

THURSDAY April 13, 2006

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Observer

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Bird parents loud against plan to change boundary

BY TONY BRUSCATO STAFF WRITER

The Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Housing Committee presented redistricting proposals Tuesday night to the Board of Education that will affect 12 of the district's

'We're only being realistic to question how the results would have been different had these members abstained from voting on an issue that would impact either their families directly, or the families of neighbors and friends.' Donald Klinger parent

16 elementary schools. While many parents have contacted Assistant Supt. for Instruction Barbara Rodenberg and members of the committee with concerns about boundary changes next year, it's the parents at Bird Elementary who continue to protest the loudest about moving 64 students who live in the Ridgewood Hills subdivision to Isbister Elementary next year. "Three of the housing

committee members have ties to Bird Elementary School, with two of them living in a neighborhood located within the second-place option," said Donald Klinger,

whose third-grader will move to Isbister next year if the school board approves the realignment. "We're only being realistic to question how the results would have been different had these members abstained from voting on an issue that would impact eacher their taufiles threatly, or the families of neighbors and friends."

Ridgewood Hills resident Beth Chuba said moving 64 children would not have a significant impact on Bird's overcrowded situation.

There are other, more viable, solutions available, Chuba told the board. "Options that put Bird under capacity, move students who live farthest out and have the longest bus ride to a school that is closer, and creates neighborhoods with contiguous Isbister boundaries.' Last year, parents of nearly 50 students who were scheduled to be transferred from Bird to Farrand Elementary balked loudly enough that the move never occurred. However, listening to comments by trustees, unless the housing committee's public hearing Saturday, May 6 (Pioneer Middle School, 9 a.m.), or a board study session Monday, May 8, results in any major modifications, the recommendations are likely to be supported May 9. "I realize some of these experiences are not always pleasant to go through," trustee Carol Saunders said. "We all have made changes, and have all lived through it." Board President Mark Slavens said his subdivision was redistricted last year and, if the recommendation is accepted, will be again this year. "Nobody is immune from redistricting," Slavens said. "That's one of the things that happens when you live in a growing school district.' Trustee Joanne Lamar called the housing committee report "accurate and very fair." You can finally see neighborhood schools ... and clearly there is lower class size," Lamar said. "That's a wonderful benefit."



Tip leads to arrests in ATM robbery

BY CAROL MARSHALL STAFF WRITER

Two men and one woman are expected to be arraigned today on charges stemming from a March 30 bank robbery in Canton. The charges could include armed robbery and theft, as well as other unspecified charges, Canton Police Sgt. Rick Pomorski said.

According to police reports, a customer using the ATM machine at the LaSalle Bank on Michigan Avenue, called police March 30 at about 8:30 a.m. She reported there was someone locked inside the machine.

When police and arrived, they used the Jaws of Life to open the machine and they found a woman inside. The woman teld officers that she was a contractor who was servicing the machine that morning at 7 a.m. She reported that a man approached her while she was working, ordered her to open the machine, took the money from inside, bound her with duct tape, then locked her inside the machine before he drove away in her car. Police found the car hours later; it had been abandoned just miles from the crime scene. Police had been looking for clues in the case when officers received a call from a Michigan State Police trooper who had been contacted by a local attorney, according to Pomorski. The attorney said one of his clients had contacted him after hearing the story about the ATM robbery in the news. The client said he'd also heard information through personal acquaintances, and he began to believe he may have information about the robberv.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Sean Prudhomme watches the surgeon make the initial incision as P-CEP students view a live broadcast of an open heart surgery.

Putting some 'heart' into studies

family gatherings and show

Live broadcast lets students get bird's-eye view of surgery

BY TONY BRUSCATO STAFF WRITER

Watching video clips of open heart surgery isn't anything new to 18-yearold Nick Landis of Canton. His uncle, Dr. Tony Tatooles — an Illinois heart surgeon — has been known to pull out his laptop at

PLEASE SEE STUDENTS, A7

Nick bits and pieces of the

However, it was a much

heart surgeries he's per-

formed.

He was right. Once Canton Police, the Western Wayne

County Community Response Team and the FBI began making calls and conducting interviews in the investigation, it was a matter of about 24 hours before the arrests were made.

"Every time we got some information, it led to more information, and the next interview, and the next and the next, and it went on like that continuously until the arrests," Pomorski said.

One of the suspects confessed to being involved in the crime. He led officers to where some of the money had been stashed. More money was then found when police searched two residences. The money was hidden there without the knowledge of the property owner, Pomorski said.

The last of the money was found in a hotel room, where officers found the remaining two suspects.

All three suspects are residents of Downriver communities, Pomorski said, and all are in their early 20s. None of them have any active warrants against them, but police are looking into the criminal history of each. They are being held at the Canton Police Department jail pending charges.

Acting troupe has good time lampooning political leaders

national political scene since

BY KURT KUBAN STAFF WRITER

In these days of political partisanship, when most people seem to fall to the left or the right, a group of actors from Washington D.C. has no problem poking fun at all political persuasions. The Capitol Steps, who

The Capitol Steps, who have been lampooning the

1981, will bring their brand of political humor to the Village Theater tomorrow night. And, according to producer Elaina Newport, nobody is safe from the troupe's comedy. That means everyone from President George W. Bush and Dick Cheney to Howard Dean and Hillary Clinton will be the subject of the troupe's skits. "We're kind of like the Daily Show on stage," said` Newport, who calls herself an "extreme moderate."

About half of the troupe's members have been Congressional staffers at some point in their careers, so they have a pretty good

PLEASE SEE TROUPE, A5



Many of the troupe members of the Capitol Steps, who perform at the Village Theater Friday, were once congressional staffers.



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Township offices closed.

A2

(C)

All Canton Township administrative offices will be. closed Friday, April 14, in observance of the Good Friday holiday.

Marketing strategies

As a continuation of the recent series of seven DDA-Chamber morning coffee meetings and part of the DDA 2006 marketing plan, Roger Gallerini from Fishermens Marketing Services, LLC will be conducting a two-part marketing seminar on April 25 and May 2 from 7-10 p.m. at the Summit. Participation is open at no charge for Canton DDA and Chamber of Commerce members.

The primary purpose of this program is to assist any interested business in how to increase their sales by developing and executing a well thought out and planned marketing program.

Topics during the first session will include business analysis, problem and opportunity identification, customer profiling, and establishing a realistic marketing budget.

Topics during the second session will include objective setting, marketing strategies to keep you focused, and tactical elements.

If you have interest in attending, you must register via e-mail no later than Tuesday, April 18 by contacting Roger Gallerini at **Fishermens Marketing** Services:

Rogergallerini@comcast.net. Upon receipt of your registration you will be notified of how to prepare for and what to bring to the meetings. This opportunity will be open to the first 50 registrations.

Canton visitors guide

Canton's first-ever Visitors Guide, a 48-page, full-color glossy magazine featuring Canton lifestyle, entertainment, restaurants and lodging will be ready for distribution this spring. An illustrative map will be the centerfold of the publication, and will be color-coded with the new Downtown Development Authority district branding. With an initial printing of 35,000, the guide will be a great resource for out-of-town guests. It will be available at area hotels, MDOT Welcome Centers and major sporting events in the Canton area.

Advertising opportunities are available for Canton business owners with special discounts for businesses that partner market by color district.

Another incentive for Canton restaurants is the "Hometown Favorites" section. This section will consist of independently-owned restaurants and diners, and is sold at a special reduced rate. These ads will highlight menu items, atmosphere and location, giving visitors a true taste of Canton.

Deadline for inclusion in the Visitors Guide is March 31. For more information on the guide, advertising rates or partner marketing opportunities, please call Canton Creative Marketing at (734) 394-0455.

Meeting postponed

The Canton Council for Community Excellence meeting scheduled for Wednesday, April 12 has been moved to Wednesday, April 19. The CCE will meet at 6:30 p.m. in the lower level of the Township Administration Building, located at 1150 Canton Center Road. For more information, call (734) 394-5165.

Good Friday blood drive

St. Thomas a' Becket Catholic Church, 555 S. Lilley Road (south of Cherry Hill across from Holiday Market) will hold a blood drive from 8 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. on Friday, April 14. Walk-ins are welcome.

Blood donors come in various ages, shapes and sizes. Human blood cannot be manufactured. Southeast Michigan's blood supply is extremely low.

Student recognized

Peter Hans Neuroth of Canton has accepted membership in the Golden Key International Honour Society, for which he was honored during a induction ceremony at University of Michigan -Dearborn. The society is a premier college/university honor society, with more than 1.6 million members in 335 chapters in the United States,

Australia, Canada, Malaysia, South Africa, New Zealand and the United Arab Emirates. "It is only fitting that a Neuroth

top academic achiever like Peter be recognized by Golden Key," said Alexander Perwich II, Golden Key's CEO. "Our members are inspired and motivated not only to achieve exceptional academic accomplishments, but also to make a positive impact on our world through the society's commitment to service,"

DTE volunteer wins award

Jeannine Najmowicz of Canton has been named a recipient of the DTE Energy Foundation's 2006 Walter J. McCarthy Awards for Volunteer Leadership. Najmowicz, a grants coordinator in the company's **Corporate and Government** Affairs organization, was recognized for her work with the American Cancer Society.

DTE Energy has donated \$1,500 to the organization to sponsor Najmowicz and a team of her co-workers who will participate in Canton's Relay for Life. The event, an annual fund-raiser for the American Cancer Society, is May 20-21.

The DTE Energy Foundation established the Walter J. McCarthy Awards in 1990 to recognize and encourage employees' community involvement. Each award includes a grant made to a nonprofit organization designated by the recipient. To date, the program has awarded \$750,000 to community groups throughout Michigan. McCarthy, Detroit Edison's chairman and chief executive officer from 1981 to 1990, was well known for his commitment to community service.

Perennial exchange

Canton's Council for Community Excellence is holding a perennial exchange 9 a.m. - noon Saturday, May 6 at the historic Cherry Hill School, located on Cherry Hill Road at Ridge Road. The event is open to everyone and is an opportunity to exchange



A civics lesson

Hillsdale Mayor Michael Sessions visited Salem High School last week, and spoke with students in six classes. At 18, Sessions is the youngest elected mayor the United States. He discussed with students his improbable victory last November and what it means to be a public servant.

plants, meet other gardeners, and share garden designs and ideas.

In order to participate in the exchange, gardeners will need to thin out their extra perennials and place them in a bag that is clearly labeled. Tables will be set up at the event to place perennials; however you do not need to bring a perennial in order to participate in the exchange. Experts and merchants

from area nurseries will be on hand to offer gardening tips and answer questions and a presentation will be given during the event on tree replacement. Prizes will also be handed out for wildest Aloha shirt, funniest hat, and most perennials brought. For more information on the CCE perennial exchange please call (734) 502-2017.

Caregiving conference

AARP Michigan is hosting a "Caregiving Conference" from 6-9 p.m. on April 20 at Summit on the Park in Canton. The conference is geared towards those providing care to a neighbor, friend, spouse, parent, grandparent, or church member. Caregivers and the adult person they are caring for are encouraged to attend.

Some of the conference topics include legal and financial planning, Alzheimer's information, how to deal with stress and depression. Medicare/Medicaid assistance programs, and community

care. In addition, there will be door prizes and refreshments. There is no charge to attend the event. To register or for more information, call (734) 287-7831.

Garden Club

The Canton Garden Club will have its monthly general meeting 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 18, at the Church of Christ building, 9301 Sheldon Rd., just south of Ann Arbor Rd., in Plymouth. Visitors/walkins are welcome (\$3 nonmember donation).

resources that help provide

We invite those with a love of gardening to join our club during our new member enrollment period April 1 through July 31.

This month's guest speaker is Mary Pew, who will teach us to fold napkins into decorative flowers to liven up our spring table settings.

For more information contact Ann at (734) 416-0589. The club is preparing for

our 8th Annual Canton Garden Walk, which will be held in July for the first time this year. The new date and

time is Sunday, July 16, 1-6 p.m. Also new this year is a vendor Garden Market, which will be located on the grounds of the Canton Historical Museum, which also will be open during the Garden Walk.

Interested vendors and sponsors for the Garden Walk and Garden Market may contact Dianne at (734) 254-1023.

Canton Toastmasters

Learn how to develop communication and leadership skills that will boost your selfconfidence and personal growth through Toastmasters International. Toastmasters was created to help men and women learn the art of speaking, listening, and thinking. These are vital skills that promote self-actualization, enhance leadership potential, foster human understanding, and contribute to the betterment of mankind.

Join the Canton **Communicators Toastmasters** Club. They meet at the Canton Coney Island at Lilley and Joy every Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. For more information call Noel at (734) 459-2600.

Art camp

D & M Studios, in cooperation with Canton Leisure Services, presents "Under the Sea," which is the theme for the 16th annual Summer Art Camp Mania.

The studio is now taking registrations for everyone, preschoolers to teenagers. Preschool camps are filling fast, so register now. Take advantage of a 15 percent discount for early art camp registration, if tuition is received by May 31.

Summer art camps will be held at three area locations: D & M Studios at 8691 N. Lilley Road, The Summit at 46000 Summit Parkway, and Frameworks at 833 Penniman Avenue, in Plymouth.

D & M will also be holding a number of Spring Break workshops, which cost \$30 each, the week of April 17-21.

For more information on the summer art camps, the ceramic workshop, or the Spring Break workshops, please call D & M Studios at (734) 453-3710 or visit the Web site at www.dmartstudio.com.

Ann Arbor Academy Upper School (Grades 7-12) **Open House**

Date & Time: April 26th, 7:30 - 9:30 PM

Location: Ann Arbor Academy 111 East Mosley St. Ann Arbor, MI 48104 734-747-6641 www.annarboracademv.org

ower School (Grades 1-6) Open House

Date & Time: Monday, April 24th, 7:00 - 8:30 PM

DE08429122

FDIC

Location: Ann Arbor Unitarian Universalist Congregation 4001 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. Ann Arbor, MI 48103 734-747-6641

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08/05

An article on April 6 in the At Home section on Passover indicated that Shirlee Bloom, catering specialist at Bloom's Jewish Cuisine in Farmington Hills, receives orders for pork during Passover.

Actually Bloom does not receive orders for pork – and nor does she serve it -- as Jews do not eat pork. During Passover, Bloom

receives orders for roast chicken, stuffed chicken, beef brisket and gefilte fish. Bloom serves kosher foods.

Anyone who wishes to order Passover or kosher foods from



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please call 1-866-887-2737	6 Month	\$54.45				
	3 Month	\$27.25				
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CORRECTIONS

Bloom can contact her at (248) 855-9463.

The information under the illustration accompanying the April 6 in the At Home section article, "Students make creative space for carpets,"

should have read, "Carrie McCallum, a student at 🕯 Baker College, was awarded first place in The Ghiordes Knot-American Society of Interior Designers Creative Space Competition for this design."



Board to discuss merits of course deed restriction

BY CAROL MARSHALL , STAFF WRITER

A proposal to block future development at Fellows Creek Golf Course may already be dead, but the Canton Township Board of Trustees will discuss it at a study session next week.

Trustee Todd Caccamo has proposed a deed restriction that would prohibit development of the golf course, but according to Township Supervisor Tom Yack, the restriction may not be legal, besides being fiscally questionable.

"A deed restriction would tie the hands of future boards," Yack said. "The township board has to look after the finances of the entire township, and who knows (if it would be wise) to restrict future boards?"

The issue was to be discussed at a regular meeting of the township board, but it was not placed on the agenda. Yack had suggested discussing it in a study session.

"But since that time some (of the township trustees) have chimed in and said it's not something they would embrace," Yack said, adding that he was seeking direction before spending the time and money on the township's attorney fees for an issue that may be doomed to fail.

Caccamo suggested drafting a list of questions, forwarding it to the attorney, and assumed it would take no more than two hours of the attorney's time to answer them.

If the deed restriction is even possible at Fellows Creek, the township would be obligated to look at every one of its assets if residents living near each argued that their quality of life would be diminished if the township sold properties such as the Summit or its parks. Yack said.

"Conceptually it could apply to every single asset we have." Yack said.

It's also possible that a deed restriction may give residents



LIZ OROZCO | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Canton Township Board of Trustees will discuss a proposal that would block all future development at Fellows Creek Golf Course next week.

Clerk Terry Bennett. "A deed restriction is in essence only as good as the people who make it at the time," she said.

She cited road right of way projects as examples, and said that when a project is in the planning phase, a deed restriction is very easy to lift.

"We've been able to go back to the state of Michigan and get them removed with no problem," Bennett said.

According to Caccamo's proposal, the deed restriction would prohibit development, except development that is recreational, such as a golf course, tennis, swimming facilities and other common uses at a golf course. Open space, bicycling and passive allowed. The restriction would only be lifted by a unanimous vote of the Board of Trustees, or if 75 percent of neighboring property owners agreed to lifting the restriction, or if voters approved it. Yack stated that the township attorney has indicated none of these options may be legal, according to state law.

ing to state law. "I do think it merits discus-

sion, even if it just takes half a study session," Caccamo said. The board agreed. The issue will be discussed at the board study session at 7 p.m. April 18. The board will allow for 90 minutes of discussion before proceeding to the next item on the agenda, building and inspection fees.

cmarshall@hometownlife.com

Planning commission seat open as longtime public servant resigns

BY CAROL MARSHALL STAFF WRITER

If the vacancy read like a classified ad, it would sound like an impossible job to fill: "Help wanted - professional with a background in engineering or law. Attention to detail is a plus, willing to work late nights is a must. Pay range - \$1,500 - \$2,000 per year. Start immediately."

Township Supervisor Tom Yack hopes to find someone to take the job within the next 30 days. Yack is seeking someone to fill a vacancy on the Canton Township Planning Commission, following the resignation of Greg

Demopoulos. Demopoulos resigned at the end of March, after having served on the commission for nearly four years, in order to start concentrating more on land use law.

"I've wanted to practice in Canton for at least 10 years," Demopoulos said.

For the last 18 years, he had been practicing in Livonia mainly family law and criminal law - but his 13 years of experience on the township's zoning board of appeals, and then the planning commission, piqued his interest in land use and planning. Last year, Demopoulos and Canton attorney Bryan

Amann - who had been with Brashear, Tangora, Gallagher, Creighton & Amann - began talking about a possible partnership. Amann had for years represented developers and builders in Canton, and Demopoulos was ready for a change.

On March 31, the offices of Amann Demopoulos & Persiconi opened, in the same building once occupied by Amann's former firm (the sign in front of the building on Canton Center is still the old sign, Demopoulos said), and the new firm's first couple of weeks have been going well, Demopoulos said. Robin Persiconi, a colleague of Demopoulos, joined them in the new venture.

While Demopoulos is enjoying his new two mile commute, Yack is seeking someone to take his place on the commission.

"The planning commission appointment is really a very unique appointment in that it's the only one in state law where the supervisor makes a recommendation to the board. The board can accept or reject, but can't suggest their own candidates," Yack said. He relies on letters of interest from residents, as well as recommendations of the planning commission, to select those candidates for a short list.

Yack then meets with the few potential commissioners, and based on what the planning commission tells him they're seeking, in terms of background and qualifications, he makes his recommendation to the board of trustees.

So far, Yack has not received any letters of interest from residents, but the commission has indicated they would like an attorney or a civil engineer to replace Demopoulos.

Yack will also seek a candidate who is in philosophical agreement with the current commission. While it's important for every commissioner to have individual ideas, and to express his or her ideas, the goal is consensus, Yack said.

"If they don't reach agreement, it becomes such a burden to the group - so much so that they can't move forward with what they're good at doing," Yack said.

Individuals interested in serving on the planning commission should contact the supervisor's office at (734) 394-5185.

Planning commission to meet

Canton's Planning Commission will meet on Monday, April 17, at 7 p.m. on the first floor of Canton's Administration Building. Items on the agenda include:

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Flora future land use amendment – Consider amending the Future Land Use Map of the Comprehensive Plan from Medium Density Residential to Local Shopping. Property is located on the southeast corner of Warren and Morton Taylor Roads.

Future land use amend-

ment – Consider amendment to the Future Land Use Map of the Comprehensive Plan from Medium Density Residential to Local Shopping (Office Use recommended). Property is located south of Warren Road and west of Canton Center Road.

SITE PLANS

Cherry Hill Gardens PDD amendment and site plan – Consider request for site plan approval and to amend the PDD. Property is located south of Cherry Hill Road and east of Denton Road. Westchester PDD amendment No. 1 – Consider request to amend the PDD. Property is located south of Warren Road and west of Ridge Road.

NEW BUSINESS

D & D Water and sewer -Refer review of proposed site plan to staff. Property is located south of Michigan Avenue and west of Sheldon Road.

■ Office Depot (Michigan Avenue) – Refer review of proposed site plan to staff. Property is located north of Michigan Avenue and west of Canton Center Road.

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a false sense of security, said

park purposes could also be (734) 459-2700







It's break time for Kendall Ickes, Julie Kayganich and Matt Polly during the All Saints walk for Christmas in Action.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH PLANNING COMMISSION

PROPOSED ACTION: AMEND THE ZONING MAP OF THE

	TOWNSHIP					
REZONE FROM:	R-1, Single Family Residential District					
REZONE TO:	TO: VP, Vehicular Parking					
DATE OF HEARING:	Wednesday, April 19, 2006					
TIME OF HEARING:	7:00 P.M.					
PLACE OF HEARING:	Plymouth Township Hall, 42350 Ann					
	Arbor Road					

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission of Street) from R-1, Single Family Residential District to VP

8121 Lilley, Located between Joy & Warren Roads





Walking with a purpose

All Saints students raise \$7,000 for charity

More than 50 eighth graders from All Saints Catholic School in Canton spent most of the day Monday outside walking around the school's grounds. They weren't playing hooky from class, but rather walking to raise money for charity.

The 56 students, who had solicited pledges from family



and friends, spent five hours walking. They raised more than \$7,000 for Christmas in Action, a local charity that helps fix up homes for senior citizens and others in the community who don't have the wherewithal to make the repairs themselves.

According to counselor Kristen Strausbaugh, the idea for the fund-raiser came from



eighth grade class we've ever had, and next year we're expecting 10 more students. So I think this would be a great tradition," Strausbaugh said.

LOCAL NEWS

Candice Abro and

Robin Redline take a lunch and rest break from the All Saints walkathon.

·*** ****

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TROUPE

FROM PAGE A1

last year.

idea of the ins and outs of

Washington. The troupe, which includes a pool of 27 performers, did performed roughly 500 shows

Friday should expect about a 90

minute show featuring about 30 songs. She said there will be five

"The guy who plays George W.

Bush in one song will then come out

performers and a pianist.

Newport said those in attendance

TOM HAWLEY STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER Mary Denning shows off the handcrafted Country Living Collection quilt she received as a runner-up in the magazine's Comfort Contest.

Magazine showcases club, co-founder

BY SUE MASON STAFF WRITER

Mary Denning has a sweet reputation, sweet enough to earn national recognition for herself and her favorite group, the Women of Westland.

Country Living magazine named Denning as one of six finalists in its Comfort Contest, which landed the owner of Mary Denning's Cake Shoppe mention in its May issue.

"It's kind of nice, but it would have been nicer to win the \$5,000 grand prize, we could have done a lot with that," said Denning who is the WOW president. "But it's still pretty cool."

Some 800 individuals from around the country were nominated for the comfort they bring to their communities through 'good deeds, acts of kindness and volunteer efforts' by working with an established, recognized organization or charity. Ironically, it was Denning who

Solid Scheman and Scheman and Schema A, Scheman A, Schema A, Schem

best candidate.

as Howard Dean or Vladimir Putin later in the show. Our performers are pretty diverse," she said.

According to Newport, the troupe is always creating new material to stay relevant. As a result, it is a struggle for the writers to show balance, because the party in power usually dominates the headlines and is therefore easier to make fun of. Currently that means the Republicans. For example, when Dick Cheney recently shot a friend during a hunting outing, the troupe wasted little time writing a skit about it.

"That was one of those issues

where we had to get something in the show the day of the incident," she said. "But we really go out of our way to make sure there is some balance in the show. Certainly there is enough material out there for us to make fun of."

Tickets for the show, which starts at 8 p.m., are \$30, or \$45 for the show and a buffet dinner. Tickets can be purchased by phone at (734) 394-5460, at Summit on the Park, or the Village Theater box office one hour before the performance.

For more information about The Capitol Steps, visit their Web site at www.capsteps.com.

В	. M
Ernest F. Blair	Patricia Jean (McDonald)
Blair, 89, of Clawson, died	McNell
April 6.	McNeil, 82, of Westland, died
C	April 7.
Howard Clayton Cole	P 2 2 3
Cole, 83, of Oxford, formerly	Erlene L. Pummill
of Bloomfield Hills, died	Pummill, 77, died April 7.
April 6.	
E La Constantina de la Const	Complete paid obituaries
Max Erdmann	can be found inside today's
Erdmann, 84, died April 10.	newspaper in Passages on page Al4.

DEATHS

The power of competition. Back where it belongs.

(C) **A5**

"She's the unsung hero in the group," said Cooke. "She works behind the scenes and doesn't want the attention. It's amazing the amount of time she puts in."

While "it's nice to be recognized," Denning admits she prefers to let others have the attention. She has more than enough accolades – Woman of the Year, Westland ATHENA Award, Wal-Mart Business Person of the Year, to name a few.

"I don't want this to be the Mary Denning Club," she said. "WOW has a lot of great women and they all need to shine. I want WOW to take credit for what we do."

Denning has been at the helm of the organization since she and Mary Gregosky founded it in 2000, helping build it in to a 40-member group that has raised some \$50,000 to benefit women and children in Westland and neighboring communities. Their inspiration was the Garden City Business and Professional Women's Club. They attended a meeting, saw what they were doing and decided they could do that.

WOW affiliated with the Westland Chamber of Commerce to start and eventually decided to become its own nonprofit. With the money it has raised, among other things, it has helped provide a playscape at the Rose F. Kennedy Respite Center and provided Barbara Douglas scholarships, including four this year, for women returning to school.

"Everything that comes in goes back into the community," said Denning. "Our only cost is half of a phone bill."

While Denning didn't get the cash, as a runner-up, she did receive a handcrafted Country Living Collection quilt and several copies of the magazine. But that's OK. She plans to use it in a raffle to raise money for WOW. "Mary is a positive, upbeat person," said Cooke. "She does all this and runs a successful business. She's like my idol. If I keep up with Mary, I'll be successful."

WARK BURN AND AND AND AND





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LOCAL NEWS

Cashing in 401(k) could mean big hit on tax return

BY CAROL MARSHALL STAFF WRITER

As if the economy weren't a big enough concern, Canton resident Doug Walter is worried about taxes.

More specifically, he's worried about what happens to taxpayers who will take a big hit on their tax returns because they cashed in 401(k) accounts after being downsized.

"So many people here in lower Michigan are getting laid off, it's unbelievable,"

Walter said.

"And these are good jobs with good salaries - like

\$60,000 to \$70,000." Though he hasn't been downsized from his job as a project manager for an automotive prototyping company, he's worried about those who have been.

"They've been pulling their money out of their 401(k)accounts, and a lot of companies don't pull taxes out when you cash in your account," he said.

On top of that, there is usu-

Can your bank top this?

ally a 10-percent penalty for cashing in the account early, and the withdrawal may put the taxpayer in a higher tax bracket, which further impacts the tax bill.

"The bottom line is a lot of these people are getting whacked and had no idea this was coming," he said.

Walter is right, Farmington Hills CPA Ron Silberstein said.

"Basically you need professional advice before you do anything," Silberstein said. It's a mistake that's fairly

common with Silberstein's new clients, he said.

"My existing clients contact me first, but that doesn't mean they don't cash in their accounts. If you need the money to pay the mortgage, you need it. It's just that they're prepared for the fees and the taxes," he said.

Some companies will allow account holders to borrow money against their 401(k) accounts, he said. You usually have a limited time to pay it back, but you can avoid the

fees and it doesn't count as income, Silberstein said.

"In effect, you're just borrowing the money instead of taking a distribution, so when you pay it back, you're just paying yourself back," he said. But if you land another job quickly, you may need to be prepared to pay back the loan immediately or it could wind up qualifying as a distribution, which means you would have to ultimately pay the fee and the tax penalty, he cautioned.

Often, the penalty is worth

the price, though, particularly if a job loss has led to opportunity.

"A lot of times when people lose their jobs, they decide to open their own businesses or buy a franchise," Silberstein said. "So people take a buyout, and then use the money from the 401(k) account to do that, and that's fine. Just be sure to talk to someone before you take your money out."

cmarshall@hometownlife.com (734) 459-2700

Z-PAC dinner offers culinary experience

the varsity level athletics announcing at the high school, as the emcee for the evening, will lead guests through the

different courses. The Wayne Memorial music department will provide music for the dinner which will be held at the Wayne Recreation Center on Howe at Annapolis in Wayne.

Tickets are \$45 each with the proceeds going toward a similar slow motion dinner that will be served to the graduating seniors on their last day of high school, May 25.

"We think it would be a nice sendoff into adulthood for them," Moro said.

Donorships are available platinum is \$250 and includes two dinner tickets, gold \$100 and one dinner ticket, silver \$50 and bronze \$25. However, people interested in being donors need to act quickly to receive recognition in the evening's program.

Z-PAC got its start last November, when parents approached Principal John Albrecht about forming a group with the purpose of providing and/or supporting programs that would be deemed

nontraditional.

Initially, it's focusing on the fund-raising dinner and the senior dinner, but the hope is to be able to provide Class of 2007 with an all-night party. And its focus goes beyond the senior class.

The group also is looking at helping with the Reality Store that's staged for ninth-graders, Celebrate Wayne which welcomes the incoming freshman to Wayne High and Homecoming.

"We're an advisory group that meets regularly with the principal, it's a forum to communicate what's new in the curriculum and what the changes will be in the future," Moro said. "It's a way to be involved with the school and be aware of what's going on in the school."

As for the dinner, tickets are available by calling John Albrecht at (734) 419-2206 or by e-mailing him at AlbrechtJ@wwcs.k12.mi.us. Checks should be made payable to Wayne Memorial High School.

smason@hometownlife.com (734) 953-2112





Checking

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BY SUE MASON STAFF WRITER

It's called "A Culinary Experience," a slow motion formal dinner with an international flavor.

Z-PAC, the Wayne Memorial High School's Zebra-Parent Advisory Council, is sponsoring the dinner Thursday, April 27, to raise money for an endof-the-year dinner for the Class of 2006.

"We're going to take time with each course, explaining what the course is, the food's country of origin and what utensil to use," said Z-PAC member Audrey Moro. "It'll be informational in terms of etiquette and in experiencing the food itself."

The food will be prepared by Chef Tony Paquette and the culinary arts students at Wayne-Westland's William D. Ford Career Technical Center. The students also will be the servers at the dinner, which starts at 7 p.m.

While the actual menu is still being firmed up; the six courses will include an appetizer, soup, salad, sorbet, entrée and dessert. Bill Brooks, who does



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STUDENTS

FROM PAGE A1

three high schools around the country, including to several dozen students who watched for more than two hours — via satellite — in the distance learning lab at Plymouth High School.

"He'd always talk about it, but it's unbelievable to actually see it," said Landis, a Canton High School senior who watched as his uncle performed the surgery in suburban Chicago. "It just seems like you have to be so careful, but you look at them and they're not quite as fragile as I thought they would be. They're stabbing and poking, and just pull it (the heart) out like it's no big deal, like they do it all the time."

Nick's mother, Margaret Landis, who teaches biology at Salem High School, set up the live heart surgery broadcast after talking with Tatooles her brother-in-law – who mentioned the Museum of Science and Industry's Live From The Heart program, which broadcasts surgeries from Advocate Christ Medical Center in Oak Lawn, Ill., every Wednesday. Tatooles made sure he was on board for Wednesday's surgery, and even answered a few questions from Nick, as doctors interacted with students.

"It's an opportunity for students to see this procedure from beginning to end, instead of just a portion, like you would see on television," Margaret Landis said. "They will never get this view from anywhere else. It's the next best thing to being in the operating room."

Through the wonders of technology, Plymouth-Canton students were able to meet their counterparts before the surgery. After a brief introduction by medical staff, they saw doctors prep a 68-year-old man before undergoing bypass surgery.

Students watched intently as surgeons cut through the skin tissue, to the breast muscle and then used a pneumatically driven saw to cut the breast bone. However, the biggest gasps came when the chest was opened, exposing the heart, pumping blood in plain view.

"It kind of seemed like they ripped it open," said 14-yearold Anna Zhang, a Salem



Kevi Zhu and Jessica Perrin watch the surgery.

freshman. "I didn't think they would do that, because it's a heart. I thought it was delicate, but I guess it's not.

"We were naming off the parts because of the stuff we learned in class," the Canton Township teen said. "In class, everything is a perfect figure and symmetrical. But the shapes and colors are different."

Anu Dewasurendra, a sophomore at Plymouth High School, said the surgery reaffirmed her decision to become a gynecologist, thereby avoiding the operating room.

"I definitely ruled out being a surgeon, because I don't think I could handle it," said Dewasurendra, 15, of Canton.

"I would be afraid of messing up. But I guess that's why you go to school, to learn how to do it."

That's part of the lesson Salem biology teacher Sharon Caldwell wanted students to learn.

"I want them to see what really goes on in that operating room, as well as career options." Caldwell said. "It's not only about being a doctor. There are other (medical) careers out there."

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Seventeen-year-old Alex Marinica of Canton said he's thinking about becoming a pediatric surgeon as he enters Wayne State University next year.

"In surgery, it's life or death," Marinica said. "It's a situation where you're really helping someone in a way no one else can, other than God. You're as close as it gets."

Students were told by doctors that heart problems result from such factors as obesity, diabetes, high blood pressure and high cholesterol. Some were surprised to see fatty tissue around the heart, which Tatooles said is generally determined by how obese a person is.

That was enough for Zhang to commit to a healthier lifestyle, to avoid being one of Tatooles' future patients.

"When I saw all that fat on the heart, I decided I'm not going to McDonald's anymore," Zhang said.

tbruscato@hometownlife.com (734) 459-2700

Board gives Baracy perfect score

BY SUE MASON STAFF WRITER

On a scale of one to three, Wayne-Westland School Superintendent Greg Baracy rates a three, three as in a perfect score for meeting the goals set for him by the school board and in leadership.

"Everything said about Greg by the board was positive, he always seems to exceed the board's expectations." said school board President Frederick Weaver. " We're very pleased to have him as superintendent." Weaver presented the

results of the review, conducted by the board last month, at this week's meeting. The board evaluates the superintendent once a year to see how he is leading the district. It also provides him with a list of priorities trustees want him to address.

The high priority goals included improving student achievement, keeping the district on firm financial ground, improving the level of technology in the district and developing an award for the district's high achieving schools.

Baracy received a perfect score for meeting those goals,



nacy

ated the Lighthouse School Award, presented for the first time in December to Madison Elementary School for its high academic achievement.

He also cre-

Recently released results of state standardized tests taken by the district third- through eighth-graders shows continuing improvement, with students meeting or exceeding state scores in almost all subject areas.

He also received perfect scores in how he deals with people and the board and how he leads other people.

Baracy has been the Wayne-Westland superintendent for nine years and is "wellrespected in the area and around the state and among other superintendents and is a voice for education in Lansing," Weaver said.

"Since the beginning of his superintendency, there has been a great leap in the quality of leadership," he said. "He brings people around him who are able to perform and bring this district to the next level.

According to Weaver, Baracy's greatest strengths are his ability to assess situations and his performance for the district. He is able to "put an excellent face on this district."

He also spoke highly of his "passion for the job."

"He's a good man and we're pleased to have him as superintendent," he said.

"After nine years as superintendent, he continues to exhibit a high energy level in dealing with all aspects of school district operations. He continues to motivate the staff and address goals set by board."

Baracy thanked the board for the positive review and for the opportunity "to serve the Wayne-Westland School District and the children."

He also thanked his administrative team for their efforts.

"These kind of accomplishments and the momentum don't come about without a strong team effort," he said.

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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.

REUNIONS

Andover High School Jills

The Jills of Andover High School in Bloomfield Hills are celebrating 50 years. A reunion is planned for Memorial Day Weekend. Friday, May 26, a reception will be held at Pine Lake Country Club. On Saturday, May 27, the attending Jills will rehearse 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and perform at 7:30 p.m. in the Andover Auditorium. An afterglow reception will follow. For more information, contact Dorothe Patterson at (248)737-8407 or at Jills50th@comcast.net.

Bishop Borgess Class of 1986

A 20-year reunion is planned for May 20. For more information, e-mail Bishopborgess86@gmail.com or call (734)762-5186

Cass Tech High School Class of 1955-57

A 50-year reunion is planned for Sept. 15-17, 2006, at St. John's Armenian Church, Southfield. Contact Rich Baylerian (248) 735-4495, Barbara Grajek Schanfrankek (248) 543-6353, Joann Ellison Armistead (248) 533-9525, Susan Wilmot Hitchcock at hitchcocksw@hotmail.com.





We change your filter every Thursday

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LOCAL NEWS

miles away in Westland.

"It's hard to track because

wire money under \$1,000,"

Tiderington said. "They use

a number is impossible."

of the scams reported in

Michigan, it's occurring around the country.

you don't need identification to

prepaid cellphones and unreg-

istered cell phones, so tracking

there's been more than a dozen

"If someone gets a call such

take the information down and

as that, our suggestion is to

contact their local police,"

Tiderington said.

tbruscato@hometownlife.com

Tiderington noted while

YW Readiness \mathbf{i} program wins award

The YWCA's Michigan School Readiness Program recently received a Red Wagon Award from Michigan's Promise: The Alliance for Youth.

As a participant in Michigan's Promise, the YWCA, is designated as a site of promise committed to fulfilling five promises to children enrolled in its programs: Caring Adults, Safe Places, Healthy Start, Marketable Skills, and Opportunities to Serve.

Michigan's Promise is dedicated to making the streets safer for children, children healthier and communities better. The Red Wagon Awards are designed to recognize and thank special local programs for their contributions toward making Michigan communities the best places to raise children.

The YWCA also will be

recognized at the Michigan Nonprofit Superconference in May.

The YWCA is a winner in the Caring Adult category.

"This is a great way to honor our teachers who make visits at home," said Karen Murphy, YWCA chief executive officer. "We have a very dedicated teaching staff who provide quality instruction to children in the comforts of their own homes."

For more information about the Red Wagon Awards, the YWCA Michigan School Readiness Program, or any other program offered by the YWCA Western Wayne County, call (313) 561-4110. The YWCA serves Canton,

Garden City, Livonia, Plymouth, Westland, Belleville, Dearborn, Dearborn Heights, Inkster, Northville, Romulus, Taylor, Van Buren Township and Wayne.

Scam uses fear of medical emergency

BY TONY BRUSCATO STAFF WRITER

Plymouth Township police are investigating two cases in which a scam artist took advantage of people who thought their loved ones were involved in serious accidents and needed immediate medical attention.

"The caller generally identifies himself as a police officer and asks if they have a relative who might be driving a vehicle at this moment," Plymouth **Township Police Chief Tom** Tiderington said. "After the victim reveals a possible name, the caller says the relative has

been in a serious accident and needs to be airlifted to an emergency room. However, the victim first must transfer funds through Western Union to pay for medical services."

It happened to a 55-year-old Plymouth woman, who lost \$940 March 29 when she wired the money through Western Union at the Kroger on Ann Arbor Road and Sheldon.

An 80-year-old Plymouth Township woman almost lost her \$850 April 3 when she wired money from the same store.

"There was an attempt to pick up the money, but the

Bookstock benefit takes over Laurel Park April 30-May 7

Laurel Park Place will host Bookstock, the area's largest uses book and media sale, with all proceeds benefiting literacy and education projects April 30-May 7. Over the past three years Bookstock has raised close to \$136,00 for literacy and education projects in metro Detroit. Bookstock is run by the Oakland Literacy Council, the Detroit Jewish Coalition for

Publish: April 13, 2006

Literacy and a consortium of Jewish organizations, with more than 700 volunteers working to coordinate and conduct the week-long sale.

This book-lovers paradise features donated used books, DVDs, CDs, books on tape, magazines and records, all for sale at bargain prices.

Shoppers and collectors can get first crack at the Bookstock

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

Pre-Sale from 8:45-11:45 a.m. Sunday, April 30. There is a \$10 admission charge only for the Bookstock Pre-Sale.

(Western Union) lady didn't

something," Plymouth

release it when she suspected

Township Sgt. Dennis Wilson

said. "In the meantime, the vic-

tim thought better of it, called

"I don't know of any medical

organization that wants money

upfront," Wilson added. "These

scam artists are just preying on

people's emotions. The victims

are put in a panic situation and

In both cases, according to

Wilson, the money was wired

to a Kroger store only a few.

probably giving out informa-

tion they shouldn't be."

her daughter, and then can-

celed the money transfer,

thinking it was a scam.

The sale will continue through Sunday May 7, running Sundays, noon to 6 p.m. and 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Books will be sold for half-price on Sunday, May 7, the last day of the sale. All of the books and

media items sold at Bookstock are donated at collection sites throughout the year. These donations continue to provide reading enjoyment and promote learning by funding education and literacy projects in Detroit and throughout the metropolitan area.

Laurel Park Place is located on Six Mile Road, east of I-275 in Livonia.

NOTICE TO RESIDENTS CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON

If you experience an overflow or backup of a sewage disposal system or storm water system, you must file a written claim with the Charter Township of Canton, Division of Public Works within 45 days after the overflow or backup was discovered. Notice should be mailed to Charter Township of Canton, Division of Public Works, 1150 S. Canton Center, Canton, Michigan 48188. Failure to provide the written notice will prevent recovery of damages. Contact the Division of Public Works at 734/394-5150 for assistance immediately upon discovery of an overflow or backup.

> THANK YOU CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON DIVISION OF PUBLIC WORKS



OE0642794

regularly scheduled Board of Trustee Meeting, Telephone number 734-354-3224. Marilyn Massengill, Clerk Charter Township of Plymouth

Publish: April 13, 2006

County, Michigan.

consider the request.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH **REQUEST FOR AN INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES EXEMPTION FOR** PLASTIPAK PACKAGING, INC. TUESDAY, APRIL 25, 2006

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH

REQUEST FOR AN INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES EXEMPTION FOR RMT ACQUISITION COMPANY, LLC

TUESDAY, APRIL 25, 2006

PLEASE TAKE NOTE: that a public hearing will be held on

Tuesday, April 25, 2006, during a regular meeting of the Board of

Trustees of the Charter Township of Plymouth to consider a request

from RMT Acquisition Company, LLC for a 12 year Industrial

Facilities Exemptions for an addition to an existing facility.

including the cost of new machinery, equipment, furniture and

fixtures to be purchased and installed within the leased facility

located at 45755 Five Mile Road, Lots 6, 7 & 8, Metro West

Industrial Park, Subdivision No. 1, Plymouth Township, Wayne

The request is on file in the Clerk's Office where it is available for

public perusal during regular business hours, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30

p.m., Monday through Friday. Any Township resident or member of any taxing authority within the Township of Plymouth shall have

the right to appear and be heard. Written comments directed to the

Clerk and received prior to the date of the meeting will be considered. Following the public hearing the Board of Trustees may

The public hearing, commencing at 7:00 p.m., will be held in the Meeting Room at Plymouth Township Hall, 42350 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth, Michigan 48170, on Tuesday, April 25, 2006, during the

DFCU Financial. Same us, only

A8 (C)

PLEASE TAKE NOTE: that a public hearing will be held on Tuesday, April 25, 2006, during a regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Plymouth to consider a request from Plastipak Packaging, Inc., for a 12 year Industrial Facilities Exemptions for new machinery and equipment to be purchased and installed in their facility located at 8835 General Drive, Gould Industrial Park, Plymouth Township, Wayne County, Michigan.

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

The public hearing, commencing at 7:00 p.m., will be held in the Meeting Room at Plymouth Township Hall, 42350 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth, Michigan 48170, on Tuesday, April 25, 2006, during the regularly scheduled Board of Trustees Meeting. Telephone number 734-354-3224.

> Marilyn Massengill, Clerk Charter Township of Plymouth

Publish: April 13, 2006 وساني المترازير ترويه Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church invites you to join us as we observe Good Friday Service* April 14 • Noon – 3:00 p.m. "Come when you can, leave when you mus!" Easter Sunday Worship Services • April 16 Traditional Worship • 7:45*, 9:00, & 10:20 a.m. Contemporary Worship • 11:40 a.m. Nursery and Sunday School provided at 9:00, 10:20 and 11:40 a.m. Childcare provided through age 4 1-96

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DFCU Financial has worked hard for 56 years to meet your ever-expanding needs for personalized financial services. We recently mailed our members detailed information regarding a proposed change in legal structure that will better position us to serve members and the community for years to come. Members will still enjoy all of the same great products and services at our convenient branches. We understand that members may have questions and we want them to be as informed as possible. We invite members to contact us at 888-336-2700, visit the nearest branch, or speak directly with the President of DFCU with any questions.

Thank you for placing your trust and loyalty in DFCU Financial. We are looking forward to serving you for another 56 years.



Congressional candidates stake out positions on war in Iraq

BY HUGH GALLAGHER STAFF WRITER

With poll numbers showing eroding support for the war in Iraq and for President George W. Bush, despite a healthy national economy, the war is looming as a major issue in this year's congressional election.

Democrats are hoping that concern about the war and anxiety about the local economy may help them regain control of one or both houses of Congress.

In the 11th Congressional District, incumbent Republican U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter and Democratic challenger Tony Trupiano are both critical of Bush's handling of the war, but offer different perspectives on what needs to be done.

In separate interviews, McCotter and Trupiano shared their views on Iraq and other international issues.

In November, McCotter joined five other Republican congressmen in calling on the president to appoint an inde-



Trupiano

pendent panel to review U.S. efforts in Iraq. In March, an Iraq Study Group was formed, co-chaired by former Secretary of State James Baker, a Republican, and former Democratic Congressman Lee Hamilton, now director of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars. The bipartisan group includes Robert M. Gates, Rudolph W. Giuliani, Vernon Jordan, Leon Panetta, William Perry, Charles Robb and Alan Simpson.

"It can't hurt, whatever it does," McCotter said. "It's a panel of people who have been distinguished throughout their careers, Republicans and Democrats, who are not invested in some of the mistakes that have been made."

McCotter has been a supporter of the war in Iraq and argues that despite the deprivations of the war, life is better in Iraq then it was under Saddam Hussein. But he has been critical of the Bush administration for its prosecution of the war and for not building solid grass-roots support from the various factions within the country.

Trupiano said he opposed the war from the beginning. We haven't been smart, we

haven't been tough," he said. "There is no level where we can see measurable results." Recently, prominent Shiite

leaders have requested that Prime Minister Ibrahim Jafaari, also a Shiite, withdraw from seeking a second term because of an inability to form a government with support from the Sunni and Kurdish minorities.

The split between different Shiite factions comes at a time of escalating violence between the dominant Shiite Muslims and the minority Sunni, who once controlled the country's government under Hussein.

Some have called the violence between the two groups the beginnings of a civil war. "If this were a full-fledged civil war, this debate wouldn't be happening," McCotter said.

He said the government, police and army would be collapsing if this were a civil war. He said insurgents are taking advantage of the long-held animosity between the two Muslim sects and the instability of the Iraq government.

"What you have is a struggle among the Shiite, especially those concerned about the Iranian influence," he said.

McCotter said the violence between Sunni and Shiite is being excacerbated by the insurgents.

Trupiano sees other motives in the conflicts between the various factions in the country.

"I still think the factions are trying to decide, at the end of the day, how they're going split up the oil money in some kind of fashion, and I didn't say equitable because there is no equitable way," Trupiano said. "Where does that leave the infrastructure of Iraq? What

about commerce? Insurgency thrives because there is no way to make a living, there is no way to take care of families."

McCotter and Trupiano agree that this is not the time to talk about pulling out of the country.

"It makes no sense to just pull out and I would never advocate at Monday morning, we're out of here folks," Trupiano said. "I do think the Democrats have a tougher and smarter agenda to do that. At some point you have to tell the government of Iraq that this is not going to work. ... You have to put together a definitive calendar and have a leader of your government that you can agree on."

McCotter has been to Iraq on several congressional visits and said progress has been made despite Bush administration mistakes. However, he said he disagrees with those who are calling for the resignation of Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld.

"I think the time for that has passed," he said. "I have a different view from others because, as someone from a manufacturing state, I disagree with his idea about a lighter military."

He said Rumsfeld has made mistakes, but that a change wouldn't improve things.

On the situation between Israel and Palestine, McCotter and Trupiano differed on how to deal with Hamas, which recently won the majority in the Palestinian parliament. McCotter said that Israel couldn't deal with an organization dedicated to its own destruction. He said he favors some kind of sanctions against the Hamas government.

Tupiano said Israel should negotiate with Hamas because "they have to. We can't ignore what happened in the election." But he added that he didn't have any answers for the continuing problems between Israel and :33 Palestine.

Both men agreed that Bush did the right thing in acting quickly to denounce the threatened execution of an Afghanistan man who converted to Christianity from Islam. The man was later freed and given asylum in Italy.

hgallagher@oe.homecomm.net (734) 953-2149

Raczkowski withdraws from 11th District race

BY HUGH GALLAGHER STAFF WRITER

Small business consultant Ray Raczkowski of Novi has withdrawn from the race for the Democratic nomination in the 11th Congressional District.

Tony Trupiano, a media consultant and former radio talk show host, is the only remaining declared candidate for the Democratic nomination. Nominating petitions must be filed by 4 p.m. May 16.

The Democratic nominee is expected to face incumbent Republican U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter.

While Trupiano has been waging a daily e-mail campaign, knocking on doors and speaking throughout the district, Raczkowski's campaign has been low-key and hasn't auracted the support of labor and other groups that have committed to Trupiano's campaign.

On Tuesday, paign "I didn't have

Raczkowski said it was a number of factors that prevented him from having the time to cam-

Raczkowski the time to devote to the

volunteers and people who wanted me to run and I apologize to them for that," he said. "Maybe in two years I will have the time to try again."

Raczkowski, 51, has been a consultant on improving small businesses. Raczkowski said he will continue "to push the Democratic Party" on energy issues. He said the problems of global warming and energy shortages were important to him

Raczkowski salo he hasn't decided to throw his support to anyone in the congressional election.

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Herniated Disc Technology Discovered by **NASA Scientists**

Ann Arbor – A new free report has recently been released that reveals how breakthrough medical technology is offering new hope for sciatica sufferers. Discover how research has proven non-surgical decompression 86% successful in treating debilitating back pain. Find out how NASA's accidental discovery led to the most promising treatment today. For your free report entitled, "How Space Age Technology Is Solving Back Pain Without Drugs Or Surgery!" Call 1-800-469-3618 for the toll-free recorded message. Supplies are limited - call now. If phone lines are busy, visit: www.midischerniation.com OE08416162

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The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

OUR VIEWS Voters should **OK both bonds**

Plymouth-Canton school officials are asking for some \$120 million in a pair of bond questions set to be on the ballot when voters go to the polls May 2.

Voters should give it to them.

When you've got teachers teaching off of carts (as is the case with the art program) and more kids in the schools than the buildings were meant to hold, there's a definite problem. The primary proposal, for \$95.4 million, is designed to ease those conditions.

But it will do much more than that. It will allow the district to build a second middle school in Canton, which produces the majority of middle schoolers. It will allow for the renovation and repurposing of Central Middle School, which most observers agree is past its prime as a primary education center. That, in turn, would allow the alternative education students, who currently use the dilapidated Starkweather facility, to move to Central.

If the first question passes, the money raised would improve and add classrooms at the elementary levels; leave the elementaries with their own art and music classrooms; remodel the Tanger Center; and give the district 10 new buses. It will only raise taxes 0.6 mills.

Perhaps the best part of the plan is the new Career and Technical Education Center, which would house existing career curriculums such as electronics/robotics, health occupations, culinary arts, engineering, graphics and informational technology plus new courses in construction technology and public safety.

The second part of the bond, for \$24.8 million (0.22 mills), will provide for a theater and a pool at Plymouth High School, an auxiliary gym at Salem and upgrades at various baseball, softball and soccer fields.

Many observers have described these as "wants" rather than needs, but consider this: There are serious demands made on the district's two pools and two theaters (DuBois at Canton and Logan at Salem).

District officials were able to put the entire proposal together for less than 1 mill. With median home values in the district at \$275,000, passing both questions would cost the average homeowner some \$117 a year.

The district was wise in saying the second ballot proposal couldn't pass without the first one. It's like the first question is dinner, the second is dessert, and district officials don't want voters to spoil their dinner.

Considering the district's reputation for doing much more with less, and the fact it can get all this work done for less than 1 mill, we think voters should spring for dinner and dessert, and approve both questions.

Rich traditions mark Easter and Passover

Family dinners, special rituals, special symbols and



Bond doesn't make sense

I am confused. In the March 30 edition of the Canton Observer an article titled "Teachers, transportation could face ax" talks about how layoffs and cuts are tough decisions for the school board.

What confuses me is that the same people who are facing the "tough decision" to lay off teachers and cut transportation are asking for a bond for a new pool and auditorium at Plymouth High School because they are bursting at the seams with students. Wouldn't it make more sense to find ways to transport them and teach them instead of adding amenities that are already on the PCEP campus at the other two schools? I know I don't know all the ins and outs, but common sense to me says getting the kids to school to learn should be more important than how the three schools schedule their swim team practices.

> Scott Redding Canton

Supports bond

In my 40-year history with the lymouth-Canton Community Schools the expertise of the present Board of Education, coupled with the vision of Superintendent Jim Ryan, has brought a logical and positive program for our youth K-12. On our present Board of Education, there is legal expertise, business acumen, hands-on educational experience/knowledge and dedication to the youth of this community. Together they have put on the table a conservative bond proposal for your vote of acceptance May 2. Please do not miss this opportunity to advance in the best possible way the educational opportunities for the beautiful youth of this community.

LETTERS

I've lived in this community for more than 25 years and I have seen many changes. The one constant over that time period has been the outstanding education provided by our Plymouth-Canton Community Schools. Voting yes on both issues May 2 is the best thing we can do for our kids, our community and our home values.

Nancy Baldwin

Fund-raiser thanks

It is with great pleasure that we extend a "thank you" to all those who helped in our successful weekend fund-raiser. Hosted at the always fantastic Cherry Hill Village Theater, with proceeds benefiting Arbor Hospice, the production of Grace and Glorie was a delight.

The team of "Duo Damas" (Joanne Hulce and Gloria Logan) thought of everything: An excellent choice in the play Grace and Glorie, a worthy cause in Arbor Hospice (who offer dignity, comfort and peace for the terminally ill and their families in a seven county area), the best theater venue of its kind, with a staff (headed by Jennifer Tobin) of the highest quality, an opportunity for high school students and senior citizens to attend a preview matinee, a follow-up question-and-answer session with the actors and representatives of Arbor Hospice, and great food/drink donated by local businesses too many to mention here by name.

asked the constituents I serve who have called and written my office and that I have spoken to at events and town hall meetings, I do not believe they would tell you that she made the right decision either. Laura M. Toy

www.hometownlife.com

state senator, 6th District

Commend Caccamo

When Mr. Caccamo ran for trustee, he saw a need and stepped up to fill it. It is obvious Mr. Caccamo has a strong sense of duty. When he saw another need that was important to him, he stepped up yet again by re-enlisting in the Marines.

The situation Canton has with Mr. Caccamo's service in the Marines is not a perfect one for our government. Since when has government been a perfect situation? Hopefully, the trustees will be able to carry on with the best interests of ALL of its citizens in his absence.

Mr. Caccamo has inspired others to wake up. speak up and get involved in their community government. His leadership has awakened a "sleeping giant" in Canton. This was evidenced by the turnout of citizens against the sale of the Fellows Creek Golf Course, Hopefully others will

Plymouth

remembering and retelling the stories of the past. This week marks a special time for Christians and Jews with the celebrations of Easter and Passover.

For Jews, Passover is the commemoration of the Jewish exodus from slavery. For Christians, this week marks Holy Week leading up to the celebration of Easter, the holiest of Christian holidays and not just another reason for jelly beans and chocolate bunnies. In the gospels, Christ's last days take place during Passover and the early Christians linked Easter to the Passover celebration.

The eight days of Passover, which began at sundown Wednesday, are celebrated the first two nights with a feast called a seder, a ceremonial dinner marked by the retelling of the story of the exodus from Egypt through the use of prayers, songs and foods. Passover includes many symbolic foods and rituals. Matzoh, an unleavened bread, is eaten to remember the Israelites had no time to prepare bread with yeast when they fled the Pharaoh. Horseradish is eaten to reflect the bitter affliction of slavery. Four cups of wine in the course of the dinner commemorates the four phases of Exodus - freedom, deliverance, redemption and release.

In addition to home-based rituals, there are also prayer services at synagogues with special prayers of thanksgiving.

For Christians, Holy Week retells and commemorates Christ's last days on Earth and his resurrection from the dead more than 2,000 years ago. The Christian Bible says Jesus was God's son, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of a virgin and who took on everyone else's sins by dying on the cross. Easter is at the end of the 46-day long Lenten season, which began Ash Wednesday and ends with Easter. Today is Maundy or Holy Thursday, which is a commemoration of the Last Supper, where the disciples gathered with Jesus to mark the Passover meal the evening before his crucifixion.

Freedom, renewal, redemption, resurrection. The rich traditions of faith and family come together this week with special significance.



113

George Dodson Retired Principal

Plymouth

Bond is important

As a Realtor, I can tell you that most home sales hinge on the perceived value of the school district serving the community where a home is located. As a Realtor who sells homes in Plymouth, Plymouth Township, Canton Township, Salem Township, Superior Township and Northville Township, I will tell you that Plymouth-Canton Community Schools is a district of choice for most buyers. That's why the May 2 bond election is so important.

I strongly encourage every voter within the Plymouth-Canton district boundary to vote "yes" on both bond issues on the May 2 ballot. This nominal investment in our schools will give our educators the expanded facilities they need to serve our evergrowing student population.

As a parent of a PCCS graduate, I know first-hand that the quality of education provided by the district is second to none. That's why people continue to move into our community, even in this tough economy.

The average homeowner in this area will pay less than \$120 a year if both issues pass. This small amount of money will protect home values and reinforce the message that the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools are among the best in Michigan.

Not only did Canton residents support this effort, but our friends in Plymouth, Northville, Ann Arbor and surrounding communities attended, some for the first time. Needless to say, they will be back.

For more information on Arbor Hospice, including the services they provide, log onto their Web site at www.arborhospice.org (a list of this event's sponsors will also appear).

Duo Damas was specifically formed to offer theater productions to benefit nonprofits. If you missed this event, look for future worthy causes to support.

Janis Kljun 'Grace and Glorie' Steering Committee

Canton

Not the right decision

I write in response to your April 6 editorial titled "Governor's vetoes are risky, but right." The only politics being played here are between our governor and Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick.

The governor's veto of my legislation to bring regional oversight to the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department is unpopular with voters for a reason. People's water bills keep rising and questions about how contracts are awarded at the department are more abundant than answers. My legislation was not conceived as some election-year stunt. I have been working on this issue since the day I entered office back in 2003.

The bill just vetoed by the governor corrected the concerns she raised in vetoing similar legislation three years ago. Her veto now is not an attempt to help foster regional cooperation, but one to protect a political ally with questionable business practices from any type of accountability whatsoever.

The governor didn't make a risky decision, she took the easy way out. And if you follow his lead when it comes to filling a need in Canton government and step up to the plate in 2008.

> Judy Linna Canton

Surprised at pick

I was surprised to read Diane Gonzalez is one of the paper's "picks" for the Plymouth-Canton school board election. I was surprised because of her lack of support for the two school bonds. I would like more information concerning her alternate ideas. I believe there is a group of Plymouth parents who support building a new grade school in northwest Plymouth Township and feel if the current bonds do not pass, the next proposed bond could contain this grade school construction.

It is my understanding the state, based on SEMCOG projections, will not approve another elementary school in Plymouth. One needs only to look at a map of the district and understand why. I am certainly not suggesting this is Ms. Gonzalez's agenda, but I would like more information before casting a vote in the direction the paper suggests.

Laura McReynolds

Plymouth

SHARE YOUR OPINIONS

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

Mail:

Letters to the editor Canton Observer 794 South Main Plymouth, MI 48170

Fax: (734) 459-4224

E-mail: kkuban@hometownlife.com

OUOTABLE

"Obviously, after 15 years, office and multifamily isn't doing anything there. You have to look at the rooftops and where they are, and what can support commercial, but you don't want it to all be commercial. "

- Canton Planning Director Jeff Goulet, on the need to change the future land use map of the Michigan Avenue corridor

Election field could help board take baby steps toward diversity

here are dozens of different cultures and nationalities represented in the

Plymouth-Canton Community School district.

Yet the school board - charged with making decisions that directly affect the lives of this vastly diverse student body of some 18,000 kids - is currently made up of four middle-aged white men and three white women.

Don't get us wrong: We believe the school board, in its current makeup,



But there's also the idea a school board — any governing body, really — should mirror the community it governs. Since there are

district's students.

does an excellent job of stew-

arding the education of the

about a gazillion nationali-

ties in the district, and only

seven seats on the school

Kadrich

board, obviously total representation isn't possible. Still, perhaps the board could benefit from a little diversity.

Some of the choices in the May 2 election could provide some, and a couple are even fairly intriguing. For instance, Cheryl McKoy could become the first African-American woman elected to the school board if her bid for one of the two four-year spots is successful.

She's got a big heart, and serving youth seems to be her passion, as evidenced particularly by her involvement with the young people in her church.

But she doesn't have well-developed opinions on school issues yet. She hasn't been involved in much, other than at her children's school. She had a chance to get her name -- and her message -- in front of voters, but was instead a no-show last week for a candidates' forum sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Northwest Wayne County. Given that, McKoy would be better served by getting on one of the district's committees to gain some experience.

Diane Gonzalez used to be a teacher, runs her own business and isn't enamored with the idea of a \$120 million bond proposal being floated by the district on the same ballot.

Gonzalez makes some people a little nervous. School officials are understandably bothered by her lack of support for the bond questions. There are some bothered by the idea she wants to put an elementary school in Plymouth Township's Miller Woods, a nervousness apparently untempered by the fact the board has built its last three buildings in Canton, and will make it five in a row if the bond passes next month with a new middle school and the new career technical center

The most intriguing candidate in the field of eight is an 18-year-old ball of energy named Brandon Hynes. He's

a private school graduate Brandon Hynes (Dearborn Divine Child), but with sisters in the public school system, he's got a pretty good idea of what needs to be done.

He's taken the initiative to drive

Downriver to attend a seminar on education hosted by state Sen. Bruce Patterson, he's talked to students about what they need and he seems to have a grasp on issues ranging from the bond issue to the new graduation requirements.

If this kid shows up at your door, listen to him. He's got some of the same issues other candidates have; he's inexperienced, he's never served before. But he's got an energy level the Energizer Bunny would envy, and he actually seems to grasp the challenges facing the district.

His biggest problem, should he get elected, might be getting the "grownups" on the board to listen to him. The tendency might be to pat him on the head, say "That's a good idea, sonny," and then dismiss him entirely.

Is this youngster fazed by that prospect? Not a bit.

"I won't let anyone patronize me," he said, simply.

The youngster's got a lot on his plate: He's a first-year sophomore at Wayne State based on advanced-placement courses he took in high school. He might not yet have the life experiences that would make him a better board member.

But this kid getting elected wouldn't be the biggest shock in the world. Nor would it be the worst thing to happen.

If this newspaper's endorsements turn out to be fact, the school board will have Gonzalez, Judy Mardigian and five middleaged white men - Barry Simescu, Mark Slavens, Rich Ham-Kucharski, Tom Wysocki and Steve Sneideman. That's not a change in the board makeup.

Where the change came this year was in the pool of candidates. Admittedly, it's a pretty small step, but it is a baby step in the right direction. And isn't that how most progress happens?

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

Canton officials are committed to maintaining Fellows Creek

ver the past several weeks, Fellows Creek Golf Club has been the focus of several meetings, newspaper articles and letters to the editor. Canton Leisure Services is encouraged, motivated and committed to work with those Canton residents interested in guiding the future of the golf course. Fellows Creek has been owned

by Canton since 1978 and since

that time, its management has

been privatized. The manage-

including all maintenance,

ing. The partnership demon-

strates an effective, successful

public/private partnership. At

ment company is responsible for

the total operations of the course

scheduling, staffing and market-



Conklin

the end of each contract term, Canton completes a fiscal analysis and evaluates the feasibility of continuing the

private operations. In 1986, Canton invested significantly in Fellows Creek by adding nine holes to the original 18 and constructing a new club house. During the next twenty years, Canton invested \$2.2 million, which represents 41 percent of net revenues collected in capital improvements.

In addition, Canton worked with Robertson Brothers in 2003 to create a new housing development adjacent to the course. As a result of this

Require English language

After listening to all of the political rhetoric about proposed solutions to undocumented (dare I say "illegal") aliens in the U.S., I suggest that first, we simply enforce the existing laws, tighten the border against "coyotes" (people smugglers) and drug traffickers and after "problem numero uno" is addressed then focus on the status of the X-million illegals in the country. Of course, the border problem is not just the Mexican/U.S. crossing. Canada has a very liberal admittance policy. Who knows what could cross there?

Part of the Senate's bill for we-don't-want-to-callit-amnesty for "undocumented" aliens would require immigrants learn English on "the path (expressway?) to citizenship." Isn't that already a requirement? I offer that many hopeful petitioners for U.S. visas - waiting in their country of origin are studying English before they get the legal "come-on-over" document. Explain to me how sneaking into the country illegally, taking a "job that no American will take" in order to pay a \$1,000-2,000 fine, and then learning English while enjoying the comfort and privileges of the U.S. - to get legal status is going to the end of theline on the "path to citizenship." I agree with Newt Gingrich: "You want legal temporary workers who

partnership, the developer totally funded the construction of two new holes to further enhance the course.

Fellows Creek experienced the spike in golf during the 1990s and has suffered the dip the entire industry has realized since 2001. The number of rounds fell from a high of 57,500 in 2001 to 44,000 in 2005. Nonetheless, Canton has remained committed to Fellows Creek. Working together with the private operator, Leisure Services developed a short and long-term capital improvement schedule for Fellows Creek and presented it to the Board of Trustees in May. 2005. Minor repairs were completed immediate ly, and the removal of tree stumps was bid in late

During the summer and fall of 2005, the oper-au ator and Canton evaluated and prioritized additional projects and improvements. A detailed plan of action for the golf course was included in 👙 the Leisure Services Master Plan, which was approved by the Board of Trustees on Feb. 14, 2006. The Board of Trustees will be addressing 2006. The Board of Trustees will be addressing the remaining improvements in the weeks ahead at

Fellows Creek is an asset to the entire communation nity. Canton is committed to utilizing the resources available to maintain and improve Fellows Creek Golf Club and all community assets.

Ann Conklin is director of Canton Leisure Services.

LETTERS

have background checks and sign a contract that they will obey the law, pay taxes and who can be removed from the U.S. in 48 hours if they break the contract. Illegal immigrants should be required to go home and apply for temporary workers' permits." After the borders are secured, one of the first Senate/House bills I'd like to see proposed/passed would be to make English the "official" language of the United States. Why do we coddle people who make no effort to learn the dominant language of the country they have chosen? Why must official documents be multi-lingual? I went to a newly constructed indoor lumber yard chain store here in Canton and there, above the door, was a big red sign with two words — one above the other. On top was "Entrance;" underneath was "Entrada." I wondered just how soon the additions of Hindi, Japanese, or Arabic versions of "Entrance" would be added as these are dominate "foreign" languages in town. And what about linguistic minority groups? Shouldn't Portuguese, Bulgarian, or Albanian, for example, be included? Aren't we concerned that people from these language groups probably will never be able to find the door?

Linda Newberry Canton





(C)

AT

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HeneTown

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VOLUNTEERS Recognizing HomeTown Heroes

Awards Luncheon

Join WXYZ Channel 7 anchor/reporter Glenda Lewis and Smooth Jazz V98.7 morning show host Alexander Zonjic as we honor the following outstanding volunteers, as well as hundreds of others, who continue to give of their time and talents to serve those in our community.



Acts of Kindness Award

Patricia McCracken of Livonia

Bernie Firestone Award

Jo Ann Wallace of Southfield

CorPLUS Award

Louis Mahoney of Bloomfield Hills

Exemplary Group Service Award

Girl Scouts of Macomb County

Postponing Sexual Involvement Teen Mentors

Monday, April 24 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. **Detroit Marriott Renaissance Center**



Alexander Zoniic

Outstanding Youth Award Ali Ayoub of Dearborn

Young Adult Award of Excellence Melvina Anderson of Detroit

Outstanding Business Award DaimlerChrysler Financial Services

Governor's Honor Roll 80 southeast Michigan residents will be recognized in this category

Heart of Gold Award J. Ernest Cooper of Lathrup Village Jean Kolod of Rochester Hills Joyce Siegel of Huntington Woods Mark Q. Williams of Detroit

Reservations must be made in advance. Call United Way for Southeastern Michigan at 313-226-9430 to reserve your tickets. Ticket cost is \$27.50 each. All reservations are due by April 17.

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Observer & Accentric







Made in America

New cable TV station caters to Muslim audience

toward Muslims," he said. "My

wife was pregnant at the time,

and she said that this is not a

good environment for raising

nice if there was a media outlet

children, and wouldn't it be

that could reach people and

show them what Muslims are

Zubair turned to her hus-

band and said, "You should do

it. You should start a television

Hassan said he couldn't. He

was a banker and knew nothing about the television indus-

try. But he put together a busi-

ness plan and by the time he

employer's blessing and a \$1 million line of credit.

Not that he's needed to tap

Right away, he reached out

to the Muslim community, and

his initial seed money was sent

to him by 10,000 families from

"That was our first \$1 mil-

grass-roots thing. It was very

grass-roots, very door to door,

around the United States.

lion," he said. "It truly is a

very mosque to mosque."

left his job, he left with his

into the credit.

Each sent \$100.

BY CAROL MARSHALL STAFF WRITER

Mo Hassan thought he was being optimistic.

But just two weeks after he launched Bridges TV, it turns out he had been underestimating the demand for the new television network.

Hassan is the CEO of Bridges TV, the only all-American Muslim television station in the world. Programming is in English, and is entertainment-heavy, rather than news-centered (even though the station airs news during prime time daily).

Bridges TV made its debut just two weeks ago in the Detroit area on WOW! Cable, Comcast, Globestar Satellite and Dish Network, and it's pending on Direct TV.

"We had planned to have one million viewers by the end of this year, but at the end of this week, we have that many," Hassan said last week. "I need to write a new business plan."

The plan was originally hatched at the end of 2001. He and his wife, Aasiya Zubair, spent November and December of that year in Southfield because she was attending training to open a franchise in their hometown of

Buffalo, N.Y. "It was after Sept. 11, and we were listening to the radio, and there was a lot of talk — talk that was very disparaging

really like."

station."

There is some corporate sponsorship - from Ford Motor Co., for example - and the station collects licensing fees from cable and satellite companies who buy it. And, of course, there are the memberships bought by the people who send money to support the station, Hassan said.

There has been absolutely no foreign financing of the station, and no "giant media conglomerate," Hassan said. "It's 100 percent made in America. It's homemade apple pie."

Bridges TV has rolled out in the Detroit market, Chicago, Toledo, Columbus, Boston and Dallas. And Hassan has found that meeting with cable companies in new markets doesn't require weeks or months of waiting, contrary to what he'd heard about the industry. 'They call me," he said.

The station's programming lineup includes game shows, children's programming, music videos, history programs, biographies, news, current affairs and religious programming. About half is produced at the company's headquarters in Buffalo, where some 30 people work for Hassan. He employs 20 news correspondents in the field around the country.

"I think what appeals to peo-



Aasiya Zubair (left), wife of Bridges TV CEO Muzzammil Hassan (right), played an instrumental role in the creation of Bridges TV since she came up with the idea of an American Muslim lifestyle network and encouraged her husband to write a business plan.

ple is that when there's something going on like the struggle in Iraq, the Danish cartoon issue, or the Dubai ports, people can turn on Bridges TV and get another perspective," Hassan said. "We are definitely building bridges, just like the name says.

On May 15 at 8 p.m., Bridges TV will air a town hall meeting with Paul Moskal, the chief legal counsel for the FBI in New York. Moskal will take

direct questions from Muslim and Arab Americans on national television. On May 14, the station will air the cable television premier of PBS' Muhammad: Legacy of a Prophet.

"It really fills a void," said Adnan Mirza, a director of the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR). "There's a clear disconnect between popular American media and Muslim audience. The nice

thing is, this is not just for the Muslim audience. Bridges TV gives a clear understanding of the issues to viewers and an opportunity for us to speak for ourselves. Americans are increasingly interested in better understanding Middle Eastern cultures, and Muslim Americans want to be better understood. Bridges TV creates a public platform for this dialogue." cmarshall@hometownlife.com

REI gives \$10,000 to Rouge, Maybury Land says license ATMs a success

Two area parks will receive \$10,000 donations from **Recreational Equipment Inc.**

Las week REI announced plans to dedicate \$1 million to community parks across the country. These parks grants are in addition to the more than \$3 million in grants REI previously earmarked this year for outdoor recreation and conservation causes.

A total of 100 parks grants, each in the amount of \$10,000, will be given to nonprofit organizations dedicated to the preservation and maintenance of community parks throughout the U.S. Seven community organizations in Colorado will receive a grant that will benefit a specific park. The benefiting parks and partner organizations include:

Rouge River, grant presentation 9 a.m. Earth Day Saturday, April 22, at Rouge River Park.

Maybury State Park, Partner Organization - Friends of the Maybury State park, grant presentation was set for 10 a.m. Wednesday at Maybury State Park.

Grant recipients were selected after REI employees identified community parks that were of particular interest to their customers, offered outdoor recreation opportunities, and were in close proximity to an REI store.

Once specific parks were selected, REI worked with park officials to identify a nonprofit group that provides volunteer care for each park. In collaboration with the local

that maintain and preserve each community park.

"REI had an amazing 2005," said REI President and CEO Sally Jewell. "As a co-op we share our success with our members, employees and the communities in which we do business. I can,t think of a better way to celebrate our success than by dedicating an additional \$1 million to support our community parks. The importance of these parks is immeasurable in getting people outdoors - as recreation areas, as community gathering spaces and often, as our children,s first introduction to the natural world."

Michigan Secretary of State Terri Lynn Land reports that in the 12 months since introducing Self-Service Stations for renewing licenses, the state has recorded 30,000 transactions and \$3 million in revenue.

"Self-Service Stations are a key part of our efforts to make a trip to the Secretary of State's office a quick and helpful experience," Land said. "It is encouraging to see so many customers using them. This is another effective way technology can be used to enhance customer service for the people of Michigan. I recommend that anyone who has not used these machines yet give them a try. It's as easy as 'Scan, Pay, Go."

There are 28 self-service machines statewide, 17 of which my be accessed 24 hours a day, seven days a week by customers, They are located at 23 PLUS Offices and five Super Centers throughout 17 counties. From April 1, 2005, through March 31, 2006, there were 29,619 tab renewal transactions, generating \$2,958,688 in revenue.

The stand-alone ATM-style stations feature simple touch-screen instructions and can dispense new license tabs within seconds. Customers simply scan the bar code on a renewal notice with their correct name, address, vehicle information and personal identification number (PIN), then swipe a debit card or Visa, MasterCard or Discover credit card.

Tabs may still be purchased online, by phone or mail, but customers who have run out of time to use those methods of who would otherwise have to wait for service at the counter can obtain renewals quickly and easily at the Self-Service Station.

Livonia Area SUPER Center is at 17176 Farmington Road in the Burton Hollow Plaza. PLUS offices are located at 25700 Joy Road, Redford and 44948 Ford Road, Canton. The department Web site is

www.Michigan.gov/sos for more information

Rouge River Park , Partner Organization – Friends of the

parks, these non-profit groups will dedicate funds to projects



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LOCAL NEWS

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, April 13, 2006

Board, resource center collaborate on Project 180 Too

BY SUE MASON STAFF WRITER

The Wayne-Westland school board is going on the road again with its highly successful Project 180, but instead of focusing on two school communities, the new program is expanding to include all families in the community.

Planned for 10 a.m. to 12:30

p.m. Saturday, May 13, at Franklin Middle School on Annapolis east of Howe, Project 180 Too will offer sessions covering a variety of topics of interest to parents with children in elementary through high school, as well as a "fun" keynote address by Linda Lee of "Young Country" radio station WYCD, a parent in the Wayne-Westland district.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON INVITATION TO BID

SOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Charter Township of Canton, 1150 Canton Center S, Canton, Michigan will accept sealed bids at the Office of the Clerk up to 3:00 p.m. Thursday, April 27th, 2006 for the following:

PRECOR TREADMILLS C956

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

TERRY G. BENNETT, CLERK

OE08428266

Publish: April 13, 2006

Publish; April 9 & 13, 2006

PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools invites all interested and qualified companies to submit Bids for the Moving of: West Middle School and Farrand, Fiegel, Gallimore, Isbister, and Miller Elementary Schools.

Bidding documents may be picked up at the office of the Construction Manager, McCarthy & Smith, Inc., 24317 Indoplex Circle, Farmington Hills, MI 48335 on April 5, 2005. Bids will be received until <u>1:30 P.M.</u>, local time on <u>Thursday</u>. <u>April 20, 2006</u> at which time they will be opened and read publicly at the Plymouth Canton Community School, E.J. McClendon Educational Center, 454 S. Harvey, Plymouth, Michigan, 48170. Bids received after this time and date will be returned. Faxed proposals will not be accepted.

Bids are to be submitted in a sealed envelope supplied by McCarthy & Smith, Inc. There will be a mandatory **Pre-Bid Meeting on Tuesday, April 11, 2005 @ 2:15 p.m.** in the West Middle School construction project trailer located at 44401 W Ann Arbor Trail, Hymouth, MI, 48170. Questions regarding the scope of the project may be addressed to Mr. Doug Underwood of McCarthy & Smith, Inc. at (248) 427.8400. Plymouth Canton Community Schools reserves the right to reject any or all bids received and to waive any informalities and irregularities in the bidding documents. This project is to be bid at the prevailing wage rate.

The bidder shall disclose any familial relationship as required by the State of Michigan on the proposal pricing form. This form must also be signed and notarized in order for the bid to be accepted.

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

"The whole idea is to encourage learning over the summer and get ready for the new school year," said Maria Mitter, director of the district's Family Resource Center which is collaborating with the school board in staging Project 180 Too.

The second installment is geared for parents with breakout sessions covering such topics as keeping kids safe on the Internet, "a big hot topic right now," according to Mitter, grandparents raising children, working with children with ADD or ADHD, funding a child's college education now and fun and educational Internet sites.

There also will be "Help, My Child Is Entering Middle School" and "Help, My Child Is Entering High School" as well as preparing for college entrance exams for parents of teenagers.

Each half-hour session will be offered twice, so parents can

"NOTICE TO CUT NOXIOUS WEEDS"

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON

TO THE OWNER OR OCCUPANT OR ANY PERSON OR PERSONS, FIRM OR CORPORATION HAVING CHARGE OF ANY LAND IN THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON:

Notice is hereby given that all noxious weeds growing on any land in the Charter Township of Canton, Wayne County, Michigan must be cut and destroyed on or before the first day of May, the first day of June, the first day of July, the first day of August, and the first day of September in each year and/or as needed and as often as may be necessary to prevent same from going to seed. Any owner, occupant, or person having charge of any such land must notify the Township that such weeds have been destroyed within three (3) days of such cutting. Any person failing to comply with this notice shall be liable to the imposition of the penalties set forth in Noxious Weed Ordinance, Chapter 34, Article III of the Code of Ordinances of the Charter Township of Canton, Wayne County, Michigan and shall be liable for all expenses incurred by the Township in destroying said noxious weeds, which expenses, if unpaid by the Owner or occupant, shall be spread against the property on the next County and State tax roll or the next general Township tax roll and/or place a lien upon the property to secure the collection of such expense. The Township of Canton may notify by certified mail with return receipt requested, the owner, agent or occupant as shown on the current County and School tax roll, of any lands on which said noxious weeds are found prowing. Such notice shall contain a summary of the provisions of this section of the Ordinance. Failure of the Township to give such notice shall not, however, constitute a defense to any action to enforce the payment of any penalty provided herein or any debt created hereunder.

BY ORDER OF THE TOWNSHIP BOARD

TERRY G. BENNETT CLERK

Publish April 13, 2006

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take in two during the course of the event.

Mitter is hoping to attract at least 250 people and as an incentive to attend, there will be prizes given out at the end of each session as well as several grand prizes.

The gifts include one night at the Bavarian Lodge in Frankenmuth, T-shirts from local colleges and universities, a Westland Bowl package, one free week at the Livonia Family YMCA summer camp and various games and books.

"We think the breakout sessions are a great incentive to attend, not to mention the free stuff we're giving away," Mitter said.

While the program is geared for parents, it doesn't mean the kids need to stay home. Child care will be provided for youngsters ages 5-10 with employees of Wayne Parks and Recreation coming to the school to provide activities in the school gymnasium. There also will be facepainting and plenty of food. Chef Tony Paquette of the William D. Ford Career Technical Center will be doing the cooking, providing hot dogs, cookies and/or brownies, A&W Root Beer and bottled Water.

Lou Toarmina of Toarmina's Pizza is again providing pizza. He partnered with the district for the first Project 180 You Can! in October 2004, baking and serving 50 pizzas to participants.

Mitter is asking that parents call the center at (734) 419-2709 to preregister for Project 180 Too. The sessions will be held in classrooms with seating for about 30 people. Parents, however, can show up the day of the event and still participate.

Board President Frederick Weaver was looking for an opportunity for the board to impact on the district when he came up with the idea of going into schools and areas where students are underachieving on the state's Michigan Educational Assessment Program tests.

The first installment attracted 800 adults and children and offered words of wisdom, job opportunities, food and entertainment for the students and families of Lincoln and Jefferson-Barns Elementary schools.

"This Project 180 Too has as its agenda to reach out in positive way to community," said Weaver in announcing the new initiative.

"As a board, we stand by this community, especially the children, We'll do whatever we can so everyone has an opportunity to excel in life.

"We hope a spark will be ignited in families' hearts and children's eyes to turn around their thinking from it's always going to be like this to I can do great things in my life if I'm willing to work hard enough and never give up."

Charter Township of Canton Board Proceedings -April 4, 2006

A regular study meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton held Tuesday, April 4, 2006 at 1150 Canton Center S., Canton, Michigan. Supervisor Yack called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and led the pledge of allegiance. Roll Call Members Present: Bennett, Caccamo, Kirchgatter, LaJoy, McLaughlin, Yack, Zarbo Members Absent: Staff Present: Director Santomauro, Fire Chief Rorabacher, Deputy Chief Wilson, Lt. Kerr, Barb Caruso Adoption of Agenda Motion by Bennett, seconded by McLaughlin to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously. <u>STUDY SESSION TOPIC</u> Item 1. Public Safety 2005 Annual Report: IKEA Update STATISTICAL HIGHLIGHTS: Crime Statistics Canton ranked 20th safest community in the Nation; communities over 75,000 population. Canton ranked #1 in Wayne County on crimes per capita; communities over 50,000 population Patrol Statistics, Part One Crimes, Calls for Service by Type, Accidents Reported by Type, Patrol Highlights, Records Bureau Statistics, Community Relations Highlights, Police Training Unit Statistics Fire Suppression Statistics CANTON FIRE DEPARTMENT: Fire/EMS Incidents, Fire Department Transports, Fire Department Hospital Transports, Fire Department Staffing, Fire Prevention Highlights, **Emergency Management Highlights, Budget Overview, 2005** Forfeitures, Millage Rate History, Budget Performance Lieutenant Promotion Process

Lieutenant Assessment Center Process Supervisor Yack stated April 11 is a Regular Board Meeting, April 12, Special Meeting to deal with the drastic drop off in Building Permits, April 18, Study Session for rate and fee analysis, April 19, Planning Commission and Board of Trustees Joint Meeting on four (4) ordinance changes and April 25, Regular Board Meeting. All of the above meetings will be held at 7:00 p.m. at the Administration Building, First Floor, Board Room, 1150 Canton Center S. Canton, Michigan, 48188. <u>Adjourn</u> Motion by Bennett, supported by Zarbo at 8:45 p.m. to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. – Thomas J. Yack, Supervisor – Terry G. Bennett, Clerk –

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

Publish: April 13, 2006

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COUNTY NEWS

Sea Cadets introduce youth to military life

BY HUGH GALLAGHER STAFF WRITER

A16 (*)

Cousins Zachary Polak of Wyandotte and Erick Jackson of Romulus dreamed of joining the elite ranks of the Navy SEALs.

"I started researching stuff and I found a military Web site with a link to the Sea Cadets and they had SEAL training," said Polak, a senior at Wyandotte High School and petty officer second class in the Sea Cadets.

According to Ensign Edward C. Brennan of Milford, that hands-on military experience is what makes the U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps a great opportunity for young men and women ages 11-17.

"The beauty of the Sea Cadets is that they get initiated into military opportunities to see if this is what he or she wants to do," Brennan said. "It's a great way to find out what it's like to be in the military."

INTERVIEWS

The James M. Hannan Division of the Sea Cadets has openings for a limited number of new recruits. Interviews will be held 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 18, at Redford Presbyterian Church, 22122 W. McNichols, Detroit. Appointments are necessary and can be made by calling (248) 685-9568.

On April 15, the Sea Cadets will have a display at the Livonia Mall, Seven Mile and Middlebelt. Applications and



Rifle training is part of the Sea Cadets SEAL training.

interviews will take place 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The Hannan Division meets 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. the first and third Saturday each month at Redford Presbyterian. The 35 Cadets come from throughout the metro Detroit area.

Brennan dates the beginning of the Sea Cadets to Teddy Roosevelt who urged the Navy to develop an organization for civilian support. That led to the founding of the Navy League. About 45 years ago, the Navy asked the Navy League to form a youth group. The Hannan Division has been in operation for 42 years. From April through November, the Sea Cadets operate a ship, the SCS Gray Fox out of Port Huron. Three two-week cruises and several one-week and weekend cruises are available. About 900 cadets from the Midwest will

sail this coming season. COAST GUARD TIES

"We have a close relationship with the Coast Guard. Kids are on ship steer, plot courses, do everything," Brennan said. "We have a dummy, Oscar, that they throw over the side to practice rescues."

The 120-foot Gray Fox is a decommissioned Navy torpedo recovery ship. Hannan Division cadets will bring the ship down to Hart Plaza in Detroit April 28 and 29 where it will be open for public tours.

In addition, Sea Cadets introduces young cadets to a variety of military options. "We have 65 different activi-

ties including Navy band, JAG school, medical training," Brennan said.

Activities also include submarine school, seamanship, sailing, photojournalism and



Lifting a heavy rubber boat teaches teamwork but Sea Cadet Zachary Polak said the bottom of the boat feels like sandpaper.

Several former Cadets are serving in the military in Iraq.

SEAL training. The Sea Cadets also have an exchange program with other countries which allow some cadets to work on British, Russian, Canadian and other foreign vessels. All that comes after basic

training.

"It was a lot of yelling," Polak said of basic training. "It wasn't as bad as I thought it would be. At first I thought it was bad and then I did SEAL training. I complained about boot camp and now I don't know why."

Polak described SEAL training as "hell for three weeks." Trainees learn to dive, but they also learn to carry heavy logs and water heavy rubber boats as a team.

"You cannot get through SEAL training as an individual. If you do it alone, you won't make it," Polak said.

Brennan, a Navy veteran of the Korean War who became involved as a Sea Cadets volunteer officer five years ago, said about 15 to 20 percent of the cadets get into the military.

tary. "Ten percent of the cadets at Annapolis are former Sea Cadets," Brennan said.

Several former Cadets are serving in the military in Iraq, Brennan said.

Polak and Jackson say they've gotten a lot out of their Sea Cadet experience, though they aren't sure that the Navy is for them. "We got a lot of military knowledge, that's for sure," said Jackson, a junior at Romulus High School with a seaman rank. "I got a look at what branch of military I wanted to go into."

Polak said his experience led to a full-ride ROTC scholarship at Central Michigan University. But the ROTC will lead to the Army not the Navy.

"The only reason to go into the Navy was SEAL training and if I didn't make it, there isn't anything else I would want to do in the Navy," he said. "But if I went into the Army and didn't make Special Forces I could still be a Ranger or Airborne. I'm the kind of person who wants to be in the field and hands-on."

Jackson is also considering the Army or the Marines.





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Ford Foundation awards \$1 million to Focus:HOPE

The Ford Foundation has granted \$1 million to Focus: HOPE as part of a major initiative to expland its education and training opportunities, increase enrollment, and graduate more underrepresented minorities into sustainable careers.

Designated for scholarships and core operating support, the award will offer more options and a better future to hundreds of young men and women in the city of Detroit.

Announcement of the award was made during a recent visit to Focus:HOPE's campus in Detroit by Ford Foundation executives Susan V. Berresford, president; Pablo Farias, vice president, Asset Building and Community Development Program; and John Colborn, deputy director, Economic Development, Asset Building and Community Development Program.

"This grant will advance our efforts to ensure our training programs are providing the outcomes expected by our partners," said Keith W. Cooley, who recently was appointed CEO of the 38-year-old civil rights organization. "It will enable us to meet the rapidly changing demands of the marketplace, build our scholarship fund, provide experiential learning opportunities for our manufacturing engineering students and adjust curriculum to address current skills shortages."

The Ford Foundation and other national foundations provide support for Focus: HOPE's education and training programs. Existing programs open career opportunities in the manufacturing, engineering and information technology industries.

"Our first grant to Focus: HOPE was in 1977. Since then, we have provided grants and loans totaling over \$5.5 million and watched as thousands of Detroit residents have benefited from its educational programs and community outreach," said Berresford. "We are pleased to help this talented and dedicated group of people as they work to address the economic challenges taking Detroit and its residents."

Ford Foundation funding will also support a new scholarship initiative which gives Designated for scholarships and core operating support, the award will offer more options and a better future to hundreds of young men and women in the city of Detroit.

resources they need to complete their studies. Beginning in 2006, enrolled students who demonstrate financial need can compete for scholarships to complete their programs. Three students enrolled in the information technology program, which trains students for the computer industry certifications, recently were awarded the first scholarships.

"We are grateful for the trust in us shown by the Ford Foundation," said Eleanor M. Josaitis, co-founder of Focus:HOPE. "Their partnership with us means that more men and women will be able to develop the skills they need to make a success of their lives."

Since its founding in 1968, Focus: HOPE has been committed to using "intelligent and practical action to overcome racism, poverty and injustice." In addition to its education and training programs, Focus:HOPE has a food program that provides commodity foods to 43,000 women, children and senior citizens each month; a child care center; business conference facilities; community arts programs and neighborhood revitalization initiatives. Through Focus:HOPE, thousands of individuals – especially women and minorities have become financially independent. www.focushope.edu.

The Ford Foundation is an independent, nonprofit grantmaking organization. For more than half a century it has been a resource for innovative people and institutions worldwide, guided by its goals of strengthening democratic values, reducing poverty and injustice, promoting international cooperation and advancing human achievement. With headquarters in New York, the foundation has offices in Africa, the Middle East, Asia, RATES AS LOW AS

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RELIGION CALENDAR

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

APRIL

Holy Week worship

7 p.m. Maundy Thursday Holy Communion 7 p.m, April 13, 7 p.m. Good Friday, April 14, 7 p.m. Holy Saturday Easter Vigil April 15, and 7 a.m., 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. Easter Sunday, April 16, at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 39020 Five Mile, Livonia. Call 464-0211

Holy Week services

Maundy Thursday April 13 at 7:30 p.m.; Good Friday April 14 Reflections on the Passion 12:30-2 p.m., and Tenebrae Worship Service at 8 p.m.; Easter Vigil April 15 at 8 p.m., and Easter Sunday April 16 at 7 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m., at Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church, 30650 Six Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 427-1414 or visit http://holycrosslivonia.org.

Seniors luncheon

Noon Thursday, April 13, at Unity of Livonia, 28660 Five Mile, between Inkster and Middlebelt. If you can't bring a dish, a donation is just right. Jan Rapoport, R.N., will speak on healing touch and laughter as the basis for health and healing. Call (734) 421-1760.

Holy week worship

7:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday, April 13, at Newburg United Methodist Church 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia; Ecumenical worship service noon April 14, Good Friday, at Church of the Savior Reformed Church, 38100 Five Mile. (734) 464-1062, and sunrise serv ice 7 a.m. Easter Sunday, April 16, at Greenmead Chapel, and 9:15 a.m. and 11 a.m. at Newburg Church. Call (734) 422-0149.

Holy Week services

Maundy Thursday, April 13 joint worship with Good Shepherd Lutheran noon and 7 p.m. Holy Communion,

foot-washing and stripping the altar in preparation for Good Friday; joint services at noon and 7 p.m. April 14, and Easter Sunday breakfast served in the fellowship hall 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. worship with special music at 10:30 a.m., at St. John's Lutheran Church, 13542 Mercedes, one block east of Inkster road, south of Schoolcraft, Redford. Call (313) 538-2660. Maundy Thursday service

7 p.m. Thursday, April 13, at Riverside Park Church of God, 11771 Newburgh, Livonia. Call (734) 464-0990. This is a time for the entire Family. We will have a worship service, communion, and foot washing.

Holy week

Services 7 p.m. Maundy Thursday, April 13, at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 30900 Six Mile. Livonia. Call (734) 422-6038; Ecumenical worship service noon April 14, Good Friday, at Church of the Savior Reformed Church, 38100 Five Mile, (734) 464-1062. and sunrise service 7 a.m. Easter Sunday, April 16, at Greenmead Chapel, and 10:30 a.m. Sunday, at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 30900 Six Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 422-6038.

Holy week services

7:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday, April 13; 7:30 p.m. Good Friday Service of Shadows April 14; and 8:30 a.m., 9:50 a.m. and 11 a.m. Easter Sunday, April 16, at St. John Lutheran Church, ELCA, 23225 Gill Road Farmington Hills, Call (248) 474-0584.

Last Supper re-enactment

7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 13, presented by Wayne Westland First United Methodist Church and First Congregational Church of Wayne, at Three Town Square, Wayne. Open to public. No charge, but a love offering will be taken. Call (734) 721-9300 or (734) 721-4801.

Maundy Thursday service

7:30 p.m. April 13, in the sanctuary at St. James Presbyterian Church, 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford. Call (313) 534-7730.

Fish fry dinners

3:30 p.m. Friday, April 14, in addition to dinners of hand-battered fried and

baked fish choices include salmon patty and pierogi, and \$5 macaroni and cheese, and pizza dinners, at St. Edith Church, 15089 Newburgh, Livonia. Cost is \$8, \$6 children. Carry out dinners available at same prices. For questions, call (734) 462-1222.

Services

7 p.m. Good Friday, April 14, and 9:30 a.m. 10:45 a.m. and 11 a.m. Resurrection Sunday, April 16 (remember to bring 30 pieces of silver to be presented to Michigan Christian Campus Ministries), at Memorial Church of Christ, 35475 Five Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 464-7156

Crosstalk

With Paul Clough discussing current events and what the Bible has to say about how God wishes us to respond to them 7 p.m. Friday, April 14, at Ward Presbyterian Church, Northville. No charge. Free child care provided. Call (248) 374-5920.

Easter egg hunt

Noon Saturday, April 15, at Nativity United Church of Christ, 9435 Henry Ruff, Livonia. Call (734) 421-6406. Easter cantata

Amazing Grace 11 a.m. Sunday, April 16, at Mt. Vernon Baptist Church, 8828 Wormer, Redford, Everyone is invited. Call (313) 537-7480.

Easter worship

9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sunday, April 16, Gethsemane Missionary Baptist Church in Westland will hold the service at Inkster High School, 3250 Middlebelt. All services are signed for the deaf community. Call (734) 721-2557. All are welcome.

Easter Sunday

7:30 a.m. April 16, at Riverside Park Church of God, on northwest corner of Plymouth and Newburgh, Livonia. Immediately following this service a free hot breakfast will be served to those in attendance. At 9:30 a.m. regular Sunday school classes will be available for all ages. Our Family Worship service begins at 10:45 a.m. All children and youth in attendance will receive a special filled basket as a free gift from the church at the conclusion. To plan effectively we would like to know how many will attend

breakfast. Please call to reserve your spot (734) 464-0990. Mission accomplished

A Passion musical 10:30 a.m. Sunday, April 16, at 28440 Lyndon, north of I-96, east of Middlebelt, Livonia. Child care provided. Call (734) 425-6215. **Easter services**

8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Sunday, April 16, at the Church of the Holy Spirit, 9083 Newburgh, between Joy and Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia. Call (734) 591-0211.

Lenten Bible study Pastor Herschel Ele leads a Lenten Bible Study 6:20-7:10 p.m. Wednesdays, at Garden City Presbyterian Church, 1841 Middlebelt, one block south of Ford. The church continues Sunday services with an adult Bible study at 8:30 a.m., traditional worship and children's Sunday School at 10 a.m., contemporary Mustard Seed service at 6 p.m. Tuesday adult Bible Study at 11

a.m. Call (734) 421-7620.

Lenten services 10 a.m. Sundays through Lent and Easter Sunday, and 7:30 p.m. Holy Thursday, April 13 at Nardin Park United Methodist Church, 29887 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills. Call (248) 476-8860

Garage sale

10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Wednesday-Thursday, April 19-20, and 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday. April 21, at St. Alexander's Church, 27835 Shiawassee, between Middlebelt and Inkster, Farmington Hills, Call (248) 474-5748. Just for kids

Looking for something for your kids to do during Spring Break? Kids from 5 to 18 years old are invited to make Candy Animal Crafts 1-3 p.m. Thursday, April 20, at Riverside Park Church of God, 11771 Newburgh, Livonia. Please let us know if your child will attend by calling (734) 464-0990. You are welcome to drop off your child and return back at the end of the session because there will be adult supervision during the time.

Garage sale

9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, April 21, \$2 bag sale at 4 p.m., all large items go for \$2 at the bag sale, at SS Simon and Jude Church, 32500 Palmer, Westland, Call (734) 722-1343.

Lazer tag

Meet at the Zap Zone, 6:45 p.m. Friday, April 21, at 41953 Ford, Canton. Ticket \$18, includes pizza, pop and lazer tag. For more information, call Ward Presbyterian Church at (248) 374-5920.

Divine Mercy weekend

St. Michael Catholic Church of Livonia celebrate its first Divine Mercy Weekend April 22-23, with several special services and devotions to which all area Catholics are cordially invited. A Healing Mass will be offered 1 p.m. Saturday, in the church at the corner of Hubbard and Plymouth in Livonia. This Mass offers special prayers and anointing for Catholics recovering from serious illness, facing surgery, or suffering from a chronic health condition and asks for the relief of suffering and the restoration of health, both physical and spiritual. Those interested in participating should call (734) 261-1455 to register. The church and its facilities are wheelchair accessible. On Mercy Sunday, April 23, the Parish holds its first formal celebration of the Divine Mercy, as instituted by Pope John Paul II and based on Christ's revelations to St. Faustina Kowalska about humanity's need for His Divine Mercy. The day begins with a noon Mass,followed by a 1 p.m. Polish luncheon featuring stuffed cabbage, kielbasa, sauerkraut, and other traditional Polish fare, by reservation only and priced at \$6 for adults, \$3 children ages 4-12, free for children 3 and under. Reservations must be placed by calling (734) 261-1455 no later than Tuesday, April 18. The Divine Mercy Devotion begins at 3 p.m., traditionally the hour of "greatest mercy" commemorating the hour of Christ's death, and will include the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, and close with Benediction. All area Catholics are welcome to participate in as many of the weekend activities as they choose. The luncheon is reserved only by those planning to participate in the Divine Mercy devotion. Conference 25th Annual Pax Christi Michigan State Conference - The Road Ahead: Hope & Vision for Future of Peace 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, April 22, at Gesu Church, 17180 Oak Drive in Detroit. Keynote speaker is Rev. John Dear, a 46-year old Jesuit priest, pastor, peacemaker, retreat leader, and author. Fee is \$40 (includes conference, continental breakfast & lunch). For information on registration, workshops, etc., cail (517) 482-2558 or send e-mail to TirakPaxMI@aol.com, or visit www.paxchristimi.org, or call Carol Jachim, (313) 839-0249.

Arts Teacher Georgie Wilson and Unity vouth director Lin Wilson, at Unity of Livonia, 28660 Five Mile, between Inkster and Middlebelt. No charge. It is hoped that the program leads to the formation of a community theater group for children. Call (734) 421-1760.

Celebrate spring

Celebrate Life, an event to create awareness about First Step, a representative will talk about the nonprofit organization's services for abused women and children, and sexual assault victims 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 26. at Faith Lutheran Church. 30000 Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Merriman, Livonia, No charge but call (734) 421-7249 to reserve a spot. Event includes music, desserts, and a queen-size handmade quilt raffle to benefit First Step. Tickets \$1 each, \$5 for 6 tickets.

Lecture

Life and Death: Joy and Reality by Sister Ann Stamm, doctorate of ministry, 7-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 26, at St. Aidan Catholic Church, 17500 Farmington Road, Livonia, Sister Stamm is a religion professor at Madonna University. She's served as a police chaplain for more than 25 years. The presentation focus on life and death as gifts to be cherished.

Wine, cheese and theology Six evenings of conversation asking the question, is there a place for the church in the 21st century? 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 26 to May 31, at Church of Our Savior, Presbyterian U.S.A. 6655 Middlebelt, West Bloomfield. Rev. Jim Faile leads the discussions. The public is invited. The church holds worship and Sunday School 10 a.m. Sundays. For more information, call (248) 626-7606.

Concert

BUILDING429 and TAIT perform music while showing segments of the reality TV series Travel the Road about two voung missionaries 7:30 p.m. Thursday. April 27, at Faith Baptist Church, 3411 Airport Road, Waterford. Tickets \$24 reserved, \$18 general admission. Call (888) 627-5808. Rummage sale

Toys, clothes, books, small appliances, shoes, boutique (fine clothes) and more 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday-Saturday, April 28-29, at Redford Aldersgate United Methodist Church, 10000 Beech Daly. Proceeds benefit missionary projects. Call (313) 937-3170.

Lighthouse cafe

Cards, board games, ping pong, specialty coffees, snacks, music 7-10 p.m. Friday, April 28, at Ward Presbyterian Church, Northville. Cost is \$5 payable at door. Free child care provided. Call (248) 374-5920.

Blood drive

8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Sunday, April 30, at St. Edith Catholic Church, 15089 Newburgh, Livonia, Walk-ins welcome. Call (734) 462-1222, ext. 309,

Lay caregiver series

Adjusting to changes within the family system, a workshop to help families cope with potentially damaging effect:

Savior. For more information, call (734) 522-6830.

Bicycling group

~ 10 a.m. Saturday, May 6, meet at Nankin Mills Administrative offices parking log on Hines Drive, east of Farmington, Westland. Ride geared toward the tourist level rider but riders of all ability levels are welcome to participate. The group will ride every Saturday morning at various locations until weather turns cold again. All riders must wear a helmet. For schedule or information, call Ward Presbyterian Church at (248) 374-5920.

Family game night

6-8 p.m. Saturday, May 20, at First United Methodist Church, 6443 Merriman, Garden City. Cost is \$2 per person or \$5 per family. Come and Join fun and fellowship. Games and cards are provided but you are welcome to bring your own games and teach someone how to play a new game. If you have any questions, call Linda Bodnovits at (734) 425-5653.

Summer fun

Two sessions from 9 a.m. to noon and 12:30-3:30 p.m. begin June 12 and con; tinue weekly through week of Aug. 21 at Christ the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 42690 Cherry Hill, Canton. Each week children will engage in activities including the sciences, math, health," music, arts, and exercise. For ages 4-10 (children who are 3 but have been enrolled in preschool are welcome. Cost is \$60 per week and includes Tshirt, snacks and field trip fees. Call (734) 981-0286.

Crafters wanted

For the St. Thomas a'Becket Church Christmas Craft Show to be held 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 2, at 555. S. Lilley Road, Canton. The church is now accepting applications for handmade crafts only. Call (734) 981-1333.

ONGOING

School registration

Hosanna-Tabor Lutheran School is accepting applications for grades PK-8 for the 2006-2007 school year, at 9600 Leverne, Redford. After school care 3-6 p.m. Call (734) 937-2233 for information.

Bible study

Classes 9:30 a.m. Sunday, and 7 p.m. Wednesday, at Riverside Park Church of God, 11771 Newburgh, Livonia. Call (734) 464-0990. On Sunday Family Worship begins at 10:45 a.m.

Purpose Driven Life

Members, friends and neighbors of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Northville will be studying the best selling book The Purpose Driven Life by Rick Warren during Lent. Small groups will meet at homes in Livonia, Plymouth, Canton, Northville, Novi and South Lyon on Wednesday evenings during Lent, All faiths are welcome. Call (248) 349-3140 for more information.

Senior activities

Gathering for seniors 50 years and older 11:30 a.m. on the third Friday of



ANDREW G. TOROK,

Passed away April 9, 2006 in Dallas, TX surrounded by his family. Born on January 14, 1922, he moved to Detroit at an early age. He enjoyed a fifty year

ERLENE L. PUMMILL Age 77, April 7, 2006. Beloved wife of

Age 88, March 30, 2006, the late Oria King and Doyle Pummill. Birmingham. Survived by loving Loving mother of Barbara King Stanisz, Debra (Kevin) Connolly, Bill, Ron (Justine), Wes (Sue) Pummill, and Vinton, both of Birmingham; daugh-Joan (Ron) Henriksson of ter Noblesville, Indiana; grandfather of Shannon, Jamie, Susan, Kathryn, Rob, Keith, Erin, and Meghann. Also survived by eight great-grandchil dren. A private service was held at the Wm. R, Hamilton Co. of Birmingham (248-644-6000), the Reverend Father Frederick Elwood, Pastor of St. James Episcopal Church of Birmingham. officiating. Memorial tributes may be made to Children's Hospital, 3901 Beaubien Boulevard, Detroit, MI 48201; or to Beaumont Foundation (Beaumont Hospice), 3601 West 13 Mile Rd., Royal Oak, MI 48073

career in the automotive industry before retiring to Naples, FL and Dallas, TX. Andrew is survived by his loving wife, Ethel; two sons: David Torok & wife Shirley of Dallas, TX, and Steven Torok & wife Janet of Birmingham, MI; granddaughters: Sara Mullen & husband Bob of Carrollton, TX, Amy Mendel & husband Danny of Birmingham, AL, Mara Torok of Dallas, TX, and Jessica Torok and Claire Torok of Birmingham, MI; great-granddaughters: Brittany, Catie Jane, Julia, and Amelia; sister Barbara Caulkins; and brother George Tapocik. The Torok Family will have a Memorial Service in Texas on Saturday, April 15, 2006 to be followed by a Memorial Service in Detroit at a later date.

MAX ERDMANN

Age 84, April 10, 2006. Beloved husband of the late Lydia Erdmann. Loving father of Reinhard, Rudy, and Dennis Erdmann. Also survived by one sister, three brothers, and six grandchildren. Former employee of Paff Electric, and a retiree from Greenfield Village and Henry Ford Museum, A memorial service will be held at St. John Lutheran Church, 35320 Glenwood, Westland, Friday, at 10:30am. Memorial contributions may be directed to St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, Ann Arbor.



HOWARD CLAYTON COLE



Alyce for 58 years. Dear father of Dr. Susan Gail Cole, Douglas (Peggy) Cole, and Linda (Jay) Donaldson. Cherished grandfather of Howard, Cynthia, George, Kathryn, and Lauren. Howard was founder and Chairman of the Board of Rayco Manufacturing, and past president of Cole Carbide Industries in Warren. He was a faithful member of the First United Methodist Church in Birmingham, a Knights Templar, a WWII Veteran, and longtime member of the Bay Pointe Country Club. Funeral service was held Monday April 10, 2006 at the First United Methodist Church, Birmingham. Private family interment at White Chapel Cemetery. Suggested memorials to Mental Illness Research Assoc. (MIRA). Arrangements entrusted to Modetz Funeral Home, Orion. Online guestbook;

www.modetzfuneralhomes.com

the late Mike King. Dear mother-inlaw of Dawn King. Grandmother of great-grandmother of 4. Also sur-13. vived by many nieces and nephews. Services were held at R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, 31551 Ford Rd., Garden City. Memorial contributions may be made to the Pummill Cancer Golf Classic benefiting the Karmanos Cancer Institute. Please sign the online guestbook at: www.rggrharris.com

> PATRICIA JEAN (McDONALD) McNEIL

Age 82, of Westland. Formerly Ocala, Fl, April 7, 2006. Loving mother to Susan (Clint) Woelke. Beloved grandmother of Kelly, Ken and Kris (Don) Houghtaling. Great grandmother of Kristin and Mitchell Houghtaling. Dear sister of Jacqueline Weinsheimer Dearest friend of Ana Pierce. Funeral service was held at Vermeulen Funeral Home, 980 N. Newburgh Road, Westland (btwn Ford and Cherry Hill). Family requests memorial contributions to the Michigan Humane Society. To post online condolences visit

www.vermeulenfuneralhome.com.

ERNEST F. BLAIR

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Age 89, died on April 6, 2006 at Beaumont Hospital, Royal Oak. His family moved to Clawson in 1919 and were among the earlier residents there. Ernest attended Clawson schools from first grade through high school and graduated from Clawson High School in 1935. He enlisted in the Navy during World War II, serv-ing a tour of duty in Okinawa and in China. After the war, Ernest built homes in Clawson and then did commercial work. He spent several years working at Cranbrook Institute and at General Motors, Pontiac Truck and Bus Division before retiring in 1981. He enjoyed his retirement years building beautiful wood clocks, golfing, traveling and gardening. He was a lifetime member of the Trelum Lodge No. 552 F. and A.M. and belonged to the American Legion Post 374 in Berkley, Michigan. Ernest married Margaret Martin on March 15, 1952. He is survived by his beloved wife of 54 years, Margaret, his three children, Linda (Christopher), Tom (Pamela), and Janet, and his three grandchildren. Nicole, Pamela, and Justin. Visitation was held on Saturday, April 8 from 4-9 PM and Sunday April 9 from 2-9 PM at Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Home, 705 W. 11 Mile Road, Royal Oak, MI. A funeral service was held on Monday April 10 at 11 AM at the funeral home. Masonic service was Sunday evening at 7 PM. Interment at Grandlawn Cemetery in Detroit. The family suggests memorials be made to the American Heart Association or the Alzheimer's Association.





The first five "billed" lines of an obituary are published at no cost. All additional lines will be charged at \$4 per line. You may place a picture of your loved one for an additional cost of only \$6. Symbolic emblems may be included at no cost (example: American Flags, religious symbols, etc.)

Friday 5 PM for Sunday Wednesday Noon for Thursday

e-mail your obit to oeobits@hometownlife.com or fax to: Attn: Obits c/o Charolette Wilson

734-953-2232 For more information call: **Charolette Wilson** 734-953-2070 or Liz Keiser 734-953-2067 or toll free 866-818-7653 ask for Char or Liz

Concert

Dave and Barb Anderson with Keyboard artist Dale Pust perform a Concert of Praise and Encouragement 6 p.m. Sunday, April 23, at St. Michael Lutheran Church and School, Hannan at Glenwood, Wayne. Call (734) 728-1950.

Youth talent program

Starts 5:30-7 p.m. Tuesday, April 25, for ages 6-14, and continues Tuesdays until the Talent Show 6:30 p.m. Thursday, June 1, with Livonia Theater

of predictable life stressor 2:30-4:30 p.m. Sunday, April 30, at Nardin Park United Methodist Church, 29877 W. Eleven Mile, Farmington Hills. Cost is \$10. To register, call (248) 474-4701. Health fair

Noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, April 30, a Gethsemane Missionary Baptist Church, 29066 Eton, Westland, No charge. Blood pressure, family practice doctors, optometrist and more. Join us for an afternoon of healing, mind, body and spirit. Call (734) 721-2557.

- David Phelps concert With Anthony Evans and newcomer Ana Laura with comedian Darren Streblow 7 p.m. Sunday, April 30, at Detroit 1st Church of Nazarene, 21260 Haggerty, Northville. Free to public, but
- pass required, Call (248) 348-7600. Leadership and self-deception Lecture series with Rev. Dennis Skiles began 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 5, and continues to May 31, at Unity of Livonia, 28660 Five Mile, between Inkster and Middlebelt, Livonia, Call (734) 421-1760.

UPCOMING

- Free spaghetti dinner
- **Redford Aldersgate United Methodist** Church wishes to invite the community for a free spaghetti dinner 6 p.m. Wednesday, May 3, in the Fellowship Hall of the church at 10000 Beech Daly, between Plymouth and West Chicago roads. A short drama follows dinner. Call (313) 937-3170.

Prayer breakfast

7:15-9 a.m. Thursday, May 4, with guest speaker Lem Barney, former Detroit Lion, at Burton Manor, 27777 Schoolcraft, between Middlebelt and Inkster, Livonia. Tickets \$17 before April 7, \$20 beginning April 8, \$10 students, call (248) 476-9427. RSVP by Friday, April 21.

Laugh out loud

Fun with the 321 Improv Comedy team 7 p.m. Friday, May 5, at Ward Presbyterian Church, Northville, Tickets 5. Free child care provided. Call (248) 374-5920.

Quilt show

9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, May 6, at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 14175 Farmington, north of I-96, Livonia. Members display everything from very old quilt to quilts in the process of completion. Suggested donation is \$5. All proceeds go to Shoes for Children, an orphanage in Mongolia, and the Early Childhood Program at Christ Our

every month at Riverside Park Church of God, 11771 Newburgh at Plymouth, Livonia. Any questions, call (734) 464-0990. Put together a salad dish and come out and meet other seniors. First we enjoy a wonderful lunch together then we fellowship with some games and stories.

Bible study groups

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

Church activities

St. James Presbyterian Church offers a Wednesday luncheon every other Wednesday at noon: Thursday dinner at 6 p.m. for \$4 followed by Bible study at 7 p.m. and Chancel Choir rehearsal at 8 p.m.; Thrift store is open 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. every Saturday; 10 a.m. women's study group second Saturday of the month, and Sunday worship at 10 a.m. (nursery available) and children's class at 10:15 a.m., at 25350° W. Six Mile, Redford. Call (313) 534-7730

Scripture from scratch

No previous Bible study required. began 9:30-11 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 31, at St. Aidan Catholic Church, 17500 Farmington, Livonia. The units include the New Testament (April 11 18, 25 and May 2, and Gospels (May 16, 23, 30 and June 6). Each session includes video presentation, small and large group discussions. Be one of the first 10 to receive the participant's manual for \$5. After that, the cost is \$10. To register, call (734) 🖔 425-5950.

Kabbalah classes

Presented by the Sara Tugman Bais Chabad Torah Center, the classes began 10:30 a.m. Sunday, Jan. 8, and 8 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 11, at 5595 W Maple, West Bloomfield. The classes are open for both beginners and more advanced students. Call (248). 855-6170, ext. 1 or send e-mail to BCTC770@aol.com.

Deadlines: Obituaries received after these deadlines will be placed in the next available issue.



COUNTY NEWS

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, April 13, 2006

Wayne County offers up summer fun in the pool, on television

Jumping right in

John Forrester and his son John Forrester Jr. opened their first Discount Pool & Spas location in Belleville four years ago, but they always hoped to have a store in their hometown – Livonia.

"I have always thought the people were great in this city and I wanted to support my community," said John Forrester, adding that "having a shorter drive to work is pretty nice too."

Together, they opened the second Discount Pool & Spas location on Monday, April 3, at 37613 Five Mile Road in the Village Shopping Center. A grand opening celebration is set for Saturday-Sunday, May 13-14 in **Livonia**.

John Forrester Jr. worked for a related business, Pooltown, for 10 years before he decided to open his own store. When Pooltown was sold, the Forresters saw an opportunity. Their first familyowned venture began with their retail and service department at 10860 Belleville Road in Belleville.

"I was in the automotive engineering field for 15 years," said Forrester.

He sold his business and joined forces with his son to open their first Discount Pool & Spas.

"Right after we opened the

Dance company performs

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN STAFF WRITER

Diane Mancinelli pauses to catch her breath. She's between rehearsals for Full Circle Dance Company performances of The Wiz and an annual spring concert at Henry Ford Community College. The colleges musical worke to the charge Apoll 91.09 and 28-30. Curtain times are 8 p.m., Friday-Saturday, and 2 p.m. Sundays. Tickets are \$10 adults, \$8 for students with ID, \$6 for ages 12 or under. Special rates also available for high school students. For more information, call Wiz director Gerry Dzuiblinski at (313) 845-9892. According to Dzuiblinski, the production is a collaboration between the music and dance departments and includes a 17piece live orchestra, under the direction of Kevin Dewey, as well as actors from the theater department and 13 munchkins from the community. "It's a full production this year in terms of cast and integrates the entire dance company," said Mancinelli. "The Wiz is a spectacle. We're taking a different approach to movement and interpretation and have three choreographers with 21 dancers in all." To close out the year, the company returns to the college's Adray Auditorium for its 18th annual Spring Dance Concert, 10 a.m. and 8 p.m. Friday, May 12, and 8 p.m. Saturday, May 13. Reservations are still available for all of the performances including the 10 a.m. to which Mancinelli is inviting high school students. Tickets are \$10, \$5 students. For more information, contact Mancinelli at (313) 845-6314. "It's going to feature all the dances from *The Wiz*," said Mancinelli, "and choreography by guest artists and students that include Hawaiian, tap, even liturgical."

WHAT'S IN STORE

Belleville store my hope was to someday open a second store in **Livonia**," he said.

Now a reality, the store sells a compete line of chemicals, above-ground and in-ground swimming pools, spas, toys and more. In addition, they sell gameroom furniture, darts, and pool table accessories. For more information, call Discount Pool & Spas at (734) 464-9100.

More Family Programming

Bright House Networks now offers a new family programming tier in **Livonia**, **Redford**, **Farmington**, **Farmington Hills** and Novi.

Customers can now receive more than a dozen familyfriendly channels, which consist of primarily G- and PG- rated programming. Those channels include: C-Span 2, C-Span 3, CNN Headline News, Discovery Kids, Discovery Science, Disney Channel, DIY Network, Fit TV, HGTV, Nick Games & Sports, The Weather Channel, Toon Disney and TV Food Network.

"We have always made available to our customers the tools by which they can actively exclude any channel or program they might find objectionable for their families," said Bob McCann, president of Bright House Networks Detroit Division. "This new family tier offers them yet another way to obtain kid-friendly programs without the need for parents to proactively block programs from their TV sets."

Bright House Networks customers can pay \$32.95 per month to receive the family tier, along with basic cable, and select Interactive TV applications like the Interactive Guide. "This is another example of Bright House Networks continued commitment to offering customers what they want," McCann said.

Those interested in subscribing should call (866) 898-9101.

Stephanie Angelyn Casola writes about new and changing businesses for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. E-mail tips on your new, favorite Wayne County shop to scasola@hometownlife.com or call (734) 953-2054.



www.hometownlife.com

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

Concert to feature leading musician

Eastern Michigan University is presenting A.R. Rahman in concert to raise money to create opportunities for students to gain greater understanding of Indian culture and the arts. The concert is 7:30 p.m. Saturday, April 15, at the Convocation Center. Tickets cost \$50 to \$205 and are available by calling (734) 487-2282 or online at www.emich.edu/convocation or www.tickets.com.

OE08428989





DREAM JOB

Salowich named Salem head football coach

BY ED WRIGHT STAFF WRITER

On the morning of March 31, Parker Salowich realized a lifelong dream when he was officially offered the head football coaching job at Salem.

Three hours later, it turned out to be the *second* best thing that happened to the 35-yearold teacher/coach that day.

"At about 9:30, (Salem athlet-ic director) Tom Willette called me and said the job was mine," remembered Salowich, describing one of the most memorable days of his life. "At 12:30 that same day, my second son was born. Things were definitely going my way that day. I probably should have went out and bought some lottery tickets."

Salowich immediately accepted Willette's offer and became just the third head football coach in Salem's history. He succeeds Bob Cummings, who resigned in November after five years on the job. Cummings followed in the footsteps of hall-of-famer Tom Moshimer, who retired following the 2000 season.

"I've been dreaming about becoming a head coach since I was 12 years old, when I started reading books about Woody Hayes," said Salowich, who served as an assistant head coach and the offensive coordinator at North Farmington for the past three years. "Michigan football coach Lloyd Carr once said that if a program doesn't have tradition. it's up to the coach to start one. He said if the program does have tradition, the coach needs to nurture it. The first thing I want to do at Salem is rekindle the rich tradition that coaches like Tom Moshimer

turn around the Rocks' successstarved program.

"Parker brings a lot to the table," said Schultz, whose Raiders finished 7-3 and qualified for the Division 2 playoffs last season. "He has a wealth of knowledge about the game. Parker works extremely hard and his players respond to his coaching techniques.

"Last year, two of our quarterbacks who Parker had coached came back after they graduated and helped out our coaching staff on a part-time basis. Part of the reason they came back was the pride they had for our school. But probably the biggest thing that brought them back was the rapport Parker had developed with them." Six applicants were inter-

viewed for the position, said Willette. "Once we narrowed it down to

two, we brought both of them in to get interviewed by a committee that consisted of football people," said Willette. "Following the interviews, Parker was the committee's No. 1 choice. "Then we brought some

teachers and other coaches in to interview the two candidates, and Parker was their No. 1 choice as well. He's very enthusiastic and I think he's going to breathe some new life into the program. He has an aura about him, plus he knows his X's and O's.

IMPRESSIVE CREDENTIALS

In addition to his coaching experience at North Farmington experience, Salowich has served as either an assistant varsity or head junior varsity or freshmen coach at Southgate Aquinas (his alma mater), South Lyon, Taylor Center and Southgate Anderson. "I've learned a lot about the game from some very, very good coaches," said Salowich, a gradu-

THE SALOWICH FILE

Parker Salowich was named the new football coach at Salem High School March 31. He will succeed Bob Cummings, who resigned in November after five years on the job. Following are some facts about the third head football coach in Salem history:

FAMILY: Salowich and his wife, Lisa, are the parents of two boys: Parker III, 2, and newborn Charlie. The family resides in Ypsilanti.

AGE: 35

CAREER: Salowich teaches **English at North Farmington** High School.

COACHING BACKGROUND:

Since graduating from Southgate Aguinas High School in 1988, Salowich has served as an assistant coach at Aguinas, South Lyon, Taylor Center and North Farmington high schools.

CONNECTIONS: He is good friends with former University of Michigan defensive coordinator Jim Herrman, who recently moved on to the NFL. PLAYING CAREER: Salowich was an offensive and defensive lineman at Southgate Aquinas. He received offers to play at several Division II and III col-

leges, but turned them down

University, where he received

to attend Eastern Michigan

his teaching degree.



Rock netters start strong

The Salem boys tennis team opened its 2006 season with a first-place showing in the Essexville. Invitational, recording 20 points. Essexville-Garber finished second with 16 points followed by Troy Athens (15), Rochester (14), Saginaw Nouvelle and Caro (10 each), Yale (nine) and Garber's junlor-varsity squad (two).

Turning in championship performances for the Rocks were Blake Foster (No. 3 singles), Neil Bakshi (No. 4 singles), Pawel Kargol-Dave Geick (No. 1 doubles) and Steve VanDusen-Dave Benson (No. 3 doubles). Consolation victories were posted by Lawrence Washington (No. 1 singles), Pete Bartlett (No. 2 singles), Jake-Bernstein-Cam Loftus (No. 2 doubles) and Pridvi Kandagatla-Tyler Jeleniewski (No. 4 doubles).

Fousts shine

Kari Foust, a former standout swimmer at Salem, and her father

Brian, a former swimmer

at the old Plymouth High

Masters Swimming State

School and Oakland

well at the Michigan

Championships held March 24-26 at Eastern Michigan University. Kari Foust earned a

first-place medal in the four events she entered in the 18- to 24-year-old age group: the 50-yard

freestyle, 100 freestyle,

200 backstroke and 200

University, both swam

Parker Salowich is pictured giving instructions to a North Farmington football player during a game last season. On March 31, Salowich was named the new head football coach at Salem. The 35-year-old graduate of Eastern Michigan University will succeed Bob Cummings, who stepped down in November.

Guelph pushes

The Guelph Storm broke open a

scoreless game after one period

route to an 8-0 victory over the

Hockey League playoff game

played Monday night at the

Compuware Sports Arena.

was Storm goaltender Ryan

MacDonald, who stopped all 38

ered his league-leading goals-

Plymouth shots. MacDonald low-

against average in the playoffs to 1.40 and raised his league-leading

Guelph captain Ryan Callahan

playoff save percentage to .958.

led the Storm attack with two

D'Agostini added four assists for

the winners. Ryan Pottruff, Mark

O'Leary (two), Andy Hyvarinen,

Jamie Arniel, Mike McLean and

in the first period and had plenty

On Saturday in Guelph, Matt

D'Agostini's goal at 10:16 of the

game played before 3,716 at the

Kelsey Wilson and Mike

McLean also scored for Guelph.

Guelph Sports and Entertainment

first overtime gave the Storm a 3-2 victory over the Whalers in a

MacDonald had an answer for everything the Whalers could

of chances to score, but

Kelsey Wilson added goals for the

Plymouth outshot Guelph, 18-8,

goals and three assists. Matt

nal series 3-0.

Storm.

throw at him.

Centre.

Plymouth Whalers in an Ontario

Guelph leads the best-of-seven

Although Guelph scored eight goals, the difference in the game

OHL Western Conference semifi-

with four goals in the second period and four more in the third en

Whalers to brink

2006 OHL PLAYOFFS

Wes Cunningham and Tom

Both goaltenders played well, with

Sestito replied for Plymouth.

MacDonald named the game's

the game's second star with 35

when Wilson tapped home a

rebound over the shoulder of

the momentum of the game

around later in the period and

Peters. Plymouth started to turn

outshot Guelph, 16-10, in the first

The Whalers took their first

lead in the series in the second

period on two power-play goals

in the period. Cunningham fin-

ished a good fundamental play to

tie the game at 1-1 at 4:52 of the

Armstrong won a faceoff in the

Fournier passed to Chris Terry,

stationed at the right point. Terry

Sestito gave Plymouth a 2-1 lead

later in the second period at 19:32

flicked a pass at the left point to Cunningham, who threaded a low

shot through traffic to tie the

from John Vigilante at the

made the save.

clear cut breakaway from the

shot in tight on MacDonald, who

second period when John

Guelph zone and Andrew

while outshooting the Storm, 11-6,

Plvmouth's Justin Peters earning

Guelph took a 1-0 lead at 3:50

of the first period on a power play

first star with 37 saves and

stops.

period.

game.

have built here." PERFECT FIT

North Farmington head football coach Todd Schultz said Salowich is the ideal person to

PLEASE SEE COACH, B3

Valle rally

Pinch-hitter caps Plymouth's last-out comeback

BY ED WRIGHT STAFF WRITER

The tension was so thick during the bottom of the seventh inning of Plymouth's baseball game with Walled Lake Western Monday afternoon that you could have cut it with a knife.

Plymouth pinch-hitter

PREP BASEBALL

Ryan Valle chose to use his bat instead.

Valle laced a dramatic two-out, two-strike double up the left-center field gap, bringing home the tying and go-ahead runs in the Wildcats' 10-9 triumph.

Plymouth, which improved to 4-3 overall and 1-1 in the Western Lakes Activities Association, trailed 9-5 heading into the final frame. Before the game, coach Adams told the guys on the bench that we'd probably get a chance to pinch-hit late in

PLEASE SEE COMEBACK, B2

individual medley. All of Foust's times qualified her for the **United States Masters** National Swimming Championships that are set for Coral Springs, Fla., in mid-May. Brian Foust, swimming in the 55-59 division, fin-

ished third in the 50 freestyle and fourth in the 100 backstroke. The father-and-daughter duo combined for a second-place finish in the 200 mixed freestyle relay.

Coaches: Please call in results

Local high school athletic coaches are encouraged to report the results of their spring sporting events to **Observer Sports Editor** Ed Wright.

The best times to call in results are weeknights 5:30-11 p.m. Wright can be reached at (734) 953-2108.

Results can also be faxed to (734) 591-7279 or e-mailed to ewright@hometownlife.co

The deadline for Thursday editions of the Observer is Tuesday at 11 p.m.

The deadline for Sunday editions is Friday at 11 p.m.

Smith-led Rocks aim for return to state meet

PREP GOLF PREVIEW

Salem girls golf coach Rick approach shots." Smith teamed with graduate Wilson wouldn't be surprised if Jamie Siedlaczek to lead the Ashley Smith, his talented sen-Rocks to a ninth-place finish in ior, needs to clear out some the Division state meet. space on her trophy shelf for a large piece of hardware come Siedlaczek is currently attend-

"Ashley has finished in the top 10 in the state the past two years, so this year her goal is to win an individual state championship," said Wilson. "And she's talented enough to do it. In my opinion, she's one of the best high school golfers in the state. She's always working on her game. She played in several tournaments last summer and she hit balls all winter.

BY ED WRIGHT

STAFF WRITER

"She's breaking in some new irons that are more suitable to her game. They're allowing her to hit her ball higher on her

another strong bid to return to the state meet as a team thanks to a roster stocked with five seniors. Joining Smith in the starting lineup will be Anna Ross, Kaitlin Rzetelny, Alyssa

Mastic and Christine Garland. "Anna's overall game has really improved," said Wilson. "She hits the ball long off the tee.

"Kaitlin's overall length has

ing Lewis University (Ill.) on a

The Rocks could make

golf scholarship.

PLEASE SEE GOLF, B4

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER Salem senior Anna Ross surveys

when he took a sharp lead pass Plymouth blue line. Sestito had a Guelph blueline in and shoveled a

the line on a putt during Monday's match against Canton.

June.

BASEBALL

Little makes big contributions to Chiefs' 7-6 win over Zebras

BY ED WRIGHT STAFF WRITER

8Z

(CP)

Canton's baseball team ran its season-opening winning streak to four Monday afternoon after doing a lot of "Little" things right against Wayne Memorial.

Senior right-hander Shawn Little improved his record to 2-0 with a complete-game, nine-hit performance over the defending Western Lakes Activities Association champion Zebras. Little also excelled at the plate, going 2-for-3 with an RBI triple and a run scored.

The Chiefs took a 4-0 record (2-0 in the WLAA, 1-0 in the Western Division) into

PREP BASEBALL

Wednesday's showdown with cross-campus rival Salem.

"I like the way we're swinging the bats so far," said Canton coach Scott Dickey. "We had a couple of mental and physical errors that let Wayne get back into the game today, so we need some work defensively."

Wayne slipped to 1-5 overall and 0-2 in the WLAA. Canton led 5-2 after four innings, but the Zebras bounced back with four runs in the top of the fifth to grab a short-lived 6-5 lead. The Chiefs responded by pushing a pair of runs across in the bottom of the fifth and Little shut the door on the visitors over the final two frames.

Wayne starting pitcher Andrew Kaleto experienced an up-and-down afternoon. He suffered the mound loss, but he contributed a pair of doubles and an RBI at the plate. Justin Collop also hit well for the Zebras, going 2-for-3.

Tarik Khasawneh (2-for-3, two RBI, run), Blaine Paden (3-for-3, two doubles, two runs), Keith Campbell (2-for-3, two runs), Kyle Gring (RBI triple), Brad Barath (1-for-3) and Chris Woudstra (1-for-3, run) also had solid offensive games for the Chiefs. W.L. CENTRAL 12, SALEM O:

Details of the game were not available at presstime.

BAPTIST PARK 11, PCA 10: The Eagles (1-1) nearly rallied from an 11-2 deficit by scoring four runs in both the sixth and seventh innings.

"We played terrible the first four or five innings, but we woke up after that and started playing well," said Plymouth Christian coach Kurt Johnston. "We have a very young team — we lost eight of our starters from last year to graduation - so we need to build up the experience.

"Our kids played hard and never gave up. I told them after the game that once we start making the routine plays, we're going to win a lot of games."

The Eagles were hampered by a combination of errors (eight) and walks (six). PCA actually outhit the Wildcats (1-1), 13-9.

Keith Boruta swung a hot bat for the Eagles, going 4-for-4 with a walk. One of the sen-

Other multiple-hit efforts were turned in by Charles Kain (2-for-4, two runs) and Trevor Zinn (2-for-4, RBI triple, stolen base). Starting pitcher Ryan Barber went 1-for-2 at the plate, but he reached base three times.

this afternoon when they host

Allen Park Inter-City Baptist. The opening pitch is set for 4:30 p.m. at Stafford Field.

CANTON AGAPE 10, HURON VAL-LEY LUTHERAN 6: The Wolverines rallied for five runs in the seventh inning to post a dramatic come-from-behind victory.

Sophomore hurler Jared Miller excelled on the mound and at the plate for the winners, throwing a completegame nine-hitter while collecting two hits. Miller struck out six and walked four.

Matt Molnar (3-for-4) and Tyler Majeski (2-for-4) also had solid offensive games for the Wolverines, who improved to 3-2.

Ostrowski fires no-hitter at Western

Plymouth junior pitcher Claire Ostrowski spun her third career no-hitter Monday afternoon as the Wildcats blanked Walled Lake Western, 4-0, in a Western Lakes Activities Association Western Division contest played in Walled Lake.

Ostrowski struck out nine Warriors and walked just two. The Plymouth ace was also backed by error-free defense

"Claire was on the top of her game," said Plymouth coach Val Canfield. "She was really snapping her wrist today. (Plymouth catcher) Madison Dresser called a good game behind the plate. She did a good job of reading

PREP SOFTBALL

the batters."

Plymouth, which improved to 3-0 overall and 2-0 in the WLAA, scored three times in the third and once in the sixth.

The Wildcats' seven-hit attack was paced by Danielle Bondy (2-for-3), Dresser (2for-3, two runs), Kim Klonowski (two-run double), Ostrowski (double) and Melissa Butzow (RBI single).

'Kim Klonowski knocked the cover off the ball today," said Canfield. "She pushed their outfielders back even on her outs.

Freshman Jill Brennan and senior Rachel Juco also ripped hits for the winners.

The Warriors slipped to 1-3 with the setback. **CANTON 12, WAYNE MEMORIAL** 0: On Monday, Stephanie Sadek and Sarah Anthony limited the host Zebras to two harmless hits, and a pair of Rachels - Wade and Beaudoin - each ripped two hits and combined for three RBI to lead the Chiefs (2-0 overall, 1-0 WLAA). The loss dropped Wayne to

2-5 and 0-1, respectively. Canton broke open a 1-0

game by pushing across six runs in the third. The Chiefs finished off the mercy ruleshortened contest by plating four fifth-inning runs.

Emily Robertson suffered the mound loss for the Zebras, who committed six costly errors behind her. Alvssa Henning and Taylor Krohn accounted for the Zebras' only safeties.

"I thought we played extremely well," said Canton coach Jim Arnold. "It was the second straight game where we didn't have any strikeouts and we only committed one error. We have two errors in two games, which is pretty good.

"Everybody who played today played well," Arnold concluded.

the game," said the left-handed swinging Valle. "During

COMEBACK

FROM PAGE B1

the fifth inning, I went and took some soft toss behind the dugout just so I'd be ready.

on the final pitch from Western's Mark Carnacchi.

throwing a lot of breaking balls that were really loopy," Valle said, describing his last at-bat. "But I was looking for a fastball on the last one, and that's what he threw me. It's the biggest hit I've ever had."

plus existence of Plymouth's

Valle said he guessed right

"I noticed that he had been

It may have been the biggest hit in the one year-



ior captain's hits was a triple.

The Eagles return to action

varsity program, which has already doubled its 2005 victory total.

"The thing I've been preaching to these guys since the first day was to never give up until the final out, and that's the way they played today," said Plymouth coach Chuck Adams. "Western was throwing a lefty today (Dennis Rosbury) who has pretty good stuff, so I sat down two of my good lefthanded-hitting players, Ryan and Ronnie Goble. But I told them that once Rosbury was out of there, they'd probably get a chance. Ryan came through for us.

The setback dropped Western to 3-2 overall and 1-1 in the WLAA.

Plymouth relief pitcher Nate McManus earned the victory after retiring all four batters he faced.

The most significant out McManus registered was forcing Western lead-off batter Nick Coram to fly out to center field with the bases loaded and two outs in the sixth. McManus also had a nice day at the plate, going 2-for-4, including a big two-run single in the seventh that preceded Valle's clutch hit.

Carnacchi, who relieved Rosbury to start the sixth, was victimized by a pair of seventh-inning errors that put Wildcats on first and second with nobody out.

After Ben Kosmalski popped out to second baseman Brandon Pellegrini, Tyler

Locklear walked and McManus bounced a hard grounder between third and shortstop, bringing home Brandon Winowiecki and Alex Harvey.

After Garrett Rebain was hit by a pitch to re-load the bases, Matt Barrera brought home Plymouth's eighth run when he bounced out to second.

With runners on second and third, Valle worked the count to 2-and-2 before ripping a line shot that barely eluded the glove of a diving Coram in left-center.

Led by Dan Wingblad's 3for-5 effort, the Warriors outhit Plymouth, 11-6. Senior Nick Kenney had the big blast for Western when he sent a T.J. Downey fastball over the left-field fence in the third inning.

Tyler Locklear proved to be. a catalyst for the Wildcats, reaching base three times (single, two walks), scoring twice and knocking in a run with a fifth-inning sacrifice fly.

Rebain, Harvey and Ben Kosmalski also reached based twice for the winners.

The Wildcats won despite committing five errors.

"That's something we have to improve on," Adams said.

Plymouth 8-10, West Bloomfield 12-0: On Saturday, the Wildcats split a double-header with West Bloomfield, winning the nightcap on Bryan Stotz's three-hit shutout. The victory was the first fiveinning mercy victory in Plymouth's short history.

Led by the two-hit efforts of Alex Harvey and Ronnie Goble, the Wildcats scored one run in the first, three in the second and six in the fifth. Damien Weekes suffered the mound setback for West

Bloomfield. In the first game, Harvey and Stotz both recorded a pair of hits for the Wildcats. who led 8-6 until the Lakers exploded for five runs in the sixth.

Matt Paul notched the win. Tyler Locklear took the loss.

Second-half surge lifts Salem

BY ED WRIGHT STAFF WRITER

With his team trailing 1-0 following an uninspiring first half against Howell April 6, Salem girls soccer coach Joe Nora laid it on the line during his half-time message.

In the first half, we kind of sat back and let them take it to us," said Nora. "At halftime, I challenged them to play more aggressively, and they responded."

Did they ever.

The Rocks rebounded to score three unanswered second-half goals to earn an impressive 3-1 nonconference road victory over the Highlanders. The victory evened their record at 1-1 following Wednesday night's 3-1 loss to Walled Lake Central.

"In the second half, it was like a light bulb went on and the girls figured out that they can play as intensely as they want to. During the first half, we'd play well for five or six minutes and then give them the momentum right back. We played hard the entire second half."

Kelly Adsit proved to be the catalyst for the Rocks' comeback when her goal knotted the game at 1-1 six minutes into the second half. Adsit was assisted by Miranda Evers.

The game-winner came at the 23-minute mark when Rachel Gizicki scored off an assist from Kim Killion. With 15 min-

PREP SOCCER

utes left, Katie Shull added an insurance goal that was also assisted by Killion.

Sophomore goalies Jill Slabey (first half) and Kristen Dondzilla (second) split time in front of the net for Salem, which will host Livonia Churchill Monday at 7

p.m. WALLED LAKE CENTRAL 1, CAN-TON 0: Sam Echols scored off an assists from sister Alex Echols, as the Vikings continued their best start in school history with the WLAA win over the state powerhouse Chiefs. Tylor Cominskey had the shutout for WL Central (6-0-0, 3-0-0). PCA 10, ZOE 0: On Thursday, the Eagles (2-0) jumped to a 7-0 halftime lead and never looked back. Abby Lorion both scored twice for the winners, who received single goals from Peggy Abraham, Meghan Polera, Sarah Roth, Brooke Williams, Amanda Yu and Lauren Beckett.

Lorion also added two assists. Roth, Beckett, Ross, Jalese Debiasi, Jenna Misch and Katie McDougal all recorded single assists. Sara Ross notched the shutout in goal, stopping three shots.

PLYMOUTH 3, JOHN GLENN 0: Val Klemmer had one goal and one assist Monday to lead the host Wildcats past Westland John Glenn (1-5-1) in a WLAA crossover

Kasey Webb and Stacev Dillon also scored for Plymouth, which unloaded 40 shots on Glenn goalkeeper-Melissa Frederick. Other assists went to Brittany Hengesh and Katie Hughes. "Even though we lost the game, I feel we improved our play," Glenn coach Jerry Poniatowski said. "Going up

against a well-trained team is a great learning experience. And by that criteria, we're a very experienced team.

"Plymouth moves the ball well and has many good players who work well together." SALEM 2, CHURCHILL 2: On

Monday, the Rocks (1-1-1) jumped to a 2-0 lead before settling for the draw. Tara Duncan opened the

scoring for Salem when she converted a penalty kick six minutes into the contest. Katie Shull's goal at the 20-minute mark gave the Rocks a 2-0 cushion.

The Chargers (4-0-1) cut their deficit in half with six minutes left in the half when Bailey Brandon scored. The tying goal came in the game's waning moments when Rachel Yarbrough knocked a deflection past Salem goalie Kristen Dondzila.

Miranda Evers and Kim Killion added assists for Salem. "I was proud of the girls'

effort," said Salem coach Joe Nora. "In the first half, we played very solid soccer. The second half kind of turned into a run-and-gun game and we tried to force things a little too much.

"I'm usually not real happy with ties, but I was very pleased with the way we played tonight."

CHURCHILL 3, PLYMOUTH 1: Three different players scored Wednesday as host Livonia Churchill (3-0) downed the Wildcats (0-4) in a WLAA crossover matchup. Freshman Kayla Johnson scored Churchill's first goal

from freshman Alvssa Mira followed by Alisha Lussierz from Jessica Stroud. The Chargers also got a

penalty kick goal from Bailey Brandon. Stacey Dillon scored for the Wildcats with 22 minutes left to spoil the shutout bid. W.L. CENTRAL 3, SALEM 1: On

Wednesday, the Rocks dropped

their season-opener to the host Vikings, who built a 2-0 halftime lead before holding on for the win.

Kelly Adsit's goal early in the second half cut Salem's deficit in half, however, the Vikings scored a short time later to cement the victory. Kristin March assisted on Adsit's goal.

"For the opener, it wasn't too bad," said Salem coach Joe Nora. "We saw some things that we definitely need to work on. Overall, we played OK, but there were times when we looked disorganized."

PCA 11, MACOMB 1: On Tuesday, the Eagles opened their season with a convincing victory over host Macomb Christian.

Junior Abby Lorion led the way with four goals and two assists. Sophomores Meghan Polera and Jalese Debiasi also played well, netting two goals a piece.

Finding the net once were Brooke Williams, Amanda Yu and Karen Cleary.

Sara Ross played well in goal for the Eagles, who led 6-1 at the half.

The loss dropped Macomb to 0-3.

PCA 7, SOUTHFIELD CHRISTIAN 0: The Eagles ran their record to 3-0 with a convincing victory over SC.

Abby Lorion paced the Eagles with three goals and one assist. Also making major contributions offensively were Brooke Williams (two goals, one assist) and Lauren Beckett (two goals). Karen Cleary, Jalese Debiasi and Meghan Polera all recorded on assist. Southfield failed to register

one shot on goal against PCA net-minder Sara Ross. "The girls totally dominated

every aspect of the game today," said PCA coach Bob Lorion. "The Southfield Christian goalie made several great saves or the score would have been a lot worse."

Well-balanced Canton kickers optimistic

BY ED WRIGHT STAFF WRITER

Normally, 5-1 losses aren't considered good omens for high school athletic teams.

But in the case of the Canton girls soccer team, a four-goal loss to Novi last week may be an exception.

Last season, the Wildcats handed the Chiefs' a lop-sided, early-season setback. Canton then quickly regrouped and advanced all the way to the Division 1 Regional final game before falling to Novi, 1-0.

"We should be very competitive again this year," said coach George Tomasso. "We're battling through a couple of injuries right now, but once we get healthy, we should be fine.

'Our best attribute this season is probably our offense with forwards Lisa Ealy and Becci Houdek leading the way, but we should be a well-balanced team."

Missing from the 15-5-2 2005 squad are standout goalie Brittany Cervi and doeverything player Andrea Johnson, both of whom are currently playing collegiate soccer. Key players Katie Raker and Molly Priebe also left voids to fill in the Chiefs' attack.

Taking over for Cervi is senior net-minder Kelsey Bailey, who served as a back-up last season.

"Kelsey is a very athletic goal-keeper who makes all the saves she's supposed to make and a lot that you wouldn't expect a goalie to make," said Tomasso.

The Chiefs' defense will be anchored by seniors Ali Lindow and Laura Gibson, both of whom saw plenty of action last season as juniors.

Senior Kelsey Zemanski, who was hampered by injuries last spring, is healthy and ready to pace the Chiefs' solid corps of mid-fielders. She'll be joined by seniors Jen Krojovic, Jenna Dreher and Ali Perry.

Ealy, who scored the lone goal in the season-opening loss to Novi, and Houdek give the Chiefs one of the area's best one-

PREP SOCCER PREVIEW

B3

(CP)

two forward combinations. 'Those two work really well up front together," Tomasso said. "They played

extremely well last year, right up through the playoffs."

PLYMOUTH CHRISTIAN

The Eagles return most of their key players from last season's highly successful 10-4 campaign, that saw them finish 9-3 (third place) in the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference.

PCA's most productive returner is junior forward Abby Lorion, who tallied a teamhigh 19 goals from her mid-field position.

'From what I've seen so far, I think we're improved from last season," said PCA coach Bob Lorion, the father of Abby. "We picked up some key defensive players and I think we'll be a much better allaround team."

Anchoring the Eagles' defense will be sophomore goalie Sara Ross, who started in that role as a freshman. Playing in front of Ross will be defenders Sarah Roth, Kim Cleary, Jalese Debiasi and stopper Josie Santos.

Lorion has been particularly impressed with his squad's mid-field unit, which consists of Jenna Misch, Brooke Williams, Karen Cleary (Kim's sister) and Peggy Abraham.

"Our mid-fielders are very, very good," Lorion said. "We should be exceptionally strong at that position, "The nice thing about those four players is that I can interchange any of them with the forwards and 1. 1. 1. 1. not lose anything. They're very versatile."

1.1

OE0842876

Joining Abby Lorion up front are Meghan Polera, Katie McDougal and Lauren Beckett.

Reserves who will be instrumental in the Eagles' success this season will be Ashley James, Melissa Rich, Amanda Yu, Alyson Dekruyter, Natalie Matson, Leann Molnar, Mim Monroe, Liz Somercik and Bethany Welton.

COACH

FROM PAGE BI

ate of Eastern Michigan University. "One of the coaches I learned the most from is Bob Scheloske, who I coached for at South Lyon.

"One of my favorite moments was when I went out to binch with Bob a few years ago and I was able to tell him what a positive influence he had on me. I was only 19 or 20 years old when I coached with him, and I thought I knew it all. Back then, I didn't appreciate all the work he put into his job. I do now and I thought it was important that I let him know that."



NEW 'O'

Fans of the Rocks will recognize their royal blue-and-white uniforms this coming season, but they may not recognize Salem's revamped offense, which promises to be more wide open than the veer attack that Cummings favored.

"I like to run multiple sets with a west coast-style passing game," said Salowich. "I like the short passing game. I refer to the short passes we'll use as long handoffs.

"When I went over to Salem last week and talked to a group of returning players, they were excited about the offense. They were asking me, 'So are we going to go five wide with a shotgun formation?' What I'll do is take a hard look at the kids we have and then decide exactly what we're going to do."

As of Tuesday, Salowich was still building his coaching staff. One commitment he does have is from Brian Rochon, who served as an assistant coach at North Farmington for the past five years. Rochon, a teacher at Pioneer Middle School in Plymouth, will be Salem's new offensive coordinator.

"I'm looking for coaches who are willing to work at this 12 months a year like I am," said Salowich. "I'm looking for guys who are as passionate about football as I am."

Salowich, who teaches English at North Farmington, has already applied for a teaching job in the Plymouth-Canton School District. "If you look at the successful high school football programs in Michigan, most of the head coaches are teachers in that school, or at least in the same district," he said. "If I don't get something in the district, that doesn't mean I won't be successful."

Salowich lives in Ypsilanti with his wife, Lisa, and their two sons: Parker III, 2; and newborn Charlie.



B4

(CP)

SALEM 7

LIVONIA CHURCHILL 1

April 10 at Salem

No. 1 singles: Lawrence Washington (Salem)

defeated Trevor Kogut, 6-3, 2-6, 6-2; No. 2: Pete Bartlett (Salem) def. Nick Payne, 6-4, 6-3; No. 3: Blake Foster (Salem) def. Kyle

Anderson, 6-1, 4-6, 6-0; No. 4: Neil Bakshi

No. 1 doubles: Pawel Kargol-Dave Geick

(Salem) def. Taylor Frangie-Danny Martin, 6-2, 4-6, 6-3; No. 2: Kyle Pecynski-Steve

Mazur (LC) def. Alex Poe-Cam Loftus, 6-4, 6-

(Salem) def. Jay Cunningham, 6-1, 6-1.

LOCAL SPORTS

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TENNIS RESULTS

2; No. 3: Jake Burnstein-Kevin Steinman (Salem) def. Robert Fortney-Ryan Whittum, 6-2, 6-1; No. 4: Steven VanDusen-Matt Benson (Salem) def. Alex Close-Paul Yandric, 6-4, 3-6, 6-4. Dual meet records: Salem, 1-0 overall, 1-0

WLAA; Churchill, 0-2 overall, 0-2 WLAA. PLYMOUTH 8 WESTLAND JOHN GLENN O

April 10 at Plymouth

No. 1 singles: Don Zahang (P) defeated Tim Smolen, 6-1, 4-6, 6-4; No. 2: Luc Lucaj (P) def. Lenny Manfre, 6-0, 6-1; No. 3: Dan Joeng (P) def. Brandon Nikula, 6-0, 6-0; No. 4: Clint Korpalski (P) def. Justin Dorosh, 6-096-0.

No. 1 doubles: Dave Snyder-Brett Kavulich (P) def. Nikhil Kalothia-Brad Noyes, 6-0, 6-0; No. 2: Doug Eggleston-Tom Eggleston (P) def. Shawn Murphy-Frank Toarmina, 6-0, 6-0; No. 3: Anoop Gopal-Nick Mazzocco (P) def. Noland Langlois-Kory Frost, 6-1, 6-0; No. 4: Ty Schroeder-Max Korpalski (P) def. Alex Colosimo-Mike Hensel, 6-0, 6-1. Dual meet records: Plymouth, 1-1 overall, 1-1 WLAA; John Glenn, 0-3 overall, 0-2 WLAA.

GOLF

FROM PAGE B1

really improved, too. I told all of the seniors to expect to play a lot of golf this spring."

Other players Wilson is counting on to contribute are sophomore Emily Patton and junior Crystal English, a transfer student.

by senior Elaine Lafayette, who just missed winning a medal at the 2005 Western Lakes Activities Association tournament, and freshman Amanda Kerr, who gained valuable experience playing on junior tours during the summer months.

year and every year we have moved up in the conference," said Plymouth coach Chris Moore. "Our goals this year are to finish in the top four teams in the conference."

Lafayette and Kerr will be joined in the starting line-up by junior Liz Anderson, who worked diligently on improving her game last summer, junior Melissa Miller, who is hitting the ball longer and straighter than last season, and sophomore Patricia Burns, who has increased her distance off the tee.

Seniors Katy Ingraham and Madeline Salvaggio should also play a vital role on our team this year," said Moore.

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

PREP BASEBALL

Thursday, April 13

Swartz Creek at Canton (DH), 4 p.m.

Inter-City Baptist at PCA, 4:30 p.m.

PREP SOFTBALL

Thursday, April 13

South Lyon at Salem, 4 p.m.

Allen Park at Canton, 4 p.m.

PCA at Franklin Road, 4:30 p.m.

BOYS TRACK & FIELD

Saturday, April 15

Plymouth and Canton at

Dearborn Elks Relays, 9 a.m. GIRLS SOCCER





BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Salem's Ashley Smith has visions of returning to the Division 1 state meet in 2006. The senior finished in the top 10 at last year's top meet.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Thursday, April 13 Bethesda at PCA, 4:30 p.m. BOYS LACROSSE Thursday, April 13 PCS at O.L. St. Mary's, 6 p.m. **MEN'S COLLEGE BASEBALL** (all doublet Thursday, April 13 Madonna vs. Concordia at llitch Ballpark, 1 p.m. Saturday, April 15 Madonna at Concordia, 1 p.m. WOMEN'S COLLEGE SOFTBALL (all doubleheaders)

Thursday, April 13 Madonna vs. Concordia at Ladywood H.S., 4 p.m. Saturday, April 15 Madonna at Cornerstone, 1 p.m. **ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE** WESTERN CONFERENCE PLAYOFFS Friday, April 14 (if necessary) Whalers vs. Guelph Storm at Compuware Arena, 7:30 p.m. Saturday, April 15 (if necessary) Whalers at Guelph Storm, 7:30 p.m.







Friday, April 14, 7:05 First Friday night home game!

Saturday, April 15, 1:05 Free Magnet Schedule to the first 10,000 fans, courtesy of Comerica.

Sunday, April 16, 1:05

FREE 2006 Tigers Calendar to the first 10,000 fans, compliments of Red Robin. Luxury Cruise Giveaway!* One lucky fan will win a seven-day Caribbean Cruise for two aboard a Carnival

cruise ship including round-trip airfare! Kids Day! FREE rides on the Ferris Wheel and the Comerica Carousel courtesy of Red Robin; post-game Kids Run the Bases (weather permitting) sponsored by Pepsi, Wal-Mart and Sam's Club. Plus five lucky children will win a Power Wheels vehicle.

Monday, April 17, 1:05 Get 2 for 1 on all \$12 Upper Reserved Seats.

Weekend Value Pack

ware were a reaction of the second second



For pro-rated Season Ticket packages, Pepsi 8-Pack plans and April group ticket specials call 313-471-BALL.

CALL 248-25-TIGER DETROITTIGERS.COM

ØCarnival RY: A PURCHAGE WILL NOT INCREASE YOUR CHANCES OF WINNING. OPEN DNLY TO LEGAL RESIDENTS OF MI, DH AND ONTARIO 21 AND OLDER, Bweepstakes ands 10/1/DB. For Official Rules, alternate method of entry, onice descriptions and other dischause alternational and and the dischause alternational and the dischause alternational and and the dischause alternational and and the dischause alternational and and alternational and a

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*All annual percentage yields (APY) are accurate as of 04/08/2006 and are subject to change without notice. All interest rates and APYs for all balance tiers are variable and may change at any time after the account is opened. This is a ten-tiered account. At any time interest rates and APYs offered within two or more consecutive tiers may be the same. When this is the case, multiple tiers will be shown as a single tier. As of the date stated above, for Personal and Small Business accounts the APYs and minimum balances are as follows: \$.01 -\$24,999.99, APY is 0.10%; \$25,000.00-\$49,999.99, APY is 4.00%; \$50,000.00-\$99,999.99, APY is 4.55%. Requires minimum opening deposit of \$25,000.00 form funds not currently on deposit with KeyBank. Fees may reduce the earnings on this account. Public funds are not eligible for this offer. Key reserves the right to limit the sale of Optimum Money Market Savings accounts to small businesses. with annual sales of \$10 million or less. Key.com is a federally registered service mark of KeyCorp. ©2006 KeyCorp.

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Alumnus



Cal Rapson *Vice President, UAW

Observer & Eccentric 93·9 🕬 NEWSPAPERS HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

You thought arthritis was an old person's disease . Think again. Join eight-yearold Kara, Cal and Joe in the fight against arthritis. All you need are a few family members, friends and co-workers who are willing to walk with you or on your behalf at the Arthritis Walksm this May. Sign up to walk today!



www.arthritis.org

WALK SITE Saturday, May 6, 2006 Birmingham Midvale Center 2121 Midvale Avenue

Walk Begins at 9:00 am

For information call 800-968-3030 Visit us at www.arthritis.org to register online or to find other Arthritis Walk sites.

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Guidelines: Personals are for adults 18 or over seeking monogamous relationships. To ensure your safety, carefully screen al responses and have first meetings occur in a public place. This publication reserves the right to edit, revise, or reject any advertisement at any time at its sole discretion and assumes no responsibility for the content of or replies to any ad. Not all ads have corresponding voice messages. To review our coma service of people

plete guidelines, call (617) 425-2636

WOMEN SEEKING MEN

TRY ME!

Attractive SWF, 49, I enjoy movies, dining, skiing and skating. Seeking an attractive SWM, 45-55, who enjoys most activities. 2869847 ANYTHING FOR FUN

SBF, 39, 5'5", N/S, looking for SBM, 38-47, N/S, who is spiritual and has an extreme fondness for having tun. 18/18260

LOOKING FOR LOVE SBF, 45, vivacious, N/S, loves ing out, art museums, plays, read-dancing, fitness, theater, dining out, and traveling. Seeking honest unit, 42-57, N/S. **1**2857253 ross with a quality gentleman in his 70s. Let's talk! **1**2794040 ross with a quality gentleman in his 70s. Let's talk! **1**2794040 ross with a quality gentleman in his 70s. Let's talk! **1**2794040 ross with a quality gentleman in his 70s. Let's talk! **1**2794040 ross with a quality gentleman in his 70s. Let's talk! **1**2794040 ross with a quality gentleman in his 70s. Let's talk! **1**2794040 ross with a quality gentleman in his 70s. Let's talk! **1**2794040 ross with a quality gentleman in his 70s. Let's talk! good-hearted man v ovina appreciates the same. 2934797 SEXY REDHEAD/GREAT LEGS DWF, 54, 142lbs, 5'6", enjoys blues, animals, gardening, homeowner, no kids. Seeking SM, 5"10"+, N/S, social drinker for LTR. 2548938

SPRING IS HERE Spring is here, summer near. So much to see, so much to do. Would like to do them together with you. Just 80. 2962340

FRIENDS FIRST

SBF, 37, 5'6", black/brown, easygo-ing, Aries, N/S, enjoys bike riding, long walks, travel, and cooking. Seeking WM, 30-50, N/S, for fun. **1**933970

ISO GOOD FRIEND?

Possible relationship? Read on. SWF, 47, N/S, enjoys cooking, din**GOOD LOOKER**

Positive, caring, easygoing SBPF, SBF, 25, 5'3", mother of one, open-53 (looks younger), N/S, not into minded and fun to be around. bars, enjoys jazz, old-school music, and fun times. Seeking special, secure man, 48-60, N/S, for laughter, good times and LTR. 2725001

ISO MR. RIGHT

minded and fun to be around. Seeking a single male, 28-36, who

is ready to settle down and enjoy

CHEER ON THE HOME TEAM

Widowed WJF, 56, N/S, loves life,

cruising, walking, reading, con-

certs, football, baseball, and bas-

ketball. Seeking adventurous WM,

I LISTEN WITH MY HEART

Attractive DWF, late 40s, Cancer,

N/S, seeks special, no games WM,

45+, N/S, for caring, quality commit-

ted relationship. Let's create sparks

MEN SEEKING WOMEN

ROMANTIC BUT REALISTIC

Youthful, easygoing SWM, 46, likes

ly spirit, good sense of humor, friendly, positive outlook. 2642092

HAPPY DAD

Single father of three, 37, loves

family, outdoors, biking, barbecues,

cooking and more. Looking for a

lovely WF, 30-45, to share happi-

SENSE OF HUMOR

SWM, 42, 6', blue eyes, smoker,

with daughter (14), loves bike rid-

ing, reading, rock and symphony

music. Seeking WF, 30-42, smoker,

to share quiet evenings, for LTR.

KIND, HONEST, SINCERE

DWM, 37, 6'3", brown/brown, tele-marketer, with son (13), N/S, loves

traveling, hiking, camping, swim-ming. Seeking woman, 30-40, to join me. 22948259

HELLO

MUSCULAR GUY

SWM, 46, 6'2", 209lbs, brown/blue,

college grad, enjoys working, read-

ing, travel, dancing, sports. Seeking outgoing SF, with similar interests,

for friendship and more. 2431926

ONE-ON-ONE TIME

DWM, medium build, Oakland

County, enjoys comedies, walks,

quiet times. Seeking medium to full-figured woman, 30-50, affectionate,

romantic, casual dresser. 278513

A BIT ABOUT ME ...

SWM, 42, 5'10", 185lbs, brown/ brown, enjoys boating, dining out,

dancing, pool, bowling, darts. Seeking a SW/HF, 25-52, who is interested in a LTR. **2914372**

STRAIGHT UP, LOW-KEY

Easygoing, cute SWM, 40s, not into loud noise and big crowds,

enjoys art, wine tastings, charity,

seeks similar-minded lady for

friendship, maybe more. 2548455

LIFE'S A CABARET

Classy, romantic, intelligent SWM,

50, well-traveled, with good taste,

seeks a special, caring, friendly lady, 36-55. Let's share life, rom-

ance, and laughter. 2480718

ness and life with. 2715711

3947720

and watch them fly. 2639272

life. 7932247

55-66, N/S. 2938734

SOULMATE SEARCH Slim, attractive, 57-yr-old JF looking for her soulmate, any sincere, successful JM, between the ages of 54-64, please respond. 2589875

ARE YOU ROMANTIC? SWF, 61, N/S, is looking for chemistry and compatibility with secure, emotionally available WM, 48-60, N/S, who can dance (or will learn how to). 2898106

🕷 FORMER MODEL

SWF, 50, 5'6", slender, intelligence, creativity, passion for music and dancing. Seeks partner 38-50, who movies, concerts, boating. Seeking is attractive and fit, to share this attractive SWF, 40s-50s, with a liveis attractive and fit, to share this interests and more. 2600106

SOMEONE SPECIAL Fun-loving, attractive SWF, 70, 5'5" 135lbs, blonde, retired, N/S, seeks well-groomed WM, 65-72, N/S, to share life, romance, and possible relationship. 2891247

HAPPY & SECURE DCF, 68, 5'2", long dark brown/b rown, N/S, N/D, with positive attitude, enjoys leisurely drives, movies, and dining out. Seeking man, 58-75, for LTR. 2669606

KIND HEART Full-figured SF, 55, enjoys dancing and all types of music, likes working with animals, seeks good-natured single man, 44-60. 2742466

LOVING LEO Widowed WPF, 53, 5'9", brown/ brown, N/S, nursing home activities

coordinator, enjoys boating, swim-SBM, 41, Cancer, N/S, works 2 jobs, ming, and Michigan State football games. Seeking WM, 50-62, with similar interests. 2759316 loves movies, picnics, jogging. Seeking BF, 25-40, N/S, with big legs, who won't break my heart. 27949316

GREAT COMPANION

SE 65, looks 55, 5'2", unique, bright, w/many talents and interests. I'm well-traveled, very attrac-tive, health-conscious. How about you? Seeking non-smoking coun-terpart, 62-70. 2633527

LET'S LAUGH TOGETHER SWF, 49, 5'5", full-figured, brown/brown, romantic, lovable, humorous, likes entertaining, traveling, family time. Seeking SM, 40-56. N/S, social drinker ok, who puts God first in his life, for possible LTR.

tive, intelligent, creative, articulate, seeks SWM, 57-73, who is kindhearted, articulate, who enjoys dancing, walking, traveling, movies,

Loving, attractive SWCF 74 trim fun, N/D, N/S, homebody type, seeks lasting friendship and happi-

59 YEARS

Ready to meet great new people?

NICE GUY

SWM, 66, 5'6", 150lbs, manufactur- SBM, 18, 6'1", hazel eyes, light ers' representative, Libra, N/S, works out, enjoys movies, restaurants, and summer festivals. Seekng SWF, 50-65, N/S. Shirley, please call back. 2708126

EASY ON THE EYES Well-maintained SWM, 56, who enjoys keeping in touch with current events, heart-to-heart talks and silly conversations. Let's meet over coffee and see what develops. 2259844

HOPE TO HEAR FROM YOU Independent, self-sufficient DWM. 45, sturdy build, carpenter, sociable, affectionate likes boating, walks, drives, cycling, cooking. Seeking a special lady to share the good things in life. 2855207

HERE I AM Good-looking SM, 36, N/S, N/D, good-humored, likes romance, music, movies, biking. Seeking fit, fun, honest SF, 24-42, for friendship, possible LTR. 2937190

THE MEANING OF LIFE Attractive, multiracial (British and Indian) SPM, 37, 165lbs, fit, N/S, world traveler, enjoys sports, theater. Seeking intelligent, witty woman, 19-35, fit, slim, race open. 2941160

NO DRAMA HERE SWM, 41, 6'2", 230lbs, with daughter (17), occasional smoker, loves grilled-cooked dishes, camping, and listening to Rush. Seeking WF, 33-45, smoker, for LTR. 2941236

MY 411

Sexy SBM, 39, 6'3", 230lbs, very attractive, Scorpio, N/S, truck driver, seeks a beautiful woman, 21-40, N/S. 2939685

ALONE TOO LONG? Me. too. Male, 38, 5'9", 160lbs, Virgo, N/S, enjoys music, movies, sports. Seeking AF, 30-45, N/S, who enjoys movies, music, and sports. 2940640

ATTRACTIVE MALE

WM, 6'4", 195lbs, enjoys scuba diving, travel, family, more. Looking for an honest WF, 25-38, who is mature, confident, affectionate, outgoing and easy to talk to. 2942547

NOT ALL THE GOOD ONES ... are taken. SBM, 34, 6', 185lbs, athletic build, very attractive, Leo, N/S, D/D-free, no kids, no drama, seeks older, sophisticated, attractive WF, 40-55, game-free. 2945644

ALL-AMERICAN GUY SWM, 24, 5'8", brown/green, Leo, N/S, hard-working, enjoys clubbing, playing pool. Seeking a cool WF, 20-26, N/S, to hang out with. **2945680**

SPRING & SUMMER... are just around the corner. SBM, 26, 6'1", 185lbs, clean-cut, downto-earth, Leo, smoker, seeks woman, 18-43, to share quality time with 2944431

LET'S DANCE SBM, 50, 5'7", 180lbs, N/S, fun-loving personality, likes ballroom dancing, quiet times, traveling. Seeking active SF, 28-45, slim-to-medium build, race unimportant, kids ok, for friendship or more. No games. **2**946417

TRY ME

complexion, dimples, looking for a cool, genuine, level-headed female to share good times, good talks, friendship and more. 2938647

B5

(*)

IN THIS BOX, YOU HAVE .. a good-looking, well-built SBM, 33, 6'3", bald, goatee, safe, sane, D/Dfree, N/S, seeks sexy, good-looking woman, 35-70. 2940135

LET'S GO OUT

SWM, 24, 5'5", medium build, hazel eyes, Gemini, smoker, self-sufficient, works at a steel factory, loves camping. Seeking WF, 18-30, smoker. 2940524

ROMANTICIST

SBPM, 50, 6', athletic build, salt-n-pepper hair and mustache, Libra, N/S, loves cooking, arts and crafts, N/S, loves cooking, arts and crafts, and museums. Seeking classy, trustworthy, humorous BF, 40-61, N/S. 2939188

WORTH THE CHANCE

Attractive DWM, 31, 6', light brown/green, lean build, independent, enjoys outdoors, nights out, or just cuddling on the couch. Seeking a good friend to possibly develop a relationship with. 20-35. 2942424

VERY CUTE

SWM, 22, 5'9", 135lbs, clean-cut, smoker, works in construction, loves rock and rap music, comedy and scary movies. Seeking WF, 18-27, smoker, for LTR. 2943868

POSITIVE PERSONALITY

Attractive, romantic engineer, Asian American male, light complexion, 54, 5'8", 148lbs, fit, financially W/H/A/F, 40-55, for friendship maybe more. 2514300

KIND, HANDSOME TEACHER SWPM, 53, 6', 220lbs, light smoker,

social drinker, looking for one good woman. Please call. Troy area. **2864792**

LIFE IS TOO SHORT ...

not to share it with someone. SWM, 50, Italian descent, Scorpio, N/S, no children, seeks WF, 46-55, to connect with. 2935694

TRY ME

SBM, 32, 5'11", 200lbs, attractive fun, seeks goal-oriented and sincere, who knows how to enjoy life. **2934603**

INTERESTED

SBM, 20, 5'5", dark complexion, likes hanging with friends, the outdoors, movies and more. Looking for a level-headed, fun SF, not into games, to share good times friends. 727936039

SWM DESIRES SBF

Call me if you desire a nice shape, blue-eyed blonde, 50-year-old, 180lbs. Desires one on one for friendship and definitely romance. **2777324**

AWAITING YOUR CALL

76-year-old retired attorney would like to meet a lady, 60-65 to share dinners, talks, simple times. 37945823

NEW DREAM TEAM?

who is looki

Spend some time with this bright. enthusiastic, optimistic, yet realistic

2861408

SHALL WE DANCE? I am a SBF, 58, 5'3", 170lbs, attrac-

dining out. 2812098 SEEKING COMPANIONSHIP

PRETTY AND FRIENDLY Separated WF, 34, 5'9", 180lbs, romantic, short blonde/blue, likes to work out, laughter, movies, dining out. Seeking tall man, 32-43, race unimportant, great SOH, outgoing, motivated, for friendship maybe more. 2779775

ASIAN MAN WANTED Pretty, blue-eyed blonde, 55, plus-sized, warm and bright, seeks intelligent, handsome man for dating. Troy area. 2827007

ONE GOOD WOMAN BBW, SWF, attractive, compassionate, down-to-earth. Enjoys movies, comedies, long walks, romantic evenings and more. Seeking employed SM. 38-55, to do and share things together. Must like pets. 27947175

ENJOYS THE SIMPLE THINGS Attractive DBF, early 60s, feels much vounger, N/S, loves music and dancing, stays physically active, would like to hear from friendly, honest man, 56-68, N/S. 2672174

SEEKING COMPANION SWF. 42, queen-sized, outgoing, enjoys walks, music, life, open to new ideas. Looking for SM who wants to do things together. Must be employed and like pets. 2909140

PETITE & SEXY...

SBF, sensitive, affectionate, loving, 51, looks 35, 5'1", 105lbs, NS. Seeking healthy SBM, 5'10"-6'1", to work out with. 2912553

I'M A... sexy SBF, 40, 5'4", 187lbs, Sagittarius, smoker, works out. Seeking honest, hard-working, tall BM, 30-50, smoker, for friendship, possibly more. 2938706

CALLING ALL CYCLISTS a young 44, nice-looking, in SE great shape, seeks athletic man, 25-55, for cycling, hiking, outdoor activities. 2945242

SOULMATE SEARCH Attractive 42-year-old, looking for

soulmate, sincere, great SOH. See-king gentleman, 35-50, no game players. 2930545

MARRIAGE MINDED...

Nice-looking, warm-hearted, sincere, 37, employed. Looking for the same qualities in a single male, 35-43. 2940077

A GOOD & TRUE FRIEND Share with this DBCF,65, N/S, honest, fun, enjoy outgoings, breakfast, lunch, dinners? conversation, good, old-school, down-to-earth friendship, sincerity. 2905535

LET'S ENJOY LIFE

SWF, 57, N/S, seeks intelligent, kind-hearted, young-at-heart WM, 57-68, N/S, who enjoys traveling, camping, boating (Great Lakes or ocean), music book stores, and laughter. 2759907

LOOKING FOR FUN SBF, 47, desires to meet independent man, 50-60, for lots of fun. You must know how to treat a lady. All calls answered. 2807166

REALISTIC SBF, 26, 4'11", average build, Virgo, smoker, seeks drama-free, fun BM. 22-29, smoker, for friendship, possible romance. 2939308

SEXY

SBF, 18, Taurus, N/S, seeks a reserved HM, 18-20, N/S, who loves hiking, fishing, movies, dining out. 2945821

LOOKING FOR ME? SWF, 5'6", 130lbs, 64, great SOH, N/S, enjoys life, dining, dancing, holding hands, music, boating, quiet times, etc. Seeking a SW/HM, N/S, sincere and humorous. 2901378

BROWN SUGAR AND SPICE SF, 47 years young, 5'5", very out-going, loves family, fun, life. Would like to spend time with someone, 40-60, who loves jazz, concerts, movies, dinners, weekend getaways. 2208051

COULD YOU BE MR. RIGHT? Are you a big, tall, handsome man? DWF, 47, very attractive, loving, fun, seeks SWM to share life together. **T**443339

OLD ENTREPRENEUR

Pretty, charming SWF, successful, kind, compassionate, lots of fun, looking for her knight in shining armor. Any sincere, caucasian gentlemen, 55-80, please respond. Hopefully we'll be each others soul mates. 2592074

JERSEY TRANSPLANT SWF, 50, slender, blonde, Virgo, N/S, enjoys foreign travel, wine tasting, and working out. Seeking WM, 40-53, N/S, for LTR. 2885454

LOVES BOATING

SWF, 65, 5'6", Aries, N/S, loves dancing and dining out. Seeking WM, 60-71, N/S, with sense of humor, for friendship, possible romance. 2890004

REFINED AND FULL OF LIFE Very attractive blonde, fit, energetic and happy, professionally em-ployed, very youthful 60s, 5'3", trim and shapely, enjoys dining, travel, dancing, theater, family and friends. Seeking honest, handsome, fit, 55+, college grad, N/S, with youthful passion for life. Serious replies only. 2652360

A GOOD FRIEND SWF, 57, full-figured, 5'4", likes movies, dancing, good company. Seeking a nice guy to enjoys a friends first relationship. 2916193

ARE YOU THE ONE? SF, 24, mother, brown/brown, 5'4". likes skating, skiing, dancing, dining out, good talks, life's simple pleasures. Seeking compatible, caring, SM, to enjoy the good times, friend-ship and possible LTR. **1**920771

NATURAL BBW

SBF, 32, 5'5", 240lbs, N/S, N/D, N/kids, employed. Seeking a SM, 18-60, who is open-minded, N/S, N/kids and can appreciate a strong woman. 2924352

LIFE IS BEAUTIFUL Attractive SWF, 50s, 5'7", 125lbs, loves all life, animals, arts, family, nature, spirituality. Masters helping professional. Seeking big-hearted. financially/emotionally secure, intelligent DPM, 48-68, for fun, friendship, depth, etc. 2892242

OUTDOORSY KINDA GUY

DWM, 64, 5'11", 190lbs, selfemployed, N/S, socially drinker, great SOH. I am looking for the right lady to spend time with, get to know and maybe develop a lasting relationship. 27891796

A BIT ABOUT ME ...

SBM, 34, 5'10", 170lbs, employed, sexy, nice person with a good heart. Seeking a SBF, 25-27, who enjoys shooting pool, travel and much more. 2946734

ISO NEW FRIENDS

SBM, 28, 5'8", 160lbs, independent, self-sufficient, Libra, smoker, seeks honest, mature woman, 18-31. If you like what you hear, give me a shout. 2948971

GREAT LISTNER

SBM, 19, 6', soul searching eyes, pretty smile, dimples, clear skin, full lips, Taurus, smoker, enjoys rainy days, beaches, shopping, and playing football. Seeking sexy woman, 18-23. **2**947819

HOW ABOUT ME?

Caring SWM, 35, looking for a nice woman with a big heart and warm smile to share the special moments in life. 2938379

GOT WIT?

DBM, late 40s, homeowner, N/S, loves traveling, taking part in community events, jazz and comedy clubs. Seeking WF, 42-52, smoker, responsible drinker ok, not afraid to take a chance. 2883266

SEEKING LITTLE LADY SBPM, 5'7", great SOH, enjoys movies and cooking. Seeking a short female, 4'-5'6", for romance, possibly long-term relationship, age/race open. 2947184

ANY INTEREST? SBM, 43, 5'10", 185lbs, D/Dfree, drama free, in great shape. Seeking a single female, 40-60, age/race open, for laughter, fun time and maybe more. 2947366

AGE IS JUST A NUMBER Mature, attractive lady sought by handsome WM, 42, brown/blue, active, homeowner. Interested range from outdoors to movies, to dining and dancing. \$683230

SWM. LOOKING FOR YOU 40s or 50s. 2550046 SBM, 23, 5'9", 240lbs, solid build,

outgoing, open-minded. Looking love Looking to meet a SF, 21-40, who is independent, likes to try different things and is open-minded. **3946749**

COULD IT BE YOU?

SWM, 40s, 6', 175lbs, N/S, home-owner, auto worker, easygoing, honest and secure, enjoys hunting, Harleys and the outdoors. Seeking attractive slim/fit woman, 30-50, N/S, D/D-free, comfortable in high heels-tennis shoes 2798519

MUSCULAR AND ATHLETIC SWM, 46, 6'2", 209lbs, brown/blue, degreed, outgoing personality, enjoys outdoors, workout, new activities, seeks friendly SF, age/ location open. 2531308

TRUE GENTLEMAN

SBM, 52, 5'8", 185lbs, looking for a medium to full-figured SBF, 46-54. Someone who is worldly, nice, loves to laugh and just enjoying life to the fullest. 2912726

SERIOUS WOMAN WANTED SBM, 46, looking for that special persona for LTR, someone who enjoys walks, movies, sporting events, cuddling at home. Please be shapely, independent and know what you want in life. 2692418

GOOD SPORT ISO SAME SWM, 30, 6'1", 225lbs, brown/blue, Virgo, N/S, likes dancing, sports, and playing softball. Seeking WF, 23-32, who likes sports. 2943734

TAKE A CHANCE SM, 25, college-graduate, employed, active, looking for a nice girl, to share good times, talks, friendship and fun. 2936061

LOOKING FOR YOU

SBM, 58, father, looking for a loving, affectionate, polite, goodnatured, classy, intelligent lady, race open, N/D, N/S, D/D-free, to share happiness. 2935752

WHY NOT CALL?

SBM, 24, 6'4", well-built, 205lbs, likes sports, time with friends. Seeking a cool, genuine, lady, 30-35, to share the good things in life. friendship first. 2937972

MIDDLE-AGED MELLOW Open-minded, fairly articulate, somewhat intelligent SWM, 51, enjoys talks and walks, pets, reading, etc. Seeking SWF companion. **2114862**

PICK A WINNER

SWM, 50, attractive, healthy-look-ing, youthful, light-hearted, enjoys doing fun things and going to inter-esting places. Seeking lady to spend time with. 2730508

CUTE & CUDDLY

Nice SWM, 50s, with wisdom, with and warmth, can be fun, charming, helpful and who knows what else. would like to meet a nice lady and see what develops. 2478746

SECURE

WM, 58, tall, slim, good-looking, would like to meet a nice, sweet, kind woman to go out with and see what happens from there. **2**828139

SIMPLE REQUEST

WM, 59, 5'8", 170lbs, dark/blue, looking for an attractive woman to go out and have a good time with. Age open. 2833911

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THE SECRET TO MANAGING UP



dL. throughout a career and in organizational life in the

community. Managing up consists of managing when a boss may or may not be ineffective. It's particularly important when your boss is underqualified, overqualified or otherwise at sea in his work. This process focuses upon work that is or isn't being done. It may be completely unrelated to your boss's character.

Should you postpone, if you're new on the job, until you've settled in so you can begin to manage up? No, it's never too late to begin. If you're about to be hired, is having a first conversation with your boss essential before you sign on to assess whether he's amenable to managing up? Jonathan Lehrich, associate director at the MIT Sloan School of Management's Leadership Center, states, "You don't need to have met your boss before you start work to have a very rewarding relationship." He equates managing up with self-management.

Compelling reasons for managing up include:

-- facilitating your boss's work so that he shines so brightly that the his glow

transmits to you;

- -- making it easier for your boss to work with you; and
- -- throwing the door wide open to his helping you.

Notice the focus upon work behavior, not personality.

Lehrich points out that the real work in this process is managing yourself. Doing these things promotes productivity, whether you're working for a good or bad boss.

BAD BOSSES/GOOD BOSSES

Your success at managing up may be diminished by a bad boss, even if he's unaware of his failings. How can you predict greatest need? Lehrich advises watching out for these interpersonal behavioral traits: belittling publicly, lying, condescending and demeaning, humiliating or embarrassing and micromanaging.

A good boss isn't just the reverse. A good boss allows you to have a positive impact in your workplace. When he doesn't, for whatever reason, you may have difficulty managing up. Getting stonewalled in this process is very much more his problem than yours, because over the long term, he's digging his own grave of incompetence. In either case, "focus upon what he does," Lehrich advises, "not what he says." Skip the personality; keep managing up.

BEING 'NIMBLE'

How can you become the best subordinate possible when managing up? "An outstanding employee is nimble, working the project and understanding of changes that may occur," remarks Tom Dailey, president of Chicago's Valtegrics L.L.C., and a public speaker on organizational and individual conflict. He explains that this means taking the initiative, suggesting improvements for projects and processes, not just executing them, and managing projects so that there are no surprises at deadline.

Leadership and diversity trainer Paul Vann of Laurel Wreath Communications Inc., in Fort Washington, Md., would agree about being nimble. "The excellent person makes things happen," he states, "managing up and down. The job of subordinates is to take a 24/7 approach to study their boss's work style so they can help their leaders do their job better."

Lehrich would agree. "A good employee," he comments, "has a perfectly reasonable relationship, gets along, keeps tasks moving and has little conflict. An outstanding employee takes the relationship as (he would with) his own client. He hears what the boss wants and responds with what the boss needs. He manages risk by advising his client of risk." This includes being honest with the boss when you disagree and overcommunicating to make ideas stick.



Johnathan Lehrich says, "Your job is to achieve results through other people, and that means coaching, guiding, sympathizing, and directing."

Wherever you are on the organizational chart, take heed: "Managing people is your job," Lehrich says. "Your job is to achieve results through other people, and that means coaching, guiding, sympathizing, and directing." Apply that to yourself, too.

(Dr. Mildred L. Culp comments upon the workplace in national media. Copyright 2006 Passage Media.)

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The Smart Car Is Coming

Advertising Feature



BY DALE BUSS

Any day now, DaimlerChrysler AG may give the green light to what would be one of the niftiest new automobiles in the U.S. market in many years: Smart Car.

Dieter Zetsche – the former head of Chrysler Group, based in Auburn Hills, and now the new CEO of the parent company in Germany – is expected finally to OK the importation of the eight-foot-long vehicles from Europe with a new model. At the same time, Zetsche has grown tired of throwing extra corporate resources into the Smart brand, which launched its first model in 1998 and has consistently failed to turn a profit.

If Zetsche gives the go-ahead, the appearance of the 60-miles-an-hour, two-door coupes on American roads would be a fascinating development given the backdrop in the U.S. marketplace. First, of course, there is the trail blazed by the remarkable success in America of the Mini Cooper, a BMW-owned little thing that has really caught the fancy of many U.S. consumers.

Continuously rising fuel prices finally have prompted American consumers to show some genuine interest in extremely fuel-efficient automobiles as well, even if they don't have the European cachet and haven't starred in movies as Mini Cooper has. General 'Motors' Chevrolet Aveo, for instance, introduced in early 2004, has been a surprise hit and ranks as one of the best-selling economy cars in the United States. Another nascent development is the fact that cars with hybrid powertrains are beginning to disappoint some consumers. While makers ask an extra \$2,000 to \$5,000 for the privilege of owning a car with a "green" propulsion system, some hybrid versions of vehicles actually don't even do as well in fuel economy as their conventionally powered siblings - the Honda Civic, for example.

Anyway, back to the Smårt. The two biggest questions that the car prompts among people who see it for the first time seem to be: Can you actually drive these things? And, are they really safe? According to Canadian and European reviewers, once you actually get inside a Smart, the "smallness" sensation large disappears. Apparently, there is head-



The Smart Car from Daimler Chrysler has more headroom and leg room than you think

room and legroom aplenty. Width is the only dimension that seems to be in short supply. The seats are position high above the floor, meaning that the driver and passenger actually sit higher than in a conventional car – and certainly higher than in some of the sporty two-seaters that already are tooling around on American roads.

Only about 40 horsepower are available, meaning that it takes about 20 seconds for the car to get to 60 mph. But of course, blazing speed isn't the reason you'd be driving Smart!

And as for safety, there are many worse vehicles: Smart gets a rating of three stars in Europe's five-star crash-rating system. DaimlerChrysler has spent a lot of resources on this issue, touting a frame design that it likens to a walnut, with high-strength steel beams reinforcing key areas. Smart also likes to demonstrate a 30-mph crash test between a Smart coupe and a Mercedes sedan twice as big, in which the passengers survived the collision almost unscathed. These cars are already widely available across the border in Canada and have been for a couple of years now. But DaimlerChrysler has hesitated for a long time in deciding whether to outfit Smarts specifically for U.S. safety and fuel-economy standards. In the meantime, at least one entrepreneurial outfit isn't waiting to see what decision Chrysler makes. Zap, a West Palm Beach, Fla., company, is purchasing Smart cars and then Americanizing them to comply regulatory requirements in all states except California and four other states.

Just a few days ago, in fact, Zap announced its first Florida customer for a Smart car: Robert Sharon, a school teacher from Wellington, who had been a Smart car fan since he toured Europe as a concert pianist in 2000.

But clearly, if DaimlerChrysler decides to import Smart cars directly to the United States through some of its own and other willing dealers, it will set the pace in terms of Smart sales.

"If we're going to the entire United States, we're going to provide a comprehensive sales and service network," says Bettina Singhartinger, a spokeswoman for the Smart operation in Germany. "We're part of DaimlerChrysler, and if we do business, we do it right."

Observer Eccentric





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The 2006 National Register of Big Trees calendar, a program of American Forests sponsored by the Davey Tree Expert Company, features tips for each month. This month's item:

"New trees should be planted at the same depth in which they were growing in the nursery. **Celebrate Earth Day** (April 22) and Arbor Day (April 28) with a tree planting. Visit www.americanforests.org for more information."

For more information about American Forests, call (800) 545-TREE: write American Forests, P.O. Box 2000, Washington, D.C. 20013; or visit www.americanforests.org.

Not for children

Giving a child a ride on a riding mower, even with the blades off, sends the

wrong message: that the

not a machine with rotat-

mower is a fun ride and

After being given a

ride, a youngster may run

out for another one when

you are mowing and you

may not hear or see the

fall into the path of a

mower, dart out from

behind an object or be playing behind the

mower, unseen by you.

to serious accidents.

These situations can lead

Protect children. Tell youngsters that riding mowers are potentially dangerous machines, not? toys. Tell them that when

they hear the mower running, they must stay inside the home. Make

sure they are inside,

under adult supervision.

is near. Look down and

behind you before and

while backing up.

Stop mowing and turn off the engine if anyone

He or she may slip and

child approach.

ing blades that may cause serious injuries.

Roasted peppers take on a sweet, rich flavor with parmesan curls and balsamic dressing.

Take a bite of these dishes for Easter

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK STAFF WRITER

Keith Matherly has shared some of his favorite side dishes with the Observer &

tips for those Easter dinner side dishes. "When steaming the



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER I STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Whether you're cooking a traditional ham or lamb for Easter, or creating a springtime menu, it's good to take stock of your side dishes.

Almost all the focus is on the main entree for the spring holiday, but how often do you really pay attention to the sides?

Keith Matherly, executive chef at Joe's Produce in Livonia, enjoys a small gathering with about a dozen or so family members and friends at his home in Livonia on Easter or other special occasions. He creates plenty of side dishes for the market, too, at this time of year, and expects he'll do the same with

Eccentric Newspapers that you can find inside today's section, D5.

the upcoming spring produce. Matherly prepares some of his favorites for Easter - spring green beans with slivered carrots, melange of roasted peppers, pasta with sapprossata with vegetables and Boulangere potatoes.

"If you're doing an Easter dinner, like a leg of lamb, Boulangere potatoes, green beans and tomatoes with spinach are good dishes to have. And if you're serving brunch, anything goes - bacon, hash browns, Belgian waffles and fresh fruit."

Matherly has some cooking

green beans, put a little water in, but do not cover the beans," Matherly said. "Steam them until tender crisp, then shock them in cold water, then reheat them with carrots and butter, salt and pepper.

"All are great for springtime, Easter brunch and dinner. These are great with lamb, ham and roast beef."

Boulanger potatoes are good with lamb, whether a leg, saddle or rack. "Cut them into a wedge like a steak fry, leave the skin on, then mix with olive oil, fresh garlic, salt, black pepper and rosemary."

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Tech

Rick

Broida

Savvy

Keith Matherly, executive chef at Joe's Produce in Livonia, roasts Boulanger Potatoes.

Free service matches homeowner, contractor

BY MARY KLEMIC STAFF WRITER

As a real estate agent, Beth Steele was often asked by people new to an area for the names of contractors and other professionals for work around the home.

As a builder, her husband was often asked the same questions.

Seeing a need for a way for homeowners to find licensed and skilled professionals, she started Home Solutions of Oakland, a free contractor referral service, læst October.

"It's peace of mind," said Steele, a

Lake Orion resident.

Home Solutions of Oakland brings homeowners together with prescreened professionals.

The service screens the businesses reviewing their references, checking to see that they are licensed and insured, and investigating their Better Business Bureau and Consumer Affairs records.

Home Solutions stays in touch with the homeowner after a referral is made, monitoring to see that the job is done to his or her satisfaction.

PLEASE SEE SERVICE, D2

owrance Electronics may not be a household name, but it's getting pretty popular in cars.

navigation, spins MP3 tunes

Until recently, the company was best known for its marine and aviation GPS navigation systems.

Affordable GPS simplifies

But with the new iWAY 350c, Lowrance earns a place alongside heavyweight automotive-GPS makers Garmin and Magellan.

In fact, the 350c is better than many of the more expensive products from those companies

Designed for easy installation and portabili- The Lowrance iWAY 350c is an ty, this compact GPS mounts on your car's

PLEASE SEE BROIDA, D3



inexpensive GPS that doesn't compromise on features.



the riding mower and keys away from children, and never allow a youngster to play on or around a riding mower.

For more information, visit the Web site of the **Outdoor Power** Equipment Institute's **Education and Research** Foundation: opei.org/foundation.



SERVICE

FROM PAGE D1

"I follow up after the appointments have been made," Steele said.

The service also helps reputable contractors promote their businesses. Steele has about 80 contractors in the service. They can be matched to a

wide range of jobs. from handyman repairs to home additions. Most of the contractors are from

Oakland County; others are from parts of Lapeer and Macomb counties.

Among the professionals are carpenters, closet organizers, electricians, painters and plumbers. Almost a complete alphabet of home repair and improvement fields are represented.

Customers can call Home Solutions or fill out an online request form.

Questions they are asked include details of the job, their price range and their time frame.

Steele requires the professional or company to have been in business for at least five years. She also wants four or five references, including from the two most recent jobs, and asks the business such questions as how it resolves problems.

Steele conducts ongoing evaluations of the professionals.

The service is free to homeowners because the professionals pay Home Solutions a pre-negotiated referral fee, Steele said.

Call Home Solutions of Oakland at (248) 842-1526, e-mail info@homesolutionsofoakland.com. Visit www.homesolutionsofoakland.



More than 150 beautiful quilts will be on display when the Oakland County Quilt Guild presents Quilt Celebration 2006, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday, April 21, and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, April 22. The event will take place at First Baptist Church of Lake Orion, 255 E. Scripps (Exit 81 on I-75, to Lapeer Road, four miles north of The Palace of Auburn Hills). Admission is \$6. For more information, visit http://ocqg.tri-

pod.com. **Downsize clutter**

Discover which organizing tools are most helpful, and learn manaceable steps to bring order to your personal environment, in a class offered by Henry Ford Community College's Center for Lifelong Learning (CL2). The class, Downsize Your Clutter for Seniors & Beginners, will take place Thursday, April 20, in the Mackinac Room at Henry Ford

Village, 15101 Ford near Greenfield in Dearborn.

HOME CALENDAR

Cost is \$20 for Dearborn School District residents, \$22 for nonresidents.

To register, or for a complete list of CL2 courses, call (877) 855-5252 or visit www.hfcc.edu/CL2. Gala preview

The Gala Preview Party for the Michigan Modernism Exposition will take place 7-10 p.m. Friday, April 21. at the Southfield Civic Center, Evergreen at Civic Center Drive. Tickets are \$50 in advance, \$65 at the door. Visit www.daads.org or call (248) 582-3326. Proceeds from the preview benefit the Detroit Area Art Deco Society's scholarship, preservation and restoration programs. The exposition will take place Saturday-Sunday, April 22-23, at the Southfield Municipal Complex. Admission is \$8. Hours are 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. April 22,

noon to 5 p.m. April 23.

Pet first aid class set

Sheehy Animal Hospital, 18790 Middlebelt in Livonia, will offer a free Pet First Aid Class Wednesday, May 3, beginning at 7:30 p.m.

The class will feature simple first aid for dogs and cats, including tips on creating a pet first aid kit

and on how items you have around the house can be used in medical situations.

The class is expected to last about an hour. Light refreshments will be provided.

Call Sheehy Animal Hospital at (248) 615-7670 to register.



Dept. of Environment at 888.223.2363 or see our website at www.rougeriver.com.

Appliances have changed

am writing this column on the day of a story appearing in another newspaper describing my flight from CBS Radio to another station in Ann Arbor, where I received my broadcasting start more than 20 years ago.

What concerns me most about this move is the sudden change in how you readers can find me. There has always been

a telephone line at the bottom of my column that piped you directly into my direct line at a radio station.

Appliance A new number is being set Doctor up as we speak, so keep your eyes peeled for Gagnon it at the bottom of this col-

Joe

umn. A new direct e-mail address is in the works as well. I suggest you continue to use this newspaper's address to get your computer message to me. The editors are very good at

getting your questions to me. The station is WAAM 1600, and the Appliance Doctor will be heard 8-10 a.m. Saturdays. This will expand from there, just give it a little time. Thank you for your patience during this transition period. Some 25 years ago my little

brother Larry came to work with me as an appliance repairman and became a spe-

washing machines. Oh, he could fix everything else, but he was best on these washers.

He spent five years crawling around in the basements of America before he decided to become an executive, and I missed him terribly after he left.

Well, now that he's retired, he's working part time for my son fixing washing machines again and he loves it.

The other night after hockey, we sat down for a ginger ale and hamburger and he told me of his first service call he performed in 20 years.

I laughed my head off as he told me, "I walk into the house full of confidence and I look at the washer and believe it or not, I can't figure out how to get to the belt.

"I call the tech line and a technician tells me how to get the cabinet off. I'm amazed at how easy it is and yet was so hard to figure out how to do it.

"I get to the guts of the machine and I find that it doesn't even have a belt on it. I find it very surprising at how much the Whirlpool washer has changed in its design."

Larry went on to fix the problem with the washer, and has learned a lot more since his return to the appliance repair industry just a few months ago.

We talked more about the industry. I said that every time he talks to a customer on the telephone and explains how the customer can do repairs, He agreed that it's a great

feeling to do so, and that too few repair outlets do that today in all sorts of businesses. You could say that he is from the old school and will help many homeowners before he retires permanently.

The point of his story was to exclaim how many ways appliances have changed in the past 25 years.

So many of these columns in the past 10 years have pointed that out to consumers, and yet we know that they all function pretty much the same.

Manufacturers have created advertising to show off all the new features on each product, and in so doing have caused a desire for these things in the consumer's mind.

The far end of the spectrum is an increase in price of certain products, which keeps the manufacturers all smiling.

I'm a big believer that a washer is still a washer. It's a square cabinet with a tub filled with water that swishes water and clothes around, up and down, sideways or whatever.

When they design them to sort out the clothes, carry them into the basement and then remove and fold them, I will certainly be forced to call it something else. Stay tuned.

Joe Gagnon is a member and past president of the Society of Consumer Affairs Professionals. Do you have a guestion about an appliance or a problem you have with an appliance? E-mail your guestion to mklemic@hometownlife.com and it will be forwarded to Joe Gagnon,

he's helping somebody. cialist working on Whirlpool

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BROIDA

FROM PAGE D1

windshield using an included bendable extension arm.

The mount causes the iWAY to wobble quite a bit when you're driving on bumpy roads; Lowrance offers a more stable dashboard mount for around \$35.

The 350c is a "ready-to-navigate" GPS, meaning it comes with maps of the continental U.S. and Canada preloaded on its built-in hard drive. That's a huge advantage over GPS devices that require you to load maps from your PC.

Another big plus is the 350c's touch-screen interface, which makes for much easier operation than a button- or wheel-based interface. In fact, Lowrance may have taken this a bit too far the iWAY has only one physical control: the power button.

Although most functions are readily accessible via onscreen icons, I'd prefer hard buttons for things like volume control and display mode.

Still, I love how much control Lowrance gives you over the onscreen display. You can customize just about everything, from what kind of information appears alongside the moving map to the size of the font used to display the information.

FROM HERE TO THERE

Like other GPS devices, the iWAY navigates you from point A to point B (with a stopover at point C if you want), complete with spoken directions and automatic rerouting if you miss a turn or encounter a closed on ramp (all too common in metro Detroit these days).

Unlike most other GPS devices I've tried, the iWAY actually pronounces street names. Thus, instead of hearing, "Turn right in 200 feet," you hear, "Turn right on Orchard Lake Road." That reduces the chance of you making a wrong turn.

I particularly admire the unit's safety mode, which disables most aspects of the interface until your car stops moving.

Operating a GPS while driving is extremely dangerous. If you choose to disable this mode, please let a passenger interact with the iWAY.

JUKEBOX GPS

The 350c doesn't just get you

where you need to go - it keeps your toes tapping along the way. Just fill a secure digital (SD) memory card with your favorite MP3 tunes and slide it into the iWAY's card slot.

You can even listen while using the navigation system; the two aren't mutually exclusive as on some GPS devices.

Even better, the iWAY can broadcast MP3s to an unused FM frequency on your stereo, so you get to hear your music (and driving directions) through your car speakers. Neat! Another nifty perk: You can

pull the memory card from your digital camera and view photos on the iWAY's 3.5-inch screen.

A LITTLE LOST

Not everything about the iWAY is perfect. For one thing, the aforementioned screen is definitely on the small side. As a result, the interface icons are crowded together, and I sometimes hit the wrong one by mistake. I also encountered a couple of operational problems. The iWAY took a long time to lock in a GPS signal and, when it finally did, it seemed to have a hard time pinpointing my position. Very often it showed me alongside the road instead of on it and navigation suffered accordingly. Also, there were times when the iWAY did a poor job choosing routes, though this may have been the result of the previous problem. I suspect I may have received a bad unit, but at press time I was unable to verify this. Finally, running the MP3 player makes the navigation system annoyingly sluggish, to the point where I really had to choose one or the other.

Problems notwithstanding, the iWAY 350c is one outstanding automotive GPS - especially considering its price: \$499.99.

Shop online and you'll find it for even less. A recent Pricegrabber.com search revealed a number of vendors selling it for \$400 - and one etailer even had it for \$365.

You won't find a better GPS at that price.

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

Check out '06 color forecasts

oanie of Westland writes: "My husband and I are getting ready to repaint our kitchen, living room and dining room. I'm seeing so many different and interesting colors in the decorating magazines. What are

> the trends for this year, and which colors are just a fad that I should avoid?" Your ques-

> > tion couldn't

Spring brings

with it remod-

be timelier.

Design Solutions

eling and redecorating Terri projects galore. Guastella Everyone is

ready for some sunshine and a fresh look for their homes.

The major paint companies have already released their color forecasts for 2006.

Keep in mind that this forecast isn't just based on what the paint companies, alone, see as current trends. You will also be seeing these colors in clothing, automobiles, kitchen appliances, fabrics and home accessories, as well as paint colors.

For the warm shades, you will notice a yellowing of the tones from years past.

The red that so many people have put in their homes has become more of a terra-cotta. For a bolder look, try orange or coral. You will be seeing a lot of orange this spring season.

The green tones have also seen a yellowing trend. There is a continuation of the lime green and kiwi shades that were so popular last year. Gold is also remaining strong and serves as a neutral for some of the more saturated colors.

For the cooler shades, the trend is toward turquoise. This color falls somewhere between aqua and teal and is young, fresh and bright. It pairs up very nicely with brown, white or black.

The eggplant of recent years has been slightly modified to a grayed-down version. It has become lighter and gives off a softer, or cloudier, look than eggplant did and blends nicely with other colors.

The color forecasters are also seeing a pink trend. This is such a completely

feminine color, I believe this will be a temporary fad. If you love pink, use it in removable accent pieces and accessories.

For your own paint selections, you will need to first consider all of the other items staying in your home. Your sofa, carpet colors, cabinet wood tones, counter tops, draperies, etc., are part of the overall color scheme. Remember to keep your

public spaces down to approximately three dominant colors throughout your home. Larger homes may be able to handle a fourth color.

If your decor lends itself to one of the new colors, give it a try. Decide if your color scheme is predominantly

warm or cool tones, and then stay in that category of colors.

It should be easy to find accessories in these new color tones to add the finishing

touches to your rooms. Also keep in consideration the style of your home and decor.

For example, gold lends itself very nicely to traditional furnishings, as do terra-cotta and some of the warm greens. Orange and turquoise are more transitional and contemporary. Some of the very intense col-

ors are better used as accent colors instead of painting an entire room in one of them. For instance, if you love

turquoise but don't want a turquoise living room, consider turquoise pillows, a patterned turquoise valance or a drapery tassel. You may be able to pull off a turquoise accent wall in the right room.

Remember to use an appropriate neutral tone with these strong colors. Brown looks dynamite with turquoise.

Check out the Web site of Sherwin Williams, Pittsburgh Paints or any other major paint company.

They should all have a color forecast and current trends list available.

I encourage you to venture out and try some of the new colors. It is only paint!

Terri Guastella, an interior designer and a Canton resident, specializes in space planning, design and color consultation. Contact Terri Guastella at: www.exclusiveinteriordesign.com.

GARDEN CALENDAR

African violet sale

The Michigan State African Violet Society will have its annual Spring Display and Plant Sale Saturday-Sunday, April 15-16, at Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 Dixboro in Ann Arbor.

Hours are 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday. Admission is free. A great variety of African violets will be on display and for sale. Many gesneriads and supplies will also be available. The first day has the best selection.

Hill & Dale Garden Club

The Hill & Dale Garden Club will have a general meeting 7 p.m. Thursday, April 20, at the Heritage Park Visitors Center, on Farmington Road between 10 and 11 Mile, Lillian Dean will present the topic, Rain Gardens. The public may attend. For more information, contact Mar Scawly at (248) 333-3108 or stemar@comcast.net.

Gardening

Gardening classes offered by Henry Ford Community College's Center for Lifelong Learning (CL2) include Redesign Your Garden, Mondays, April 17-24, and Color Your Garden with Annuals, Tuesday, April 25, both at HFCC's Dearborn Heights Center. Cost for the redesign class is \$24 for Dearborn School District residents, \$27 for non-residents. Cost for the annuals class is \$17 for Dearborn School District residents, \$19 for non-residents. To register, or for a complete list of CL2 courses, call (877) 855-5252 or visit www.hfcc.edu/CL2.

Opening garden

Gardenviews in Northville will present a free seminar, Opening the Garden, 10-11:30 a.m. Saturday, April 22, at the Northville Senior Center at 303 W. Main, diagonally from Gardenviews. Space is limited. Call (248) 380-8881.



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Downtown Farmington store is no longer a secret...

Every town has its 'best kept secrets' - it happens. Sometimes it's because we're all too busy to be in the know. Sometimes we think we are in the know when we're not. For example, if you have purchased furniture or accessories for your home, but you didn't first check out Recherché, then you're not in on one of the area's best secrets.

Whether your budget is large or small, this store is a must see. Why shouldn't you be in on what Interior Decorators know? Recherché is the place you start! Whether you're looking for a new dining set, a mantel clock, or an original oil on canvas, Recherché will likely have something for you to consider. Lamps, candles, unique art glass, and clocks galore are just a sample of the items that you will find.

Watched any home decorating shows lately? This has become a popular past time for home decorating enthusiasts everywhere. One thing that the popular programs have in common - the designers find many of their selections at consignment stores. Of course, time doesn't allow for us to see all of the stops they make. Besides this is TV – who has the time?



But, Recherché is no ordinary consignment store. Although Recherché has thousands of items from individuals on consignment, they are meticulous about the condition, uniqueness and quality. They are very selective so that you don't have to spend your time rummaging through multiple thrift stores, looking for a 'diamond in the rough'. Even better, Recherché carries both new and used items, and most home projects need both.

www.hometownlife.com

The beautiful 72" round table features the striking ribbon grain of Sepele mahogany on a Duncan Phyfe pedestal. The chairs are mahogany. In the background is a vintage mahogany breakfront with curved glass.

Now you're in the know. If you have furniture that no longer sults your need and you want to find out if it meets Recherché standards to be sold in their store, email pictures to <u>Farmington@recherchefurniture.com</u>. But in any case, stop by and visit Tom & Linda at Recherché in the Downtown Farmington Center, next door to the Post Office. Also, be sure to take advantage of their special offer in today's ad.

These original oil paintings provide a breathtaking back drop for this antique walnut chair. Also featured is an antique mahogany server part of a beautiful Jacobean dining set with table, china cabinet & 6 chairs (not pictured).







This beautifully carved ball & claw. mahogany extension table is perfect for entertaining family and guests. It has satin wood banding & a garoon edge for a norfact field. In the pacharound is a fielder day Server, Circa 1909. Of course, no scene is complete without

original oil



This glass on glass dining table by Fox Fire is perfect for the contemporary home. Parsons chairs compliment this one of a kind table beautifully. The top is finely beveled and is adorned with a cobalt blue vase.

tsit Tripic Sar



This lovely triple dresser was hand painted by Michigan artist, Anne McDonald. The artist started with a French Wash Faux finish, but it is the fine detail of the Hydrangeas that make this item one of a kind. This dresser can be complimented with matching pieces.



1½ pounds green beans or haricot verts (French green beans) 1 cup slivered carrots 3 tablespoons butter

- Salt, to taste
- Black pepper, to taste

Steam green beans until tendercrisp. Rinse with cold water. Drain.

In large skillet over mediumlow heat, melt the butter and add the green beans and carrots, tossing them gently until hot. Add salt and pepper. Serves six to eight.

MELANGE OF ROASTED PEPPERS

- 3 green peppers 3 red peppers
- 3 yellow peppers
- ½ cup extra virgin olive oil
 2 tablespoons balsamic vinegar
- Salt, to taste
- Black pepper, to taste
- 4 ounces Parmesan curls Char peppers over an open

flame until skins are blackened, turning every two to three minutes.

Enclose the peppers in a plastic

bag and let steam until cool enough to handle. Keeping whole, peel them starting at the blossom end. Cut off the top and discard the seeds.

Quarter peppers and arrange on a platter or large plate. In a small bowl, combine the olive oil, vinegar, salt and pepper. Pour over peppers.

Take a piece of Parmesan cheese and a vegetable peeler and shave pieces of Parmesan to decorate over the top of the peppers. Serves six to eight.

BOULANGERE POTATOES

3 pounds potatoes, wedged (like
large French fries)
1 pound OSO (or other) sweet
onions, sliced thin
½ cup olive oil
2 tablespoons garlic, minced
2 tablespoons rosemary, fresh,
rough chopped
Sait, to taste
Black pepper, to taste
Heat a reacting near to 4500

Heat a roasting pan to 450° F. Toss potatoes, oil, garlic, rosemary, salt and pepper together in a bowl., then place in hot roasting pan and cook for 15 minutes. Turn potatoes with a spatula and add sliced onions and cook for another 20-25 minutes or until tender. Serves six to eight.

PASTA AND SOPPRESSATA WITH VEGETABLES

³/₄ cup shallots, minced 2 tablespoons garlic, minced 8 tablespoons of ve oil 1 cup dry white wine ¹/₃ cup white vinegar 2 tablespoons fresh thyme, minced 1½ tablespoons fresh oregano, minced 1/2 cups chicken stock ½ cup heavy cream 1 cup diced carrots 1 cup corn kernels, fresh 1 cup snow peas, trimmed and cut in 1-inch pieces 1 pound gemellini pasta (or any small pasta) 1/2 pound sopressata, cut into 1/2inch strips 1 cup thinly sliced radicchio

Saute shallots and garlic in 4 tablespoons olive oil over medium heat for two minutes. Add the wine, vinegar, herbs and 4 tablespoons olive oil.

Cook two to three minutes over

medium heat. Add the stock and heavy cream and reduce to about 2 cups.

In boiling water cook carrots for one minute, then add corn and pea pods, cook for another 30 seconds and cool in cold water, then drain. Boil pasta and drain.

Toss all ingredients in a bowl and arrange on a platter.

CHILLED ASPARAGUS ORIENTAL 1¹/₂ pounds asparagus, trimmed

1½ tablespoons sesame oil ¼ cup cider vinegar ¼ cup soy sauce 1 tablespoon brown sugar 1 cup chopped walnuts

Radicchio leaves, for garnish (optional) Black pepper, to taste

Steam asparagus until tendercrisp. Rinse under cold water. Drain and chill.

In a small bowl combine the sesame oil, vinegar, soy, sugar and mix well.

Pour dressing over asparagus and sprinkle walnuts and black pepper. Garnish with radicchio. Recipes courtesy of Keith Matherly, executive chef at Joe's Produce in Livonia.

itive chef at Joe's Produce in Livonia.



Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, April 13, 2006

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FOUNDING PATHERS



Giada De Laurentiis to visit

Giada De Laurentiis, host of Everyday Italian on the Food Network and author of a cookbook by the same name, will be signing copies of her latest book. Giada's Family Dinners, at 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 18, at Borders Books & Music, 34300 Woodward Ave: in Birmingham.

In her New York Times bestseller Everyday Italian, De Laurentiis introduced readers to the simple, fresh flavors of her native Italian cuisine. Now she is back with a new batch of simple, delicious recipes geared toward family meals-Italian style.

She presents doable dishes with an emphasis on feeding a crowd. There are twists on Thanksgiving classics, including Turkey with Herbes de Provence and Citrus, Ciabatta Stuffing with Chestnuts and Pancetta, and Butternut Squash Lasagna as well as recipes for traditional Italian holiday foods like Easter Pie, Pizza Rustica, and Panettone Bread **Pudding with Amaretto** Sauce.

Borders is on the east side of Woodward, south of Maple, (248) 203-0005.

ake a top list of anything and critics come out of the woodwork. Paul Lukacs, a veteran wine journalist who also chairs the English department at Loyola

College in Maryland knew that before he hit the keyboard to write The Great Wines of America: The Top Forty

Vintners, Focus on Vineyards, and Vintages (W.W. Wine Norton, 2005,

WINE PICKS

It's spring and

Chardonnays seem to

taste better now than

anytime of the year!

Picks of the pack:

2004 Flora Springs

Barrel Fermented, \$25.

and 2004 Pine Ridge

Eastertime.

\$29.95). Ray and Eleanor Indeed, some Heald critics ques-

tioned his "top 40," which by the way, includes L. Mawby Talismon Brut from Michigan. A California newspaper wine editor wrote "I have not tasted the L. Mawby Talismon Brut sparkling wine from the Leelanau Peninsula in

Wine journalist highlights top 40 wines

Michigan, so I can't say whether it deserves Lukacs' praise, but is it one of the top 40 wines in America?

Untasted yet questioned? How ridiculous is that?

No quibbles from us about Lukacs' choices. Over the years, we have written about each of the 40 wineries and wines he includes in his most worthwhile read. Additionally, we met up with Lukacs at Morels restaurant in Bingham Farms and here are a few more things he had to say.

SPEAKING OUT

"John Alban at Alban Vineyards in Edna Valley, California, is making worldclass Syrah. It's a lot more than upfront fruit," he began. Alban Vineyards Reva Syrah (about \$60) is noted in Lukacs' book. From the North Fork of Long

Island, N.Y., Lucas praises **Bedell Cellars Reserve Merlot** (about \$30), calling it "a style to be emulated as a wine some-

River Valley, \$35;

Napa Valley, \$35;

2004 Oakville Ranch

2003 Marimar Estate

Don Miguel Vineyard,

Russian River Valley,

Chardonnay, Cuvee

Audrey, \$75 (big, oaky

Dobles Lias, \$40;

2002 Talbott

style).

where between California and Pomerol." You probably won't find this wine in metro Detroit but you can order it and have it shipped directly to your home. It is available online at www.bedellcellars.com.

FOOD

"Of vinifera-based dessert wines, Dolce (\$75) is a no brainer," Lukacs said. "The goal of the producer is to rival Sauternes in quality but in a New World style."

He believes that "of all the classic varietal wines, the U.S. does sauvignon blanc least well but Gainey (about \$20) gets it right (for his palate).

"As for L. Mawby Talismon Brut (\$27), it shows that the real future for U.S. sparklers may not be in California." Since the sale of Robert

Mondavi Winery to Constellation Brands, Lukacs admits debating about the inclusion of Mondavi Napa Valley Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon (about \$125), "Yet 2002 is superb," he said. "The winery sold, but it has historical

and under

2004 Penfolds

Africa), \$14;

Wallet-friendly, \$20

2004 Meridian Santa

Barbara County, \$10:

Koonunga Hills, \$11;

2004 Kendall-Jackson

Jackson Estates, \$12:

2003 Hangtime Edna

2005 Goat Door (South

significance and continues to make some very good wine."

Although in his book, Lukacs tries to remove himself as the ultimate deciding factor in the chosen wines, about Mount Eden Vineyards Chardonnay (about \$35) from the Santa Cruz Mountains in California, he said, "I love this wine."

About Washington state's Quilceda Creek Cabernet Sauvignon (about \$90) Lukacs said, "Of the wines I knew least, this really impressed me. It knocked my socks off."

He believes that Saintsbury (\$30) is the pinot noir leader in the Carneros region of California. He also admitted that since winemaker Robert Brittan left Stags' Leap winery recently, "touting the Petite Syrah is a tough call. Yet, all the wines through 2004 are essentially Brittan's and the 2002 Petite Syrah (about \$35) is powerful, spicy and delicious with a rich fruit perception." Talbott Sleepy Hollow

2003 Spellbound, \$15;

2004 Beringer Napa

2003 Murphy-Goode

2003 Handley Cellars

Estate Vineyard, \$19:

2005 Limestone Coast

Island Block, \$19;

(Australia), \$20.

Valley, \$15;

Valley, \$16;

Vineyard Chardonnay (about \$42) is "the other style of chardonnay" in Lukacs' opinion. Lots of oak, yet he believes it has sufficient fruit to support the style. The Great Wines of America by Paul Lukacs is an easy read and will appeal to wine aficionados who want to know more about a wine than just how it tastes.

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





to your door!

Dijon Clones, \$33.

2004 Kendall-Jackson

2004 Napa Cellars Napa

Grand Reserve, \$20;

2004 Berinder Napa

Valley Private Reserve,

2004 Dutton Goldfield

Dutton Ranch, Russian

Excellent:

Valley, \$22;

\$35;

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Mood rings ..

Charlotte jewelry changes with the times

8. By Wensdy White

ois and Joachim Wekenmann, owners of the Charlotte jewelry boutique in Royal Oak, recently hosted clients to an evening of fine wine and jewels with Caroline Schwarz. Schwarz, who represents the fifth generation of the Ehinger-Schwarz "Charlotte" family, stopped at the Royal Oak store as part of a worldwide trunk show designed to promote the company's spring line and new catalogue, GLANZ. With her, Caroline brought a dazzling array of "colliers" — priceless, ornate necklaces designed by her father, Wolf-Peter Schwarz.

About 40 customers sampled wine and tried on the dramatic jeweled collars.

"The guests were allowed to try on everything then have their photo taken. They had a "great time," said Lois "Wekenmann. "It isn't every day you get to try on a necklace worth \$50,000. It makes you feel like a princess."

The Charlotte System

Charlotte specializes in unique, interchangeable fine jewelry. Rings, brooches, pendants and earrings can be adorned with all kinds of centerpieces in the Charlotte system. Collectors can choose from discs studded with gemstones, single jewels or colorful flowers, and layer them in countless combinations to suit their outfit or mood, day or evening.

Prices begin at about \$95 for a polished stainless steel ring band, an ebony scroll and tool to change the centerpieces. At the other end of the price range, platinum bands can be topped with diamonds of the highest quality.

In addition to the interchangeable lines, the Ehinger-Schwarz family creates unique non-interchangeable jewelry. The Wekenmanns wear Charlotte wedding bands, for example, engraved with each other's signatures, the j's and i's studded with diamonds.

History of Ehinger-Schwarz

The house of Ehinger-Schwarz was founded in 1876 by Wolf-Peter Schwarz's great grandfather, Otto Ehinger, in Neu-Ulm, Germany.

Fourth-generation master goldsmith Wolf-Peter took over the business in 1969,



How to

travel

in style.

and soon after invented the interchangeable jewelry system for a contest sponsored by the prestigious DeBeers Carat Club, of which he is a member. Although his design didn't win, the jewelry was a hit.

"We sold 40,000 rings in five years," Wolf-Peter told PINK when he visited the Royal Oak Charlotte last year to meet with customers and sketch custom designs. "They were young generation pieces. Since then, Charlotte has become a little more precious."

The Future of Charlotte

Now, there are 140 Charlotte stores worldwide, named for Wolf-Peter's Swedish wife Ann-Charlotte, including galleries in Spain, Singapore and Dubai.

When the Wekenmanns opened the Royal Oak shop in 2003, it became the third of five locations in the United States.

These days, Charlotte is moving toward more ornate pieces like the colliers Schwarz previewed at the trunk show.

The Wekenmanns are working to open a second location in Birmingham called *Charlotte Atelier*, which will showcase the higher-end items.

To view more gorgeous jewelry, visit Charlotte, 220 W. Fourth St., Royal Oak; or www.charlotteshop.com.



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