

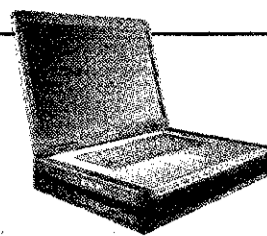


Can travel and fashion really go hand-in-hand?

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Garage band spotlight burns bright on Web

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THURSDAY  
April 20, 2006

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## Here comes company

Canton braces for major influx of traffic on Ford Road once IKEA opens in June

BY CAROL MARSHALL  
STAFF WRITER

Ask people who live or work in Canton about Ford Road traffic, and most will tell you it's bad.

Township polls regarding the quality of life in Canton back up that assessment, as do traffic studies and intersection crash studies (which point to the intersection of Haggerty and Ford as being the third most dangerous in Wayne County).

But when the numbers are black and white — the hour-by-hour count of traffic on Ford Road — the impact of a spike in traffic volume becomes more clear.

According to a traffic study, produced for IKEA as part of its site plan approval process, 5,314 vehicles pass through the intersection at Ford and Haggerty during weekday peak hours (5 p.m.-6 p.m.). The signal just to the west of there, in front of the

PLEASE SEE TRAFFIC, A7



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Once IKEA opens, it is expected to draw more than a million visitors annually, which has many people worried about the increased traffic on Ford Road.

## Businesses, residents hope for the best with increased traffic

BY CAROL MARSHALL  
STAFF WRITER

Tracey Pawlowski's situation would be considered by most to be ideal. Her home is just a mile away from her Canton business, so her daily commute is by anyone's standards very short. But come June 7, the question that will be on her mind every morning is: How am I going to get to work?

The thing is, Pawlowski's home is off Hanford and Haggerty, north of Ford. Her business, Back Home Bakery is at Ford and Lilley. So Pawlowski has to cross Ford Road, which wouldn't be a big deal except for one new neighbor — IKEA, a furniture

store with such a large regional draw that it attracts some 2 million visitors a year at other store locations. When the Canton store opens on June 7, traffic trouble is expected, and no one knows as of yet when it will subside or exactly how it's going to affect Canton's roads.

"As a business owner, I'm hopeful that I'm going to get all this spin-off business everyone keeps talking about, but as a homeowner, I'm really concerned," she said. In addition to her concern over traffic, Pawlowski said that her last property tax bill on her home told a story she didn't want to hear; for the first time in eight

PLEASE SEE BUSINESSES, A7



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Brenda Findsen, who owns Rainbows and Dreams at Ford and Lilley, is unsure of how her business will be affected by IKEA traffic. "I hope that we do get some of the traffic from IKEA, but I'm not counting on it," she said.

## Canton man found slain in his home

Canton Police are investigating the apparent murder of 46-year-old Robert Lee Armstrong, who was found dead in his Canton home Saturday morning by his 10-year-old daughter.

According to Sgt. Rick Pomorski, the daughter woke up around 8 a.m. and found Armstrong bleeding and unconscious.

"The girl was hungry and got up. She went into his bedroom to get him and found him bleeding from the head. She went next door to talk to a neighbor, who then called emergency," he said.

Pomorski said Armstrong, who lived with his daughter and 8-year-old son in the Wagon Wheel mobile home park located on Mott Road, was most likely already deceased when his daughter found him.

The Wayne County Medical Examiner performed an autopsy Sunday morning. The medical examiner determined Armstrong's cause of death to be blunt force trauma to the back of his head, and ruled it a homicide.

The case remains under investigation. As of Wednesday afternoon, police had yet to arrest anybody.

Pomorski said police have spoken to a couple neighbors and family members, but have no real suspects or motives in the case.

He said the crime most likely took place in Armstrong's bedroom sometime in the early morning hours after the children went to bed.

"We believe there is other evidence in the room to suggest there was a struggle or altercation," Pomorski said. "We're still tracking down leads and trying to piece the crime together. We'll get it eventually, but it's going to take some time."

Armstrong's two children are staying with family members.

kkuban@hometownlife.com  
(734) 459-2700

### TRAFFIC CRASHES AT FORD AND HAGGERTY

YEAR	CRASHES
1997	58
1998	56
1999	45
2000	50
2001	41
2002	53
2003	37
2004	62

Total: 402

Total fatalities: 0

Total injuries: 77

Source: SEMCOG

## Ballots late for Plymouth-Canton school board election

BY TONY BRUSCATO  
STAFF WRITER

Municipal clerks administering ballots for the May 2 Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Board of Education election, which also includes a two-question \$120 million bond proposal, said absentee ballots should be delivered to registered voters by the end of this week.

Clerks in Plymouth, Plymouth Township and Canton Township said they

didn't receive the ballots until Monday, which is almost a week later than the earlier-promised April 12 delivery date.

"We worked overtime ... stuffing like mad," Canton Township Clerk Terry Bennett said Tuesday afternoon of the 3,500-plus absentee ballots that were expected to be in the mail by Wednesday. "It certainly compressed the time we need to get them sent out, and put us in a pressure circum-

stance to get them turned around quickly."

Plymouth Township Clerk Marilyn Massengill said she doesn't expect to run into any problems in administering the Plymouth-Canton election, despite the delay in receiving the ballots.

"If it was one of the big elections, and we had to send ballots overseas, that would have been bad," Massengill said. "Luckily, we had only four or five going out of state."

Massengill said she had 2,300 applications for absentee ballots as of Tuesday, and expects there to be more prior to the election.

That's up from the 2,000 she sent out for last year's school board election, which didn't have a bond proposal.

"Even though the school district was good about letting people know about the election, they didn't send the absentee ballot application to people 60 years and older on a permanent list, like we do,"

Massengill said.

Bennett also expects to see more voters at the polls this year.

"In comparison to the kind of voter turnout in other school elections, the interest is up there," Bennett said. "I think there certainly is an increased interest in the people running for the school board, as well as the bond election."

Plymouth Clerk Linda Langmesser, who also didn't receive ballots until Monday,

said she had 612 absentee ballots to send out as of Tuesday, which is up from the 569 from last year's school district election. With the increased number of candidates and the bond proposal, Langmesser was prepared for bigger numbers.

"You would think that with the money issues on the ballot, people would be concerned enough to get out and vote," she said.

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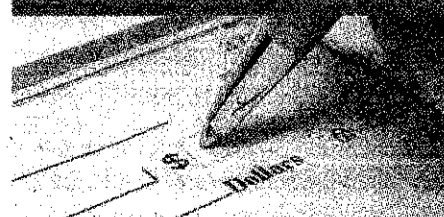
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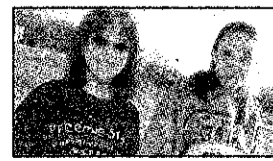
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### Coming Sunday in Health



'Premie Stars' to help March of Dimes' quest

**Look for survey**

Canton Public Safety is mailing out surveys to a random sample of residents. The survey is designed to give Canton residents an opportunity to rate the services of the police and fire departments. The survey also asks residents for their opinion as to which areas they feel are most important for police to concentrate their efforts.

The survey contains 12 questions and asks for some basic demographic information. The randomly selected residents will have 30 days to fill out the survey and return it in the postage paid envelope included in the mailing.

Public Safety officials will tabulate the results and compare them to the benchmarks established after a similar survey conducted in 2000. Survey results will be published in the Canton FOCUS newsletter, in the local media and on the department's Web site at [www.canton-mi.org/public-safety](http://www.canton-mi.org/public-safety).

**'Rally 4 Canton'**

A team from this year's Leadership Canton class is hosting a road rally Saturday, April 29 beginning at 5 p.m. at the Rotary Clocktower in Heritage Park. Tickets are still available for those who want to participate in the rally (4-6 people per car), to join the after-rally Finish Line Party, or to sponsor the event.

Prior registration is necessary. For more information or to register, visit [www.rally4canton.com](http://www.rally4canton.com), or call Debbie Zevalkink at (734)

394-5188. Proceeds from the event will benefit Growth Works, Inc. and The B.L.O.C.K., both youth programs in Canton.

**Identity theft seminar**

The Canton Police Department will be hosting its Identity Theft & Fraud Prevention seminar again on Saturday, April 29, beginning at 9 a.m., at Canton's Summit on the Park PDC room. During this two-hour event, Sgt. Scott Hilden will present information and preventative tips on one of the fastest growing crimes in the country. This seminar is being offered at no cost to Canton residents and businesses. Contact the community relations office to reserve a spot (space is limited) at (734) 394-5325 or e-mail [shilden@canton-mi.org](mailto:shilden@canton-mi.org) to reserve a seat.

Identity theft is one of the fastest growing crimes in the country and some estimates put all losses from ID theft at \$50 billion annually. Victims of Identity theft can spend hundreds of hours trying to fix their credit and clear their name and this may take months or even years.

**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 resources that help provide 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.

**Spotlight Players**

The Spotlight Players will present the show Anything Goes, Fridays and Saturdays April 28, 29, May 5, 6, 12, 13 at 8 p.m., and Sundays April 30 and May 7 at 2 p.m. at the Village Theater, located at 50400 Cherry Hill Road. Tickets for the show are \$15-\$18. For tickets or information call (734) 394-5460.

**Health and fitness options**

The Canton Newcomers, the community's "social club for the entire family," will meet at 7:15 p.m. on May 3 at the Sunflower Clubhouse at 45800 Hanford (west of Canton Center). This month's topic will be health and fitness options. Brian Finnerty, owner of High Velocity Sports, will be the guest speaker.

The group will also have sign-ups for summer activities, including Bunko, Chick Flick, Playgroups, Ladies Night Out, Euchre, Couples Social, Walking and more. For more information, please visit [cantonnewcomers.org](http://cantonnewcomers.org) or call (734) 737-0755.

tonnewcomers.org or call (734) 737-0755.

**New Oakwood director**

Canton resident Todd Allen, MD, has been named the director of the Oakwood



Allen

Hospital & Medical Center (OHMC) OB/GYN residency program. As a member of the faculty, Allen will focus much of his energy on his role as an educator. His new responsibilities will include the direction of Oakwood's OB/GYN residency training program for the teaching of graduate physicians in obstetrics and gynecology. In addition, he will oversee the administration of the OB/GYN faculty's clinical practices, and participate in planning and implementing medical student and Continuing Medical Education programs.

Allen obtained his medical degree from Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland and completed his OB/GYN residency at Oakwood. He currently practices at Oakwood Hospital & Medical Center and the Oakwood Medical Education Associates office in Dearborn.

**Health fair**

The Hindu Temple of Canton will hold its 4th Annual Health Fair 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Sunday, April 23 at the temple, located at 44955

Cherry Hill Road.

There will be several medical informational booths on topics including hormone replacement therapy, breast cancer, mammogram, prostate, cataract, nutrition, and lifestyle enhancements.

They will also be offering several free medical tests, including blood pressure check-up, blood testing and health related discussion with primary care physicians. Medical specialists, including cardiologists, urologists, OB-GYNs, rheumatologists, endocrinologists, ophthalmologists, and dentists, will be on hand to answer questions.

Registration is required at the temple, which will accept the first 300 pre-registrations on a first-come-first-serve basis. Minimum age for the blood test is 25. For more information or to register, please call (734) 981-8730

**Staff appreciation luncheon**

The Canton Chamber of Commerce is hosting a staff appreciation luncheon at 11:45, Wednesday April 26, at Carrabba's Italian Grill, 1900 N. Haggerty Road in Canton. Cost for the event is \$20 per person and includes lunch, dessert, soft drinks, and door prizes.

"Every year our staff appreciation luncheon serves as a wonderful opportunity for our members to say thank you to their staff," said Dianne Cojei, president of the Canton Chamber.

The luncheon will feature entertainment by Rudy Two

Moon, a sleight of hand artist. Rudy has more than 11 years experience creating illusions that will leave you in awe. There is limited seating so reservations are necessary by April 21. Reservations can be made by calling the chamber office at (734) 453-4040 or by visiting our online registration form at [www.cantonchamber.com/even-tsform.asp](http://www.cantonchamber.com/even-tsform.asp).

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Book your show or give a referral in April and you will receive one dozen votives free and a picture profile of one of the troops you helped support. To book your show, have Nicole speak at an event, or for more info, call Nicole at (734) 274-1806, e-mail her at [operationmorale@yahoo.com](mailto:operationmorale@yahoo.com), or visit her Web site at [www.partylite.biz/operation-morale](http://www.partylite.biz/operation-morale).

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**Physical Therapy UPDATE**  
Hands On Center  
Presented by Hands On Center For Physical Therapy

**HANDS ON THERAPY**

Repetitive use can place stress and strain on the tendons of the wrists and hands that often result in pain. Up until the point that the pain becomes severe, the physical therapist's services can be quite advantageous. He or she can recommend stretching and strengthening exercises as part of an overall program of rest, as well as suggest changes in the conditions that led to the painful symptoms. Stretching helps increase a joint's range of motion, and it lengthens the muscle and its associated tendons. Strengthening exercises give the muscles around a joint more power and endurance. Such exercises are helpful for osteoarthritis and tendon conditions; however, they should not be performed when joints are inflamed or painful.

Although exercise is important, what is equally as important is ensuring that you warm up before exercising, approaching it correctly. Preparation is everything and without it you run the risk of hindering your physical development. When you require physical therapy care, call the HANDS ON CENTER FOR PHYSICAL THERAPY now at 455-8370. We are located at 650 South Main Street in downtown Plymouth. New patients are welcome.

*P.S. Resisted isometrics strengthen the muscle without taking the joint through its full range of motion, thereby reducing the risk of stressing the joint and nearby structures.*

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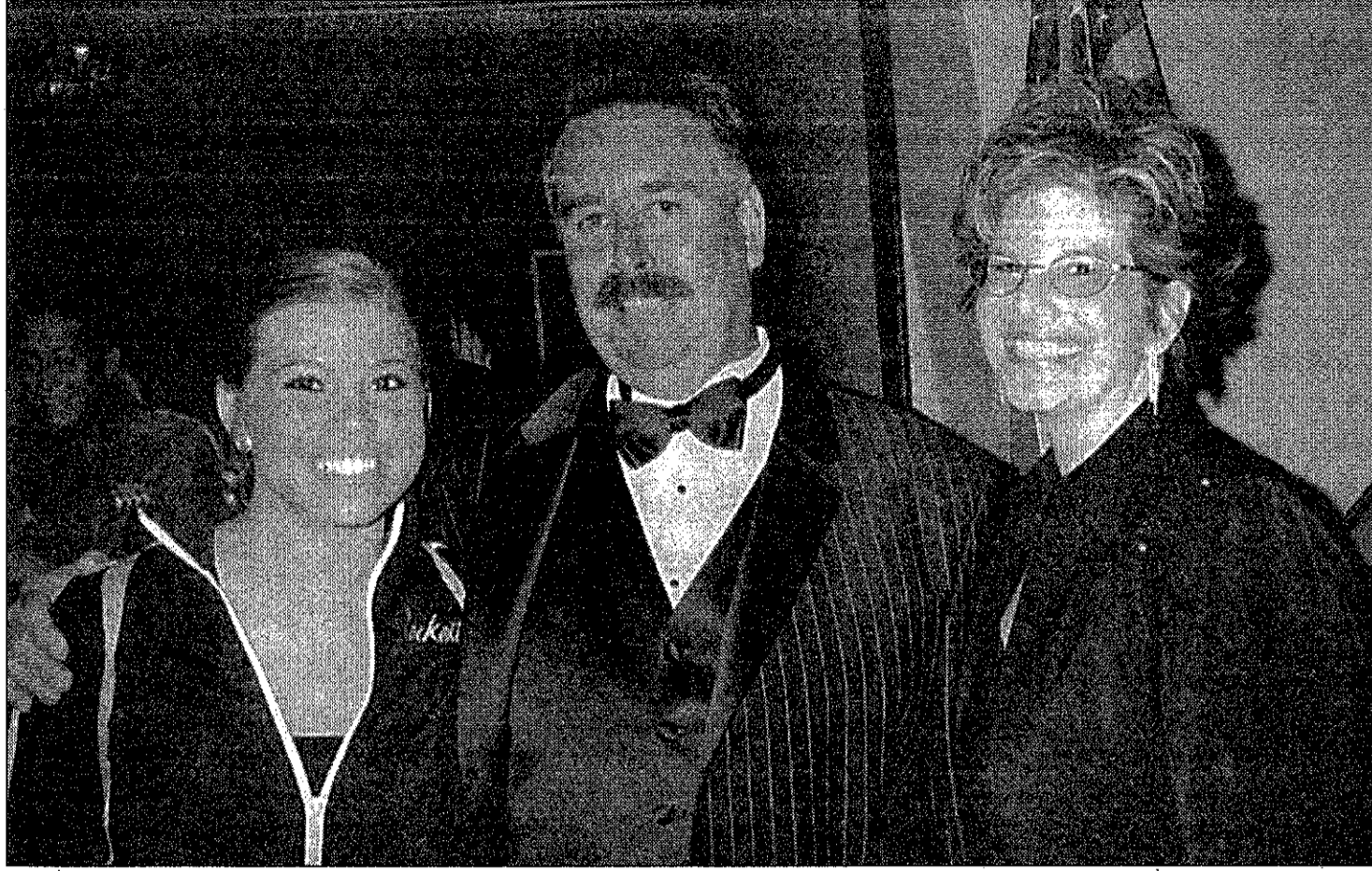
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Chamber chairman-elect Denise Staffeld (right) enjoyed the auction with husband, Chuck, and daughter Brooke.

## Biggest chamber auction ever raises more than \$50,000

BY KURT KUBAN  
STAFF WRITER

"It was an incredible night." That's how Denise Staffeld described the Canton Chamber of Commerce's Annual Auction that took place April 7 at the Hellenic Cultural Center in Westland. More than 500 people attended the event, which has been the chamber's main fund-raiser for nearly two decades.

"It's the most people we've ever had at the auction," said Staffeld, who is the chairman-elect of the chamber's board of directors.

The event raised more than \$50,000, which will be used to supplement many of the programs the chamber sponsors in the Canton community,

according to President Dianne Cojei. Those programs include seminars, classes, and community events.

This year's auction theme was "James Bond: 007." Many of the participants dressed up in costume to fit the theme, and the chamber even had a brand new Lamborghini for auction. The starting bid was \$189,000, however, and nobody bid on the car.

But there were plenty of other raffles and auctions. Some of the items included a pig roast, Yazaki's suite at Comerica Park for a Tigers game, and a stay at a Colorado condominium.

"We had some really nice items this year," Cojei said.

Two of the big winners were Kris Shorts of Livonia, who



Chamber members dressed up as the "Bond Girls" and posed with Bob Boyer, who acted as auctioneer for the evening.

was the grand prize winner of a 42-inch plasma television, and Greg Bajorek of Choice Insurance Agency of Westland, who won the 50/50 raffle and took home more than \$1,500.

The auction also featured plenty of entertainment, including a performance by the Salem High School Rockettes dance team.

"Everyone seemed to really enjoy keeping with the theme

this year. It was great to see so many in costume having fun," Cojei said.

"The event was everything we expected it to be and more."

kkuban@hometownlife.com  
(734) 459-2700

## Construction to start next week at two intersections

Beginning next week, Canton motorists may want to avoid a couple intersections on Sheldon Road that are slated for improvements.

On April 24, the intersections of Cherry Hill and Sheldon and Saltz and Sheldon are scheduled for road work as part of the township's intersection improvement program. Canton's Intersection Audit Committee selected 34 intersections to receive improvements over the next eight to 10 years.

Intersection improvements being made on Cherry Hill at Sheldon include widening both Sheldon and Cherry Hill to allow for exclusive right turn lanes in both directions as well as center turn lanes, providing new traffic signals with mast arms and illuminated street signs, constructing new sidewalk with pedestrian crossings, and placing new pavement markings and signage.

Intersection improvements being made on Saltz at Sheldon include removing the existing concrete pavement and eliminating the dip on Saltz, widening both Sheldon and Saltz to allow for exclusive right turn lanes in both directions as well as center turn lanes, improving storm drains, adding new traffic signals with mast arms and illuminated street signs, constructing new sidewalk with pedestrian crossings,

and placing new pavement markings and signage.

During construction on these intersections, work along Sheldon Road will be done in two stages. During the first stage, the township will close Saltz west of Sheldon and southbound Sheldon at Ford. Northbound Sheldon will remain open and westbound Saltz will only be allowed to turn right at Sheldon.

The detour route during this stage will be Ford to southbound Canton Center, and turn left at Canton Center to eastbound Cherry Hill. The detour ends at Sheldon.

During stage two, the township will close Saltz east of Sheldon and northbound Sheldon at Cherry Hill. Southbound Sheldon will remain open and eastbound Saltz will only be allowed to turn right at Sheldon.

The detour route will be to turn right onto Cherry Hill to northbound Lilley Road, turn left at Lilley to westbound Ford.

The detour ends at Sheldon.

During both stages of construction access will be maintained for school children crossing Sheldon Road. Construction on both intersections is expected to be completed by mid-June.

For more information on the intersection improvements please call Canton's Public Works at (734) 394-5150.

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<p><b>ARS Vitis Riesling '03</b></p> <p><b>\$9.99</b> 750 ml.</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">This wine comes in an attractive bottle!</p>	<p><b>Cambozola Cheese</b></p> <p><b>\$11.89</b> lb.</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Soft ripened cheese a cross between Brie &amp; Gorgonzola</p>	<p><b>Neige Ice Cider</b></p> <p><b>\$30.99</b> 375 ml.</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">This a truly Unique dessert wine both sweet &amp; acidic!</p>
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# A pizza revival

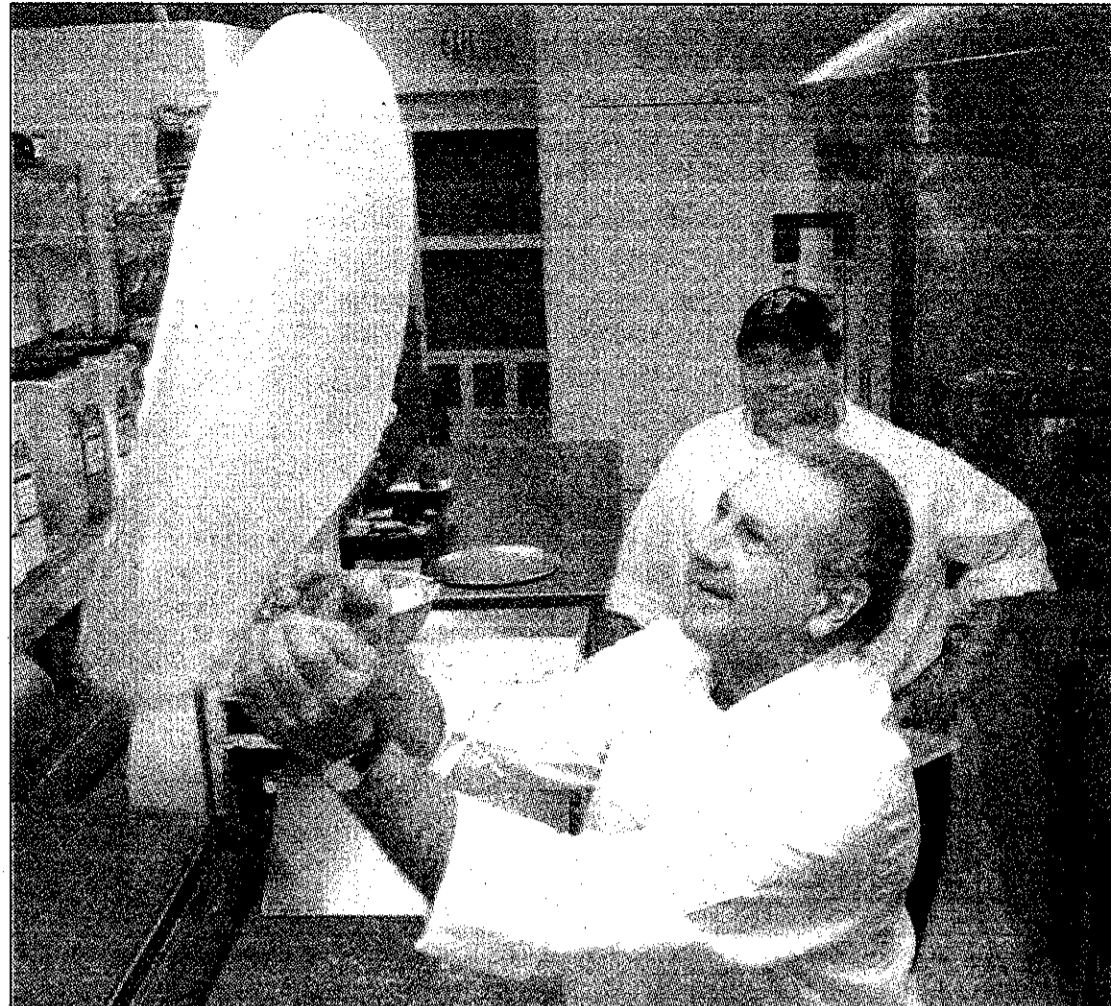
## New pizzeria owners winning them over with old family recipe

BY NANCY DEUTSCH  
CORRESPONDENT

There may be a winning recipe at the new Pulice's Pizzeria at the corner of Lilley and Palmer roads, but it's not just the delicious pizzas that are still made like they were in the 1950s, when owner Frank Pulice's grandfather had a pizzeria by the same name in Livonia. "We strive for consistency," said Gene Pulice, Frank's father, who is himself a consistent presence in the store. "We give them a good amount for a good dollar and we give them good food." That's the motto that has kept Canton resident Joe Blitz frequenting the store weekly since it opened in early January. "I was the first customer," he said. "I told them if it was good I'd be back and I'm there every Monday." Monday is pizza night for the Blitz household - he always buys a large pizza to share with his daughter and two grandchildren. "I enjoy pizza, but a good pizza," Blitz said. "You can taste the difference between

one that's good or not." The pizzas are made from family recipes, Gene Pulice said. The crust is tender but crisp, and he's only too happy to see his son now making them for customers and keeping up the tradition. While his father's store closed in 1970, Gene Pulice said he always hoped the pizzeria would one day reopen. He and his son discussed it for the past 10 years. Then one day, he saw an ad for a restaurant, and told Frank when he returned home from his job in construction that they were going to look at a place where they might want to start their business. "When we bought this place, we sat in a parking space and watched people come and go," Gene said. The traffic was good for the small strip mall, with regular traffic for the dance studio and tanning salon. Frank, 35, also thought the idea of running a restaurant in Canton was a smart move. "Canton's a growing community," he said. "You drive anywhere and it's expanding."

Frank said it didn't take much coaxing from his father for him to leave the construction business and start the pizzeria. "I've done a lot of things and I'm happiest working in a pizza shop," he said. "I like to cook. I may as well come to work with a smile on my face." The Pulices said they spent between \$20,000 and \$25,000 preparing for business in the small store that is almost 1,400 square feet, and holds three small tables. "One day I would like to expand and have more of a dine-in," Frank said. "Have people come in and enjoy a nice place." For now, he's content making pizzas, various pastas and some other items regularly in demand, such as chicken or ribs. The pizzeria offers delivery. About 90 percent of the business comes from word of mouth, Gene said, although they've tried advertising in a few venues, and offer weekly coupons for added value. "You've got to get out there and be competitive," he said. Frank said he's learning a



Gene and Frank Pulice aren't kidding when they say they make hand-tossed pizza at Pulice's Pizzeria in Canton.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

lot about running a business. The biggest surprise is that "the business is on my mind all the time. When I'm driving home, I'm thinking about it. I want to do it right." It's that kind of thinking, and the food of course, that keeps customers like Linda

Schremser coming back for more. Schremser said she is a fan of the baked gnocchi, and has liked everything she has tried at the pizzeria. "The servings are very generous. I really, really like the pizzas," she said. "The sauce has a different

flavor to it - it tastes like real tomatoes." Pulice's Pizzeria is located at 1722 S. Lilley, at the corner of Palmer. Hours are 3-10 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 3 p.m. to midnight Friday and Saturday.

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Tickets are available at all Busch's stores

# Theater company makes debut with 'A Chorus Line' this weekend

Destination Theater, a new musical theater company, will lift the curtain on its debut production as it presents the American classic "A Chorus Line" April 20-23, at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton. Destination Theater is a resident musical theater company at the Village Theater.

Show times for "A Chorus Line" are 8 p.m. Thursday

through Saturday April 20-22, and 2 p.m. on Sunday April 23. Tickets are \$22 for adults, and \$19 for seniors 60-and-over and students 18-and-under, and are available by calling (734) 394-5460 or at the Village Theater box office an hour before show time.

Many "Chorus Line" cast members and Destination Theater board members are veterans of a variety of estab-

lished theater and dance companies, including Ann Arbor Civic Theater, Stagecrafters, Interlochen Arts Academy, the Baltimore Opera, Florida's Broadway Theater Project, and the Eastern Michigan University, Wayne State University, Oakland University and University of Michigan schools of theater and dance.

"It's a timeless show," said Destination Theatre vice presi-

dent Wendy Sielaff, an award-winning director who has worked with Ann Arbor Civic Theatre, Saline High School, Plymouth's Spotlight Players and other local groups. "The show speaks to our insecurities, failures, hopes and dreams. Everyone, whether they're a performer or not, can see themselves in one of these characters."

However, it is also a chal-

lenging show that demands exceptional singers, dancers and actors. Sielaff has been thrilled with the talents of the cast.

"We knew we needed incredible dancers, and we definitely got them," said Sielaff. "We've been blown away by the display of talent in this show, and the fact that we've drawn performers from all over Wayne, Washtenaw and Oakland

counties to join us. We saw a need to bring a high level of musical theater talent to this exceptional theater venue that Canton Township has helped bring to reality, and we think we've definitely achieved that. A Chorus Line is just the start for Destination Theatre."

For more information about Destination Theatre, visit [www.destinationtheatre.org](http://www.destinationtheatre.org).

## New library collection targets new entrepreneurs, businesses

Historically, a downturn in the economy leads to new business start ups and makes conditions favorable for entrepreneurs. With that in mind, the Canton Public Library has launched a new special collection on its Internet Branch called Starting a Small Business at [www.cantonpl.org/specialc/smallbiz.html](http://www.cantonpl.org/specialc/smallbiz.html).

The collection of books, CD-ROMs, ebooks and Web sites is compiled to help young companies and first-time entrepreneurs get off on the right foot.

Entrepreneurs can use the special collection to get information ranging from how to write a business plan, legal reference sources, accounting, financial and tax guides, marketing, to general business resources.

Links on the site take the user directly to the library's catalog where users may view information on the book title, use their library card to reserve the book and find subject guides to search for other resources.

Web sites on the Internet Branch link directly to a variety of external sites loaded with business information such as the Small Business Administration, Market Research Reports and others.

Canton business owners are invited to list their information on the library's online database, Everything Canton ([www.everythingcanton.org](http://www.everythingcanton.org)), and submit materials for the Everything Canton kiosk located in the library.

Over 400 users are currently in the free searchable database.

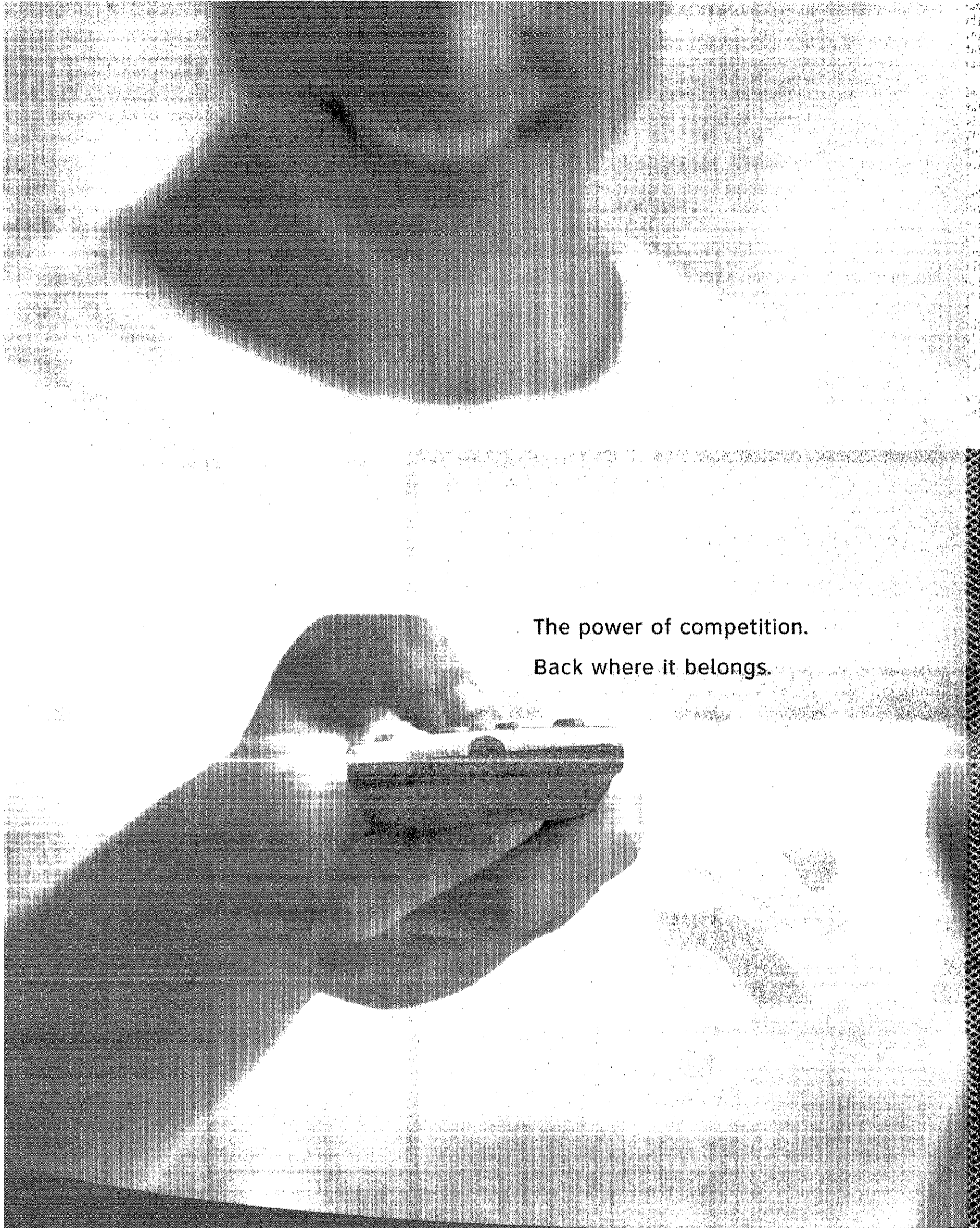
Business owners can submit information online at [www.cantonpl.org/cidform.html](http://www.cantonpl.org/cidform.html) or in person at the Canton Public Library.

Questions about Everything Canton should be directed to specialists Ellen Pare or Laura Fawcett at (734) 397-0999.

The library's Copy Center is open during regular library hours for copying, scanning, printing and faxing.

Computers equipped with Microsoft Office 2000 are free to use; each terminal has a floppy drive, CD-ROM drive (read only) and USB Flash drive.

The Canton Public Library is open Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m.-9 p.m., Friday and Saturday, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. and Sunday, noon-6 p.m. The Internet Branch URL is [www.cantonpl.org](http://www.cantonpl.org). A Canton library card is needed to access to certain features of the library and Internet Branch.



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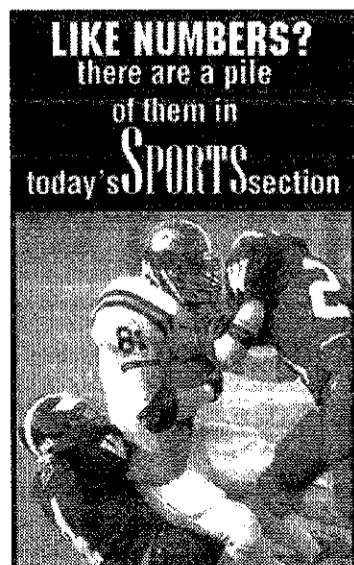


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DEATHS

**B**  
Francis Donald Brogan  
Brogan, 75, died April 13.

**C**  
Cheryl L. Caram  
Caram, 67, died April 13.

**D**  
Thadeus Edward Danaj  
Danaj, 78, of Petoskey, died April 9.

**Arlene Marie Debozy**  
Debozy, 84, of Westland, died April 15.

**Florence M. Devriendt**  
Devriendt, 79, formerly of Farmington, died April 10.

**F**  
Bertha Louise Fuqua  
Fuqua, 69, formerly of Bloomfield Hills, died Nov. 14.

**Elizabeth Furbacher**  
Furbacher, 99, of Westland, died April 15.

**H**  
Richard M. Howell  
Howell, 75, of Indian River, died April 8.

**J**  
Ruth Isabel Jones  
Jones, 80, died April 14.

**P**  
Virginia (nee Ursulak) Perrot

Perrot, 67, of Covenant Village, Colo., died March 30.

**R**  
Mary Jane "June" Ryan  
Ryan, of Bloomfield Hills, died.

**S**  
George L. Schaffer Jr.  
Schaffer, 84, of Plymouth, died April 12.

**Ann Krysa Sims**  
Sims, 83, of Bloomfield Hills, died April 15.

**Donald J. Smith**  
Smith, 83, formerly of Rochester, died April 15.



Show offs

Cars sitting with their hoods up and tops down in a parking lot are a good indication that it's car show season. And ready to roll out their weekly show is the Vietnam Veterans of America Plymouth/Canton Chapter 528's CRUZ'N 528. Pull in and park 5-8 p.m. Wednesdays, starting Wednesday, May 17, at the Mayflower/Lt. Gamble VFW Post 6695 at 1426 S. Mill St., Plymouth. There will be food, refreshments, a 50/50 raffle and prizes available for original, restored and custom cars, hot rods and bikes. A disc jockey also will be spinning oldies.

Complete paid obituaries can be found inside today's newspaper in Passages on page A18.

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WAYNE-WESTLAND COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC ACCURACY TEST

The Westland City Clerk will hold a public accuracy test on the M-100 voting equipment for the Wayne-Westland Community School District Board of Education election to be held on May 2, 2006 on Wednesday, April 26, 2006 at 2:00 p.m. at Westland City Hall, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan. All interested parties from the Township of Canton, and the Cities of Dearborn Heights and Westland are hereby notified.

The public accuracy test is conducted to determine that the program and the computer being used to tabulate the ballot results count the votes in the manner prescribed by law.

Eileen DeHart  
Westland City Clerk

Publish: 4-20-2006

WAYNE-WESTLAND COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT ELECTORS

NOTICE TO THE ELDERLY AND DISABLED VOTERS

Absent voter ballots for the Wayne-Westland Community School District election are available through the Westland City Clerk's Office, City Hall, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan for those persons who are physically unable to attend the polls or are 60 years of age or older. The voter, before the issuance of a ballot, must complete an application for ballot.

The last day to apply for a ballot by mail is Saturday, April 29, 2006 at 2:00 p.m. Persons qualified to vote absentee may vote in person in the Westland City Clerk's Office until 4:00 p.m. on Monday, May 1, 2006.

Eileen DeHart  
Westland City Clerk

Publish: April 20, 2006

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON INVITATION TO BID

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Charter Township of Canton will accept sealed bids at the Office of the Clerk. Sealed bids, enclosed in an envelope which has been sealed and clearly labeled with the words "Beck Road Water Main Extension", along with the name, address, phone number of the Contractor, the date and time of bid opening, will be received by the Charter Township of Canton Clerk's Office, 1st Floor, 1150 S. Canton Center Road, Canton, MI 48188 until 3:00 p.m., Thursday, May 4, 2006 at which time the bids will be opened and publicly read aloud for the following described project:

BECK ROAD WATER MAIN EXTENSION

Project consists of the following approximate major quantities:

- 1,372 LF 16" Diameter Ductile Iron Water Main
- 195 LF Bore and Jack with 30" Diameter Steel Casing Pipe
- 2 EA 16" Diameter Gate Valve and Well
- 3 EA Fire Hydrant Installation

The Project involves the installation of new water main and all associated work such as grading and restoration.

Bid documents are available to pick up at Canton Township Hall, 1150 S. Canton Center Road, 2nd Floor - Engineering, Canton, MI 48188. A nonrefundable fee of \$ 25.00 will be charged for the bid packet. A 5% bid bond will be required.

Bid Documents are on file for review at Canton Township Public Works, Construction Association of Michigan, Reed Construction Data, Construction News Service of Michigan, Inc., and McGraw Hill Construction.

The Township does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services.

The Township reserves the right to reject any or all bids, in whole or in part, and accept only the bid deemed to be in the best interest of the Township.

Terry Bennett  
Clerk

Publish: April 20 & 23, 2006

SHURGARD STORAGE

Notice is hereby given that the following units will be sold to the highest bidder by way of open auction on 05/05/06 at approximately 9:00 a.m. or there after at the following locations:

Shurgard Storage of Canton North \*2101 Haggerty Rd\*Canton\* 734-981-0300  
6238 Brooks Household Items  
5049 Gildon Household Items  
4034 Sims Household Items

Shurgard Storage of Canton South\* 45229 Michigan Ave\*Canton\* 734-398-5416  
2023 Henderson household  
2015 Hlavacek household  
4016 Multi-Rac family household  
4039 Murray household  
4162 Trammell household

Shurgard Storage of Dearborn\*24920 Trowbridge\*Dearborn\*313-277-2000  
1486 Klingensmith Household Items  
228 Davis Household Items

Shurgard Storage of Livonia\*30300 Plymouth Rd\*Livonia\*734-522-7811  
101 Mason Household Goods  
302 Donaldson Household/Camping Goods  
3120 Karpanowski Household Goods  
312 Johnson Household Goods  
413 Flumerfelt Household Goods  
5084 Shelby Household Goods  
9043 Marks Household Goods

Shurgard Storage of Taylor\*9300 Pelham Rd\* Taylor\*313-292-2950  
5049 Bacon Household goods  
4027 Baha Household goods  
7116 Cook Household goods  
6011 Farraj Household goods  
3071 Fossett Household goods  
3082 Height Household goods  
3078 Roop Household goods  
5057 Siders Household goods  
5039 Winer Household goods  
7093 Cecil Household goods

Shurgard Storage of Westland\*36001 Warren\* Westland\*734-326-6000  
2036 Dunlap Household Items  
1118 Gibson Household Items  
5060 Gross Household Items  
5132 Hellwig Household Items  
3116 Hendon-Jenkins Household Items  
1292 Pullen Household Items  
3196 Tolbert Household Items

Shurgard Storage of Plymouth \*41889 Joy Rd\*Canton\*734-459-2200  
9118 Pappert household  
5054 King household

Notice is hereby given that the following units will be sold to the highest bidder by way of open auction on 05/08/06 at approximately 9:00 a.m. or there after at the following location:

Shurgard Storage of Ann Arbor \* 2500 S. Industrial Hwy; Ann Arbor; \*734-973-2212  
1058 Rose Household

Publish: April 20 & 27, 2006

Charter Township of Canton Board Proceedings- April 12, 2006

A regular study meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton held Tuesday, April 12, 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 Staff Present: Director Durack, Director Faas, Director Minghine, Director Conklin, Director Santomauro  
**Adoption of Agenda** Motion by Bennett, seconded by Zarbo to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously. **STUDY SESSION TOPIC Item 1. Discussion of Plan to Modify 2006 Budget** Budget Reduction and Reorganization Plan, Executive Summary As the Board was made aware in January of 2006, building activity in Canton and in the entire State of Michigan has had a significant downturn. Throughout the first three quarters of 2005, Canton's building activity was very strong and showed no signs of slowing. That changed in the last quarter, and has continued through the first quarter of 2006. The Finance Department is monitored this situation continually throughout this quarter, they have been aggressively communicating with the building industry, and it appears that this slow down will continue for the next 18 to 36 months. At this time, other revenue projections appear to be on track, with the exception of court revenues. Canton's finances are not in crisis. To the contrary, Canton is fiscally sound, and the plan that follows is intended to make sure that is always the case. **It would not be appropriate to raise taxes to maintain staff levels that are higher than the service demands would necessitate.** The plan has two main elements. The first is a straight reduction in the staffing associated with building and development related activity. We are proposing staffing reductions in the administration, building, planning and engineering divisions of Municipal Services that are directly linked to the decrease in activity. The planned workforce reductions in Municipal Services include the following and are proposed to be effective June 30, 2006: \* Deputy Building Official \* Building Inspectors (2) \* Plumbing Inspector \* Electrical Inspector \* Mechanical Inspector \* Neighborhood Coordinator \* Clerical Positions (2.5) \* Engineering Project Coordinator \* Engineering Intern The second component is to implement structural changes across the organization that reassigns major components of the work force to better serve the community and improve the organization. The reorganization includes: \* Creation of Executive Director position \* Transfer of Ordinance enforcement to the Public Safety Department \* Elimination of the ACSD Director position \* Significant increase in responsibilities of Finance and Budget Director \* Additional staff reductions through natural attrition A major component of the plan is to offer an early retirement incentive (ERI). This ERI will help minimize the layoffs necessary as part of the workforce reductions, as well as offer additional opportunities to further restructure and downsize the workforce through retirements. The ERI suggested is a two-month window that would offer to AFSCME, TPOAM, and the Non-Union staff the same retirement benefit currently enjoyed by police and fire. For many years we have anticipated that there would need to be changes made in staffing when building activity slowed. The sudden nature of the decline has not allowed the slow reduction of staffing through attrition that had been planned for. This plan will set Canton on a course that can be sustained well into the future. - 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 20, 2006

0E0843061

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\*The Center for Responsible Lending, 2003

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FR/SAT LS 11:55

**INSIDE MAN (PG-13)**  
1:15, 3:55, 6:35, 9:15

**SCARY MOVIE 4 (PG-13)**  
(SAT/SUN 11:30) 1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:30  
FR/SAT LS 11:30

**THE WILD (G)**  
(SAT/SUN 11:05) 1:05, 3:05, 5:05, 7:05, 9:05  
FR/SAT LS 11:05

**THANK YOU FOR SMOKING (R)**  
12:40, 2:45, 4:50, 6:55, 9:00  
FR/SAT LS 11:05

**ICE AGE: THE MELTDOWN (PG)**  
(SAT/SUN 11:25) 1:25, 3:25, 5:25, 7:25, 9:25  
FR/SAT LS 11:25

**TAKE THE LEAD (PG-13)**  
12:00, 2:20, 4:40, 7:00, 9:20  
FR/SAT LS 11:40

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Expires 4/27/06. See www.canton-cinema.com for details.

# LaJoy says state watching traffic situation in Canton

BY CAROL MARSHALL  
STAFF WRITER

Traffic: It's been a priority on Phil LaJoy's agenda since the day he was elected in 2002.

"Roads were a priority for me even when I was campaigning," the Canton Republican state representative said.

Soon after he took office, LaJoy got on the state's transportation committee, which he now chairs. Early in his tenure in Lansing, he began setting up meetings with the Michigan Department of Transportation and with Wayne County (most of the roads in Canton are under state or county jurisdiction, and Canton receives no money to maintain them, and has no authority to improve them) and, for the first time ever, was able to do what people said couldn't be done — he was able to schedule a joint meeting with the township, county, state and Federal Highway Administration right in Canton Township.

"At that time, we started talking about the need for another interchange somewhere off I-275," LaJoy said. "But before you can get the funding to do that, you need to prove that you need it." So, as a result, the township has with MDOT coordinated and funded a regional traffic study.

"MDOT kicked in a substantial amount, and Canton was a major contributor," LaJoy said.



LaJoy

The study, when completed later this year, will be helpful in placing state road projects on the MDOT priority list, LaJoy said.

One of the recommendations of the study is likely to be an interchange at Cherry Hill from I-275. Originally, the recommendation was for an exit at Warren Road, but LaJoy said that will be cost-prohibitive due to some design aspects that had been overlooked early in the study.

LaJoy has also been able to assist with getting MDOT signage along the freeways that direct motorists to Canton — on east and west I-96, and north and south U.S. 23.

Certainly the upcoming opening of IKEA has been part of literally getting Canton on the map, LaJoy said, and has brought to the forefront some of the traffic issues LaJoy and other Cantonians have known for years.

"MDOT is watching very closely to see what happens at IKEA. This is on the agenda every time we talk," he said. "It's not just important that roads projects are approved and completed for Canton. It's really a regional concern for everyone who works in, lives in, or drives by Canton every day."

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## TRAFFIC

FROM PAGE A1

future furniture store, has 3,408 vehicles pass by it during the same time period. During peak weekend hours — 1 p.m.-2 p.m. Saturday — 5,035 vehicles go through the Ford and Haggerty intersection and 3,232 pass by the store front on Ford Road.

But after the store opens, an additional 380 vehicles will go through the intersection during weekday peaks (195 entering the parking lot and 185 exiting), and 1,400 will pass through during the Saturday peak hour (790 entering and 610 leaving).

Existing levels of service at Ford and Haggerty are at best average. Level of service is measured in terms of seconds of delay per vehicle, and are assigned a rating, with A being the best and F being the worst. What it looks like on paper is a delay ranging from 31.8 seconds per vehicle (a C rating) during the weekday rush to 128.5 seconds per vehicle (an F

'IKEA's is more complicated than the typical study because it's a retail development that has a broad geographical region that it draws from, as opposed to the liquor store on the corner that services the neighborhood.'

Tim Faas  
Canton Municipal Services Director

rating) during the Saturday peak. What it looks like in real life is cars backed up onto exit ramps and stacked up at stop lights. The overall average at the intersection is 60 seconds of delay during the week, and 139.9 seconds of delay on Saturday.

However, road improvements are expected to bring those numbers down to 34.6 seconds and 42.7 seconds respectively (a C and D rating). Improvements include adding through lanes and an exclusive

right turn lane at east and westbound approaches.

"The basic analysis includes information on how the traffic is now and how the new development will impact the existing roadways," said Canton Municipal Services Director Tim Faas. "It looks at whether or not additional signals are required, or more turning lanes, or if the road needs to be widened."

In this case, the answer was affirmative on all three counts, and work has begun — or has been completed — for most of the issues.

"IKEA's is more complicated than the typical study because it's a retail development that has a broad geographical region that it draws from, as opposed to the liquor store on the corner that services the neighborhood," Faas said.

What the study suggested was widening of ramps at Ford and I-275, extra lanes from Ford to the freeway. Also recommended were improvements to the traffic signals. Soon the new signals will be installed, Faas said. They work

on radio frequencies and send information through radio waves from antenna to antenna at each intersection.

"That keeps the lights along the corridor in sync with each other," Faas said.

But for now, the Canton Police is helping change driver behaviors by implementing a traffic safety program, starting this week. Officers will be working in areas of the township where there have been the most traffic crashes. Ford and Haggerty intersection is the Canton Police's first area of focus.

Signs will be posted at the intersection during the enforcement times, advising the motoring public of the activity. While working the intersections, officers will evaluate the traffic signals and signs in the area, notifying Wayne County Road Commission and the Michigan Department of Transportation of any problems or recommended changes.

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## BUSINESSES

FROM PAGE A1

years, her home value dropped.

Just across Lilley Road, Brenda Findsen's store, Rainbows and Dreams, could use more traffic.

"I hope that we do get some of the traffic from IKEA, but I'm not counting on it," she said.

One of two things will happen, she figures — either she'll get a small amount of IKEA

visitors to stop by and the additional traffic out on Ford Road will be great for her gift shop, or Ford Road will be so busy that she actually loses customers who are fed up with the clogged roadway.

"Either way, I have to just wait and see," Findsen said.

Both store owners are hopeful that revisions to Canton's sign ordinance will help. Right now, Rainbows and Dreams has no sign on the post in front of the strip mall where the business is located. Nor does Back Home Bakery, a

business that could use a few more impulse shoppers and foot traffic, said Pawlowski.

The ordinance is being revisited later this year — probably by summer, according to Downtown Development Authority Director Kathleen Salla.

The DDA contracted consultants to make recommendations to the township board regarding the ordinance, which limits the size and number of signs in front of businesses. The firm will also make recommendations for

multi-tenant properties, such as the shopping centers where both Findsen and Pawlowski are located.

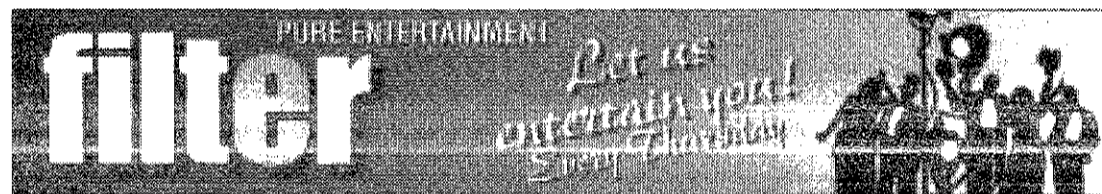
"People feel that the signs are too small, given the speed of the road and the volume of traffic," Salla said.

In the meantime, Findsen tries to stay positive.

"I just hope that the extra traffic helps all the businesses in Canton like people keep saying it will," she said.

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# Week spotlights how to be Money Smart

BY HUGH GALLAGHER  
STAFF WRITER

Glenn Hansen believes that the best customer a financial institution can have is someone who understands what goes on in a financial institution.

Unfortunately, many people are lacking in basic knowledge to make intelligent financial decisions.

"People will sign the first loan agreement they get but will try on 20 pairs of jeans before deciding which pair to buy," said Hansen, senior vice president and branch manager of the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago-Detroit Branch. "They need to have the same approach to buying financial services."

That's why the Federal Reserve began Money Smart Week to provide basic financial information with a special emphasis on youth, the elderly and the unbanked. Money Smart Week, April 22-29, has been given the official support of Gov. Jennifer Granholm, Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano and Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick.

"It started in Chicago about five years ago working with Jump Start Coalition," Hansen said. "We decided to start dealing with grass roots issues and providing free classes. This year we have 33 like-minded institutions participating and 320 seminars being put on."

Programs are being offered in Oakland, Wayne, Lapeer,



Hansen

Macomb, Monroe and Washtenaw counties.

On Saturday, April 22, a Money Smart Week Youth Day program will be held 12:30-5 p.m. at

Marygrove College, 8425 McNichols, Detroit with seminars for parents and youth on credit, spending and saving. Registration is required by calling (313) 927-1230.

On Monday, April 24, a Senior Day will be held 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the St. Patrick Senior Center, 58 Parson, Detroit. The program will cover living wills, Medicaid, long-term care, electronic payments and Medicare changes. For more information, call (248) 538-1800.

Junior Achievement will sponsor JA in a Day 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday, April 25, at Courville Elementary School in Detroit and 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday, April 26, Campbell Elementary School in Detroit.

The University of Michigan-Dearborn will sponsor a Money Smart Day 8 a.m. to 6:15 p.m. Wednesday, April 26. The free programs will cover financial education, tax-smart ways to save and invest, how to land a job, understanding basic investment concepts, getting ready for retirement, personal income taxes and homebuying. For



Money Smart programs are especially intended to help children understand finances. Professionals in banking give programs at Detroit schools.

more information, call Michael Foran, (313) 593-5286, or Victoria Hage, (313) 593-5230.

Marygrove College will host a Money Smart Seniors Day 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Thursday, April 27. The program will include information on electronic payments, estate planning and medicare changes. For information and to register call Martha Soleau at (313) 927-1464.

Shorter programs dealing with everything from teaching children to save to identity theft to basic investing are planned throughout the metro Detroit area. For more information, visit [www.chicagofed.org/moneysmart](http://www.chicagofed.org/moneysmart) or call the Money Smart Hotline at (887)-MNY-SMRT (1-877-669-7678).

"The approach we take is to help people understand the differences between wants and needs and the dangers of long-term debt," Hansen said.

Hansen will join volunteers from 33 institutions to provide 320 seminars.

"For kids we work with Junior Achievement and do a JA for a Day," Hansen said. "A group of volunteers go into the schools and teach the JA curriculum. I will be teaching second grade, when kids are just finding their voices and not full of themselves yet."

Hansen said the program has educated more than 20,000 area residents in the last three years.

## LOCAL MONEY SMART EVENTS

Banking Basics, free and open to the public, 9:30-11 a.m. Wednesday, April 26, 3693 Metro Place, Wayne. Traci Emerson, benefit banking coordinator, discusses financial wellness and managing a bank relationship. Call (248) 603-0408.

Women in Investing. By invitation. 6-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 26, Livonia Civic Library, 32777 Five Mile, Livonia. Jim Craig discusses women learning to be careful, competent investors. For information, call Jennifer Fee (734) 522-3700, Ext. 108.

Yes It Can Happen to Me: Teens and Identity Theft. Free and open to the public. Call to confirm time.

6-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 26, Redford Township District Library, 25320 W. Six Mile, Redford. Credit union professionals, Secret Service representatives and computer experts speak. For information, call Jeremy Cybulski at (877) 243-2528, Ext. 1231, or Kathy Hoen at (877) 243-2528, Ext. 1226.

Money Smart Kids, free and open to the public, 6:30-8 p.m. Thursday, April 27, Community Financial, 500 S. Harvey, Plymouth. Information including a hands-on financial activity station including money identification, savings goals, growing money with Money Tree Seeds. For information, call Beth Troost at (734) 582-8848.

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OUR VIEWS

## 'Pro-business' should not mean 'anti-environment'

During tough economic times, the temptation to "jump-start business" at the expense of the environment becomes even more attractive.

Calls for relaxing pollution controls, opening up environmentally sensitive areas to oil and gas exploration and the like gain momentum among politicians and some residents alike. Such positions are shortsighted at best, and hold dire consequences well beyond our state borders at worst.

As residents of the "Great Lakes State," we are stewards to roughly one-fifth of the world's fresh surface water. We have the right to enjoy — and profit from, in the form of tourism — our proximity to these bodies of water, but we also have the obligation to protect them from pollution and misuse.

Evidence of past sins are easy to spot in the form of mercury-contaminated fish and "no swimming" signs on public beaches, a host of invasive species playing havoc with the fragile Great Lakes ecosystem and repeated efforts to siphon off millions of gallons of lake water to slake the collective thirst of other parts of the country.

But there is hope in the form of a law recently signed by Gov. Jennifer Granholm that bans dumping of contaminated dredge materials in open waters, and two bills making their way through Congress to fund a host of Great Lakes improvement initiatives.

While the state law helps stop the formerly shameful practice of using the Great Lakes as a giant sewer system, it is the federal initiative that could have a real impact for future generations. The spending plan would earmark more than \$20 billion to fix outdated and groundwater contaminating water and sewer systems nationwide, but with an emphasis on the Great Lakes basin, and would earmark an additional \$3 billion plus to fund an assortment of existing and new Great Lakes initiatives.

With the war raging on in Iraq and federal dollars at a premium, it will not be easy to get these bills signed into law, particularly by a president who is widely perceived as "pro-business" even at the expense of the environment. But we should all do our part to drive home the point that while the Great Lakes may be ours to enjoy and protect, we cannot do it alone.

## Tune it off during TV-Turnoff Week

How much time do we Americans spend watching television each day? The answer may surprise you. According to one nonprofit group, the average American spends more than four hours a day in front of a TV. That averages out to about two total months we spend each year staring at the tube when we could be doing something else.

The TV-Turnoff Network (formerly TV-Free America), an organization that encourages people to watch less television, also found that children under the age of 6 are watching about two hours a day and that nearly 100 percent of American households with young children have at least one TV.

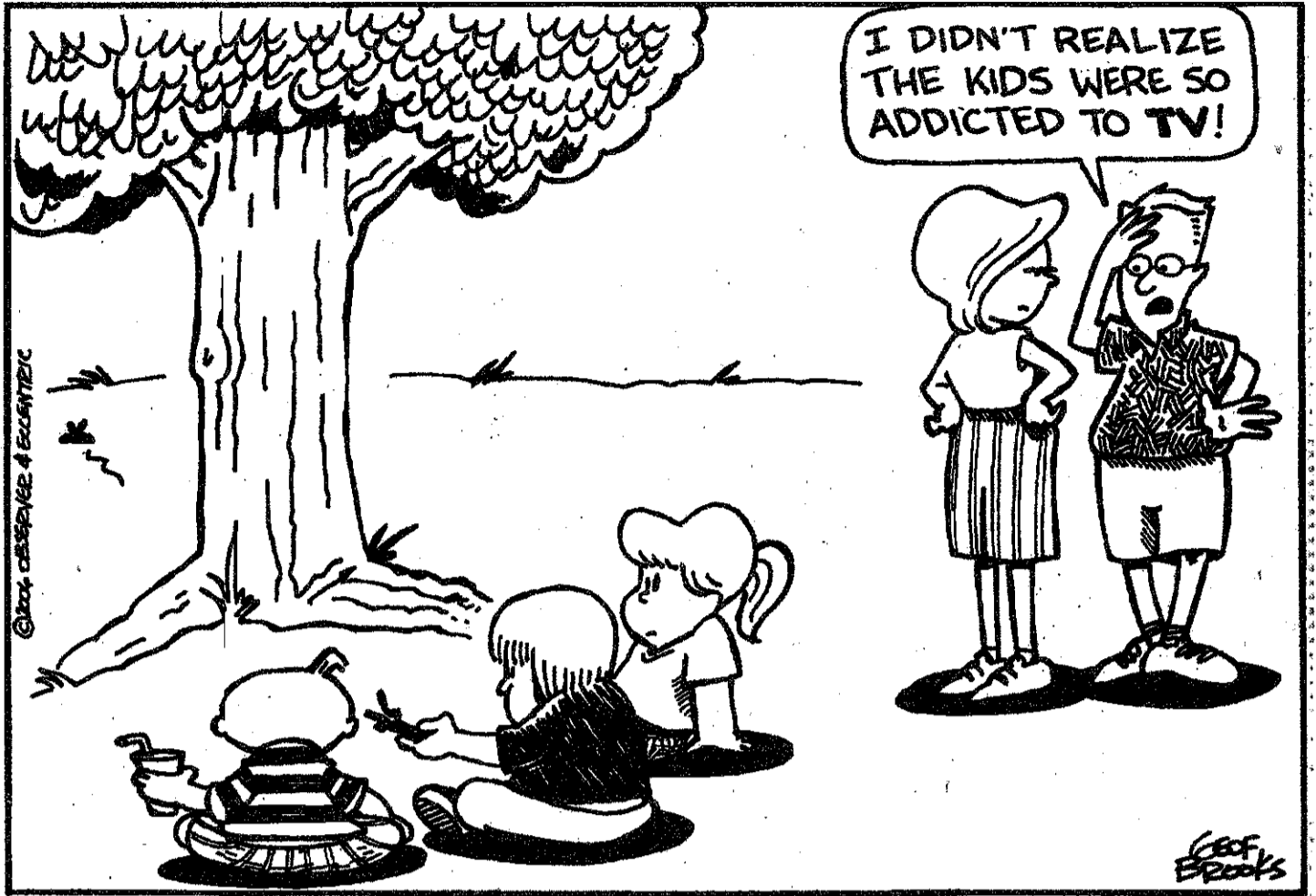
These statistics seem to explain why television has become such a major influence on our society. While there is certainly some quality programming to be found, the television is all too often a vehicle for commercials and inappropriate content, a tool to play violent video games and a baby-sitter.

Many studies suggest this is not a healthy trend, particularly for children, who on average will spend more time in front of a TV than at school this year. Not only is excessive TV viewing linked to childhood obesity and poorer performance in the classroom, it also increases youth violence, according to the U.S. Surgeon General. According to one study, children see an average of 200,000 violent acts on TV by the time they turn 18.

So clearly, there are many reasons to turn off the television. But if you were looking for an excuse, next week, April 24-30, is national TV-Turnoff Week. All over the country, school classrooms and church groups have pledged to go television-free during the week. Our readers are encouraged to do the same.

The fact is most of the time spent watching television is time that could have been better spent doing something else. For parents, it could have been spent having meaningful conversation with their children. It could have been spent volunteering for some civic or nonprofit organization to make the world a better place. It could have been spent enjoying the outdoors or reading a book.

Use next week to liberate yourself from the TV. The world outside of the tube is much more interesting.



TV TURNOFF WEEK IS APRIL 24-30

LETTERS

### Disappointing endorsement

I was very disappointed in the *Observer's* endorsement of Mrs. Dianne Gonzalez for Plymouth Canton School Board.

Mrs. Gonzalez does not deserve the *Observer's* endorsement or to be elected to the school board. She does not possess the one essential qualification needed to be a school board member — the desire and ability to represent the entire school district.

In a recent *Observer* candidate profile, Gonzalez states "... I think (not building) the elementary school is a big mistake. The obvious choice would be (to build at) Miller Woods." In other words, she wants to serve on the school board to ensure that an unjustified elementary school be constructed in her neighborhood (Powell and Ridge). Gonzalez says she is "not sold" on the renovations at many of the crowded elementary schools in the district. Instead, she wants district voters to build her a school.

There is no room on a school board for parochial interests. School board members are to look beyond their own self-interest and toward the greater good.

If Gonzalez had her way, school boundaries from one end of the district to the other would have to be modified to accommodate her goal. Thousands of elementary school children would be forced to change schools to accommodate Gonzalez's personal agenda.

Gonzalez, as a residential Realtor, should have done her due diligence before purchasing her home. If she had, she would have discovered that there are too few elementary students to justify construction of an elementary school in the northwest portion of the school district. In fact, the reality is, when you elect to purchase a home near the edge of the district, you sign up for busing to available space.

The school board should move swiftly to sell its parcel at Powell and Ridge. The sale would be consistent with its past practice of selling excess parcels. It recently sold two unneeded parcels in Canton. The school board has a fiduciary responsibility to the residents of the district to sell excess parcels and to use the proceeds to construct or expand needed facilities.

We cannot afford to have school board members who would place their personal interests above those of the entire Plymouth-Canton School District. A vote for Dianne Gonzalez is a vote for self-interest.

Tom Yack  
Canton supervisor

### Reasons for 'no' vote

I have made the personal decision to vote "no" on the bond due to valid concerns that I have. Your readers have asked for an explanation of my concerns. I have many. In the past, I have always blindly voted "yes" for any additional funding for schools. As a candidate, I felt it was my duty to study and understand the bond so that I could speak thoughtfully about it.

One of the concerns I have is in 2003, Jim Ryan proposed moving to a 750-population model elementary school. We now call that model Workman Elementary School. It is slated to open in

the fall. According to the 2003 Bond Steering Committee Report, "The administration felt that it needed the opportunity to identify, through experience, the benefits and challenges of this size elementary school, before implementing it at multiple sites."

Yet without having had the experience at this time, if the bond passes, we will add 28 classrooms to six elementary schools (Isbister, Smith, Tonda, Allen, Bentley and Field) to render them capable of handling much larger populations. I attended a bond pitch meeting and asked some tough questions that still have not been answered. I attended a school board meeting last week and voiced additional concerns; they have not been addressed.

There are some items on the bond that are very important. The new Tech Center, the new middle school and the additions to the current middle schools are all great ideas. Dr. Ryan has at least 20 more pitch meetings scheduled over the next couple of weeks. I encourage the community to take the time to attend a meeting and make decisions for themselves. Of course, I am a proponent of additional funding for our children, just not the way it is outlined in the current bond proposal.

As far as the bond is concerned, I am only one vote of thousands. However, as a candidate, if I am elected, I will scrutinize each issue and weigh credible information with regard to the benefit/detriment of each child in our district. It is the responsibility of the school board to watch the administration's actions and make sure they are visionary, and aligned with the public needs.

On May 3, the bond issue will be over. The school board in place will be faced with making huge budget cuts while maintaining high academic standards in a time of declining funding and dealing with aging facilities and a growing population. I hope your readers will be able to separate my qualifications as a school board member from my vote against the bond proposal as your newspaper has.

Dianne Gonzalez  
school board candidate

### Stop blaming others

I laughed out loud after reading Kathy Booher's recent letter to the editor, "Financial crisis coming to a district near you."

In her note, she warns of the imminent collapse of suburban school districts caused by the lack of proper funding by the state of Michigan. It's a perfect example of someone who helps to create a crisis and then subsequently blames others for not solving it.

Plymouth and Canton residents may remember Booher as the PCCS superintendent who resigned after nearly 18 months of claims that the PCCS budget was "being handled." As it turned out, nothing was further from the truth. Late in Booher's administration, it was learned through FOIA requests that during 18 months of weekly staff meetings, she never once placed the subject of budgets or district finance on her staff meeting agenda. With leadership like that, is there any wonder why we have a deficit?

In actuality, the current budget crisis began to really get out of hand on

Booher's watch. As a person who has attended board meetings regularly since 1995, I think Booher probably has more to do with our district's deficit than any single person.

She revised board meeting agendas to be little more than rewards and recognition ceremonies, while leaving the difficult business of balancing the budget "to administration professionals," as Booher used to say. Once Booher came on the scene, the average time spent at board meetings declined from roughly 15 hours per month to little more than three hours per month.

Is it any wonder that budgets are out of control? Kathy Booher must be in perfect agreement with current board President Mark Slavens (who incidentally called Booher "a rose among thorns"), as neither ever met a deficit that a huge tax increase couldn't fix.

Thankfully, Booher is gone. Now, our community (particularly the PCCS board) should ignore her. The board must start TODAY with the time-consuming, politically difficult work of cutting waste and setting financial priorities for the district. This ought to be done BEFORE the May 2 bond vote, and not after.

Board President Slavens and the rest of the PCCS Board of Education need to start leading on the finance issue, and quit blaming others for the mess that they themselves have helped create.

Michael J. Maloney  
former Plymouth-Canton school board president

### Irresponsible proposal

Todd Caccamo's proposal to block all future development at Fellows Creek Golf Course is not only ill-advised, it is down right irresponsible.

The Canton Township Board of Trustees is entrusted with the welfare of the entire township and its decisions have to be made with that in mind. Restricting their decision-making power restricts us all. Caccamo's proposal smacks of thoughtless populist antics that some politicians use in an effort to get noticed.

Janusz M. Szyszko  
Canton

### 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.

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### QUOTABLE

"We are not in a fiscal crisis. If we don't act now, we will create a crisis."

— Canton Finance Director Tony Minghine, on a recent proposal to cut 11.5 positions from the township's workforce because of a huge drop in building permits this year

CANTON  
**Observer**

PUBLISHED THURSDAY AND SUNDAY

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

## 'No' vote would actually be a vote in support of our children

Some of you may be aware that the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools are going to be asking taxpayers for money to build more school facilities. This will be part of the May 2 election and will ask voters to approve two separate proposals for a total of more than \$120 million.

I am a former school board president who led the board during the bond election that built Plymouth High School and Dodson Elementary School and made numerous district improvements. I was also the chairman of the Citizens' Election Committee that led a community effort in a bond election that produced a nearly 70-percent "yes" vote for the construction of



Mark Horvath

Discovery Middle School. These bond issues had one thing in common. They delivered both classroom space and a sound financial plan to make sure the school district could afford to put teachers in these new classrooms. I only tell you about my past, so those of you who don't know me won't think I am crazy when you read the next thing I am asking you to do, FOR OUR KIDS.

I am asking each of you to think of our children and VOTE NO on the May 2 bond issues. That's right ... vote no FOR OUR KIDS. Sounds pretty strange, doesn't it? Normally we try to lump the "vote no" folks into either the anti-tax or anti-public school categories. In this case, the only vote that will truly support our children is a NO VOTE. To support this seemingly strange position, please allow me to take a few minutes to point out some facts.

FACT: The PCCS Board of Education is currently operating our school district in a deficit spending mode. This simply means they are spending more money than they take in and are planning to do so, according to their own financial "plan," for the foreseeable future until our money runs out.

Passing the bond will increase the amount of money the school district must spend on things like utilities and maintaining the buildings and classrooms. This will leave less money for teachers to actually teach our children.

RESULT: Passing either or both of these bond proposals will result in fewer teachers, higher class sizes and less money spent on our kids. Please VOTE NO FOR OUR KIDS.

FACT: Our school district receives operating money based on the number of pupils enrolled in our schools. More kids equals more money. It doesn't matter if these kids are Plymouth or Canton residents. Under

current state law, the school board can open up our school district to students from Van Buren, Belleville, Wayne, Westland or elsewhere. The board could choose to do this at any time to bring in more money to cover the operating deficit that the school board has created in our district.

RESULT: By passing the bond proposals, the school board can use your tax dollars to create extra space to bring in kids from other school districts to cover the deficits that they have created by poor financial planning. Your local tax dollars could be building school facilities for families who don't even live in our school district and won't be paying taxes for these bonds.

When this happens, all of the services and staff that are currently dedicated to the students of our community will be shared between our students and out-of-district students who will be using the facilities that will be paid for with your tax dollars.

Facilities like the proposed Career and Technical Education Center are key to attracting students from other districts. Once again, passing these bond issues means less money and resources being used to teach your kids. Please VOTE NO FOR OUR KIDS.

FACT: The treasurer of the PCCS Board of Education has said that he does not believe this is the right economic climate for a bond issue and voted against the bond proposals during school board deliberations (as reported by the Observer March 19). He has also said that he now publicly supports these bond proposals.

RESULT: Even the highest-elected financial leader in our school district seems confused over the idea of these bond proposals. This does not provide a very clear or confident picture of our schools' financial future. If the treasurer of our school board cannot even determine if this is a good idea or not, how can this school board possibly develop a financial plan that will properly allocate resources to maximize teachers in the classroom instead of asking us to build new classrooms with no money left to hire teachers? Please VOTE NO FOR OUR KIDS.

The facts seem clear, but the conclusion might be confusing. This is one of those strange elections where a NO VOTE for these bond proposals is actually a VOTE FOR OUR KIDS. Voting NO means lower class sizes, more teachers and more resources FOR OUR KIDS. On May 2, please join me in VOTING NO FOR OUR KIDS.

Mark Horvath is a former president of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Board of Education. He resides in Canton.

## LETTERS

### Update Fellows Creek

Reading the letters from Phyllis Counts ("Decision benefited minority") and Anthony Cauchi ("Who pays?") in the April 6 Observer and the Ann Conklin piece in the April 13 Observer caused me to write and share my thoughts about Fellows Creek Golf Course. Do the letter writers know the township has taken \$2.25 million in profit out of Fellows Creek in the last 10 years, including \$338,000 last year alone, while letting the condition of the course run down? The only spending by the township in the last five years at Fellows Creek was for a roof on the clubhouse. The money was spent elsewhere instead of reinvesting it at Fellows Creek. If all that money stayed at Fellows Creek, it would be in great shape.

Phyllis also talks about driving by Fellows Creek and seeing the expensive condos near the course. She should take a drive around Pheasant Run to look at the homes there to compare. Check out the three new bathrooms the township installed on the course, too. Fellows Creek only has outhouses.

Also why is Fellows Creek managed by a private contractor, while the township manages Pheasant Run? Wouldn't it be beneficial and cost-effective for the township to manage both golf courses? They could share equipment, supplies, labor and management.

Fellows Creek is a very inclusive golf course — low price to play, you can walk the course, it is used by high school golf teams, as well as residents and non-residents. Fellows Creek is the type of golf course the township should own. Not all the residents can afford to play at Pheasant Run.

Do the letter writers know that more than \$500,000 of their tax dollars are spent for Pheasant Run every year? And I think the Village Theater and the Summit run at a deficit as well. Maybe they could write a letter to complain about that, too. Fellows Creek is the only Leisure Services operation that pays its own way, and helps pay for some of the deficit from Pheasant Run as well.

I don't expect the Leisure Services to be run for profit. The township has these services to enhance the lives of the residents of the township, to make it a better place to live. I do hope the township is committed to investing in Fellows Creek Golf Course for the future. It needs to be updated and maintained to get more play in the years to come. That would be a benefit to all the residents of Canton Township and non-residents that play the course, not just the people that live near the course.

Jim Aaron  
Canton

### Layoffs are wrong

Last week I went to a public meeting. It concerned choices to be made by the Charter Township of Canton Board of Trustees. There were a lot of people there. Many citizens came because the heart of the discussion was whether or not to lay off some township employees and force or convince some others to retire.

I am proud of my neighbors and especially employees from the township who came to the meeting and spoke out. They spoke out to pre-

serve the jobs of their fellow employees. I was witness to several American heroes voicing their concerns. Not only did they stand up for their fellow employees — they also had creative and sensible ideas to not only forestall this drastic action, but to continue to improve services to the citizens of Canton. My heart is filled with admiration.

I do not feel that it would be in the best interests of the charter township to let any of them go at the present time. The trustees really made the grade as well. Todd LaJoy applied a sensible and business-like approach to his inquiries. Mr. Zarbo demanded, "I want a true cost accounting." Mr. Caccamo assisted a citizen with completing a Freedom of Information Act request. Ms. Kirchgatter, Ms. Bennett, Ms. McLaughlin and Mr. Yack were clearly involved.

Considering the brave township employees as public servants and citizens and the professionalism of the trustees against this radical idea, I feel that the wrong jobs are on the chopping block.

Alfred Brock  
Canton

### Supports bond

I attended the PCCS Board of Education meeting Tuesday, April 11, and was very disturbed by a comment from Dianne Gonzalez during the citizen comment period.

She stated she did not understand the numbers that the Board of Education used during the bond preparations last fall and kept referring to data in the original Bond Steering Committee report of November 2003. She stated that either the numbers had changed or there was a "conspiracy."

I attended many of the Bond Workshops last fall and was impressed with the thorough evaluation process that was used. It appeared the Board of Education asked for updated data for both capital and operating costs as well as student projections. If I remember correctly, they actually used two different firms for these projections.

They used updated data that was available to the public at each meeting. At every one of these workshops, there was a period for citizen comments. This process took over five months and I am pleased with their decision to remodel and add to existing buildings instead of building a new elementary school.

The rooms will be located throughout the district where the students are. It also has a lower operating cost than a new building. At the same time, Livonia was faced with closing schools and the Board of Education took that into account, too.

I am disappointed to hear there are people in the community telling voters to vote no on this bond thinking that the Board of Education will have to come back with a proposal with a new elementary school. I have spoken with many of the board members and they are not in favor of that.

I am in favor of this bond because it has many benefits for all of the students in the district, elementary, middle and high school, and it would be a real disappointment if it's defeated for a few people's selfish reasons.

Del Templeton  
Plymouth



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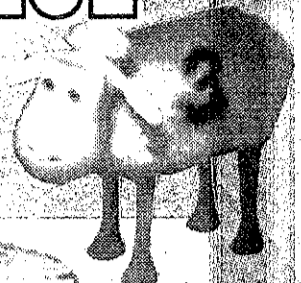


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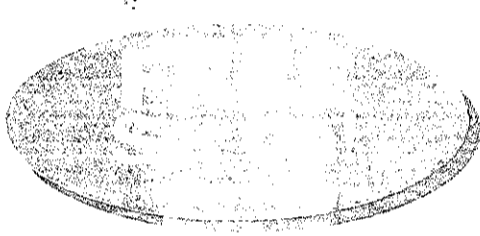
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# Ear to ear

## Operation Smile honors local news anchor Monica Gayle

BY NICOLE STAFFORD  
STAFF WRITER

Monica Gayle, WJBK-TV (Channel 2) news anchor, always has a sincerity about her when she's delivering the stories of the day, good and bad.

So it's not surprising the West Bloomfield resident is receiving honors for her volunteer efforts to help children across the globe.

Gayle is slated to receive the Metro Detroit Humanitarian Award at the second annual Journey of Smiles event, Saturday, April 29, at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel in Dearborn. The black-tie benefit raises funds for Operation Smile, a national organization that sends medical teams to foreign countries to perform surgeries on children with facial deformities.

Former Detroit Pistons player and coach Ray Scott will be honored as well. Also appearing are former NBA player John Salley and celebrity hair stylist Ken Paves.

Gayle became involved in the organization during the establishment of a local chapter, the Michigan Friends of Operation Smile.

"And she has been wonderfully dedicated and involved

since," said Terri Klimek, southeast Michigan liaison and medical volunteer for Operation Smile and Journey of Smiles event chair.

In addition to serving as a working committee member and hosting organization events as a local celebrity, Gayle traveled to Honduras on an Operation Smile mission just over a year ago.

"She worked side-by-side with us," said Klimek, a nurse anesthetist at the University of Michigan Medical Center who, along with her husband, a physician, donates her expertise overseas for Operation Smile.

A typical mission involves travel by 40 medical professionals equipped with all necessary medical supplies and, ultimately, the surgical treatment of about 150 children with cleft palates and other facial deformities. The teams also train local medical personnel in current treatment standards and techniques.

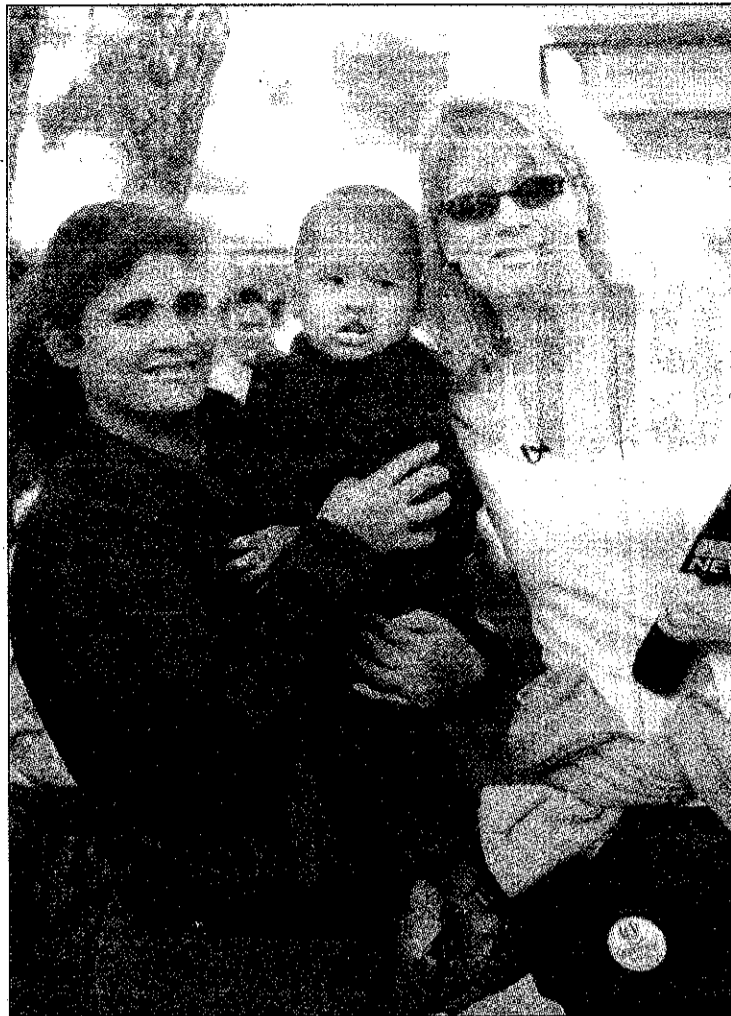
Children are born with cleft palates at higher rates outside the United States. More importantly, many nations lack the resources to provide corrective surgery. The deformity is caused by a combination of genetics and poor prenatal care.

Operation Smile also sponsors surgical trips to the U.S.

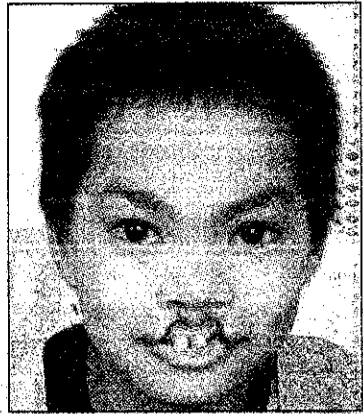
for children whose needs require surgery here. In the U.S., it operates a referral program through which American families can locate financial assistance for the corrective surgery.

Gayle's involvement with the Michigan Friends of Operation Smile exceeds ordinary volunteerism, Klimek said. Her trip to Honduras inspired two WJBK-TV specials about the organization and children who have been helped. "And she continues to be a dedicated working member of our committee," Klimek said.

But perhaps Gayle's greatest contribution is her ability to convey Operation Smile's important message, Klimek said, adding "What is wonderful about Monica when she speaks as a non-medical person is that she speaks directly from the heart."

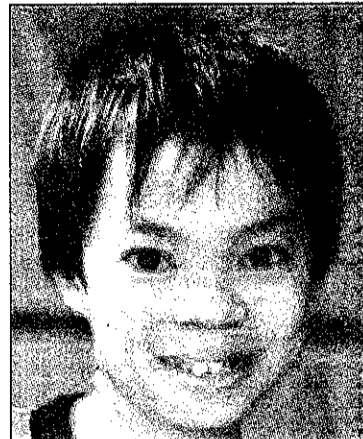


Monica Gayle joined Operation Smile medical volunteers on a recent mission in Honduras.



OPERATION SMILE

Operation Smile missions bring much-needed surgery to children who are born with facial deformities in countries where the treatment is unavailable or too costly. These are before and after photos.



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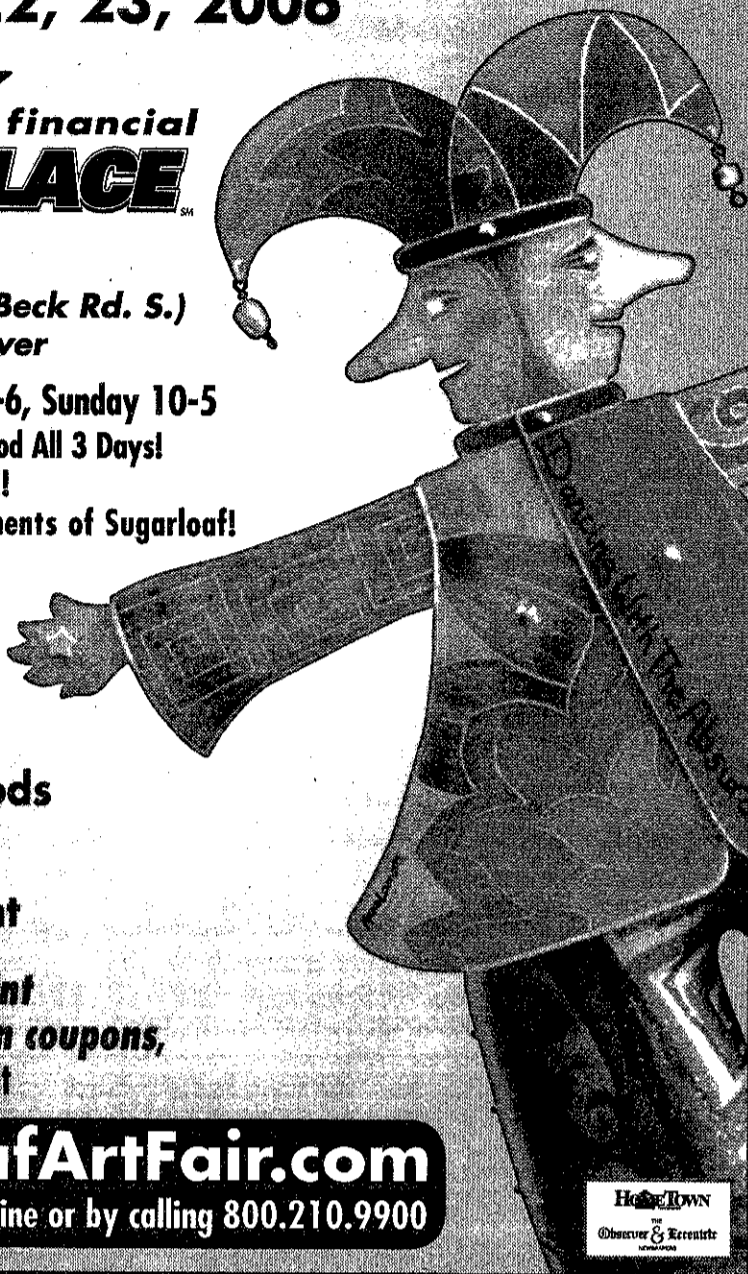
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## State's GOP chair senses change

BY STACY JENKINS  
STAFF WRITER

Saul Anuzis can feel something in the air. It's the winds of change as he delves head-first into the 2006 political season as chairman of the Michigan Republican State Committee.

"The economic environment, the mood of the people in Michigan, is very negative," said Anuzis. "People are looking for change; they're looking for leadership."

Anuzis, 47, is setting the stage and gearing minds to the state's single largest issue.

"Jobs, jobs, jobs; it's that simple," said Anuzis. "The last three polls showed over 70 percent of the people in Michigan's No. 1 concern is jobs and the economy."

The Detroit native notes Michigan's unemployment rate, which teeters between 6.6 and 7.1 percent - one of the highest in the country for a state unaffected by the hurricanes last year.

"We were the only state in the country that lost jobs last year," said Anuzis. "And, the only state to lose jobs three years in a row. Michigan continues to be on the losing track."

Anuzis argues that the leadership is lacking in Lansing and the state is prohibitive for businesses in terms of regulatory issues, permits and taxes.

Yet, the Michigan Economic Development Corporation, a partnership between the state and local communities, reported this week a plan is in place to create and/or retain 14,297 jobs statewide through MEDC incentives.

The report states more than \$516 million has been secured in private investment in the five listed projects: Alma Iron & Metal in Alma; General Motors in Ypsilanti and Warren; Hess Industries Inc. in Milton Township; Otsego Paper Inc. acquisition of the former Menasha Paper facility in Otsego; and Second Chance Armor in Central Lake Township.

"The state continues to attract investment from global companies and local developers that create jobs and good places to live and work for our citizens," said Gov. Jennifer Granholm in the MEDC news release. "The fact that these companies are choosing Michigan over competing



Anuzis

sites in other states proves that they value our highly-skilled workforce and competitive business climate."

Anuzis said Dick DeVos is the person who can lead Michigan in the right direction, economically. DeVos, a Grand Rapids businessman who is credited for rebuilding Grand Rapids, has started his gubernatorial campaign.

Anuzis said DeVos' campaign ads are simply to gain name recognition in the Detroit area, where many are not yet familiar with him.

Anuzis said the state's Republicans are confident they will keep the majority of seats in the state House and Senate and are also hopeful a Republican governor will be elected in November.

Anuzis, whose parents immigrated to America from Lithuania after World War II, has been a political guru since attending college at the University of Michigan-Dearborn. In 1980, he was elected as the youngest delegate to the Republican National Convention, held in Detroit that year. Attending President Ronald Reagan's first inaugural speech was one of the highlights of his life.

Anuzis was elected third vice chair of the Michigan Republic State Committee and served six years as a MRSC member and two terms as a congressional district chairman. He managed Dick Posthumus' state Senate campaign in 1982 and worked for the House Republican Campaign Committee, the Senate Republican Campaign Committee, and finally as chief of staff to then Majority Leader Posthumus.

Anuzis became involved in the telecommunications business and focused on his family - wife Lina and four sons. Now, he's back on Michigan's political scene and moving full speed ahead on the notion that change is in the air.

"People continue to be more and more dissatisfied and upset about the lay of the land," he said. "They're looking for change; they're looking for an alternative."

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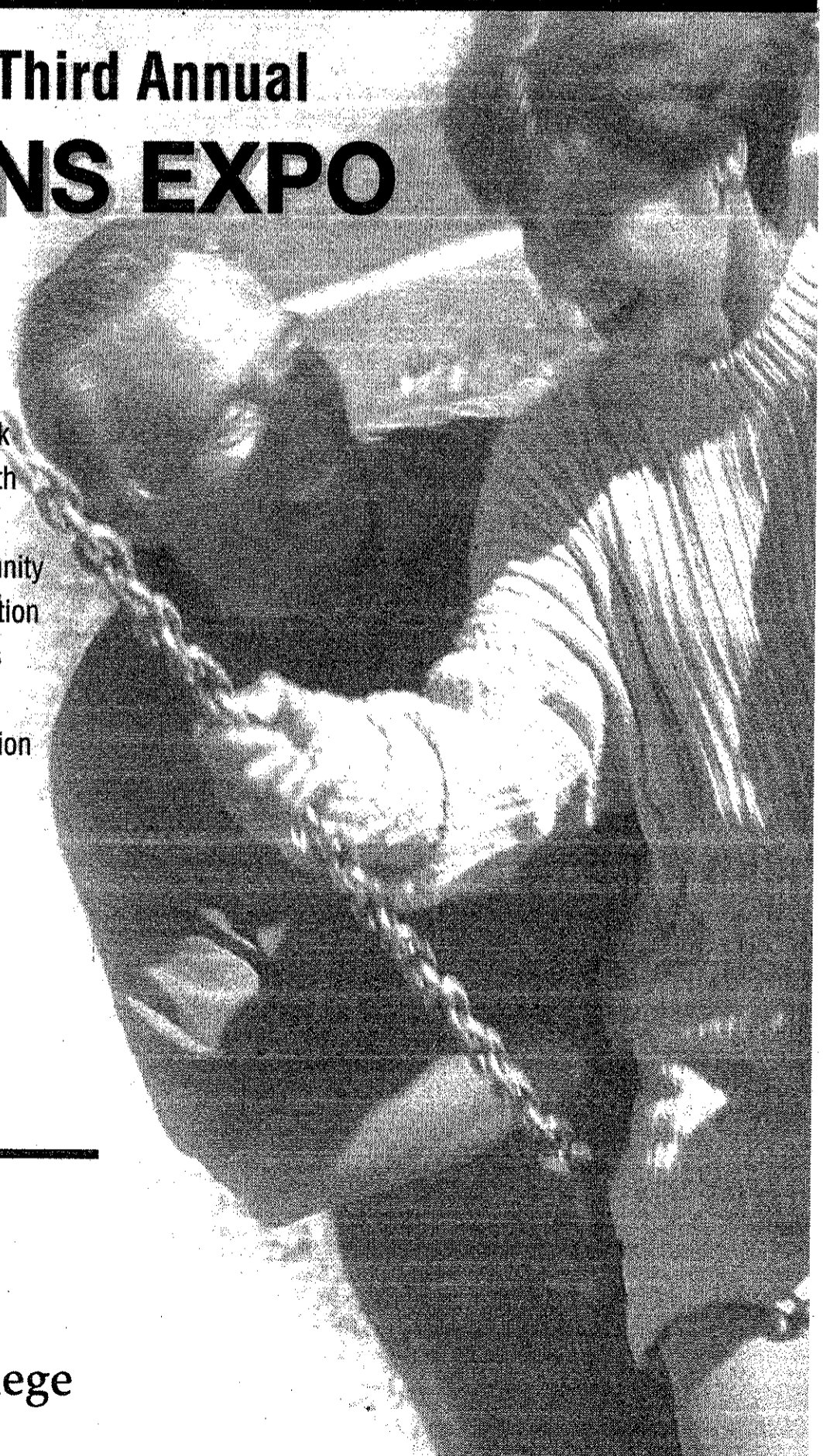
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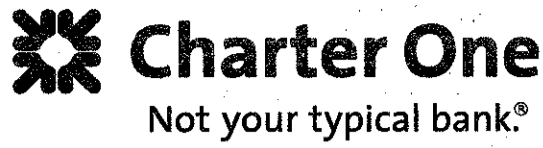


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Cell phone choices, self-defense on the rise in Wayne County

TALK THE TALK

This week Livonia welcomed a new no-contract cell phone service provider to its business community. MetroPCS hosted a grand opening Wednesday at its new location at 28505 Schoolcraft, Building 6, near Burton Manor.

The Dallas-based company has become the first cellular company in Michigan to offer a no contract, no credit check, month-to-month flat rate service. The Livonia office will employ 200 people by the end of 2006, officials said.

And that's only the beginning. MetroPCS plans to open eight stores in Michigan. The wireless provider aims to let you "talk all you want, anytime you want, with no strings attached"

The flat rate service includes unlimited local and domestic long distance calls anytime, without a contract. The company hopes to make counting minutes obsolete.

Basic plans cost \$30, \$35, \$40 and \$45. Options include TextTalk, which allows an unlimited number of text messages for \$3 per month; Metro411, a directory assistance service for \$2 per month; and PictureTalk to send and receive digital photos for \$5 per month.

"MetroPCS offers Detroit an affordable alternative to expensive, frustrating wireless plans," said Pat Markey, general manager of MetroPCS Detroit. "By allowing customers to pay by the month, not by the minute, we are giving residents of Detroit and

WHAT'S IN STORE

surrounding communities another option for their wireless service.

"And, we believe we will be the natural choice of wireless service for those who live, work and play in the Detroit area"

MetroPCS Communications currently has 2 million subscribers. For more information, visit the Web site at [www.metropcs.com](http://www.metropcs.com).

WALK THE WALK

After taking up self-defense on her own Katie A. Ling now teaches it. She has developed The Protection Connection, an organization meant to improve the health, safety and overall well-being of teens, students and women everywhere. Her Canton-based company private group seminars for student groups and sororities around Michigan.

The Protection Connection also provides Moving Body Meditation and Proactive Self-Defense classes on a weekly basis at Deborah Chase School of Dance, located at 29820 Joy Road in Livonia.

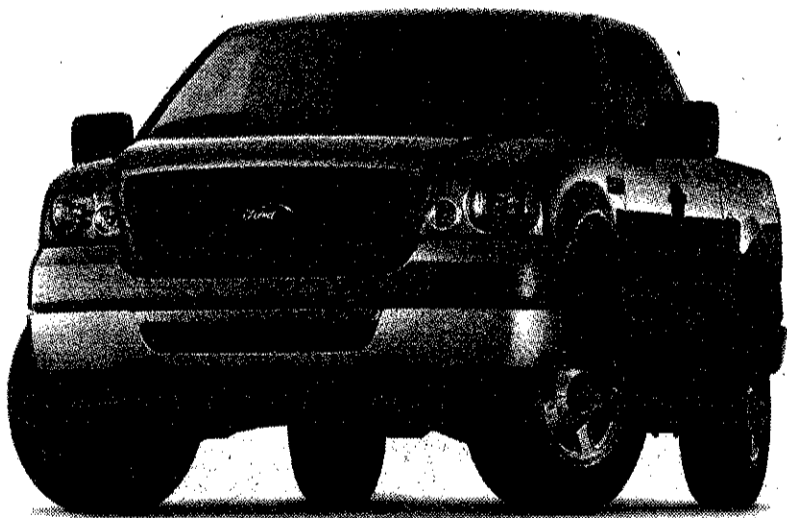
For more information, visit [www.ProtectionConnection.biz](http://www.ProtectionConnection.biz). To register for programs, call (734) 649-8478 or send e-mail to [katie@protectionconnection.biz](mailto:katie@protectionconnection.biz).

Stephanie Angelyn Casola writes about new and changing businesses. E-mail tips on your new, favorite Wayne County shop to [scasola@hometownlife.com](mailto:scasola@hometownlife.com) or call (734) 953-2054.

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# Forum attempts to address water department concerns

BY HUGH GALLAGHER  
STAFF WRITER

Last month, Gov. Jennifer Granholm vetoed a bill to create a regional advisory board to oversee the Detroit Water and Sewer Department for the second time in three years.

Both bills were introduced by state Sen. Laura Toy, R-Livonia, who has complained about the rates charged to suburban customers and about management of water department contracts.

On Thursday, April 27, DWSD and the Southeast Michigan Conference of Governments will hold a daylong forum on issues related to operations of the water and sewer department. More than 600 people have been invited to attend, including suburban officials, state legislators, state administrators and county officials from Genesee, Oakland, Macomb and Wayne counties. Seating is limited to 150.

The 2006 Regional Forum: Partnering for the Future runs from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Ford Conference and Event Center on Village Road in Dearborn.

"I think the driving factor is we've been trying to talk about the successes of working with our suburban customers and that just hasn't caught attention from a lot of people," said George Ellenwood, public affairs manager of DWSD. "We've heard from suburban customers, why aren't you talking about the partnership, why aren't you talking about groups that are generating new model contracts for water and wastewater contracts. The answer is we've talked about them, but they haven't been sexy."

The conference will begin with a welcome from Victor Mercado, director of DWSD, and Paul Iant, executive director of SEMCOG. The keynote address will be delivered by U.S. District Judge John Feikens, who since 1977 has been responsible for oversight of water quality and pollution problems and



Mercado

Feikens

created the Southeast Michigan Consortium for Water Quality.

Jo Anna Trierweiler of Project Innovations, the program facilitator, said that the DWSD has done "an amazing job" of reaching out to its water and wastewater customers (the communities to which it sells water and sewer services).

"They come together and talk about hard issues," she said. "They see that as a place where they can come together and place issues on the table and have mutual respect. Even in their own communities, that information doesn't make its way into the speech patterns of their elected officials."

The forum will include several suburban participants, including Sherri Gee of the Oakland County Drain Commissioner's office and Tim Faas from Canton.

Forum topics include regional security, efficiency and interoperability and regional collaboration.

"We'll have members of the Water Consortium of Southeast Michigan who'll give a report on what has been accomplished in the consortium," Ellenwood said. "One project they've been working on is understanding how water and sewer rates help finance water and sewer systems."

Organizers hope that the morning informational sessions will lead to interactive afternoon sessions where participants will share ideas on how to move forward.

"Our goal is to bring outside information into the room so that people could hear what other leaders or experts are thinking about or talking about so that the afternoon sessions will have interactivity," Trierweiler

said.

The discussion of regional collaboration will include participants who operate regional water systems under different models than Detroit's system, which is owned and operated by the city of Detroit and sold to local communities with an advisory board appointed by the mayor of Detroit.

"So frequently, these other models come up and people don't have enough information," Trierweiler said.

"People sometimes push back and say why are you bringing them in. Well, it is the elephant, so let's bring them in and talk about it."

The luncheon speaker will be Jack Hoffbuhr of the American Water Works Association, who will bring a national perspective to water and sewer problems.

The security session will discuss very aspects of water safety.

"That question frequently comes up. Is there a risk that someone could put something microscopic in the water upstream and kill us all?" Trierweiler said. "The answer is no, but there are risks, health risks that people need to be aware of."

Ellenwood said Detroit has been a leader in protecting the water system and provided the model for Sandia National Laboratory's water security program used nationally.

Ellenwood and Trierweiler said the forum is trying to bridge a gap between political leaders and people working in the field.

"One challenge we've encountered in customer outreach is that it's very difficult to have operational and political people together, not because they don't interact well, but they have very different needs in terms of information," Ellenwood said.

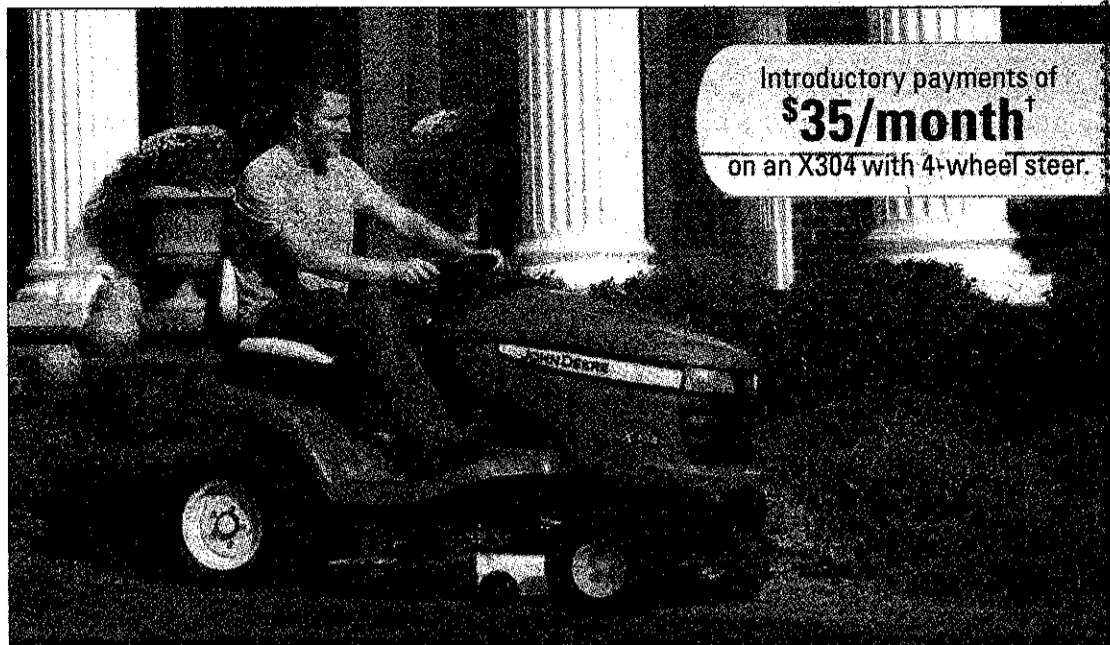
Trierweiler said Toy's office will have a representative at the sessions. Toy will not be able to attend because the Legislature will be in session.

# Prosecutor's office upgrades Web site

The Wayne County Prosecutor's Office has upgraded its online service. The Web site, www.waynecounty.com/prosecutor, contains information on the functions of our prosecutor's office. Information covers vic-

tim's rights information and information to help navigate the court system. There are downloadable copies of helpful handbooks and many pages contain links to other valuable resources. A weekly case update of high

profile cases can be accessed by going onto the Web site and finding Units on the menu bar, then click on Units. The case updates are found on the Communications page of the Web site.



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# If you've got junk, they'll haul it away

BY HUGH GALLAGHER  
STAFF WRITER

Got junk?

Brian and Jill Vanderziel of Canton had a half a garage full Friday — old carpet, plaster-board, wires, fencing, cardboard boxes and a toilet. They called 1-800-GOT-JUNK.

Brothers Tom and George Todoroff and George's wife Susan are betting that a lot of other people have junk they want or need to unload. In November they purchased a franchise of 1-800-GOT-JUNK that puts a new spin on the fabled junkman.

The Todoroffs' franchise covers southern Oakland County and western Wayne County with an office in Farmington Hills.

"Our thought was that we could do better with the franchise and the man was ready to sell," said George Todoroff. "This showed so much potential with an aging population and cities cutting back on services. The time was right."

Todoroff had been operating a low-voltage electronics firm in Dearborn, but with the declining economy, he saw a brighter future in other people's junk.

"Basically we've taken a junk removal service and taken it to professional level," said Susan Todoroff. "We have clean shiny trucks, uniformed drivers. We provide same-day service. We're always on time and we give upfront rates. We don't start removing until the customer has a price."

Brian and Jill Vanderziel and their baby daughter, Hailey, now 9 months old, moved into their home in December. It had been a foreclosure and needed work.

"We did some remodeling to the house, updates, some construction, we tore up carpeting," Brian said. "We were looking at getting a dumpster because regular trash wouldn't take it. But the price of the dumpster and having them remove it was about the same. And we don't have to do the labor and we won't have the dumpster sitting there for a couple days."

When potential customers dial 1-800-GOT-JUNK, they're actually connecting to the franchiser's Vancouver call center. The information is then relayed by computer to the Farmington Hills office, where four trucks are ready to pick up that same day.

"We actually go in the house," Susan said. "We'll go into a basement or attic. We clear the junk, we clean up and leave space looking better than it was. Then we determine where it will go, so that if we can donate or recycle anything we look to do that first. Then to a landfill."

On Friday, co-owner George Todoroff was joined by driver Matt Remy of Canton.

On the theory that one man's



Homeowners Brian (holding daughter Hailey) and Jill Vanderziel started remodeling their home even before they moved in last year. They had half of a two-car garage full of debris from the project.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

George Todoroff and Matt Remy load the truck with debris.

junk is another man's treasure, employees are given the option of keeping anything that they want.

"Everything in our office from the desks, the file cabinets, the couch, the table is reclaimed from someone's home or business," Susan said.

Remy said the construction materials at the Vanderziel house weren't a typical run. He said he's gone to several houses where they were throwing out old furniture in good condition to make way for new.

"A lot of times it's nice, because we get to donate to charities like St. Vincent de Paul," he said.

Customers have disposed of rare record collections, old

turntables, heavy pianos and refrigerators and even a motorized wheelchair.

"You see some pretty strange things, from the horror stories of houses where there is only a path from the front door to each room and you can't deviate off the path," George said. "We've done commercial removals where I didn't know why they were getting rid of the things."

Business has been picking up and the Todoroffs are looking to increase their current six person staff.

"Spring motivates people, but we do it year round," George said. "You don't have to

think spring to do that."

On Friday Remy said the job would take less than a half hour and Jill Vanderziel would have use of her garage again.

"We're really fast," he said. "We make it quick and painless for the customer."

The company has a couple restrictions. Two people have to be able to life the item with a utility cart. The company won't handle certain hazardous waste, including paint and flammable materials.

Rates range from \$98 to \$498 based on volume. A full truck carries 15 cubic yards for \$498.

## Brunch brings together heroes

Don't miss your chance to join the Michigan Humane Society as it honors local two-legged and four-legged heroes at the 17th annual Bow Wow Champagne Brunch 11:30 a.m. Sunday, April 23, at the Ritz-Carlton, 300 Town Center Drive, Dearborn. Tickets are available for the event which will spotlight stories of heroism, including accounts of those who helped rescue animals affected by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

The brunch begins with a

silent auction reception followed by a gourmet brunch and live auction. Highlights include a meet and greet with championship golfer Tiger Woods and a ride-along with the cruelty investigators.

Tickets to the Bow Wow Champagne Brunch begin at \$200. To reserve your tickets, call (866) MHUMANE (648-6263), Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., or buy tickets online at [www.michigan-humane.org](http://www.michigan-humane.org).

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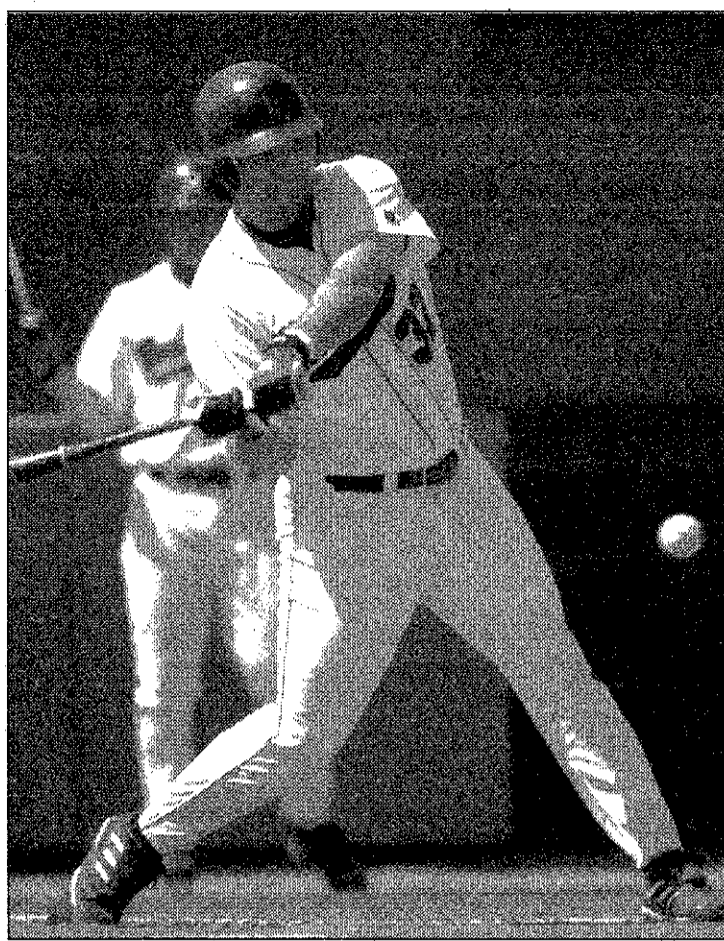
## McCotter schedules teleconference

U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter, R-Livonia, is inviting constituents of the 11th Congressional District to take part in a live teleconference Town Hall 7-8 p.m. Monday, April 24.

The Town Hall, which will also be Web cast live (audio only) on the Internet, will cover several topics, including port/border security, immigration and the economy. Participants can register online by clicking on the registration page at [www.mccotter.house.gov](http://www.mccotter.house.gov) or by phone at (734) 632-0314. Participants can also submit a question for the congressman during phone registration or by email at [thaddeus.mccotter@mail.house.gov](mailto:thaddeus.mccotter@mail.house.gov). Questions not answered during the Town Hall will be answered by mail. The deadline for registration is 5 p.m. Friday, April 21.

Webcast system requirements: Internet Explorer version 5 or later, Windows Media Player 8 or greater, and an Internet connection of 28.8 Kbps or greater (dial up speed), plus speakers or soundcard with built-in speaker.





TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Madonna University designated hitter Dave Herrick takes a rip at a pitch during the first game of a Tuesday doubleheader with Bethel, Ind.

**BASEBALL**

FROM PAGE B1

On a sharp single up the middle by Luttman, which brought in both VanAllen and Ramsey. Bethel (23-15) finally scored in the sixth with the help of a two-out error. "We take a shot at bunting for the base hit first and it opened up on two different occasions," Haeger said. "They weren't ready to defend it. Our kids are capable of bunting, we work on it hard, and we made two great bunts." In the first game, a three-hit performance by Madonna senior second baseman Jason Barbeau was wasted as the Pilots broke a 3-3 tie with three runs in the fifth. Taking the loss for the Crusaders was starting pitcher Keegan Beaton, who gave up six runs in 4 1/3 innings, although three were unearned. Haeger, whose team played

another nonconference game Wednesday against Rochester, said the top priority now is nailing down the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference and not thinking too far ahead about any potential matchup with Bethel. Madonna will host WHAC rival Aquinas in a 1 p.m. doubleheader on Saturday, at Ilitch Ballpark. Another conference twinbill will take place a week later against Indiana Tech. The Crusaders, 8-0 in the WHAC, also are slated to play road doubleheaders against those two teams. "Our goal is to win the conference first," he emphasized. "We've put ourselves in a great position. We're sitting at 8-0 right now. But we have good opponents coming here the next two weekends and our focus is on Saturday. "When Saturday rolls around, we want to get off to a good start and take care of another conference opponent." tsmith@oe.homecomm.net | (734) 953-2106

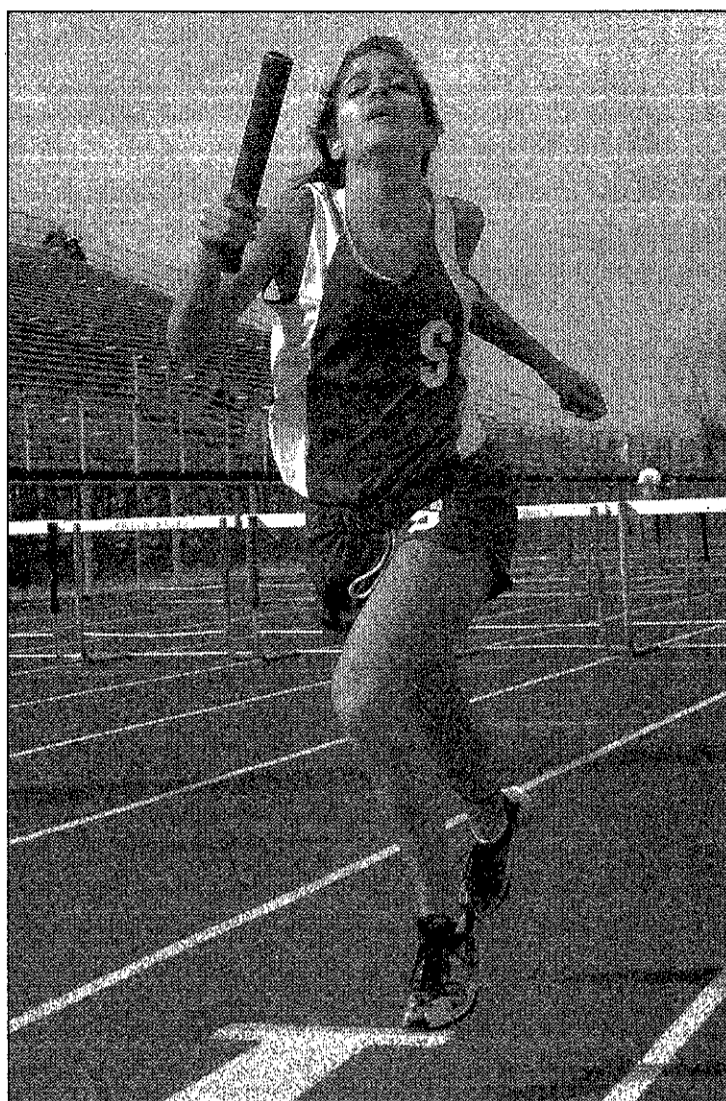
**Weather, Vikings can't stop Rocks from earning victory**

The Salem girls track team evened its record at 1-1 April 12 with a decisive 99-34 victory over Walled Lake Central. The stormy weather that delayed the meet and hampered the first few events proved to be a bad omen for the host Vikings. "For a while there, it didn't look like we were going to get the meet in," said Salem coach Julie Montgomery, referring to the drenching rain and windy conditions. "But it cleared up nicely and the girls performed very well. The key was the fact that we swept several events and we won three of four relays. We got off to a nice start in the field events, too, which was nice." Turning in individual first-place efforts for the Rocks were Alexa Van Vliet (pole vault), Brittany Lockhart (long jump), 100-meter hurdles, 300-meter hurdles, 200-meter dash), Caitlin Heaney (400-meter dash), Trineea Vojcek (100-meter dash), Marisa Carpinelli (1,600-meter run), Allison Janda (800-meter run) and Hannah Cavicchio (3,200-meter run). The Rocks return to action

Tuesday at the Annual City Meet, which will be held at the P-CEP varsity stadium.

SALEM 99  
W.L. CENTRAL 34  
April 12 at W.L. Central

(Following are Salem athletes who finished in the top three of an event.)  
Discus: 2. Ashley White, 68-2; 3. Samantha Oliver, 60-8.  
Shot put: 2. Samantha Oliver, 24-0; 3. Victoria Brotz, 22-11.  
Pole vault: 1. Alexa Van Vliet, 6-0.  
High Jump: 2. Katie Donaldson, 4-2.  
Long jump: 1. Brittany Lockhart, 14-4.50; 2. Dana Eldred, 14-2.50; 3. Alexa Van Vliet, 13-2.  
3,200-meter relay: 1. Salem (Allison Janda, Marisa Carpinelli, Linda Ling, Hannah Cavicchio), 11:04.  
100 hurdles: 1. Brittany Lockhart, 16.9; 2. Dana Eldred, 17.3.  
100 dash: 1. Trineea Vojcek, 13.7; 2. Anna Zhang, 14.4.  
800 relay: 1. Salem (Lauren Olson, Trineea Vojcek, Caitlin Heaney, Linda Ling), 1:56.3.  
1,600 run: 1. Marisa Carpinelli, 5:46.1; 2. Allison Janda, 5:46.5; 3. Hannah Cavicchio, 5:48.7.  
400 dash: 1. Caitlin Heaney, 1:08.5; 2. Alexa Van Vliet, 1:09.0.  
300 hurdles: 1. Brittany Lockhart, 48.8; 3. Dana Eldred, 55.4.  
800 run: 1. Allison Janda, 2:37.8; 2. Marisa Carpinelli, 2:44.2; 3. Sarah Kosteva, 2:49.8.  
200 dash: 1. Brittany Lockhart, 27.9; 2. Lauren Olson, 30.6; 3. Trineea Vojcek, 31.6.  
3,200 run: 1. Hannah Cavicchio, 12:23.6; 3. Kourtney Marsh, 14:17.  
1,600 relay: 1. Salem (Allison Janda, Linda Ling, Alexa Van Vliet, Dana Eldred).  
DUAL-MEET RECORDS: Salem, 1-1.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Salem's Marisa Carpinelli played a major role in the Rocks' 99-34 victory over Walled Lake Central April 12, winning the 1,600-meter run and running the second leg of the first-place 3,200-meter relay unit.

**PREP TRACK RESULTS**

Ypsilanti, 11-10; 5. Mackenzie, 11-4. Top individual: Thornton (Canton), 6-2.  
Long jump: 1. Ypsilanti (Payne, Sanders, Dykes), 56-10.25; 2. Plymouth, 55-3; 3. John Glenn (Alante Whiting, George Easter, Curtis Jackson), 52-9.75; 4. Adrian, 62-9.5; 5. Mackenzie, 51-10.25. Top individual: Wodel Payne (Ypsi), 20-4.5.  
Pole vault: 1. Canton (Langdon, Lindeman, Rakovitis), 32-3; 2. Adrian, 29-0; 3. Dearborn, 26-0; 4. Plymouth, 21-0. Top individual: Rob Lindeman (Canton), 11-3.  
High hurdles: 1. Ypsilanti (Malveaux, Wilson, Oyebamiji, Roberson), 1:10.75; 2. Mackenzie, 1:10.87; 3. Canton, 1:14.07; 5. Novi CC, 1:14.19; 5. Dearborn, 1:15.64.  
400 meters: 1. Truman (Thomas, Spencer, Jones, Bynum), 44.65; 2. Ypsilanti, 44.66; 3. Canton, 44.97; 5. Plymouth, 45.12; 5. Adrian, 46.5.  
Intermediate hurdles: 1. Ypsilanti (Malveaux, Wilson, Roberson, Sanders), 1:26.31; 2. Canton, 1:25.56; 3. Dearborn, 1:26.6; 4. Adrian, 1:27.6; 5. Novi CC, 1:30.6.  
6,400: 1. Novi CC (Oleski, Toloff, Champine, Morad), 20:14.81; Canton, 20:53.7; 3. Ypsilanti, 21:36.16; 4. Adrian, 21:40.0.  
Distance medley: 1. Plymouth (Wallath, Gholston, LeDuc, Coleman), 11:25.6; 2. Novi CC, 11:31.25; 3. Adrian, 11:41.15; 4. John Glenn (Jim Wood, Adam Sonak, Tyler Hilyard, Mike Jacobs), 12:10.97; 5. Dearborn, 12:23.5.  
3,200: 1. Ypsilanti (Oyebamiji, Roberson, Simmons, Malveaux), 8:29.31; 2. Adrian, 8:36.2; 3. Dearborn, 8:45.03; 4. Mackenzie, 9:6.94; 5. Novi CC, 9:07.63.  
800: 1. Adrian (Johnson, Galvin, Lauver, Russell), 1:32.35; 2. Canton, 1:33.1; 3. Ypsilanti, 1:33.25; 4. Truman, 1:33.88; 5. Mackenzie, 1:34.59.  
1,600: 1. Ypsilanti (Oyebamiji, Searcy, Malveaux, Simmons), 3:30.37; 2. Canton, 3:30.4; 3. Adrian, 3:32.16; 4. Mackenzie, 3:39.66; 5. Novi CC, 3:41.72.

41st annual DEARBORN ELKS BOYS TRACK & FIELD RELAYS April 15 at Dearborn H.S.  
TEAM STANDINGS: 1. (tie) Canton and Ypsilanti, 49 each; 3. Adrian, 41; 4. Novi-Detroit Catholic Central, 29; 5. Dearborn, 17; 6. Plymouth, 16; 7. Detroit Mackenzie, 12; 8. Westland John Glenn, 10; 9. Taylor Truman, 9.  
FINAL RELAY RESULTS  
Shot put: 1. Novi CC (Maloney, Salley, Martin, Bednarz-Gray), 176 feet, 2.75 inches; 2. John Glenn (Greg Copeland, Bryan Henley, Zach Bozigian, Robert Haddad), 172-3.75; 3. Adrian, 166-10.75; 4. Canton, 164-9.5; 5. Dearborn, 149-7.  
Top individual: Copeland (WJG), 48-11.  
Discus: 1. Canton (Paye, Zugaj, Chapman), 366-6; 2. Novi CC, 347-3; 3. Adrian, 343-7; 4. Dearborn, 324-6; 5. Ypsilanti, 286-9. Top individual: Paye (Canton), 143-6.  
High jump: 1. Canton (Thornton, Rossow, Paye), 17-1; 2. Adrian, 16-6; 3. Dearborn, 16-2; 4.

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to register online or to find other Arthritis Walk sites.

# Saline stings Chiefs' win streak

BY ED WRIGHT  
STAFF WRITER

Even an industrial-sized can of Raid wouldn't have stood a chance against the bus-load of Hornets that invaded Canton's baseball field Tuesday afternoon.

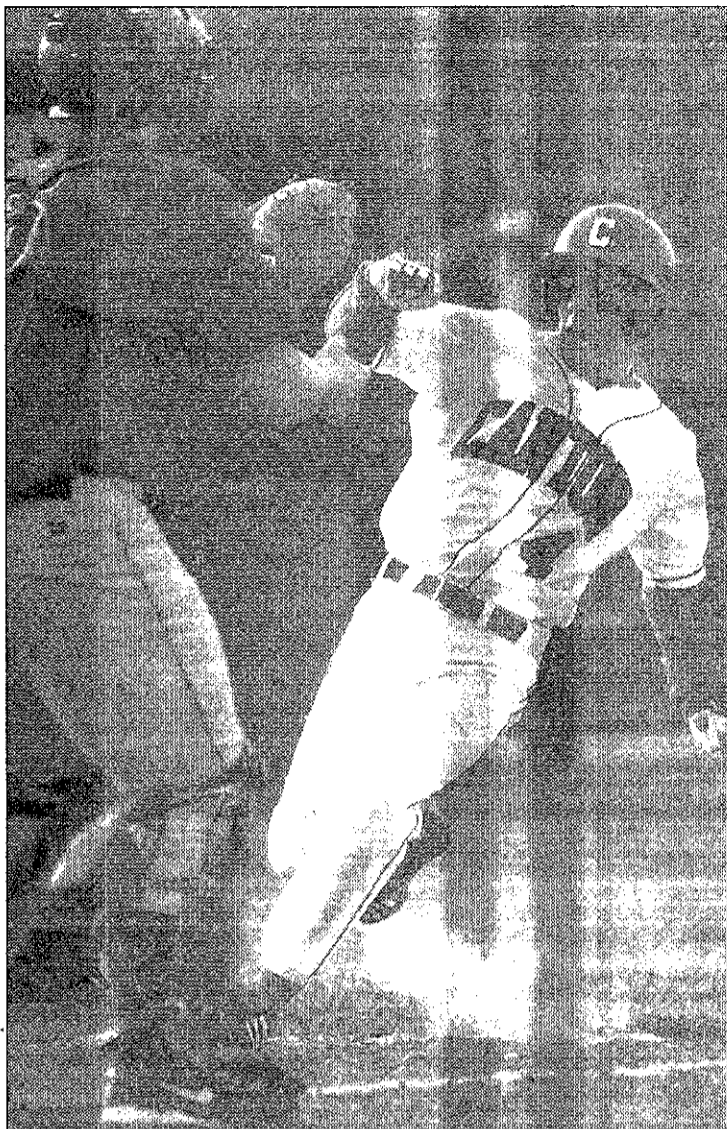
The smooth-swinging Saline Hornets stung the baseball with regularity and left a welt on the Chiefs' season-opening, six-game winning streak by sweeping a doubleheader, 5-1 and 13-1.

Although both teams walked off the field following the six-inning nightcap with identical 6-2 records, their batting averages and earned-run averages were heading in opposite directions once the infield dust had settled.

"It was a nice wake-up call for us," said Canton coach Scott Dickey, whose team had surged to a 6-0 start. "Even though we were feeling pretty good coming into today, we always remind the kids that with our difficult schedule, they have to compete hard every inning or they're going to get beat."

"I don't mind as much when we get beat by teams like Saline — they're one of the best teams in the area. But I was disappointed in the way we played the second game with three errors and eight walks. We'll be seeing the same type of hitters — maybe even better ones — against Brother Rice on Friday."

If Canton senior righthander Shawn Little could have erased the first two innings of the



BILL BRASLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton's Chris Woudstra is pictured crossing the plate during a game earlier this season. Runs were hard to come by for the Chiefs Tuesday afternoon when they were swept by Saline, 5-1 and 13-1.

opener, he would have had a masterpiece. The hard-throwing Little yielded four runs and

seven hits over the first two frames before scattering just one run and three hits over the

next five. He finished with nine strikeouts.

"Shawn's performance was the only positive of the first game," said Dickey. "That's the best I've seen him throw since he's been in our program. After the first inning, he really settled down and shut them down."

Canton scored its only game-one run when Little reached on a fielder's choice and scored on an error. Keith Campbell, Brad Barath (double), Tarik Khasawneh and Jon Puskar accounted for the Chiefs' only four hits.

Khasawneh had a solid game behind the plate, throwing out two would-be Saline base-stealers.

Senior righthander Josh Lancaster earned the mound victory for Saline, holding the Chiefs to three hits over the first six innings. Casey Dishman pitched a one-hit seventh.

In the second game, Saline broke open a scoreless tie with six runs in the second inning. The Hornets slammed the door on the sweep by pushing across four more runs in the fifth and three in the sixth.

Senior Nick Sheridan limited the Chiefs to six hits in the nightcap — two each off the bats of Khasawneh and Kyle Gring. Corey Lewis and Justin Latin also ripped hits for the Chiefs, who scored their only run in the fifth when Justin Latin's fielder's choice scored Lewis.

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# Bucks reach working agreement MLS Crew

The Michigan Bucks of the United Soccer League's (USL) Premier Development League (PDL) and the Columbus Crew of Major League Soccer (MLS) have announced a soccer partnership for the 2006 season.

The relationship for this year will include the Bucks' top MLS prospects for the future training with the Crew this summer, while playing full time for the Bucks.

In addition, the Crew has announced they will travel to Detroit to play the Bucks on Thursday, May 25 at Stoney Creek High School in Rochester Hills.

Final details of the relationship have not been released, but Bucks' owner Dan Duggan is pleased with the initial response from the Crew front office.

"We have been talking about partnering up with the Crew for several years now, but for one reason or another, it just hasn't come to fruition," said Duggan, a Livonia native. "In meeting with Crew GM Mark McCullers in Dallas last November at MLS Cup, it was clear that the benefits of

this relationship are in both team's best interest.

"Both Mark and coach Sigi Schmid have gone out of their way to make this happen for the 2006 season. We plan to show the Crew that the Bucks will support them with players for their Reserve team if necessary and competitive training sessions, whenever possible. The plan is to bring as many Bucks fans to a designated Crew game in Columbus this summer, to show our appreciation, as well."

Duggan also said that the Bucks and Crew relationship would closely adhere to all NCAA guidelines, as it relates to the eligibility of its college players when associating with a professional club.

Duggan, who with brother Jim started the MLS Detroit campaign three years ago to bring a Major League Soccer team to Detroit by 2007, has not given up hope on a local franchise.

The Bucks are currently finalizing the 2006 roster. The Bucks open the 2006 campaign 7:15 p.m. Wednesday, May 10 against the Kalamazoo Kingdom at Lake Orion High School.

# MHSAA looking for new game officials

Registrations for individuals interested in becoming a high school athletic game officials for the 2006-07 school year may now do so exclusively online through the Michigan High School Athletic Association's website, [mhsaa.com](http://mhsaa.com).

From now until about June 1, the Association will conduct an exclusive online registration

period for new registrants and renewals. After June 1, applications will also be accepted by mail, telephone and on a walk-up basis for the upcoming school year.

Effective with the 2006-07 registration cycle, registrants will receive a 25 percent discount on registration fees, regardless of when they submit their application.

MHSAA registration fees are among the lowest in the nation. A \$10 fee is charged for each sport an official wishes to work, and the online processing fee is \$20.

Officials registering by mail, telephone or on a walk-up basis will incur a \$25 processing fee. Officials registering for the 2005-06 will be assessed a late fee of \$20 for registration after

July 1. The processing fee includes liability insurance coverage of up to \$1 million for officials while working contests involving MHSAA schools.

For more information about officials registration, contact the MHSAA at 1661 Ramblewood Drive, East Lansing, MI 48823; call (517) 332-5046; or e-mail [register@mhsaa.com](mailto:register@mhsaa.com).

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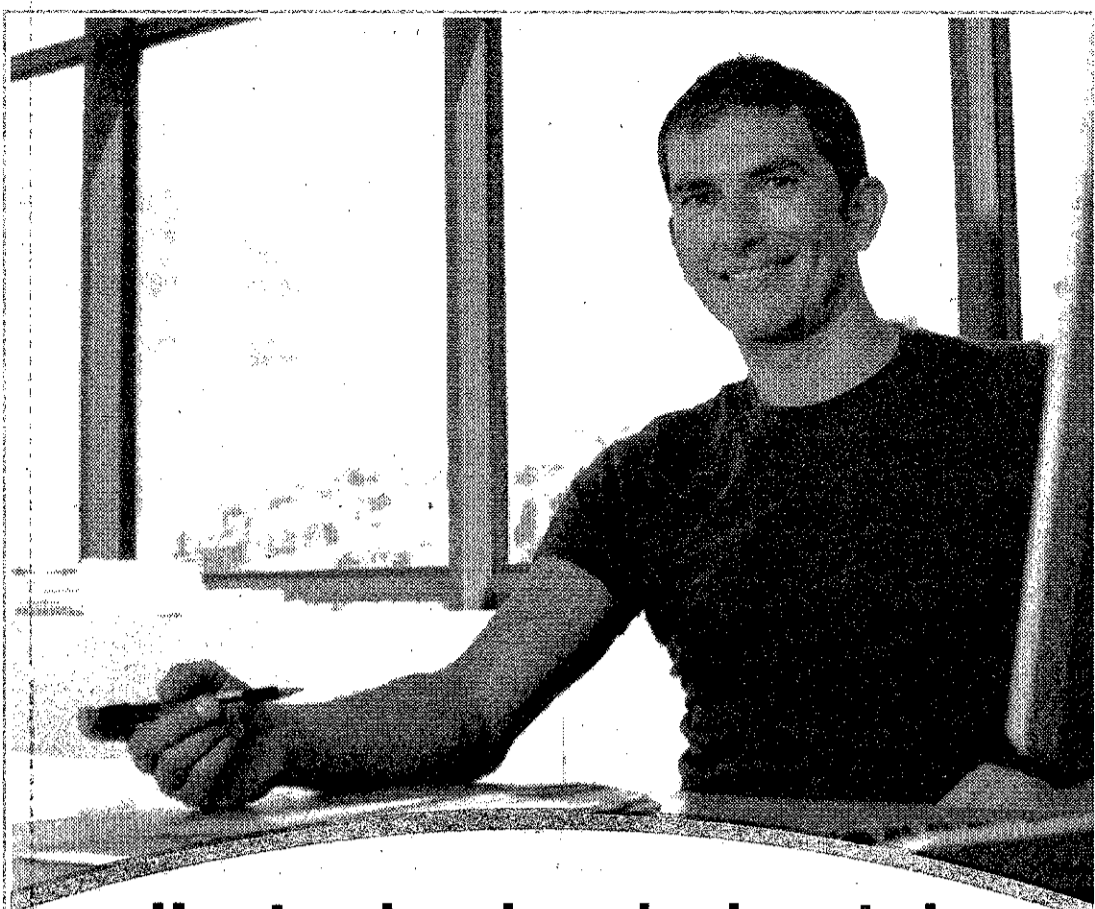
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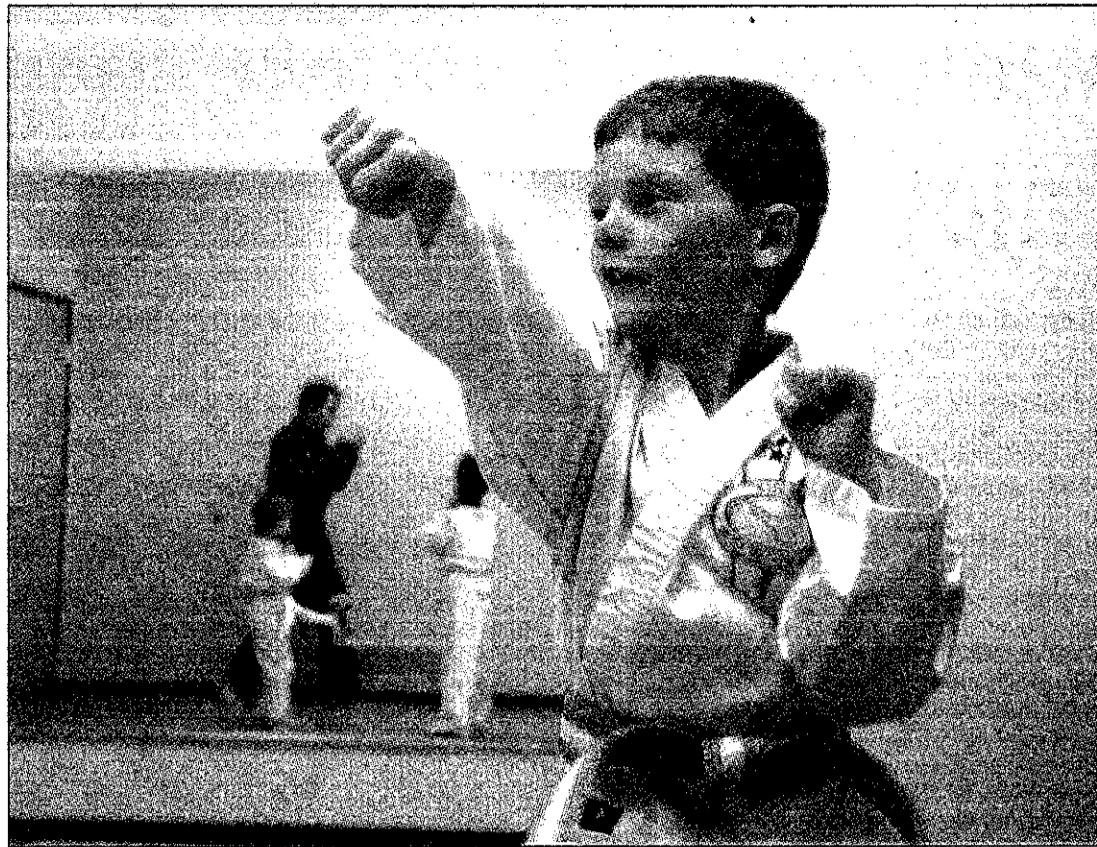
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Six-year-old Matt Decker practices his moves during a class for kids.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

**MARTIAL ARTS**

FROM PAGE B1

I wanted to get into something where I could help people every day. I wasn't sure if being a professor would be the right thing for me.

"Well, the risk-taker in me took over and I decided to teach martial arts full time. When I signed my first lease here, I didn't have any students yet, which was probably the wrong way to go about things. The first year or so was painful, but everything has worked out well."

Visitors to East West Martial Arts can learn about the company's philosophy before they step foot in the facility. The company's motto — "Leave your ego at the door" — is printed in big letters near the front entrance.

"That is the motto of the Machados, the brothers who have taught me the most about what I know about Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu," said Fiorenzi, a graduate of Canton High School. "They believe that it's not just

about trying to beat the other guy. It's more about getting better and better at what you're doing every time you do it. People tell me all the time that what they like the best about this place is the relaxed and friendly atmosphere."

Fiorenzi's No. 1 goal is to teach his students how to defend themselves by using a blend of Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu, judo, wrestling, boxing and kick-boxing techniques. Once a student has completed a series of classes, the self-defense skills are only one of many assets — both tangible and non-tangible — that they take from the experience, Fiorenzi said.

"Along with being able to defend themselves, the adults and kids who take our classes leave with more self-confidence and self-discipline," he said. "And when people know they can defend themselves, they feel less threatened by others, which makes them more peaceful to be around."

Plymouth resident Eric Pearce, 19, said he's been pleasantly surprised by the number of benefits he's inherit-

ed from taking classes at East West over the past eight months.

"I've gotten a lot more than I expected out of it," said Pearce, a graduate of Novi Detroit Catholic Central. "It's improved my self-confidence and I'm more disciplined now. I'm there two hours a day, five days a week, so it's become a big part of my life."

East West Martial Arts will be hosting a Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu seminar and a tournament this weekend at Madonna University in Livonia. On Saturday, California-based Jean Jacques Machado will teach a pair of classes in the Madonna gymnasium on Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu. The first class will run from noon to 2 p.m., the second from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.

The tournament, which will feature several Plymouth and Canton residents, will run from 12:30 p.m. until approximately 6:30 p.m.

For more information, call (734) 414-7789 or visit www.eastwestmartialarts.com.

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# Madonna softball team enjoys magical start

BY TIM SMITH  
STAFF WRITER

Sometimes, Al White has to pinch himself.

His Madonna University softball team is steamrolling to victories both in and out of the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference.

White knows he has a pretty good thing going. The Crusaders, fueled by the sensational pitching of senior Erin Brockert and fired up by a group of impressive freshmen, have compiled a 28-5 overall mark ( 8-3 in the WHAC).

Also, the squad is ranked No. 24 in the country, with no telling how high it can fly before the gloves and aluminum bats are stored away for another year.

"Well, that's to be seen yet," said White, recently asked about what the ceiling for the 2006 Crusaders could be. "But it's definitely big-time."

If MU has a chance to strike it big this spring in conference and national playoff tournaments, it will be for a variety of factors. Of course, the key ingredient is Brockert (16-4), who pitched a 13-inning victory April 13 against Concordia before dropping a tough 3-0 decision Saturday to host Cornerstone. Brockert recently was named WHAC Pitcher of the Week three times in a row.

"That's unreal, isn't it?" noted White about Brockert's

amazing run. "The pitchers on other teams are no slouches."

Following last week's games, the Dayton, Ohio native sported an earned-run average of 1.43 in 129-1/3 innings of work. Brockert also has 18 complete games (in 18 starts) and 128 strikeouts.

"It's just her determination, she just wants to win," said White. "That's the best way I can put it. She's a competitor."

And Brockert can hit, too. Her .398 batting average is tops among Madonna regulars with 100 at-bats, and she has 29 RBI, 13 doubles and three triples. Brockert leads the team in the latter two categories.

But White is quick to point out that this is no one-trick pony.

Other returnees pounding the ball include sophomore and Canton native Heather Richardson (.350, team-leading six homers, 24 RBI), senior Crystal Little from Wayne Memorial (.318), sophomore Christina Finch (.389) and Livonia Ladywood alum Stephanie Day (the sophomore catcher is batting .311, with 18 RBI).

Add to the mix a group of stellar freshmen and it's no wonder White is feeling pretty good about his coaching lot in life.

Leading that group is catcher-first baseman Alison Grant, who is batting .414 with four homers and 31 RBI in 87 at-

bats.

Freshman outfielder Hannah Godfrey is hitting .342 while two other first-year players making contributions are outfielder Mary Kate Setta (.286) and infielder Danielle Richardson (.241).

"We're very surprised that they've come along that quick," White said. "It's tough (for freshmen) to compete sometimes because they're going against women with more experience."

But their ascent into being important players is a real plus as the Crusaders try to match the school record for victories in a season (39, set in 1994) and keep the momentum building into tournament time.

If all goes well - and that includes slugging first baseman Christina Finch (.389, four homers, 13 RBI) returning from a leg injury - the Crusaders have a chance to become the second Madonna softball team to qualify for the National Association of Interscholastic Athletics national championship tournament.

But regardless, with outstanding talent and team unity, White is pretty certain he'll be proud of his team.

"That's the glue that holds this team together," said White, about chemistry. "I couldn't wish for anything better."

tsmith@oe.hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2106

# Late rally vaults MU softball team to win

A three-run rally in the top of the seventh lifted Madonna University's softball team to a 5-4 triumph against Cornerstone Saturday and help the Crusaders avoid being swept in a Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference doubleheader.

Trailing 4-2 to the host Golden Eagles (16-10 overall, 6-4 in the WHAC), freshman third baseman Danielle Richardson doubled to get the frame started and she scored on a two-out double by sophomore rightfielder Heather

Richardson (Canton). Senior designated hitter Erin Brockert (3-for-3) walked, and the rally continued on an RBI infield single by sophomore catcher Stephanie Day (Livonia Ladywood) to knot the score.

Brockert then came in with the tie-breaker on a single to center by freshman first baseman Alison Grant (2-for-4).

The Crusaders (28-5 overall, 8-3 in the WHAC) had to escape a scary bottom of the seventh to emerge with the split. After MU pitcher Shannon

Noder retired the first two batters, she made an error to keep Cornerstone's hopes alive. A single and another error loaded the bases. But Noder (6-1) got the next batter to ground out to her and this time she made no mistake to finish her complete game.

Madonna's first two runs came on a Brockert homer in the fourth and on an RBI single by freshman leftfielder Mary Kate Setta (2-for-4).

In the opener, Brockert pitched a six-inning complete game, giving up just five hits, but lost 3-0.

## SPORTS ROUNDUP

### GCYBSA news

Several important Greater Canton Youth Baseball & Softball Association events will be taking place on Saturday, April 22, at the Canton Sports Center, which is located at 46555 Michigan Ave.

Following is a list of events:  
■ A free coaches clinic will be held from 10 a.m. to noon on Field 8 of the CSC;

■ A free Pepsi Pitch, Hit & Run event for players between the ages of 7 and 14 will be held on Field 5. The check-in for players is 10 a.m. and the contest will begin at 10:30 a.m. A free players clinic will be held immediately following the contest.

■ Coaches' uniform pick-up will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the CSC's outdoor pavilion (or in the restaurant if it is raining). Each team must send a representative to pick up the uniforms on April 22.

■ Canton Township will offer a free special event, "The Sky's the Limit," from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. There will be inflatable, high-flying frisbee dogs and much more.

For more information on the events, contact Ann-Marie Carravallah at (734) 483-5600.

### Canton golf outing

The 4th Annual Canton Chiefs Football Golf Outing will be held Saturday, June 10, beginning with a 1:30 p.m. shotgun start at Fox Hills Classic course in Plymouth Township.

For more information on the event, call (734) 467-8148 or (734) 981-9385.

### Wildcat boosters

The next Plymouth Wildcats Football Booster Club meeting will be held Tuesday, May 2, at 7 p.m. in room 401 of Plymouth High School.

All parents of current players and parents of incoming freshmen players are encouraged to attend the meeting.

### Youth golf

Plymouth's Fox Hills Golf and Banquet Center will serve as one of 105 national qualifying sites for the 2006 Mutual of Omaha Drive, Chip & Putt competition. The event, a free golf skills competition for kids between the ages of 7 and 14, will be held at 4 p.m. Thursday, July 20, at Fox Hills.

More than 35,000 youngster throughout the country are expected to compete in the DC&P. Winners from each local event will have the opportunity to compete in regional championships and possibly represent their hometowns at the national championship in October.

For more information, including a complete schedule and registration form, visit www.TheGolfChannel.com.

### Ann Arbor run

Online registration is open for the 33rd annual Dexter-Ann Arbor Run, presented by Comerica Sunday, June 4.

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

Runners can run the river,

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

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

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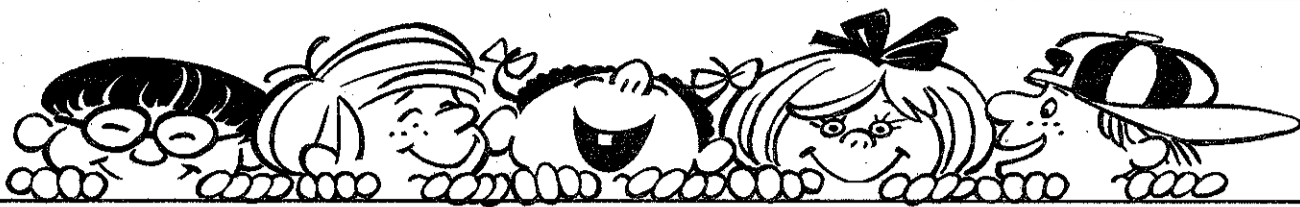
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**Franchise face**

Westland native Modano a fixture as captain for Stars

BY BRAD EMONS  
STAFF WRITER

The wear and tear of 16-year National Hockey League veteran was visibly evident in the visitor's dressing room Monday night at Joe Louis Arena.

Mike Modano was wearing three ice packs - one on his shoulder, another on his knee, and yet a third on his foot, courtesy of a slap shot from the blue line taken off the boot from a Red Wing player.

In NHL lingo, that constitutes two lower body and one upper body injury.

Despite the bumps, bruises, broken bones and scars, longevity has been the 35-year-old Westland native's mantra, a survivor 16 demanding and rigorous 82-game seasons, not to mention numerous Stanley Cup playoffs, the World Championships and three Olympics.

Monday's game with the Red Wings was virtually meaningless as the two teams had already locked up the top two seeds in the Western Conference.

But the sting of a 3-2 loss, after the Stars failed to protect a two-goal advantage in the final seven minutes, hurt nonetheless.

"We have to be better at protecting leads," said Modano, the Stars' captain who leads the team with 77 points on 27 goals and 50 assists. "That's one of the things we better improve on soon or it is going to cost us. It was a fun game to play in, but obviously the outcome wasn't what we wanted."

Dallas coach Dave Tippett obviously was miffed after the Stars controlled play through the first two periods. He thought the play got sloppy and certain players didn't give an honest effort.

Modano couldn't disagree. "We were skating well, a lot of up-and-down action and some great plays by both teams," he said. "It's one of those things. It's a sore spot when you lose a two-goal lead, but then again it's a tough time to stay focused when there's nothing on the line. But it's still no excuse whether it's now or November."

"When the game is on line you'd like to think it be kind of different."

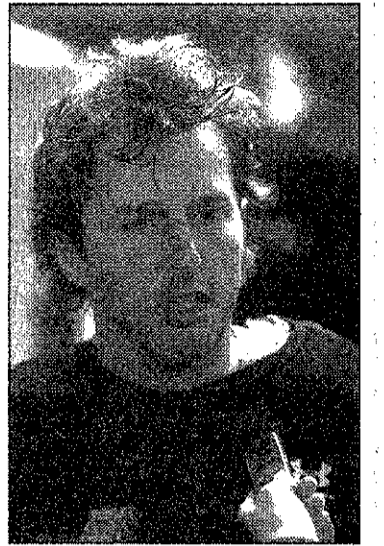
Modano, a six-time NHL All-Star, always looks forward to coming home, visiting his family, and putting on a good show.

Although his dad Mike Sr. contends, "I'm way past that stuff now," his son always knows there's another voice out there evaluating his play.

"Dad (Mike) will still make a comment or two if I'm not skating or working hard," Mike said. "My mom (Karen) stays in the background. She's a silent critic."

Modano, a bachelor, has made Dallas his year-round home, but always looks forward to spending time with his parents, both retired, along with his sister and other family members.

"In past years I got to come home a day early, get home for dinner and have a home-



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Westland's Mike Modano, captain of the Dallas Stars, addresses the media following Monday's last-minute 3-2 setback to the Red Wings at Joe Louis Arena.

cooked meal, but with all the late travel the year has been rough," he said.

Modano has certainly validated his being the No. 1 pick in the 1988 NHL draft after starring in the Western Hockey League for three seasons for Prince Albert Raiders (where he left home to play at age 16 after attending Livonia Franklin High School for three semesters).

As a 20-year-old with the Minnesota North Stars, he played in the 1990 Stanley Cup finals. In 1999, he earned a Stanley Cup title.

He has become an icon in Dallas, a football town that worships its Cowboys.

Much like Steve Yzerman is to Detroit, Modano has become the face of the Stars' franchise, recently signing a five-year deal (for \$6.195 million a year) after a bitter NHL lockout in 2004-05 (which cost him millions).

In 1,179 regular season NHL games, Modano has 485 goals and 689 assists, which ranks him second all-time among U.S. born players.

He is also the Stars' all-time franchise leader in goals, assists, points, games played, game-winning goals, power play goals and shorthanded goals.

Modano has also taken an active role in his community, recently to help raise \$160,000 for Hurricane Rita and Katrina relief efforts.

In the summer of 2000, he established the Mike Modano Foundation, a non-profit organization dedicated to raising money to improve the quality of life and assist underprivileged children in the Dallas area.

Despite all his accolades, success on the ice and community involvement, the NHL career for No. 9 hasn't been totally smooth sailing.

After a lackluster 2003-04 season where he had his lowest point production (14 goals and 30 assists, a minus-21), Modano spent the 2004-05 locked out by NHL owners, playing golf, shuttling between his home in Dallas and cruising Mexico, before embarking on a late season stint representing the U.S. in the World Championships.

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<p><b>Linden 3240</b></p> <p><b>LIVONIA</b> \$300,000 - ONE LOOK &amp; IT'S SOLD! PICTURE PERFECT! Exceptional value in this contemporary beauty. Open floor plan w/1st floor master suite, great room off super kitchen + finished bsmt. Sure to please everyone. Make an offer! (25170844). Karen Thomas 248-605-3066</p> <p>For the best auto classifications check out the Observer &amp; Eccentric Newspaper. "It's all about RESULTS!"</p>	<p><b>Livonia 3250</b></p> <p><b>JUST LISTED!</b> <b>ABSOLUTELY GORGEOUS!</b> 3 bdrm 1.5 bath brick ranch w/ attached 2 car garage. Family room w/ gas fireplace, 4 season room w/ heat. C/A, sprinklers. NEW: windows, doors, roof, siding, patio, enlarged drive. S of 5 Mile, E of Levan. \$229,500 Remarise Country Place 734-981-2900</p> <p><b>ABSOLUTELY GORGEOUS!</b> 3 Bdrm., 2.5 bath, remodeled brick ranch w/new roof, windows, garage, front door lighting, C/A, 2.5 garage, sprinkling system, &amp; more! \$255,000. OPEN SAT. &amp; SUN. 1-5. Quakerstown sub. 39127 Meeting House Lane, S/6 Mile, E/Haggerty, Call 248-563-5649</p> <p>When seeking out the best deal check out the Observer &amp; Eccentric Classifieds! 1-800-579-7355</p>	<p><b>Livonia 3250</b></p> <p><b>JUST LISTED!</b> <b>BRICK RANCH</b> 3 bdrm, 2 bath All appliances, newer roof, furnace, fenced yard, patio. \$159,900 #25166432</p> <p><b>By Owner</b> <b>DOVER COURT SUB</b> Beautiful 3 bdrm, 1.5 bath all brick ranch. 2 car attached garage. Living room, family room w/ fireplace, all new appliances. Hardwood floors, C/A, finished bsmt w/ bar. New shed in huge fenced yard that backs up to woods. \$195,000. 734-891-0856</p> <p><b>By Owner</b> <b>BRICK RANCH</b> 3 bdrm, remodeled kitchen, w/ hickory cabinets, appliances, neutral decor, hardwood floors, C/A, Wallside Windows, 2 car garage w/ opener, very clean, immediate occupancy. \$172,500. 248-446-7312 owners.com/ppg8238</p> <p>Call to place your ad at 1-800-579-SELL (7355)</p>	<p><b>Livonia 3250</b></p> <p><b>CHARMING LIVONIA</b> ranch w/ recent updates (close to new rec. center), \$169,900. Call today! 734-751-8694</p> <p><b>By Owner</b> <b>MOVE RIGHT IN!</b> 3 bedroom, 2 bath Ranch w/ fireplace. Deck. Lg. fenced yard. New: windows, siding, roof &amp; more! \$199,999. (20BR)</p> <p><b>PRICED TO SELL!</b> Colonial in Stoneleigh Village. Huge family room w/ fireplace. New: carpet, furnace &amp; A/C. \$219,900. (13AS) Century 21 Hartford South 734-464-6400</p> <p><b>NEW CONSTRUCTION</b> By Owner. In N.W. Livonia, 4 bdrm, 2.5 bath colonial. 3 car garage and full bsmt. Quiet, court location. Gourmet kitchen w/ceramic granite, maple &amp; numerous upgrades. \$489,900. (248) 477-4550</p> <p><b>UPDATED!</b> Sprawling brick ranch w/attached garage, finished bsmt + Gunite pool for summer fun! \$209,700 Pat Puninske 734-267-5000 CENTURY 21 ROW 734-464-7111</p> <p><b>FSBO - Open House Sat-Sun. ITS THE LOCATION!</b> 16852 Renwick Dr. 3 Bdrm, family room, 2 car garage., updates, appliances. 80' x 135 lot Bring Offers! MUST SEE! 734-464-6156</p>	<p><b>Livonia 3250</b></p> <p><b>LIVONIA 3</b> Bdrm ranch, 1100 sq. ft., 2 car, 1.5 bath, finished bsmt, Middlebelt/Plymouth. \$174,900. 248-377-1511</p> <p><b>HANDYMAN SPECIAL!</b> 24 x 48, 3 bed, 2 bath, appliances <b>Only \$14,900</b> 14 x 66, 2 bed, 2 bath <b>Only \$6,900</b> In Canton <b>QUALITY HOMES at Sherwood Village</b> Wayne-Westland Schools on the southeast corner of Michigan Ave. &amp; Haggerty Rd. (734) 397-7774</p> <p><b>hometownlife.com</b></p> <p><b>GREAT DEALS!</b> • Pre-Owned, Immed. Occ. 1178 sq. ft., 3 bed, 2 bath, appl. &amp; C/A <b>ONLY \$27,900</b> • 14 x 70 w/8 x 36 tag., 2 bed, 2 bath, appl. C/A. Shed. <b>*\$13,000</b> • Multi-sectional 3 bed, 2 bath, appl., fireplace, C/A, master bath w/jacuzzi &amp; shed. <b>ONLY \$9,000</b> Novi Schools <b>QUALITY HOMES at Highland Hills Estates</b> on Sawley Rd., N. of Grand River (248) 474-0320</p>	<p><b>Redford 3350</b></p> <p><b>By Owner</b> <b>OPEN SUN - APRIL 23 1-4 PM</b> 19600 Garfield, N. of Grand River, E. of Beech Daly, 3 bdrm. Cape Cod, 1.5 bath, bsmt, fenced yard, 2 car garage, completely remodeled. \$125,000. 734-812-9261</p> <p><b>Open Sunday 1-4pm 25821 ROSS DRIVE</b> Your private retreat, room to expand, or just enjoy the grounds! This Redford Tudor on over 1.5 ac., has 3 bdrms, updated kitchen, library and offers golf course views from nearly every window! Use separate building for whatever you wish - the possibilities are endless! \$222,000. <b>NICHOLAS PALISE (313) 274-1700 ext. 273</b> Century 21 Curran &amp; Christie</p> <p><b>RANCH 2</b> bdrm, ready to move in. 800 sq. ft., finished bsmt, all up to code, new front porch. \$100,000 to buy. Will rent \$900/mo. Sec. 8 okay. (313) 522-5057/313-565-2972</p> <p>When seeking out the best deal check out the Observer &amp; Eccentric Classifieds! 1-800-579-7355</p> <p><b>UPDATED!</b> Charming 3 bdrm, bungalow. Partly finished bsmt., 2 car garage, S. Redford schools. \$134,900 Denis Berry Century 21 Row 734-464-7111</p>	<p><b>Rochester 3360</b></p> <p><b>Rochester Hills Open Sunday 1-4 104 BREWSTER</b> N. off of Walton, E. side of Brewster <b>GREAT ROCHESTER HILLS LOCATION!</b> 2 bdrm, 1 1/2 bath, 1,152 sq. ft., c/a, Finished walkout basement with fireplace, 2 1/2 car attached garage, huge lot, all appliances and home warranty are included. Great Potential for only \$209,999. <b>Ask for Sharon Taylor 248-770-9430</b> Coldwell Banker Shooltz (248) 628-4711</p> <p>For the best auto classifications check out the Observer &amp; Eccentric Newspaper. "It's all about RESULTS!"</p> <p><b>ROCHESTER HILLS</b> University Hills Sub. 4 bdrm, 2.5 bath, colonial. Many updates, elementary school in sub, 90'x120' lot. \$312,900. 248-652-2172</p> <p><b>South Lyon 3400</b></p> <p><b>SOUTH LYON - 23348 SAWGRASS COURT.</b> Sun., April 23, 2-5pm Beautiful Tanglewood Golf Course Condo. Meticulously maintained with finished walk-out basement. Must see! Kim White, 248-924-0204 Re/Max Properties. 734-479-7355</p> <p><b>Wayne 3424</b></p> <p><b>By Owner</b> <b>THREE BDRM BRICK</b> Lg. bsmt. Completely remodeled. Great location. Close to schools, park, shopping. \$134,900. Will consider all offers. OPEN SAT., noon-4pm, 36451 ASH. 734-731-0835</p> <p><b>*WANTED* Home Seekers who Demand Quality</b> New kitchen and bath's, 3 bdrm., new carpet and fresh paint, no closing cost, downpayment assistance, FREE APPLIANCES. ccpropertyinvestments.net <b>C &amp; C Property Investments 734-931-1080</b></p>	<p><b>Westland 3445</b></p> <p><b>JUST LISTED!</b> Fully updated Brick Ranch 3 bedrooms, 1.5 baths, basement. Garage. \$156,900 MLS 26032754</p> <p><b>Century 21</b> Century 21 Today, Inc. (313) 538-2000 www.century21today.com</p> <p><b>"It's All About Results"</b> <b>1-800-579-SELL (7355)</b></p> <p><b>JUST LISTED!</b> <b>MOVE RIGHT INTO</b> this recently updated home, 3 bedrooms, 1.5 baths, all appliances. Fin. basement, 1.5 car garage. Fenced yard backs to Edward Hines Park. \$195,500. MLS 26044383</p> <p><b>Century 21</b> Century 21 Today, Inc. (248) 855-2000 www.century21today.com</p> <p><b>Wixom-Commerce 3480</b></p> <p><b>Just Reduced!</b> Come see this awesome home in desirable Hillsborough Sub. Very open w/dramatic entry, 4 bdrm, 2.5 bath, 2 car garage, beautifully finished bsmt, professionally landscaped. Just \$330,000. <b>Sandy, 248-790-8692</b> Keller Williams 22260 Haggerty, Northville</p> <p><b>Wayne 3424</b></p> <p><b>By Owner</b> <b>THREE BDRM BRICK</b> Lg. bsmt. Completely remodeled. Great location. Close to schools, park, shopping. \$134,900. Will consider all offers. OPEN SAT., noon-4pm, 36451 ASH. 734-731-0835</p> <p><b>*WANTED* Home Seekers who Demand Quality</b> New kitchen and bath's, 3 bdrm., new carpet and fresh paint, no closing cost, downpayment assistance, FREE APPLIANCES. ccpropertyinvestments.net <b>C &amp; C Property Investments 734-931-1080</b></p>	<p><b>Washtenaw County 3560</b></p> <p><b>REAL ESTATE AUCTION</b> Minimum Bid Auction \$229,000 Sat. April 22nd at 2:00 pm 2325 N. Harris Rd., Superior Township</p> <p>Auction conducted by the owners - NO AUCTIONEER OR AGENCY FEE. Charming Victorian farm house with gingerbread trim on 1.92 acres in Superior Twp., 2364 sq. ft.; 4 bdrms, 2 full baths, 2 kitchens, and 3 covered porches. Hardwood floors throughout, large closets, 32' X 84' pole barn. Previewing on Saturday April 22nd, from 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm. Auction begins at 2:00 pm. Call today for details. Phone: 248-821-1735 or 734-604-2915</p> <p><b>Looking for a NEW home?</b> Be sure you look in your Observer &amp; Eccentric Classified section for all the newest local listings!</p> <p><b>Superior Twp. SPACIOUS COLONIAL</b> 3 bdrm, 2.5 baths, 1762 sq. ft., loft area, all appliances, bsmt, 2 car garage. \$222,000. <b>CENTURY 21 PREMIER (734) 453-4300</b> www.premiersoldit.com</p> <p><b>Lakemont/Waterfront Homes 3560</b></p> <p><b>JUST LISTED!</b> <b>MULLET LAKEFRONT HOME</b> Beautiful contemporary home with 140 ft. frontage, 2000 sq. ft., 3 bdrm., 2 bath. Cut stone fireplace, patio, accents. Panoramic view of sunsets. 3 extra lots with matching 4 car garage. Huge oak trees. \$700,000. <b>ROCKWELL WHITENER INDIAN RIVER</b> 231-238-7862 P.O. Box 1030, Indian River, MI. 49749</p> <p><b>Apartment For Sale 3710</b></p> <p><b>BELLEVILLE LAKE</b> 9 unit apt., income \$77,000. Asking \$740,000, qualified buyers only. (734) 699-2935</p>
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As members of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®, the METROPOLITAN CONSOLIDATED ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® is proud of our contributions in support of the Fair Housing Act and other Fair Housing Compliance programs.

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Condos 3720
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CANTON. 2005 BUILT CAPE COD CONDO

Condos 3720
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CANTON
Copper Creek ranch. Lg. master suite w/glamour bath

Condos 3720
FARMINGTON New Kingslane Court Condo

Condos 3720
LIVONIA OPEN SUN. 1-4 2880 3 MI.
Beautiful condo, beautiful price!

Condos 3720
By Owner
NOVI
LAKE VIEW. 2 bdrm, 2 bath.

Condos 3720
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Manufactured Homes 3740
DEALER CLOSING SALES CENTER!

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HOWELL
Hughes Road. Last 2 lots in sub. Paved road, sewer. Build to suit.

Cemetery Lots 3880
DETROIT MEMORIAL PARK
2 cemetery units, Redford. \$1000 each neg.

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1 BEDROOMS
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1 Bdrms From \$495/month

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2 bedroom 1.5 bath to 1160 sq. ft.

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Rent starting at \$525
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RENOVATION SPECIAL! Lock into your special rental rate while we are still under renovation.

SWING INTO SPRING WITH
Free Golf
Free Heat
Free Carport
Prices starting at \$669. You can save up to \$2400!

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Prices starting at \$669. You can save up to \$2400!

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Attached Garages
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WALNUT CREEK
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Merriman Woods Apartments
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SPECIAL RATES! Starting at \$575/Mo.

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Spacious 2 bedroom, central air. Carport. Swimming pool. Close to shopping. \$665.

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To Qualified 2 Bdrm Applicants
Studios and 1 & 2 bedrooms available in town Birmingham at the 555 Building.

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Unique Terrace, and Theatre Flat floor plans. Garages and fireplaces available.

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Northville
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NOVI
Meadowbrook N. of 10 Mile
1 BEDROOM APARTMENTS FREE RENT TO JUNE 1ST

Plymouth
Large 1 bdrm, very clean, \$595 incl heat/water. Laundry on-site. 248-446-2021

REDFORD \$99 Moves you in!
24715 Five Mile. 1 bdrm \$535. 2 bdrm \$650. Deposit. Quiet, clean, appliances. FREE heat & water. No pets. Mon-Sat, 11-6. 313-945-0524

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Dearborn Club
1st MONTH FREE On 1 Bedrooms

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1 MONTH FREE
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Farmington Hills
MAPLE RIDGE APARTMENTS
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23078 Middlebelt Spacious 1 bedroom. C/A. Carport available. From \$580.

HAPPINESS IS... Moving into a cozy, 1 bedroom apt, with REDUCED RENT & SECURITY DEPOSIT.

Novi Road N. of 8 Mile CENTRAL AIR - Ph 2

NORTHVILLE CONDO FIRST MONTH FREE!
Large 1 bdrm., 1 bath. Close to historic downtown

Novi \$199 MOVES YOU IN!
Small, charming community nestled in a stream side setting.

NORWAYNE, WESTLAND
3 Bedrooms, bath, 1 garage. Two story 1/2 duplex. Stove and refrigerator included.

Wilderness SPACIOUS!!
2 Bedrooms, 1000 sq. ft., CARPORTS/ POOL WASHER & DRYER inside unit.

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Washer/Dryer hook-up
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We absolutely adore pets!  
\$820



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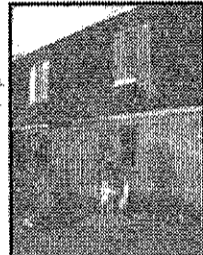
520-A 14 MILE ROAD  
Luxurious 1 HUMUNGOUS bedroom townhouse with fireplace, central air, hook-ups for washer & dryer.  
\$785

Please bring your pets - we love them!

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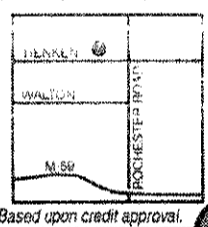
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April Move-In Special!  
One Bedrooms 800 sq. ft. from \$495  
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• Clubhouse • Pool • Individual Heating and Cooling  
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2 huge bedrooms, lots of closets, approximately 1550 sq. ft. + full basement, 1 1/2 baths, formal dining room, fireplace, central air, hookups for washer & dryer. Extra deep backyard. Pets ARE welcome! \$1200/mo.

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We Love Pets!  
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Nice backyard AND THEY ♥ PETS!

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## ROYAL OAK

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#### Luxury Townhomes

...That Welcomes Pets! • 3204 Gwen Court  
2 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath townhouse with fireplace, air, full basement with hookups.  
\$820

(248) 354-9119, ext 206

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1, 2 & 3 Bedroom Apartments & Town Homes  
From \$815

- Heat, water, carport included • Pet Policy
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### WAYNE FOREST APTS FOR GREAT MOVE-IN SPECIALS!

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1 & 2 bedroom apartments starting at \$490  
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Free Heat & Water



## WAYNE

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- 1 Studio and 1 One Bedroom Units are Available Now.
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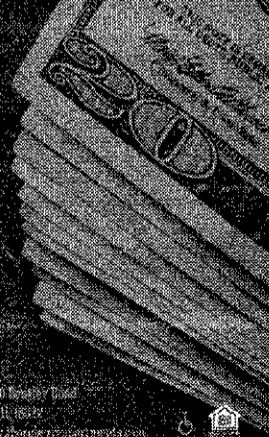
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Great Price... Great Location!  
Two Bedrooms from \$825.00

### THORNBERRY APARTMENTS

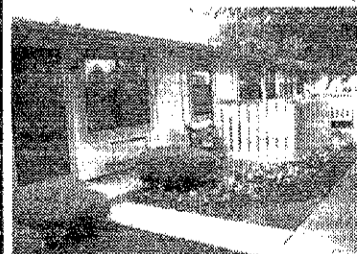
Call for Details!  
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- Private Entrance
- Attic Storage
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## WESTLAND

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New Resident's Only

- 1 bedroom - 700 sq. ft. from \$565
- 2 bedroom - 900 sq. ft. from \$655
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734-722-4700

## WESTLAND

### WESTLAND PARK APARTMENTS

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2 Bedroom, 1.5 bath, 936 sq. ft. \$650  
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Heat/Water included

Very clean apartments • Excellent maintenance • Central air Intercom • Appliances include dishwasher and more • No pets  
(734) 729-6636 MON-FRI 9-5 SAT 12-4  
(New residents only with approved credit, 1 year lease.)

Fresh Summer Salad  
Serves 4



Ingredients

4 bowls  
Head of  
Selected  
For dress  
1/2 cup  
Salt and  
Dion n

Preheat oven to 450 F. Coat each nonsick skillet over med-high heat. Add season to taste with salt and fresh strips when cool.

Quarter and chop vegetables. Add

For dressing  
Combine olive oil, vinegar, mustard

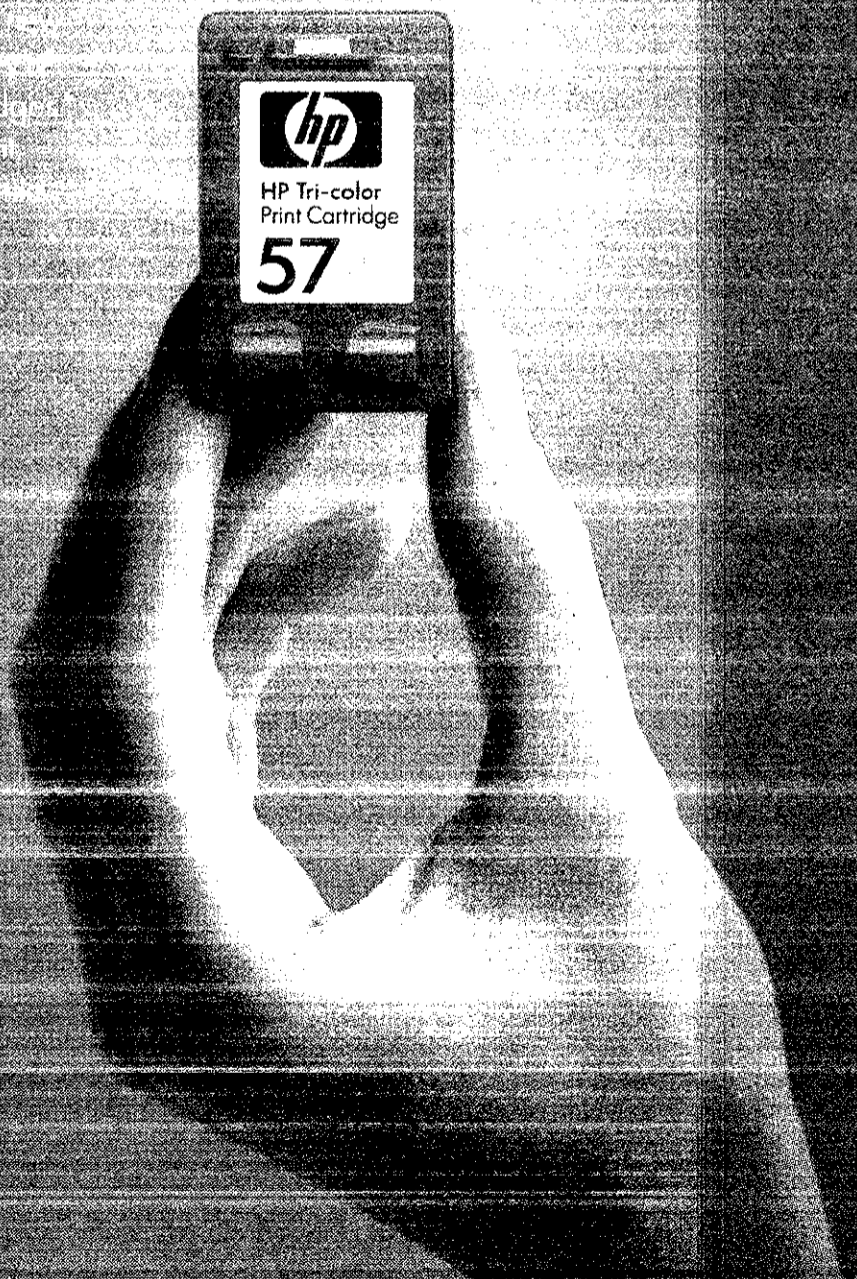
AY!

Pre-Camp Checklist

- ☐ Clothing
- ☐ Lower shoes
- ☐ Towels, socks
- ☐ Equipment
- ☐ Sleeping
- ☐ Laundry
- ☐ Camp

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<p><b>Help Wanted-Medical 6080</b></p> <p><b>STILL SEARCHING?</b></p> <p>LOOK</p> <p>For Career Marketplace on the front cover of the Employment section for more careers!</p> <p>Observer &amp; Eccentric</p>	<p><b>Help Wanted-Food/Beverage 5080</b></p> <p>Hotel</p> <p><b>Hilton Garden Inn Plymouth</b></p> <p>is now accepting applications for the following positions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Part Time Night Auditor (Fri/Sat)</li> <li>Front Desk Agent part/full time</li> <li>Maintenance Staff</li> </ul> <p><b>Experienced Preferred</b></p> <p>Apply in person at: 14600 Sheldon Rd., Plymouth MI</p> <p>Email Resumes: David_Hotycki@hilton.com Ph: 734-354-0001 Fx: 734-354-5121</p>	<p><b>Help Wanted-Sales 5120</b></p> <p>An elite residential real estate firm seeks to add a limited number of full time professionals to its highly skilled team of sales consultants. If you would like to be considered for a position with a superior company with superior training and support, visit us at <a href="http://www.weirmanuel.com">www.weirmanuel.com</a> and click on "Is a career in real estate right for you and try our on-line interactive assessment. We will contact you with the results."</p> <p><b>WEIR MANUEL REALTY</b></p>	<p><b>Help Wanted-Sales 5120</b></p> <p><b>SALES PROFESSIONAL</b></p> <p>Part time, work from home, six figure income potential, sales exp. preferred, marketing &amp; promotional exp. a plus. Become part of a winning team. Email information to: <a href="mailto:salesdepartment@brandpromotions.com">salesdepartment@brandpromotions.com</a> or call Blake at 248-324-5555 ext 401</p> <p><b>Want To Join the Most Successful Lawn Care Company in North America</b></p> <p>We need, non motivated, lazy, disorganized sales reps that couldn't sell cold water in a hot desert!! Sense of humor required!!!</p> <p>Work Monday-Thursday 6-9pm &amp; Saturday 9-1pm Earn up to \$13/hour!</p> <p><b>Join our winning team!</b> <b>Call us now at 248 477-4880</b></p> <p><b>Weed Man</b></p>	<p><b>Help Wanted-Sales 5120</b></p> <p><b>Senior Living Counselor</b></p> <p>Assisted Living Facility in the Canton area is seeking an EXP. Leasing Consultant to fill a part time position working with seniors. Must be able to work some weekends and have good computer skills. We offer competitive wages and commissions.</p> <p>Please fax resume to: 248-865-1630 Attn LM.</p>	<p><b>Help Wanted-Domestic 5240</b></p> <p><b>DOMESTIC HELP</b></p> <p>Needed in Northville. Intelligent, well organized non-smoking female needed for light domestic chores. Cooking and transportation for high school student. 15-30 hours per week. Excellent hourly pay. Call 588-248-1092</p> <p><b>HOUSEKEEPER / NANNY</b></p> <p>For home in Northville. References needed.</p> <p>248-207-9717</p> <p><b>HOUSEKEEPER WANTED</b></p> <p>Days, Part time days, \$8-\$12/hr.</p> <p>(734) 394-0864</p>	<p><b>Childcare/Baby-Sitting Services 5370</b></p> <p><b>IN HOME DAYCARE</b></p> <p>Livonia, infants to preschool only. References upon request. (734) 422-2445</p> <p>A word to the wise, when looking for a great deal check the</p> <p><b>Observer &amp; Eccentric Classifieds!</b></p> <p><b>NANNIES! FAMILIES!</b></p> <p>Find each other. (FT/PT) Nina's Nannies is a referral service in Metro-Detroit. Call 313-583-0353</p> <p><b>NON-SMOKING LOVING MOTHER</b></p> <p>Has openings for 2 children, Full/Part time. Call Jodie 734-513-2262</p>	<p><b>Childcare Needed 5380</b></p> <p><b>Governess/Au Pair</b></p> <p>Ann Arbor, Michigan Family is in need of an English / Spanish Governess for three children. Must be able to work 6 days a week (Tuesday-Sunday) during the school year. Bachelor's degree or equivalent and Michigan Driver's License required. Must be able to travel. Compensation based on experience. (7-10 years preferred). Living accommodations available. Please contact Christy at: 734-657-0356 for an interview. Principals only please.</p> <p><b>NANNY WANTED</b></p> <p>Full-time Mon.-Fri., 45 hrs. per week. 19-month-old twin girls. Previous experience required. Northville 248-224-9145</p> <p><b>NORTHVILLE</b> Nanny needed for sweet, energetic 3 &amp; 1 year old. Tues.-Thurs. References required. Call Jerrilann. 248-980-8998</p>	<p><b>Business Opportunities 5140</b></p> <p><b>SICK OF YOUR JOB?</b> Earn the income you desire working part time from home. 1-888-598-6559</p> <p><b>Tutoring 5170</b></p> <p><b>Interactive, Individualized Lessons</b></p> <p><a href="http://Educationsofimple.com">Educationsofimple.com</a> 586-216-0436</p>
<p><b>Help Wanted-Food/Beverage 5080</b></p> <p>Accepting Applications</p> <p><b>Line Chefs, Dish Staff</b></p> <p><b>Breakfast &amp; Dinner</b></p> <p>Health Ins. / 401K</p> <p><b>Beverly Hills Grill</b></p> <p>31471 Southfield Road</p>	<p><b>Pictures Can Make A Difference!</b></p> <p>1-800-579-SELL(7355)</p> <p>Observer &amp; Eccentric</p>	<p><b>Are you ready to bring your Real Estate career to the next level?</b></p> <p><b>CENTURY 21 Town and Country</b>, the #1 Michigan offers new and experienced self motivating agents the very best marketing program, training and web presence. Visit our downtown Plymouth office. Tour our large private offices. Join the elite! Call Christine Patrick (734) 737-2901 for an appointment.</p>	<p><b>Oh Yeah!</b></p> <p>Make your life easier... find it in your classifieds!</p>	<p><b>Help Wanted-Part-Time 5200</b></p> <p><b>AVON NEEDS</b></p> <p>Representatives Now!</p> <p>Call 734-425-1947</p> <p>A word to the wise, when looking for a great deal check the</p> <p><b>Observer &amp; Eccentric Classifieds!</b></p>	<p><b>CLASSIFIEDS WORK!</b></p> <p><b>1-800-579-7355</b></p> <p><b>HOUSEKEEPER / KOSHER COOK / GARDENER</b></p> <p>3 positions, W.Bloomfield. Exp. Ref. req. 1-800-436-2193</p> <p><b>Position Wanted 5340</b></p> <p><b>HOUSECLEANING</b></p> <p>To your specifications. 20 yrs. exp. Exc. ref. Call Sharon. 734-254-9527</p>	<p><b>Childcare Needed 5380</b></p> <p><b>CANTON</b></p> <p>Looking for someone to watch my 3 yr. old son. Flexible night shift (6pm-3am, Sat. &amp; Sun a must!). No smoking in house! Must have references. 734-323-2140</p>	<p><b>Call to place your ad at 1-800-579-SELL(7355)</b></p>	<p><b>It's all here!</b></p> <p><b>1-800-579-SELL</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.hometownlife.com">www.hometownlife.com</a></p>

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**Senior Living Counselor**  
Assisted Living Facility in the Canton area is seeking an EXP. Leasing Consultant to fill a part time position working with seniors. Must be able to work some weekends and have good computer skills. We offer competitive wages and commissions. Please fax resume to: 248-865-1630 Attn LM.

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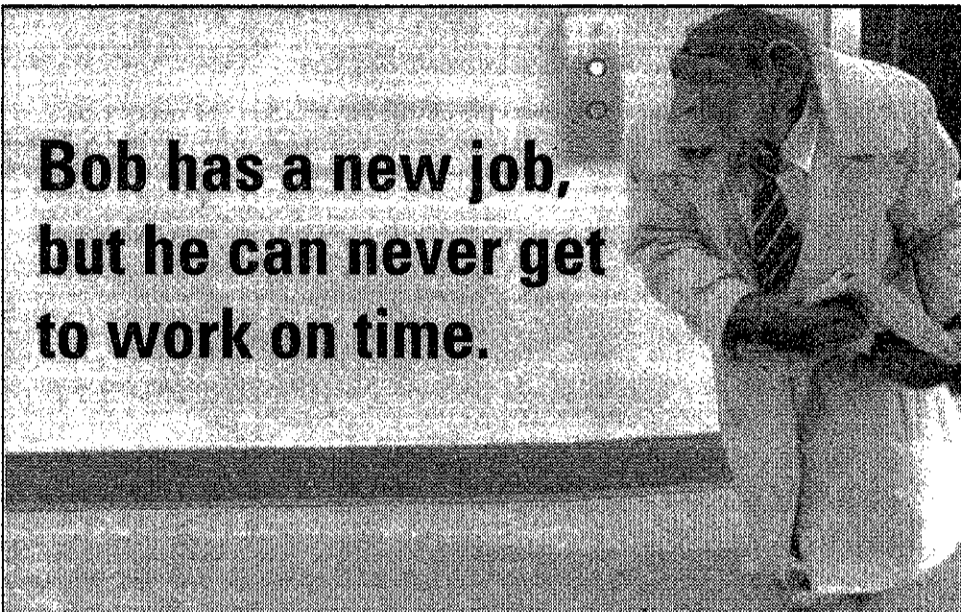
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CORT Furniture Rental is looking for an Inside Warehouse Associate for their Ferndale Distribution Center. Individual will have main responsibilities of:

- Staging product for loading
- Assist in the loading of the product
- Return product to system and rack following pickup
- Clean and repair furniture as need to ensure quality product.
- Pull orders and download product into the racks

The ideal candidate for this position:

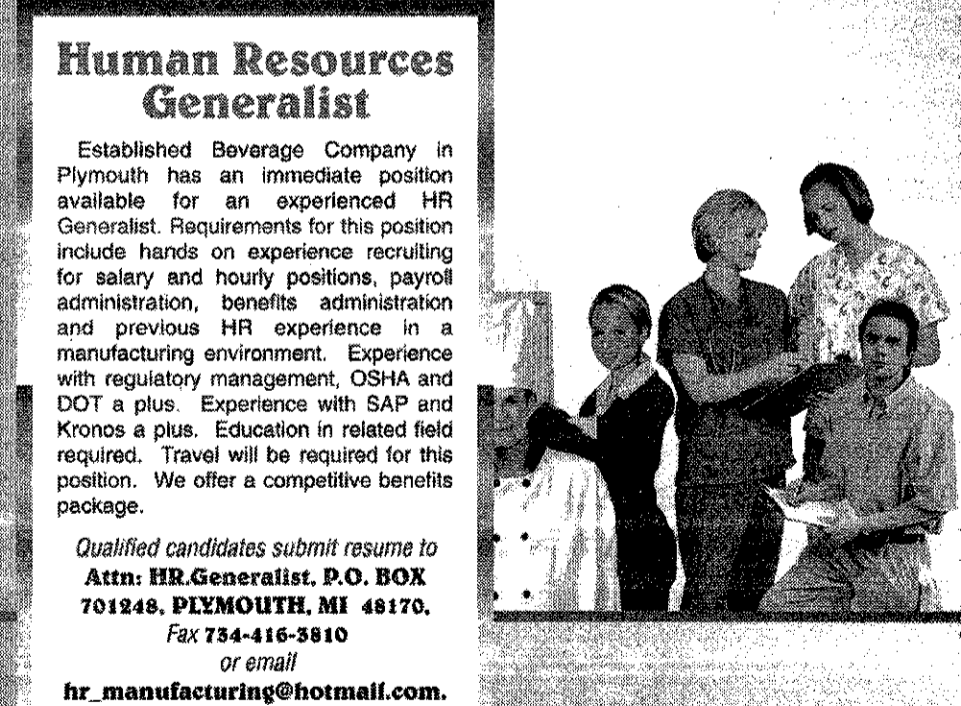
- will be able to work Monday through Friday 8am-5pm
- will be aggressive, self-motivated
- will be able to speak English
- will be able to pass the pre-employment background check, drug screen and agility test

CORT offers steady hours, competitive wages, and excellent benefits. Interested individuals should apply in person with Lorenzo Gladney at: 1310 Academy Dr. Ferndale MI 48220  
**248-543-3776**  
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**Qualified candidates submit resume to Attn: HR.Generalist, P.O. BOX 701248, PLYMOUTH, MI 48170. Fax 734-416-3810 or email hr\_manufacturing@hotmail.com. F.O.E.**



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Thursday, April 20, 2006

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

# HOMETOWN LIFE.COM

Mary Klemic, editor (248) 901.2569 . mklemic@hometownlife.com

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# They're gr-r-r-eat!

## Wines, foods take the table at OCC fund-raiser

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK  
STAFF WRITER

The corks and caps will be removed from bottles of riesling, gewurztraminer and cabernet franc.

Visitors can enjoy merlot, cabernet sauvignon and vidal blanc, also known as ice wines.

The event is also the biggest annual fund-raiser at Oakland Community College for money toward scholarships and trips to competitions for culinary students.

The Great Lakes Great Wines Walk Around Wine Tasting returns to the campus of Oakland Community College on May 11.

More than \$80,000 has been raised over the past 10 years, said Darlene Levinson, organizer of the event and OCC instructor. Much of that money helps OCC's diverse student population: people laid off from their jobs and now working on a second career, single mothers, retirees who want a second career and "special needs" students.

"That money comes in handy," Levinson said. "It's a population that would not go to college without assistance. They would just not be able to do it."

The money also will help students travel to competitions, such as Tammy Gauthier, a second-year student who won the Midwest region of the American Chefs Federation individual food competition in Minneapolis in late March. She advanced to a national ACF competition scheduled for July.

More than 500 wines from



LAWRENCE MCKEE / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Patrons enjoyed last year's Great Lakes Great Wine Walk Around Tasting event at Oakland Community College in Farmington Hills.

wineries in seven Great Lakes states and one Canadian province (Ontario) will be available, Levinson said. Levinson estimates that 24-30 judges will taste the wines before the event and judge them for awards.

Among the expected judges are Joe Borrello, president of the International Wine Tasters Guild and author of *Wineries of the Great Lakes and Recipes*

*from the Wineries of the Great Lakes*; Stan Howell, professor in the Horticulture Department at Michigan State University, and winemakers Chas Catherman from St. Julian's Winery in Paw Paw, Lee Lutes from Black Star Farms in the Leelanau Peninsula, and Mark Johnson from Chateau Chantel. Master wine sommelier Madeline Triffon of the Matt Prentice

Restaurant Group has served as a judge in previous years, Levinson said.

"We pick them to lend credibility to the event," Levinson said. "We have to have people who know how to judge them."

And that's just a preview of the wine. Then there's the food.

Many of the food booths will be staffed by talented OCC graduates such as chef

Andrew Sayes of The Grill at the Ritz-Carlton in Dearborn; Ted Teeter, executive chef at P.F. Changs in Troy; Randy Emert, executive chef at Great Oaks Country Club in Rochester; Steven Allen and Chuck "Rocky" Rachwitz, chefs and owners of Steve & Rocky's in Novi; Denise Caurdy, chef at Traverse Pointe Country Club in Ann Arbor; Tariq Hanna, pastry

### GREAT LAKES

#### GREAT WINES

**What:** More than 500 wines will be offered at the 11th Annual Great Lakes Great Wine Walk Around Tasting

**When:** 6-8 p.m. Thursday, May 11

**Where:** Third floor of J Building at the Orchard Ridge campus of Oakland Community College, 27055 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills.

**Tickets:** \$45, proceeds used for student scholarships and competition travel funds.

**For information,** call (248) 522-3700.

chef at Motor City Casino and part-time instructor at OCC; and Eric Voight, pastry chef at Tribute in Farmington Hills.

The OCC Culinary Studies Institute will put its own imprint on the event as instructors and students prepare two tables of pastries and Asian foods and another table full of food.

Levinson estimates that 300 people will be in attendance. This year, the Culinary Studies Institute has expanded the event from the traditional third floor to include food booths on the fourth floor.

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# Use this guide to help you buy a better notebook

For many of us, the next computer we buy will be a notebook.

And why not? They consume relatively little of the prized real estate that is your desk, and they're mobile.

Notebooks (only the tragically unhip still call them laptops) travel easily from home to work to Panera Bread to coach class.

Well, some do. You may have noticed that some of the latest laptops are downright huge, with screens rivaling the size of standalone LCDs. If you've ever seen a fellow passenger try to wrangle one of these onto a tray table, well, it ain't pretty.

#### SIZE MATTERS

So, when shopping for a new notebook, consider size first. If you prize mobility above all else, look for a model with a screen smaller than 15 inches and a weight below six pounds.

If the machine is earmarked for desk duty, you may want to splurge on a so-called desktop replacement.

These bulky, travel-challenged powerhouses have big screens (usually 15-



**Tech Savvy**

Rick Broida

17 inches) and entertainment-oriented features (often including TV tuners and DVR software), making them ideal for dens, dorm rooms and other habitats.

#### BASIC SPECS

Whatever your size preference, your notebook should meet a few basic requirements.

First, I recommend avoiding horse-and-buggy-speed processors like the AMD Sempron and Intel Celeron. These are the chips you'll find in those enticing \$500-\$600 models, but they're too slow for anything beyond the basics, like e-mail and word processing.

I also urge you to get at least 512MB of RAM. Anything less and

Windows will run like molasses.

As for the hard drive, bigger is always better, of course. A 40GB drive may sound plenty roomy, but once you start filling it with photos, digital music and, in the case of Media Center notebooks, TV shows, that space will fill up fast.

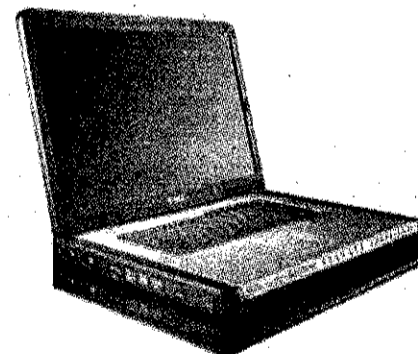
Fortunately, it's easy to add more storage later, courtesy of capacious external hard drives. I recently spotted a 300GB drive selling online for just \$113.

If you want to watch movies on your notebook, a DVD-ROM drive is essential. Step up to a DVD burner (also known as a DVD+/-RW drive) if you want to author your own discs.

Don't worry about numbers like "8X," which pertain to the drive's speed. They're all plenty fast.

#### ESSENTIAL EXTRAS

I wouldn't touch a notebook that didn't have a built-in Wi-Fi antenna, which is mandatory for connecting to wireless networks. Fortunately, it's standard equipment on most models. The 802.11g variety is fine for most



If you're not too concerned about mobility, Dell's XPS M170 notebook offers all the power of a desktop PC.

home and small-business users.

I also insist on a media card reader, preferably one that supports all the most popular formats (Compact Flash, Secure Digital, etc.).

If you plan to edit video on your notebook, look for a FireWire port so you can connect your camcorder. (It's a common misconception that video can be transferred over USB. Most

camcorders require a FireWire connection.)

Spend a few bucks on a mouse — even the best notebook touchpad is no substitute. Consider a full-size mouse for desk duty (Logitech's wireless, rechargeable MX 1000 can't be beat) and a smaller one for travel.

Spend a few bucks more on a USB flash drive, which comes in handy for moving documents between your notebook and other PCs.

And speaking of other PCs, if you're migrating from an older machine to your new notebook, consider deploying a program like Alohobob PC Relocator Ultra Control (alohobob.com). It greatly simplifies moving the contents and settings of one PC to another.

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.

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# Home Décor Secrets

## Professional Decorators Know Where to Look

Designers always seem to know where to find the best selection of items for the home. This is what you pay them for - to help you make your home uniquely yours. So where do designers begin their search? One place that is a "must stop" is Recherché. Nestled in Farmington's downtown this store is...on the list of professional secrets of designers.

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, or an original oil on canvas. Recherché will likely have something for you to consider. How about a 72" round table made from a rare mahogany with a unique ribbon grain? Or if your dining area is better suited for a traditional extension table - how about one made with satin banding. These are just a couple of samples.

Need a breakfront or a china cabinet to compliment your existing table? Recherché is the place to look first. Do you like the rich look of the Chippendale chairs pictured in this ad? Don't place an order anywhere until you check out what Recherché has to offer. Do you prefer contemporary? Check out the glass on glass dining table made by Fox Fire before you over pay for one that would pale by comparison.

Whether you're searching for a vintage

These original oil paintings provide a breathtaking backdrop for this antique walnut chair. Also features is an antique mahogany server - part of a beautiful Jacobean dining set with table, china cabinet & 6 chairs (not pictured).



dining table or you prefer new, Recherché is no ordinary store. When it comes to previously owned furniture, Recherché is meticulous about the condition, uniqueness and quality. They are very selective so that you don't have to spend your time rummaging through estate sales, thrift stores, or the internet, looking for a 'diamond in the rough.' Even better, Recherché carries both new and used items, and most home projects need both.

Find beautiful art and accessories to compliment your furniture selections. Lamps,

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.

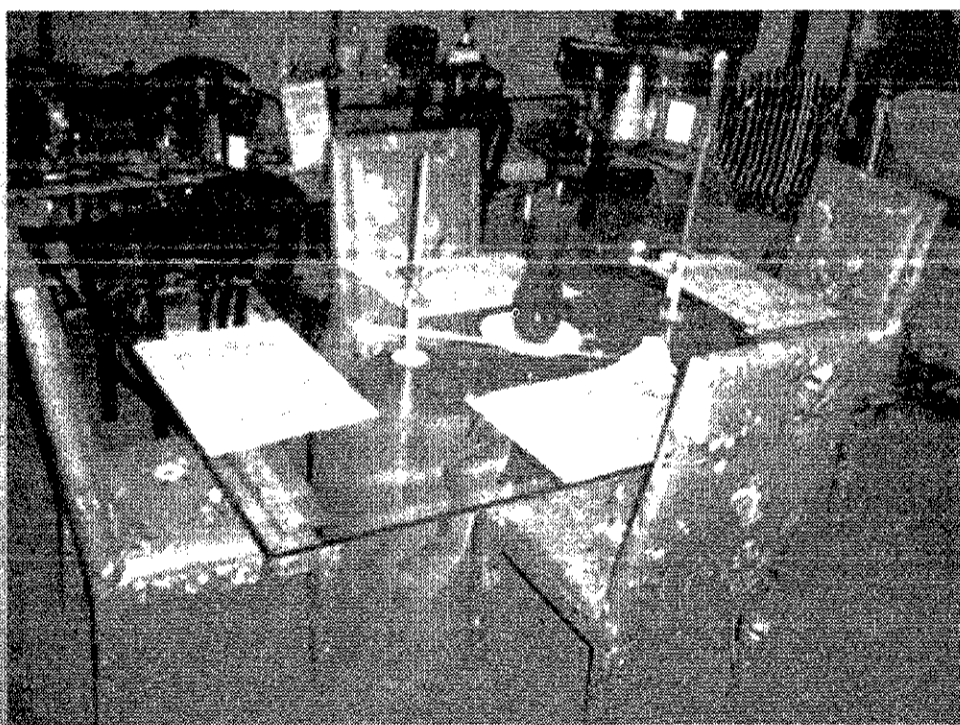


glassware, candles, and unique accent pieces can be found. Why settle for the same accessories that everyone else has. At Recherché you will find a unique selection at affordable prices.

If you have furniture that no longer suits your need and you want to find out if it meets Recherché standards to be sold in their store, email pictures to [Farmington@recherchefurniture.com](mailto:Farmington@recherchefurniture.com) Stop by and visit Tom & Linda in the Downtown Farmington Center. Also, be sure to take advantage of the special offer in today's ad.



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 perfect finish. In the background is a Berkey & Gay Server, Circa 1909. Of course, no scene is complete without original oil paintings in the perfect frame.



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.



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.

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# Spring into steamed fish

When you are tired of the heavy cooking of the cold months but it is too early for the outdoor grilling of summer, steaming is a good cooking transition as spring evolves.

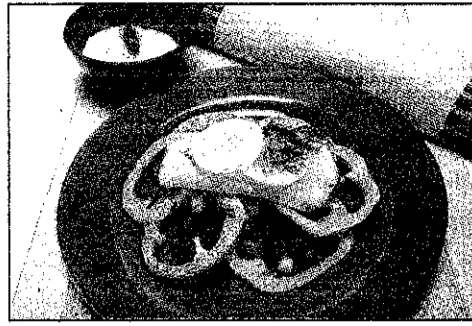
Steaming is a traditional Chinese cooking technique that uses gentle heat instead of oil to cook foods. So it is a good way to make low-fat, low-calorie entrées.

Steaming keeps vegetables crunchy and brightly colored, and helps avoid over-cooking fish. It also protects water-soluble nutrients that would otherwise be lost during boiling.

All you need to steam fish is a deep saucepan, Dutch oven, pressure cooker, roasting pan, or wok. The pot should be wide enough to hold a heat-proof plate on which all the ingredients can be placed in a single layer, and deep enough so that the plate is elevated at least an inch above enough water to simmer until the food is cooked.

Both the American Institute for Cancer Research and other health experts recommend fish as the best animal protein alternative to red meat. It is an important source of omega-3 fatty acids, which are so important to our health.

Numerous studies suggest that a predominantly plant-based diet is linked to long-term health. The phytochemicals, minerals and vitamins in plant foods seem to bolster the body's defenses against can-



AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR CANCER RESEARCH

Have a spring dinner of steamed fish with yogurt dill sauce.

cer, heart disease and stroke.

And to go with your steamed fish, why not steam a variety of colorful and healthful vegetables?

AICR recommends gradually making the transition to a plate that contains 1/3 (or more) vegetables, fruits, whole grains and beans to one-third (or less) animal protein.

A spring dinner of steamed fish with yogurt dill sauce is a good place to start.

### STEAMED FISH WITH YOGURT DILL SAUCE

- 2 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil
- 1 tablespoon finely chopped fresh chives
- 1 teaspoon finely chopped fresh basil

- 1 tablespoon fresh dill, divided
- 1/4 pound firm-fleshed fish fillet, (e.g. halibut, cod; or salmon), cut in 4 pieces
- Salt and freshly ground pepper
- 1/2 cup low-fat, plain yogurt
- 2 red bell peppers, thinly sliced
- 2 orange or yellow bell peppers, thinly sliced
- 1 scallion, finely chopped (green part included)
- 1 large lemon, thinly sliced
- 1/2 cup fat-free, reduced-sodium chicken broth
- 4 sprigs fresh dill for garnish (optional)

In a small bowl, mix together oil, chives, basil and half the dill. Rub mixture into both sides of fish, then sprinkle with salt and pepper. Set aside.

Mix remaining dill with yogurt and set sauce aside.

In a deep-rimmed serving dish large enough to hold the fish and broth, arrange bell peppers and scallions evenly along bottom. Place fish on top. Arrange lemon slices on top of fish. Add broth. Place in microwave and cook at medium power, checking every few minutes, until fish flakes with a fork.

Remove from microwave and garnish with remaining dill. Serve with yogurt-dill sauce.

Makes 4 servings. Per serving: 293 calories, 11 g. total fat (2 g. saturated fat), 9 g. carbohydrate, 38 g. protein, 2 g. dietary fiber, 176 mg. sodium.

Recipe courtesy of the American Institute for Cancer Research.

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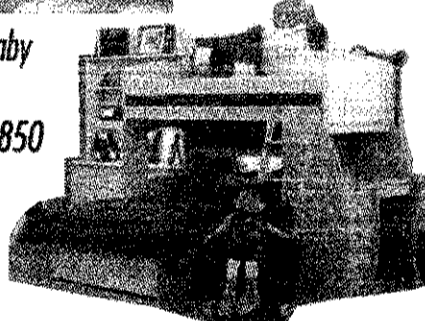
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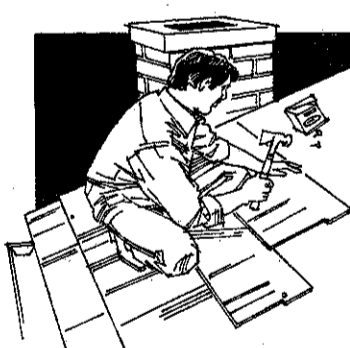
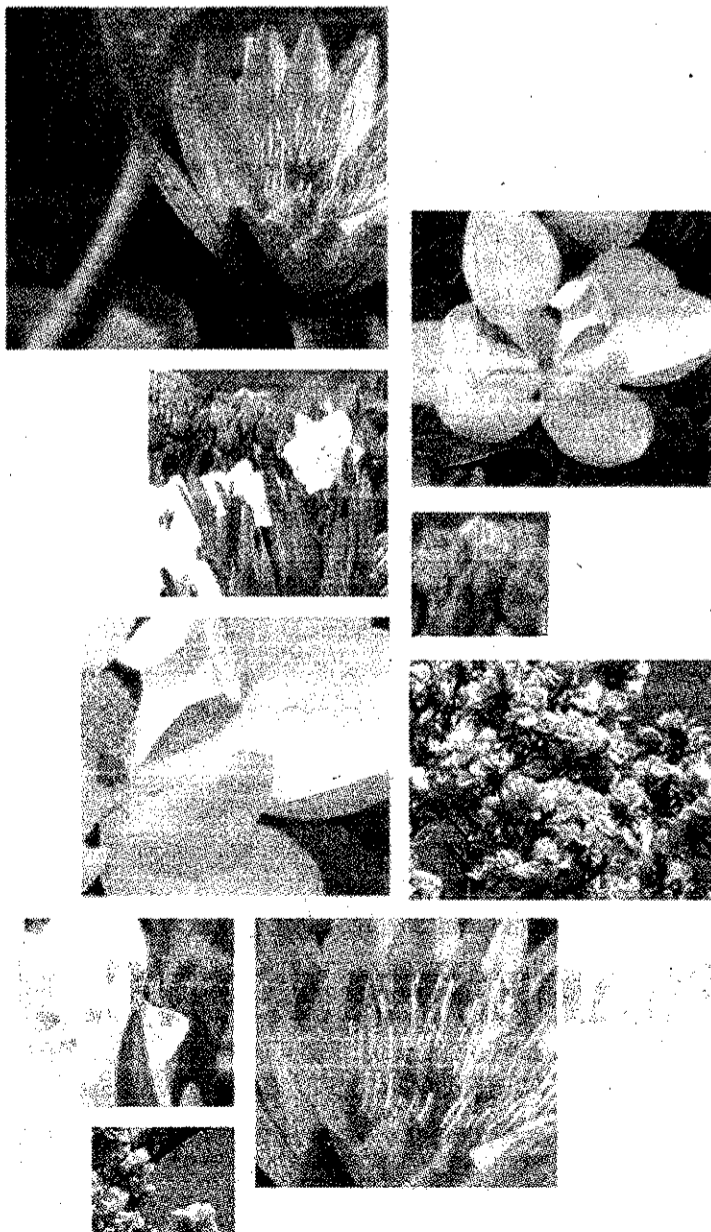
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## Trees still available for spring planting

Spring is here, so get ready to plant some beautiful trees.

Global ReLeaf of Michigan suggests that trees make a great Mother's Day gift or can be planted in someone's memory.

The non-profit tree organization has 3- to 6-foot (depending on species) bare root trees, and 1- to 2-foot bare root shrubs, for sale this spring.

Trees available are Red Maple, Sugar Maple, Swamp White Oak, Greenspire Linden, White Spire Birch, Red Bud, White and Red Crabapple, Serviceberry, Japanese Tree Lilac,

Aristocrat Pear, Honeycrisp Apple and Crimson King Norway Maple.

Shrubs available are "Endless Summer" Hydrangea, "Blue Muffin" Arrowwood Viburnum, and "Wine and Roses" Wiegela.

Trees are \$28 each, or \$25 each for six or more. Shrubs are \$20 each, or \$18 each for six or more.

Extra trees and shrubs will be available for sale noon to 2 p.m. Saturday, April 22, at eight different pickup locations in south-east Michigan.

For more information, call (800) 642-7353 or visit [www.globalreleaf.org](http://www.globalreleaf.org).

# Test for radon in your home

BY JAMES AND MORRIS CAREY  
FOR AP WEEKLY FEATURES

Like carbon monoxide, you can't see, smell or taste radon, but the gas may be a problem in your home.

It results from disintegrating uranium in the earth - soil, rock and water. Although radon can be found all over the United States, it is especially prevalent in the Rockies, the Midwest and New England.

It can get into any type of building - home, office, school - and result in a high indoor radon level.

However, most people are likely to get the greatest exposure at home, where they spend most of their time.

It typically makes its way into homes through cracks in concrete floors or basement walls and floors, gaps in suspended floors, gaps around service pipes and cavities inside walls.

According to the Environmental Protection Agency, radon is estimated to cause about 21,000 lung cancer deaths per year. What's more, if you smoke and your home has high radon levels, your risk of lung cancer is especially high.

Nearly one out of every 15 homes in the United States is estimated to have elevated radon levels.

Is radon present in your home? The only means to determine if radon is present

and to what extent is through testing.

Fortunately, testing is inexpensive and easy and should only take a few minutes of your time. Low-cost, do-it-yourself radon test kits can be found at many hardware stores or home centers or obtained through the mail.

If you are buying or selling a home, or you don't choose to perform the test yourself, you can hire a qualified testing firm. Contact your state radon office for a list of qualified testers.

There are two general ways of testing for radon: short-term and long-term testing.

As the name implies, short-term testing is the quickest way to test. The collection device - a charcoal canister or other type of system - remains in your home for two to 90 days.

Since radon levels can vary from day to day and season to season, a short-term test isn't likely to produce a reliable year-round average level.

A long-term test remains in your home for more than 90 days.

### STEPS

The EPA recommends the following testing steps:

Take a short-term test. If the result is four picocuries per liter of air or higher, take a follow-up test to be sure.

Follow up with either a long-term test or a second short-

term test. For a better understanding of your year-round average, take a long-term test. If you need results quickly, take a second short-term test.

If tests demonstrate that your home contains levels of radon that are equal to or greater than four picocuries per liter of air, you should take action to reduce the levels.

There are many methods of reducing radon levels. In general, all mitigation methods include some form of sealing or ventilation.

### PREVENTION

In addition, some techniques prevent radon from entering your home while others reduce radon levels after it has entered.

Among the most effective preventive methods is to patch cracks and gaps using caulking and various other types of patching compounds.

Another method, "soil suction," prevents radon from entering your home by drawing it from below the house and venting it through a pipe (or pipes) to the air about the house where it is quickly diluted.

Some methods are "passive" and simply depend on natural ventilation, while other "active" methods involve the use of a powered exhaust fan, which should run continuously.

An effective method to reduce radon levels in homes with a crawlspace involves cov-

ering the earth with a high-density plastic sheet. A vent pipe and fan are used to draw the radon from under the sheet and vent it to the outdoors.

Higher levels may require more complex measures. If such is the case, the EPA recommends hiring a qualified radon mitigation contractor.

Begin by checking with your state radon office. Many states require radon mitigation professionals to be licensed, certified or registered.

If you choose to perform the work yourself, get information on appropriate training courses and copies of the EPA's technical guidance documents from your state radon office.

The good news is that radon reduction systems have proven to be effective. In fact, some systems can reduce radon levels by up to 99 percent.

The cost for repairs necessary to reduce radon ranges from about \$800 to \$2,500 (with an average cost of \$1,200), depending upon the size and design of your home and which radon reduction methods are required.

For more information on radon testing and mitigation, visit [www.epa.gov/radon](http://www.epa.gov/radon) or call (800) 557-2366.

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

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## Yard Smarts Hotline to run entire month

This year, the Yard Smarts Hotline is expanding from one week to the entire month of May to accommodate more homeowners who have yard care questions.

Small-engine manufacturer Briggs & Stratton Corporation sponsors the free hotline, which provides expert advice about lawns, gardens or lawn care equipment.

During May, consumers can call the toll-free hotline, (866) YARD-TIPS (927-3847), or submit an e-mail by visiting [www.yardsmarts.com](http://www.yardsmarts.com). All questions will be answered personally within 48 hours.

Also, every Friday in May, consumers can speak directly with lawn and garden experts from noon to 7 p.m. CDT.

Nationally known lawn care expert Trey Rogers, the Briggs & Stratton "Yard Doctor," and a team of university lawn and garden experts will field any questions homeowners may have related to their lawn, trees, flowers, weeds, pests, etc.

In addition, a team of 20

Briggs & Stratton experts will respond to equipment queries.

In addition to getting free answers and advice from experts, hotline participants may also win prizes.

Each week, the name of one caller or e-mailer will be drawn, and that person will receive his or her choice of a new lawn mower, pressure washer or string trimmer powered by a Briggs & Stratton engine.

Also, one name will be drawn for the grand prize. Rogers will spend a day with the grand-prize winner to evaluate his or her lawn and garden, provide advice on improving the yard and answer any questions.

The grand-prize package also includes a piece of outdoor power equipment from Briggs & Stratton and a \$500 gift certificate toward yard care improvements.

Last year, hotline experts answered a variety of questions, including:

- How and when should I trim my lilac bushes?
- How do I tune up my lawn mower?

■ What's an organic way to kill weeds?

■ Why doesn't my lawn mower start on the first pull?

■ How thick should a mulch application be?

■ How can I get rid of the moles that are digging holes in my lawn?

Rogers, who has more than 20 years' experience in the science of turf grass, has helped design and grow playing field grass for the Olympic Games and World Cup soccer. He's a sought-after expert by designers of golf courses and athletic fields.

Yard Smarts is an educational program designed to build consumer knowledge, provide answers and expert advice, and give consumers the confidence to handle yard care activities.

Briggs & Stratton Corporation is the largest manufacturer of small, air-cooled engines for lawn and garden and other outdoor power equipment.

The company is also the largest producer of generators and pressure washers in the United States.

## These tips will help you spring into spring

Well, it looks like Old Man Winter has finally let us go.

With spring here we start spending more time outside, and of course we need to look at those fix-up projects that the winter has left for us.

Here are a few tips to help you get through the spring clean-up, fix-up time:

■ Get the debris out of your gutters. Leaves, twigs, seed pods can hold moisture in your gutters, which can cause premature deterioration of the gutters.

In addition, the added weight of the water can cause sagging of the gutters to the point where they can fall off the house.

Use extreme caution while working on ladders. The most common injuries on jobs are the result of improper ladder use. Be sure you follow common sense rules when using a ladder.

If you are considering buying a ladder, I strongly suggest buying the heaviest duty ladder you can afford and avoiding metal ladders.

Though metal ladders are lighter in weight and usually less expensive than wood or fiberglass ladders, they are usually not as strong and they conduct electricity.

All too many people have been seriously injured or killed



Ask Dad

Harry Jachym

when they have made contact with a live electric wire while using a metal ladder.

■ Just about all concrete will crack at some point. If you have noticed some cracks in your drive or walks, repair them by using a high-pressure hose nozzle to clean away dirt and debris.

Let them dry, and seal them with a good-quality concrete caulk such as Sika sikaflex polyurethane caulks, available at most home improvement stores.

■ Visually inspect the outside of your house for any loose caulk, peeling or chipping paint and deteriorated mortar.

"Tuck pointing" - pushing a thin line of mortar into the damaged area - can usually replace missing mortar. There are also several caulks available that match mortar fairly close.

Before painting damaged areas, scrape or sand areas where the paint is peeling. Use a good-quality primer over the repair before adding the paint.

If there is water stain on the wood, coat it with a good seal-

er-primer such as Kilz.

■ Hose down the air conditioning condenser coils to remove soil, leaves and other debris. This will help your air conditioner work more efficiently.

It's also a good idea to prune away any tree branches that may restrict the airflow around the condenser unit.

■ Look over your deck for any loose nails. Pull them and replace them with deck screws.

Replace any badly warped or cracked boards.

Clean dirt and other debris from between the deck boards and wash the deck, using a good deck brightener and a power set to a LOW PRES-SURE setting.

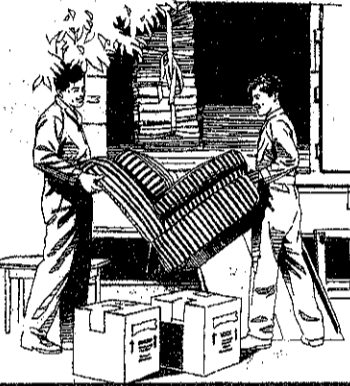
■ Replace any worn or broken parts on your lawnmower and edger, such as wheels and starter pull cords. Have the blade sharpened and change the oil.

Spring is a great time. Go out and get those jobs done so you can sit down and enjoy the warm weather.

Harry Jachym writes Ask Dad, a column on home issues ranging from repairs and maintenance to building and remodeling projects. He is a Plymouth resident. Send any questions or comments to Jachym at [askdad@comcast.net](mailto:askdad@comcast.net) or in care of Mary Klemic, *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers*, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham 48009.

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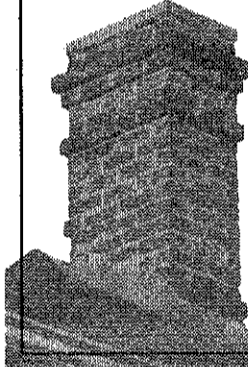
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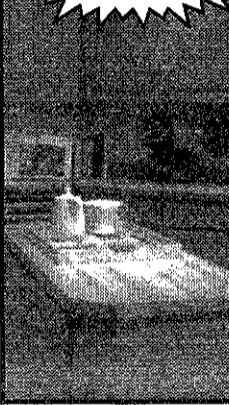
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# Pink

The PINK Page has moved from Sundays to Thursdays. Watch for it every week in your O&E!

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## Fashion ... Don't leave home without it

By Anna Foard Whidden

You're about to go on a 10-day trip to Paris. On your itinerary are visits to the city's historical museums, gorgeous cathedrals and finest restaurants, not to mention the fabulous — and requisite — shopping this stylish metropolis has to offer.

But what to wear while you're in the fashion capital of the world? You're a classy gal, even on vacations. How do you pack for a day of sightseeing and an evening at the opera, without dragging three bags on to the plane?

Can you dress comfortably without looking like a frumpy tourist? Can travel and fashion really go hand-in-hand?

Absolutely, according to some travel and fashion authorities. With a few tips from the pros, you can look chic with just the clothes in your carry-on.

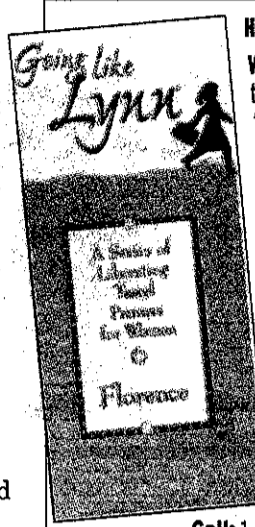
### SHOP FOR TRAVEL

Whether you travel for business or pleasure, look for clothes that pack well whenever you go shopping.

"Knit things work really, really well," said Lexa Leatherdale, public relations manager of Neiman Marcus in Troy. Cashmere and wool are winners, too, she adds, as are some cotton blends (such as with spandex).

Neiman Marcus carries the St. John line of tweed suits and other apparel, which work "particularly well with business women," Leatherdale said. "They can step off the plane, go to their meeting and then attend a cocktail party."

Every clothing line has some pieces that



### HOW TO TRAVEL WITH ONE BAG

**Who:** Lynn Portnoy, boutique owner and author of "Going Like Lynn" travel books, will give her signature presentation on stylish packing.

**When:** 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 25

**Where:** Lynn Portnoy, 29260 Franklin Road, Southfield

**Cost:** \$25 minimum donation, along with 10 percent of sales that evening, will benefit Gilda's Club-Detroit

Call: 1-888-386-9688

or visit www.goinglikelynn.com

don't wrinkle, she added.

Lynn Portnoy, owner of a Southfield boutique that bears her name, said many different kinds of fabrics work well for travel. The key is to test for wrinkle-resistance by bunching the fabric in your hand and then stretching it out again to see if it leaves any lines.

"I look for non-seasonal fabrics that really do not wrinkle," said Portnoy, who calls herself a "travelaholic." The fashion consultant has written several travel guides for women, including *Going Like Lynn — Paris*.

Almost all of what you find in Portnoy's boutique is travel-friendly, including the season-less designs from Yeohlee, as well

as Sangam, a fabulous and affordable line of tweed coordinates from India, available in a variety of neutral colors that are interchangeable.

For those who like to shop via catalog or the Internet, check out the TravelSmith Outfitting Guide and Catalog. The company carries separates that pack easily, stay wrinkle free on long plane rides and work well in a variety of climates, such as a stylish raincoat that fits in a pouch. Order well in advance of any trip, as many of the company's popular items have to be backordered.

### COORDINATE PIECES

Women should buy clothes that go with whatever is already in their closets, building on an existing wardrobe so pieces can be mixed and matched to create new outfits, Portnoy said. This strategy works well when packing for your trip, too.

"I want every top to go with every bottom," said Portnoy, who recommends taking (including what you wear on your way to your destination) four neutral skirts and/or pants, two neutral jackets that go with the bottoms, and seven tops for a weeklong trip.

You can incorporate bright colors into your outfits with your tops and accessories, she said.

"It's really wise to pick a color theme, so all the pieces coordinate with one another," Leatherdale added.

Whether it is a weekend getaway to the Big Apple or a 10-day trip to the Mediterranean, with a little know-how and wardrobe planning you'll be traveling light and in style on your next trip.

### checklist

- ✓ Women's clothier and travel author Lynn Portnoy frequently takes trips to Europe with only a carry-on. Here, she shares what to pack in order to fit a trip's worth of clothing in one bag:
- ✓ Old, oversized T-shirts for sleeping that you can leave behind to make room for purchases.
- ✓ A quality, lightweight raincoat that can double as a bathrobe.
- ✓ A fabric purse for evenings out that can be packed flat in a carry-on, and a cloth coin purse.
- ✓ Faux jewelry, so there is no worry if it's lost or stolen.
- ✓ Three pairs of shoes, no matter how short your trip is — two pairs for walking and one dressy pair for evenings. Wear the heaviest one to and from your destination. If your feet hurt, your trip is done.
- ✓ It is a good idea to pack a mending kit, with thread and buttons to match your clothes.
- ✓ If you are checking luggage, pack a change of clothes in your carry-on so you'll have something to wear if your suitcase is lost.



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Livonia native Nicole Forester recently took over the role of Cassie Winslow on *Guiding Light*. Over the years, Cassie has gone from stripper to hotel heiress — with a miscarriage, stillbirth, adoption and two children from two different men along the way. The character helped her sister fight murder charges, and almost died in a fire. Nicole's real life might not be quite as much of a soap opera, but it's glamorous nonetheless. This week, the actress shares her picks with PINK.

- Wear It!**  
Hand-knit berets
- Take It!**  
Orla Kiely bags
- Christian Louboutin heels
- Sonya Dakar Bergamot Wash
- OWN IT!**  
Jean de Florette & Manon of the Spring
- TIVO IT!**  
Guiding Light, of course!
- Read It!**  
Women Who Run With the Wolves by Clarissa Pinkola Estes
- Rosie Thomas (fellow CAPA alum!)
- Ronnefeldt Herrentoffee Tea from Germany
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