



Fashion show raises funds for the homeless

 PAGE D8

Movie offerings are beginning to heat up
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Voters deliver double whammy on bonds

BY TONY BRUSCATO
 STAFF WRITER

Plymouth-Canton Community Schools voters sent a clear message to the Board of Education they aren't willing to raise taxes to pay for \$120 million in district-wide improvements by soundly defeating two bond proposals Tuesday.

With results still unofficial, residents in six municipalities defeated a request for \$95.4 million for building expansions, a new middle school in Canton and a Career and Technical Education (CTE) center at the high school park by a vote of 7,609 to 7,340.

The second proposal for \$24.8 million to build

a theater and a varsity soccer field at P-CEP, a swimming pool at Plymouth High School, an auxiliary gym at Salem High School and improvements to the baseball and softball fields at Canton High School lost 8,598 to 6,064.

"I'm shocked," trustee Joanne Lamar said shortly after the results were displayed on a large screen at the Board of Education offices. "I really thought people understood the needs of the district. A middle school was sorely needed in Canton, and a CTE center would have been a benefit to so many students in the future."

"I think people are finally going to see the real

PLEASE SEE BONDS, A5

Gonzalez, Sneideman earn board seats

BY TONY BRUSCATO
 STAFF WRITER

Dianne Gonzalez said she's already got some big challenges to overcome after winning one of two four-year seats Tuesday on the Plymouth-Canton Board of Education.

Gonzalez was the top finisher among eight candidates with 4,581 votes, ahead of second-place finisher and newly elected board member Steven Sneideman, who received 4,278 votes.

Gonzalez, whose campaign included speaking out against the two bond issues worth \$120 million for upgrades and renovations in the district, said her top priority will be to gain the respect of current board members when she begins her term in July.

"I think the hardest thing for me is to establish a rapport with different members of the school board who didn't endorse me because I

PLEASE SEE BOARD, A5



Volunteers Dan Hall (left) and John Connolly build forms for a new driveway at the Lilley Road job site Saturday.

PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Lending a helping hand

Volunteers make home repairs for those who can't



Adrienne Cercone cleans woodwork before painting at one of the Sheldon Road locations.

BY CAROL MARSHALL
 STAFF WRITER

It had been a while since the sun had shone as brightly on Gary Griffis's house. But last weekend the weather was perfect and bright for the more than 40 volunteers who showed up, with paintbrushes, rakes and tools in hand, ready to work on his home on South Lilley in Canton.

The workers were volunteers with Christmas in Action, a program which makes home repairs for senior citizens.

Griffis contacted Christmas in Action as the result of what most folks would call a bad day.

"It all started with the ordinance department - when they came to write me a ticket," Griffis said.

He'd been in poor health for

about three years, and eventually had a leg amputated. The condition of his home got away from him, and when it got bad enough that he was going to be cited for blight, he was out of solutions to the problem.

"The officer suggested I call Christmas in Action," Griffis said. So he did.

Griffis couldn't help but to be excited as the backhoe dug the trench where his new driveway would be by the end of the day.

By 9:30 a.m., volunteers had torn down an old garage, and were preparing to pour the footings for the new one. Chippewa Construction provided a team of skilled tradesmen to help the volunteers. Workers tore out the kitchen floor to lay a new one,

PLEASE SEE HOMES, A6

Trout will be plentiful during fishing derby

BY CAROL MARSHALL
 STAFF WRITER

This weekend, a Canton tradition will signal the official beginning of springtime in Michigan. Canton's annual fishing derby will draw some 900 children, who will circle the ponds at Heritage Park, fishing rods in hand.

"It's really one of my favorite events," said Recreation Supervisor Bob Dates.

"It brings out families, and the kids come out with their parents and grandparents. It's just a joy to watch them."

The Canton tradition began 23 years ago, when Heritage Park was newly developed.

"We needed a way to showcase these great ponds, and thought of all kinds of events," recalled Dates. "A natural idea was a kids' fishing event."

Traditionally it's been held the first Saturday of May, but the date was decided partly due to trial and error.

"We've had our share of mistakes," Dates said. Like one of the early years when the township held the event twice - once in the spring and once in the fall. The spring event was just fine. But by the fall event in September, the ponds had warmed up, and had become too warm for the rainbow trout the township had stocked in the pond.

"Unfortunately the fish died, and were washing up on the sides of the pond," Dates said. "That didn't go well."

This year, the township will stock the pond with approximately 1,500 rainbow trout of various sizes. The cost is just \$3 per child.

The derby will be at Heritage Park on May 6. No fishing license is required, but a proof of Canton residency must be provided.

Participants must provide their own fishing equipment and bait. There will be two fishing sessions.

The first is from 8:30-11:30 a.m. for children age 12 and under and the second, from noon until 3 p.m. is for children 1 and under.

This year, children can also visit the Huron-Clinton Metropark's Mobile Learning Center and take a close-up look at the fish, aquatic insects, reptiles and amphibians that inhabit Michigan's streams, lakes and ponds.

At the center, children may use a video microscope to observe the exciting features of these fascinating animals.


A craft and games will also be provided, including a fishing game focusing on fish native to the Michigan area.

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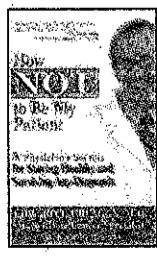
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Coming Sunday in Health



Doctor offers tips on how to become a patient

Color district meeting

The Canton Chamber of Commerce, along with the Downtown Development Authority, is offering an informational meeting regarding Canton Color Districts. The meeting will be held at 8 a.m., Tuesday, May 9, at Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway in Canton. All Canton Business are invited to attend.

At this meeting, there will be discussion about the chamber and DDA's partnership in promoting Canton's Ford Road retail corridor. Other topics that will be covered are Canton's summer events including the public art exhibit, the Liberty Fest parade, the summer jazz concert series, and the grand opening of IKEA, which is scheduled for June 7. For more information, call the chamber at (734) 453-4040.

Homeowners Advisory Council

The Canton Homeowners Advisory Council at 7 p.m. on May 8, in the lower level of Canton Township Administration Building. Ron DuPrey of Kramer-Triad Management will be the guest speaker. Topics will be insurance and contracting. Mr. DuPrey has a wealth of valuable information for condo and homeowners and will answer questions as time permits.

Canton actor featured

Canton resident Brandon Edwards will be featured in the upcoming production of *The Wizard of Oz* at the Novi Civic



Edwards

Center on Thursday-Saturday evenings, May 18-20, at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday matinees, May 20 and May 21, at 2 p.m. The entire cast and crew will number more than 100. The key members of the cast will appear at the Wizard Tea and Brunch on Sunday, May 21 from noon-1:30 p.m. at the Novi Civic Center. Tickets are \$10.

Tickets are now on sale for \$18 at the Parks Desk in the Novi Civic Center. Group sales prices are \$15 (20 or more). There will be a special student price of \$10 for the 7:30 p.m., Thursday, May 18 performance. Tickets should be purchased in advance to ensure space. For Wizard Tea and performance ticket information, call (248) 347-0400.

Beth Stewart to speak

Canton Lighthouse Aglow International invites all women to join the group at 9:30 a.m., Saturday, May 6, at St. Joseph's Medical Center on Palmer and Canton Center roads for food, fellowship, and a good word on "How do you know it's God?" Guest speaker will be Beth Stewart. For more information, call Rochelle at (734) 981-6908.

Golf outing

The Canton Community Foundation's Annual Golf

Outing is scheduled for Thursday, June 15 at Pheasant Run Golf Club. It is one of the foundation's major fund-raisers for the year. For more information about the outing and sponsorship opportunities, contact the foundation at (734) 495-1200, or visit www.cantonfoundation.org.

Chamber breakfast

The Canton Chamber of Commerce will host its government relations breakfast at 7:30 a.m. on Thursday May 19, at the Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton. The cost for breakfast is \$7 per person, which includes a full buffet breakfast, beverages, guest speaker presentation, and roundtable discussion.

The breakfast will feature guest speakers from the township who will discuss current road construction planned for this summer. In addition, guest speakers will cover the community events planned for spring and summer 2006.

"The Good Morning Canton breakfasts provide an important opportunity to keep Canton business owners and Canton residents informed about what is going on in their Community," says, Dianne Cojei, President of the Canton Chamber of Commerce.

Following the speaker presentations, guests are invited to remain for the roundtable sessions, which feature special interest groups such as Canton Public Safety, as well as government officials. The roundtables are an excellent opportunity for guests to speak one-



Blankets of love

The eight members of Girl Scout Troop 905 of Canton, who are all in high school at the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park, recently delivered more than 60 hand-made fleece blankets to Children's Hospital of Michigan in Detroit. The delivery was the culmination of many hours of work for these girls as they completed the service project portion of their Silver Awards. In addition to many prerequisite awards and badges, the girls were each required to plan and carry out a service project that involved at least 30 hours of work. Seven of the girls decided to make these soft blankets for the children who end up in the hospital, including some who had friends in the hospital. "I wanted to make blankets for the kids to get their minds off of being sick in the hospital and this way they could have something to cuddle up to," said Girl Scout Farah Syed. The troop will be honored at the Girl Scouts of Huron Valley Gold Award Ceremony in Ann Arbor on May 16, and then within their own Plymouth-Canton Cluster on June 2.

on-one with local officials regarding hot topics in the community.

For more information, call the chamber at (734) 453-4040.

Food drive

The Plymouth Salvation

Army, the United Way and Local U.S. Postal Service letter carriers team up for their annual Letter Carriers Food Drive Saturday, May 13.

Anyone who wishes to donate should place non-perishable food items in a bag near their mailbox. The letter carriers will then deliver the food to a local food bank or pantry. The Salvation Army's food pantry "wish list" includes things such as macaroni & cheese, stove-top stuffing, cake mixes, soup mixes, Jell-O,

powdered drinks, peanut butter and jelly, popcorn, oatmeal, etc.

Open house

The Plymouth Salvation Army and the YMCA Tiny Tots Preschool host an open house 10-11 a.m., 1-2:30 p.m. and 6-7 p.m. Wednesday, May 17 and again 1-2:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 24. The Plymouth Salvation Army is located at 9451 S. Main, just south of Ann Arbor Road. For information, call (734) 453-5464.

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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Historical preservationists and Canton officials were unable to raise enough money or interest to save this Civil War-era barn located on the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park.

Losing a piece of history

Civil War-era barn scheduled for wrecking ball

BY KURT KUBAN
STAFF WRITER

The Canton Historic District Commission and Canton Historical Society did all they could to save the historic barn located on the grounds of the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park. Since December, the historians tried to raise funds to move the barn, which dates back to the Civil War, to Cherry Hill Village.

But in the end, there just wasn't enough interest -- or financial support. As a result, Canton will lose yet another piece of its proud agricultural history when the barn is demolished, probably sometime this summer.

Canton Township Clerk Terry Bennett, who is also a member of the historic district commission, said a sluggish economy and a struggling automotive industry affected the scope of the donations they were able to get. The group was trying to raise \$120,000 to move the barn, but only received commitments for \$25,000.

"People were still donating,

but instead of getting \$5,000 at a time we were getting \$1,000," she said. "There just didn't seem to be a huge rallying of folks. We didn't feel that in a short amount of time we were going to be able to raise the rest of what we needed."

The barn, currently located at the corner of McClumpha and Joy roads, was constructed on the site in the early 1900s, but contains some timbers from a barn that was built in the pre-Civil War era. According to the historical society, the barn was constructed by farmer Aruna Cady, who died in 1911. Several barn experts have inspected the barn and determined it is a "raised basement" barn with a "gambrel" roof, which has four sides and is quite rare.

The barn is also all that is left of the Rotary School Farm, named in 1970 after the Plymouth Rotary raised \$20,000 to operate a school farm and rural life center. Thousands of Plymouth-Canton students took bus trips to the farm until it closed in 1981 because of economic cutbacks.

The school district bought

the property and barn in 1967, and has used it to store road salt and lawn equipment. District spokesman Frank Ruggirello said the barn has become inadequate for the district's needs, however. The district will build a larger storage facility on the campus, and will also build tennis courts for Plymouth High School where the barn now sits.

Ruggirello said the district has put off demolishing the barn to give Canton officials enough time to raise money so it could be moved, but it is now apparent that isn't going to happen.

"June 1 is kind of the day we set. But we're going to allow them to go in and take anything of historical significance. I understand there is some old farm equipment in there. We're going to give them all the time they need," he said. "We don't want this to turn into a sour point with the community."

Ruggirello said the district still hasn't put the demolition project out to bid, so it should take a few months before anything happens.

"It's too bad it couldn't be saved," he said.



The two sides of Guy Louis

Well-known family and school entertainer Guy Louis will perform two distinct musical sets beginning at 8 p.m. on May 11 at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill. Louis, who has been performing his popular Chautauqua Express musical programs for more than 20 years, will begin the show with some of his finest original material supported by a dynamic multi-media presentation. Louis's alter ego, Mr. Blue, will then perform an energized second set that will feature the nine-piece Phoenix Brass Band. The evening will conclude with a tally of votes from the audience to determine which performer is the ultimate champion. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased in advance at Summit on the Park Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m.-8:30 p.m. and on Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. The Village Theater ticket office is open one hour prior to each performance. For more information about the theater and to view the complete schedule, please visit www.cantonmi.org/village theater/index.asp.

IN BRIEF

Entertainment books

The Plymouth Symphony is offering a special on entertainment books as part of its annual fund-raiser. Patrons who buy a 2007 Entertainment Book get a 2006 book for free. The books offer 50-percent discount coupons at hundreds of restaurants and discounts for many other services and events.

The 2006 book can be picked up now at the Plymouth Symphony office, next to the Cozy Café in downtown Plymouth, or call (734) 451-2112 or Mary Thomas at (734) 453-3016. The 2007 Entertainment Book will be

available in August.

The entertainment book offer is \$20, with all proceeds used to support the Plymouth Symphony and Orchestra Canton.

Blood drive

The Plymouth Salvation Army hosts a blood drive for the American Red Cross 2-8 p.m. Thursday, May 18.

Appointments can be made, but walk-ins are also welcome. The Plymouth Salvation Army is located at 9451 S. Main, just south of Ann Arbor Road, in Plymouth.

For more information or to schedule an appointment, call (734) 453-5464.

Fashion show

First Baptist Church of Plymouth presents "New Spring Reflections" luncheon and fashion show 1-3 p.m. Sunday, May 21.

A devotional will be presented by Ann Dorries, and the fashion show by Fashion Bug. The \$8 ticket includes lunch with dessert, an inspirational devotion and the fashion show.

For tickets or more information, contact First Baptist Church of Plymouth by e-mail at office45@fbcplymouth.org or call (734) 455-2300. The church is located at 45000 N. Territorial, between Sheldon and Beck, in Plymouth Township.

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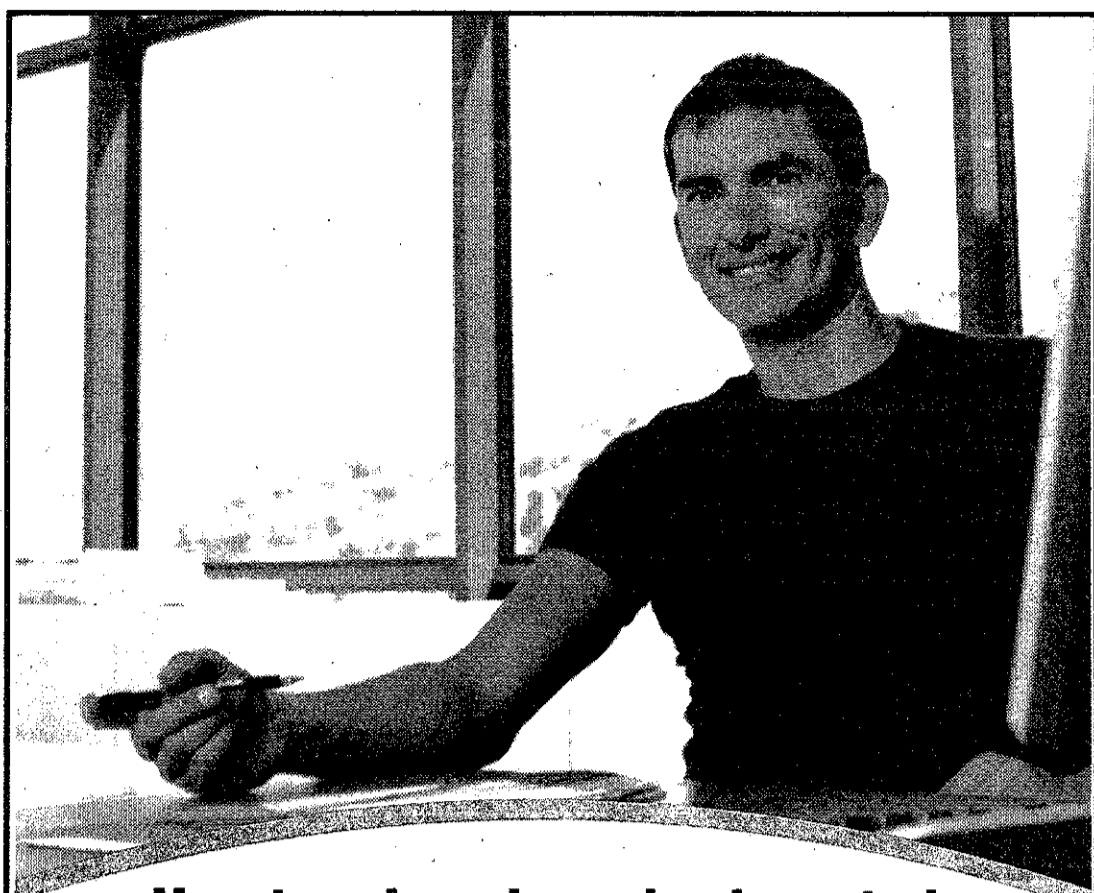
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PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Stylist Laura Cogo cuts Jacqueline's hair, watched by brother Connor, and mom Karen McGraw.

Remembering what it was like

Girl, who once lost hair, donates to Locks of Love

BY CAROL MARSHALL
STAFF WRITER

It took 8-year-old Jacqueline McGraw three years, but she finally did it. She grew her hair long enough just to have it cropped off, right above her chin.

"I wanted to do this because I know what it's like to lose your hair," Jacqueline said, holding the 12-inch ponytail, which was just a moment earlier cut from her head.

Her dark blond locks were sealed into an envelope and mailed to Locks of Love, a program which makes wigs of human hair, then donates them to children who have lost their hair for medical reasons.

Jacqueline knows what it's like to lose her hair because it happened to her just three years ago. At the age of five, she was diagnosed with a benign brain tumor. After spending 11 hours in surgery to have it removed, and spending five weeks in the hospital, she needed a year's worth of therapy to re-learn to walk, talk and even eat. She's been doing well, and despite having to catch up with other girls her age, she's getting excellent grades at



Stylist Laura Cogo finds that Jacqueline McGraw's hair is long enough to qualify for Locks of Love. She donated 12 inches to the organization.

Plymouth Christian Academy, where Jacqueline attends the second grade.

"She's our miracle girl," said her mother, Karen McGraw.

But the hardest part was losing her hair.

"They shaved half her hair off," said her mother. And she had to keep her hair shorn because doctors had put in a shunt (a relief valve to allow for drainage and keep pressure from building on the brain).

"We looked all over for hair pieces but couldn't find any for children with shunts," McGraw said.

Knowing that losing her long hair (Jacqueline is very much a "girlie girl," said her mother), her family would not allow mirrors in her hospital room, and Jacqueline didn't know her hair had been shaved off until they took her to have it cut at Fantastic Sam's on Ford Road in Canton. Three years later, the very same salon, a participating Locks of Love salon, offered the girl a free hair cut as part of her donation.

Jacqueline smiled - though sometimes nervously - throughout her haircut, but her mother wasn't doing quite as well.

"I admit it. I'm going to miss her long hair," Karen McGraw said. "But I'm just so very proud of her."

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BONDS

FROM PAGE A1

strains put on the district, and that's very devastating," she added. "And if people are complaining about redistricting and overcrowded schools now, what do you think we're going to get in the future? I'm really disappointed for the kids' sake."

SEEKING ANSWERS

Board President Mark Slavens was more philosophical about the defeat. "I'm surprised. I thought the first bond would definitely pass," Slavens said. "I'm disappointed, but accept what the voters had to say. If I had to guess (why), it would have to be the economy. The board will have to get with the administration and look at where we go next."

Proposal 1 passed in Canton Township (4,254-3,693) and in the city of Plymouth (792-653). However, that wasn't enough to overcome Plymouth Township voters — from where much of the resistance came from residents upset the bond proposals didn't include an elementary school constructed on 40 acres of district-owned

property known as Miller Woods — who voiced their opposition soundly by turning down the first proposal 2,883-2,113.

None of the six communities which make up the district — including Northville, Salem and Superior townships — passed the second bond proposal.

"I think this opens a big opportunity for the district to really take a good, hard look at optimizing facilities across the district and reducing transportation costs," said Nancy Conzelman, one of a handful of people who consistently spoke out against the two proposals. "I don't think they should go out for a bond until they can figure out how to pay for additional operating costs."

"When the Northville (Schools) bond failed, someone said the district was acting piggy," she added. "I think this bond was piggy. The district needs to focus, with laser accuracy, at what they absolutely need."

SPENDING CONCERNS

Former school board President Mike Maloney of Plymouth Township said he knew the vote would be close, and wasn't surprised by the results. "I consider this to be a refer-

HOW THEY VOTED

Here's a look inside the numbers in the Plymouth-Canton Schools' two-question bond proposal election Tuesday:

	Proposal 1		Proposal 2	
	Yes	No	Yes	No
Plymouth	792	653	678	753
Canton	4,254	3,693	3,497	4,287
Northville Twp	98	222	80	228
Plymouth Twp	2,113	2,883	1,744	3,155
Salem Twp	61	120	48	132
Superior Twp	22	38	17	43

endum on the current board and administration, and the questions that concerned citizens have been raising aren't just seen as an issue by just a few people," Maloney said. "I think a majority of the community is concerned about the deficit spending and the lack of planning. I hope the board takes this to heart."

Included as part of Proposal 1 was the reimbursement of \$2.3 million to the general fund budget for the land on Cherry Hill Road, west of Canton Center Road, in Canton Township for a proposed new middle school. The result could mean more drastic cuts for the 2006-07 budget that was esti-

mated to be in the red by approximately \$6 million.

"The number one priority is not getting the reimbursement of the \$2.3 million," Supt. Jim Ryan said. "We only have until April 2007 to do that."

"The board was holding off to see what kind of cuts they'd have to make, and without the money the budget is going to look radically different," he added. "What budget reductions do you make, whether it's increasing class size, which cause teacher layoffs ..."

RESPECT VOTERS

The defeat of the two bond proposals was a different feeling for Ryan. During his nearly

30 years in education, he was instrumental in passing a millage proposal in Taylor as an assistant principal, two others while superintendent in Reed City and Waverly, as well as the \$109 million proposal in Plymouth-Canton in September 2004 by a 70-percent margin.

"I respect the voters' decision," said Ryan, who has a self-imposed "no whining" philosophy anytime something doesn't go as anticipated. "I trust the community knows what's best for us, and at this time they just didn't think this was best for us. I don't know if it was the economy, or whether it just wasn't a good package we put out there."

One school board trustee who wasn't surprised at all by the outcome was Richard Ham-Kucharski, who from the beginning voiced opposition to the two bond proposals and voted against both.

"As the vote got closer, people were telling me, more and more, that the things they saw in the bonds didn't make sense to them as needs at this point," Ham-Kucharski said. "We've seen the slowdown in housing and the automotive layoffs that affect our community. There have been a lot of indicators

this is a downward trend, and that this community is starting to feel it."

Municipal clerks reported higher-than-normal turnouts for the election, with Plymouth Township at nearly 25 percent, Plymouth almost 24 percent and Canton Township at 15 percent.

After voting against the bond proposals at West Middle School, Teresa Rokash of Plymouth Township said it was just too much money.

"I think we're getting in over our heads with more schools. We can't afford it," Rokash said. "I'm worried about the welfare of the schools we already have. They've been telling me we're going bankrupt in two years for 10 years now, and I don't think we can afford the upkeep of anymore schools. I just don't want us to go bankrupt."

Nick Hytinen, who voted at St. John Neumann in Canton Township, said he checked "no" on both proposals.

"I don't think they need it," Hytinen said. "With the three high schools they're duplicating and triplicating things. They need to work within their budget more, instead of asking us for more money."

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BOARD

FROM PAGE A1

didn't endorse the bond," Gonzalez said. "That will be my biggest challenge."

Gonzalez said she's prepared to help develop a new bond measure voters can back, in part so the district can recover \$2.3 million for the general fund budget. The money was used to pay for the land for the proposed middle school in Canton Township, which was turned down by voters.

"I think we asked for too much ... we're going to have to come back with something that is better and stronger," Gonzalez said. "I think we'll have to be more precise with what we ask for. We can't ask for more, but exactly what we need."

The district has until April



Gonzalez



Sneiderman

2007 to recover the land cost through a bond proposal.

Sneiderman also acknowledged the district will eventually need to propose another bond proposal, but he has no time frame in mind for going back to voters.

"I think we have to listen to the people and take a look at what we do next, and come back with something different," Sneiderman said. "I think there probably are still things people think we need that were in the bond, but it wasn't structured the right way, or maybe it was just certain parts

HOW THEY FINISHED

Here's how the candidates for two four-year seats on the Plymouth-Canton Board of Education finished in Tuesday's election:

CANDIDATE	VOTES
Dianne Gonzalez	4,581
Steven Sneiderman	4,278
John Jackson	3,366
Cheryl McKoy	2,510
Larry Martin	1,991
John Nichols	1,876
Mark Christensen	1,815
Brandon Hynes	1,612

they objected to.

"As for the \$2.3 million, we'll have to discuss how important

that is, and if it's something we think a smaller bond will help us achieve," he added. "Maybe

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people are saying to us it's not worth going back just to get the money."

Sneiderman said he believes there were several factors that contributed to the bond defeat, not the least of which is the downturn of the local economy.

"They're probably worried how to pay their bills, let alone a small increase in their taxes," he said. "There was a lot of negative press in the last few days, which I believe created indecision in

their minds."

Finishing behind Gonzalez and Sneiderman were John Jackson with 3,366 votes; Cheryl McKoy with 2,510; Larry Martin with 1,991; John Nichols with 1,876; Mark Christensen with 1,815; and Brandon Hynes with 1,612.

Leaving the board in July will be trustees Joanne Lamar and Carol Saunders, neither of whom sought re-election.

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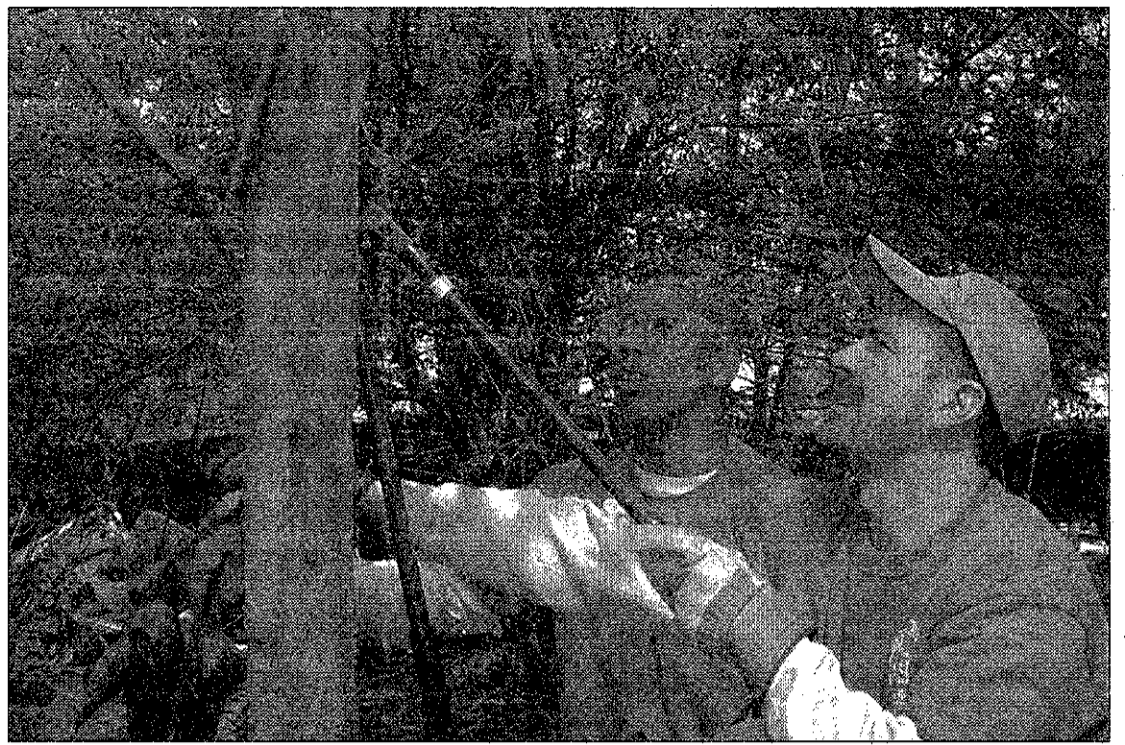
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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

A job well done

Canton Public Safety Director John Santomauro congratulates Civilian of the Year PSSO Robin Bush during the Canton Police Department's 20th Annual Awards & Citations Ceremony last week. Bush has been a dispatcher for the department for 16 years.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Nick Boyd and Greg Zinn trim overgrown vines in the back yard of the Lilley Road home.



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HOMES

FROM PAGE A1

repaired and replaced vinyl siding, and teams of teenagers with rakes and shovels and work gloves were cleaning up Griffis's yard.

His was one of five homes the volunteers worked on throughout the Canton com-

munity on Saturday, doing everything from yard work to roof repairs.

Shaun Ryan Williams, a senior at Churchill High School, was pretty chipper for having woken up at 7 a.m. on a Saturday. He got involved with Christmas in Action through ALPHA (Alternate Learning Program for the High School Adolescent), a program for troubled teens, he said. Even though he was on the job site to fulfill a community service requirement, he found himself enjoying the experience much more than he thought he would.

"It's not just the grade," he said. "I love doing this. I'm giving back what I have received in my life, and I'm helping someone else."

Inside the house, Linda

Cunningham of Plymouth Township was painting trim in a bedroom. Cunningham and fellow members of the Plymouth Canton Breakfast Kiwanis Club participated last year, during Christmas in Action's debut year, and they returned this year.

"If everybody could do this all the time, what a difference it would make," Cunningham said.

Canton's Christmas in Action chapter is composed of an eight-member board, chaired by Jim Cisek, and is endorsed by the Canton Township Board of Trustees. CIA is a registered nonprofit organization and all donations are tax-deductible. For more information on CIA, call (734) 844-8900 or visit the Web site at www.christmasinactionwayne.com.

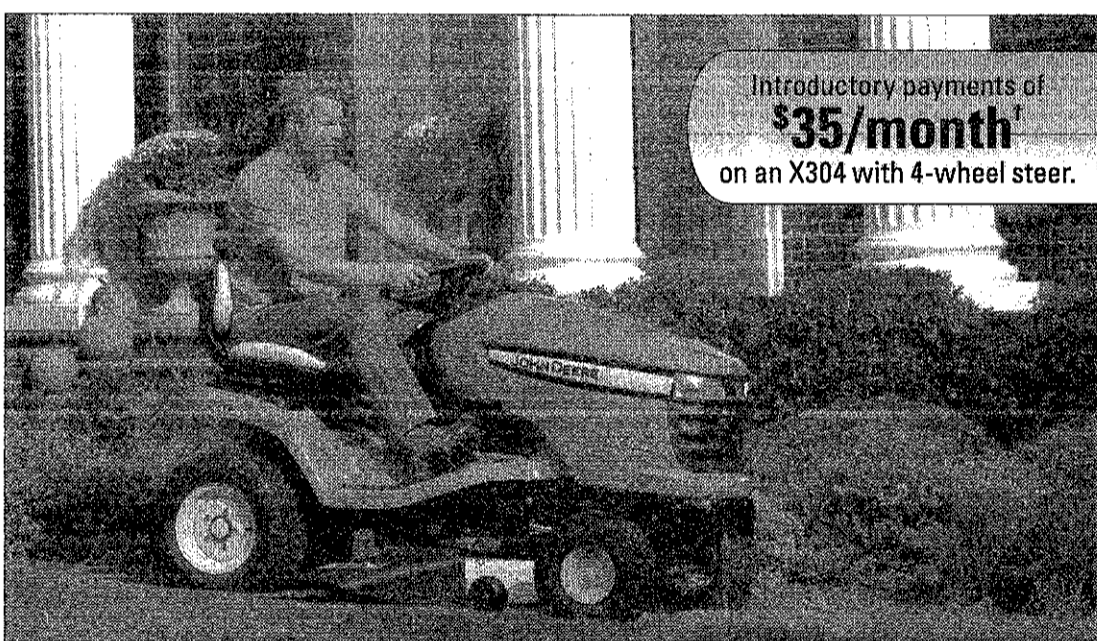
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Salem senior wins DAR state contest

Salem High School senior Kathryn Girskis, representing the local Sarah Ann Cochrane Chapter, won the Michigan Daughters of the American Revolution Good Citizen Scholarship contest and was honored during the recent State Awards Day Luncheon in Lansing.

State Rep. John Stewart, (R-Plymouth Township), attended the luncheon and presented Girskis with a framed Certificate of Special Tribute from the Ninety-Third Legislature, signed by Governor Granholm.



Kathryn Girskis, Salem High School; Bethany Marie Walker, Agape Christian Academy; Naila Ashraf, Plymouth High School; Ann Katherine Leiting, Canton High School; Mary Elizabeth Baharozian, Churchill High School; Lindsey Marie Pyle, Huron Valley Lutheran High School; and Allison Greene, Ladywood High School earned Daughters of the American Revolution Good Citizen Awards.

The DAR Good Citizen Contest was started in 1934 to recognize a graduating senior who personified the four qualities of a DAR Good Citizen: Dependability, Service, Leadership and Patriotism. This year nearly 500 Michigan high schools chose students to submit entries to their local D.A.R. Chapters for judging. The 54 chapters forwarded

their chapter winner to the state level competition. The top 10 finalists were invited to the State Awards day, where Girskis was introduced as the state winner. Her entry is now being judged at the district level.

The Sarah Ann Cochrane Chapter honored their seven local Good Citizens at a special reception on Presidents Day in

February. In addition to Girskis, they included Bethany Marie Walker, Agape Christian Academy; Naila Ashraf, Plymouth High School; Ann Katherine Leiting, Canton High School; Mary Elizabeth Baharozian, Churchill High School; Lindsey Marie Pyle, Huron Valley Lutheran High School; and Allison Greene, Ladywood High School.

Perennial exchange, farmers market to debut this summer

BY CAROL MARSHALL
STAFF WRITER

Spring has sprung and Canton residents are ready for sure signs that summer's on the way - a perennial exchange, and a farmers market, two events making their debuts this year in Canton.

The perennial exchange is being sponsored this weekend by the Canton Council for Community Excellence. The event was a natural for the council, which was formed to help keep Canton beautiful, according to the exchange's chairman, Raymond Rolak. Throughout the year, the council works on its comprehensive awards program for property owners with unusually pretty homes and businesses, signage at the township's gateways, and Adopt-A-Road projects.

"We thought this would be a nice new program," Rolak said. "There are a lot of new residents in Canton and we have clay soil which makes it hard to grow perennials. Because gardeners are humanistic people, they like to help new gardeners when they thin out their perennials every three to five years."

He said gardeners who wish to bring plants to share should bag their plants when they thin out their perennial beds. The council will set up tables for the event.

Even those people who don't have plants to exchange are welcome, Rolak said.

"There are always benevolent gardeners who will give you some," he said.

The event will be held May 6, rain or shine, and gardening experts will be on hand to answer questions. Retired educator and arborist Marsh Wied

will answer questions about tree replacements, past president of the Master Gardeners Association Bill Gravett will be available to answer questions about perennials and annuals, and the Detroit Rose Garden Club members will also attend to answer questions about roses.

The exchange will be at the historic Cherry Hill School, located on Cherry Hill at Ridge, from 9 a.m. to noon May 6.

The farmers market will be later this summer, and is scheduled to take place two days, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Aug. 5 and Sept. 16. at the Bartlett Travis house on Ridge Road, just north of Cherry Hill.

"We are always looking for what kind of programs we can put on in Cherry Hill Village, especially the Bartlett Travis house," said Bob Dates, recreation supervisor. "The farmers market is an idea that's been floating around for a couple of summers."

Especially since there are so few farms left in Canton, residents welcome the opportunity to buy produce from gardener neighbors and local farmers, Dates said.

The township is also seeking vendors who are interested in selling homemade jams, jellies, honey, baked goods and flowers. "We're not looking for crafters or businesses, but we are looking for people who want to sell garden items and vegetables," Dates said.

There will be a fee for vendors (less than \$10) and vendors may either bring their own tables or use the township's.

For more information, call Bob Dates at (734) 394-5465.

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When individuals experience numbness or a burning sensation in the mid to upper and outer thigh, it may be due to a relatively common nerve-related problem called meralgia paresthetica. These sensations result from compression of the main sensory nerve serving the outer thigh (the lateral femoral cutaneous nerve). Pregnant women, as well as overweight individuals with excess weight in their abdominal areas, often experience this problem. Left untreated, the condition can persist intermittently for weeks. Treatment involves the elimination of whatever is resigen on the nerve. This can be determined with a thorough examination.

Meralgia paresthetica is often confused with other, more serious conditions, including nerve-related conditions that can cause intermittent pain (peripheral neuropathies). At the HANDS ON CENTER FOR PHYSICAL THERAPY, we restore, maintain, and promote overall fitness and health. We provide our patients with individual treatment strategies, the purpose of the strategies, and their anticipated outcome. For further information, call at 455-8370. You'll find us conveniently located at 650 South Main Street in downtown Plymouth. New patients are welcome.

P.S. Symptoms of meralgia paresthetica are often confused with pain related to poor blood circulation (claudication), as well as spine problems.

Johan Cornuth, PT
Mark Mijnsbergen, PT
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Fore! Angela Hospice golf outing swings into action

Angela Hospice supporters and business friends will once again head to the greens for the organization's annual golf outing benefiting programs for terminally ill patients and their families. The outing moves to Western Golf and Country Club in Redford this year, for the 18th annual event to be held Monday, June 5.

The event begins with a shotgun start at 10 a.m., 18 holes of golf with carts, box lunches delivered to the carts, a dinner celebration, dessert, and mini silent auction following golf.

"We're looking forward to a great outing at Western," said Alice Barringer, Development Manager. "We have a limit of 144 golfers, so individuals who would like to attend should

make sure to register soon."

Golfers can register in foursomes or as individuals at a price of \$200 per golfer. Packages for business partners and corporate sponsors are also available.

"There are many ways for individuals to show their support for this event," said Barringer. "Our volunteers are busy in the community helping to get the word out about all this event has to offer."

The popular "Winner Takes

All" Raffle is one way that volunteers are garnering enthusiasm for the event. For the price of \$20 a ticket, this raffle offers one winner the chance to win a myriad of prizes including a Tigers suite for 18, rides in helicopter and B-17 bomber, gift certificates to restaurants, malls, and more.

Volunteers are also busy signing up local businesses and individuals to sponsor hole signs on the course.

Businesses can sponsor a sign

for \$150.

This event will help fund Angela Hospice programs not covered by insurance reimbursements. Since 1985, Angela Hospice has been providing home hospice services to patients throughout Southeast Michigan. Angela Hospice also offers specialized programs for terminally ill children, a prenatal hospice program, and a dedicated hospice care center, which provides a home-away-from-home

for hospice patients.

To learn more about supporting the mission of Angela Hospice and the annual golf outing, call (734) 953-6018 or log on to www.angelahospice.org.

Volunteers George Veach of Wayne and Kevin Bullock of Canton are part of the committee helping to plan Angela Hospice's 18th Annual Golf Outing.



Splendor of East highlights dance

The Council of Asian Pacific Americans (CAPA) presents its brightest and most lively spectacle to stage, "Splendor of the East 2006" this year, starring Powerdance, a modern jazz dance company direct from the Philippines, 7 tonight at Ford Community and Performing Arts Center in Dearborn.

Splendor of the East is the largest performance-based celebration of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month in Michigan. In its fifth year, Splendor of the East has entertained and educated guests year after year. With this year's theme "Cultural Gems of the East: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow" the audience will get a taste of vibrant and lively Asian cultures.

The main attraction of the evening will be Powerdance. A wonderful blend of movement, light and emotion, Powerdance demonstrates the complex variety of modern Asian dance. Among other forms, the unique dance company is able to exemplify the magic of black light theater, a genre which is unique in the Philippines as conceived by Douglas Nierras, Powerdance choreographer and founder.

Tickets for the event are now on sale at www.capa-mi.org or via the Ford Community & Performing Arts Center Box Office and range in price from \$20-\$30 dollars. Show time is 7pm. Sponsorship opportunities are still available. For more info, e-mail info@capa-mi.org.

The Ford Community and Performing Arts Center is located at 15801 Michigan Ave., Dearborn 48126.

Barbershop chorus performs

The Wayne Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society is preparing to perform their annual show around the theme of an old radio show at 3 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Saturday, May 6, at Churchill High School, 8900 Newburgh, Livonia.

Tickets are \$15, \$13 for students and seniors, and available by calling (734) 453 0574, or by sending mail to Robert Schuessler, 7732 Embassy Drive, Canton, MI 48187.

The concert includes songs from the "glorious days of radio" as well as traditional barbershop tunes ranging from spirited "up tunes" to romantic, patriotic and gospel as performed by the Renaissance Chorus in four part barbershop a capella style.

Alchemy, a guest quartet, will be featured along with a young men's ensemble from Franklin High School in Livonia.

On Monday, May 22, the chorus is inviting male singers to join them for a guest night. Anyone interested in becoming a member may attend the event at 7:30 p.m. in Kirk of Our Saviour Church in Westland. Formal training is not required and prospective members do not have to sight read music. If you have an ear for music, you can sing barbershop.

For more information, call Mark Pritchard at (734) 422-7468 evenings.



Wiley Fan, D.O.



Susan J. Knoll-Vlachos, D.O.



Robert G. Smith, D.O.



Gerald W. Blackburn, D.O.

infectious diseases



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Botsford's Infectious Disease Doctors:

- Diagnose and treat illnesses caused by various microorganisms or germs
- Track spread of infectious diseases as well as other medical issues of potential concern to the community
- Offer a renowned International Travel Clinic for world-wide travelers

What is an Infectious Disease doctor?

Infectious Disease (ID) doctors diagnose and treat conditions resulting from all types of infections. Like medical detectives, they work mostly behind the scenes. After extensively interviewing the patient, they review all available medical information including X-rays, laboratory reports, blood work and culture data, sometimes performing additional studies and sophisticated tests leading to a diagnosis and treatment of the illness.

What kind of illnesses do they treat?

ID physicians are asked to treat conditions resulting from various infections, including those caused by bacteria, viruses, fungi and parasites. Primarily, they see hospitalized patients for illnesses ranging from pneumonia, to unexplained fevers, to HIV/AIDS.

More common illnesses also seen are bone infections, serious blood infections, infections of the heart valves, and wound infections.

ID doctors are also antibiotic specialists who, through blood tests, cultures and other data, recommend the optimal antibiotics to treat the infectious organism.

Should I see an Infectious Disease physician?

First, you should see your own doctor who can often treat many common infections. However, your doctor may refer you to an ID physician when an infection is difficult to diagnose or does not respond to treatment. Or, you may be in the hospital with a severe illness when your doctor will consult with an ID physician to help diagnose and treat your disease. Most importantly, begin your care with your own doctor.

What other services do Infectious Disease physicians provide?

Our ID physicians are also knowledgeable about important issues such as Avian Influenza or bird flu, West Nile Virus, antibiotic resistance, and potential bioterrorism events.

Along with Botsford's administrative personnel, they may also offer recommendations as needed to provide the greatest level of health and safety for our staff and community.

International Travel Medicine, too!

Many Infectious Disease practices, including Botsford's Infectious Disease group, offer International Travel Clinics for people who plan to travel to foreign countries.

At Botsford's International Travel Clinic, vaccines and recommendations for healthy travel throughout the world are available to the public. Call (248) 471-8314 for more information or to arrange an appointment.

Staff will review your itinerary, destinations and planned activities. With this information, along with recommendations from governmental agencies, staff then provides customized travel-related information and offers any required vaccinations.

What about the meningitis vaccine?

Meningitis vaccine is recommended for protection of students during their time at high school, college or at camps with large populations. Our clinic offers this vaccine as well; please call us to schedule an appointment.

Do you offer immigration vaccinations?

Yes, we offer all vaccinations required for those who need to stay up-to-date on their immigration status.

Whether it be infectious disease issues or travel medicine concerns, the Botsford Infectious Disease group is here - watching out for your health needs.

For a Botsford physician, call our toll-free HealthMatch number at 1-877-442-7900.

28050 Grand River Ave. | Farmington Hills, MI 48336-5919

OUR VIEWS

Board must find right bond offer

Plymouth-Canton Schools Superintendent Dr. Jim Ryan spent most of the last several months literally going door-to-door trying to sell the district's two-part, \$120 million bond issue.

Despite Ryan making some 75 meetings with civic organizations, homeowners associations and municipal boards, voters told the district in Tuesday's election they aren't buying, turning down both parts of the bond equation.

Now comes the really hard part, and it's also a two-part question: 1) figuring out why voters turned them down and 2) deciding what step to take next.

One tendency would be to think voters decided the \$109 million they gave the district in September 2004 was enough, but the problem probably isn't that simple.

It would also be easy for the district to blame late-election newspaper stories pointing out the objections of some critics of the bond issue. That, likewise, would be too easy a target. It's unlikely the last-ditch effort of the critics turned a close election into a double loss.

Truth be told, while those could be contributing factors, there are probably many more pieces to this election puzzle, including - and perhaps biggest of all - the state's stumbling economy.

The other fact is, despite Ryan's omnipresence on this issue, district officials couldn't convince voters the need was real, at least not real enough to spend more tax dollars.

Figuring out why voters said "no" will be a critical component for answering Question No. 2: What's next? We believe Ryan should begin conducting meetings similar to those he used to sell the bond to try to ascertain voters' moods. And here's one small suggestion: Get him some help. Good as he is, Ryan shouldn't be the only one out selling the district.

The board now faces a tough decision: When to go back to voters, and what to ask for. Clearly there's a need, particularly for more elementary classroom space and another middle school. Finding a balance between "needs" and "wants" that is palatable to voters will be the board's most crucial near-term decision.

Blaming their critics or the press for Tuesday's loss is misguided and, frankly, the easy way out. District officials have too much hard work ahead of them to waste their time on the blame game, particularly when at least some of it resides in the mirror.

Board members and administrators would do much better to expend their energy determining what went wrong and how to fix it.

Parents must deliver life-saving message

Parents have a lot to do when it comes to prom and graduation season now upon us. Besides making sure the cat doesn't lie on the prom dress laid out on the bed, there's making sure there's enough food for the open house after graduation.

But there's one thing that's more important than gowns, and maybe even grades. Unfortunately, what ought to be a top priority - making sure our teens stay safe during and after the festivities by not consuming alcohol - is often forgotten or tacitly ignored by parents.

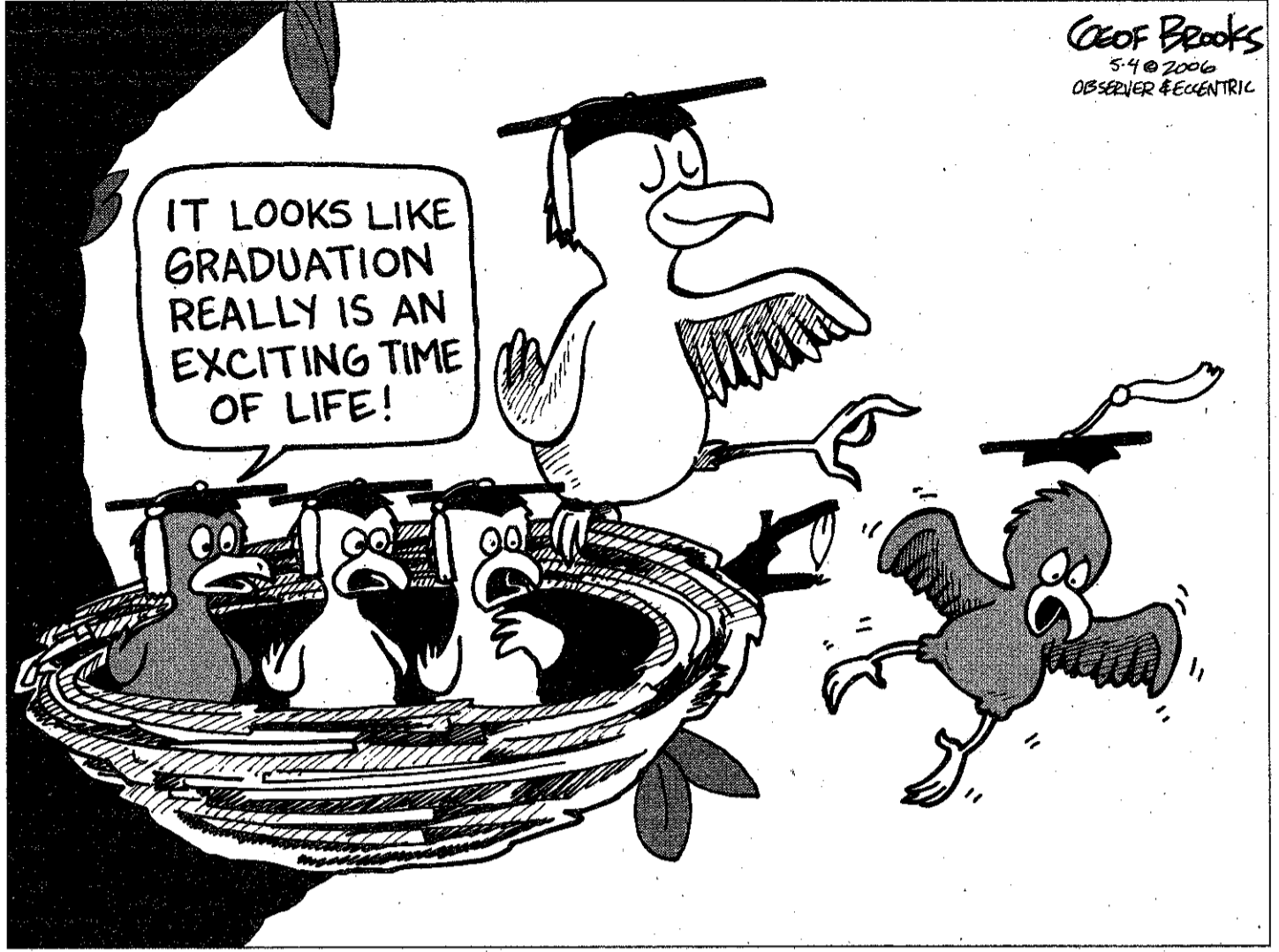
The results can be tragic; no parent should have to bury a child. Sadly, even those children of ours who don't drink are threatened by riding in the cars of those who do. No parent can be complacent about alcohol use by teens, an issue heightened at this time of year.

There are the legal issues. It's illegal for anyone to drink under age 21, and doing so can result in hefty fines and time off of work for parents to attend court. The experience can be emotionally draining.

But it's also illegal for parents to allow alcohol consumption by teens at parties in their homes, or to rent hotel rooms for teen parties. Doing so can lead up to a \$500 fine and 93 days in jail. Many community coalitions are running campaigns titled, "Parents who host lose the most."

Ultimately, however, parents have to answer the central question: Why is it so important for teens to drink? According to some experts, teens aren't social drinkers; they drink to get drunk. Parents must ask themselves why their teens think they have to get drunk.

The answer may lie in the first step to prevention: setting an example. If parents drink responsibly, i.e. not when driving, teens will understand that consuming alcohol needn't consume their lives. That subtle deterrent is more positive and more effective than a one-shot lecture this month. Teens need to understand what alcohol use does to a young mind. They need to know the consequences of use.



Geoff Brooks
5-4-06
OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC

LETTERS

Cut luxuries first

In response to Mr. Yack's comments in your article from April 27, I must say optimism is not nearly as expensive as ignorance or arrogance. Mr. Yack was warned repeatedly about impending economic contractions and begged to make proactive reductions in spending - all to no avail. Also, I have repeatedly said that we must begin any cost reductions with things before we cut people and basic government services. Canton has been shown to be lean in personnel in comparison to other local communities while being obese in lavish accouterments.

Also, Mr. Yack's figures are fictitious at best. The overhead expenses attributed to the building department are absurd and were admitted to be incorrect, yet financial decisions that devastated the lives of township employees were gleefully made without regard to the true facts. The obscene pay raise for politicians, the car allowances and other luxuries are preserved while basic township services, township employees, and the citizens they serve, suffer while getting stuck with the tab.

Todd Caccamo
Canton

Lower truck weight limits

I would like to commend the realization of the need for traffic volume improvements at Ford Road and Beck ("Intersection at Ford and Beck slated for safety improvements," April 27).

However, with all of the residential building permits and overall development in that area over the last five to nine years, I must ask, What took you so long? Did the planners expect these new residents to ride bicycles? Canton is not alone in the seeming lack of any foresight in road improvements. Why does it seem standard practice to approve a tall pile of development permits, but then wait until after the critical population mass is in place, to then inconvenience everyone, playing catch-up after luring them in the first place.

If money is an issue for the state and communities, I would like to ask a simple question of the three elected representatives mentioned in the article. I have written to Gov. Granholm, State Sen. Patterson, and also spoken personally with Representative LaJoy (who sits on the State Transportation Committee) about any serious consideration to lower the state's allowable truck weight limits to the national average. None have ever responded. I firmly believe the fact of our state's roads being rated consistently in the bottom five of the nation, and our truck weight limits among the highest to be no mere coincidence. Please spare me the "extreme Michigan winter" or the "it's not the weight of the truck-but the weight-per-axle" alibi. If weight-per-axle were such a valid scientific measurement, why have so few states adopted it? Are Michigan winters any worse than say, Minnesota whose roads consistently rank much higher?

The article mentioned the continual need for road infrastructure improvements for the state to attract new business and industrial development. You don't think businesses think twice about locating to a state where employees and supply trucks must add 30-75 percent to their normal commute or delivery time during traffic

cone season?

This is a simple 2-5 year experiment the state can implement with the swipe of a pen at no financial cost, and evaluated for its overall effectiveness. It could even provide an added source of revenue for the communities policing the lawbreaking haulers.

Save our roads and bridges - lower our state truck weight limits!

Gary Salata
Canton

MCRI's time has come

The Michigan Civil Rights Initiative is an amendment whose time has come. Even though the media and even our governor seem to ignore the facts, we need this amendment now, more than ever.

The Civil Rights Act of 1964 simply states, people will not be discriminated against because of their race, color or ethnicity. Yet, that is not how it has been applied.

I've lived through this part of history. We have been successful with integration. Most young people don't even understand what it was like to not have multi-cultural friends. We see people of all colors and races in our schools, restaurants, at the mall and in our churches.

But in the workplace and in college admissions, this merge did not take place properly. Laws were made to give preferential treatment to minorities, including foreigners. Affirmative action in employment assured that minorities would get preferential hiring to help them "get a leg up" if you will, in the marketplace. It was meant to be a temporary fix until those people could get "up to speed" and become able to compete on a level playing field.

After 42 years, we have a permanent dependence on preferential treatment. This has created a permanent discrimination situation against white people. Some consider this to be "politically incorrect" to say this. But it is the truth.

With the massive movement of foreigners into this country by both legal and illegal means, and with the outsourcing of jobs, our job market is becoming tight. Unemployment is rising. With our current practice of racial preferences, these newcomers will receive priority treatment making whites at the very back of the line in all situations.

This is discrimination in its most basic form, against the white population. The concept that all white people are rich and born with a silver spoon in their mouth is simply archaic. We have had two generations of white men who have experienced discrimination. They have given so minorities could flourish. I am not saying that was wrong, but it is now time to have true equality.

We must truly embrace the Civil Rights Act of 1964. No one should be discriminated against (or gain a preference) because of the color of their skin or their ethnicity. No one.

Please vote for the Michigan Civil Rights Initiative in November. Let us finally rid ourselves of discrimination in all forms and live together in peace.

Peg Robichaud
Canton

Time for a change

Tom DeLay is out. He's thrown in the

towel. He's beating the band (to the exit).

But have no fear. For all those folks in Texas wondering what America will do without Tom DeLay's rabid attacks on liberty and freedom, we have a savior. Who is he? He's Thaddeus McCotter.

By his own account, McCotter has voted between 80 and 90 percent of the time along with Tom DeLay. The other day I received a brochure in the mail from McCotter. He seemed to spare no detail in assuring me that he would continue his career in the manner to which he has become accustomed. After all - Michigan voters will most likely send him back to Washington to stand up for all the things that Tom DeLay once stood for. War. Unemployment. Debt.

I think it's time for a change, but it seems that my fellow citizens do not. They are comfortable with Thaddeus bringing home tens of millions of dollars from Washington for our fine municipal leaders to spend. Thaddeus McCotter has seen to it that we are showered with federal dollars. Spending representatives like McCotter are driving this nation deep into debt. While McCotter looks out for central Texas, who is going to be looking out for southeast Michigan?

Alfred Brock
Canton

Gas gouging

If the typical oil company earns nine cents a gallon and the government takes some 45 cents, why do we rant and rave about the oil interests' gouging? Why is there never a protest concerning the greedy behavior of government units that are the unconscionable impediment to more reasonable pricing, and a deterrence to oil company exploration and development?

Reports on oil companies' success find that the gouging of the gas users' money ranges close to the 4 percent-on-investment level. We are chasing the wrong big dog with the stone! Two iced teas, almost too weak to enjoy at most restaurants, cost me four bucks. And I can still get a whole gallon of gas for three, and probably considerably less in the coming weeks. In the case of the price of a gallon of oil, it seems that if a culprit exists, it is the government that takes 500 percent as much as the oil sellers earn.

In what direction do we spit now?
Neil Goodbred
Livonia

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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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.

QUOTABLE

"In recent decisions, the DWSD system, vital as it is, has received challenges from suburban communities who have no say in its ownership. This will not be solved by legislation or litigation, but only by cooperation."

- Judge John Feikens, on efforts to gain more say in the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department

Dithering on high gas prices won't make drop of difference

Gas prices here? Try California's. I can speak from personal experience; my wife, Kathy, and I just returned from a quick trip to California where we attended a wedding. The lowest price we saw driving back from Monterey to San Francisco was \$3.27 a gallon, and in a couple of out-of-the-way places it was \$3.45.

Well, it's nice to find some reason to be grateful we live in Michigan. But gas isn't cheap anywhere and, not surprisingly, the high gas prices in recent weeks have unleashed a blizzard of inane quick-fix ideas from a raft of politicians who should know better.



Phil Power

Gov. Jennifer Granholm supports the idea of capping oil industry profits as a way to reducing gas prices. It's not clear to me exactly what the economic reasoning is behind this idea (also advocated by U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow), but I can understand the reflex instinct to do something when Exxon-Mobil announces an \$8.4 billion quarterly profit, fifth largest of any public company in history.

Not to be outdone, GOP gubernatorial candidate Dick DeVos wants the state to stop collecting the sales tax on gas whenever the price goes above \$1.95 a gallon. Now DeVos is a businessman who ought to know something about supply and demand. Since the underlying reason for high gas prices is that the worldwide supply is insufficient to meet rising demand, DeVos needs to explain just how artificially capping the price reduces demand.

Not only that, but his suggestion would cost the state nearly \$300 million in tax revenue. How would he make that up? Stop funding Michigan State University?

There were even more silly suggestions coming out of Washington. The Bush administration offered a "gas tax holiday," in which consumers would get a rebate check for \$100. Democrats, predictably, want to repeal some tax breaks big oil got last year and add a windfall profits tax on the oil companies.

Naturally, both parties completely failed to explain how their schemes would reduce gas prices ... mainly because they wouldn't. Sigh.

Also last week, the president asked Congress to give it authority to raise fuel economy standards for cars for the first time in 20 years. In the past, the auto companies have blasted the Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) standards as arbitrary and counterproductive.

But it will be a topic of conversation when the CEOs of Ford, General Motors and DaimlerChrysler meet the president May 18.

Don't expect any of them to have had a revelation. Chrysler President and CEO Tom LaSorda says gas prices will have to hover around \$4 a gallon for at least a year for consumers to change their established buying patterns.

If we are serious about doing something about oil prices, first of all, the auto industry ought to endorse - and the U.S. Congress should pass - an ethanol bill that's been kicking around for years.

I have three modest reactions to all the dithering.

If we are serious about doing something about oil prices, first of all, the auto industry ought to endorse - and the U.S. Congress should pass - an ethanol bill that's been kicking around for years.

That bill would require all new cars to be engineered to run on a mixture of ethanol and gas. Brazil has been doing just fine on ethanol for a few years now, and America ought to follow suit.

Second, although everybody recognizes that America is addicted to oil, nobody's been willing to do anything about it. Around four years ago, I joined with some pretty good economists in designing a federal laboratory - to be located in Michigan - to develop alternative energy supplies.

We thought it might be named to honor Congressman John Dingell's half-century in the House of Representatives, and we solicited support from the auto industry. Needless to say, it was like jogging through molasses, and the idea died stillborn.

The baby should be revived. Michigan is the home of more smart auto engineers than any place in the world. What both our state and nation need is a long-term, Marshall Plan-style program aimed at radically reducing our dependency on oil, imported or domestic.

It would cost a lot of money over a long period of time, but imposing a \$1 per gallon "Freedom Fuel" tax would finance it.

Would the politicians go along? Don't hold your breath. One thing you can depend on is that politicians in a democracy like ours will avoid doing anything far-sighted until the crisis is hard upon us.

So we'll muddle along, awash in inanities from both the right and the left, while gas prices remain high and probably will go higher.

And if - make that when - gas hits \$4 and stays there, the people will start modifying their driving and car buying habits and we'll start doing what we should have been doing years ago.

That will be the right medicine - but it will be far more painful and cost far more than it would if we begin now. Or, as you might say, a gallon's worth of prevention is better than a barrel's cost of cure.

So think about it.

Phil Power is a longtime observer of politics, economic and education issues in Michigan. He can be reached at ppower@hcnct.com.

Catching first fish is worth a million dollars in memories

Everybody's got them - million dollar memories, the kind we wouldn't trade for anything. I acquired one of mine at Heritage Park on a perfect May afternoon when my son Jon was 3 years old. If I close my eyes, I can still smell his hair and I can see his proud face as he pulled his first fish - which was no bigger than a key chain - out of the pond.

That million dollar memory came by way of Canton Township's annual fishing derby, held the first Saturday in May.



Carol Marshall

As luck would have it, Jon's experience came out of one of the least expensive programs the township has to offer. Last year, some 924 children fished in the derby. They pay \$3 each, and the township was able to lock in Wal-Mart as a sponsor, so the program is self-sustaining (Canton buys the fish for about \$2,400).

But not every experience comes along so affordably.

Some Canton residents have criticized the township for investing in (or subsidizing, depending on how you look at it) its recreational programs and facilities. The gripes I hear most are about the Village Theater at Cherry Hill, and Pheasant Run golf course. They're called extravagant and unnecessary by people who say government has no business providing those services, which would be best provided by private enterprise. These are folks whose million dollar memories probably won't be made at a golf outing, or when their school-age children sing on stage at the theater, or at an awards banquet at the Summit. And that's OK, but be fair when dishing out criticism.

I suppose these programs would be extravagant if the township's vision didn't include recreation at its core. In the state that regularly holds the dubious honor of being home to one of the country's fattest cities (Detroit ranks in the top five frequently), and during a time when it's well-known that children don't get enough physical activity at school, where they are fed warmed-up junk food for lunch, investing in health and recreation is not an unwise extravagance.

The tremendously busy award-winning library, the theater, Canton's acres and acres of parks, its golf courses, the Summit, and programs like the fishing derby are all just pieces of a bigger picture. And the township has grown in size and taxable value because of - not in spite of - the vision. So the bottom line is, well, the bottom line. The township can afford the programs, and may in fact need them in order to continue to grow its tax base.

It's been argued that Canton residents pay higher taxes than township residents in neighboring communities do. That's fair enough. In Plymouth Township, the total operating mill-



Carol Marshall's son, Jon, at age 3, after catching his first fish from the pond at Heritage Park.

age is 3.27 per \$1,000 SEV, according to a survey by the Conference of Western Wayne. In Canton, the rate is 8.85. In Van Buren, the operating millage is 9.49. A survey of all townships in southeast Michigan puts Canton in the middle of the pack when it comes to its tax rate. But then you have to look at bang for your buck, and the services provided in return, which none of the other townships provide to the extent that Canton does.

In the wake of recent layoffs in the building and inspection department, there are people who would argue that the township is cutting essential services while it continues to spoon-feed a fat leisure services division. But I have faith. Leisure services programs continue to grow because there is a demand for them. And if it turns out the building and inspection department has been cut too deep following the reduction in staff to half its former size, the township will call back enough employees to provide the level of service township residents have come to expect (or so said two trustees I talked to after the reductions were approved).

It's a wonderful thing to take for granted essential services - not every community can. When I think of quality of life, I see Canton residents as being in an enviable position. You can take for granted your safe, clean streets and excellent schools and well-appointed library. And you can take for granted your affordable tax rates. But I hope you also take for granted the host of recreational opportunities available to you. After all, you're paying for them.

Carol Marshall is a staff writer at the *Canton Observer*. She can be reached by phone at (734) 459-2700, or by e-mail at cmarshall@hometownlife.com.

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Walkers flood Hines Drive to aid March of Dimes

BY DOUG JOHNSON
CORRESPONDENT

Beth and John Russell of Canton were among the 2,500 walkers who gathered Saturday at Nankin Mills recreation area in Hines Park for the March of Dimes fundraiser, WalkAmerica.

On John's shoulders was Maggie, 2½ years old and one of the miracles of neonatal care at the University of Michigan and research funded by MOD.

The Russells are MOD ambassadors, willing spokespersons for the March of Dimes which funds research and programs for babies born

too soon and/or too small.

"We walk in memory of our twins (Joshua and Julia) who were stillborn at 21 weeks, and in honor of Maggie," Beth Russell said.

Another Canton resident, UAW president Ron Gettelfinger, spoke to the crowd and led the walkers who were blessed with near perfect weather.

"I really like the March of Dimes," Gettelfinger said after finishing the walk. "This is a great opportunity for us to give back to the community. Anything to help premature babies. It's great to take part in this."

Gettelfinger also marched Sunday in the WalkAmerica event in Detroit at Hart Plaza. There were also walks at Metro Beach and in Troy Sunday.

The Westland WalkAmerica event stepped off promptly at 9 a.m. and many of the walkers made it for the full six miles - about three miles from Ann Arbor Trail and Hines to just past Newburgh Road (Sumac Pointe) in Livonia and back.

Another walker, Jen Alessi from Farmington Hills, was there with her two daughters, Kailey, 7, and Nicole 3, and husband Larry.

"I have walked the six miles the last two years myself. Both of our children were helped by the March of Dimes," she said.

Lisa King of Westland, who was with the Ford Customer Service Division team, had a special reason to walk.

"I was actually a preemie baby when I was born," said King, who weighed about three pounds at birth. She has a girlfriend in Ohio who participates in WalkAmerica every year.

"It was a beautiful day," King said Saturday at her first WalkAmerica. "It turned out to be a pretty awesome day."

The local walk was headed by MOD event coordinator Lesley Nadeau. She said about 100 volunteers and corporate sponsors like Ford, Pepsi, and Flagstar Bank and organizations like UAW made a smooth event possible.

"There are lots of families today and everyone is enjoying the great weather and walking for a great cause."

Among the people helping with the opening ceremony were two Grant Elementary fourth-graders, Livonia residents Ryan Deloge and Emily Crombez, who sang the national anthem a capella.

Walkers pay a fee and get pledges to raise money for the charity. It is possible to come to the event and just walk to show support.

An arc of baby pink and baby blue balloons greeted the crowd at the staging area. Lots of walkers were pushing babies in strollers or pulling them in toy wagons. Most were done with the walk by 11 a.m.



John and Beth Russell, with daughter Maggie, march. The Russells, a March of Dimes Ambassador family, live in Canton.

Cheryl Southern of Royal Oak, a FedEx staffer in Novi, was there with daughter Melissa, also a Royal Oak resident and nursing assistant at Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak. The younger Southern has worked with newborns.

"It was great," Cheryl Southern said of WalkAmerica in Hines Park. "We had a lot of fun." Some of her colleagues dressed as paparazzi for the day and others as celebrities.

She helped at a checkpoint, passing out water, snacks and Mardi Gras beads. "That always puts a smile on the kids' faces," said Southern, whose employer is among event sponsors.

"You feel good that you can help them," she said, adding that this year, her third for WalkAmerica, had the best weather.

"And the turnout was really good," Southern said. "We had good volunteers from the company. We always have fun."

Founded in 1938 under the leadership of Franklin Delano Roosevelt to fight polio, the March of Dimes today works to prevent birth defects and premature births. About 500,000 babies are born too soon each year in the U.S., about one out of eight.

The southeastern Michigan March of Dimes headquarters is at 27600 Northwestern Highway in Southfield.

Staff writer Julie Brown contributed to this story.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Student volunteers Millie Li of Canton, Jason Baker of Westland, and Plymouth YMCA staffer Jenny Roszel pack goodie bags for the marchers.

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


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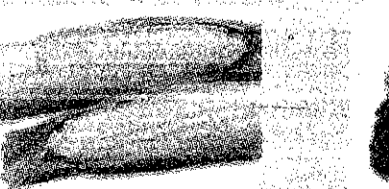
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Sheriff's Department offers free gun locks

In an effort to reduce the risk of accidental gun deaths in our community the Wayne County Sheriff's office is handing out 500 free gun locks to adults who keep guns in their home.

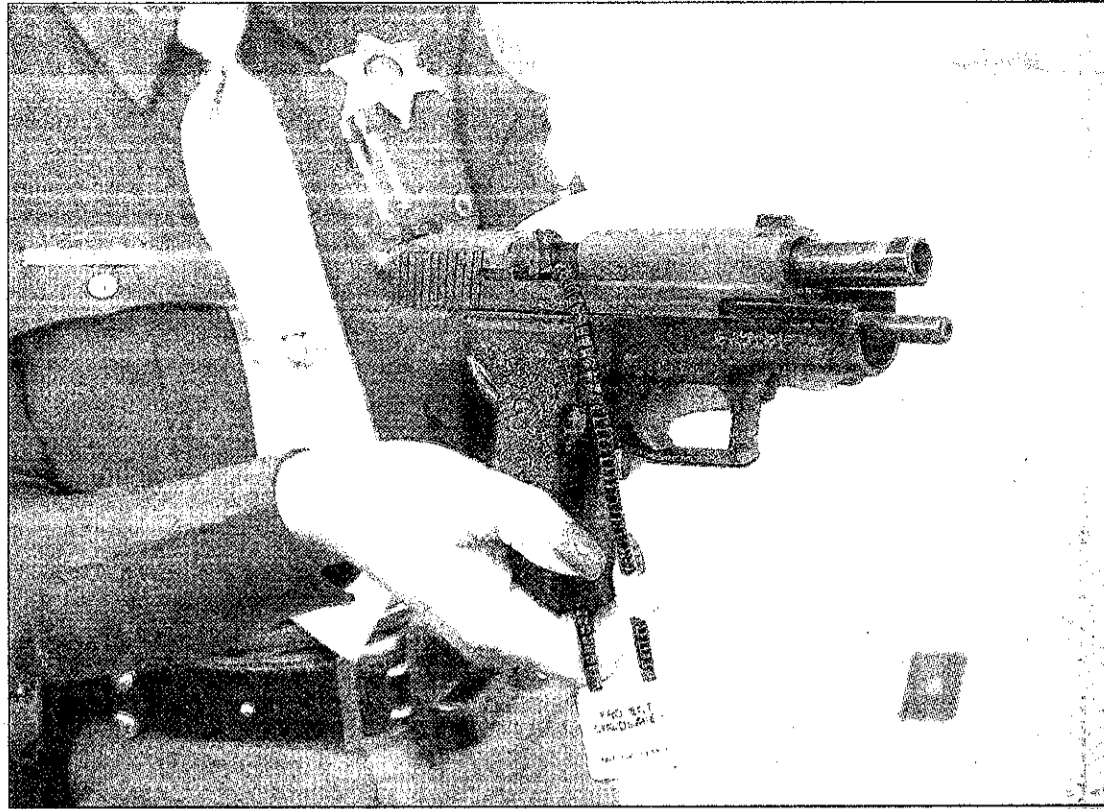
"Unfortunately, we know that if a child gets their hands on a weapon, the consequences can be tragic. We hope that getting these gun locks out to responsible gun owners will help prevent that kind of community heartbreak," Sheriff Warren Evans said.

This past weekend, a three-year-old Detroit boy, Joseph Link IV, was critically injured after apparently shooting himself with a family gun he found beneath a mattress. Each year in the United States dozens of children are killed by the accidental discharge of a firearm. In most cases, the child was playing with an unsecured loaded gun he or she found in their home. Although the sheer number of deaths may be relatively

small, they are all preventable, according to Evans.

"These are all avoidable tragedies," said Evans. "We are providing these trigger locks so families can be safe from intruders and so parents won't have to worry about their own children's natural curiosity."

Evans said his office is distributing the locks in conjunction with Project ChildSafe, a nationwide program whose purpose is to promote safe firearms handling and storage practices among all firearms owners. Project ChildSafe recently donated the gun locks to the Sheriff's Office. Starting today, the gun locks are available at the following Sheriff's Office locations: Road Patrol Office, 3100 Henry Ruff, north of Michigan Avenue in Westland, phone or (734) 721-2222; Administration Building, 1231 St. Antoine near Greektown in downtown Detroit, phone: (313) 224-2222.



A Wayne County sheriff's deputy demonstrates use of a gunlock.



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Authors, literary events at Ann Arbor Book Festival

The Third Annual Ann Arbor Book Festival, May 10 through 13, features a wide variety of events.

Hear an international cookbook author discuss her culture while you enjoy dinner at a local restaurant. Go behind-the-scenes and see how books are preserved and repaired. Attend an author reception and rub elbows with your favorite writers while you

enjoy light refreshments. Reserve your spot for a Literary Symposium and learn how storytelling applies to teaching.

And, then there are the scores of authors that will be participating in this year's festival. Among them are:

■ Former Ann Arbor resident Charles Baxter, currently with the University of Minnesota, who will be

appearing on the Ann Arbor Anthology panel 7:30-9 p.m. Thursday, May 11, at Rackham Amphitheater, 915 E.

Washington St. Baxter has written four novels, four collections of short stories, three collections of poems and a collection of essays on fiction.

■ American journalist Bob Greene, best known as an award-winning columnist for the Chicago Tribune. His new

book *And You Should Be Glad: A True Story of Lifelong Friendship*, is a highly personal and moving true story of memory and friendship when one of four best friends is diagnosed with a fatal disease.

■ Mike Leonard, from the Today Show, with his new book *The Ride of Our Lives: Roadside Lessons of an American Family*, a touching and hilarious account of a

month-long road trip with his parents and children.

■ Pulitzer Prize-winning author Richard Russo, whose numerous fictional works include *Mohawk*, *The Risk Pool*, *Nobody's Fool*, *Straight Man* and *Empire Falls*. He also wrote the screenplay for the award-winning HBO production of *Empire Falls*.

■ University of Michigan graduate and *Wall Street Journal* columnist Sam Walker, whose new book *Fantasyland* tells the story of his experiences during a year in the fantasy baseball league trying to build the perfect team.

■ Cathleen Falsani, a columnist for the *Chicago Tribune*, will be interviewing folk/rock guitarist and singer/songwriter Bruce Cockburn. Cockburn has recorded over 25 albums and written songs, ranging from folk music to jazz-influenced rock to rock-and-roll, which often reflected his religious beliefs. Falsani's recent book, *The God Factor: Inside the Spiritual Lives of Public People*, features interviews with a variety of noted personalities dissecting issues of faith, ethics and personal spirituality.

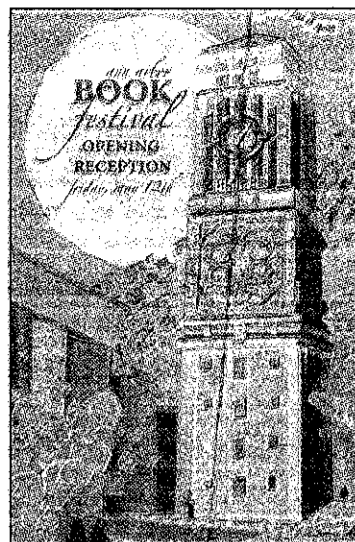
All this, and much more, is on tap as part of the Third Annual Ann Arbor Book Festival May 10 to 14. Visit the Web site often for the latest information. www.aabookfestival.org.

The most visible event is the Street Festival 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, May 13, centered on North University Street between State and Fletcher streets. Numerous authors will be on hand to autograph their books. Displays, readings, panel discussions, presentations and other such activities are planned for the various pavilions, stages and indoor venues. The main pavilions are Children's, International, Lifestyles, Poetry, Comics, Library, School, and Body/Mind/Spirit. Several agent-author presentations related to book publishing and marketing your book are slated.

A couple of events have been scheduled leading up to the festival. Mike Lupica, sports columnist at the *New York Daily News* and an ESPN commentator, will appear 7 p.m. Monday, May 8, at Nicola's Books, 2513 Jackson Road. Lupica will be reading from his new young adult novel *Heat*, a coming-of-age novel about baseball.

May Bsisu, author of *The Arab Table*, will appear 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 9, at the newly opened LaShish Restaurant, 2370 Carpenter. Bsisu will take diners along a warmly personal path through the exciting culinary territory of Lebanon, Sudan, Arabia, Egypt and Syria. Reservations are required. Sign up online at www.aabookfestival.org or call (734) 369-3366.

The University Of Michigan Library Conservation and Preservation Lab, in Room 3202 Buhr Building, at 837



Green St., will host tours 3:30-7:30 p.m. Friday, May 12.

Attendees will see paper washing, bookbinding, and other procedures that conserve or repair valuable books. Shannon Zachary, also known as "Dr. Book," will be on hand to talk with attendees who have items they wish to conserve. There is a \$5 charge at the door.

The general public is welcome to attend the free Opening Author Reception 7-8:30 p.m. Friday, May 12, at the downtown Ann Arbor District Library, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Light refreshments will be served. The 2006 Michigan Notable Books will be featured.

The Literacy Symposium 4:30-8 p.m. Wednesday, May 10, features the Cygnus Storytellers, discussing how the storytelling process applies to teaching narratives to students in kindergarten through 12th grade. This special presentation for parents, teachers, media specialists and other professionals requires on-line pre-registration at www.aabookfestival.org, or call (734) 369-3366. The fee is \$25. Staff development credit is available for teachers of the Ann Arbor Public Schools district.

Back by popular demand this year is the Bookstore Crawl, May 1 through 13. To participate, pick up a Bookstore Crawl Passport at a participating bookstore or library in and around Ann Arbor. Visit the stores and libraries listed on the passport and receive a stamp at each location. After you visit half of the shops, turn your passport in for a small prize. Or visit all the shops on your passport to be entered in a grand prize drawing. Passports may be turned in at the Information booths at the Saturday street festival, or through Friday, May 12 at Nicola's Books, 2513 Jackson Road, or Shaman Drum Bookshop, 313-315 S. State St.

The Ann Arbor Book Festival was created in 2003 to promote reading, writing, and literacy. The Book Festival is presented in association with the Ann Arbor District Library, The Ann Arbor News, Borders Books and Music, Edwards Brothers, The Exclamation Point, KatMalda Design, Michigan Humanities Council, Michigan Radio, Shaman Drum Bookshop, The State Street Area Association, Thomson-Shore Printers, and WEMU 89.1-FM.



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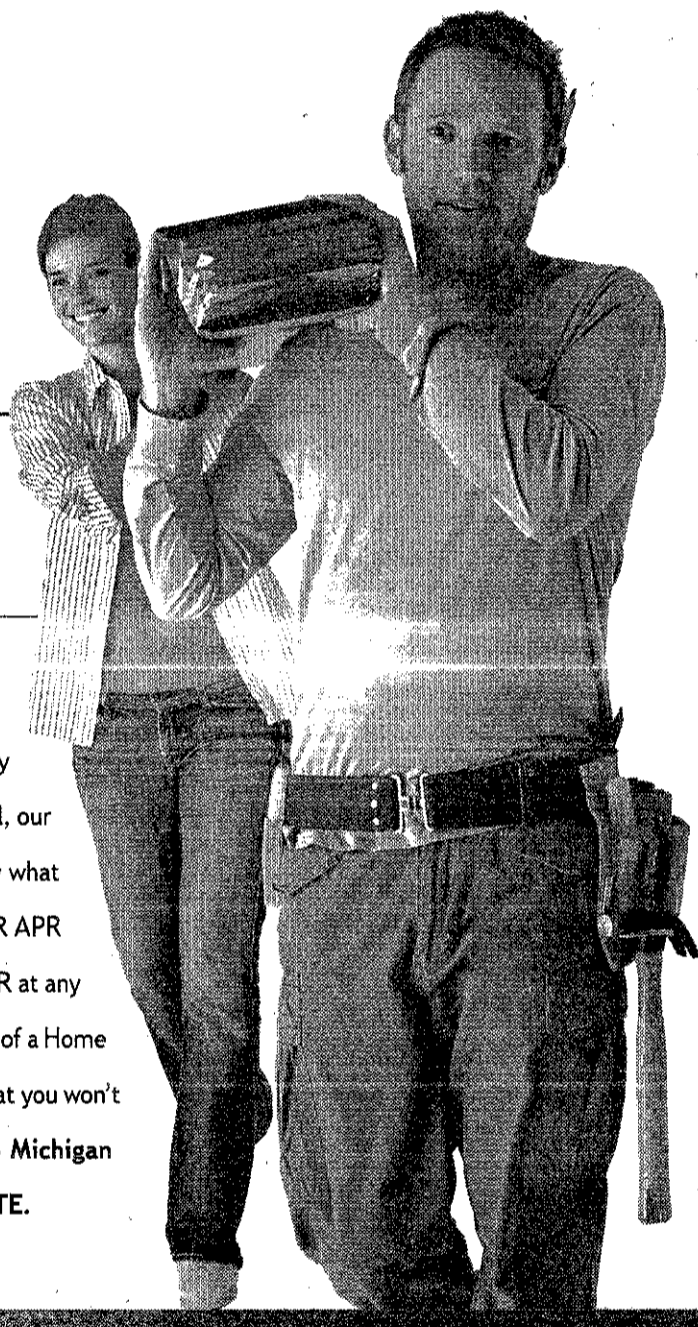
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An open letter to DFCU Financial

MEMBERS

We are extremely disappointed to learn that a small group of members has submitted a petition to recall our Board of Directors, which is a reckless and irresponsible act that is **putting our credit union and our jobs at risk.**

We, the employees of DFCU Financial, believe in and fully support our Board of Directors and management – and we say this of our own free will.

As employees who work hard each day to earn your trust and meet your financial needs, we hope you will take a moment to read how we feel about this risky and dangerous proposition. Below is just a sampling of what some of us have to say:

If our Board is recalled, our future and that of our members WILL be jeopardized. I encourage all employees and members to think long and hard before taking this drastic step. Do you want revenge, or do you want to maintain the success we are experiencing today? Save our Board!

Kelly Kidwell – 16 years

Life at DFCU Financial is better under the management we have now, which means employees are happier and the service we provide to the membership is greater. I can only hope that members will conclude that recalling the Board of Directors will have a profoundly negative impact on devoted, caring and happy employees like me. VOTE NO!

Steven Schulman – 14 years

We don't want our Board or our CEO to be removed from their obligations. We want to continue to grow, as we have been in the last six years, so we can offer more job opportunities and branches to serve our members in the ways in which we have grown accustomed.

Lynn Wall – 11 years

We're not just afraid of losing our jobs, but of destroying a great business that WE have been such a part of. We as members and employees are counting on the rest of our membership to do the right thing and take a moment to VOTE NO: NO CHANGE – NO RECALL.

Cheryl Stephenson – 22 years

In my years of service, I have always been proud of DFCU Financial for their commitment to our members. That will never change because as an organization, it is what we are all about. The current leadership made this organization what it is today: a strong viable financial institution that continues to grow and prosper. I do not feel that changing the current Board is good for DFCU Financial. Nothing will be gained, and much could be lost.

Teri Golles – 12 years

The current strength of the credit union is based on the people who are here and the decisions made in the last five years. To see the job accomplished by our CEO and our team, all you have to do is look at where we are today. This kind of success doesn't happen by accident. To remove those responsible for this success is reckless and the results will be catastrophic.

Cheryl M. Nelson – 3 years

I am proud to be a part of such an outstanding company. I was here when our CEO started, and I can honestly say that since he has arrived, our company has taken a turn for the better and it continues. You can see it in the branches; you can hear it in the members' voices. The growth we've achieved is incredible and an accomplishment to be proud of as an individual and an organization.

Rachael Shepherd – 8 years

We aren't only employees of the credit union; we are members as well. We care deeply about the future of our jobs and our credit union.

When the time comes to vote to recall our Board of Directors, we implore you to vote NO. By doing so, you guarantee that the credit union you have come to depend on will continue to be here – and we'll still be here – to serve you and protect your money.

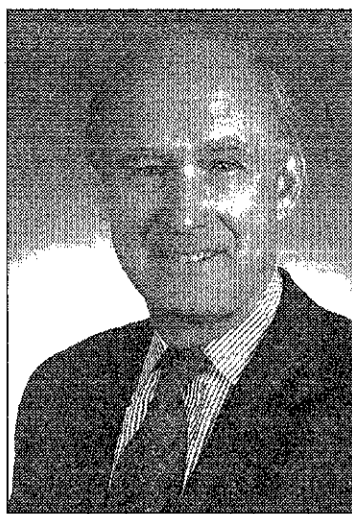
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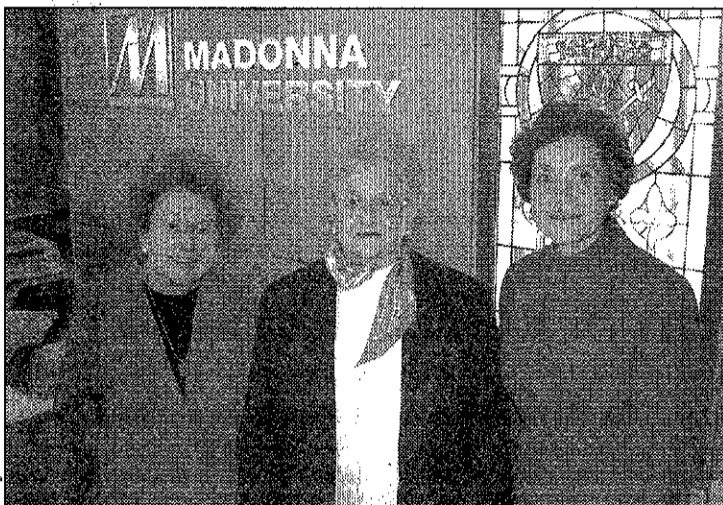
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Sister Renetta Rumpz

John E. Marshall



1951 graduates: Gertrude D. Bonk, Lorraine R. Ciak and Mary Joan Kaminski-Nardi.

Leaders lauded at 59th Madonna commencement

Madonna University's 59th commencement takes place 10:30 a.m. Saturday, May 6, at in Calihan Hall at the University of Detroit Mercy. Approximately 832 graduates will join the Madonna University alumni ranks, with 610 students receiving a bachelor's degree, associate's degree or certificate, and the remainder earning a master's degree.

Honorary doctorate degrees will be bestowed upon '67 alumna Sister Mary Renetta Rumpz; The Kresge Foundation President and CEO John E. Marshall, III; and Ford Motor Co. President and COO James J. Padilla. Distinguished alumna awards will be given to the following members of the first class of lay women, 1951 graduates: Gertrude D. Bonk, Lorraine R. Ciak and Mary Joan Kaminski-Nardi, M.Ed.

Presiding over the commencement ceremonies will be Madonna University Vice President for Academic Administration Ernest I. Nolan. The invocation will be given by Bishop John M. Quinn, auxiliary bishop, Archdiocese of Detroit and Madonna University trustee. The mace bearer will be Osvaldo Rivera, director of the office of multicultural affairs.

All graduates and their families are invited to attend the Graduation Mass, which will be celebrated 7 tonight in the Presentation Chapel at the Felician Sisters' Motherhouse (36800 Schoolcraft Road in Livonia). The celebrant will be Bishop Moses B. Anderson,



James J. Padilla

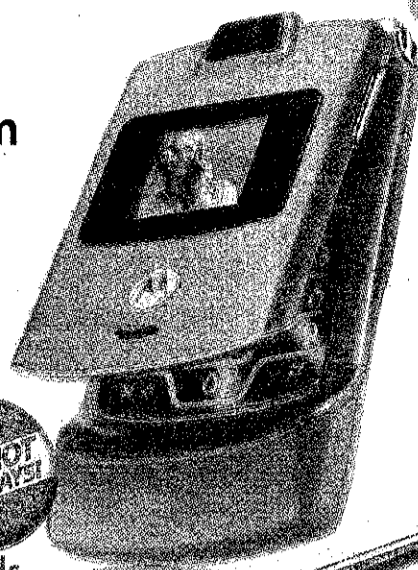
auxiliary bishop, Archdiocese of Detroit and former Madonna University trustee. A reception hosted by Madonna University President Sister Rose Marie Kujawa, will be held in the Residence Hall Dining Room immediately following the Mass.

Madonna University offers more than 70 career-oriented majors for men and women, including innovative programs in e-commerce, fire science, forensic science, sign language studies and sport management. Twenty-two master's degree programs are available in the diverse areas of business, clinical psychology, education, health services, hospice education, liberal studies, nursing, pastoral ministry and teaching English to speakers of other languages. Madonna University's main campus is at Levan and I-96 in Livonia, with satellite campuses in Orchard Lake and Southgate.

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For Church Directory changes and information regarding advertising in this directory, please call Donna Hart (734) 953-2153 the Friday before publication.

To mail copy: The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150 or Fax to (734) 953-2121

Shopping around: Cars, cash, jewels featured in Wayne County

NEED FOR SPEED

Detroit Speed Shops opened a new, state-of-the-art outlet in Livonia this week.

Located at 36534 Plymouth Road, the store carries a fully-stocked retail and wholesale parts showroom - featuring high performance accessories from manufacturers like Edelbrock, Holley and Mr. Gasket.

The outlet boasts a newly remodeled 9,800 square foot retail showroom and warehouse. The Livonia store also features a Customer Performance corner which allows visitors to experience the latest Play Station racing games, DVD's and more.

To celebrate the grand opening of the new Livonia store, owners will host a party and car show - with more than 200 vehicles on display - in conjunction with United Street Machines. The event is set for Saturday, May and will include refreshments. It is open to all. Additional Detroit Speed Shops locations include stores in Dearborn Heights and Roseville.

Regular store hours at Livonia's Detroit Speed Shops outlet run from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday. For more information, call (888) 293-7267 or visit the Web site at www.detroitsspeedshops.com.

GOING GREEN

After nine years of experience in the field of finance, Jason Hunter has opened a branch office of Waddell & Reed Financial Services in Plymouth.

Hunter's mission in this venture is "to help my clients identify and prioritize the financial goals that are unique to their situation and recommend solutions designed to help achieve them."

As a senior financial adviser, he specializes in education funding, financial and retirement planning, insurance strategies and investment.

Hunter, now a married father of three, earned his bachelor's degree in finance from Michigan State University in 1997. He has spent his entire professional career with Waddell & Reed.

Founded in 1937, the company has grown to include more than 200 offices nationwide.

The newest addition to Waddell & Reed is at 580 Forest Ave., Suite 7B in Plymouth.

For more information, contact Jason Hunter by phone at (734) 254-9999, by e-mail at jhunter@wradvisors.com, or visit www.jhunter.wradvisors.com.

Murray's Jewelry, located in Redford Township, announced last week it will soon be closing its doors for good. Owner Barry Murray has decided to retire.

For 36 years the store, located within a Murray's Auto Parts store, has fostered a reputation as the go-to place for jewelry. Shoppers seeking out close-out deals and sale prices on watches, rings, gemstones and more can stop in, while the merchandise lasts.

Murray said he anticipates the jewelry store will continue to liquidate its merchandise for the next four-to-six weeks.

Once it's gone, Murray's Discount Auto Parts will expand its operation throughout the building. Murray's Jewelry is at 27207 Plymouth Road in Redford. A second location, at 23400 Allen Road in Woodhaven, will also close.

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

WHAT'S IN STORE

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New Grow Zones being developed in Hines Park

In collaboration with the Wayne County Department of Environment, Wayne County Parks will develop four additional grow zones this year at selected locations throughout Hines Park.

All projects are being funded in part by a grant from the Clean Michigan Initiative - Rouge Watershed Nutrient Reduction Program.

The first of the four new grow zones began work on April 29 at Nolar Bend Park, in Dearborn Heights at Inkster Road and Hines Drive.

Volunteers met at the site at 9 a.m. to help construct the new grow zone with Wayne County personnel from Parks and the Department of Environment.

Grow Zones filter out excessive nutrients that come from fertilizers, goose droppings, and road debris. Grow Zones increase natural floodwater storage capacity by creating additional places for water to infiltrate into the ground.

Over 40 different species native to southeast Michigan will be planted including Eastern Red Cedar, Redbud, Big Bluestem Grass and Wild Geranium. They will be maintained and cared for by volunteers and the Wayne County Parks maintenance staff. Signs will be placed at each site to designate them as "Grow Zone" sites. These projects are part of the watershed wide effort announced by the Rouge River Remedial Action Plan (RAP) Advisory Council, earlier this year, to promote 2006 as The Year of the Grow Zone.

The next scheduled Grow Zone planting project will take place on May 6 at the Bennett Arboretum site in Northville Township in Hines Park.

Volunteers will plant a variety of native wildflowers, shrubs, and trees. Remaining Grow Zones include Ford Road and Outer Drive in Dearborn Heights for May 24 and Nankin Mills in Westland to be planted at a date to be determined this fall. For volunteer and/or general information, contact Noel Mullett, Wayne County Department of Environment-Watershed Management Division at nmullett@co.wayne.mi.us or (734) 326-3936. Or contact David Robbins, Wayne County Parks, [drobbins@co.wayne.mi.us](mailto:d Robbins@co.wayne.mi.us) or by phone at (734) 291-1990.

<p>T-Bone or Porterhouse Steaks USDA Select Beef Loin Value Pack 4 Steaks or More</p> <p>4.77 lb Limit 4 Pkgs</p> <p>SMALLER PACKAGES 5.49 lb</p>	<p>Kwick Krisp Bacon 16 oz Pkg</p> <p>1.47 Limit 10 Pkgs</p>	
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SPORTS

B

Thursday, May 4, 2006

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

Ed Wright, editor (734) 953-2108 ewright@hometownlife.com

www.hometownlife.com

Chiefs secure WLAA lead with win over 'Cats

 BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

PREP SOFTBALL

No Payne, no gain. Bolstered by the solid pitching of sophomore lefty Hillary Payne, two highlight-reel defensive plays and an efficient use of base-runners, Canton's softball team stayed atop the Western Lakes Activities Association Western

Division standings Monday afternoon with a 5-3 victory over cross-campus rival Plymouth.

Payne, who did not allow an earned run, scattered six hits, struck out five and did not walk a batter. Plymouth starting pitcher Claire

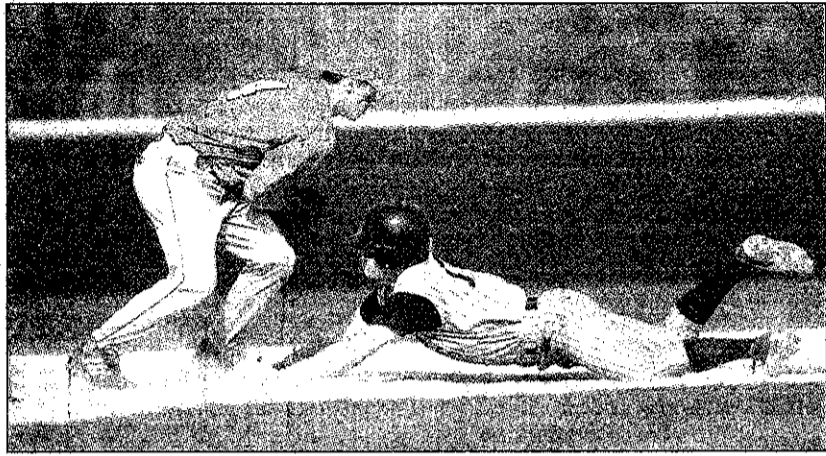
Ostrowski pitched well enough to win, limiting the Chiefs to three hits over six innings. However, Ostrowski and the Wildcats were victimized by two walks and four errors, all of which led to Canton runs.

With the win, Canton improved to 5-0 in the division. The Wildcats slipped to 4-1.

The game's pivotal play unfolded in

the bottom of the fifth when the Chiefs put runners on second and third with one out. With the score knotted at 3-3 and the Wildcats' infield pulled in, Canton clean-up hitter Lauren Delapaz ripped a scorching line drive to the glove side of Plymouth freshman second baseman Beth Heldmeyer, who laid out and

PLEASE SEE CHIEFS, B3



Plymouth's Ryan Valle slides head-first into second to complete a stolen base as Canton second baseman Chris Woudstra gets a handle on the ball.

Big 3rd inning propels Canton past Plymouth

 BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

After leading Canton 1-0 following two innings Monday afternoon, Plymouth's baseball team soon found itself behind the "eight" ball.

The Chiefs pushed eight runs across the plate in the third to secure a lead they would never relinquish on the way to a 9-6 victory.

With the win, Canton improved to 9-6 overall and 3-1 in the Western Lakes Activities Association's Western Division. Plymouth slipped to 7-9 and 2-2, respectively.

Both teams' coaches agreed the error-plagued game won't be re-broadcast on ESPN Classic anytime soon.

"When (Plymouth coach) Chuck Adams and I talked after the game, we both agreed that it was a sloppy game," said Canton coach Scott Dickey, whose team trails Western Division-leading Northville by one game. "We were both expecting a 2-to-1-type of game, and we weren't expecting so many errors."

The teams combined for seven fielding miscues — the Chiefs committed four, the Wildcats three.

PLEASE SEE CANTON, B4



Canton's Shawn Little slides safely into third base before Plymouth's Brandon Winowiecki can apply the tag during Monday afternoon's cross-campus clash between the two P-CEP rivals. Canton won 9-6 thanks to an eight-run third inning.

PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Canton resident Chris Merbler, 13, holds the potential world-record walleye he reeled in Sunday while fishing with his dad on Lake Erie.

Nobody does it 'bait'er Canton teen hooks record walleye

 BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

The split-second he felt the first tug on his fishing line Sunday afternoon, Chris Merbler knew that whatever had wrapped its jaws around his perch-colored crawler was a whopper.

However, the 13-year-old Canton outdoorsman had no idea that the fish he had enticed to clamp onto his bait in the middle of Lake Erie was a potential world record-sized walleye.

"It felt heavy right away and it pulled out a lot of line, so I knew it was big," recalled Merbler, who, along with his dad Ron, was participating in the Lance Valentine Walleye 101 Fishing School. "It took me about a minute and a half to bring it in, which is longer than it normally takes."

Once it was netted and weighed, the walleye tipped the scales at 9.8 pounds, which is considerably heavier than the 8.5-pound specimen currently listed on

the International Game Fish Association Web site as the largest ever caught by someone 16 years old or younger.

"It may take the IGFA a couple of months to decide if my walleye becomes the new world record for junior anglers," said Merbler. "We have to fill out some paperwork and send them a photo of the fish. Then they talk to the people who weighed it and saw me catch it."

Merbler said his prize catch is presently on ice, but it will soon be mounted and showcased in his family's Canton home.

"It would feel really good if I get the world record because I've been trying to get the record for about two-and-a-half years," said Merbler, a seventh-grade student at Plymouth Christian Academy.

The walleye was caught in 30 feet of Lake Erie water, not far from Rattlesnake Island, Merbler said.

RON MERBLER

Churchill set to defend title at 36th Observerland Relays

 BY BRAD EMONS
STAFF WRITER

Two things always remain constant during the first Saturday in May — the Kentucky Derby and the Observerland Boys Track and Field Relays.

The 36th running of the Observerland meet will not be at Churchill Downs, but on 8900 Newburgh Road, site of Livonia Churchill High School.

This year's meet doesn't appear to possess a Secretariat, Affirmed or Seattle Slew, but it does feature a number of worthy title contenders along with a few dark horses.

"This year there is no dominant team; many can compete," said Churchill's lead trainer, coach Rick Austin, whose team captured the 2005 title for the first time in 16 years. "You're always concerned about Canton, but Stevenson is also a good team if they put it together. And both Farmington and Northville have a little bit

PLEASE SEE OBSERVERLAND, B2



Salem's Baze Efremov will be looking to hurdle the competition at Saturday's Observerland Relays, which will be held at Livonia Churchill.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

36TH OBSERVERLAND BOYS TRACK & FIELD RELAYS

Host school: Livonia Churchill, 8900 Newburgh Road (between Ann Arbor Trail and Joy Road).

When: Saturday, May 6.

Field events: start at 3:30 p.m. (pole vault, high jump, long jump, discus, shot put).

Running events: start at 6:30 p.m. (6,400-meter relay, 110 hurdles, distance medley, 800 relay, 1,600 run, 3,200 relay, 100 dash, sprint medley, shuttle hurdle relay, 400 relay, 1,600 relay).

Participating schools: Livonia Churchill (defending champion), Livonia Clarenceville, Livonia Franklin, Livonia Stevenson, Westland John Glenn, Wayne Memorial, Lutheran High Westland, Garden City, Redford Union, Redford Thurston, Novi-Detroit Catholic Central, Farmington, Farmington Hills Harrison, Northville.

Admission: \$5 (adults); \$3 (students).

Sidelines

Pitch, Hit & Run

A record 103 youngsters between the ages of 7-14 participated in the annual Pepsi Pitch, Hit & Run competition April 22 at the Canton Sports Center. The top three finishers from each age group will advance to the sectional competition June 3 at the Dearborn Heights Community Center.

The local winners were:

■ **Ages 7-8:** 1. Cameron Stella (563 points); 2. Dante Toppi (518); 3. Ronnie Dance (479).

■ **Ages 9-10:** 1. Brandon Waack (667); 2. Sean Stanners (583); 3. Quinn Lutkenhoff (564).

■ **Ages 11-12:** 1. Evan Rinke (598); 2. James Bushaw (594); 3. Nick March (588).

■ **Ages 13-14:** 1. Matt Windle (890); 2. Tom Windle (888); 3. Collin Hammerstein (587).

Salem netters win tourney

The Salem boys tennis team captured the Monroe Trojan Classic Saturday by compiling 22 points. Racking up unbeaten records for the Rocks were: Lawrence Washington (No. 1 singles); Pete Bartlett (No. 2 singles); Blake Foster (No. 3 singles); Neil Bakshi (No. 4 singles); Pawel Kargol-Dave Geick (No. 1 doubles); Jake Burnstein-Kevin Steinman (No. 3 doubles); and Steve VanDusen-Matt Benson (No. 4 doubles).

Miller contributes

Baldwin-Wallace College (Ohio) senior Lisa Miller, a graduate of Canton High School, recently assisted Fairview Park's Youth Advisory Commission (YAC) in determining how well a new recreation center would be utilized by the young people in the community.

Miller, along with two other Baldwin-Wallace College students, tallied the results of the professional survey commissioned by YAC under the direction of Baldwin-Wallace psychology professor Lisa Green.

The survey examined a number of areas, including students' perception of parent supervision to hours of television viewing. Based on the results, Miller and her fellow B-W classmates suggested that a volunteer coordinator should be stationed at the new rec center. They also made several other recommendations during a presentation before Fairview Park officials. Miller is majoring in psychology and business administration.

Coach needed

The Plymouth Wildcats are looking for a varsity cheer coach. For more information, contact Plymouth Athletic Director Terry Sawchuk at (734) 582-5700.

Salem's Smith wins playoff with birdie

Salem senior Ashley Smith rolled in an 18-foot birdie putt from just off the green on the first playoff hole to earn medalist honors at Monday's 21-team Brighton Invitational at Oak Pointe Country Club.

Smith was paired in the playoff with Ann Arbor Pioneer's Elise Swartout and Beth Neigebauer, all of whom fired five-over-par rounds of 76.

Smith, who will take her talents to Grand Valley State in the fall, is 5-0 in playoffs during her illustrious high school career.

"Ashley absolutely crushed her drive on the playoff hole," said Salem coach Rick Wilson. "She then hit it just over the green and onto the back fringe with her second shot. The other two girls had long par putts. The fringe was cut low, so Ashley decided to putt her third shot



Smith

instead of chip it, and she rolled it right in."

The Rocks finished near the middle of the pack in the team competition by compiling a 394 score. Joining Smith in the scoring column were senior Katie Rzetelny (96), Anna Ross (106) and Alyssa Mastic (116). Christine Garland and Emily Patton carded 120s.

"I was pleased to break 400 as a team," Wilson said. "We improved by over 20 strokes from our first tournament earlier in the year in Grosse Ile."

Pioneer grabbed first in the team standings with 324. Dexter and Temperance Bedford tied for second at 341.

LIVONIA CHURCHILL 207
CANTON 271
 April 28 at Hilltop G.C.
Churchill scorers: Shannon Warner (medalist), 44; Ashley Bint, 49; Lex McFarlane and Tanaya Karik, 57 each; Theresa Nutton, 58; Amanda Dobos, 64.
Canton scorers: Nicole Burdiss, 63; Chetsea Osborn, 65; Molly Motley, 70; Kara Gregory, 73; Paige McBain, 76; Emily Kenny, 76.
Churchill's dual meet record: 4-1 overall, 4-1 WAAA.

LIVONIA CHURCHILL 198
PLYMOUTH 212
 April 27 at Hickory Creek
Churchill scorers: Shannon Warner, 36 (medalist); Ashley Bint, 48; Sarah Walls and Theresa Nutton, 57 each; Danielle Lesniak, 60; Lex McFarlane, 68.
Plymouth scorers: Liz Anderson, 48; Amanda Kerr and Melissa Miller, 53 each; Patricia Burns, 58; Katy Ingraham and Madeline Salvaggio, 62 each.
Churchill's dual meet record: 3-1 overall, 3-1 WAAA.

On Tuesday, Smith earned a medal at the rain-drenched Ann Arbor Invitational, which was played at the University of Michigan Golf Course.

Smith's 82 was good enough to place her in the top 10, but not quite low enough to stay with first-place finisher Shannon Warner of Livonia Churchill.

OBSERVERLAND

FROM PAGE B1

of everything. We're not as deep as last year, but we still can win some races.

"This year our sprints should help us out. We're just not as deep as we have been in the distance events."

Canton coach Bob Richardson has been to the winner's circle four of the five past Observerlands.

Last year his team was edged by Churchill for the title, 81-77. Livonia Stevenson placed a close third with 72.

"You've got to score in every event if you're going to win," Richardson said. "We have a very strong lineup. Our field events are extremely strong. We have three fine throwers. Our sprints and middle distance are also pretty strong."

"But Churchill and Stevenson are going to be very tough to beat. We lost to Plymouth in a dual meet and we barely squeaked by (Livonia) Franklin. CC is also very strong, too, and has had great programs."

Canton's lead jockey is fourth-year varsity performer Cyrus Azizi, a versatile senior who sets the pace for the Chiefs. Azizi has drawn interest from such schools as Eastern Michigan and the University of Detroit Mercy.

"He can go anywhere from the 200 (meters) up to the 1,600," Richardson said. "He's done the hurdles, too. He's been asked before to run the highs."

"I've never had a more versatile athlete in Canton history. It takes four to replace him. I've been writing his name in the lineup for four years. And to top it off he's just a great kid, very personable. He's not only a fine athlete, but a good student."

Other valuable pieces to the Canton puzzle are Andy Rossow, a 6-foot-2 high jumper who also runs the relay events, and middle-distance standout Phaltiel Whitlock.

Meanwhile, one of Churchill's go-to guys is defending Division I state pole vault champion Ryan Santa, who also anchors the Chargers' 4 x 100-meter relay and com-

petes in the hurdles. Churchill also boasts two of the area's top distance performers in senior Timothy Howse and sophomore Brandon Grysko, along with middle distance performer David St. Amant.

The odds on Stevenson making a bid for its first Observerland title since 1980 remain high.

On April 25, the Spartans ended Churchill's nine-year run of Livonia City Meet crowns, only to lose two days later in a dual meet to the host Chargers, 76-61.

"We're not in bad shape, but we have a couple of questionable kids with injuries," Stevenson coach Scott Shaw said. "Nana (Adomako) leads off our (sprint) relays and he tweaked a hamstring last week."

"We have a decent amount of depth, more than in the past. We think we can be competitive in most events. There are four or five events where you want to be first or second."

Shaw said filling out the lineup card is one of the keys to putting his team in position for the home stretch.

"It's a different kind of meet because the distance events are basically at the beginning of the meet and the sprints are at the end," he said. "We just have to pick and choose the events we want to go after. We want to give a kid like Matt Rzepka a chance to run the open mile, but to do that he has to be fresh."

A relative newcomer to the meet, Plymouth High, could surprise under first-year coach Kurt Britnell. This is the first Wildcat senior class to compete in the Observerland meet. Last year Plymouth scored 19 points, but is expected to be more of a factor on Saturday.

"Our goal since these kids have been freshmen is to be competitive, just outwork the other guy and don't let that be an excuse," said Britnell, who previously served as an assistant for the Wildcats. "We think we can compete and have a chance at everything. I don't know if it would be a shock to anybody if we did well."

The Wildcats are led by senior Sean Dillon (distance), sen-

ior Josh Le Duc (relays-discus) and sophomore Ben Ambrose (pole vault).

"The only thing we lack in is 400 guys, that's where we're the weakest," Britnell said. "But I think we can make up for it with our sprinters and distance guys."

There could be some other surprises as well - a la 2004 Derby champ Smarty Jones.

Don't be surprised if there's a photo finish.

"It's going to be a close, exciting meet," Richardson said. "It's one of those meets we look forward to every year because it's a showcase meet for the whole area. Our kids get so pumped up because it's one of the high points of the year."

Farmington High is 5-0 in dual meets and boasts a quality sprint team that includes Stephen Byars, Tim Wasmer, Phillip Champion, Solomon Tucker and Stephen Champion. Jason Heist is a competitive hurdler, and the Falcons have a solid group of throwers.

"We're more excited about Observerland this season than we have been in a number of years," coach Chip Bridges said.

"We've been pretty good the last four or five years, but we don't have any meets next week until Saturday. We have three days to get ready for it and all next week to recover. It's the first time we've been able to run Observerland and not have to worry about how to use people."

"I think our sprint relays should be competitive. I think we can put together a couple good distance relays, too. In the throwing events, while we don't have that one guy who's dynamite, we do have three solid guys."

Farmington Harrison is good in the sprints as always. Cameron Murphy is a first-rate hurdler, and Chris Pyant leads a throwing team that will compete for the shot put and discus titles.

"If we're healthy by Saturday, we should do real well," coach John Reed said. "I expect us to do well in the sprint relays and hurdles. We could put together a pretty good field-event team. We're looking forward to the meet and planning on trying to do well."

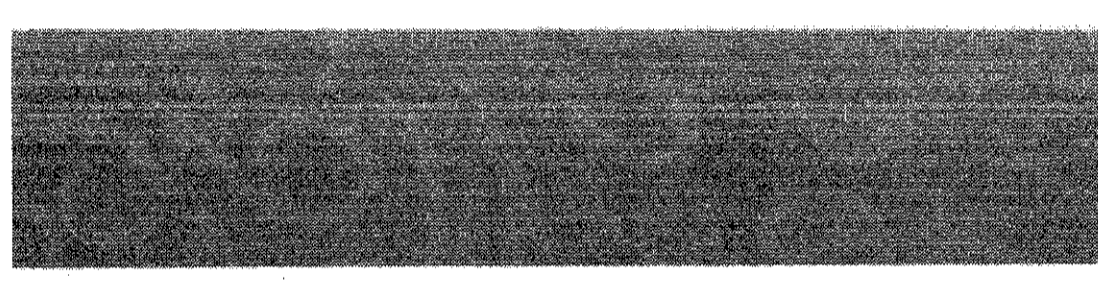
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CHIEFS

FROM PAGE B1
spearhead the ball.
However, when Heldmeyer sprang to her feet and tried to double-up Canton's Brittany Scero at third base, her low throw eluded third baseman Lauren Stemberger and rolled out of play, allowing both baserunners to score.
"Beth is a phenomenal second baseman and she made a great play just to catch the ball," said Plymouth coach Val Canfield. "When I saw her setting up to try and throw to third, I yelled for her to hang onto the ball, but she tried to get the double play. That's a throw that, once she gets more varsity experience, she won't make in the future."
"Claire pitched well, but she walked two — and both of the girls who walked scored — and we had two crucial errors that Canton took advantage of."

The Wildcats drew first blood in the second inning when freshman Erin Rodes delivered a clutch, two-run, pinch-hit single with two outs, scoring Kim Klonowski and Heldmeyer.

"I put Erin in there because she's more of a power hitter than Amy Bondy (who was scheduled to hit) and I have a lot of confidence in her," said Canfield. "She's only had one start in the field this season, but she couldn't have come through any better than she did."

Canton retaliated quickly by pushing across three runs in the bottom of the second. The left-handed-hitting Scero plated the tying and go-ahead runs with an opposite-field double that scored Payne, who had reached on an error, and Alyssa Johnson, who had walked.

Plymouth drew even at 3-3 in the top of the third when Danielle Bondy, who had reached on an error and advanced to second on Madison Dresser's sacrifice bunt, scored on Klonowski's second of three hits.

Payne was brilliant over the final four innings, holding the Wildcats to three base-runners. She was backed by a pair of incredible defensive efforts: In the fourth, shortstop Kate McWhirter ranged deep into the hole to rob Heldmeyer of a hit; and with one out in the seventh, Chief left-fielder Krista Holcomb went horizontal to make a diving catch of a sinking shot off the bat of Bondy.

Stemberger sparked defensively at the hot corner for the Wildcats.

Scero reached base all three times she batted, finishing 2-for-3 with two RBI and a run scored. Klonowski (3-for-3) was the lone Wildcat with more than one hit.

Wildcats take 1-of-3 at Saline Invitational

Plymouth's softball team went 1-2 at Saturday's Saline Invitational Softball Tournament.

The Wildcats dropped their first two contests — 8-0 to the host Hornets and 4-3 to Division 2 power Wayland Union — before rebounding to oust Ann Arbor Huron, 5-1, in their third and final game of the afternoon.

Junior right-handed pitcher Claire Ostrowski tossed a one-hitter in the victory over the River Rats, striking out six while walking just two. Beth Heldmeyer (3-for-4, double), Kim Klonowski (3-for-3, three RBI), Ostrowski (3-for-3, double) and Amy Bondy (2-for-4) made an impact at the plate for the winners.

Wayland Union, which is ranked No. 7 in Division 2, scored a pair of runs in the top of the seventh innings to upend the Wildcats in game No. 2. Ostrowski pitched well, yielding just five hits and four walks while whiffing four. Offensively, Heldmeyer laced

PREP SOFTBALL

two hits and Erin Ondusky contributed a two-run double.

Senior third baseman Lauren Stemberger provided the lone highlights in the opening-game setback to Saline, going 2-for-2 at the plate.

STEVENSON 10, SALEM 0: Lauren Brueck went 3-for-3 with two RBI and two runs scored Monday as host Livonia Stevenson (8-4, 2-2) took five innings to mercy the Rocks (4-6, 1-3) in a WLAALakes Division encounter.

The Spartans collected a total of 10 hits with Danielle Wozniak going 2-for-3 with two RBI, two runs scored and two stolen bases. Amanda Alpert added a two-run double in the bottom of the fifth inning. Winning pitcher Jamie Johnson allowed just four hits, walked one and struck out three.

Salem's Melissa Leach, who struck out three and walked three, suffered the loss.

TENNIS RESULTS

SALEM 7 LIVONIA FRANKLIN 1
May 1 at Franklin

No. 1 singles: Lawrence Washington (S) defeated Derrick Martinez, 6-0, 6-1; No. 2: Pete Bartlett (S) defeated Brandon Filipiak, 6-2, 6-3; No. 3: Blake Foster (S) def. Tony Semonick, 6-1, 6-1; No. 4: Neil Bakshi (S) def. Dan Camilleri, 5-0, 6-0.
No. 1 doubles: Pawel Karpiak-Dave Gaick (S) def. Feras Ackali-Zack Shaver, 6-1, 6-1; No. 2: Joe Fenner-Justin Adams (LF) def. Cam Loftus-Alex Poe, 6-1, 6-1; No. 3: Jake Burnstein-Kevin Steinman (S) def. Ron Perian-Steve Trapp, 6-1, 6-2; No. 4: Steve Van Duesen-Matt Benson (S) def. Kevin Jaksim-Nat Warrick, 6-7 (5-7), 6-1, 6-4.
Dual meet records: Salem, 6-0 WLAAL; Franklin, 1-7 overall, 0-6 WLAAL.

CANTON 8 WESTLAND JOHN GLENN 0
April 28 at John Glenn

No. 1 singles: Eric Szydlowski (C) defeated Tim Smolen, 6-1, 6-4; No. 2: Mike Keesy (C) def. Alex Colosimo, 6-0, 6-4; No. 3: Nathan Larimore (C) def. Mike Hensel, 6-4, 6-2; No. 4: Ryan Hollingsworth (C) def. Ben Rice, 6-4, 6-1.
No. 1 doubles: Alex Marinica-Mike Darouie (C) def. Brad Noyes-Nikhil Kalothia, 6-2, 6-0; No. 2: Alex Fabiszewski-Greg Warecki (C) def. Nolan Langlois-Brandon Nikula, 6-1, 6-0; No. 3: Nirusan Loganathan-Tom Williams (C) def. Shawn Murphy-Frank Toarmina, 6-3, 6-1; No. 4: David Kang-Cory Hurst (C) def. Justin Samland-Cliff Palac, 6-0, 6-2.
Glenn's dual meet record: 0-5 overall, 0-4 WLAAL.

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Baptist Park at PCA, 4:30 p.m.
Friday, May 5
Salem at W.L. Northern, 4 p.m.
W.L. Western at Canton, 4 p.m.
Northville at Plymouth, 4 p.m.
Saturday, May 6
Salem at Millford, 11 a.m.
Canton at Farmington Tourney at Ford Field, 9 a.m.
Franklin Road at PCA, 1 p.m.
- PREP SOFTBALL**
Thursday, May 4
Inter-City Baptist at PCA, 4:30 p.m.
Friday, May 5
W.L. Northern at Salem, 4 p.m.
Canton at W.L. Western, 4 p.m.
Plymouth at Northville, 4 p.m.
Saturday, May 6
Salem Invitational, 9:30 a.m.
Lutheran Westland at PCA, 1 p.m.
- BOYS TRACK & FIELD**
Thursday, May 4
Salem at Westland John Glenn, 3:30 p.m.
Wayne Memorial at Canton, 5:30 p.m.
Plymouth at W.L. Western, 3:45 p.m.
Friday, May 5
Salem at Harrison Hawk 9/10 Invite, 3:45 p.m.
Saturday, May 6
Observerland Relays at Livonia Churchill, 3 p.m.
- GIRLS TRACK & FIELD**
Thursday, May 4
Westland John Glenn at Salem, 3:30 p.m.
Canton at Wayne Memorial, 3:30 p.m.
W.L. Western at Plymouth, 5:30 p.m.
Saturday, May 6
Observerland Relays at Livonia Churchill, 3 p.m.
- BOYS TENNIS**
Friday, May 5
Salem at Northville, 4 p.m.
Plymouth at Canton, 4 p.m.
Saturday, May 6
Salem at Woodhaven Classic, 8 a.m.
- GIRLS SOCCER**
Thursday, May 4
Macomb Christian at PCA, 4:30 p.m.
Friday, May 5
Lutheran Westland at PCA, 4:30 p.m.
Saturday, May 6
Rochester at Salem, 1 p.m.
Canton at Troy Athens, TBA
Detroit Country Day at Plymouth, 11:30 a.m.
- GIRLS GOLF**
Friday, May 5
Livonia Franklin at Salem at St. John's G.C., 3 p.m.
Canton at Northville, 3 p.m.
Wayne Memorial at Plymouth at Hickory Creek G.C., 3 p.m.
- BOYS LACROSSE**
Friday, May 5
W.L. Unified at PCS, 8 p.m.

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Super seventh leads Spartans over Rocks

The Livonia Stevenson baseball team was in "seventh heaven" Monday afternoon during the latter stages of its Western Lakes Activities Association Lakes Division showdown at Salem.

The Spartans scored seven runs in the seventh inning to blow open a close game and win going away, 14-4. The victory was the eighth consecutive for Stevenson, which improved to 10-4 overall and 5-0 in the Lakes. The host Rocks slipped to 5-10 and 2-2, respectively.

Matt Tuttle earned the mound victory for the Spartans, throwing a complete-game six-hitter. Tuttle struck out five and walked two.

Stevenson trailed 3-1 after three innings, but grabbed the lead for good with four runs in the top of the fourth. Salem reduced its deficit to 5-4 with a run in the bottom of the frame, but the Spartans sealed the win with a pair of sixth-inning runs and the monstrous final inning.

Larry Klemczak paced the winners' 16-hit attack by going 3-for-5 with two RBI and three runs. Also contributing to the Spartans' productive day at the plate were Luke Knochel (2-for-3, two RBI, two runs), Ben Schroeder (2-for-4, four RBI, two runs) and Nick Plinka (2-for-3, RBI). Tony Pounders and Andy Jones both went 2-for-4 with a run scored for Stevenson.

The majority of Salem's offensive highlights were provided by Bill Leddy (2-for-3, RBI) and Jon Pomorski (2-for-3, two runs).



Salem's Steve Pydyn accelerates towards second base as Livonia Stevenson's Matt Tuttle delivers a pitch during Monday afternoon's Western Lakes Activities Association Lakes Division showdown. The Spartans won, 14-4, to remain unbeaten in the division.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

CANTON

FROM PAGE B1

Three of Canton's errors came in the first inning and helped Plymouth secure an early 1-0 lead.

The Chiefs erased their defensive woes in the third when they sent 12 batters to the plate. When the red clay had settled, Canton had racked up eight runs, two of which came on junior Brad Barath's two-out double. Chris Woudstra, Shawn Little, Blaine Paden and Jon Puskar also contributed clutch hits to the offensive explosion.

The Wildcats reduced their deficit to 8-4 in their half of the third thanks in large part to Brandon Winowiecki's two-run home run. Both teams added single runs in the fifth and Plymouth added one in the seventh.

"It was nice getting the big inning, but I was disappointed we weren't able to put the game away with more runs after that inning," said Dickey. "Plymouth is a good-hitting team, so we knew they were capable of coming back at any time."

Little, a senior, tossed a complete-game nine-hitter to earn the victory. He struck out six and walked two.

Plymouth starting pitcher Bryan Stotz suffered the loss after hurling three-plus innings. Nate McManus did a nice job of quieting the Chiefs' bats after taking over for Stotz in the fourth.

Woudstra and Paden stroked two hits a piece to pace Canton's 10-hit attack. Tyler Locklear joined Winowiecki in the round-trippers' club when he blasted a solo shot in the fifth. Locklear also added a double and finished 3-for-4.

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

Poor half dooms Rocks in 3-3 draw

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

Salem may have been better off Monday night against Walled Lake Western if it could have skipped halftime and just played 80 straight minutes of soccer.

The Rocks lost their 2-0 half-time advantage and their momentum in the final 40 minutes of Monday's 3-3 draw with the Warriors. The tie left coach Joe Nora's squad with a 2-3-2 mark.

"We played very well in the first half, but our second half

PREP SOCCER

was kind of weak," said Nora. "Western picked their play up in the second half and we didn't match their energy."

Sophomore forward Taylor Carlson and junior forward Kelly Adsit scored first-half goals for the Rocks. Adsit also found the back of the net in the second half. Sophomore midfielder Katie Shull contributed two assists to the Rocks' cause.

PCA 2, B'HAM ROEPER 1 (shootout): The Eagles secured their hold on first place in the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference with a thrilling victory at Roper Monday afternoon. Plymouth Christian, which improved its overall and league records to 6-0, outscored Roper 4-3 in the shootout. The Roughriders dropped to 5-2 and 3-1, respectively.

"The conference has to take note of Plymouth Christian now after this win," said PCA coach Bob Lorion. "The girls are having an outstanding year. They showed a lot of perseverance tonight. They could have had a letdown after the win over Oakland Christian last week, but they didn't."

Karen Cleary gave PCA a 1-0 lead 8:32 into the second half when she scored off an assist from Megan Polera. Roper knotted the game at 1-1 when it converted a free kick with 15 minutes left in regulation.

Both teams converted 3-of-5 shots in the first round of the shootout, necessitating a sudden-death segment. Jalese Debiasi, Sarah Roth and Brooke Williams scored for PCA.

After Sara Ross stuffed the Roughriders' first sudden-death attempt, Cleary scored the game-winner.

"It was a team effort all the way around today," said Lorion. "They all came together when they had to."

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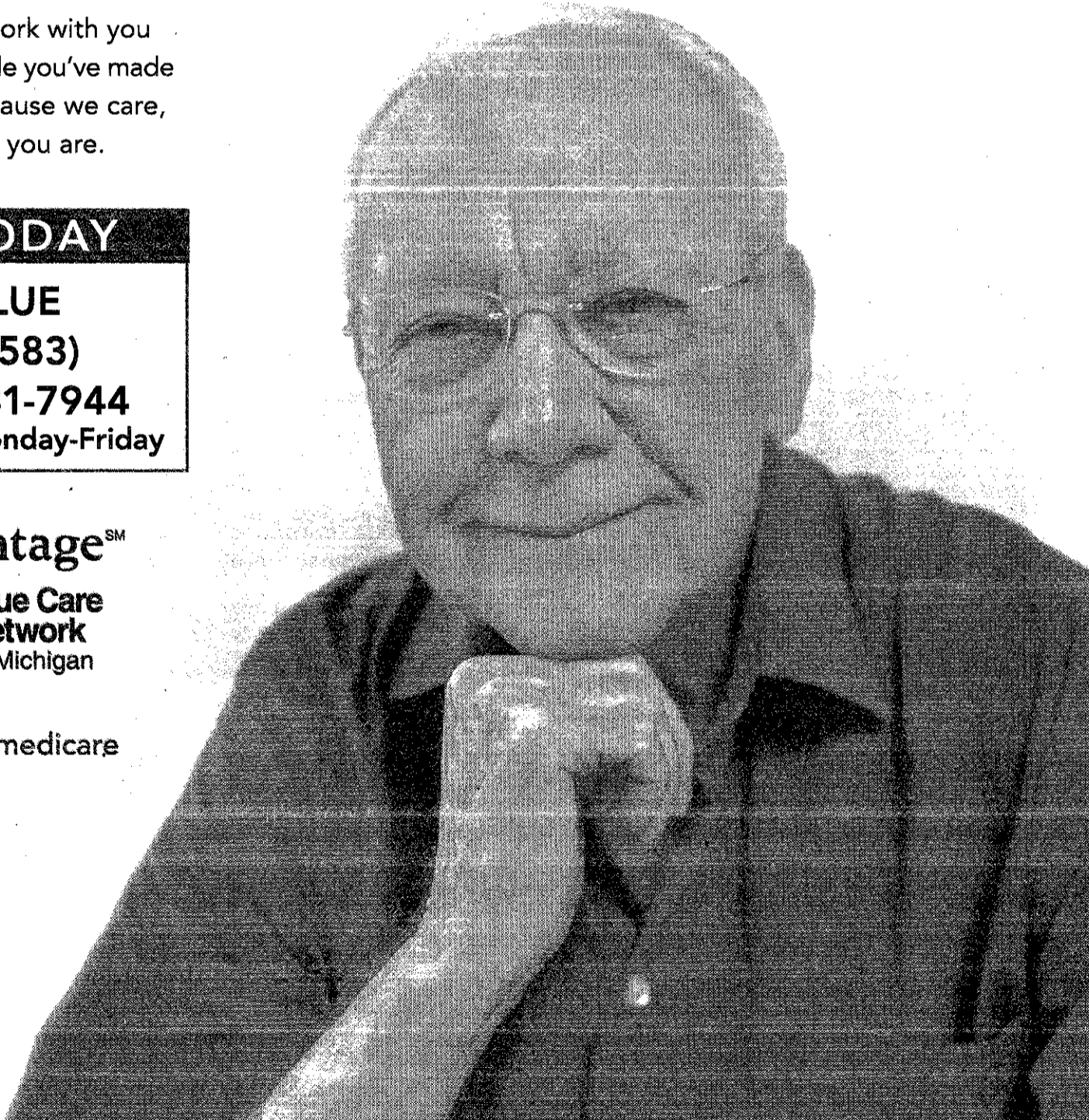
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Warriors drop third straight in lacrosse

The Plymouth-Canton-Salem boys lacrosse team suffered its third consecutive defeat Monday when it dropped a 9-5 decision to Northville. The visiting Warriors slipped to 6-3 while the Mustangs improved to 5-4.

"We were sluggish most of the game," said PCS coach Mike Costello. "Our offensive movement just stalled. We need to change a few things to get things going again."

Costello praised the play of senior goalie Chris Sorensen, who racked up 18 saves.

"Chris stood on his head for us," Costello praised. "He kept us in the game. Ray Gilmore had another outstanding game, too. I wish he could play a couple more years."

Trailing 1-0, the Warriors earned the lead in the second quarter thanks to goals from Gilmore and John Savino, who was assisted by Mitch French. The Mustangs strung together three straight goals to claim a 4-2 advantage before Johnny Groat and French scored to knot the game at 4-4 mid-way through the third period.

Following a Northville goal, PCS evened things up again at

5-5 on a French goal with 3:07 remaining in the third. However, the Mustangs tallied the final four goals to cruise to the win.

Gilmore and Joey Underwood (two) notched assists for the Warriors.

Northville outshot PCS, 34-23 and won the ground ball battle, 30-29.

A.A. PIONEER 16, PCS 1: The host Pioneers led 10-1 at the half and 14-1 after three quarters. Alex Caryl scored the lone PCS goal, which was unassisted.

Pioneer, which improved to 9-1, outshot the Warriors, 35-9.

The Warriors return to action Friday when they host Walled Lake Unified at 8 p.m. at the P-CEP junior varsity stadium.

PCS LADY WARRIORS 5, BEDFORD 2: Scoring for the Warriors were Kristen Schwan (Salem), Amy Coleman (Salem), Sara Tiderington (Plymouth), Morgan Franke (Plymouth) and Heather Duncan (Canton).

Defensively, PCS was paced by Laura Burton, Rainey Warner, Edra Burris; and goalies Caitlin Andrew and Samantha Weidendorf.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

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The Plymouth Family YMCA is currently accepting registrations for its spring soccer program. Programs are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Volunteers, referees and anyone else needing more information should call the YMCA at (734) 453-2904.

SENIORS GOLF

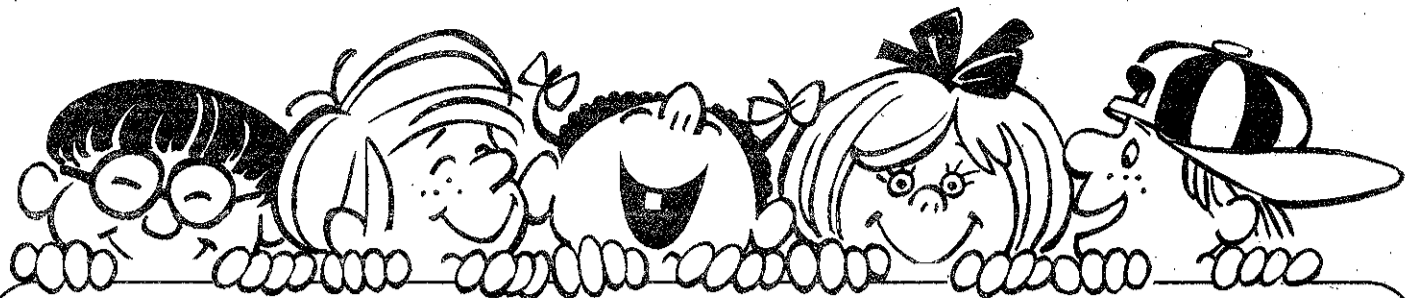
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For complete details, visit www.mpsga.org; or call the MPSGA hotline at (734) 207-PUTT.

The Michigan Publix Seniors Golf Association is a non-profit, volunteer-administered organization. It has sponsored golf tournaments for more than 30 years.



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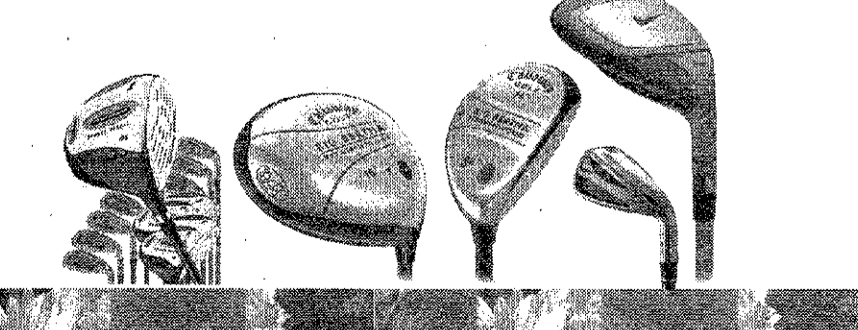
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Table with columns for event names (e.g., 400 RELAY, 1,600 RELAY, 3,200 RELAY) and names of participants with their scores.

Young Chief runners 10th at Holly

Freshman and sophomore members of the Canton boys track team placed 10th at the Holly 9/10 Relays held Saturday at Holly High School.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Charter Township of Canton, 1150 Canton Center S, Canton, Michigan will accept sealed bids at the Office of the Clerk up to 3:00 p.m. Thursday, May 18th, 2006 for the following: FLEET CARD FUELING SERVICES 2006.

WESTLAND CAR CARE TOWING. The following vehicles have been deemed abandoned and will be sold at Public Auction May 9, 2006 at 10:00 a.m. The Auction will be held at Westland Car Care Towing, 6375 Hix Road, Westland, MI 48185. The vehicles will be sold as is, starting bid is for towing and storage.

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN & NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING. Notice is Hereby Given that a public hearing will be held by the City of Plymouth Commission on Monday, June 5, 2006, at 7:00 p.m. at the Plymouth City Hall, 201 S. Main Street, Plymouth, Michigan 48170.

PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS. The Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools invites all interested and qualified companies to submit a bid for Topographic Surveying Services. These services will cover the following: Spring 2006; Erikason, Farrand, Fiegel, Field, Hoben, and Hulsing Elementary Schools and Pioneer Middle School.

PLYMOUTH TOWNSHIP NOTICE TO CUT NOXIOUS WEEDS. To the owner or occupant or any person or persons, firm or corporation having charge of any land in the Township of Plymouth: Notice is hereby given that all noxious weeds growing on any land in the Charter Township of Plymouth, Wayne County, Michigan, must be cut and destroyed on or before the 10th day of June, A.D., 2006.

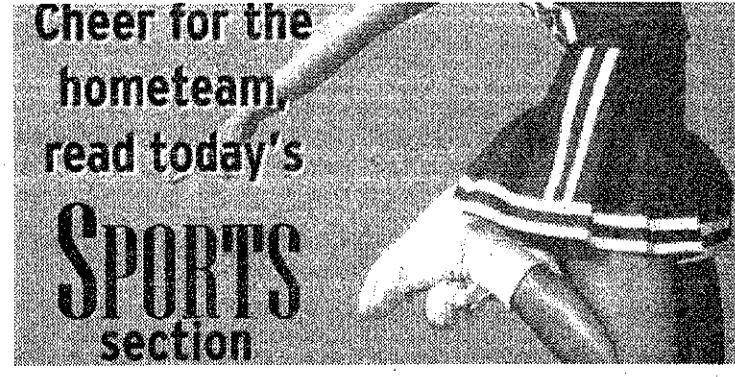
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH PLANNING COMMISSION. PROPOSED ACTION: Request Approval of the Single Family Cluster Housing Option (Previous Approval has expired). DATE OF HEARING: Wednesday, May 17, 2006. TIME OF HEARING: 7:00 P.M. PLACE OF HEARING: Plymouth Township Hall, 42350 Ann Arbor Road.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS AGENDA MAY 11, 2006. Notice is hereby given that there will be a meeting of the Zoning Board of Appeals THURSDAY, MAY 11, 2006 AT 7:00 P.M. The meeting will be held in the Board Room at the Township Administration Building located at 1150 S. CANTON CENTER ROAD, CANTON, MI 48188.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH PLANNING COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING. PROPOSED ACTION: Request Approval of a Special Land Use. DATE OF HEARING: Wednesday, May 17, 2006. TIME OF HEARING: 7:00 P.M. PLACE OF HEARING: Plymouth Township Hall, 42350 Ann Arbor Road. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission of Plymouth Charter Township has received an application requesting Special Land Use Approval for outdoor seating in a General commercial District (C-2), on Tax ID R-78-010-99-0015-000.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: For parcel descriptions, see tax records based on Tax ID No. R-78-037-99-0001-000. Property address 12731 Beck Road. The application may be examined at the Plymouth Township Division of Public Services Building, Community Development Department, during regular business hours from 7:30 AM to 4:00 PM. Written comments will be received prior to the meeting and may be mailed to 46555 Port Street, Plymouth, MI 48170 or call 734-453-8131 ext. 37.

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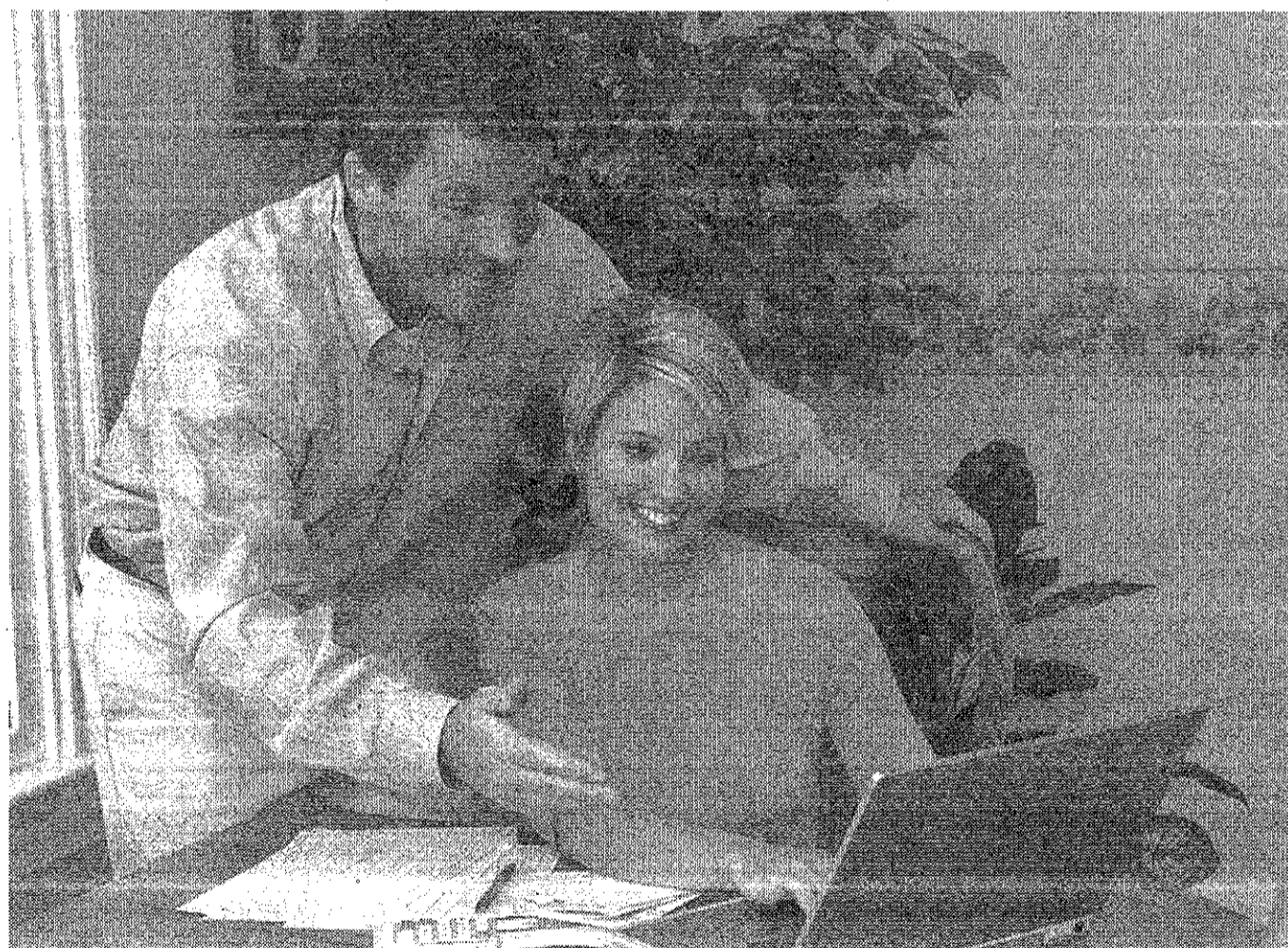
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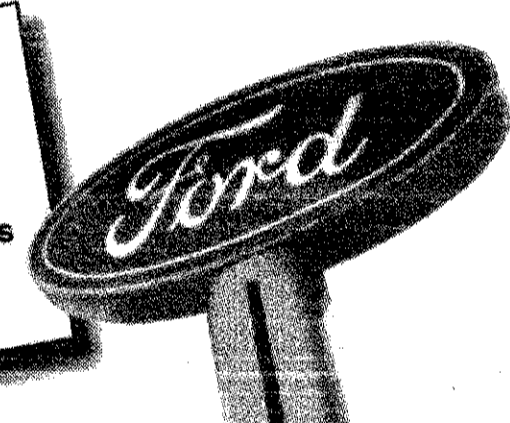
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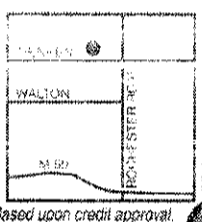
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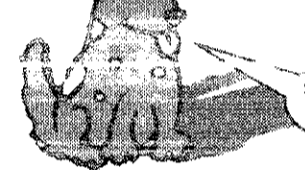
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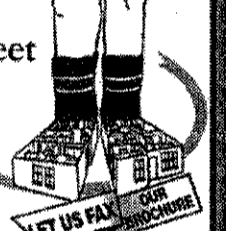
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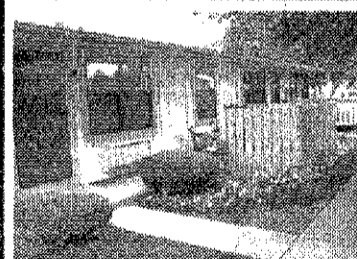
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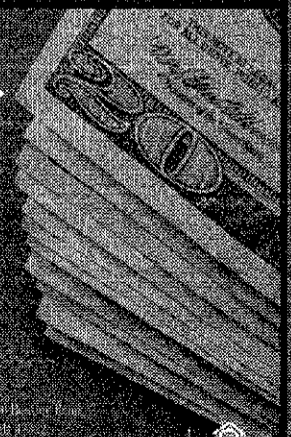
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AREA GIRLS TRACK BESTS

Madonna softball squad sweeps two from Indiana Tech

SHOT PUT

Jenna Hudy (Franklin) 38-3
 Kyndra Abron (Churchill) 35-10.5
 Robyn Whalen (Franklin) 34-10
 Lauren Krupsky (Churchill) 34-7
 Kailee Hobbins (Churchill) 31-10.5
 Bridged Malloy (Ladywood) 31-7.5
 Lauren Brown (Franklin) 31-3
 Rebecca Bartek (Stevenson) 30-4.75
 Kelley Rogers (RU) 28-5
 Maame Adomako (Stevenson) 28-2

DISCUS

Robyn Whalen (Franklin) 110-3
 Lauren Krupsky (Churchill) 108-8
 Jenna Hudy (Franklin) 108-6
 Kailee Hobbins (Churchill) 104-0
 Colette Fodera (Stevenson) 95-4
 Kathy Hansen (Wayne) 94-2
 Kyndra Abron (Churchill) 92-7
 Nicole Bergeski (Churchill) 92-3
 Ashley McClellan (Canton) 92-0

HIGH JUMP

Brittany Petty (Plymouth) 5-2
 Alyssa Supplee (Franklin) 5-2
 Izabela Paszkowska (Canton) 4-11
 Jackie Gribeck (Churchill) 4-10
 Kristin Zgorecki (Churchill) 4-10
 Kara Piorkowski (Stevenson) 4-10
 Meghan Liwienski (Stevenson) 4-10
 Alex Serowkey (Ladywood) 4-10
 Ashley Sawyer (Franklin) 4-9
 Shaakira Haywood (Plymouth) 4-9
 Megan Metheny (Canton) 4-9

LONG JUMP

Megan Wilson (Franklin) 16.5.5
 Chanel Payne (John Glenn) 16-4.25
 Stephanie Okolo (Plymouth) 16-1.50
 Brittany Lockhart (Salem) 16-0.50
 Dana Eldred (Salem) 15-6
 Chelsea Pashnick (Stevenson) 15-5.5
 Allie Plisko (Stevenson) 15-4.5
 Liz Buttery (Churchill) 15-0
 Jackie Gribeck (Churchill) 14-11
 Brittany Gentile (Stevenson) 14-9.5

POLE VAULT

Allie Vraniak (Salem) 9-6
 Kristin Zgorecki (Churchill) 9-2
 Maria Winkler (Stevenson) 9-0
 Jackie Demers (Churchill) 8-8
 Eren Ural (Churchill) 8-8
 Meghan Powers (Franklin) 8-2
 Jennifer Olmstead (Churchill) 7-8
 Katie Hale (Plymouth) 7-8
 Jade Rowley (Franklin) 7-2
 Alexa Van Vliet (Salem) 7-0

100-METER HURDLES

Brittany Lockhart (Salem) 15.2
 Diana Burek (Stevenson) 15.9
 Casey Lynett (Franklin) 16.6
 Brittany Gentile (Stevenson) 16.7
 Dana Eldred (Salem) 16.8
 Tauri Rothermel (Churchill) 17.2
 Stephanie Misco (Ladywood) 17.2
 Brittany Petty (Plymouth) 18.1
 Katrina Cope (Salem) 18.1

300 HURDLES

Brittany Lockhart (Salem) 46.1
 Diane Burek (Stevenson) 49.3
 Tauri Rothermel (Churchill) 49.5
 Casey Lynett (Franklin) 49.5
 Brittany Gentile (Stevenson) 50.7
 Mallory Lukas (Churchill) 51.1
 Natalie Jedruszek (Churchill) 51.3
 Dana Eldred (Salem) 51.7
 Kristen Oltersdorf (Stevenson) 51.7
 Stephanie Misco (Ladywood) 52.3

100 DASH

Brittany Lockhart (Salem) 12.5
 Mandi Coppola (Churchill) 12.7
 Stephanie Okolo (Plymouth) 12.8
 Megan Wilson (Franklin) 12.8
 Lache' Wilkins (Churchill) 13.0
 Chanel Payne (John Glenn) 13.0
 Oshia Lewis (Canton) 13.2
 Toria Davis (Canton) 13.2
 Marielle Kulling (Stevenson) 13.2
 Diane Burek (Stevenson) 13.5

200

Mandi Coppola (Churchill) 26.9
 Ashley Parker (John Glenn) 27.0
 Nicole Thornsberry (Churchill) 27.1
 Megan Wilson (Franklin) 27.1
 Stephanie Okolo (Plymouth) 27.4
 Marielle Kulling (Stevenson) 27.4
 Megan Wilson (Franklin) 27.7
 Brittany Taylor (C'ville) 27.7
 Brittany Lockhart (Salem) 27.9
 Toria Davis (Canton) 28.1

400

Brittany Mrozek (Stevenson) 1:01.2
 Lache' Wilkins (Churchill) 1:01.8
 Allison Janda (Salem) 1:02.1
 Denee Meier (Stevenson) 1:03.3
 Janet Hanchett (Plymouth) 1:04.2
 Kelsey Lester (Churchill) 1:04.7
 Caitlin Heaney (Salem) 1:04.7
 Jennifer Thomas (Canton) 1:04.8
 Alicia Fedrigo (Churchill) 1:06.4
 Alex Serowkey (Ladywood) 1:07.1
 Alexa Van Vliet (Salem) 1:07.7

800

Lisa Arrowsmith (Stevenson) 2:20.0
 Kylen Ciesiak (Churchill) 2:24.9
 Rachel McFarlane (Churchill) 2:27.9
 Allison Janda (Salem) 2:28.9
 Kelli Bargowski (Canton) 2:29.0
 Rebecca Rehberg (Stevenson) 2:29.5
 Lindsay Graciak (Churchill) 2:31.0
 Amber Cicata (Stevenson) 2:31.4
 Erica Hope (Churchill) 2:34.9
 Jackie Beeler (Plymouth) 2:38.3

1,600

Kristen Frey (Stevenson) 5:04.9
 Kylen Ciesiak (Churchill) 5:13.8
 Lisa Arrowsmith (Stevenson) 5:16.7
 Rachel McFarlane (Churchill) 5:17.6
 Becky McCormack (Canton) 5:35.8
 Erica Hope (Churchill) 5:36.0
 Hannah Cavicchio (Salem) 5:39.3
 Megan Macerati (Churchill) 5:41.0
 Pam Bhullar (Plymouth) 5:44.1
 Marisa Carpinelli (Salem) 5:44.9

3,200

Kylen Ciesiak (Churchill) 11:22.9
 Kristen Frey (Stevenson) 11:38.6
 Hannah Cavicchio (Salem) 11:55.0
 Megan Macerati (Churchill) 12:04.1
 Becky McCormack (Canton) 12:04.2
 Pam Bhullar (Plymouth) 12:09.0
 Rachel McFarlane (Churchill) 12:11.9
 Erica Hope (Churchill) 12:18.0
 Stephanie Perez (Stevenson) 12:41.1

400 RELAY

Livonia Churchill 51.1
 Livonia Stevenson 52.6
 Canton 52.8
 Plymouth 53.1
 Livonia Franklin 53.3
 800 RELAY
 Livonia Stevenson 1:48.7
 Livonia Churchill 1:50.1
 Westland John Glenn 1:51.0
 Canton 1:53.0
 Plymouth 1:56.0
 1,600 RELAY
 Livonia Stevenson 4:13.9
 Salem 4:19.1
 Livonia Churchill 4:20.2
 Livonia Franklin 4:23.4
 Canton 4:29.0
 3,200 RELAY
 Livonia Stevenson 9:39.5
 Livonia Churchill 10:00.0
 Canton 10:25.4
 Salem 10:38.1
 Livonia Franklin 10:48.8

It was Senior Day at Madonna University, but sophomores carried the Crusaders to Saturday's doubleheader sweep over Indiana Tech. With the wins, MU improved to 32-11 overall and 10-9 in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference, while clinching a spot in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics Region VIII tournament (which begins May 10). In Madonna's 8-2 win in the

COLLEGE SOFTBALL

opener, senior pitcher Erin Brockert went the distance for the victory. She gave up just three hits and one walk while striking out eight. She also went 3-for-4 at the plate with an RBI.

But Brockert had plenty of help from three sophomores. Catcher Stephanie Day (Livonia Ladywood) doubled, singled, and drove in three

runs. Canton's Heather Richardson, who played right field in the game, contributed two hits and scored twice and third baseman Christina Finch made her presence known with a 3-for-4 outing, knocking in two runs.

Grand slams by Richardson and freshman catcher Alison Grant sparked the Crusaders' 9-1 victory in the nightcap.

Richardson (2-for-4, three runs, four RBI) struck in the fourth, breaking a 1-1 tie.

Grant capped off the victory against the Warriors (24-24 overall, 9-11 in the WHAC) with a grand slam in the sixth. Brockert went the final 3.2 innings for her second win of the season, upping her personal mark to 19-7.

MADONNA 4-14, HUNTINGTON 0-0: Huntington (Ind.) College proved to be just what Madonna University's slumping softball team needed as the visiting Foresters failed to score in Friday's non-conference doubleheader at Madonna University Field as

the Crusaders ended a four-game losing skid, 4-0 and 14-0.

In the opener, senior pitcher Erin Brockert got back on track. She earned the victory, hurling five shutout innings and allowing just three hits while striking out five. The win upped her personal ledger to 17-6.

The top of the lineup did the damage for MU, with two hits each for Heather Godfrey, Heather Richardson (Canton) and Brockert. In the nightcap, shortened to five innings due to the mercy rule, the Crusaders scored early and often in improving to 30-9 overall.



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The 2006 Pontiac Solstice

Advertising Feature

Thursday DriveTime



BY DALE BUSS

Don't count on great things yet. But the situation may actually be looking up for at least one of GM's oldest and most important brands: Pontiac. Pontiac's actual sales overall keep slipping. They're down nearly 10% on an annualized basis so far this year...



The 2006 Pontiac Solstice

to move vehicles. But GM Chairman Rick Wagoner has vowed to break GM's rebate addiction 'Revive Pontiac' stayed on General Motors' to-do list for decades. Even as its other brands became nondescript and GM's market share tumbled...

new space and still be true to what we've been.' Pontiac's strategy is premised on 'creating social acceptance' for the brand, Richer says. That starts with exciting products such as Solstice, which is still available only in limited quantities but also creates a halo for the brand.

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The doctor's front loader experiment draws interest

Pep up your Cinco de Mayo with hot peppers

Atlas Peak focuses on mountain cabernet

Home calendar 2
Garden calendar 2
Taste calendar 4

HOMETOWN LIFE.COM



Thursday, May 4, 2006

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

www.hometownlife.com

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

MOTHER'S DAY MENU

Here is a Mother's Day menu (or other family gathering) suggested by the daughters and daughters-in-law of Betty Fleming:

- Fresh Tomato Salad
- Veggie Pizza
- Tennessee Pumpkin Bread
- Steamed Broccoli and Cauliflower
- Oriental Pot Roast
- Cherry Pie

FRESH TOMATO SALAD

A Fourth of July picnic favorite. "Add a slice of watermelon and a burger from the grill and you've got yourself the best of summer," writes Rayleen Morgan of Livonia.

- 3 or 4 large ripe tomatoes, cored, seeded, cut into chunks (or use cherry or grape tomatoes and half or leave them whole)
- 1/2 pound mozzarella cheese, cut into chunks
- 1 bunch fresh basil, coarsely chopped, or 1 tablespoon dried
- 1 cup Italian salad dressing
- 1/2 teaspoon dried oregano

Mix together: tomatoes, cheese, basil, salt and pepper. Pour dressing over top of mixture (add more if desired). Cover and refrigerate at least 30 minutes before serving. Top with oregano. Makes about 6 cups.

Recipe courtesy of Rayleen Morgan of Livonia.

VEGGIE PIZZA

- 2 8-ounce packages of cream cheese
- 2 8-ounce packages crescent rolls
- 1/2 cup mayonnaise
- 1 envelope Hidden Valley Ranch dressing
- Dill weed
- Your choice of veggie toppings

Unroll crescent roll dough and press into a 15-by-10-inch cookie sheet so that it creates a one-piece pizza crust.

Bake at 375 degrees Fahrenheit for 12-15 minutes until brown. Cool. Mix cream cheese, dressing mix and mayonnaise. Spread over cooled crust. Sprinkle with dill weed. Add toppings. Refrigerate at least two hours before serving.

Toppings can be cauliflower, carrots, olives, alfalfa sprouts, mushrooms, celery broccoli, radishes, cheddar cheese, green pepper or green onions.

Recipe from Diane Vieth, sister of Sharon Fleming.

More recipes on Page D6.

'Just holding Grandma's stained recipe card for apple crisp caused me to feel like I was 7 years old again, sitting next to her in her kitchen...' Rayleen Morgan writes in a cookbook, *Our Favorite Family Recipes*.

Meals and memories



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Betty Fleming (in front, third from left) enjoys the company of and cooking with her daughters and sons, daughters-in-law and grandchildren. Standing with her are Jaclyn Fleming (from left), Pattv Riggio, Andrea Fleming, Vanessa Riggio, Mariah Morgan, Rayleen Morgan, Roxanne Riggio, Nancy Fleming and Sharon Fleming. The dishes are veggie pizza, cherry pie, fresh tomato salad and Tennessee pumpkin bread.



Rayleen Morgan, Betty Fleming's daughter, compiled recipes for the book from family members.

Family dedicates cookbook to grandmother

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK
STAFF WRITER

After Doretha McKelvey died in 1997, her granddaughter, Rayleen Morgan, inherited her recipe box.

Going through it, Morgan relived fond childhood memories.

"Just holding Grandma's stained recipe card for apple crisp caused me to feel like I was 7 years old again, sitting next to her in her kitchen, Grandpa seated next to me in his T-shirt and overalls, Grandma standing beside me, apron covering her house dress, with a steaming pan of apple crisp in one hand and a spatula at the ready in the other," Morgan writes in a cookbook, *Our Favorite Family Recipes*.

"There were hundreds of recipes," Morgan said in an interview. "It was a heavy-duty, military green box, and the recipes were written on torn butcher paper, a brown paper bag, an envelope, a napkin or an old newspaper."

And there were a lot of comments on them, almost as if she knew a granddaugh-

PLEASE SEE COOKBOOK, D6

Betty Fleming: Still a cherry pie queen

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK
STAFF WRITER



Betty Fleming hasn't changed the recipe that won her the Michigan cherry pie competition in 1952.

While the children and grandchildren of Betty Fleming have incorporated generations of memories in a cookbook for her, you don't have to look far to see where they got their culinary interests.

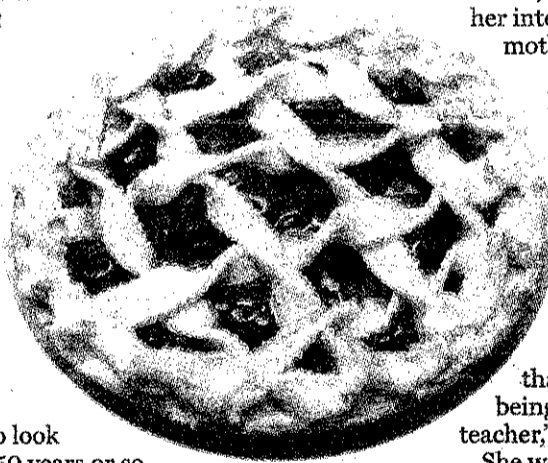
You just have to look back. About, oh, 50 years or so. Betty McKelvey was the Michigan cherry pie queen of 1952.

And she, well, she still remembers her interest generated by her mother, Doretha McKelvey.

"My mother cooked at Beyer Hospital in Ypsilanti and cooked for school camps," Fleming said.

When she was 16 and a senior in high school, Fleming entered a cherry pie baking contest.

"I loved to cook and at that time, had dreams of being a home economics teacher," she said. She won at the county level. "I won that and went to Grand



Betty Fleming still makes fruit pies for family gatherings.

PLEASE SEE PIE, D6

These handy tips improve your computing experience



Tech Savvy
Rick Broida

When you've been a computer geek - sorry, technology professional - for most of your life, you pick up a few handy shortcuts. Allow me to share my favorites.

E-MAIL YOURSELF

Need a fast, hassle-free way to move a file from one computer to another? Simple: E-mail it to yourself.

For instance, if there's a work document you want to review over the weekend, just send it from your office e-mail address to the one you use at home.

This is also an excellent way to make a quick

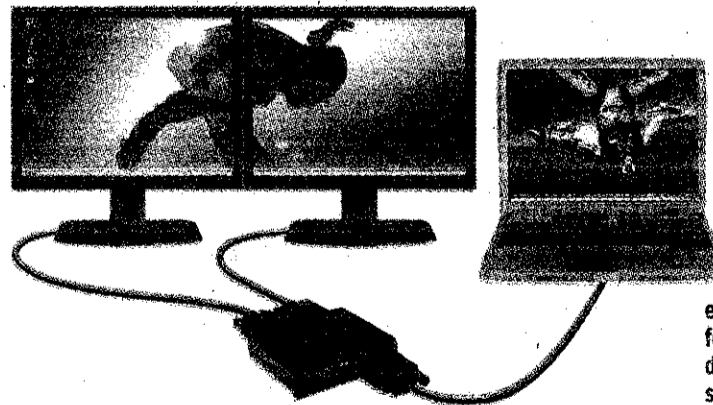
and dirty backup. After hours or days of slaving over, say, a Word or Excel file, I'll often send it to one of my Web-based e-mail accounts - you know, just in case.

Free services like Gmail (gmail.google.com) and Yahoo (mail.yahoo.com) are ideal for these purposes. They give you a generous helping of storage space, and they're accessible from any PC.

THE RIGHT RESOLUTION

You know that spiffy new LCD monitor on your desk? There's a good chance you're running it at

PLEASE SEE BROIDA, D3



Adding a second monitor to your PC can improve your productivity. The Matrox DualHead2Go enables that option for systems that don't already support it.

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Atlas Peak focuses on mountain cabernet

Napa Valley is sandwiched between the Vaca Mountains on the east and the Mayacamas Mountains on the west. It's divided into more than a dozen sub-regions or appellations, some of which are part of the valley floor and five of which are in the mountains on either side of the valley.

Within the Mayacamas Mountains are Mount Veeder, Diamond Mountain and Spring Mountain, while Howell Mountain and Atlas Peak are within the Vaca Range.



Focus on Wine

Ray and Eleanor Heald

Great wines come from valley floor vineyards, but there are definite advantages to mountain locations, especially for growing red varieties.

The long cool growing season, above the summer fog, allows for intense fruit, concentration and structure, so admired in great red wines.

In 1987, Atlas Peak Winery was founded in a joint venture with the noted Chianti producer Marchese Piero Antinori.

He was impressed with the 1,200-acre property and planted it to 500 acres of vineyards, primarily sangiovese, the principal grape variety of Chianti, and cabernet sauvignon.

The vineyards stand between 1,400 and 1,800 feet above sea level with Atlas Peak rising above the estate.

RETHINKING SANGIOVESE

In California, sangiovese is difficult to grow because it tends to produce large yields, unless very severely cropped.

Several wineries have dropped sangiovese because it never established a strong market in competition with more popular varieties like cabernet sauvignon, merlot, zinfandel and syrah.

In 2002, winemaker Darren Proscial and vineyard manager Tony Fernandez joined Atlas Peak Winery and together shifted emphasis from sangiovese to cabernet sauvignon grown in several Napa Valley mountain vineyards.

The first fruits of their labors is the 2002 Atlas Peak Cabernet Sauvignon \$38.

Aged for 12 months in 85 percent new French oak barrels, this wine has concentrated blackberry, blueberry and plum aromas and flavors with notes of tobacco leaf and vanilla in a powerful rendition. Try this big boy with a grilled steak.

This is the first in a series of Atlas Peak Winery mountain-grown cabernets to be released during 2006.

In addition to the Atlas Peak appellation cab, look for others with Mount Veeder, Spring Mountain and Howell Mountain appellations on the label.

For Proscial this is the culmination of a three-year journey getting his first Atlas Peak cabernet from vineyard to bottle.

"Patience was the first virtue I had to learn while waiting for these grapes to ripen perfectly," he said.

"The grapes ripen slowly high above the valley floor, and this is what makes mountain cabernet so special. Walking the rows with vineyard manager Tony Fernandez, we coaxed these grapes to optimum maturity."

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

WINE PICKS

If you're looking to get on some wine lists for rare California wines, Paul Hobbs is a winery to consider. The following wines are worth buying wherever you find them.

■ 2004 Paul Hobbs Russian River Valley Chardonnay \$45 was crafted from four vineyards, each in the cooler, southern part of the Russian River Valley. Citrus and crème brûlée-like aromas add definition to apple and peach notes with underlying minerality. It was aged 11 months in 58 percent new French oak.

■ 2004 Paul Hobbs Richard Dinner Vineyard, Sonoma Mountain Chardonnay \$65.

An outstanding wine is distinguished by its finish and this wine's outstanding length only adds to the intrigue of its aromas and creamy texture.

■ 2003 Paul Hobbs Michael Black Vineyard, Napa Valley Merlot \$75 is the swan song of what has been an outstanding run from this vineyard since 1991, considered by many critics,

including us, to be one of California's top merlots. Don't miss it.

■ 2003 Paul Hobbs Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon \$75 is powerfully built with dark fruit aromas and flavors enhanced by notes of chocolate and coffee. It was aged 21 months in 64 percent new French oak.

■ 2003 Paul Hobbs Hyde Vineyard, Carneros Cabernet Sauvignon \$100. The Carneros region may be best known for chardonnay and pinot noir, but there are microclimates like Hyde Vineyard where seductive cabernets originate. This is one of them and it will cellar well for many years.

■ 2003 CrossBarn Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon \$43. In the Bordeaux first growth tradition, CrossBarn is Hobbs' true second label. The price is right to experience the Paul Hobbs "touch" creating a wine of delightful fruit and well-balanced structure. If a retailer doesn't stock wines we recommend, ask that they be ordered from the distributor or order them direct from the winery.

BROIDA

FROM PAGE D1

the wrong resolution.

Unlike traditional tube-based monitors, which look equally sharp at any resolution, LCDs are designed to operate in a single, "native" resolution. If Windows isn't set accordingly, your screen will look fuzzy.

The most common scenario: users who upgrade to a new LCD but neglect to set Windows to the proper resolution. Fortunately, it's easy to do.

First, check your LCD's manual to determine the native resolution - 1,204x768 and 1,280x1,024 are the most common.

Next, right-click in an open area of the Windows desktop, then choose Properties from the pop-up menu that appears. Click the Settings tab, then adjust the screen resolution slider until the numbers match the LCD's native resolution.

Click Apply and see if your screen doesn't get a whole lot sharper. Admittedly, everything may get a bit smaller as well (if you moved to a higher resolution), but you'll get used to it.

MULTIPLE MONITORS

Speaking of monitors, two are significantly better than one. Imagine keeping a Web browser open on one screen while you work in your word processor on another. Or using your second monitor for an always-running photo slideshow.

The possibilities are endless - and once you've tried two screens, you'll never go back to one.

Windows XP makes it simple to implement such a setup. All you need is a second monitor and a video card that supports it.

This so-called "dual head" capability is built into many desktops and notebooks; check with your manufacturer to see if yours is among them.

If not, there are options. Desktop users can upgrade to a video card that supports multiple monitors. Desktop and notebook users alike can plug in a Matrox DualHead2Go (matrox.com), a \$169 gizmo that splits your computer's video signal in two.

Then there's MaxiVista (maxivista.com), a \$20 program that

turns any other computer on your network into a second monitor. (One common scenario: using your notebook alongside your desktop.)

KEYBOARD SHORTCUTS

Every time you take your hand off the keyboard and reach for the mouse, you're squandering precious seconds.

Nearly everything you can do with a mouse, you can do with your keyboard instead - and often much faster.

When filling out online forms, for instance, use the Tab key to quickly move from one field to the next. Press Shift-Tab if you need to return to a previous field.

Speaking of online forms, just hit Enter when you're done. It's the same as clicking Go, Done, Submit and other "I'm finished" buttons. This works with search engines, too: Type your search terms and hit Enter.

Become a master of the Control (a.k.a. Ctrl) key. In Microsoft Word (and many other programs), after selecting an image or some text, you can press Ctrl-X to cut (or Ctrl-C to copy) and Ctrl-V to paste.

Ah, but don't you need your mouse to select text for cutting and pasting? Not if you hold down Shift and press the arrow keys. Now try the same method with Ctrl-Shift.

Use Ctrl-A to select all the text in a document. Then you can apply font or size changes. Not happy with the results? Ctrl-Z is the keyboard equivalent of clicking Undo.

Most users neglect the Windows key. Press Windows-D to instantly minimize all open windows and Windows-E to open an Explorer window.

My all-time favorite keyboard shortcut? Alt-Tab (hold down Alt and repeatedly press Tab), which cycles through running applications.

Have some favorite computer tips of your own to share? Send 'em my way and maybe I'll publish them in a future column! 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.

Chipotle Pop Quiz offers free food

Chipotle Mexican Grill is offering a Food with Integrity Pop Quiz.

Don't know about Chipotle's Food with Integrity program? No problem. Cheating is allowed.

Visit a Chipotle restaurant and buy a burrito, bol, salad or

tacos Saturday or Sunday, May 6 or 7. Bring your receipt back to any Chipotle Monday-Sunday, May 8-14, and receive a free meal for correctly describing Chipotle's naturally raised meats.

If you need a little help figuring it all out, just visit

www.chipotle.com for some hints about the answers.

Food with Integrity involves going beyond distributors to find vegetables and animals that are sustainably grown and naturally raised.

All of Chipotle's naturally raised meat comes from ani-

mals that are fed a pure vegetarian diet and never given antibiotics or hormones. An increasingly large percentage of the beans Chipotle buys are organic. To learn more about Food with Integrity, or to find the Chipotle location nearest you, visit www.chipotle.com.

Enrich your meal with spicy and sweet Moroccan ragout

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Vegetarians or any vegetable fans can appreciate the combination of ingredients in this ragout. The pleasing balance of spicy and sweet - fiery hints softened with raisins' fruitiness - borrows from the imaginative cuisine of Morocco.

This recipe is one of the lively excursions that are increasingly made by cooks happy to venture beyond national boundaries and wide oceans, in search of different tastes and traditions.

MOROCCAN VEGETABLE RAGOUT WITH RAISINS

2 tablespoons olive oil
2 cups pearl onions, peeled and halved
2 medium carrots, cut into 1/2-inch thick slices (about 1 cup)
1/2 fennel bulb, cut into 1/2-inch thick slices (about 1/2 cup)
1/4 cup all purpose flour
Cinnamon stick (about 2 inches)
1/2 teaspoon ground cumin
1/2 teaspoon ground ginger
1 large pinch saffron threads, crushed
3 medium red or Yukon Gold potatoes, peeled and cut into 1/2-inch dice (about 2 cups)
1 cup vegetable broth
2 cups raisins

VEGETARIAN

2 cups (16 ounces) cooked or canned chickpeas, drained
2 small summer (crookneck) squashes, halved lengthwise, and cut crosswise into 1/2-inch thick slices (about 1 1/2 cups)
1 tablespoon chopped fresh marjoram
1 small fresh tomato, seeded and cut into 1/2-inch dice (about 1/2 cup)
2 tablespoons sliced almonds, toasted (optional)

Heat the oil in a large, heavy stockpot over medium-low heat. Coat the onions, carrots and fennel with flour and saute in the oil until golden brown. Add the cinnamon stick, cumin, ginger, saffron, potatoes, vegetable broth and raisins; cook about 10 minutes. Add chickpeas, squash, marjoram and tomato; cover and simmer until squash is tender, about 8 minutes longer.

To serve, transfer ragout to a serving dish and sprinkle with toasted almonds, if desired. Serve with grilled pita or other flatbread. Makes 8 servings.

Nutrition information per serving: 330 cal., 6 g total fat (1 g saturated), 0 mg chol., 7 g pro., 66 g carbo., 7 g fiber, 330 mg sodium. AP recipe developed by the California Raisin Marketing Board.

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TASTE CALENDAR

If you have an item for the Taste calendar, please submit at least two weeks prior to your event to Ken Abramczyk, Taste editor, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150, e-mail kabramcz@hometownlife.com or fax (734) 591-7279.

Indian Cooking

Incorporate the principles of Ayurveda, an ancient Indian science of health and well-being, at the following classes at 6:30-9:30 p.m. Thursdays: Heavenly Vegetarian Curries, May 4; Delectable Chicken Curries, May 18 and Vegetables the Indian Way, June 1; (248) 203-3800 or on line at www.communityed.net.

Taste of Two Cities

Sample menu items from 10 different restaurants in Farmington and Farmington Hills, 6-10 p.m., Tuesday, May 9, \$25, must be 21 or over, (248) 474-3440, www.fhchamber.com

Great Lakes Great Wine Walk

More than 500 wines will be offered to sample including ice wines at the 11th Annual Great Lakes Great Wine Walk Around Tasting, 6-8 p.m. Thursday, May 11, in the J Building at the Orchard Ridge campus of Oakland Community College, 27055 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills.

Tickets are \$45, proceeds used for student scholarships and competition travel funds. Call (248) 522-3700.

Open on Mother's Day

In response to overwhelming requests, this year The Lark restaurant, 6430 Farmington Road in West

Bloomfield, will be open on Mother's Day (Sunday, May 14). It will be the first time the restaurant will be open on Mother's Day. Doors will be open for the first seating at 4 p.m. and the second seating at 7 p.m. The full menu will be offered, as well as appropriate special dishes from Chef Kyle. Mothers will also receive a favor from Mary Lark and a rose from Jim Lark. Make reservations now for this relaxed dinner. Call (248) 661-4466.

Brunch and show

The Gem & Century Theatres and Century Grille are offering Mother's Day brunch and show packages to *Menopause The Musical* and the Jeff Daniels comedy *Norma & Wanda*, on Sunday, May 14.

Mother's Day Brunch packages include a ticket to the show, the Century Grille's expanded Mother's Day brunch buffet, a mimosa or bloody Mary for those 21 and older, non-alcoholic beverages, tax and gratuity. Packages available are: brunch only, \$35; brunch and *Norma & Wanda* at 2 p.m., \$72; brunch and *Menopause The Musical* at 1 p.m. or 4:30 p.m., \$77. Great seats are still available for *Norma & Wanda* (\$34.50) and *Menopause The Musical* (\$39.50) on Mother's Day.

To buy tickets or make Mother's Day Brunch reservations at the Century Grille, call (313) 963-9800. For more information, call (313) 963-9800, visit www.gemtheatre.com, or stop in at 333 Madison Ave. in Detroit.

Celebrate Cinco de Mayo with hot peppers

BY LANA MINI
STAFF WRITER

Cinco de Mayo marks the day Mexico proclaimed victory of the French in the Battle of Puebla: May 5, 1882.

Yearly, it's honored with music, parades and, of course, food.

You can join in on the Cinco De Mayo celebrations in Mexicantown in Detroit. Most of the celebrations are on May 5 itself and Saturday, May 6.

At Los Galanes Restaurant, 3362 Bagley (call (313) 554-4444), live music, food and Tequila tents outside will help create a party atmosphere 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Friday and Saturday, May 5 and 6.

Also on Friday, a Cinco De Mayo Mexicantown celebration will take place 6-9:30 p.m. at Mexicantown Fiesta Hall & Lounge, 4114 W. Vernor Highway in Detroit (call (313) 841-0400).

And if you prefer to stay home and celebrate with a backyard meal, don't be mild about it. Make some dishes with hot peppers.

A milder pepper is the El Paso. Growing a little stronger is the Jalapeño, followed by the Hidalgo, Serrano and Tabasco.

The hottest is Habenero - which can be 40 times hotter than the popular Jalapeño.

Enjoy your peppers in the following recipes:

PORTABELLO MUSHROOM NACHOS

9 ounces Portabello mushrooms, stems removed, sliced 1/2-inch thick
1/2 cup TABASCO® brand Green Jalapeño Pepper Sauce, divided
2 (8-inch) whole wheat tortillas, cut into 6 wedges
1 cup canned white beans, drained
1/4 cup diced red and green bell peppers
1 teaspoon olive oil
1/4 cup crumbled cotija cheese (queso anejado), found at specialty stores including such Mexicantown shops as Algo Especial Market, 2628 Bagley, (313) 963-9013, and La Carreta

Supermarket, 3438 Bagley, (313) 554-1168.)

Marinate mushroom slices in 1/4 cup of the TABASCO® Green Sauce for 30 minutes. Place tortilla wedges on a baking sheet and spray with non-stick spray; bake in a 350-degree Fahrenheit oven for 8 to 10 minutes or until golden. Set aside.

Combine the remaining 1/4 cup TABASCO® Green Sauce and white beans in a food processor and process until smooth. Sauté bell peppers in olive oil just until tender.

Spread 1 tablespoon bean purée on each tortilla wedge and top with 1 teaspoon bell pepper. Add 1/4 of an ounce marinated mushrooms to each wedge and sprinkle with 1 teaspoon cheese. Bake wedges for 5 to 10 minutes or until lightly browned and cheese is melted. Serve immediately.

www.tabasco.com

HOT BEAN TOSTADAS

1 tablespoon olive oil
1 cup chopped onion
1 cup chopped celery
2 large cloves garlic, chopped
1 can (15 ounces) red kidney beans, rinsed and drained
1 can (15 ounces)

Great Northern beans, rinsed and drained
1 can (14 1/2 ounces) salsa-style diced tomatoes
1 teaspoon mild chili powder
Chopped peppers of choice, seeds removed
1 teaspoon ground cumin
2 tablespoons chopped fresh cilantro
6 (6-inch) corn tortillas
Toppings: shredded lettuce, chopped seeded fresh tomatoes and chopped peppers

Preheat oven to 400 degrees Fahrenheit.

Heat oil in large skillet over medium heat. Add onion, celery and garlic. Cook and stir 8 minutes or until softened. Add beans and tomatoes. Stir to blend. Add chili powder and cumin; stir. Reduce heat to medium-low. Simmer 30 minutes, stirring occasionally, until thickened.

While bean mixture simmers, place tortillas in single layer directly on oven rack. Bake 10 to 12 minutes or until crisp. Place one tortilla on each plate. Spoon bean mixture evenly over each tortilla. Top with lettuce, tomatoes and peppers.

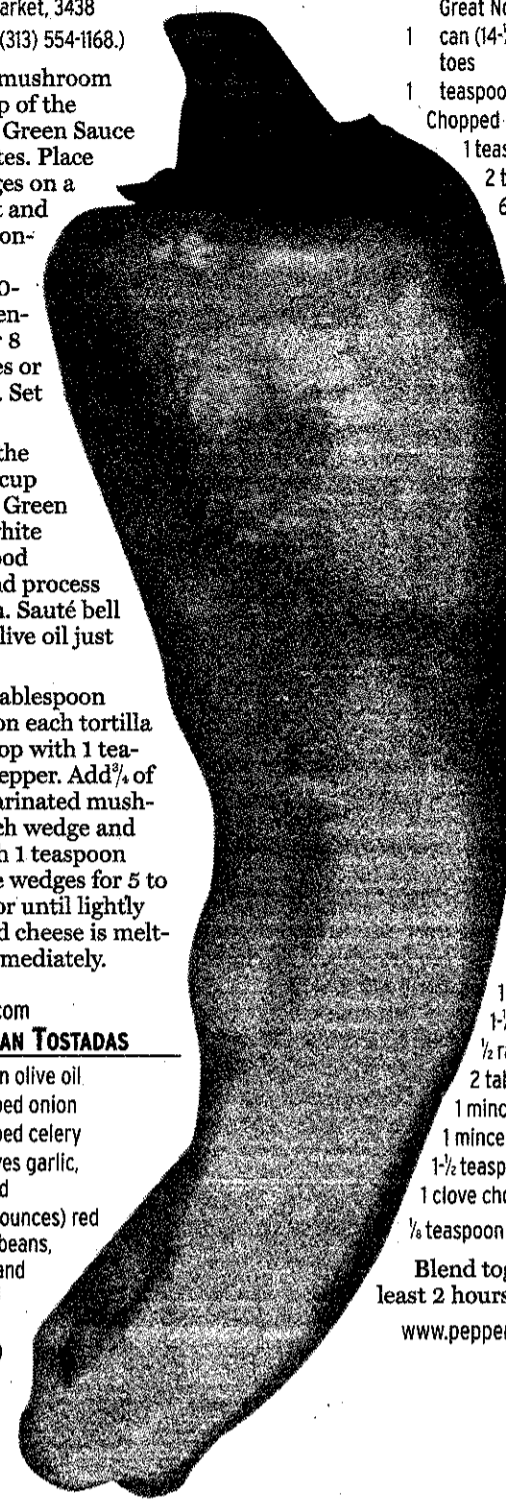
www.favoritebrandandrecipes.com

FRESH SALSA

1 cup canned tomato juice
1 1/2 fresh tomatoes
1/2 raw, chopped onion
2 tablespoons fresh, chopped cilantro
1 minced Jalapeño
1 minced Serrano
1 1/2 teaspoons salt
1 clove chopped garlic
1/2 teaspoon sugar

Blend together well and refrigerate at least 2 hours before serving.

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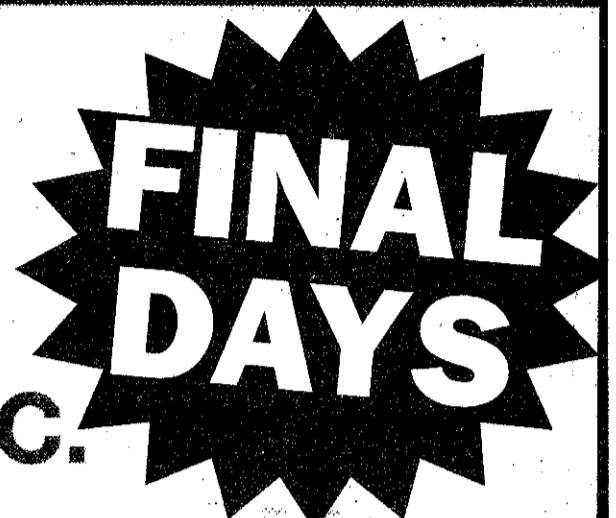
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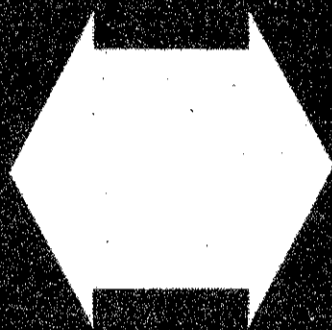


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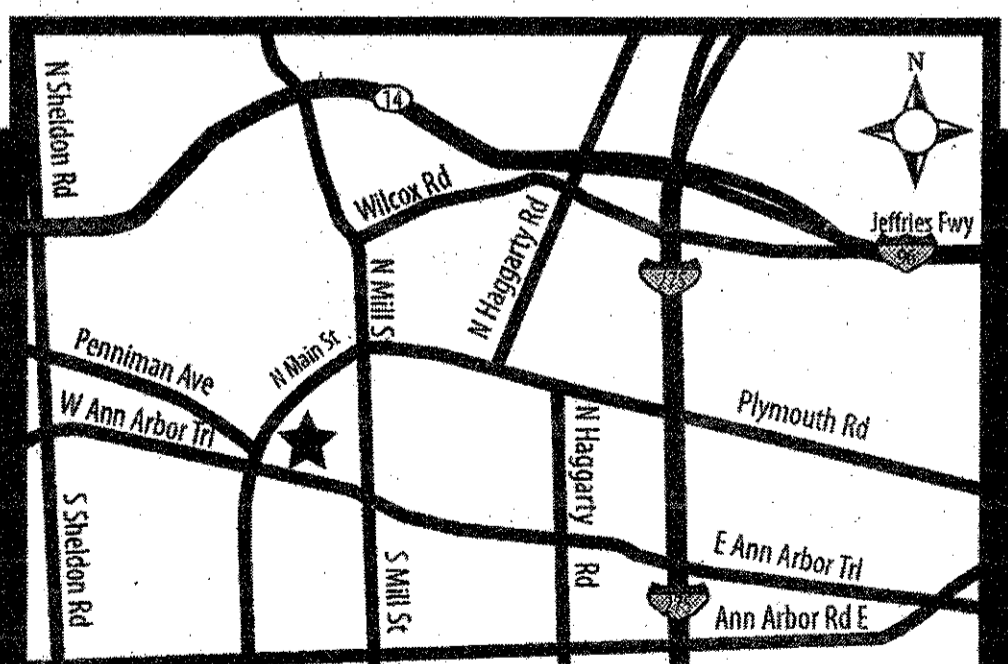
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TENNESSEE PUMPKIN BREAD

- 1/2 cups flour
1/2 teaspoon baking powder
1 teaspoon baking soda
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
1/2 teaspoon nutmeg
1/2 cup shortening
1/2 cup sugar
2 eggs
2 cups mashed pumpkin
1/2 teaspoon vanilla
1/2 cup water
1/2 cup chopped walnuts or pecans (if desired)

Grease regular loaf pan (9- by 5- by 3-inches), or use a nonstick coated pan and don't grease.

In bowl stir together flour, baking powder, baking soda, salt, cinnamon and nutmeg. Set aside.

In a mixing bowl, cream shortening and sugar. Add eggs (one at a time) beating thoroughly after each addition. Stir in pumpkin and vanilla. Stir in dry ingredients in four additions, alternately with water until just smooth. (Don't overbeat!) Fold in nuts.

Bake at 350 degrees F for 45-55 minutes. Makes one loaf.

(Note: Vanessa prefers 1 teaspoon of cinnamon, because "you can never have too much cinnamon.")

Recipe from Vanessa Riggio of Livonia, handed down by Betty Fleming, her grandmother, and Doretha McKelvey, her great-grandmother.

STEAMED BROCCOLI AND CAULIFLOWER

- 1 head of broccoli
1 head of cauliflower

Wash both broccoli and cauliflower with water. Cut up into small pieces (or larger if desired).

Add water to cover halfway up a pan and put in microwave for 5-7 minutes on high. Check to see if the vegetables are tender. If not, cook 2-3 minutes more, checking for desired texture.

Drain water from vegetables.

from Nancy Fleming.

ORIENTAL POT ROAST

- 4 pounds chuck roast
1 teaspoon garlic salt
1/2 teaspoon mustard
1/2 teaspoon pepper
2 tablespoons vegetable oil
1/2 cups water
1/4 cup soy sauce
1 tablespoon honey

- 1 tablespoon vinegar
1 teaspoon celery seed
1/2 teaspoon ginger

Combine garlic salt, mustard and pepper. Rub into both sides of the meat.

Heat oil in heavy skillet. Add meat and brown both sides of roast.

Combine all other ingredients. Pour over meat, cover and bake at 325 degrees Fahrenheit for about 2 hours.

If using Crock-Pot or slow cooker, put all ingredients in cooker and cook 8-9 hours on medium.

Remove roast. Thicken juice with 2 tablespoons cornstarch and 1/4 cup water. Add a little at a time and cook and stir over medium heat until thick. Serve over warm noodles or with mashed potatoes.

(Note: Ingredients can be doubled if more gravy is desired.)

This recipe, contributed to the book by Nancy Fleming, is an old-time favorite that Betty Fleming received from an old neighbor many, many years ago.

WINNING CHERRY PIE

Plain Pastry:

- 2 cups sifted flour
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/2 cup shortening
4 to 6 tablespoons cold water

Sift flour and salt together and cut in shortening, until it resembles crummeal. Add water, using a small portion at a time, until mixture will hold together. Divide into 2 parts. Roll out on a floured board to desired size.

Cherry Pie Filling:

- No. 2 can red tart cherries
2 tablespoons cornstarch
1 cup sugar
1/2 teaspoon salt

Drain juice thoroughly from the cherries into a saucepan. Blend cornstarch with 2 or 3 tablespoons of juice and pour into remaining juice. Place over heat and cook, stirring constantly until mixture boils and thickens.

Turn cherries into lower pie crust and pour the cooled thickened juice over them. Bake in hot oven at 450 degrees Fahrenheit for 10 minutes, then 350 degrees Fahrenheit for 25 minutes.

Betty Fleming writes, "I no longer make by own filling these days, but rather I like to use Costmcock Cherry Pie Filling (30-ounce can)."

COOKBOOK

FROM PAGE D1

ter or two would be reading the notes decades later: "Very, very good. Try it sometime."

After she looked at the recipe box, Morgan, of Livonia, talked about the recipes and the memories at family get-togethers with her sister Patty Riggio of Livonia, and sisters in-law Nancy Fleming of Belleville, married to brother Dan, and Sharon Fleming of Plymouth, married to brother Bob.

Patty is married to Ron Riggio, and Rayleen is married to Rick Morgan.

They enjoyed the warmth exuded from the memories of their grandmother.

With their children, most of whom are now teenagers who are now interested in cooking, the women thought a gift to Betty Fleming (Rayleen and Patty's mother and Nancy and Sharon's mother-in-law) with family recipes spanning four generations, would make a wonderful Christmas gift.

The project began last summer as family members compiled a list of about 100 recipes that were family favorites.

"These were all recipes we enjoyed as children," Morgan said. "Everyone loved cheesy potatoes, which is what we had every Easter, and green bean casserole, every Thanksgiving."

GENERATIONS

Betty Fleming continued her mother's culinary tradition. She won a statewide cherry pie competition in 1952.

That tradition has spanned

generations as Vanessa, 15, daughter of Ron and Patty Riggio, and a ninth-grader at Stevenson High School in Livonia, wants to be an executive chef and attend Kendall College in Chicago.

Vanessa enjoys cooking because "it's fun and you get something great to eat." She said she wants to be a chef because "people will always be hungry and will always be getting something to eat."

Vanessa isn't daunted from challenges in the kitchen as she has made pastries like cakes and tiramisu, and even lasagna for 30 people.

Her grandmother (Betty Fleming) also has inspired her.

"I've watched her make pies and cakes, and she's really creative," Vanessa said.

"She's an excellent cook," Fleming said of her granddaughter.

Many of the recipes were introduced in the book as how the in-laws were introduced into the family or a recipe was a favorite at a family gathering.

When Sharon married Bob Fleming, she brought Porcupine Meatballs to family gatherings. Now she is always asked to bring them, because they've been such a big hit - that and her layered Jell-O, Morgan said.

Nancy Fleming used to camp with Rayleen years ago and she would make a Crock-Pot spaghetti sauce. She still makes that sauce for her family.

"That's one of my favorites," Nancy said. "It's easy to make. I taught my son (Scott) how to make it."

The Oriental Pot Roast is another favorite, and is a sug-

gested meal for a Mother's Day or other family gathering.

"You can do that in the Crock-Pot and that comes out wonderful," Nancy said.

FAMILY AFFAIR

Much of the book was initiated through Rayleen's efforts, then her sister and sisters-in-law contributed, and then their children added material.

Soon the project evolved to extended family members, such as other relatives (mothers of the sisters-in-law and others). When those individuals attended family gatherings, they brought a dish.

"We were asking for recipes that Nancy made that she got from her family, and round and round it went," Sharon said.

Morgan said the list started with 100 recipes that were family favorites. Each person was assigned recipes based on her attachment to the recipe. (Vanessa submitted the Tennessee Pumpkin Bread, as when she was a child she used to spend the day learning it from Betty Fleming.)

Soon they had plenty of recipes, and they went to work on creating the book.

"It got to be so that it was a really, really big project," Morgan said. "Once we got going, it wasn't surprising that we soon had over 200 recipes for the book."

Everyone had a format to follow and e-mailed Morgan the recipes. Morgan put them together in a book format, designed a cover with photos of Doretha McKelvey, Betty Fleming, daughters, and Fleming's grandchildren.

The children and grandchildren presented Betty a copy of the book at Christmas. She was moved.

"It looked so wonderful and the cover and book looked so professional," Fleming said. "I was just overwhelmed. It was more than I ever expected."

"It's passing on a wonderful legacy to my grandchildren and hopefully they will pass it on to their children. I hope it will pass onto generations to come."

How will the family spend Mother's Day?

Usually the group gathers at Morgan's home. They used to go out, but the crowds were so big and the meal so expensive, they decided to get together at someone's home, Morgan said.

"We keep the menu simple so none of the moms have to do much cooking, usually marinated chicken breast," Morgan said.

The men grill, and that dish is accompanied by Italian Potato Salad, rice pilaf and a cold veggie tray.

Betty Fleming brings fruit pies, the favorites of the daughters and daughters-in-law. Rayleen and Pat like peach, Nancy blueberry and Sharon cherry.

To buy a copy of Our Favorite Family Recipes, e-mail priggio@peoplepc.com.

Have you or someone you know put together a family or school cookbook with plenty of family heirloom recipes or favorites? Let us know about it for a future food story. E-mail kabramczyk@oe.homecomm.net, or write to Ken Abramczyk, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150.

PIE

FROM PAGE D1

Rapids, and won at that (state) level," Fleming said. "This was really a big event and it made all the newspapers and many magazines."

And she still has an article in which she is the cover photo of a Michigan Farmer magazine. She also has Free Press articles, one of which lauds her for her

"shrewdness" in baking a great cherry pie.

The cherry pie contest was a big deal. Contestants traveled to an all-expenses trip to Chicago in February 1953 for the National Cherry Pie competition.

"It was my first train ride," Fleming said.

Contestants were decked out in cherry earrings and necklaces, she said.

The contest took place in the ballroom of a large hotel "much like the Pillsbury baking contests are, with ranges and work stations set up all around the ballroom for girls from every state in the United States," she said.

At that time Fleming lived in Belleville (where she still

resides). She didn't win the competition. A contestant from Alabama did, and gave some of her award-winning pie to Mamie Eisenhower.

Fleming still uses the same cherry pie recipe today.

"I've never changed it," she said.

Others remember the contest, too. Sometimes, they are total strangers.

Three years ago, her son, Bob Fleming, needed a ride from a shuttle service at one of the local car dealerships while his car was in for repair.

The driver asked if he lived in Plymouth. Bob replied yes, and the driver said he lived in Denton, a small community near Belleville.

"Maybe you know Ed and

Doretha McKelvey," Bob said, telling him about his grandparents.

"Yes I knew them and played with their kids," the man said as he drove. "So those are your grandparents, and where do you fit in the family?" he asked.

"I'm the son of Jerry and Betty. I'm Betty's son," Fleming said.

The driver then slammed on the brakes.

"You're the son of the cherry pie queen of Michigan?" he asked Fleming.

"I thought maybe he would ask me for the autograph," Bob said, remembering the story.

"The legacy lives on. It was really a huge event for Denton and the city of Belleville."

Administrative and nursing staff profiles including Cynthia Taueg, Steve Osinski, Julia Lechtenberg, etc.

Congratulations to the Award Recipients of the 2006 Nightingale Awards for Nursing. San Marino Club in Troy, Wednesday, May 10, 2006.

Oakland University School of Nursing logo and contact information.

Dan's Custom Brickwork advertisement with phone number 1.734.416.5425.

HOT TUB REPAIRS advertisement with phone number 734-455-3325.

Reliable Landscaping advertisement featuring delivery service and various landscaping packages.

filter PURE ENTERTAINMENT advertisement with a graphic of a person.

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



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.

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,

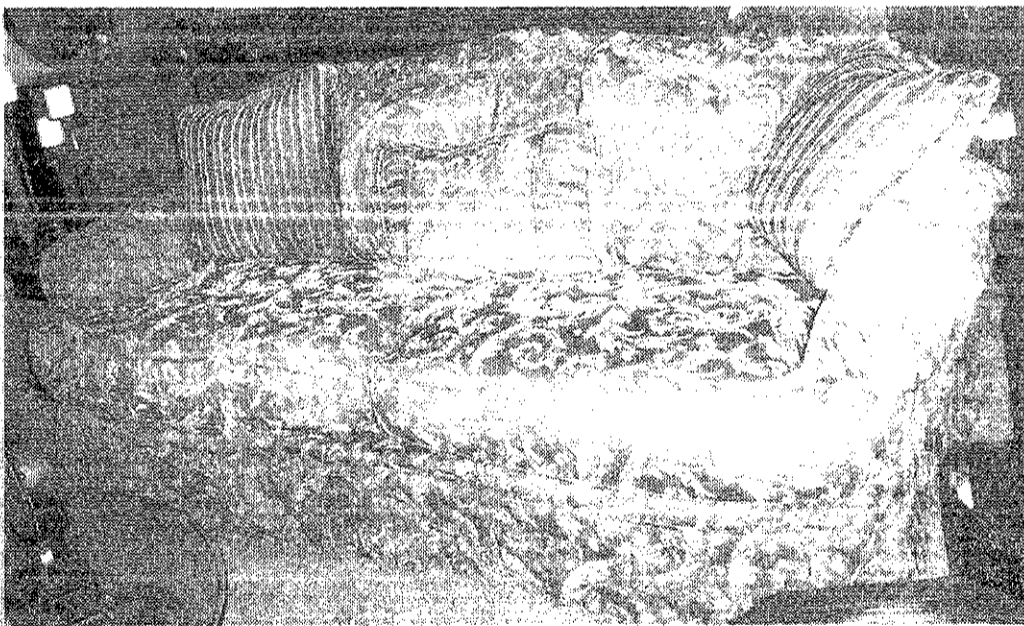
glassware, candles, and unique accent pieces can be found. Why settle for the same accessories that everyone else has. At Recherché you will find a unique selection at affordable prices.

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@rechercheffurniture.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.

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).



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 beautiful sofa offers a traditional look with current colors & patterns. The mixed patterns of the pillows provide the perfect finish.



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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Women Helping Women

Fashion show raises funds to heal homeless

By Wensdy White

Single women and their children are the fastest growing homeless population, and Grace Centers of Hope in Pontiac is the only place in town where they can stay together for more than two weeks while getting help with addiction and abuse. Each year, Grace Centers stages the Women Helping Women Fashion Show and Luncheon to raise money for its Women's Program. We called its founder, Dr. Pamela Clark, to find out more.

What are characteristics of a female homeless person?

The clientele I see usually use drugs. The numbers we're seeing with heroin in this state are unbelievable. Younger and younger women, more middle class, white, some even affluent, highly intelligent females are hooked on heroin. It seems to be the up-and-coming addiction.

How do these women relate to men?

Usually male addiction — codependency — is a women's worst and first addiction. They want approval from men. Men introduce them to the crack,

heroin, alcohol. They use drugs to keep the man or get the man. When the relationship is destroyed they go to the addiction to dull the pain.

What about their children?

Many leave their children. We help them get their children back. We now have a foster care home for kids.

How do you rehabilitate the women who stay with you?

We have a one-year rehabilitation program. They start in a dorm and progress to semi-private rooms. They're in classes every day. Professionals teach the classes and deal with relapse prevention, parenting, money management, 12 steps — it's all related to life skills.

You also have a two year after-care program?

Yes. We've beautifully restored about 14 houses nearby, and they live in these homes. We are in the process of buying the next street over, and we will help women purchase these homes. Half of my after-care patients are in college. I've had women go from prostitution to college in a year.

Will we hear success stories at Women Helping Women?

Katrina will tell her story about homelessness, prostituting, how she lost all her kids.

Women Helping Women Lunch & Fashion Show

- 10:30 a.m., Saturday, May 6
- Royal Park Hotel, Rochester
- The event includes lunch, a raffle, silent auction and fashion show.
- Tickets, \$75, benefit the Women's Program at Grace Centers of Hope.
- Call (248) 334-2187, or visit www.gracecentersofhope.org

She stayed and got her kids back and is now married and in her own home. I think it's her fourth year.

Women from the program will be modeling, right?

Yes. They'll be side-by-side with professional models and you may not even be able to tell the difference! These ladies get to have their hair done at Red Door Salon at Saks, and wear clothes from the Somerset Collection. They're really going to go first class. We try to lift their horizons and teach them you can go to college, you can get a job and hold a job.

So there is hope?

Yes, there is hope, and it's at Grace Centers of Hope.



A gal from Grace Centers of Hope models clothing from Somerset.

pink list

Be a Yoga Goddess

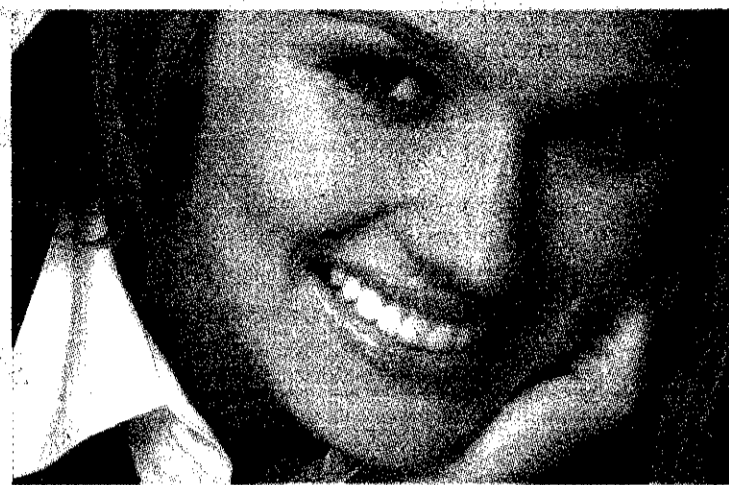
Yogini Lisa Paskel will lead women on a path of yoga practice, dharma, sharing and exercises designed to help you reconnect with your inner beauty and strength. The Goddess Workshop will be held 6:30-10:30 p.m. Friday, May 12 at the Yoga Shelter in the Orchard Mall, 6363 Orchard Lake Rd., West Bloomfield. Cost is \$40. Watch for more workshops at Yoga Shelter's new location, 108 S. Main St., Royal Oak. Call (248) 538-0200 or visit www.yogashelter.com.

and Daughters in Conversation, will speak at the Troy Hilton at 7 p.m. Thursday, May 11 to help mothers and their adult daughters relate. Tickets are \$20-\$40. Call (248) 398-3400 or visit www.metroparent.com.

Pan Cakes and Tiaras Save your appetite for a Pan Cake Supper, 5:30-8 p.m. Friday May 5 at the Farmington Masonic Temple, to raise money for the Founders Festival Miss Farmington pageant. Enjoy hot griddle pancakes with apples, cherries and maple syrup, along with sausage links, fresh fruits and beverages. Donations please. Call (248) 477-1199 or visit www.foundersfestival.com.

You're Wearing That?

Deborah Tannen, author of the bestselling book *You're Wearing That? Understanding Mothers*



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