodyear is a registered trademark of The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company.

SPRING SERVICE SAVINGS

LUBE, OIL & FILTER CHANGE AND 16 POINT INSPECTION

\$21⁹⁵ OR LESS Expires March 31, 2006

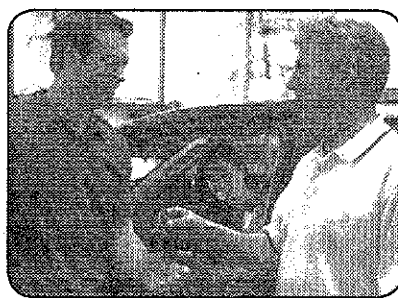


INCLUDES:

- Engine oil replacement up to 5 quarts
- Fluid level inspection
- Complete chassis lube
- New Mopar oil filter
- Inspect CV joints and front suspension components
- 16 Point inspection includes: Tires/tire pressure, windshield wipers, exterior lamps, cooling system mixture/leaks, air filter, fluid levels, belts/hoses
- Additional charges may be applied for diesel, V-10s, Hemi® V-8s, fluid disposal, semi-synthetic and synthetic oils.

FRONT WHEEL ALIGNMENT

\$44⁹⁹ OR LESS



INCLUDES:

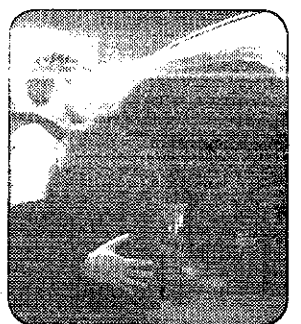
- Precision-set front end
- Check front end and steering components for wear

SHIMS ARE EXTRA.

Expires March 31, 2006

FRONT OR REAR BRAKE SERVICE

\$89⁹⁵ OR LESS



WITH \$10 MAIL-IN REBATE

INCLUDES:

- Front or rear disc brake pad or shoe replacement with Mopar Value Line Brakes (semi metallic)
- Inspect rotors, drums, and calipers
- Road-test
- Limited Lifetime Warranty
- Check brake fluid level
- Ram heavy-duty 4x4, 2500/3500 trucks higher
- Refacing/Machining of rotors or drums extra

Expires March 31, 2006

\$10⁰⁰ Off



Expires March 31, 2006

ANY SERVICE OVER \$100.00

CANNOT BE USED IN CONJUNCTION WITH OTHER COUPON OFFERS.

Spring Rebates from Mopar



\$10⁰⁰ PER SET
MOPAR VALUE LINE BRAKE PADS OR SHOES

\$10⁰⁰ A PAIR
MOPAR VALUE LINE SHOCKS

\$20⁰⁰ A PAIR
MOPAR VALUE LINE STRUTS

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CHARGERS

FROM PAGE B1

momentum swings as a hyper-active pendulum. Churchill, fueled by the left-over adrenaline from its win over Plymouth, roared to a 25-8 first-game win, but the fresher, more-rested Mustangs won the next two games and surged to an 18-13 lead in game four. That's when Krupsky and senior setter Stacy Urbats combined for six kills over the next seven points to put the Chargers ahead, 20-18.

"I couldn't have done it without Stacy," Krupsky said. "She's was putting the ball right where I like it."

Churchill went on to win 25-21, setting up a decisive game five, which the Chargers took command of early, jumping ahead 7-3, before winning 15-11 on a Krupsky kill that may have left an ever-lasting abrasion on the South Lyon High School gymnasium floor.

"It was a war of attrition and, fortunately, we won the battle," said Churchill coach Mark Grenier. "We passed well and played great defense today. It was our passing and defense that made it easy for the hitters."

The Chargers' best defenders were Libero Brynn Kerr and Kelly Archer, who covered the South Lyon gymnasium floor like wall-to-wall carpeting. The duo combined for 48 digs in the championship match alone.

"They were both outstanding," Grenier said. "The spotlight is on the hitters a lot because they're the home run hitters, but it's the defensive players like Brynn and Kelly who get it started."

Urbats was spectacular as well, contributing 48 assists, 20 digs and several clutch serves.

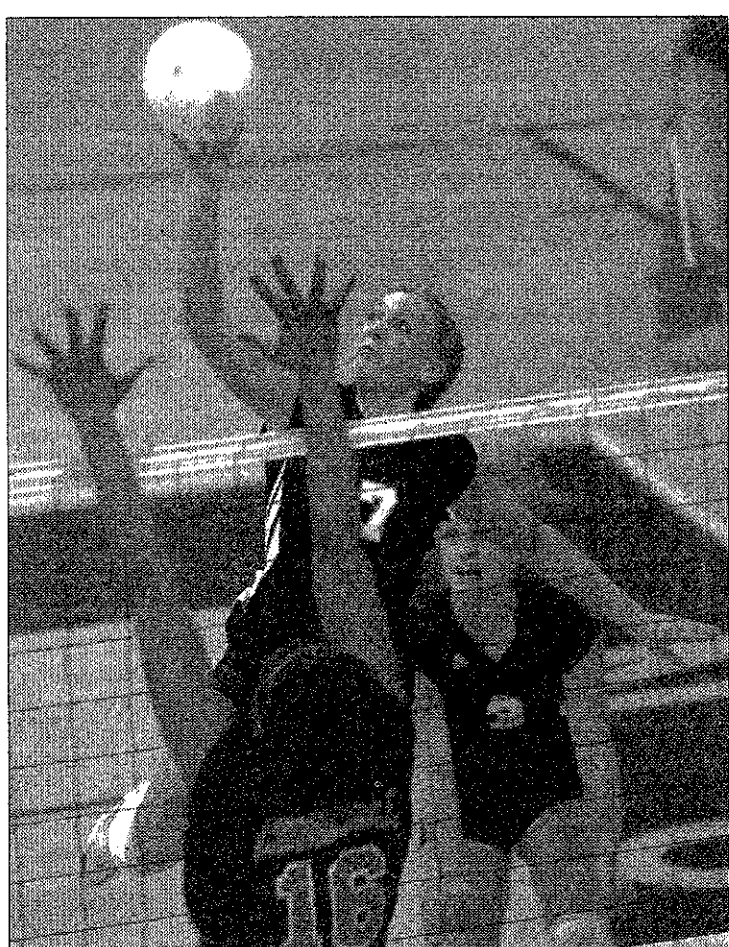
The outside-hitting tandem of Krupsky and sophomore Kyndra Abron wreaked havoc on the Mustangs all night. Krupsky finished with 29 kills while Abron notched 17. The Chargers also received significant contributions from Anna Gatt, Stephanie Bradshaw, Carly DeClercq, Sarah Button and Shea Truxell.

Plymouth gave the Chargers fits during the early-going of the semi-final match. Led by powerful front-row players Jeanine Moise, Brittany Hengesh and Jackie Dorre, and the pin-point serving of Janet Hanchett, Hengesh and Dorre, the Wildcats rolled to a 25-21 game-one victory. However, inconsistent serving and the strong front-row play of Abron, Krupsky and DeClercq powered the Chargers to victory in the closing three games.

"Not to take anything away from our girls because they played great, but I think Churchill's hitters were a little off in that first game," said Plymouth coach Kelly McCausland. "They got the momentum back in games two and three, and their defense was outstanding. I think that's the key to their success. There were quite a few points I thought we had that they were able to keep alive."

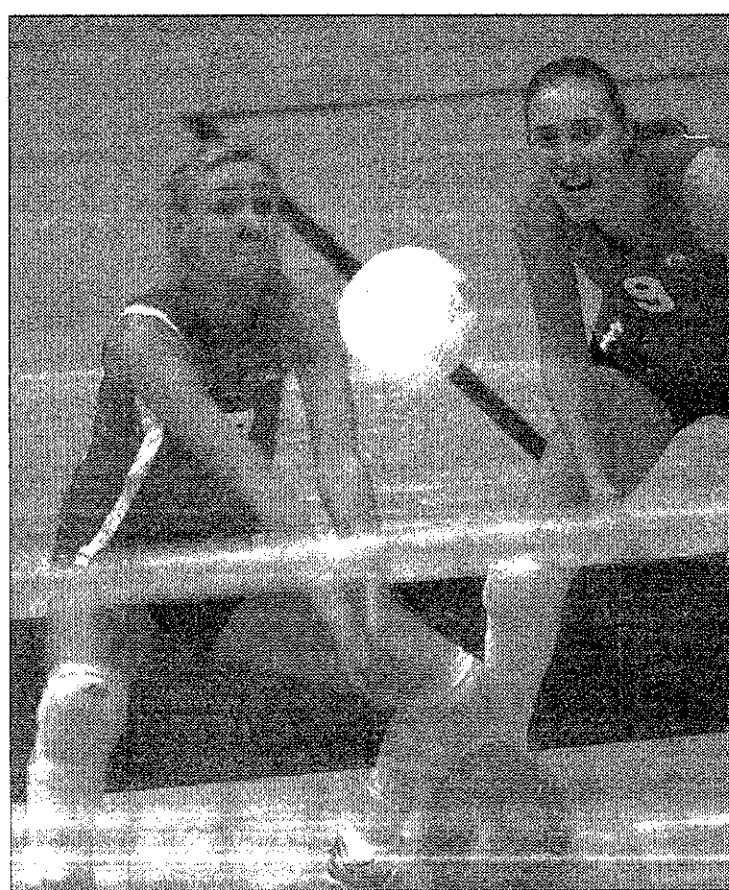
"Our serving was horrible. I don't know if the girls were caught up in the previous play or what, but poor serving really hurt us."

Plymouth Libero Brandi Swyhart matched Kerr's outstanding play with several high-light-reel digs of her own. The Wildcats also received strong play from setter Sarah Haskins,



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth's Janet Hanchett tips a shot over the outstretched hands of Churchill's Kyndra Abron during Friday night's district showdown at South Lyon High School.



Canton's Lisa Western prepares to bump a serve as teammate Marie Martin offers encouragement during Friday night's district contest against South Lyon. The Chiefs fell in four games.

Kim Klonowski, Lindsay Vogelsberg and Lauren Stemberger.

"Overall, I was extremely happy with our season," said McCausland, whose squad finished 33-12. "We had multiple injuries that we had to play through, but they did a great job of pulling together. Somebody always came through and stepped up when we needed them to."

Salem's brilliant season came to an unceremonious end Friday night at the hands of the Chargers, who also knocked off the Rocks in last weekend's Western Lakes Activities Association conference championship match. Salem had swept the Chargers the first time the two teams met in January.

"I think it hurts more because we know we can beat them," said Salem coach Amanda Suder, whose first season at the helm

ended with a spectacular 43-8-1 record and WLAA regular-season title. "We weren't on defensively tonight. We weren't passing well, either. Give Churchill credit. They played well. We just had a lot of unforced errors and dropped balls."

Suder praised the play of senior Lauren Price, a four-year varsity standout who played her final high school game Friday.

"Lauren had a phenomenal year and a great career here," Suder said. "She brought so much leadership to the team."

Canton's four-game loss to South Lyon left its record at 10-30. Details of the setback were not available at presstime.

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

Canton netters stay upbeat despite many close setbacks

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

The feel-good victories came too infrequently and the tight, heart-breaking defeats far too often this season for the six seniors on Canton's volleyball team.

But instead of destroying the veteran Chiefs' resolve, the misfortune strengthened it, according to first-year coach Kristi Drinkhahn.

"We lost a lot of close matches, but the girls kept working hard and they stayed upbeat," said Drinkhahn, whose squad finished 10-30 overall and 2-9 in the Western Lakes Activities Association.

"All six seniors brought something different to the team — from Kelsey Bailey and Rachael Beaudoin's leadership and intensity, Lisa Western's knowledge of the game and experience, Sarah Alexander and Krista Holcomb's all-around play, and Izabela Paszkowska's blocking skills at the net.

"They stayed positive and they encouraged and pumped up the younger players, which was important."

Drinkhahn is the third coach the senior Chiefs have played for in their high school careers. While they all spoke highly of all three coaches, the players said the year-to-year transition made things difficult — at least during the outset of each season.

"Each coach had their own style, their own way to practice and their own strategies, so there was definitely a transition time at the beginning of each season," said Western, who earned three varsity letters. "This year we didn't win a



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Canton volleyball team's six seniors offered outstanding leadership for the squad's younger players. Pictured (left to right) are Izabela Paszkowska, Lisa Western, Krista Holcomb, Kelsey Bailey, Sarah Alexander and Rachael Beaudoin.

lot of matches, but I think we played well as a team. Everybody got along and we stayed together."

Alexander, who also plays soccer, etched her name in the Canton record books in the past two seasons with her unbelievably accurate serving.

"This season she posted a school-best 98.6 serve percentage and last year she was good on 172 consecutive serves."

"I think it was just concentration more than anything," Alexander said, when asked the key to her serving success.

"Our team really pulled together this year. We had some strong personalities, which helped. Our best match was probably against Ann Arbor Pioneer. We were passing and setting well that day."

"Our spirits stayed pretty high this year," said Beaudoin, who also excels for the Canton softball team. "Probably the most fun part of the season was playing in tournaments

and playing against the rival schools, Plymouth and Salem. The highlight was when we played Walled Lake Central and came back from 12 points down to win."

Beaudoin and Bailey, who was voted to the WLAA's All-Western Division team, served as the Chiefs' co-captains.

"And Sarah was the team organizer," Drinkhahn said. "She was the one who helped put together the fund-raisers and things like that."

"The best part of playing high school volleyball was hanging out with my teammates and the big victories we had," Bailey said. "The best one I can remember was beating Plymouth last year. It was a close match and they were really good."

The high school volleyball careers for the Chiefs' six seniors ended Friday night with a tough, four-game loss to South Lyon, but the memories won't soon be forgotten.

VOLLEYBALL RESULTS

WESTERN LAKES
ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION
GIRLS VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT
Feb. 25 at Livonia Churchill

Championship final: Livonia Churchill defeated Salem, 25-14, 25-15.

Semifinals: Churchill def. Plymouth, 25-12, 25-21; Salem def. Livonia Stevenson, 25-18, 25-22.

Quarterfinals: Churchill def. Walled Lake Western, 25-20, 25-9; Salem def. Northville, 23-25, 25-15, 15-7; Plymouth def. Walled Lake Northern, 25-22, 25-21; Stevenson def. Westland John Glenn, 25-20, 25-12.

POOL PLAY RECORDS
(A): 1. Salem, 6-0 (games); 2. Plymouth, 4-2; 3. John Glenn, 2-4; 4. Wayne Memorial, 0-6.
(B): 1. Churchill, 6-0; 2. Northville, 4-2; 3. W.L. Western, 2-4; 4. Canton, 0-6.
(C): 1. Stevenson, 6-0; 2. W.L. Northern, 4-2; 3. Walled Lake Central and Livonia Franklin, 1-5 each.

ALL-WLAA TEAMS

All-Conference: Teresa Coppellie, Jr. OH, Salem; Lauren Price, Sr. OH, Salem; Maria Mezzadri, Sr. MH, Stevenson; Laura Robinette, Sr. MH, W.L. Northern; Brandi Swyhart, Sr. LH, Plymouth; Lauren Krupsky, Jr. OH, Churchill; Kyndra Abron, Soph. MH, Churchill.

All-Lakes: Jennifer Swartz, Sr. OH, John Glenn; Ashton Judis, Sr. setter, Stevenson; Lauren Kurtz, Jr. MH, Salem; Amanda Alpert, Sr. OH, Stevenson; Sam Matheson, Sr. Libero, W.L. Northern; Jessica Howald, Sr. Libero, W.L. Central; Brynn Kerr, Sr. Libero, Churchill.

Honorable mention: Jansan Falcusan, Courtney Seiler, Shannon Rusin, Nicole

Mersch, Danielle DiPietro, Katrina Cope, Salem; Kelly Archer, Shea Truxell, Carly DeClercq, Churchill; Jordan Pilut, Jill Flaughier, Theresa Hamilton, Rebecca Renberg, Kaite Kumm, Kim Hemming, Stevenson; Carly Dodge, Stephanie Schulz, Ann Green, W.L. Central; Virginia Butler, Heather Lindon, Melanie Stawkey, Jessica Maxwell, Becky Barrett, John Glenn; Brittany Essian, Angie Niemi, Jac Mackowski, Christen Degrande, Jasmine Jolly, Theresa Matheson, W.L. Northern; All-Western: Joanna Foss, Jr. MH, Northville; Krysta Cicala, Soph. setter, Northville; Liz Dempsey, Jr. MH, Franklin; Kelsey Bailey, Sr. OH, Canton; Asilda Dhembi, Sr. setter, W.L. Western; Kellie Newsted, Jr. setter, Wayne; Sarah Haskins, Sr., setter, Plymouth.

Honorable mention: Morgan Daul, Amanda Marquart, Katie Moran, Allison Holmes, Kristen Enehait, Northville; Lindsay Vogelsberg, Janet Hanchett, Jackie Dorre, Lauren Stemberger, Plymouth; Jaleece Lavine, Rachael Riesen, Laura Marshall, Cassie LaPrairie; Lisa Western, Sarah Alexander, Krista Holcomb, Rachel Beaudoin, Izabela Paszkowska, Canton; Kesley Guilliani, Sam DeYonker, Paige Partenio, Heather Becker, W.L. Western; Carrie Laubertus, Amber Day, Crystal Beaver, Olivia LaFortune, Wayne.

WLAA AWARDS
Conference and Lakes Division: Salem, Western Division: Northville.
Conference Tournament: Churchill.
Sportsmanship: John Glenn.

Plymouth Twp. PD
734-453-3869
NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Notice is hereby given that on 03/10/06 at 10 am at Mayflower Auto Transport, 1179 Starweather Rd., Plymouth, MI a public auction of the following:

1990	Chevrolet	Caprice	1G1BN54E7LA119135
1997	Chrysler	Sebring	4C3AU42Y4VE153478
At 9:00 a.m. at B & B Towing, 934 Ann Arbor Road:			
1994	Mercury	Sable	1MELM53U7RG523762
At 11:00 a.m. at Gardner's Towing, 9187 General Court:			
1987	Chevrolet	Box Truck	1GBHR34KXHJ147491
1979	Ford	F-150	F15GCFB0915

Publish: March 5, 2006

CE08417408

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 **Bird Elementary Site Work**. A pre-bid meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 21 at 10:00 a.m. at 220 Sheldon Road, Plymouth, MI. 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 10:00 a.m., Friday, March 31, 2006 and should be addressed to Dan Phillips, RE: Bird Elementary Site Work Bid, Plymouth-Canton Community Schools, 454 South Harvey, Plymouth, MI 48170. The Board of Education reserves the right to accept and/or reject all bids, as they judge to be in the best interest of the school district.

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

Publish: February 26 & March 5, 2006

CE08414888

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 26 & March 5, 2006

CE08428845

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 **PCCS Maintenance Facility Buildings** which include one (1) 40' x 120' prefabricated metal building and one (1) 40' diameter Salt dome. Specifications and bid forms will be available **after March 14th** by contacting Laura Hagan of the PCCS Maintenance Department at (734) 416-2953. Sealed bids as well as a valid familial disclosure form are due on or before 11:00 a.m., Friday, March 31, 2006 and should be addressed to Dan Phillips, RE: PCCS Maintenance Facility Buildings Bid, Plymouth-Canton Community Schools, 454 South Harvey, Plymouth, MI 48170. The Board of Education reserves the right to accept and/or reject all bids, as they judge to be in the best interest of the school district.

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

Publish: March 5 & 12, 2006

CE08417314

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 **PCCS Maintenance Facility Site Work** including mass grading, asphalt, jack & bore for sanitary & water tie-in. Specifications and bid forms will be available **after March 14th** by contacting Laura Hagan of the PCCS Maintenance Department at (734) 416-2953. Sealed bids are along with a valid familial disclosure form are due on or before 10:30 a.m., Friday, March 31, 2006 and should be addressed to Dan Phillips, RE: PCCS Maintenance Facility Site Work Bid, Plymouth-Canton Community Schools, 454 South Harvey, Plymouth, MI 48170. The Board of Education reserves the right to accept and/or reject all bids, as they judge to be in the best interest of the school district.

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

Publish: March 5 & 12, 2006

CE08417315

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.m.-5:00 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 28, 26, March 2, 5 & 9, 2006

CE08413190

Get on the ball.
Read today's **SPORTS** coverage!

PREP STATE RANKINGS

Boys Ice Hockey

(By the coaches association)
 Division 1 - 1. Novi-Detroit Catholic Central; 2. Orchard Lake St. Mary's; 3. Brighton; 4. Marquette; 5. East Kentwood; 6. Livonia Stevenson; 7. Traverse City West; 8. Livonia Churchill; 9. Howell; 10. St. Clair Shores Unified; 11. Utica Eisenhower.
 Division 2 - 1. Trenton; 2. Warren DeLaSalle; 3. Traverse City Central; 4. Birmingham Brother Rice; 5. Davison; 6. Saline; 7. Grosse Pointe South; 8. Portage Central; 9. Allen Park; 10. (tie) Novi, Wyandotte Roosevelt.
 Division 3 - 1. Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook-Kingswood; 2. Big Rapids; 3. Chelsea; 4. Riverview; 5. Grosse Ile; 6. Dearborn Divine Child; 7. Grand Rapids Catholic Central; 8. Pontiac Notre Dame Prep; 9. Flint Powers Catholic; 10. Gaylor.

Girls Volleyball

(By the coaches association)
 Class A - 1. East Kentwood; 2. Temperance-Bedford; 3. Grand Rapids Forest Hills Northern; 4. Portage Central; 5. Birmingham Marian; 6. Livonia Churchill; 7. Plymouth Salem; 8. Pinckney; 9. Fraser; 10. Holland West Ottawa.
 Class B - 1. Grand Rapids South Christian; 2. Marysville; 3. Hamilton; 4. Lake Odessa Lakewood; 5. Spring Lake; 6. Fruitport; 7. St. Joseph; 8. Livonia Ladywood; 9. Coldwater; 10. Hudsonville Unity Christian.
 Class C - 1. North Muskegon; 2. Morley-Stanwood; 3. St. Louis; 4. Monroe St. Mary Catholic Central; 5. Hanover-Horton; 6. Calumet; 7. Suttons Bay; 8. Kingsley; 9. Bad Axe; 10. Elkton-Pigeon-Bay Port.
 Class D - 1. Battle Creek St. Philip Catholic Central; 2. Leland; 3. Wyoming Tri-Unity Christian; 4. Harbor Springs Harbor Light Christian; 5. Pellston; 6. Lansing Christian; 7. Adrian Lenawee Christian; 8. Lake Linden-Hubbell; 9. Auburn Hills Oakland Christian; 10. North Adams Jerome.

Girls Competitive Cheer

(By the coaches association)
 Class A - 1. Rochester; 2. Grandville; 3. East Kentwood; 4. Holland West Ottawa; 5. Rockford; 6. Southgate Anderson; 7. Hartland; 8. Brighton; 9. Jensen; 10. Allen Park.
 Honorable Mention - Troy Athens, Rochester Stoney Creek, Mt. Pleasant, Grand Rapids Forest Hills Central.
 Class B - 1. Remus-Chippewa Hills; 2. Chesaning; 3. Holland Christian; 4. Richland-Gull Lake; 5. Allegan; 6. Grosse Ile; 7. Gibraltar Carlson; 8. Dearborn Divine Child; 9. Mason; 10. Comstock Park.
 Honorable Mention - DeWitt, Wyoming Park, St. Joseph, Ovid-Elsie.
 Class C-D - 1. Breckenridge; 2. Pawam-Westphalia; 3. Hudson; 4. Colon; 5. Munising; 6. Michigan Center; 7. Gobles; 8. Sanford-Meridian; 9. Climax-Scotts; 10. Shelby.
 Honorable Mention - Merrill, Brown City, Napoleon, Whitmore Lake.

Wrestling

(By the coaches association)
 Super 10 - 1. Hartland; 2. Rockford; 3. Davison; 4. Allegan; 5. Corunna; 6. Mason; 7. Hesperia; 8. Addison; 9. Temperance-Bedford; 10. Dundee.
 Division 1 - 1. Hartland; 2. Rockford; 3. Davison; 4. Temperance-Bedford; 5. Holt; 6. Traverse City Central; 7. New Baltimore Anchor Bay; 8. Jensen; 9. Howell; 10. Lake Orion.
 Division 2 - 1. Allegan; 2. Mason; 3. Greenville; 4. Lake Odessa-Lakewood; 5. Flint Kearsley; 6. Tecumseh; 7. Lowell 8. Hastings; 9. Middleville Thornapple-Kellogg; 10. Stevensville-Lakeshore.



Penguins soar

For the second consecutive year the Arctic Pond Penguins claimed the District 4 Championship Feb. 12 defeating the Michigan Hurricanes, 5-1, in the Midget A Finals at Lakeland Ice Arena. The Penguins 32-10-5, will travel to Marquette March 10-12 for the Midget A State Finals. Goal-scorers in the game were Jon Ponte of Novi (two goals), Nickolas Gatt of Livonia, Tony Thomas of South Lyon and Sandro Sgambati of Canton Township. Joe Burgio of Redford Township stopped 24 of 25 shots in net for the Penguins. Other Penguins players are Ian Barnaby of Plymouth Township, Cody Longuski of Westland, Steve Breneman of South Lyon and John Germane of Hartland. Also forwards Jerry Pitts of Canton Township; T.J. Hohl of Northville, Ian Curran of Livonia, Ted Pietsch of Canton Township, Chris Gendron and Court Murtland of Farmington Hills, Colin Rolfe of Canton Township, Caleb Hamlin of Battle Creek, Scott Bachor of Farmington Hills and goaltender Bobby Smith of Canton Township. Head coach Britt Ponte is assisted by Kevin Longuski, Brandon Longuski and Frank Sgambati. The team is managed by Maria Pitts.

Lady Ocelots knock off Owens

The Schoolcraft College women's basketball team shook off 10 days of rust Friday by winning its NJCAA Division II-District H tournament opener over Owens Community College (Ohio) at Delta CC's Pioneer Gym, 67-61. Charlese Greer scored a game-high 26 points on 11-of-19 shooting from the floor and grabbed 10 rebounds to pace the Lady Ocelots, who improved to 27-2 overall. Maricka Seay added 15 points and 15 rebounds, while LaShanda Thomas contributed 11 points for Schoolcraft, which hadn't played since the regular season finale on Feb. 21 after not qualifying for the Michigan Community College Athletic Association Playoffs. Tia Simmons and LaToya

COLLEGE HOOPS

Bidden each tallied 13 points for the Lady Express (17-14), who shot 44.6 percent from the field (25-of-56). Bridget Buss added 10 points. Schoolcraft outrebounded Owens, 44-37, but shot only 13-of-25 from the foul line (52 percent) and 38.8 from the field (26-of-67). On Saturday, Schoolcraft faced Flint Mott CC (23-7) in one semifinal, while host Delta (19-9) took on St. Clair CC (20-10) in the other semifinal. Mott escaped with a 69-65 win over Oakland CC in Friday's quarterfinal. The championship game is slated for 2 today at Delta.

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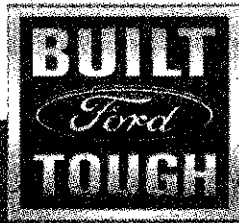
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OPEN SATURDAYS



Bobbie Jones

Adversity didn't stop Jackson

Billed as one of the greatest gospel singers of all time, Mahalia Jackson survived a poverty-stricken childhood to play one of the most prestigious concert halls in America, Carnegie Hall. She filled the hall to capacity every night of her three-night engagement and she said it was all due to her unshakable faith.

Mahalia Jackson was born Oct. 26, 1911, in New Orleans. Jackson spent most of her young life just trying to make do. She watched her mother go off to work every morning to do work as a domestic in the homes of her rich white neighbors.

As a young child, Jackson took note of the family's severely strapped resources and made a stern promise to herself to do better in life. She started singing at the age of 5 in her father's church and, not being fully aware of her gift yet, toyed with several different styles of music. But she always returned to her roots in gospel.

Jackson moved to Chicago at the age of 15 to live with relatives and while there enrolled in a training program for nurses. She felt this would provide her with another means of income during tough times.

During the week, Jackson worked as a domestic and took her work seriously, but on the weekends she relaxed, fellowshiped and sang her heart out at her second home - the Southside Greater Baptist Church.

Jackson was not one to stay put when it came to her singing. She began to travel and visit other Baptist churches in the Chicago area and before anyone knew it she had a huge following.

In the mid-40s Jackson signed with Apollo records and recorded her first major song, *Move on Up*. That put her on the map, but it would be another 10 years before she would see the inside of a recording studio again.

In 1954, Jackson decided to sign with Columbia Records after spinning her wheels at Apollo. She signed a \$50,000 contract for four years with Columbia - unheard of for African-Americans during that time.

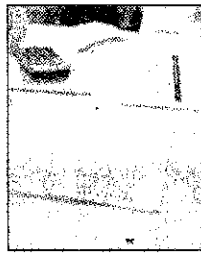
In 1955, CBS offered Jackson her own variety show and although her show was forced off the air from protests from Southern viewers she managed to win a loyal following and gained national recognition for herself as well as the gospel industry.

In 1958, Jackson made her big-screen debut, appearing with Nat King Cole in *St. Louis Blues*. The recording industry wanted to honor her in 1962 with a Grammy, but the award ceremony had never presented an award for Jackson's musical style. So they created a Gospel category for her and presented her with the first Grammy for "Best Gospel Album."

Mahalia Jackson spent her years on Earth singing the music she loved, helping the people and causes she cared about and providing a great inspiration to all she came in contact with. And, despite some of the heartache she faced, she proved that by keeping the faith in God and in yourself, you could accomplish anything.

Bobbie Jones is a Belleville resident and regular contributor to the *Observer*. In March, she'll profile women in honor of National Women's History Month. She can be reached via e-mail at workhard36@aol.com.

Observer LIFE



Medicare Part D HEALTH C6

Check out our listing of events. CALENDAR C2

Designer gives jewelry new look PINK C8

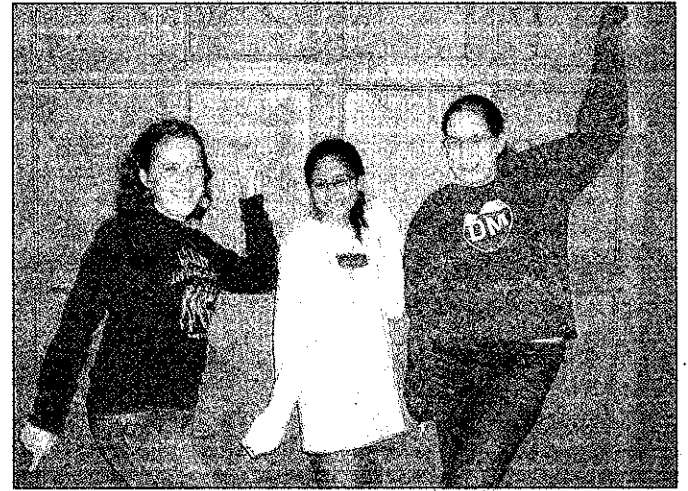
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Sunday, March 5, 2006

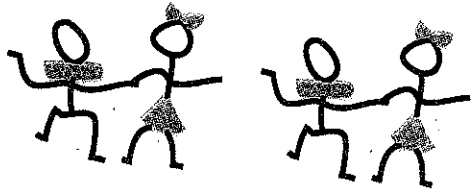
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Brad Kadrach, editor (734) 459-2700 Fax (734) 459-4224 bkadrach@hometownlife.com www.hometownlife.com

No pain, no gain



Jen David of Plymouth (left), Nipa Desai of Canton and Nicole Exe of Plymouth show off some of the moves they will use during the 30-hour University of Michigan Dance Marathon.



Students dance all night long to raise funds for children

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN STAFF WRITER

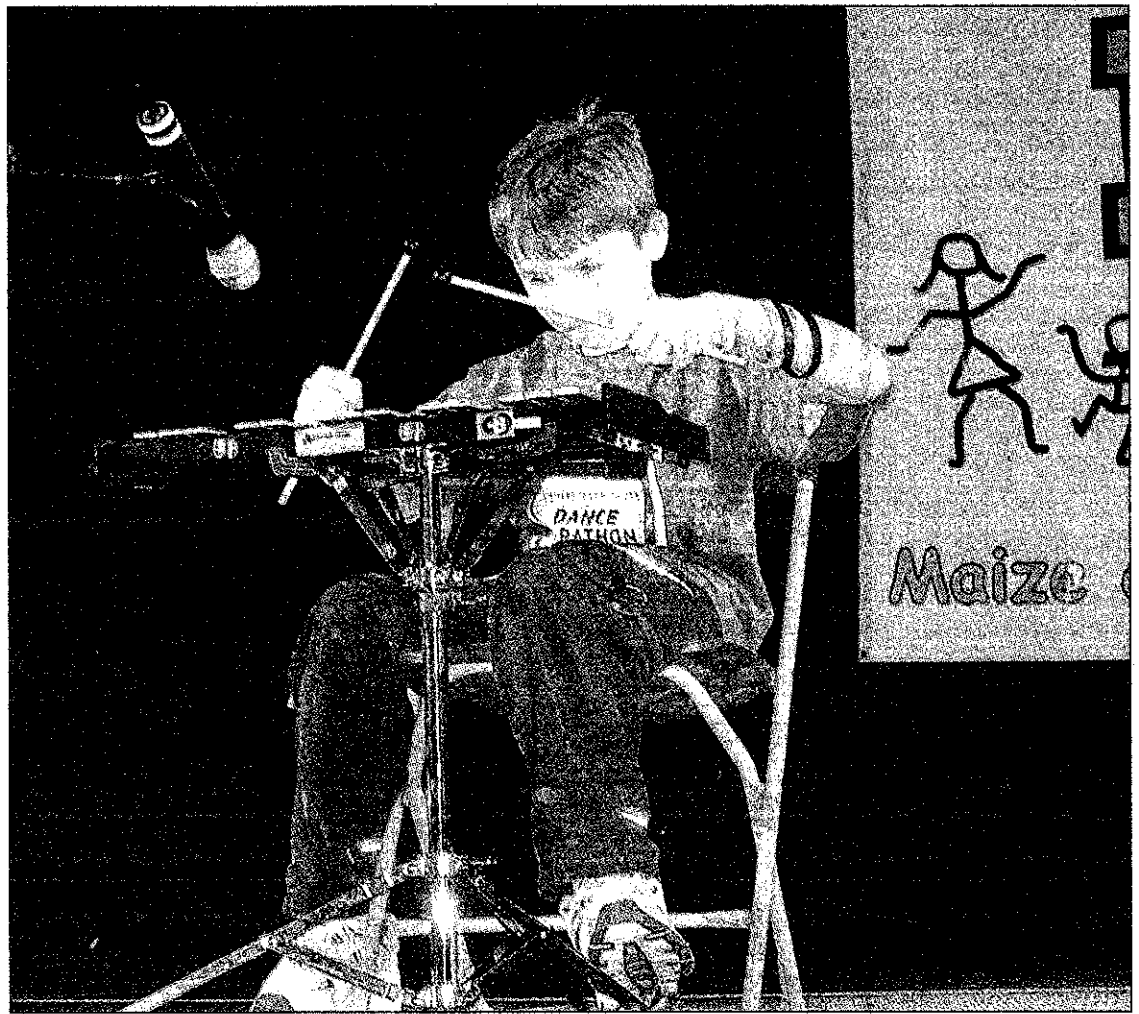
Nipa Desai expects her legs to hurt as much as during the last three University of Michigan Dance Marathons. The first 15 hours is usually a breeze for the 21-year-old U-M senior from Canton. Desai prepares for the grueling 30-hour event, as much as possible, by doing stretching exercises weeks in advance of the marathon to raise money for pediatric rehabilitation at C.S. Mott Children's Hospital in Ann Arbor and William Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak. The cause is what keeps her coming back for punishment.

"The marathon is so much fun and the pain of standing on your feet for 30 hours is worth it because you get to see how grateful the families are and basically forget about the pain," said Desai, who volunteered at Mott while a student at Plymouth-Canton High School. "It's so important for the kids to get these therapies. A day or two in pain is worth it. During the dance I always have to get my ankles wrapped and just go on. By the end you're ready to sit down, go home, shower and sleep. By the evening of the next day, you're fine."

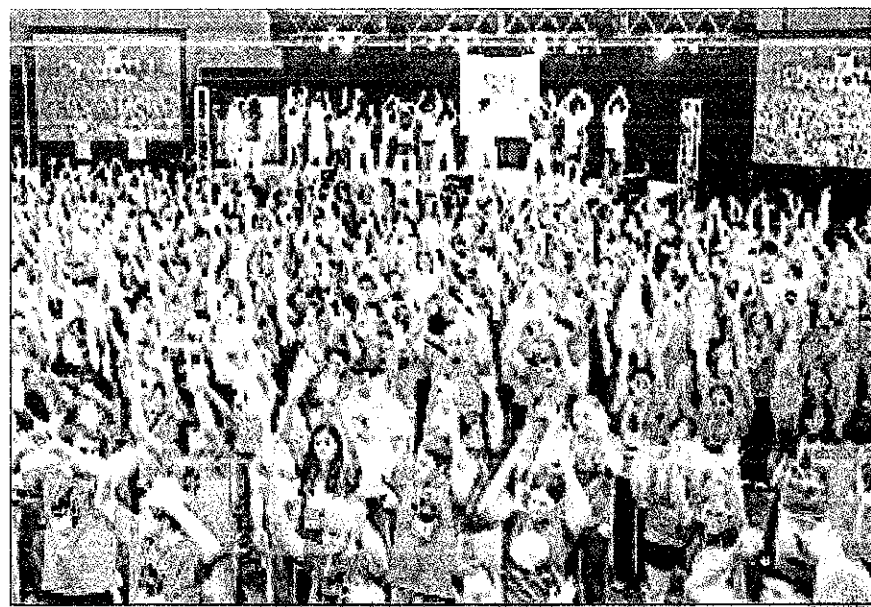
Erin Boyle makes sure she sleeps enough the night before setting foot on the dance floor. Dancing is no problem for the Farmington High School graduate. Boyle learned plenty of moves while taking jazz classes at Broadway Bound Dance Academy in Livonia.

"I wean myself off of caffeine because it's not allowed during the marathon," said Boyle, a 20-year-old junior studying psychology at U-M. "This is my third year doing the dance marathon. It's real easy when the children and families come to the marathon and they speak to you throughout the night and it keeps you inspired to keep going."

PLEASE SEE DANCE, C3



Briggs Perry plays his favorite song at last year's University of Michigan Dance Marathon. He was one of the first children to receive pediatric rehabilitation because of the fund-raiser.



Marathon participants perform the Line dance, a 12-minute routine they learn during the event. It is one of the dancers' favorite ways to keep up their energy and pass time during the 30-hour marathon.



Woodworkers to show their wares

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN STAFF WRITER

Dan Reahard's love for 18th century furniture shows in the 107-inch tall clock in the family room of his Plymouth home. The handcrafted work of art is among the many pieces of furniture he's created in the last 18 years of woodworking.

On Sunday, March 12, the clock stays home but Reahard brings a turret leg card table to the Michigan Woodworkers Guild Showcase of Custom Woodworking at the Livonia Senior Activities Center, 15218 Farmington, between Schoolcraft and Five Mile.

"I enjoy the history," said Reahard, a 65-year-old retiree who took woodworking classes at Mark Adams School in

Indiana and The Olde Mill in Pennsylvania. "I just came back from a conference on 18th century carving in Old Salem, North Carolina, at the Mesda Museum of Early Southern Decorative Arts which is similar to Greenfield Village.

"For me, 18th century furniture is the high point. I like using hand tools. They didn't use power tools then particularly with the Queen Anne style which has more curves. You have to use thick, big chunks of wood to do the curves."

In addition to Reahard, woodworkers from Michigan, the Midwest and Canada display work built in different period styles from various types of wood. Also on exhibit will be prototype of toys that were handcrafted for patients at Children's Hospital of Michigan in Detroit. Toys are delivered

to the children each year before Christmas. Over the last 24 years, members of the Michigan Woodworkers Guild have donated thousands of toys.

About 350 men and women belong to the Michigan Woodworkers Guild which meets monthly except for July. Although some of the woodworkers will take commissions at the March 12 show, Reahard and the other exhibitors will not sell their wares.

"I never sell anything," said Reahard, who's displayed his woodwork for 10 years. "It's more show. I just recently had one of my pieces accepted for a show (April 12 to May 28) for early period furniture makers at Telfair Museum in Savannah, Georgia."

Jim Kudej brings a variety of boxes,

PLEASE SEE WOODWORKERS, C3



Dan Reahard hand-crafted the 107-inch tall clock behind him. The Plymouth resident is one of the exhibitors displaying work in the Michigan Woodworkers Guild showcase at the Livonia Senior Center on March 12.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

AROUND TOWN

Frog listeners

Friends of the Rouge is seeking volunteers for the ninth annual Rouge River Watershed Frog and Toad Survey. Volunteers need no prior experience but must attend one two hour training workshop and learn 8 breeding calls from a CD that is provided. All materials are provided. Surveys are conducted independently on damp warm evenings, several times a month beginning in March and ending in July. This is a simple presence/absence survey in which participants identify what species are calling. Survey locations must be within the Rouge River Watershed in wetlands. The survey is a fun opportunity to spend time with family and friends outdoors learning about local wildlife. Families, students, seniors, etc., are encouraged to sign up. Pre-registration for workshops is required by calling (313) 792-9621 or e-mailing picoordinator@therouge.org. Please provide your full name, address, phone and e-mail and which workshop you would like to attend: Tuesday, March 7, 7-9 p.m., University of Michigan-Dearborn, Environmental Interpretive Center, 4901 Evergreen, Dearborn; Thursday, March 9, 7-9 p.m., Southfield Parks & Recreation, 26000 Evergreen, Southfield; or Saturday, March 11, 10 a.m. to noon, Plymouth Board of Trustees meeting room, 42350 Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth.

Genealogical society

The Livingston County Genealogical Society meets 7 p.m. April 6, when guest speaker Milton Charbonneau will talk about "Information from Land Use Records." A help session starts at 6 p.m. The meeting takes place at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, 1041 Grand River in Howell. The public is invited. For details, call Margaret at (810) 227-7745.

Home tour

The Ann Arbor Women's City Club hosts its 54th annual Home Tour, beginning at the City Club, 1830 Washtenaw, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. May 19.

Ozone House has been designated the recipient of a portion of the event's revenue. Tickets go on sale in April at the City Club and in designated places around town. Tickets will also be available the day of the event. For more information and updates, call Sylvia Stetz, (734) 878-9044.

Citizens for Peace meet

Shea Howell, professor of communications and rhetoric at Oakland University, will speak at the 11th Congressional District "Citizens for Peace" meeting at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 14, at Unity of Livonia, on Five Mile Road, east of Middlebelt. She will talk on "Truth, Activism and Creating a Community Peace Movement; Reframing our Vision and our Strategy." Colleen Mills, (734) 425-00079.

Parenting seminar

Jim Fay, one of America's most sought-after presenters in the areas of parenting and school discipline, returns to the Northville area for two "Love and Logic" parenting seminars March 6 in the auditorium at the new Northville High School on 6 Mile between Sheldon and Beck. The first session, 4:30-6 p.m., is for parents of preschool and elementary-age children; the second session, 7:30-9 p.m., helps parents learn how to quit arguing with their children, ways to handle recovery time and food issues, and how to get their children to help around the house. For more information, call (248) 344-8443.

Grace & Glorie

Arbor Hospice & Home Care partners with Duo Damas Productions for "Grace & Glorie," a humorous and heart-warming play by renowned playwright Tom Ziegler. The opening gala will be held 6:30 p.m. Friday, March 24, at The Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton. Set in a tiny cabin in the Blue Ridge Mountains, "Grace & Glorie" is a modern-day comedy, which features Grace, a feisty octogenarian with incurable cancer, who has returned to her beloved homestead cottage to die. She is cared for by a volunteer hospice worker named Glorie, a Harvard

MBA graduate and sophisticated urbanite who is a recent transplant to the rural area and is the volunteer hospice worker assigned to assist Grace. Acclaimed producers Joanne W. Hulce and Gloria Logan will be at the helm of the production. Glorie Logan will also star as Glorie in the production. Donna Adams Schulte will play the character of Grace. Proceeds from the production will benefit The Arbor Hospice Foundation, which supports the programs and services of Arbor Hospice & Home Care. Tickets to the Opening Night Gala on Friday, March 24 are \$75 each, and include an opening reception with a chance to speak with the cast at 6:30 p.m. and the production beginning at 8. Other show times are 8 p.m. Saturday, March 25 and a matinee performance 2 p.m. Sunday, March 26. Tickets for those productions are \$40 apiece. For more information or to purchase tickets, contact Glenda Gordon Kime at Arbor Hospice & Home Care at (734) 662-5999, ext.152, specialevents@arborhospice.org, or visit www.arborhospice.org

Cancer society scholarships

The American Cancer Society Great Lakes Division college scholarship program is currently accepting applications for the 2006-2007 school year. Applications are due by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, April 18. Since 1997, the American Cancer Society, Great Lakes Division Foundation has proudly supported young cancer survivors with \$1,000 scholarships as they pursue ambitious career goals. To date, more than 300 first-time scholarships and 200 renewal scholarships have been awarded to students in the Great Lakes area of Indiana and Michigan. To qualify, applicants must be a cancer survivor age 20 or younger (as of April 18, 2006); a U.S. citizen and legal resident of Indiana or Michigan; and attending, or planning to attend, an accredited college or university in Indiana or Michigan in Fall 2006. Those interested may download an application on-line by visiting www.cancer.org/scholarships or by

calling (800) 723-0360.

Summer internships

Want to gain valuable knowledge through internship experience while being immersed in a vibrant creative setting? If so, the Ann Arbor Art Center is the place for you. Applications are now being accepted for internships during summer 2006 at the Ann Arbor Art Center. Internships include positions in Education, Exhibitions, the Gallery Shop, marketing, graphic design, special events, development and operations.

All internships at the Ann Arbor Art Center are unpaid. Additional detailed descriptions of all internships available can be found at www.annarborartcenter.org. To apply for an internship, forward all resumes to info@annarborartcenter.org with "Internship" in the subject heading. Alternatively, mail a resume and cover letter to Marsha Chamberlin at the Ann Arbor Art Center at 117 W. Liberty, Ann Arbor 48104 or fax it to 734994-3610.

Women's History

During March, the Ann Arbor Art Center will feature the exhibition "Spring Forward," presented by the Ann Arbor Women Artists in honor of Women's History month. The show, which opened March 1 and runs until March 27, includes pieces by 22 members of the Ann Arbor Women Artists in an array of media including watercolor, pastel, oil, photography and more. Gallery hours are 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Saturday and noon-5:30 p.m. Sunday. For more information about "Spring Forward," contact Amanda Uhle, Vice President Marketing & Development at (734) 994-8004, Ext. 109 or visit www.annarborartcenter.org

Girlstown Foundation

Girlstown Foundation is looking for foster parents to provide care to males and females from 10 to 17 years of age in need of safe and loving homes. For information, call (734) 697-4804.

Drawing into painting

The exhibition "Drawing into Painting" runs through April 8 at the

Ann Arbor Art Center Exhibition Gallery, 117 W. Liberty St., Ann Arbor. Hours are 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Monday through Saturday; noon-5:30 p.m. Sunday. For more information contact Amanda Krugliak, Exhibitions Director at the Ann Arbor Art Center, (734) 994-8004, Ext. 110.

Home-buyers workshop

Ross Mortgage in Royal Oak hosts a Virtual Homebuyers Workshop targeting homebuyers with a willingness to learn about one of the most important financial decisions they may ever make. The workshop, which will focus on the ins and outs of financing your next home, takes place 7 p.m. March 21 on-line and on the phone. There is no charge for prospective homebuyers. Register by calling (800) 521-5362 or on-line at www.rossmortgage.com

Literacy Council tutors

The Community Literacy Council (CLC) is looking for volunteer tutors in Western Wayne County to help adults improve their reading, writing and communication skills. The CLC will provide training to interested volunteers. Previous experience or a bachelor's degree is not required. The council will provide free training and materials, and then match you with an adult student in your area. Call (734) 416-4906 for more information.

Grief support

New Hope Center for Grief Support is a Christian-based bereavement outreach and resource center located in Northville. Age appropriate groups for widows and widowers are provided in various locations in southeastern Michigan including groups for young widows and widowers and their children between the ages of 4 through the teen years. Groups for parents who have lost a child, adults who have lost a parent, pet loss, and other specialized groups are offered at various times of the year. All services for adults and children are offered at no cost to the participants. If you are grieving or know someone who is, please call the office at (248) 348-0115 for further information about services provided by New Hope Center for Grief Support, or visit www.newhopecenter.net.

CLUBS

Rotary A.M.

The Plymouth Rotary Club of Plymouth A.M. meets at 7 a.m. every Tuesday at the Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer. New members are always welcome. Contact Mark Hammar, president, Rotary Club of Plymouth A.M., (734) 455-6620.

MOPS meet

MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers) meets twice monthly from September-May, for moms and their

children, newborn-kindergarten, at Lakepointe Bible Church in Plymouth. For more information, call Crystal Johnson, (734) 459-1861.

Mosaic

MOSAIC is a group where Moms come together to be refreshed and equipped for the important task of mothering. It presents speakers on child and family issues, has small-group discussion time, crafts and brunch. Child care is provided. It meets at Plymouth Baptist Church, 42021 Ann Arbor Trail, on the first and third Tuesday mornings of each month, September to May. Contact Resha at (734) 207-0658 or resha@juno.com.

Moms Club

Moms Club of Livonia-S/Plymouth offers a variety of activities. For more details, call Birthe at (734) 458-8143 or Martina at (734) 464-0481.

DAR

The Sarah Ann Cochrane Chapter-Daughters of the American Revolution meets the third Monday of each month except January, July and August. A group with ancestors who fought in American Revolution. Members participate in community work involving veterans' hospitals, schools and community service. Call (734) 420-2775 for further information.

German/American Club of Plymouth

Meets on the third Thursday of the month at the Knights of Columbus Hall, located at 39100 Schoolcraft Road, Plymouth. Call Mary Ann at (734) 420-0857 for further information.

American Legion

Beasley-Zalesny Post #12 meets at the I.O.O.F. Hall on the third Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. All veterans that served during any of the wars are eligible. Contact (734) 459-7324 for further information.

Women's Farm and Garden Club-Plymouth

Meets every second Monday of each month from September through June. Persons interested in joining may contact club president Linda Coughlin at (734) 459-7478.

Plymouth-Canton Civitan Club

Looking for energetic new members to participate in community service projects. This club meets the first Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Plymouth Salvation Army Building on Main Street. The third Thursday is a dinner meeting with a speaker. Call (734) 981-7259 for further information.

Mothers & More

The Wayne County chapter of Mothers & More meets twice a month in Plymouth. Call (866) 841-9140, Ext. 4329, or visit Web site mothersandmore3@onebox.com.

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DANCE

FROM PAGE C1

The Dance Marathon is definitely one of Kyle Killebrew's best student experiences at U-M. As special events chairman, the Westland resident is inviting everyone to attend the marathon. Even non-dancers can help the cause by volunteering to boost the morale of fading participants.

"You get to spend 30 hours with a bunch of your friends and enjoy entertainment, bands, performers, comedians. As a dancer there's something going on every second whether it's a line dance or eating 6 times over the span of 30 hours," said Killebrew, a 20-year-old Franklin High School graduate who's hoping to go on to law school after earning a degree in political science.

"The other really cool part is the way the marathon works. As

a dancer you're on a team which is assigned a family for not just this event but throughout the year. You get really close to your family and see what your money, time and energy is going to."

In order to participate as a dancer, students must raise \$250 or more in the name of UMDM, the nonprofit student organization.

"We provide buckets for dancers to go somewhere popular and ask them to donate change," said Killebrew. "It is the biggest event of the year but we're a year-round organization with events and activities at least every other week - fundraising events such as a 5K run in Ann Arbor March 19. Outside of fund-raising, there are events to meet the families with puppet shows and a magician for the children."

Dawn Ham-Kucharski is looking forward to attending the marathon for a fourth year with

her husband, Richard, and son Alex, 7. Over the years, Alex, a special needs child, has received martial arts, music and bicycle-riding therapies through Mott Children's Hospital. A two-week summer camp allows him to benefit from social recreational activities. Alex was diagnosed with severe autism at 26 months and cerebral palsy at age 5.

"Martial arts helped Alex to develop fine and gross motor skills that were affected by the cerebral palsy," said Ham-Kucharski of Canton. "Alex learned to do punching and kicking activities. For a child with CP to be able to maintain that balance and get the mind to focus is huge. Another benefit is the stretching involved because CP muscles tend to be tight and rigid."

"At age 2 Alex was nonverbal and through music he was able to learn to communicate, fine motor coordination, and social tolerance."

Ham-Kucharski will give a presentation showing the progress Alex has made since he was a premature baby weighing 3 pounds.

"Without these kids Alex wouldn't have the physical, verbal or social capabilities that he has," said Ham-Kucharski. "They (UMDM) also send a letter of encouragement to Alex throughout the school year and on a separate day his team takes him out to Chuck E. Cheese's, his favorite place. He has a blast."

The Dance Marathon runs from 10 a.m. Saturday, March 25, to 4 p.m. Sunday, March 26, at the Indoor Track and Field Building on the athletic campus at Hoover and State Street near Yost Ice Arena in Ann Arbor. For more information or to make a donation, call (734) 615-1525, visit the Web site at www.umdm.org, or send e-mail to umdm.info@umich.edu.

lchomin@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2145

WOODWORKERS

FROM PAGE C1

Shaker and bent wood, to the March 12 show. The Livonia woodworker always makes smaller pieces including jewelry boxes, cribbage boards and bookcases to give to his family at Christmas time. As a child, Kudej's grandparents owned a farm on the west side of state which was passed down to him. Today, he continues to harvest and nurture the wood lots there. Kudej's projects begin with him sawing down trees with a chainsaw.

"My kids like that family attachment to it," said Kudej. "I started cutting down trees in the 1970s during the first energy crunch when my parents owned it. I would go and cut trees for the wood fireplace."

Kudej started working with wood out of boredom as a 10-year-old. He's continued for the last 50 years because of the challenge. An engineer for the automotive industry for 40 years before retiring, Kudej

always looks at an object to see how to make it better.

"We didn't have computers when I was young so I started making my toys in my dad's workshop," said Kudej. "Back then most of the things were made with hand drills and saws."

Hours for the Sunday, March 12, show are noon to 5 p.m. Admission and parking are free.

Membership in the Michigan Woodworkers Guild is \$25 a year, \$20 at the show. For more information, call John Sanchez at (313) 278-2150.

Sanchez has been a member of the Guild for 10 years. He's bringing 3-dimensional art including a landscape of Yellowstone Park in Wyoming and a miniature replica of an 1812 warship.

"Woodworking is very relaxing," said Sanchez. "I've built furniture around the house - kitchen hutches, curio cabinets, blanket chests. It's very creative."

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ON CAMPUS

Michigan Tech University

Jonathan Machnacki of Canton is among the students who made the Dean's List at Michigan Tech.

Machnacki, the son of Mark and Judy Machnacki of Canton, is on schedule to graduate in April 2006 with a bachelor's degree in computer/electrical engineering, with a minor in math and notable mention in wireless studies.

Machnacki, a 2000 graduate of Salem High School, has already landed a job with Caterpillar in Peoria, Ill.

Kenyon College

Allison Goldsmith, daughter Jeffrey Goldsmith and Kathleen Payne of Plymouth, has been named to the Merit List for the first semester of the 2005-06 academic year at Kenyon College in Gambier, Ohio.

To be eligible for Merit List recognition, a student must earn a grade-point average of at least 3.45 on the college's 4-point scale.

A graduate of Canton High School, Goldsmith is a first-year student at Kenyon.

University of Northwestern Ohio

Eric Bartel of Plymouth has been named to the Dean's List for the January session for the College of Technologies at the University of Northwestern Ohio in Lima.

The list recognizes students who received a grade-point average of 3.5 or better.

Lawrence Tech

Sixteen students from Canton and four more from Plymouth made the Dean's Honor Roll for the Fall 2005 semester at Lawrence Technological University in Southfield.

Canton students include Michael Anderson, William Casey, Stephen Dumouchelle, Nathan Guideau, Alena Weiss, Vicki Bigham, Mark Henke, Nathan Bugosh, Brett Newman, Robert Vander Hoeven, Andrew Pixley, Richard Rymond, Matthe Trublowksi, Gregory Erickson, Jesse Dequin and Benjamin Pew.

Plymouth students include Matthew McLeod, David Edick, Travis Sharp and Andrew Weller.

To be named to the honor roll, students must maintain at least a 3.5 grade-point average for the term.

Xavier University

Katherine Renfer, daughter of Mark and Richelle Renfer of Plymouth, has accepted Xavier University's Trustee Scholarship to attend Xavier beginning in the fall.

Renfer will graduate from Mercy High School, where she is active in pastoral team and is a member of the National Honor Society. She has not yet chosen a major.

Canterbury School

Joshua Belfiore of Canton earned high honors in being named to the Honor Roll for the second marking period at Canterbury School in New Milford, Conn.

LIBRARY PICKS

Every week, the Plymouth District Library staff provides the *Observer* with their list of Best Sellers based on the number of requests for titles by library patrons. The books are available by placing a request with the library at (734) 453-0750 or on-line at www.plymouthlibrary.org

FICTION

1. "Cell," Stephen King
2. "Memory in Death," J.D. Robb

3. "Sea Change," Robert B. Parker
4. "Last Templar," Ray Khoury
5. "Lovers & Players," Jackie Collins

NONFICTION


1. "Marley and Me," John Grogan
2. "My Friend Leonard," James Frey
3. "Manhunt," James Swanson
4. "The Year of Magical Thinking," Joan Didion

5. "You're Wearing That?," Deborah Tannen

PARENTS' CHOICE

NEW CHILDREN'S PICTURE BOOKS


1. "Secret Chicken Club," George Shannon
2. "Chopsticks," Jon Berkeley
3. "Hush Little Baby," Brian Pinkney
4. "Moon Dog," John Rowe
5. "My Very Big Little World," Peter Reynolds



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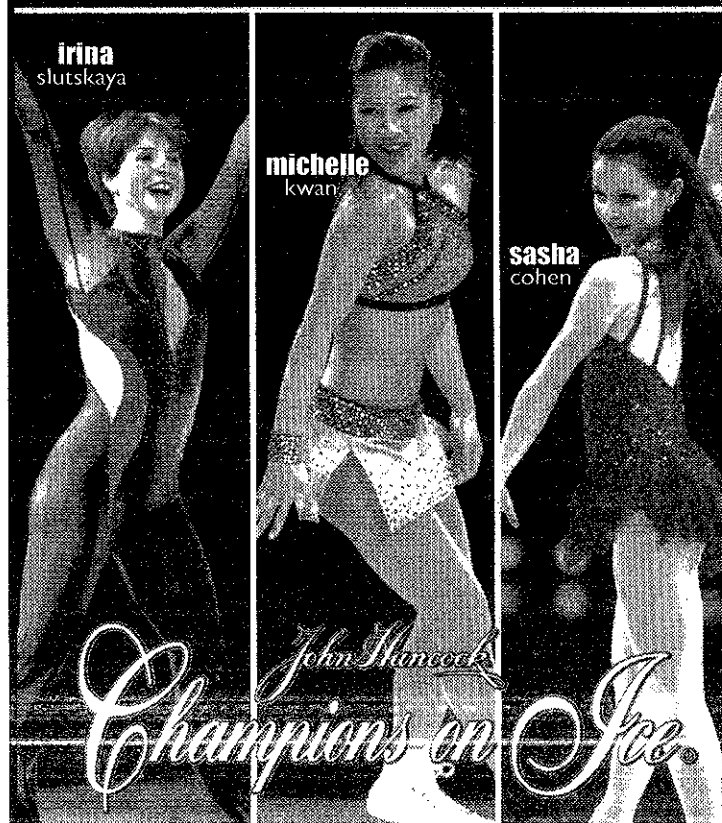


*Annual Percentage Yield (APY) on 13-month CD is effective as of 2/15/06. Minimum opening balance requirement is \$500 and maximum deposit is \$100,000. Deposits are allowed only on the maturity date or during the grace period. Penalty may be imposed for early withdrawal. Interest compounded quarterly. Rates are effective for a limited time only and subject to change without notice. **Loyal Customer Pricing - Rate applies to Flagstar Bank Loyal Customer program. Customer must maintain an open and active checking account at Flagstar Bank with at least one automatic, recurring, transaction monthly to qualify for the Loyal Customer program. Customers not participating in the Loyal Customer program will receive the standard CD rate of 4.75% APY on the 13-month CD. Loyal Customer offer cannot be combined with coupons or other special offers and is not eligible for VIP bonus. Not available for public units. Account fees could reduce earnings. Please contact your local Flagstar branch for more information. Certain restrictions may apply.

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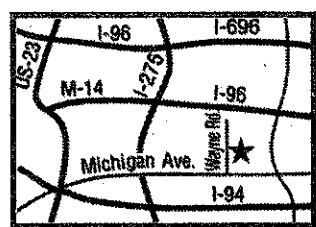
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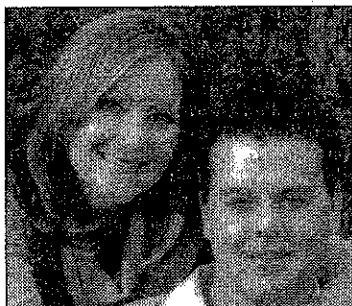
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ENGAGEMENTS

Duprey-Hillebrand

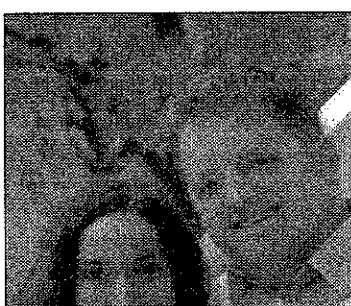
Edward Duprey of Plymouth and Debra Duprey of Livonia, are happy to announce the engagement of their daughter, Lindsay Duprey, to Eric Hillebrand, son of Gene and Debbie Hillebrand of Livonia. Both Lindsay and Eric are graduates of Livonia Franklin High School. Lindsay is a 2003 graduate of Ferris State University. She is currently working as a dental hygienist in Westland. Eric is a 2002 graduate of Ferris State University with a degree in public rela-



tions. He is currently employed at Zatkoff Seals and Packings in Farmington Hills. Eric and Lindsay are planning an August wedding at The Inn at St. Johns in Plymouth.

Gable-Herald

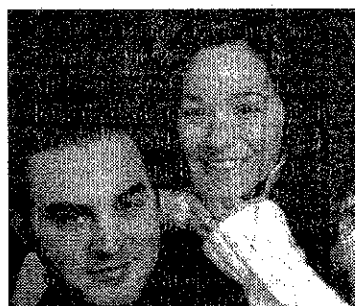
Lyle and Deborah Gable of Canton announce the engagement of their daughter, Elizabeth Marie, to John M. Gable of Ypsilanti. Elizabeth is a 1999 graduate of Canton High School and a 2004 graduate of Eastern Michigan University. She is employed at Creative Solutions. Her fiancé, John, is the son of John and Kathy Herald of Northville. He is a 1998 graduate of Canton High School and a 2002 graduate of Michigan State University. He is employed with Yazaki. John and Elizabeth are planning a May wedding at First



United Methodist Church in Plymouth.

Schager-Walsh

Karl and Nancy Schager of Livonia announce the engagement of their daughter, Elissa, to Michael Walsh of Dearborn Heights. Elissa is a graduate of Livonia Stevenson High School and Michigan State University. She is employed with Dynamic Back and Neck Therapy. Her fiancé, Michael, is the son of David and Barbara Walsh of Livonia. He is a graduate of Livonia Stevenson High School and Michigan State University. He is employed with Tri Star Fire Protection. Michael and Elissa are plan-



ning a September wedding at St. Johns Golf and Conference Center in Plymouth.

Kukhahn-Richardson

Kerry and Diane Kukhahn of Canton announce the engagement of their daughter, Kristen, to Daryl Richardson of Lake Ann. Kristen is a graduate of Plymouth Salem High School and Central Michigan University. She is employed as an account executive with WGTU ABC 29 & 8 in Traverse City. Her fiancé, Daryl, is the son of David and Diane Richardson of Howell. He is a graduate of Thurston High School and Central Michigan University. He works at The Sound Room in Traverse City. Daryl and Kristen are plan-



ning an August wedding at Crystal Mountain in Thompsonville. After a honeymoon in Hawaii, they will be making their new home in Lake Ann.

Morris-Rabe

Bob and Debbie Morris of Livonia announce the engagement of their daughter, Allison Anne, to William Frank Rabe of Livonia. Allison is a 2002 graduate of Ladywood High School and will graduate in December from Central Michigan University with a BS/BSBA. Her fiancé, Bill, is the son of Bill and Pat Rabe of Livonia. He is a 2002 graduate of Livonia Stevenson High School and will receive his BBA in management from University of Michigan-Dearborn in April.



Bill and Allison are planning a February 2007 wedding at St. Edith Church in Livonia.

Wortman-Bosman

Tom and Maureen Bosman of Livonia are proud to announce the engagement of their son, David Christopher, to Rebecca Lynn Wortman, daughter of John and Judy Wortman of Rochester Hills. Both graduated high school in 1999, David from Livonia Franklin and Rebecca from Rochester High. The couple met at Michigan State University, where each received a bachelor's degree. David will graduate this May with his juris doctorate degree from Wayne State University Law School. Rebecca will also graduate in



May from Wayne State University with a master's degree in speech-language pathology. David and Rebecca are planning an August wedding in Rochester.

SINGLES

MISC. SINGLES

Moon-dusters
Ballroom Dancing to a live band every Saturday 8:30-11 p.m. at the Livonia Civic Center, 15218 Farmington Road, Livonia. Admission: guest/\$6, associates/\$5.50, members/\$5. Dress: Ladies - date style clothes, gentlemen - jackets and ties. For more information call Joe Castrodale (248) 968-5197.

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Dances
MSP dances from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. Top 40 DJ, cash bar, hors d'oeuvres (8-9:30 p.m.) and door prizes. Admission \$5/members, \$9/non-members, unless otherwise noted. Attire is dressy casual (no jeans or tennis shoes) unless otherwise noted.

ANNIVERSARY

Walker 60th
James Bernard and Josephine Anona Walker of Livonia celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on March 2. They were married March 2, 1946, at Old St. Francis Church in Ecorse. James and Josephine have lived in this area for 40 years. James was the owner and has retired from Hydraulic Tool Co. He has been in the realty business for 19 years. He is an honorary lifetime member of Knights of Columbus, American Legion Post 32 in Livonia. Josephine is a registered

nurse and is retired. She is a member of American Society of Publisher's and Composer's (she composed poetry). James and Josephine have 12 children, Jim (Susan) Walker of Farmington Hills, Anona (Steve) Pflanz of Elkhorn, Neb., John Walker of Mason, Dennis Walker of Northville, Richard (Glenna) Walker of Pittsford, Denise (Harold) Lively of Florissant, Mo., David Walker of Livonia, Raymond (Laura) Walker of Livonia, Mary (Donald) Bonner of Traverse City, Kevin (Olga) Walker of Boca Raton, Fla., Brian Walker and Kim of Plymouth, and Curt



Walker of Canton; 21 grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren. Plans for a celebration are family and friends gathering together, and a little surprise.

WEDDING

Burleson-Peterson
Jill Peterson and Brett Burleson proudly announce their elopement on Feb. 4, 2006, in La Jolla, Calif. Jill is the daughter of John Peterson of Canton, and Judy Peterson of Houston, Texas. She is a 1998 graduate of Plymouth Salem High School. She is a 2005 graduate of the United States Naval Academy currently assigned as the weapons officer on the USS

Rushmore, stationed in San Diego, Calif. Brett is the son of Bud and Jan Burleson of Plymouth. He also is a 1998 graduate of Plymouth Salem High School. He is a 2002 graduate from Adrian with a degree in corporate fitness/exercise science. He is currently employed by The Sports Chalet in San Diego. A luau themed reception is being planned for Memorial week in Ypsilanti.



BIRTH

Hayden Thomas Yesko
Jim and Crystal Yesko of Westland announce the birth of their son, Hayden Thomas, on Feb. 11, 2006, at Annapolis

Hospital in Wayne. Hayden's grandparents are Louis Trongo of Garden City, and Michael and JoAnn Yesko of South Lyon.

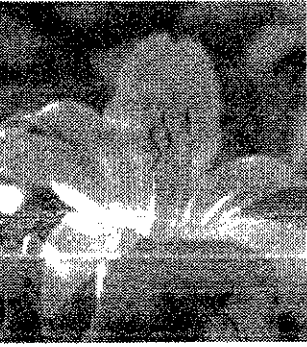
His great-grandparents are Louis and Dorothy Trongo of Taylor, and Mary Katherine Hughes of Allen Park.

CLASS REUNIONS

As space permits, the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers print, without charge, announcements of class reunions. Send the information to Reunions, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48170. Please include the date of the reunion, one contact person, and a telephone number.

Detroit Cooley Class of 1966
A 40-year reunion is planned for Saturday, Oct. 7, 2006, at the Courtyard by Marriott in Farmington Hills. Buffet dinner, music, dancing, and a souvenir booklet. All interested January and June graduates please contact Julie (McLean) Work at (248) 477-6802 or email: jwork2friends@yahoo.com
Detroit Mackenzie Classes Jan. June and Summer 1956
A 50-year reunion is planned for Sept. 16, 2006, at the Novi Sheraton. For more information, call Harold Kappen at (734) 261-0325 or okappen@earthlink.net.
Detroit St. Theresa Class of 1956
A 50-year reunion is planned for June 10, 2006, at the Holiday Inn West, 17123 Laurel Park Dr. N. in Livonia. A brunch is planned on June 11. Call Mary Monroe at (734) 427-4526.
Edsel Ford High School
A 50th anniversary will be held over the next year with a series of special events. Final activity will be a "Black and White Ball" on Saturday, May 20, 2006. About the activities www.geocities.com/edsel50th. To contact the committee email edsel50@gmail.com.
Epiphany Grade School Class of 1966
A 40-year reunion is in the planning stages for the summer of 2006. Contact Dorothy at (24) 477-9478 or dzsnyder@hotmail.com.

Ferndale High School Class of 1975/1976
A 30-year reunion is planned for Saturday, Aug. 12, 2006, at the Troy Somerset Inn, 2601 West Big Beaver Road, between I-75 and Coolidge Road. For information and to register sign in at www.fhs75-76.org. Discount if you register before Feb. 15. Cost is \$65/person or \$120/couple. Forward payment ASAP to: FHS 75-76 Reunion, P.O. Box 20274, Ferndale, MI 48220
Class of 1966
A 40-year reunion is planned for Saturday, July 29, 2006, at the Sheraton Detroit-Novi, 21111 Haggerty Road (I-275 at Eight Mile Road) Novi. To register send check for \$75 per person to Ferndale High School 1966 Class Reunion, C/O Joan Rockett Horner, 951 W. Oakridge, Ferndale, 48220
Fordson High School Class of 1981
A 25-year reunion is planned for Saturday, May 13, 2006. For more information contact Nancy Davis Zaleski at (734) 427-8254 or fordson-reunion@yahoo.com or go to www.geocities.com/fordsonreunion.
Franklin High School Class of 1969
Planning a reunion for 2007. Please contact Kathy Nisun (248) 363-5679 or e-mail: kaynini@aol.com or Kathy Shoenbridge @ Klivingston@nu-core.com.



Passages

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HAROLD E. SMITH

Age 85 of Westland, March 2, 2006. Beloved husband of Nora Hardin-Smith, and the late Lucile Smith. Loving father of Terry (Patricia) Smith, Amy (Sidney) Sovoda, Scott Smith and the late Timothy Smith. Also leaves eight grandchildren and six great grandchildren. Harold was a proud C.B.I. WWII Veteran. Funeral service Mon. 10am at Vermeulen Funeral Home 980 N. Newburgh Rd, Westland (Btwn. Ford and Cherry Hill). Visitation Sun 1-9 pm. Interment Michigan Memorial Park. Memorial Contributions to the Merriman Road Baptist Church Fund would be appreciated. To leave a message of condolence for the family log on to www.vermeulenfuneralhome.com

CHARLES LEE WORTHINGTON

Age 61, lifelong resident of Plymouth, died March 2, 2006. He is survived by his daughter, Tracy (Tim) Roberts; his grandchildren, Travis and Jessica; his mother, Elizabeth Shillito; his brother, Robert (Patricia) Worthington; and his sister, Sue Ann Gunnison. A Memorial Visitation will be held at Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 280 S. Main, Plymouth, Monday 4-5pm. Memorials may be made to the VA Hospital in Ann Arbor.

LAWRENCE W. BLUNK

Age 95, lifelong resident of Plymouth, died March 1, 2006. He was the founder of Deluxe Drapery in Ann Arbor. He was a member of St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Plymouth, where he was active in the Men's Club. He most enjoyed his grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He was a loving husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather. He is survived by his wife of 72 years, Ethel; his children, Kay (Frank) Luedtke, Marvin (Katie) Blunk, and Susan (Ed) Barthel; 9 grandchildren; 18 great-grandchildren; and his sister, Dorothy (Louis) Foreman. Funeral services were held Saturday, March 4, at St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church. Memorials may be made to St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church or Huron Valley Lutheran High School, 33740 Cowan, Westland, MI, 48185. Arrangements entrusted to Schrader-Howell Funeral Home.

MARY TYGHEM

Age 87, March 1, 2006. Beloved wife of the late Maurice. Loving mother of Marvin (Liz), Thomas (Margo), and step-mother of Dorothy (Bud) Baillie. Dear grandmother of five. Dearest sister of Peg McLean. Also survived by several loving nieces and nephews. Visitation Sunday, 3-8pm. Funeral Monday, 10am, from McCabe Funeral Home, 31950 W. 12 Mile Rd. www.mccabefuneralhome.com



LILLIAN RUTH JACOBSEN

Mrs. Jacobsen passed away peacefully at Sunrise of South Charlotte on Tuesday, February 28th, dressed in pearls and pink. At age 87, she lived her life full of love and compassion for everyone. Lee was never without her beautiful smile and bright blue eyes. She is now at peace with her Lord. Lillian was born May 28, 1918 in Elmira, NY. She spent most of her life in Michigan and resided in Troy, Michigan until 2002 when she moved to Charlotte to be close to her daughter, Debbie McNealy. Lee raised three wonderful children, April Forman, Debbie McNealy, and Paul Jacobsen (deceased at age 20). Her grandchildren were the light of her life and brought her joy and laughter; Josh Forman of Chicago, Dan Forman of Gallup, NM, Beth Forman of Eugene, OR and Matt, Drew, and Molly McNealy of Charlotte. They will miss their 'Grandma Lee' who was the absolute best in their eyes. She felt her sons-in-law Charley McNealy and Bruce Forman were the 'son' she had lost. Lee grew up in Detroit Michigan, graduated from Commerce High and worked as an administrative assistant at J.L. Hudson's. There she met her husband, Hersh Jacobsen, who was the love of her life. She was active at First Presbyterian Church of Detroit and Westminster Presbyterian Church in Detroit. Many thanks to her caregivers and staff at Sunrise of South Charlotte who treated her like a true friend and family. She always felt she was on vacation the entire time she was in Charlotte. In lieu of flowers, donations can be sent to Hospice & Palliative Care, 1420 E. 7th Street, Charlotte, NC 28204 or Westminster Presbyterian Church, 1756 Hubbell Ave., Detroit, MI., 48235. Carolina Funeral Service & Cremation Center is entrusted with the arrangements.



B. ELIZABETH "BETTY" KNIGHT

Sunrise to Sunset
Of Bloomfield Hills had her sunset on February 26, 2006 at Indian River Memorial Hospital in Vero Beach. Her sun rose on August 23, 1916 in Detroit Michigan. She was the daughter of Walter and Bertha Mary Klein, both also born in Detroit. She attended Wellesley College, University of Michigan and Wayne State University. She taught school after graduation. Betty married her childhood sweetheart Robert B. Knight, also born in Detroit who graduated from the University of Michigan Law School. Betty was blessed with beauty of person as well as strong intellect. While raising her family on Wing Lake near Birmingham, Michigan, she studied Far Eastern History and served on many charitable boards including the Red Cross and Planned Parenthood. She was a member of the Village Woman's Club, Orchard Lake Country Club, the Moorings Club and Riomar Country Club. She was an enthusiastic golfer. Betty is survived by her husband of 65 years, Robert B. Knight of Vero Beach; son, W. Bruce Knight of Detroit, Michigan; daughters, Nancy Croisant of San Diego and Virginia A. Knight of Montana. She also has eight grandchildren. Betty's sunlit life was filled with her family and friends. At her sunset, there was a warm afterglow of love that will not fade. A memorial service at Christ Church Cranbrook will be announced later. The family has asked that in lieu of flowers, gifts may be made to the American Red Cross, Southeastern Michigan Chapter P.O. Box 44110, Detroit 48244.

OBITUARY POLICY
The first two "filled" lines of an obituary are published at no cost. All additional lines will be charged at \$1 per line. You may place a picture of your loved one for an additional cost of only \$5. Symbolic emblems may be included at no cost (example: American flags, religious symbols, etc.)
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Heart health

Oakwood Community Health is offering a number of women's health screenings in cooperation with Life Line Screening to test for a blocked carotid artery, abdominal aortic aneurysm, peripheral arterial disease and osteoporosis for a nominal fee. Registration required. The dates and locations follow: 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday, March 21, at Newburg United Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia. Cost is \$8; 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesday, April 12, at the Wayne Senior Activity Center, 35000 Sims (\$4), and 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday, May 9, at First Baptist Church of Canton, 44500 Cherry Hill (\$8). Participants are not required to fast. Call (800) 543-WELL or visit www.oakwood.org.

G.E.M.S.

Group Exercise for Multiple Sclerosis meets 6-7 p.m. every Friday at the Livonia YMCA on Stark Road. It is a water exercise class for MS patients and their families. Support group meeting 7:15-8:15 p.m. Call Carolyn Davis, (734) 459-9715, or Mike Hickey, (734) 522-0036.

Recovery Inc.

The self-help mental health organization meets every Friday in the Southfield Parks & Recreation Building on Evergreen at 10 1/2 Mile. For more information, call (734) 464-0027. Recovery also meets 2:30 p.m. Sundays, at Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church, 9601 Hubbard and West Chicago, Livonia; 7:30 p.m. Mondays, at St. Matthew's Methodist Church, 30900 W. Six Mile, between Middlebelt and Merriman, and 1:15 p.m. Tuesdays, at Mt. Hope Congregational Church, 30330 Schoolcraft, west of Middlebelt. For location or times of other meetings, call (313) 561-2521 or visit www.recovery-inc.org.

Mentally ill support

The Alliance for the Mentally Ill of Oakland County provides family support meetings for relatives of persons who suffer from mental illness on the first Monday of every month at 30233 Southfield, Suite 220, Southfield. For information and referral for AMI Oakland-South, call (248) 557-6440, AMI Oakland-North (248) 706-0591. AMI general meeting is held the fourth Thursday of every month. Education regarding mental illness-related topics is provided in the Administration Building Classroom AB1W (lower level) at William Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak. Time is 7:30 p.m., refreshments at 7 p.m. Call (248) 706-0591.

Hugh Gallagher, editor
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Fax: (734) 591-7279
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www.hometownlife.com

Coverage confusion

Senior citizens still bewildered by new Medicare benefit

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER

Beverly Gustafson describes her feelings about the new Medicare prescription drug coverage with these words - angry and confused.

The 79-year-old senior is not alone. Sitting next to Gustafson at the Livonia Senior Center is Shirley Smith, 84, who complains constantly about Part D which became available on Jan. 1. Neither has signed up as yet although both say they will in the next month or so.

Before applying for coverage, Medicare recipients must choose from more than 60 insurance plan carriers in Michigan by visiting the Web site at www.medicare.gov or phoning (800) MEDICARE. Both of those options can be disconcerting for seniors who frequently seek assistance at local senior centers and agencies on aging.

If seniors wait until the last minute to apply, Kathleen Sweder worries that counselors like herself will be as overwhelmed in late April and early May



Bill (left) and Sally Gooslin (right) meet with counselors Veronica Tyree, Joan Gentilia of Plymouth (at the computer), and Jo-Ann Smith Taylor to discuss the new Medicare Prescription Drug coverage.

as in November. Sweder asks that anyone requesting help at the Livonia Senior Center, call her at (734) 466-2557 for an appointment.

The Livonia Senior Center provides information on specific drug plans and enrollment 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Wednesday, March 8, at the building on Farmington, south of Five Mile in the Civic Center complex. Every Thursday at 1:30 p.m. staff from U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter's office help seniors make informed decisions regarding coverage.

"It's usually people with higher prescription costs who are applying," said Sweder, the center's grant manager. "People with fewer are waiting until the latest date they can without penalty."

Gustafson is one of the lucky ones because her doctor gives her the four medications she needs. Smith doesn't take any prescriptions, but realizes eventually her health could deteriorate. Insurance carriers do offer plans with lower premiums for those not taking any prescriptions or just a few.

'GOOD RACKET'

"I think it's a good racket for the insurance companies to make money," said Gustafson, a Livonia senior who volunteers at the center with Smith.

"What makes me angry is the people who used to fill prescriptions have gone back (to the pharmacy since the coverage went into effect Jan. 1, 2006) and the cost has gone up \$10 to \$20."

Smith says she will continue to complain until the problems are solved. She is especially upset about paying higher premiums if she doesn't apply before the May 15 deadline.

"I see that as a threat because they want us to commit to this," said Smith.

Although Sweder encountered several delays and difficulties before and after receiving training on the coverage at a regional Medicare center, she thinks the worst is over. Sweder has enrolled about 75 percent of the nearly 200 people she's counseled at the Livonia Senior Center. Many have come in thinking they are automatically enrolled in an insurance plan. They aren't. Only Medicaid recipients

were switched over to a Medicare prescription drug plan after Medicaid no longer provided coverage. All other Medicare beneficiaries must apply.

"For some people it's great," said Sweder. "Just like anything new it will take a while to shake out. The basic premise is wonderful."

"One of the problems is that Medicare gives all of the information verbally (when they call). If they can't hear or see well, or have to go to the bathroom frequently, it's difficult for them to apply."

COMPUTER SKILLS

Many seniors who want to apply online don't have computer skills to use the Plan Finder tool on the Medicare Web site. Counselors like Sweder and Carrie Nicholson at the Area Agency on Aging 1B in Oakland County can sort out the confusion by going online to enter a senior's information including names of medications, dosages, how often taken, and

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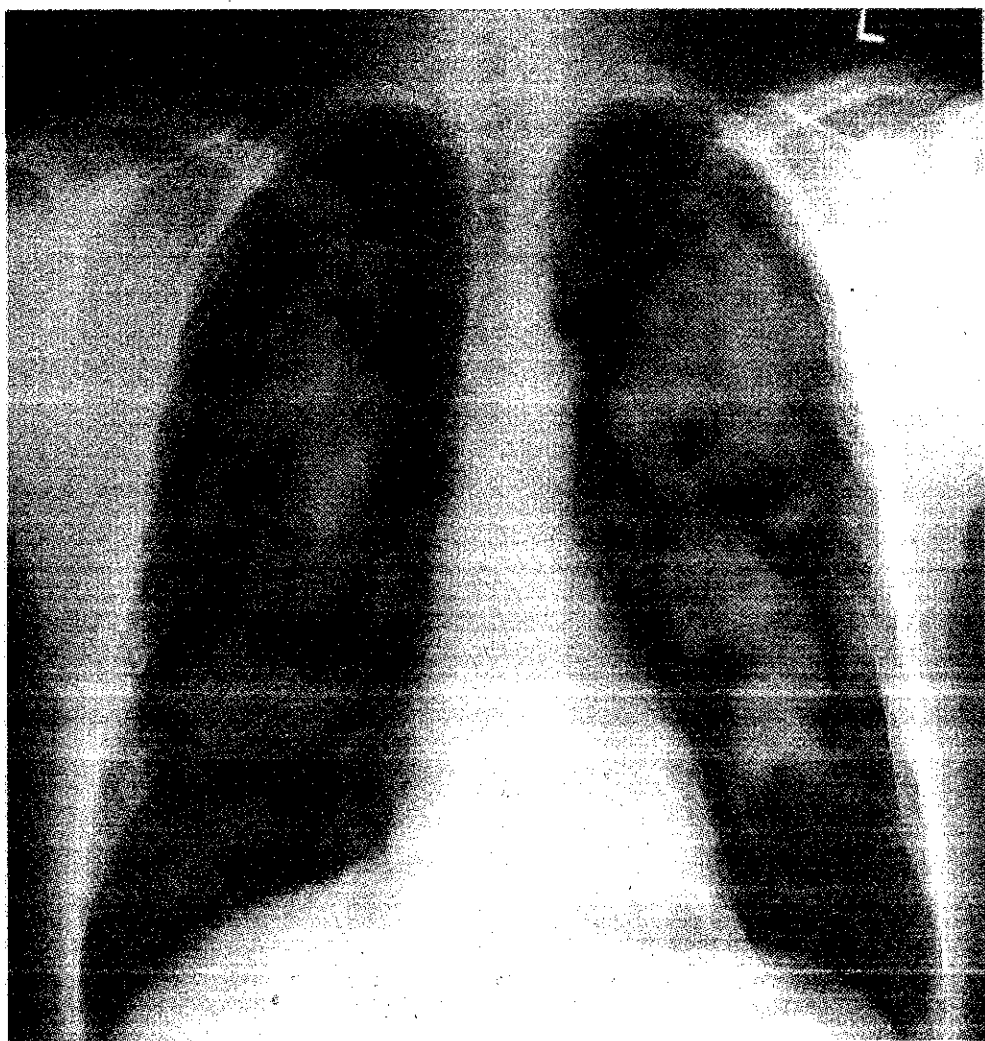
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COVERAGE

FROM PAGE C6

their pharmacy so the Medicare beneficiary can then select a plan. For an appointment in Oakland and Wayne counties or statewide, call the Michigan Medicare/Medicaid Assistance Program at (800) 803-7174 or visit www.mymmap.org.

"It's been pretty rough," said Carrie Nicholson, Medicare Medicaid Assistance Program coordinator at Agency 1B which received 500 to 600 calls a day at the office in Southfield in December. "There was a lot of miscommunication between Medicare, Social Security and insurance plans. Seniors are not getting enrollment information in a timely manner or not at all. Prescriptions aren't getting paid for and it's not getting any better. Enrollment ends May 15. Hopefully by July or August the federal government will have better communication with insurance plans."

Until then Nicholson has a few tips for seniors. Don't wait to enroll. Even though coverage is effective the first of the month after enrollment, information takes one or two days to process and confirmation a couple of weeks so a senior might have to pay for drugs themselves.

"If they think they qualify for extra help, call Social Security (1-800-772-1213 or visit www.ssa.gov) right away," said Nicholson. "Again, it's better to call the beginning of the month and keep information and confirmation numbers in a safe place. They won't be able to get their prescriptions unless they have enrollment confirmation and billing information for the pharmacist. Just like when you go to the doctor, you have to bring your insurance card. Even if they don't have plastic card you can show them the letter."

EMERGENCY NEED

If seniors don't have confirmation yet, the Area Agency on Aging 1C (The Senior Alliance) in Wayne County offers this advice to the seniors they counsel.

"If you cannot pay out of pockets and need your medications, call 1-800



Kristi Hollingsworth of Garden City (left) and Carolyn Anderson counsel Ellen Adams at the Area Agency on Aging 1C (The Senior Alliance) in Wayne.

MEDICARE. Tell them there's an emergency need," said Chris Kenzie, the agency's information and programs manager.

"The nightmare part is when we hear people are going without their medicine or paying hundreds of dollars. If they call us, we try to help them walk it through.

Agency 1C usually receives phone calls only from those experiencing problems so it's difficult to assess the success of the Medicare Prescription Drug Improvement and Modernization Act of 2003 that was signed into law by President George W. Bush.

"Some of it seems to be working out fine. Others have enrolled and are having difficulties getting prescriptions," said Kenzie. "We're trying to stay positive, but it is challenging. The key is to encourage people.

We tell seniors talk to your family and recruit some help. Try to look at annual cost. Sometimes folks get caught up in cost of deductibles or gaps in coverage. Rather than focus on that, figure annual costs. You hear about this doughnut hole, people falling through. Sure there is a coverage gap when comparing someone with six medicines and 12 medicines. The plan finder on line helps you to do that."

The Area Agency on Aging 1B in Oakland County is looking for volunteers to train to assist seniors applying for the Medicare benefit. They must know how to use the Internet. For more information, call (800) 803-7174.

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Week to raise awareness about devastating disease

Gov. Jennifer Granholm has proclaimed the week of March 13 as MS Awareness Week in the Michigan. This is the first time the state has named a week dedicated to MS Awareness.

"During this most special week, the National MS Society intends to go above and beyond in its efforts to educate the public about MS while advocating on behalf of the 16,000 Michiganders living with this sometimes devastating disease," said Patricia McDonald, National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Michigan Chapter president.

Tuesday, March 14, has been designated as the Day of Hope nationally. On this day, the MS

Society encourages everyone to support MS Awareness Week by wearing an MS Ribbon of Hope lapel pin or bracelet, or by wearing the color red.

For more information about the week, including a list of planned activities, visit www.nationalmultiplesclerosisociety.org/mig.

The mission of the society is to end the devastating effects of MS. The Michigan Chapter, one of the largest in the country, delivers life-enhancing programs and services to the more than 16,000 people in Michigan with MS and their families, while supporting important research into the cause and cure of MS.

Hospital offers teen drug workshop

A Teens Using Drugs Workshop will be presented in two parts 7:30-9 p.m. Tuesday, March 7 and March 14, in the St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Education Center, classroom EC4, 5305 Elliott Drive, Ypsilanti.

There is no charge and the workshops are open to the public. Parents, teens and people who work with teens are all

welcome.

Part one of the workshop is repeated every first Tuesday of the month, October to June. Part two repeats the second Tuesday of the month, October to June.

For more information, call (734) 973-7892, send e-mail to jessa@med.umich.edu, or visit the Web site at www.teensusingdrugs.org.

Arthritis Today

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SEEING THE DOCTOR

In treating arthritis, doctors try to reach a state of patient stability. That means you are taking the medicine you require in the dose you need. If this stability occurs, your visits become less frequent, and when you see the doctor the time you spend with him is short. When your routine with the office takes on this pattern, you are tempted to skip a visit, because you feel alright and the appointment is uneventful. You can develop a similar attitude to laboratory appointments. In the treatment of arthritis, a number of drugs such as methotrexate, immunan, Arara and Enbrel can cause side effects to the blood, liver and kidneys. Your doctor orders laboratory work monthly to monitor these possible effects. After months of normal results you may believe that the medicines won't effect you, and there is no need to keep coming to the doctor's office just to show you are still normal. That view is incorrect. It is necessary for your doctor to see you periodically to assure that you still need the same medicines in the same doses that you are taking now. He has to speak to you to confirm that your health and other medications haven't changed in a manner to affect what he is prescribing for you. You need to continue to keep your laboratory appointments as the side effects of the medications may occur at any time. Also changes can happen in your body or from the interaction of other medicines so that formally harmless drugs become toxic. Obtaining the laboratory work regularly is the best protection against such possibilities.

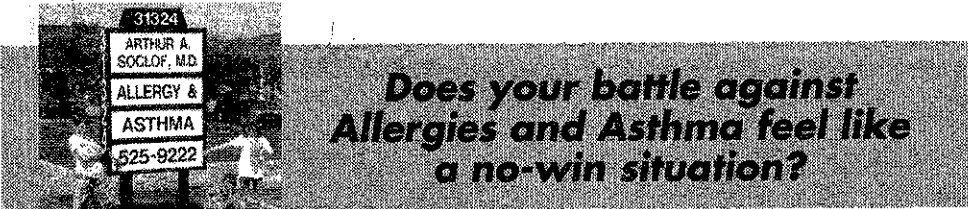
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Back Pain?

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 vary. 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)



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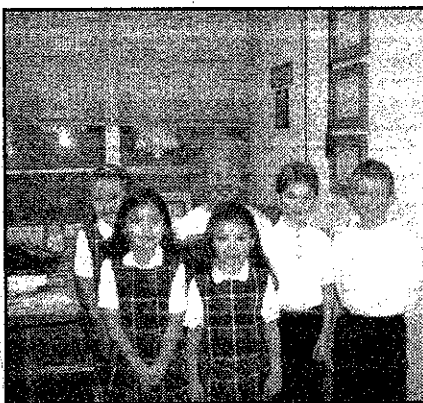
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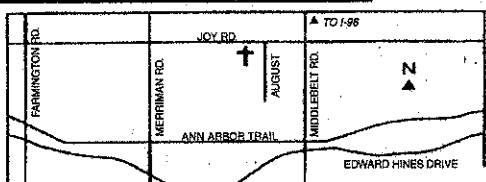
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Watch "Project Runway" March 8 on Bravo to see if Michigander Daniel Vosovic wins!



Treasures of Time

Designer gives vintage jewelry a new look and life

By Erin Brown Bell ■ PINK Correspondent

If you're searching for the perfect embellishment this season, you may want to look to local designer Calliope Zgouvas. Known to friends and clients simply as "Peppy," the St. Clair Shores artist creates unique necklaces in her home studio by pairing vintage pieces like cameos, enamel pendants, rhinestone earrings and more with a variety of baubles and bangles for beautiful, eye-catching adornment. Zgouvas' jewelry design business, called Treasures of Time, has branched into a booming cottage industry in the last few years. PINK recently sat down with Zgouvas to find out more about her one-of-a-kind creations.

How did your interest in jewelry begin?

My dad was one that gave me my first piece of jewelry, and sort of started everything. Also, my parents used to go to Mardi Gras in New Orleans every year, because I am originally from Alabama, so they'd always bring us the beads back, too.

What types of materials are featured in your necklaces?

The beads are either some kind of a semi-precious stone like amethysts, garnets, quartz or fresh-water pearls, Swarovski

Spring Fashion Gala

Treasures of Time will be among dozens of vendors at the **Spring Fashion Gala** hosted by the American Association of University Women, Birmingham Branch. **When:** 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Wednesday, March 8 **Where:** St. George Cultural Center, 43816 Woodward, Bloomfield Hills **What:** Boutique shopping, lunch, raffle prizes and a fashion show. **Tickets:** \$5, shopping only; \$25 includes noon luncheon and fashion show, to benefit AAUW. **Information:** Call (248) 851-2458 or visit www.aauw-birmmi.org



Calliope Zgouvas wears one of her designs.

Crystal or sterling silver; so they are nicer quality. Then the pendants are the very unique parts, they're the vintage things. There are enamel pieces, rhinestone pieces, and they date from like the 1880s to the 1950s. It's like a piece of history.

Where do you find and purchase these pendants for your work?

Some estate sales and a lot of traveling now. Around here, it is so depleted — for years now, you can't find pieces. Tennessee is awesome. Kentucky is great, even Ohio, which isn't that far. Arizona also has some really cool things.

So you can wear one of your pieces with a business suit or an evening gown...

Right, or even jeans. And you can say your work is all one-of-a-kind, you're never going to find the exact same combination anywhere. Ever!

Do people ever commission you to make special pieces?

They do. I've done many things for weddings, the first wedding was my own. I did a cameo that my husband bought at an antique show; and it was a big cameo and six strands of little tiny pearls with crystals. But another thing I do for people is that they'll see my work and say "Oh my gosh, my grandmother has a cameo like that, and I never wear it, but I like your jewelry," so I make a piece for them.

Treasures of Time necklaces start at \$150, and is available at www.vintagejewelrydirect.com, or at boutiques including Janet Varner in Rochester, Bellissima in Bloomfield Hills, and Dancing Eye Gallery in Northville.

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EMPLOYMENT

Observer & Eccentric
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Section D

Sunday, March 5, 2006

(OF)

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Recruiters struggle to adapt as targets surge

(PRWEB) — Management consulting and IT consultancy recruiters revealed that they are struggling to meet a surge in demand for new hires. Ninety percent of all recruiters in the sector believe the candidate market will be even tighter in 2006 than it was in 2005, leaving them with a candidate shortfall at a time when client demand is resurgent.

With recruiters from the likes of Accenture, Capgemini and IBM gathered in London this week for the industry's annual recruiter conference, it was clear that the War for Talent is back on the agenda. Difficulties in attracting sufficient talent into the sector were last an issue during the dot-com boom, when many consultants were lured to startups by the promise of Internet riches and share option schemes. At the time, consulting firms were forced to hike remuneration considerably, to prevent resourcing constraints from becoming a hindrance to growth.

Attendees at this week's event confirmed that it is becoming increasingly difficult to attract candidate applications. Even once applications have been generated and candidates have gone through the interview process, the likelihood of a



management consultancy candidate accepting an offer has plummeted. Multiple offers are now the norm, with candidates playing firms off against one another.

Another major problem is that corporate Web sites are now more likely to turn a candidate off an employer than encourage them to apply. The vast majority of corporate careers pages have been designed to minimize the

workload of the HR team that processes the applications — making them highly time-consuming for candidates to use. While a valid strategy for a recessionary market, in a boom market like 2006 it is critical that the candidate be made to feel highly valued and that they are sold to at every available opportunity. Recruiters are struggling to adapt their company Web sites accordingly and so are

likely to see fewer and fewer applications through this their only source of free hires. Internet job boards, by comparison, are increasing their penetration and are highly likely to be used.

The conference, organized by specialist recruitment Web site Top-Consultant.com, attracted more than 700 registrations from recruiters compared with 250 this time last year.

Wayne State hosting open houses for grad students

Wayne State University has scheduled graduate school open houses this coming week. They will be:

■ Tuesday, March 7
WSU Oakland Center
33737 W. 12 Mile
Farmington Hills 48331
■ Wednesday, March 8
WSU University Center-Macomb
Macomb Community College
Center Campus
44575 Garfield
Clinton Township 48038
■ Thursday, March 9
WSU Main Campus-Welcome Center
42 W. Warren, corner of Warren Avenue and Woodward Avenue
Detroit 48202
Time: 3-7 p.m.

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Home builders offer safe harbor amid area's economic waves

Home builders are the type of folks who look at land and see how communities can grow, who visualize framing families' dreams.

So it's no surprise that we recognize economic bright spots in southeast Michigan amid challenges for our region and state. Without minimizing the forces reshaping Michigan, residential developers are heartened by new Census figures, by our industry's stability, by home values that keep rising and by other advantages for buyers in one of the most affordable U.S. housing markets.

Naturally, we share confidence about Michigan's transition to a new era and recognize that the transition requires adjustments, endurance and resilience in our field as well as others.

By adapting nimbly to business cycles that depend on outside forces such as interest rates, employment levels and tax policies, home builders are able to keep going amid economic slowdowns. Now we see fresh signs that our carpenters, roofers, painters, masons, plumbers, electricians, landscapers and others will be active this year.

One encouraging sign came early this year from the U.S. Census



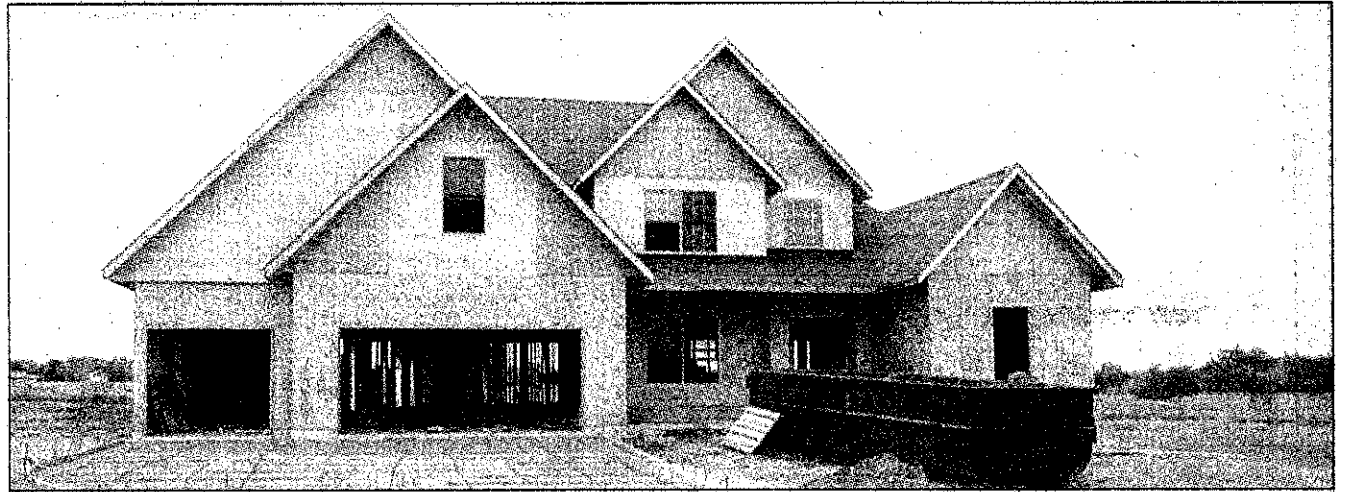
James Babcock

Bureau. It estimates that southeast Michigan's population and number of households each have grown by nearly 2 percent since the 2000 count, with increases in six of the region's seven counties.

Census figures also show that our area gained more than 109,000 housing units during that same span, a 5.6-percent boost in nearly six years. More than half of the total results from heavy construction activity in Macomb and Oakland counties. And this time, Wayne County was part of the region-wide increase.

Last year, more than 17,700 housing permits were issued in Metro Detroit and surrounding counties — with Oakland leading its neighbors at 3,292 new units.

This steady pace shows why the housing industry remains vital to Michigan's economy. Behind the homes, apartments and condominiums that rose from Brighton to Birmingham and from Woodhaven to Waterford are thousands of jobs, mil-



A continuing healthy residential construction industry will help Michigan's economic rebound.

lions of dollars in purchased goods and services, and expanded property tax bases for communities.

Among the biggest beneficiaries, of course, are those turning the keys on new chapters of their lives under new roofs. Thanks to the healthy construction market, first-time buyers and families on the move have a choice of styles, sizes, locations and price ranges that run from one-bedroom condos to custom estates.

Whatever they select, Southeast

Michiganians are investing in something with consistent appreciation value — a rarity now. Michigan prices of existing homes rose 4 percent in the third quarter of 2005. The result is affordable housing and realistic appreciation that can be sustained, a safe harbor at a turbulent time.

Historically low interest rates are another positive indicator. Mortgage rates should stay below 7 percent this year and perhaps next, industry analysts predict.

Builders and home shoppers alike clearly have valid reasons for confidence in this segment of southeast Michigan's economy, which is as solid as the foundations of the 109,000 housing units built here so far this decade.

James P. Babcock, president of Babcock Building Inc. in St. Clair Shores, heads the 2,400-member Building Association of Southeast Michigan, based in Farmington Hills.

Time to shop around: Look at your home inspection options

I am going to buy a house. Should I do a private inspection, and if so, what should I look for and what would kill the sale?

I highly recommend getting a private inspection. After all you will be spending hundreds of thousands of dollars, it's worth the approximately \$300 to lower the probability that you may get a big costly surprise after you buy the house.

Some buyers, in order to save the expense, decide to do the inspection themselves or to ask "Uncle Bob" to do it for them. I tell my buyers that this is a big mistake. At the very least you or Uncle Bob probably don't have all the equipment necessary to do a thor-



Ask the Realtor

Michael Aldouby

ough inspection.

Usually if there is a problem found in an inspection you have a few options. You can:

- Ask the seller to fix it
- Request a repair allowance so you can fix it yourself
- Offer less money for the house
- Withdraw from the sale completely

The key is that because you have the right to end the transaction, the problem is now negotiable. All of this depends on what is written in the purchase agreement. However, almost all purchase agreements have an inspection contingency.

Often the seller agrees to fix the problem. They usually realize that if your inspector found the problem, another one will, as well. Therefore, it's a good idea to take care of it now.

Another possibility is that the seller realized that the house has some problems and because of this adjusted the purchase price to reflect that repairs are needed. If that is the case you may find it more difficult to get

the seller to fix the problem.

This is often true regarding foreclosures and corporate relocation properties. They often are offering the price below market value because they want to sell the property quickly and not be bothered with making repairs.

Sellers may decide that they don't want to make repairs and offer you a repair allowance. This way you can decide to fix it the way you want. This could be an advantage if it involves carpeting or something decorative. It gives you the power to decide for yourself what the end product will look like.

Usually what happens is that

money from the seller is put aside and given to the title company to be held in an escrow account. You then make the repairs, pay for them, give the receipts to the title company and you are reimbursed.

The homeowners may decide not to negotiate about an issue. This often occurs when it's an expensive problem to fix. For example, the inspector might find there is a problem with the foundation which would cost mega bucks to fix. The seller can decide that he isn't going to give on this issue. You then need to make a decision. You need to ask yourself whether its worth

losing this house because of this issue. Only you can make that decision. If it's something small you may decide that you will repair it yourself.

When it comes to buying a house remember that almost everything is negotiable, as long as it's in the purchase agreement. If an issue is important to you make sure that it's indicated there.

Michael Aldouby is a columnist and a Realtor with Real Estate One. He is happy to answer any real estate questions you may have or to receive any comments about the column. Please feel free to call him at (734) 748-9621 or e-mail him at michaelselfshomes@realestateone.com.

SUNDAY FEATURED HOMES



Buy Today Move Tomorrow

Seven New Homes in Livonia Available For Immediate Move In.

■ GREENBRIER-19 \$390,000 (featured above)
Premium homesite with 2 car courtyard garage. Optional 3 bedroom floorplan with Jack and Jill bath. 42" upper kitchen cabinets.

■ QUICK DELIVERY HOMES AVAILABLE NOW:
GREENBRIER-14 \$404,500 OAKMONT-21 \$409,900
INVERNESS-18 \$395,000 TURNBERRY-15 \$385,500
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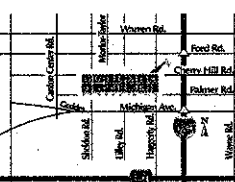


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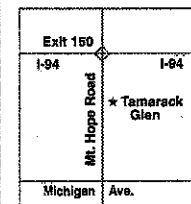
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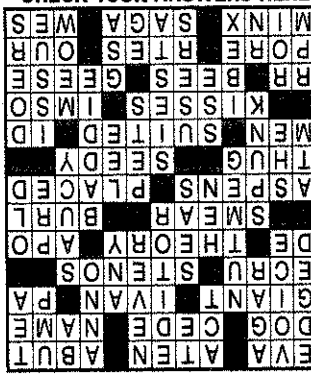
ACROSS

- 1 Spacewalk, to NASA
- 4 Nefertiti's god
- 8 Be next to
- 12 Pooch
- 13 Grant, as territory
- 14 Appointment
- 15 King-size
- 17 Lend of tennis
- 19 Informal parent
- 20 Neutral shade
- 21 Dictation pros
- 23 Tour — force
- 24 Conjecture
- 26 PFC mail drop
- 29 Finger-paint
- 30 Wool knot
- 31 Colorado trees
- 33 Set down
- 35 Huddlum
- 36 Down, at the heels
- 37 Game pieces
- 38 Looked good on
- 40 Ego companion

DOWN

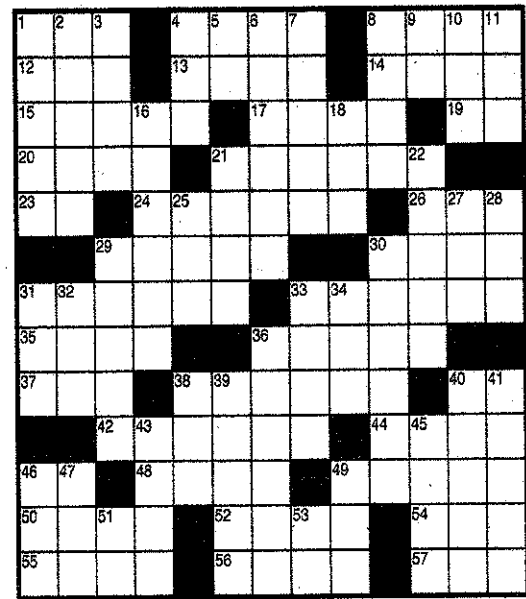
- 1 Crept
- 2 Alto or tenor
- 3 Culture medium
- 4 Perform in a theater
- 5 Tellurium symbol
- 6 Manuscript fixer
- 7 At no time

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE



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- 8 Part of A.D.
- 9 Univ. degree
- 10 Foul ball caller
- 11 Leaves in a bag
- 16 Kitchen spice
- 18 Some habitats
- 21 Octopus
- 22 Pert
- 25 Roost sitter
- 27 Game or season opener
- 28 Ancient
- 29 Grit
- 30 No-goodnik
- 31 Banking convenience
- 32 That ship
- 33 Household members
- 34 Kung fu expert Bruce —
- 36 Nap
- 38 Compass dir.
- 39 Software buyers
- 40 Point of debate
- 41 Go-getters
- 43 Alpine goat
- 45 Kitty's greeting
- 46 Tach reading
- 47 Louis XIV, e.g.
- 49 Brownie's org.
- 51 MD asst.
- 53 Such as, briefly



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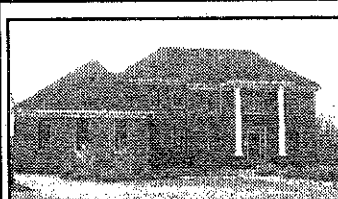
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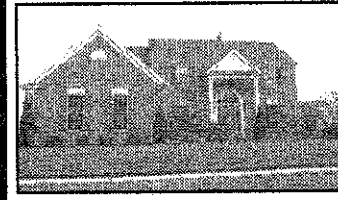
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CANTON
GORGEOUS HOME Must see! Kitch w/42" cabs, hwdw frs, convection & standard oven; 2-story ceilings; 4 1/2 baths; 2 sided FP; 2 furn/2 AC; prof fin LL w/ stainless h. FP & dishwasher. Deck w/Sundance stainless hot tub. \$589,900 (HAY85)



PLYMOUTH TWP.
HARD TO FIND 5 BD colonial, 1st fl laundry, Master ste has 2 walk-in closets, 5th BD could be office. Important sys updated: roof, fun, A/C, vinyl windows. Quiet court setting, fabulous, lge bkyard. UG sprinklers, low maintenance ext., taxes. \$279,900 (GRES7)



CANTON.
PREMIUM LOT backing to commons w/3-car gar and lge deck. Nice fir plan w/hwdw frs, oak island kit/brkfst rm opening to FR sharing a 2-way frpice w/tilt. Spacious mstr ste w/wxury BA & WIC fitted w/certry cabinets. Prof. finished LL w/wet bar & 3rd BA. \$469,900 (WAT95)

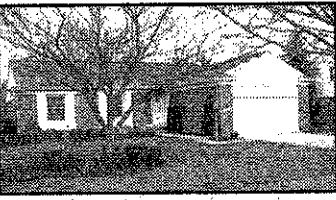
GARDEN CITY
3 BD 12 SQ. FT. BUNGALOW! Lge fin, knotty pine bsm. Spacious upper fir knotty pine mstr BD, open kit with lots of sunlight. Most newer windows incl. lge picture window in LR. New neutral carpet in LR. Private fenced yard. 1 yr. home warranty! \$133,500 (MAR35)

LIVONIA
LOVELY 3 BR 1 1/2 bath brick ranch. Updated kitchen w/oak cabinets-family rm w/beautiful brick fireplace-doorwall to 3 season sun rm-central air-newer gar door-sprinkler system-air cleaner & humidifier-newer dim. roof-2 car heated att. gar & pat fin. bsm. \$204,900 (BAR15)

PLYMOUTH TWP
UPDATED 4 BD, 2 BA colonial w/1st fl mstr BD. Updates: furn, air, hot WH(99), roof (97), upper story & front gar(05), windows, elec. vinyl side & trim, BA, kit. Features: gas frpice, 1st fl laundry, air cleaner, deck & 2-car att gar. \$244,900 (SUZ71)



PLYMOUTH
CLASSIC BRK CAPE COD. Newer kit w/wgran. Updated BA's. Warm, refin hwdw & new carpet. LR w/gas FP w/remote. Mstr w/skyllite. Cedar closet. Newer wind. & ext. drs. New copper plumbing, elec & hwn. Lo-maint ext. new sod, sprinklers & landsc. \$344,900 (HAR50)



PLYMOUTH TWP.
OVER 2800 SQ FT. of living space that includes a complete fin. walk-out with a tropic design including Tiki bar. Kit counters just installed, new wood fr. Wallside windows, roof w/tearoff, new front dr. carpet and paint. W/O w/exercise area. Brk pavers LL & backs to the Commons. \$335,500 (BAR56)



CANTON
GREAT HOUSE & NEIGHBORHOOD. Parks, tennis courts. Many updates: foyer, picture window, kit garden window, all others newer, 5 yr furnace, 3 yr tear off roof, new chandelier, and lighting. Barber carpet new in bsm, fresh paint all throughout. \$240,500 (MON48)

CANTON
MINT CONDITION RANCH. Freshly painted, newer carpet, hwdw frs in kit and foyer, all appliances fool. Master BR has half bath, full basement has great possibilities. 2 car attached garage. \$169,500 (WIL95)

WESTLAND
BEAUTIFUL BRICK RANCH. Hwdw frs in all BD's. LR, hall & brkfst nook. Kit has oak cabs, tile flr, all kit appliances included. Newer wind, full fin. bsm. W/wet bar and frpice, bar area has Pergo flr. 2-car att gar. \$154,900 (SAR60)

CANTON
GREAT FAMILY HOME! Over 2200 sq. ft. Some features include ceramic entry, oak kit fir, fresh paint, tiled counter, vaulted ceiling, Anderson doorwall, formal DR w/box window, lge FR, w/FR, full kitchenette, newer roof, C/A, attic fan, all appliances w/3 car gar. \$239,900 (KIN93)

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<p>CENTERLINE — Mr. Clean lives here with pride of ownership! Offers an updated open eat-in oak kitchen, updated bath, new roof, furnace with central air, new doors and windows. 2 1/2 car garage, home warranty and more! Call Sylvia Florence-Albert.</p> <p>\$112,000 (C25249) 734-216-4942</p>	<p>WESTLAND — 3 bedrooms, 1,349 sq. ft. brick ranch w/2 car garage. Offers updated oak kit (00), updated bath w/jetted tub (02), furnace with central air, new doors and windows. FR w/recess lights, home warranty. Call Sylvia Florence-Albert.</p> <p>\$139,900 (H501) 734-216-4942</p>	<p>CANTON — 3 lots, .38 acre, 16,680 sq. ft. combined. In flood zone but buildable w/improvements. Zoned R-5, in McIntyre Manor Sub. Call Sylvia Florence-Albert.</p> <p>\$65,000 (B-VAC) 734-216-4942</p>	<p>CANTON — Just minutes from downtown Plymouth. New construction, 2 or 3 BR condo w/2 car attached garage, 2.5 baths, large deck for leisure living. For as little as \$219,900. Call Liz Wolfe for weekly specials.</p> <p>\$219,900 (ColumbSq) 734-751-5450</p>	<p>REDFORD — 1400 sq. ft. brick ranch completed updated incl: new kit & bath. Furnace with C/A. Elect services, roof, wndws, ceramic floor in kitchen & foyer. 2 car attached garage, sun room, brick paver patio & fenced yard. Call Mike Judge.</p> <p>\$164,900 (M16925) 734-591-9200 x155</p>	<p>REDFORD — Home overlooking Lola Valley Park. 3 bedroom, brick ranch w/basement & 2 car heated garage. Updates incl: new roof on house & garage, new windows, all appliances stay. Landscaped & fenced yard. Call Mike Judge.</p> <p>\$139,900 (P16207) 734-591-9200 x155</p>
<p>LIVONIA — Location, quality, value & charm! Attractive 2400 sq. ft. brick colonial. 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath, family room w/fireplace. 1st floor laundry, basement & 2 car attached garage. New roof & doors. All appliances stay. Call Mike Judge.</p> <p>\$314,900 (C31858) 734-591-9200 x155</p>	<p>REDFORD — Location, quality, value & charm! You'll love this brick 3 bedroom ranch. Clean, tastefully decorated. Updates incl kitchen, elec, copper plumbing, finished basement w/fireplace. Landscaped yard w/sprinkler system. 2 car garage. Call Mike Judge.</p> <p>\$149,900 (S9012) 734-591-9200 x155</p>	<p>REDFORD — Attractive 1.5 story bungalow in North West Redford. Updates incl: new furnace & C/A, windows, roof (tear-off), hardwood floors, new carpet & paint. Beautiful backyard with patio & it is fenced. All appliances stay. Call Mike Judge.</p> <p>\$105,000 (N19735) 734-591-9200 x155</p>	<p>LIVONIA — Attractive 3 bedroom brick ranch, 1300 sq. ft. of quality living area. Family room w/fireplace, finished basement, two baths, 2 car garage, landscaped & fenced yard, new furnace & A/C. Call Mike Judge.</p> <p>\$204,900 (B14385) 734-591-9200 x155</p>	<p>FARMINGTON HILLS — Mint condition, 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath condominium, a newer complex w/pool, clubhouse with exercise room, loc in Nantucket townhouse complex. End unit freshly painted with new carpet. Call Mike Judge.</p> <p>\$145,000 (C22150) 734-591-9200 x155</p>	<p>LIVONIA — Extremely open floor plan. 4 BR, 2 BA ranch on 1/2 acre lot. Updates incl: windows, roof, furn/A/C, hardwood floors, ceramic in kitchen & baths. New kitchen cabinets w/granite counters & all new appliances. New carpet, finished basement & more. Call Mariana Dimancea</p> <p>\$226,999 (P29012) 248-910-6881</p>
<p>WESTLAND — One of the nicest homes in this great Westland sub. 2-story, 3 BR, 2 BA immaculate home. Many upgrades. New carpet, custom cabinets, finished basement & large master suite. Livonia Schools. Call today for private showing. Call Brian Bundesen.</p> <p>\$189,900 (B8632) 734-678-9032</p>	<p>LIVONIA — Country in the city, cape cod on a cul-de-sac. .88 acres, 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, fin bsmt w/wet bar, newer high eff furnace, windows, siding, Koi pond, large deck, outside lighting. Call Cindy Evans</p> <p>\$380,000 (G32501) 313-622-8755</p>	<p>CANTON — Desirable Huntington Place! Gorgeous colonial nestled in desirable sub. 4 BR, 3.5 BA, luxurious master w/separate shower & tub. Finished basement w/rec room, wet bar & full bath. Beautifully maintained. Call Cathy Rakoczy</p> <p>\$339,900 (26028420) 313-990-6605</p>	<p>CANTON — Cape cod with premium features! Extensive landscaping & screened gazebo highlight this cape cod. 4 BR/2.5BA, jacuzzi, hot tub, skylights, his & hers closets, premium elevation and the list goes on! Call Cathy Rakoczy</p> <p>\$339,900 (26030158) 313-990-6605</p>	<p>LIVONIA — Well maintained 3 bedroom, 2 bath ranch located in Green Brier Estates sub. .5 acre lot with mature trees. Home also has a Florida rm and a 2.5 car garage. Call Larry Hatfield</p> <p>\$279,500 (M16810) 313-820-9711</p>	<p>SOUTHFIELD — Loads of updates in this 3 bedroom colonial. Incl roof & siding w/transerable warranty & windows. All big things are done. Call for the list: Flr/A room & huge backyard. Just move in. Call Cheryl Krug</p> <p>\$159,900 (W19200) 734-276-3781</p>
<p>FARMINGTON HILLS — Do some of your own updating and reap the rewards. 3 BR brick ranch in ever popular Kendallwood w/large lots. Living room w/fireplace, family room, full basement. 2 car att gar. Good condition & some updates. Call Marilyn Handloser</p> <p>\$207,900 (N28346) 248-231-4216</p>	<p>WHITMORE LAKE — Lake front on all sports 680 acre Whitmore Lake. Move in cond, updates thruout, 4 BR, finished basement, 3 1/2 BA, large glassed porch. 2nd garage converted to studio & more. Sandy frontage. Call Marilyn Handloser.</p> <p>\$349,900 (E104) 248-231-4216</p>	<p>LIVONIA — Super! 3 bedroom, 2 full bath brick ranch! Finished basement, completely updated & clean! for free 24 hour recorded information, please call 1-800-281-2761. Call Kim Lindsay</p> <p>\$169,900 (S10061) 734-502-4396</p>	<p>NORTHFIELD — Lake living in time for 2006 season!!! 3 bedroom 1990 built approx 1200 sq. ft. "Laminated wood in kitchen and dining area" Large deck w/big back yard" Freshly painted exterior" Seconds from Horseshoe Lake!! Visit www.doortodreams.com. Call Derek Bauer</p> <p>\$184,900 (D296) 734-678-4745</p>	<p>BRIGHTON — Lake view-wooded setting-gorgeous!!! 1900+- finished sq. ft. Updates galore last year include kitchen, bath, finished basement, more! " Florida room w/hot tub " Living room w/cathedral ceiling "Wrap around deck. Call Derek Bauer. Visit www.doortodreams.com.</p> <p>\$189,900 (C1553) 734-678-4745</p>	<p>REDFORD — Charming Redford bungalow w/hardwood. Tastefully decorated. " Totally updated kitchen " Hardwood in excellent shape " Living room w/ceiling " Newer windows, HWH, circuit breakers " Stylish wood blinds. Call Derek Bauer. Visit www.doortodreams.com.</p> <p>\$115,000 (N19384) 734-678-4745</p>

BRIEFS

ABCs of Remodeling

Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan's (BIA) Remodelers Council is presenting the ABCs of Remodeling seminar 5:30-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 14, at the Doyle Center, 7275 Wing Lake Road, west of Telegraph and north off 14 Mile in Bloomfield Hills.

The program is free of charge and sponsored by Al Bourdeau Insurance, Bloomfield Township Library, Décor and You, First Horizon Home Loans, H.J. Oldencamp, Italy American Construction, Pella Window & Door, Republic Bank, Shea Construction Co. and Templeton Building.

The ABCs of Remodeling seminar is aimed at assisting homeowners with remodeling projects and will feature a panel of experts providing advice on major and minor projects. The panel includes moderator Mark Renn of H.J. Oldenkamp; John Maloney of Boa Construction; Don Pratt of Wake Pratt Construction; Patty Shea of Shea Company Construction; Mike Gordon, A.I.A. of Moiseyev/Gordon Architects; Tim Smith of Republic Bank; and Don Bourdeau of Al Bourdeau Insurance Co. These experts will discuss the following topics: kitchens/baths, home additions, insurance, energy efficiency, cost/financing and hiring a professional.

Registration and tabletop displays begin 5:30-6:30 p.m. Program runs 6:30-8:30 p.m. For information, call (248) 862-1008.

Education Seminars

The Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan is sponsoring the following:

- 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 Remodelers 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 brown bag lunch, pop and cookies will be provided. (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 nonmembers. 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.

Oakland Builders Institute

Oakland Builders Institute will offer the following classes:

- 6-10 p.m. Monday/Wednesday, March 13 and 15, Basement Remodeling, Waterford Mott High School, 1151 Scott Lake Road, Waterford. The cost is \$99 plus \$10 for textbook and materials. Pre-registration is required by Thursday, March 9, Waterford Community Education. (248) 682-1088.
- 6-10 p.m. Monday/Wednesday, March 13, 15, 20, and 22, "How To Build Your Own Home," Walled Lake Middle School, 46720 W. Pontiac Trail, Walled Lake, \$199 plus \$30 for two course textbooks. Pre-registration is required by Thursday, March 9, Walled Lake Community Education. (248) 956-5000.
- 6-10 p.m. Monday/Wednesday, March 13, 15, 20 and 22, "Michigan State Builder's License Examination," at Avery Elementary School, 14700 Lincoln, Oak Park, \$190 plus \$20 for course textbook and sample questions. Pre-registration is required no later than Thursday, March 9, Berkley Community Education. (248) 837-8900.

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~ Southfield ~

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Parkview

Southfield's... \$300's

~ Dexter ~

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**Wednesday, March 15th 6:30-8:30 pm-The Summit
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Space is limited.
Please call (734) 397-0444 Ext. 104 to reserve your seat.

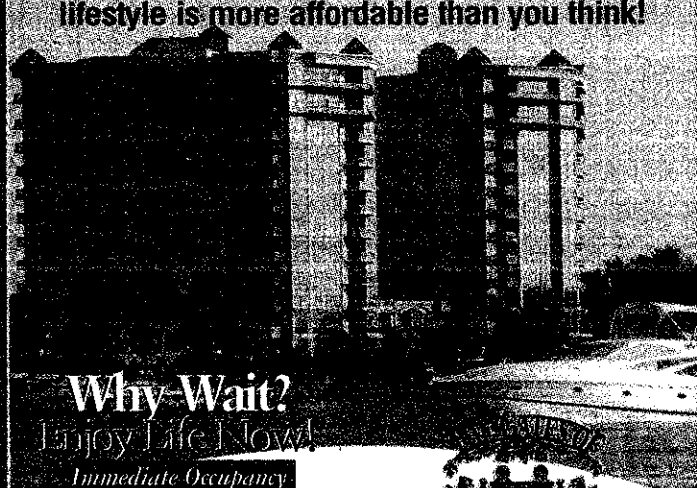
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With many exclusive amenities, these maintenance free condominiums offer every convenience, as well as peace of mind in a relaxed setting.

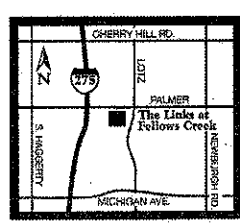
- Billiards room, gathering room and 24-hour workout facility
- Two & three bedroom ranches (also available on the first floor)
- Attached garages (some 2-car side-by-side) available
- Private pool and clubhouse
- Homes from 1,304 to 1,681 square feet

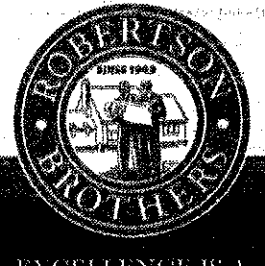
Invest in Your Lifestyle



CANTON | Attached condominiums
From the high \$150,000's*
(734) 728-2354
FREE FLAT PANEL TV**
PLUS two other incredible incentive programs to choose from!





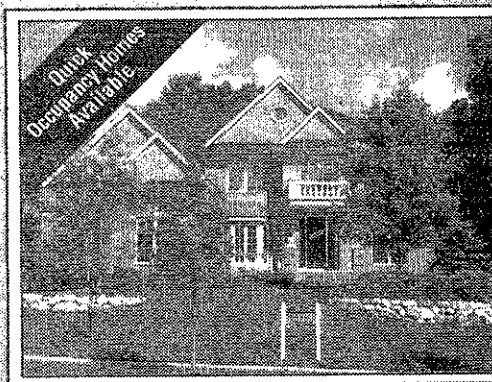


EXCELLENCE IS A FAMILY TRADITION.

Models open daily, Noon to 6 p.m. | Brokers welcome.
*Prices and availability subject to change without notice.
**While supplies last. See Sales Consultant for details. *Restrictions apply.
www.robertson-brothers.com

NEW HOME DIRECTORY

An Area Wide Collection of Fine Homes and Planned Communities
Visit One of These Outstanding New Homes Today!



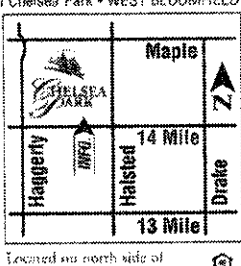

Chelsea Park
The Woods of Chelsea Park • WEST BLOOMFIELD

Starting at \$639,900

- Spectacular 4 Bedroom Colonial and 1 1/2 Story Homes
- Wooded Homesites
- Final phase of an Award-Winning Community

Open daily 12-6pm, closed Thurs. bingcustomhomes.com

(248) 661-4891

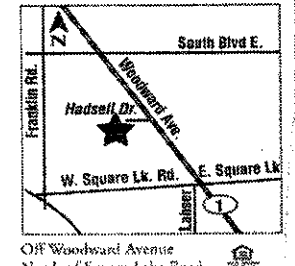

The Estates of Bloomfield Highlands

Starting at \$584,900

- Prestigious Bloomfield Hills Mailing Address and Schools
- Award-Winning Model Home
- Large Wooded Homesites

Open daily 12-6pm, closed Thurs. bingcustomhomes.com

(248) 454-9084

Tyler Estates IV

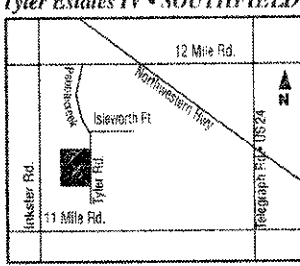
Starting from \$299,900

Features:

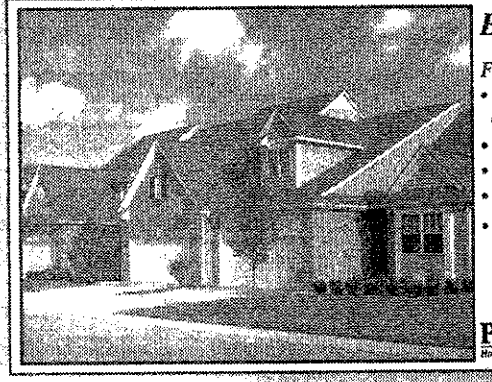
- 2 New Floor Plans
- Final Phase

Claymore Construction Company

Tyler Estates IV • SOUTHFIELD



(248) 514-6300



Brookside Villas

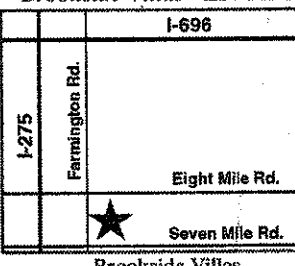
Features:

- First Floor Master Bedroom Condominiums
- 1700-2000 Sq Ft
- Prices Starting From \$270,000
- 2-3 Bedroom Units
- 2 Car Attached Garages

BROOKSIDE VILLAS

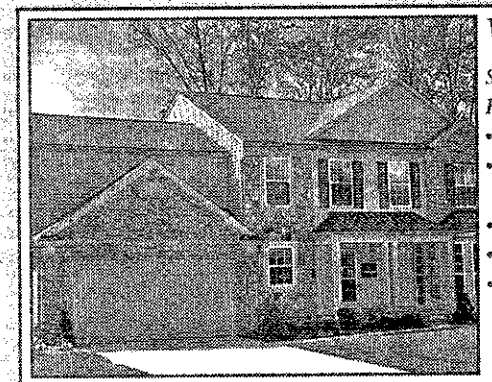
Phoenix Home Building Company

Brookside Villas • LIVONIA



(734) 476-3536

Open Noon - 6 Closed Thursday www.phoenixhomebuildingco.com



Wildbrook

Starting at \$205,990

Features:

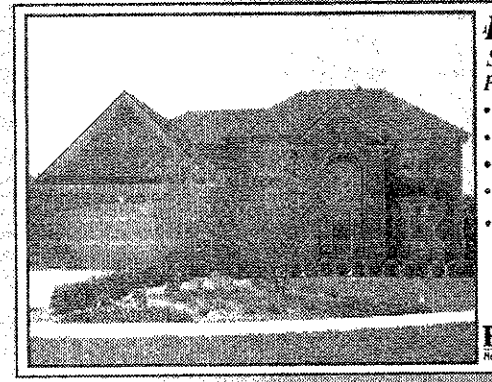
- Single Family Homes
- Three, Four And Five Bedroom Layouts
- Quality Craftsmanship
- Wall-To-Wall Carpet
- First Floor Laundry

KIME

Wildbrook • VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP



(734) 697-1555



Brookside Estates

Starting from \$364,900

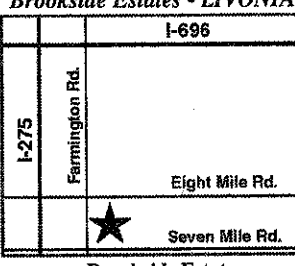
Features:

- Single Family Homes
- 2500-2800 Sq Ft
- 4 Bedroom
- 2.5 Bath
- 2 Car Attached Garages

BROOKSIDE ESTATES

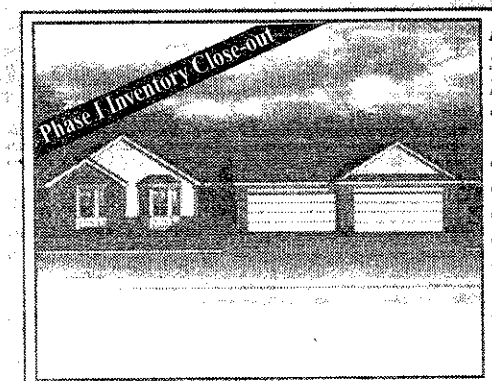
Phoenix Home Building Company

Brookside Estates • LIVONIA



(734) 476-9960

Open Noon - 6 Closed Thursday www.phoenixhomebuildingco.com



Bromley Park

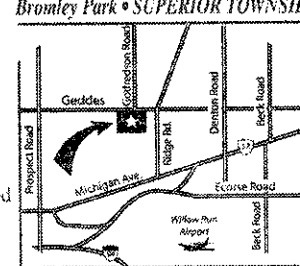
Starting from the \$159,900

Features:

- Spacious, Two-Bedroom All Ranch Condominiums
- Private Entrance
- 2-Car Attached garage
- All Kitchen Appliances Included
- Air Conditioning Included
- First Floor Laundry
- Full Basement
- and Much More!

Bromley Park Condominiums

Brookside Park • SUPERIOR TOWNSHIP



(734) 482-1440

Open Daily 12-5 Closed Thursday www.bromleyparkcondos.com



BLACKBERRY HILLS

Single Family Homes from the \$290's

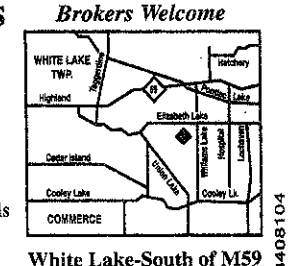
Features:

- IMMEDIATE OCCUPANCY
- Wooded, Daylight and Walkout sites
- Tree lined streets with city sidewalks
- Highly acclaimed Walled lake Schools

BLACKBERRY HOMES

www.heritagenosahomes.com

Brokers Welcome



White Lake-South of M59 (248) 698-3011

Open Daily 11:00 am - 5:00 pm



Stonebridge

Starting From the \$170's

Features:

- Two Car Attached Garage
- Full Basement
- Private Clubhouse
- Ranch, 2-Story and Split-Level Designs
- Low Lapeer County Taxes

Development Hours: Monday - Sunday 12:00pm - 5:00pm

810-667-7018

Fritz Builders Inc.

Stonebridge of Holly VILLAGE OF HOLLY



www.fritzbuilders.com



STONEBRIDGE

A Planned Condominium Community

Prices From \$113,900

Features:

- Ranches, Townhomes and Carriage Units
- 2 Bedrooms, 1 1/2 and 2 Baths
- All Appliances Inc. Washer and Dryer
- Central Air Conditioning
- Cathedral Ceilings and Ceramic Tile Baths
- Attached Garage

Development Co., Inc.

Office Phone: 248-745-5956

Model Phone: 248-328-0601

Model Hours: Noon to 6 pm, Daily & Saturday

Sunday 1 - 6 pm

Closed Thursday

www.thdevelopment.com




The Hills of Oxford

From the \$149's

Features:

- Townhomes & Condominiums
- 2 & 3 bedrooms
- First floor master suites available
- 2 or 3 car attached garages
- Award winning Lake Orion schools

cohenhomes

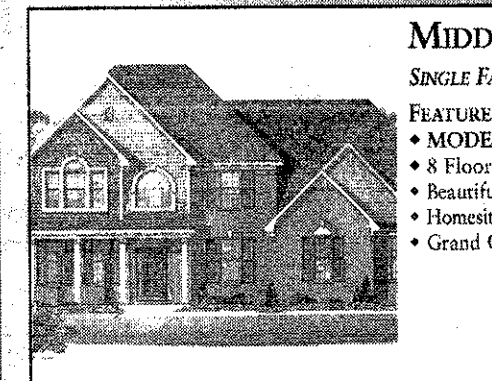
different by design

CLARKSTON



888.499.3515

Open daily 11am - 5pm cohenhomes.com



MIDDLESBORO

AT OAKHURST GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB

SINGLE FAMILY HOMES FROM THE UPPER \$300'S

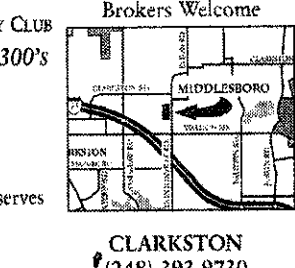
FEATURES:

- MODELS NOW OPEN!
- 8 Floor Plans From 2,600-4,800 SF
- Beautiful Architectural Detailing
- Homesites Overlooking Golf Course & Preserves
- Grand Opening Pricing Avail.

NEUMANN HOMES

neumann homes.com

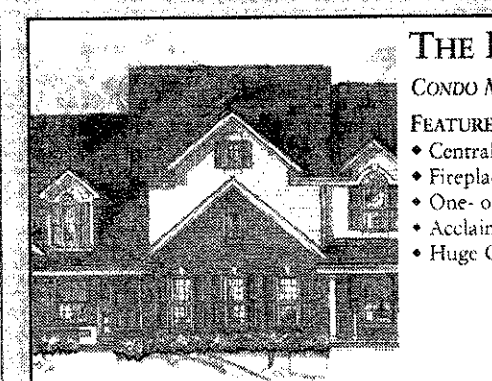
Brokers Welcome



CLARKSTON (248) 393-9730

Open Daily 11am - 6pm

On Clintonville Rd., between Waldon & Clarkston Rds.



THE HAMPTONS

CONDO MANOR HOMES FROM THE UPPER \$190'S

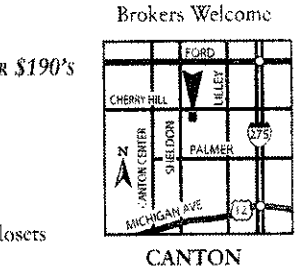
FEATURES:

- Central Air Conditioning
- Fireplace
- One- or Two-Car Garage
- Acclaimed Plymouth-Canton Schools
- Huge Owner's Suites with Walk-In Closets

NEUMANN HOMES

neumann homes.com

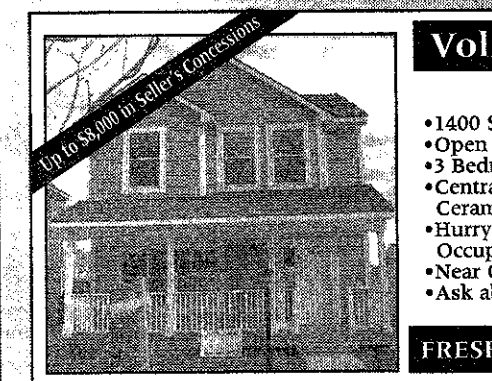
Brokers Welcome



CANTON (734) 981-7740

Open Daily 11am - 6pm

Off Cherry Hill Rd., east of Sheldon Rd.



Volney Park

Starting from \$168,000

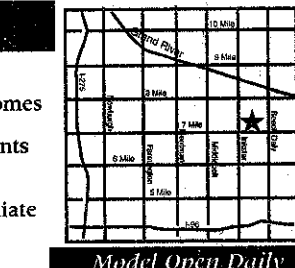
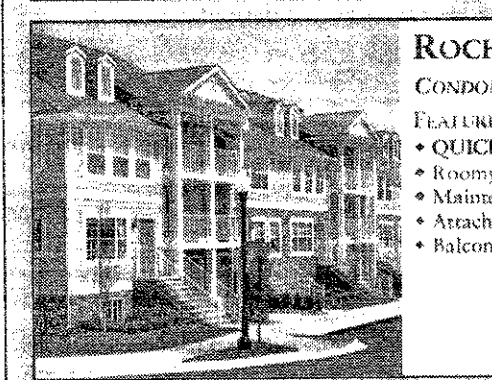
- 1400 Square Foot Single Family Homes
- Open Floor Plans
- 3 Bedrooms, 2+ Baths, Full Basements
- Central Air, Hardwood Floors, Ceramic Tile Standard
- Hurry! Only 2 Available for Immediate Occupancy.
- Near Community Park
- Ask about Phase II Pricing

FRESH IMAGE CONSTRUCTION

Model Open Daily

1:00-5:00, Saturdays 12:00-3:00

(734) 306-6131

ROCHESTER COMMONS

CONDOMINIUM HOMES FROM THE \$190'S

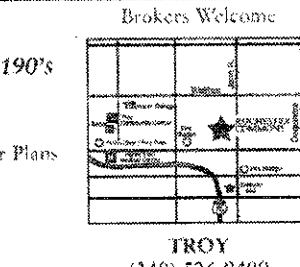
FEATURES:

- QUICK OCCUPANCY!
- Roomy Two & Three Bedroom Floor Plans
- Maintenance-Free Living
- Attached Private Garages
- Balconies on Select Floor Plans

NEUMANN HOMES

neumann homes.com

Brokers Welcome



TROY (248) 526-0400

Open Daily 11am - 6pm

On Big Beaver, east of Rochester Road



MILL CREEK ESTATES

SINGLE FAMILY HOMES FROM THE UPPER \$300'S

FEATURES:

- 3 & 4 Bedroom Plans from 2,562-3,312 SF
- 3-Car Side-Entry Garage
- Wooded, Daylight & Walkout Homesites Avail.
- Gourmet Kitchen with GE Built-In Appliances
- Large Master Suites with Walk-In Closet

NEUMANN HOMES

neumann homes.com

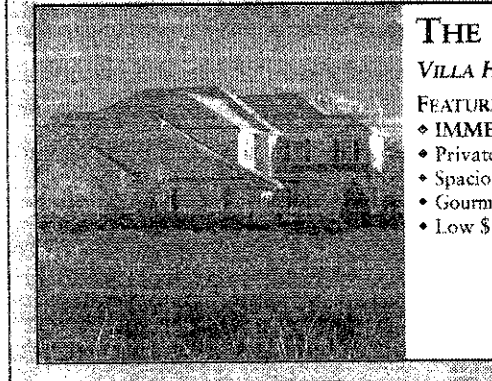
Brokers Welcome



LAKE ORION (248) 393-0000

Open Daily 11am - 6pm

Off Baldwin Rd., between Waldon & Sashaw Rds.



THE SANCTUARY IN THE HILLS

VILLA HOMES FROM THE UPPER \$400'S

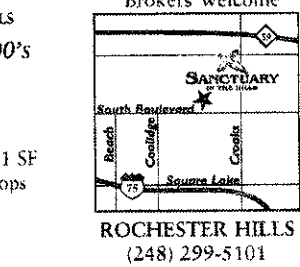
FEATURES:

- IMMEDIATE OCCUPANCY!
- Private, Maintenance-Free Living
- Spacious Floor Plans From 2,472-3,031 SF
- Gourmet Kitchen with Granite Countertops
- Low \$155/Month Association Dues

NEUMANN HOMES

neumann homes.com

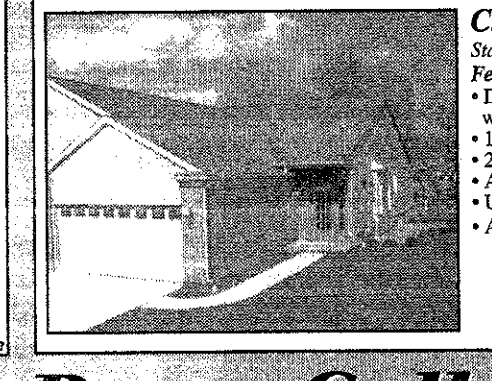
Brokers Welcome



ROCHESTER HILLS (248) 299-5101

Open Daily 11am - 6pm

North side of South Blvd., west of Crooks



Chelsea Ridge

Starting at \$179,900

Features:

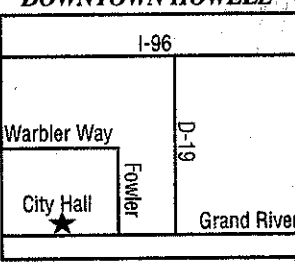
- Duplex Homes w/full LL w/daylight window
- 1,238 square feet
- 2 Beds / 2 Baths
- Attached 2 Car Garage
- Upgraded Energy Package
- All Appliances Included! Unit #3

Century 21 Brookshire

Call Tom Racine • 734-657-3954

www.tomracine.com

DOWNTOWN HOWELL



To Place an Ad on this Page, Call 734.953.2176

Every week on these pages

DREAMS

COME TRUE

A sparkling new home with everything fresh and new. If that's been your dream, make it a reality. The choice is yours. Today



NEW HOME DIRECTORY

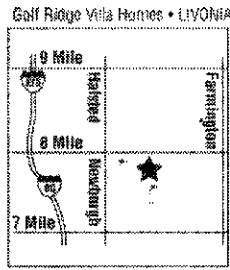
Visit One of These Outstanding New Homes Today!



Golf Ridge Villa Homes

From the \$360's

- First floor master suites with luxury baths
- Innovative floorplans with great rooms and gourmet kitchens
- Optional sunrooms and three car garages available
- Maintenance of lawns, landscaping & snow removal
- Paved walking trails
- Surrounded by 900 acres of parks and golf courses



Located off 8 Mile just east of Newburgh Road.
(248) 615-0300
GolfRidgeHomes.com



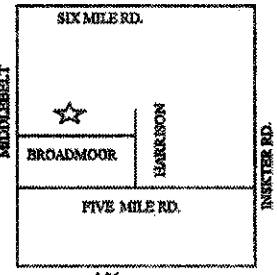
LIVONIA NEW CONSTRUCTION

PRICE UNDER \$300,000

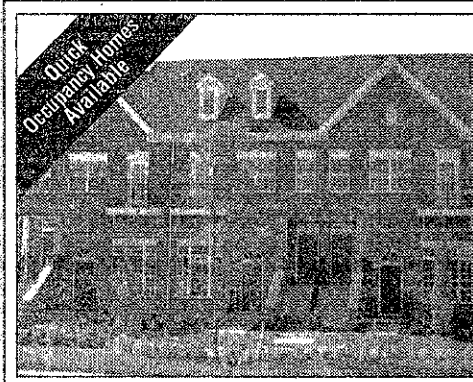
OUTSTANDING THREE BEDROOM BRICK COLONIALS

2.5 BATHS - 1900 Sq. Ft.

- Master Suite w/shower, WIC and pan ceiling
- Great room w/gas fireplace
- Large kit w/oak cabinets and crown molding
- Private study/library
- 1/2 acre lots with mature trees
- Custom landscaping w/brick paver patio
- Granite tops, premium carpet
- First floor laundry
- Open Floor



Call Brian Duggan • 734-591-1900
RE/MAX ALLIANCE

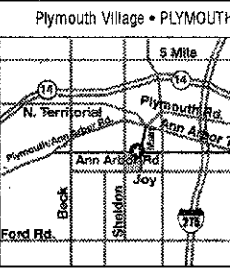


PLYMOUTH VILLAGE

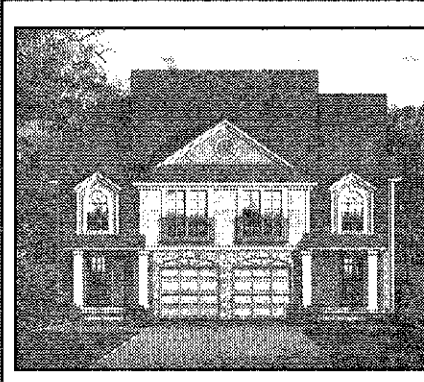
The Essence of Urban Living

From \$159,900

- Brownstones with volume ceilings and room for everything
- Two and three bedroom designs
- Attached garages
- Walking distance to Plymouth shops, restaurants and festivals



On Ann Arbor Road, just West of Main Street.
(734) 459-4112
www.plymouthvillage.net



The Uplands

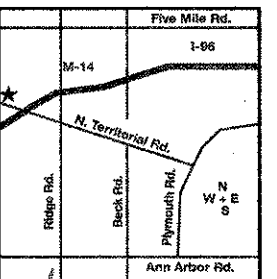
Beautiful New Townhomes in Plymouth Township

Features:

- 2 Bedrooms / 2 Baths
- Full Basement
- All End Units
- Country Setting
- Spec Homes Available

Two Models Open Daily 12-6

Closed Thursday
Sherwood Building Co.
734-453-7700



Entrance On N. Territorial Road, In Rear Of Woodland Pond Subdivision. Close To All Major Freeways.



Kirkway Place

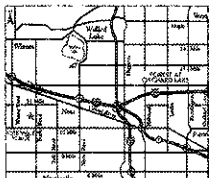
Detached Ranch Condominium Homes On 28 Acre Park Preserve

Priced From \$445,900

Features:

- Small Intimate Setting
- 2 & 3 Bedroom Condos
- 3 Car Garages Available
- Novi Schools
- Fully Landscaped With Deck

Sales Information: Open Daily Noon-5pm or By Appointment



www.windmillhomes.com
248-465-0225



10,000 IN FREE UPGRADES OR CLOSING COST

Sheltering Pines Condominiums

Ranch End Units Starting From \$161,900

1,050 Sq. Ft. • 1.5 Baths

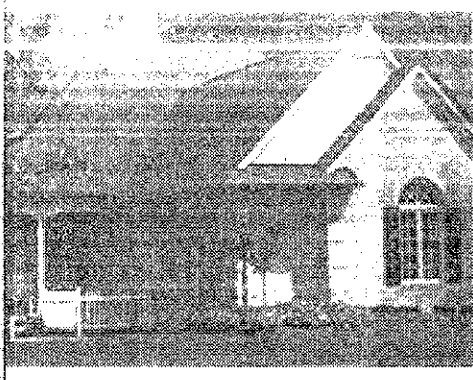
Townhomes Starting From \$181,900

1,550 Sq. Ft. • 2 & 3 Bedrooms With Optional Lofts • 2.5 Baths

Features:

- Maple Cabinets
- Anderson Windows
- Custom Trim Packages

Located 1.4 Mile North of Ford Road On the East Side of Newburgh Road
(734) 641-2218 • Model Open Daily: 1:00pm till 5:00pm • Closed Wednesday & Thursday



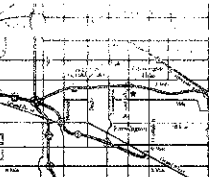
Immaculately designed ranch condominium homes in Farmington Hills

Priced From \$439,900

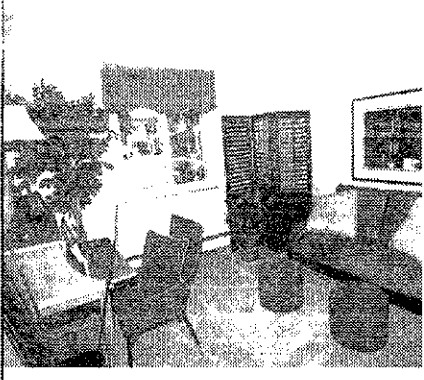
Features:

- 2 & 3 Bedroom Condos
- 3 Car Garage Homes Available
- Fully Landscaped With Deck
- Complete Appliance Package

Hurry! Only 2 Units Remain!
Sales Information: Open Daily Noon-5pm or By Appointment • Closed Wed. & Thurs.



www.windmillhomes.com
248-592-9292



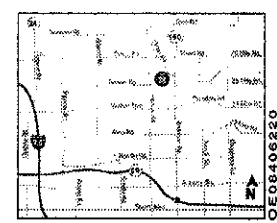
ROCHESTER COURT CONDOMINIUMS

Starting Price \$82,990

Features:

- 1/2 Mile From Downtown Rochester
- 1, 2 & 3 Bedroom Condos
- Great Floorplans
- All Appliances Included
- Covered Parking
- Fitness Center

248-651-6265



Fountain P.L.A.C.E.

Priced From \$141,900

Features:

- Expansive Master Suites With Large Closets
- Two Car Attached Garage
- Complete Appliance Package

734-326-0600
Sales Information: Open Daily 11am-5pm Or By Appointment



www.windmillhomes.com



NEWPORT PARK

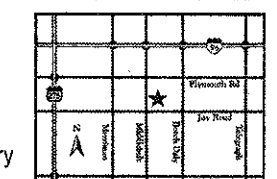
CITY HOMES OF LIVONIA

Starting Price \$170,000's

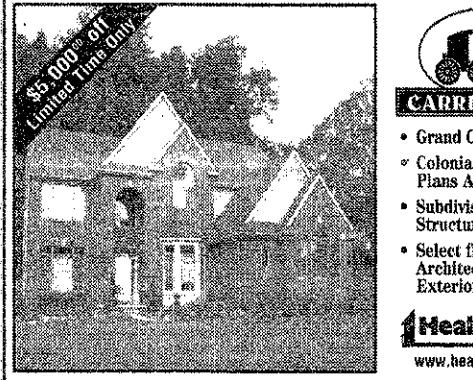
Final Closeout! Only 3 Units Available!!

734-524-9494

www.windmillhomes.com



www.windmillhomes.com



CARRIAGE CLUB

Starting from the Low \$290's

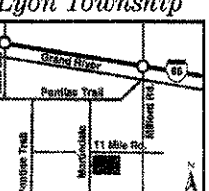
Grand Opening Phase III - 80 Lots to choose from

Colonial, 1st Floor Master and Ranch Plans Available

Subdivision Park with Playground Structure, Soccer Field and Walking Trails

Select from an Extensive List of Architectural Floor Plans and Exterior Elevations

HealyHomes LLC
www.healyhomes.com



Model Located off Martindale Rd. between 10 Mile & 11 Mile Rd.
Model OPEN Mon-Fri 11-6
Sat & Sun 11-5 • Realtors Welcome
Phone 248-486-2985



LYON RIDGE 2 GREAT SOUTH LYON AREA COMMUNITIES

The Heights of Elkow Farms

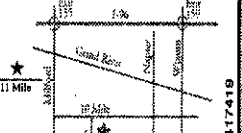
Homes from the \$270's

Visit Today or Call 248.755.9893

Lyon Ridge

Homes from the \$340's

Visit Today or Call 248.755.9884



NEWBERRY ESTATES

SINGLE FAMILY HOMES FROM \$279,900

FEATURES:

• Don't wait! Final phase in desirable community.

• Hurry! Only 2 quick occupancy homes left.

• Spacious Colonial, Ranch and Cape Cod Homes.

• Large private homesites going fast!

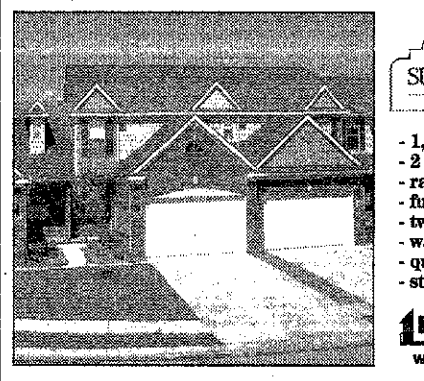
• FREE Sod and Sprinklers.

• Great Location - Close to library, parks, shopping, dining and minutes to I 275.

WESTLAND



MC Construction
734-467-7400
Open Daily 12-5pm
Closed Thursdays



SUMMERFIELD POINTE

Starting at \$179,900

- 1,300 - 1,800 square feet

- 2 - 3 bedrooms

- ranches and first-floor masters

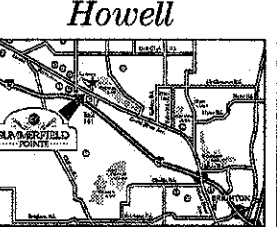
- full basements

- two-car garages

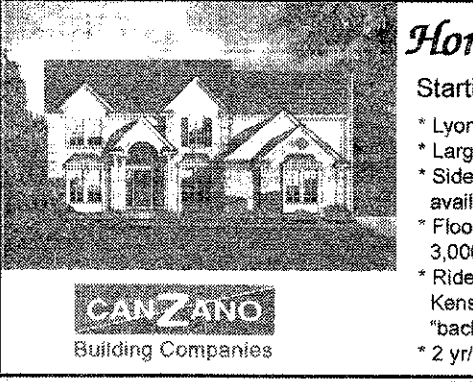
- walkouts and daylight basements available

- quick occupancy homes available - starting at \$179,900

HealyHomes LLC
www.healyhomes.com



Model located north of Grand River off Lawson Drive across from Kohls.
OPEN Weekdays 11am - 6pm
Weekends 11am - 5pm
Phone: 517-548-9066



Hornbrook Estates

Starting from the Low \$300's

• Lyon Township / South Lyon

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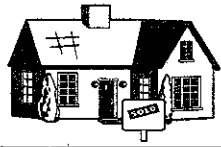
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Great room, oak kitchen, 2.5 baths, walk-in closet. Full basement. Heated & insulated garage. All appliances \$209,900. MLS 26008677</p> <p>Century 21 CENTURY 21 TODAY, Inc. 734-462-9800 www.century21today.com</p>	<p>Plymouth 3347</p> <p>JUST LISTED 3 Bdrm, 2 bath in town. Completely updated kitchen by Stella. Updated baths, 2 car garage, new windows, 1st floor laundry. \$274,900</p> <p>Barbara Carr Pope (734) 459-1234 (734) 674-2727 Cell RE/MAX on the Trail</p> <p>Plymouth Land Contract / Rent To Own, Low down, easy terms. Problem credit ok. Custom home on 1/2 acre lot. \$1595/mo. w/\$800 monthly credit!! Owner: 734-667-1906</p> <p>Redford 3350</p> <p>Just Reduced!</p> <p>ATTENTION AGENTS! 2% Bonus to selling agent!! Great 1470 sq. ft., 3 bdrm brick ranch w/2 1/2 car garage, newer roof, windows & furnace. Immediate occupancy. This home must be seen! Sellers motivated!! Only \$159,900.</p> <p>Call Mary L. Bush 248-477-9600 RE/MAX Affiliates</p>	<p>Rochester 3360</p> <p>ROCHESTER HILLS Extended family home, completely remodeled, 4 bdrm, 2 1/2 bath, great room, formal dining room, Crown, ceramic & hardwood, Cherry kitchen. New windows & furnace. Attached in-law apt: 1 bdrm, 1 bath, lg. kitchen, great room, private entrance, separate furnace. 1/2 acre wooded lot. \$419,000. 248-652-2413</p> <p>Royal Oak 3370</p> <p>By Owner</p> <p>BRAND NEW LOFT 2 Bdrm, 2 bath, 2 parking places, fireplace, granite kitchen. \$316,500. By apt. 248-930-0764/248-763-8085</p>	<p>West Bloomfield 3440</p> <p>By Owner</p> <p>MISSION SPRINGS NATURE PRESERVE On Darb Lake. 4 bdrm, 3 full bath colonial. Finished bsmt., screened porch, granite thru-out. New roof. 2900 sq. ft. \$419,900 http://photo.360clapboard.com/v6310mission.htm 248-568-1135</p> <p>West Bloomfield 3440</p> <p>WEST BLOOMFIELD 7405 Silver Leaf Lane. Beautiful contemporary w/ many upgrades. 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<p>Howell 3230</p> <p>HOWELL - 3 bdrm, 2 bath, 1551 sq.ft., ranch with full walkout bsmt on 3.24 acres. \$255,000. 734-891-1633</p> <p>Howell Open Sun. 1-3 1875 ECHO HILLS RD. 48855 5 bedrooms, 3 1/2 baths, 2,592 sq. ft. colonial on 1.8 acres, turn-key condition, very nice! \$295,666. CALL JOYCE DESLIERRES (810) 494-9104 Keller Williams 1005 E. Grand River, Brighton</p> <p>IMMEDIATE OCCUPANCY 3200 sq.ft., 4 br, 3.5 bath walkout, 4.5 acres, 64x52x14 heated out building, \$410,000. (517) 548-5229</p>	<p>Northwest Livonia Gem with most of the updating done for you. 4 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath ranch with 2 1/2 car garage, large lot and close to everything. \$184,900.</p> <p>WINDRIDGE 4 bedroom, 2 bath home is centrally located, beautifully maintained with neutral decor, finished basement, updates, 2-car attached garage and too much more to list here. Priced to sell at \$259,900.</p> <p>MARY McLEOD RE/MAX Alliance 734-462-3600 248-477-2006 www.marymcleod.com</p>	<p>JUST LISTED!</p> <p>BEAUTIFUL PREMIUM COMMONS LOT Spacious 2 story 3 bdrm, 2.5 bath. Vaulted Great room w/ fireplace. Large kitchen/dining area. C/A. Brick patio. Close to schools. \$329,900. MLS 26030444</p> <p>Century 21 CENTURY 21 TODAY, Inc. 734-462-9800 www.century21today.com</p>	<p>REDUCED and OPEN 1-4 46141 Sunset West of Clement Between Main & 7 Mile WOW!! What a price for Northville! Absolutely beautiful inside. Newly updated with open floor plan, oversized 2 1/2 car garage and ready to occupy. \$204,900.</p> <p>MARY McLEOD RE/MAX Alliance 734-462-3600 248-477-2006 www.marymcleod.com</p>	<p>JUST LISTED!</p> <p>3 BEDROOM BUNGALOW Many updates. Partly finished basement, garage. \$184,900 - 25174234</p> <p>Century 21 CENTURY 21 TODAY, Inc. 248-647-8888 www.century21today.com</p>	<p>JUST LISTED!</p> <p>ROYAL OAK, 3 bed Bungalow, updated kitchen w/Euro-style cabinets, totally re-done bath, \$4500 seller concession to buyer. 2923 N. Vermont \$176,000. 248-721-0574</p> <p>JUST LISTED!</p> <p>3 BEDROOM BUNGALOW Many updates. Partly finished basement, garage. \$184,900 - 25174234</p> <p>Century 21 CENTURY 21 TODAY, Inc. 248-647-8888 www.century21today.com</p>	<p>West Bloomfield Open Saturday 1-4 & Sunday 1-4 2258 SHORE HILL DR. N./Long Lake, E/Middlebelt Fabulous lakefront view! Approx. 4,000 sq. ft. Totally remodeled in 2005. Builder must sell! 4 Bedrooms, 3.5 Baths. Stainless steel appliances in dream kitchen. 2nd Master suite. Hardwood floors. Bloomfield Hills Schools. Two fireplaces. \$799,900.</p> <p>Call Mark Warren (248) 539-7307 (248) 417-0742 Keller Williams Realty 30500 Northwestern Hwy. Farmington Hills</p>	<p>JUST LISTED!</p> <p>CANTON Fabulous condo w/2 bdrms., 1.5 baths, attached garage, awesome finished bsmt., lots of storage. Low dues-immediate occupancy, appliances incl. \$147,500. Call Dawn Coddington 734-383-6010 Century 21 Row 734-464-7111</p>	<p>WESTLAND CHEAPER THAN RENT 1, 2 & 3 bdrm townhouses close to Hines Park, totally updated, vinyl windows, immediate occupancy, priced \$49,900 to \$89,900. Century 21 Manual Cole Realty (313) 937-0804</p> <p>Westland TWO YEARS NEW And ideally situated at the rear of complex, this 2 bedroom, 2 bath unit is neutral with vaulted ceilings, deck, attached garage and more. \$157,500.</p> <p>Livonia 1999 BUILT 2 bdrm, 1 1/2 bath ranch condo with great room, kitchen with island, 1st floor utilities, neutral decor & attached garage. Only \$169,900.</p>
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Living: Separate wings help ensure family's privacy

A dramatic recessed entry welcomes visitors into this unusual contemporary home. The two parallel wings on either side of the front porch reflect the division of space within.

The panoramic scope of the central living area allows full appreciation of the finest that nature has to offer. In warm weather, the patio and two decks allow for enjoyment of the hot summer nights and cool fall evenings.

The heart of the Lida (405-02) is the large open dining, living and kitchen area. A bordering nook with six skylights will surely make any meal more appetizing. Meals may be prepared and served with the cook in the household not having to miss out on any of the fun.

Kitchen amenities include an island with cook top, double ovens, grill, dishwasher, and

walk-in pantry. A woodstove insert accents the vast living room.

Rectangular wings extend from two sides of the central living area. This arrangement allows for kids and teens to make as much noise as they want in their bedrooms, without the sound they produce intruding on their parents' privacy and quieter atmosphere at the other end of the house. The study has a woodstove and large storage area for games or a collection of books. The sitting area is a sanctuary for meditation and has a private entrance to the master suite.

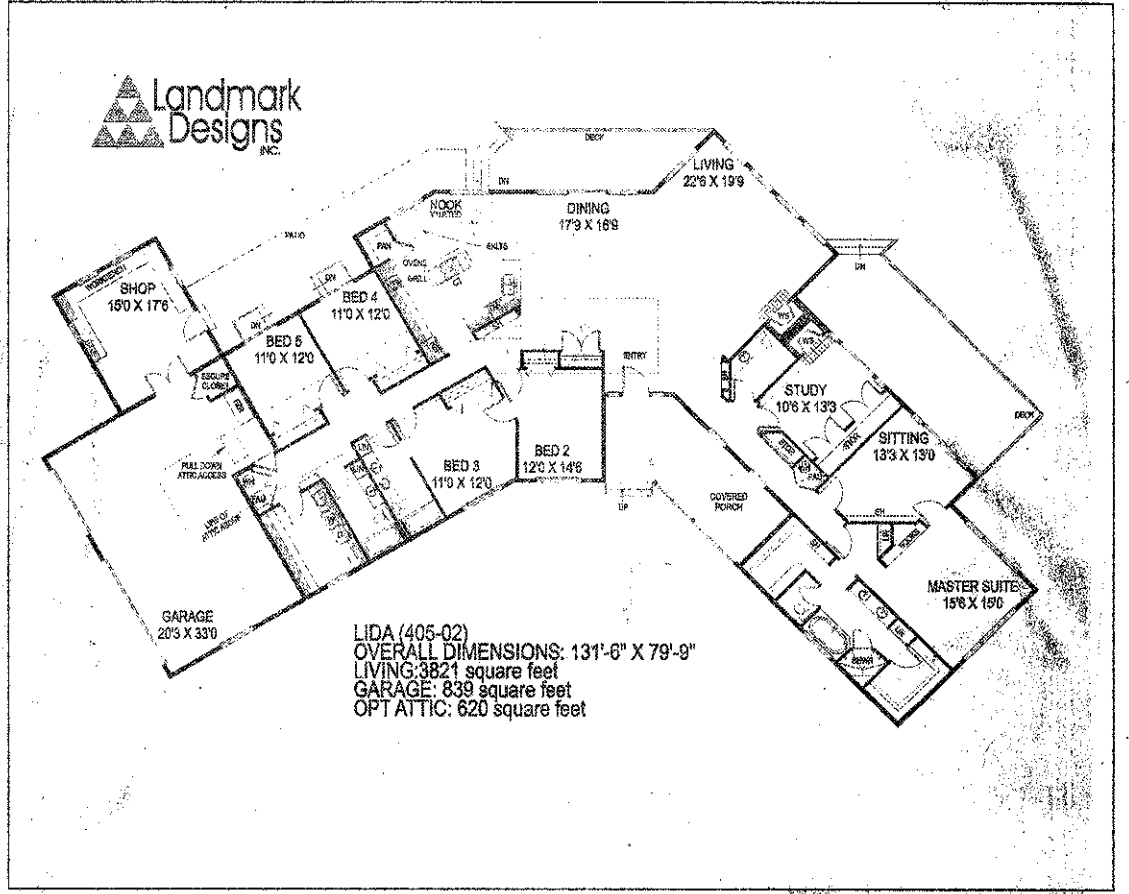
The master suite has two walk-in closets and a large private bathroom with his and hers basins, a shower and a spa.

At the other end of the house there is a sitting room that could be used as a bedroom, and features a private entrance

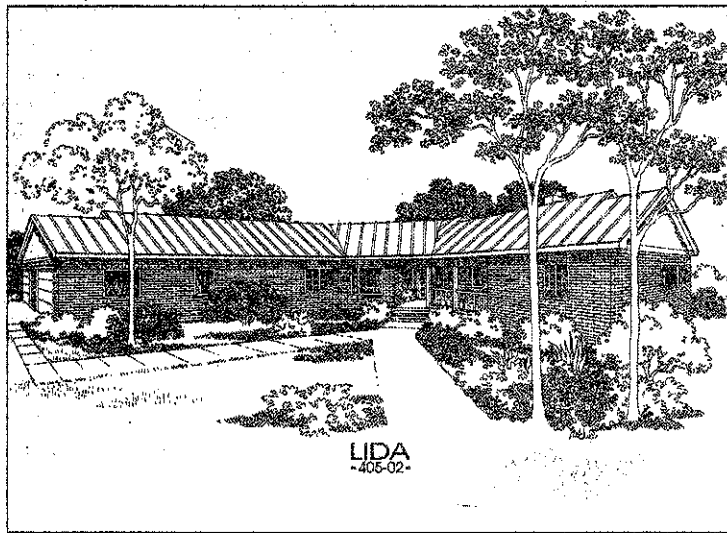
to a third bedroom. This bedroom has a pocket door that leads to the bathroom. The other two bedrooms share a bathroom.

Features in the garage include a secure closet and space for a freezer, and a shop with built-in workbench for the handyman of the house.

For a study plan of the LIDA (405-02), send \$15 to Landmark Designs, 33127 Saginaw Rd. E., Cottage Grove, OR 97424 or call (800) 562-1151. Compact disks, with search functions are free of charge, to help you search our portfolio for you dream home (\$5 shipping and handling will apply). Or you may order or search online at www.lidiplans.com.



LIDA (405-02)
OVERALL DIMENSIONS: 131'-6" X 79'-9"
LIVING: 3821 square feet
GARAGE: 839 square feet
OPT ATTIC: 620 square feet



LIDA
405-02

Add insurance to your project budget, experts say

BY DAVID BRADLEY
FOR AP WEEKLY FEATURES

Chances are you created a project budget for your remodeling or construction project.

But chances are just as good that you neglected to tack on an extra line item for added insurance.

Your standard homeowners policy probably won't cover every aspect of the project. Most home insurance is intended to protect what's already there, not what you plan to add, improve or renovate.

Lost, damaged or stolen materials will need to be replaced.

If you don't take adequate security precautions, portions of a standard policy may be void.

If a worker, neighbor or passerby is injured because of some lapse in the process that could be linked to you, you could be on the wrong end of a legal skirmish.

It will be worth your time to invite your insurance agent for an informal discussion or walk-through of your project intentions.

The agent will be able to suggest riders to existing policies that won't cost an arm and a leg. The riders will be for the term of the project itself.

Eric Goldberg, associate general counsel of the American Insurance Association, says not enough homeowners bother to read existing policies to find what is covered; nor do they talk their plans over with their agent, who can recommend how to fill any gaps in coverage.

Goldberg says homeowners should chiefly be concerned about liability. For example, if any portion of your project would fall over or otherwise cause damage to neighboring property, you could be liable for repairs.

Suggestions can range from roping off excavation holes to secure off-site storage of materials and appliances.

If you live elsewhere during the renovation period, it may be recommended you hire a

All subcontractors should have original insurance documentation, too.

drive-by security service to check on the work site during evening hours.

It will be advantageous to document all materials, safety measures and other insurance-related steps you take. Should an unfortunate event occur, you'll need such paperwork and perhaps photographic or video documentation.

So what can you expect to pay for this protection? According to several insurance sources, the cost will vary by the size and scope of the project.

Since the coverage is of limited duration, the cost of added coverage could be as little as an additional \$200 to a high of roughly \$750.

Location or isolation of your home, availability of street lighting and nearby neighbors who can keep an eye open for events are also variables.

On top of liability and theft coverage is a bump in total coverage for your home.

"With the way real estate prices are going, if the improvement increases the overall value of your home, you'll need to be covered," Goldberg said.

It can be particularly unfortunate if the house is damaged by fire or storms and you won't receive enough insurance proceeds to rebuild.

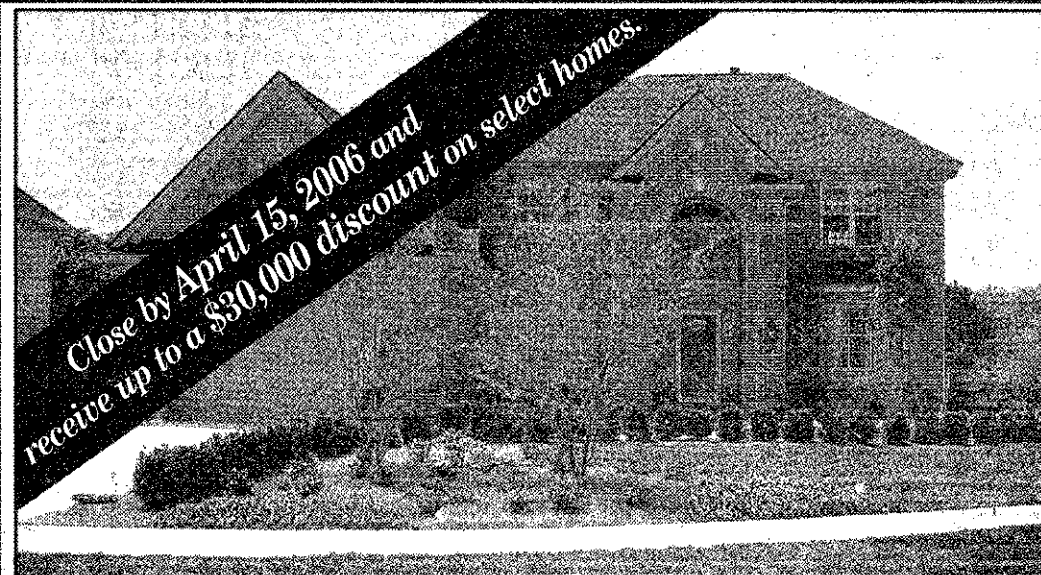
Portions of the project will be covered by the policies of your contractor and subcontractors. Sit down with your general contractor for their two cents on insurance issues.

In any event, insist on viewing original copies of insurance policies. Contractors should have policies for immediate display. Don't accept photo copies, as these are easily altered.

All subcontractors should have original insurance documentation, too.

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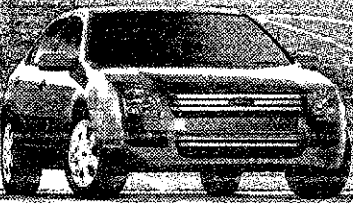


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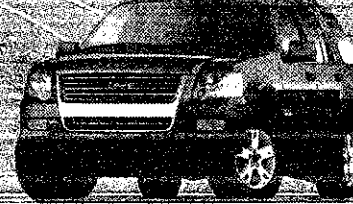


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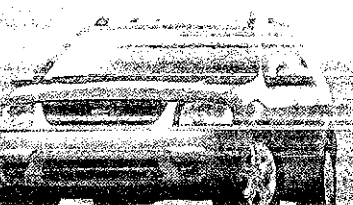


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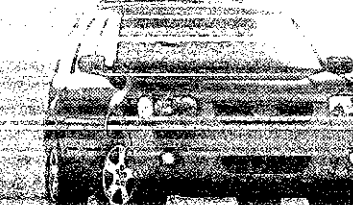


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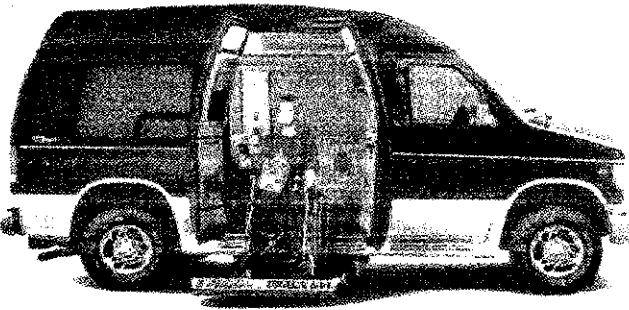


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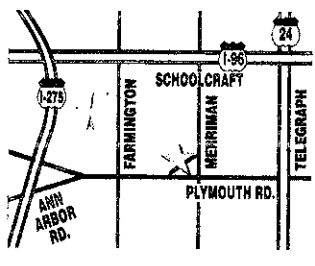
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2006 Hyundai Tucson Limited beefs up SUV field

Advertising Feature

CAReport



Anne Fracassa

By Dave Menard
Avanti NewsFeatures

No, it's not your imagination; the roads of America are clogged with SUVs, of all sizes and from all manufacturers. If you're shopping for an SUV, the choices can be overwhelming, and Hyundai has jumped in with another option to add to your menu - the 2006 Tucson Limited. Hyundai is hoping the Tucson's combination of features and price will pull you into the showroom, and if it does, you might find yourself looking at a pretty decent small SUV.

The Limited trim line replaces the LX version of the Tucson and is the highest trim line available on this SUV. With the Limited, you'll get fog lights, body-side cladding, body-colored door handles and mirrors, a chrome rear accent trim, double-spoke alloy wheels and wider tires than the other versions, and those features compliment an otherwise average-looking SUV. Roof rails are standard.

The front-wheel drive Tucson is powered by a 2.7-liter V6 with an aluminum block and cylinder heads. It's rated at 173hp at 6000 rpm, and 178 lb.-ft. of torque. The V6 is mated with a four-speed automatic transmission and is rated at 20/26 mpg on regular fuel. The combination isn't going to win you Daytona, but provides enough power for smooth acceleration and passing on the highway. While you can leave the shifting to the transmission automatically, it does allow you to shift manually, if you prefer.

For some reason, I wasn't expecting much in the way of a decent ride with the Tucson, but I was pleasantly surprised. For a small SUV, it actually gives you a comfortable ride. The suspension system combines a MacPherson strut system up front with a fully independent strut rear suspen-



2006 Hyundai Tucson Limited. Type: special purpose. Where built: Ulsan, Korea. EPA: 20 city / 26 highway. Base price: \$21,695. Price as tested: \$21,985.

sion system that uses tailing arms and multiple links to control wheel geometry. All four wheels are controlled by coil springs and fade-resistant gas charged dampers, and stabilizer bars are part of each axle's system. Power-assisted rack-and-pinion steering is standard, and with a 35.4-foot turning circle (curb to curb) the Tucson is easy to maneuver in parking lots and during U-turns.

Inside is where the Tucson shows its value. There a lot of standard features in the Tucson. In fact, the only options you can order for the Limited are electronically controlled four-wheel drive and a power tilt-and-slide sunroof. Keyless entry with alarm, automatic climate control system, power doors, windows and locks, cruise control, and power, heated mirrors are all included. The standard audio system is a 200-watt AM/FM/cassette system with a six-disc CD changer and a subwoofer included. The sound is very good, although the tuner is a little weak.

The standard leather seats can be heated and are comfortable with good support. The dash and controls are logical and well-laid out. There's plenty of leg, shoulder and hip room up front, and lots

of cargo space in the back, particularly when you fold down the 60/40 rear seats.

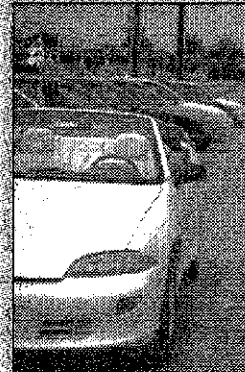
Hyundai is putting a lot of focus on the safety aspect of the Tucson, and it does have some good safety features. Anti-lock brakes are standard; why they're not standard on every vehicle I have no idea. All Tucson trim levels also have Electronic Stability Control (ESC) that includes traction control. ESC compares the driver's intended course (based on steering and braking inputs) with the vehicle's response (based on lateral acceleration, yaw, and individual wheel speeds). ESC then brakes individual front or rear wheels and/or reduces engine power as needed to help correct understeer or oversteer. In addition to the standard front air bags, the Tucson comes with side-impact and side curtain airbags.

The 2006 Hyundai Tucson Limited comes in at under \$22,000. For a small SUV with the features included, it's a pretty good price. Just one more good choice to add to your menu of small SUVs. Good luck choosing.

Write Dave Menard at avanti1054@aol.com.

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