



Local designer graduates in men's high fashion PINK PAGE - D8

Art in the Park gets even bigger with nightly music FILTER - INSERTED SECTION



CANTON Observer

THURSDAY June 29, 2006

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Canton to spend \$50M for improvements

BY CAROL MARSHALL STAFF WRITER

Canton officials are preparing to borrow as much as \$50 million. After a 45-day referendum period, which will end in August, the township intends to sell bonds for sewer

improvement projects, improvements to the Fellows Creek Golf Course, and for utility work in the Downtown Development Authority.

The Canton Township Board of Trustees voted unanimously Tuesday to publish a notice of intent to issue bonds

- \$40 million for water and sewer improvements, \$8.5 million for DDA projects and \$1.5 million for golf course improvements.

But publishing the notice "does not obligate the board in any way to issue any debt," said outgoing Finance

Director Tony Minghine. During the referendum period, resident voters could petition to require the township to hold an election on the bonds.

After the 45-day period, the township can begin the process of selling the bonds,

and commit to projects this year.

The DDA voted at its Wednesday meeting to table a resolution to move forward with burying overhead utility lines along Ford Road, until after the referendum period. The DDA board of directors

will take up the issue again at its August meeting.

Burying the utility lines is an expensive project. DTE Energy estimated that to relocate the overhead electrical lines between the Westland

PLEASE SEE IMPROVEMENTS, A5

School board gives Ryan strong marks

BY TONY BRUSCATO STAFF WRITER

Plymouth-Canton Schools Superintendent Jim Ryan received mostly high marks in his annual review by the Board of Education.

In seven goal areas rated by the seven members of the Board of Education, Ryan's scored ranged from a 2.5 to 4.4, on a scale of 5.0.

Ryan's highest rating of 4.4 came in goals associated with business services. According to the report, delivered by Vice President Judy Mardigian, "the board was very happy with the audit report that came back with an unqualified opinion; and the board is pleased with the consistent, timely and understandable financial reports" in a business services area the board considers strong.

Grades in other goal areas included 4.05 for curriculum and instruction; 4.0 for administrative services; 4.0 for community relations and marketing; and 3.5 for leadership.

Ryan's below-average marks were 2.8 for financial development, and a 2.5 rating for the district's master plan, which was delayed because of the effort put into the May 9 bond issue, which failed.

"This board, under your direction, has become truly focused on academics, the students and curriculum," said trustee Joanne Lamar to Ryan, after the report was presented. "You have a wonderful reputation in the community, people like you ... and you bring integrity."

Trustee Carol Saunders joined the board at the same time Ryan, who was deputy superintendent, became the district's interim superintendent after the departure of Kathleen Booher in July 2002.

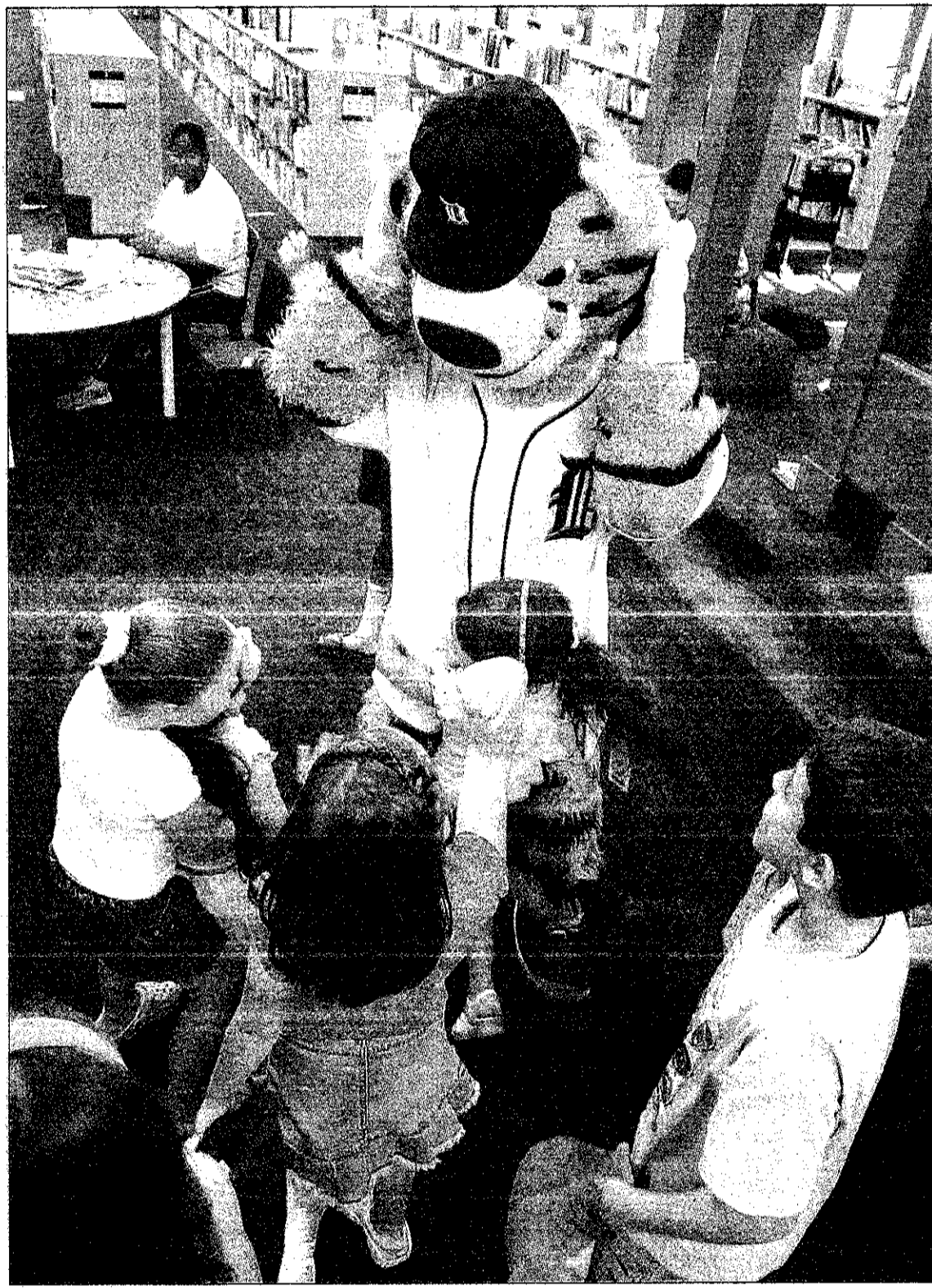
"We had a feeling he might be pretty good for the job, but we were taking a wait-and-see attitude," Saunders said. "Dr. Ryan, you aren't good at the job, you are excellent at the job."

Board President Mark Slavens cautioned against reading a lot into the numbers.

"This board is tough when it comes to evaluations," Slavens said. "Let's put those scores aside ... and let's make clear to the community and to the state you are an excellent superintendent. You are the best in the state of Michigan, your board completely supports you and you are doing a great job."

Ryan's annual salary will go from \$143,000 to \$149,000, mainly the result of the restructuring of fringe benefits.

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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Paws has a cause

Detroit Tigers mascot, Paws, is mobbed by a group of kids during a recent visit to the Canton Public Library. He was on hand to kick off the library's summer reading program. For more information about the program, please see page A4.



Brothers Soichiro 'Pat' Hirami of Livonia and Akira Hirami of Denver get their diplomas from North Hollywood High School in California tonight (Thursday), more than 60 years after they were removed from the school by the U.S. government. Soichiro's daughter is Plymouth-Canton teacher Ann-Nora Hirami.

Much more than a diploma

Graduates are recognized more than 6 decades later

BY BRAD KADRICH STAFF WRITER

Two weeks ago, Ann-Nora Hirami watched the seniors from the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools, where she's a social studies teacher, collect their diplomas.

Tonight (Thursday), she gets to watch two more seniors do the same thing.

The twist? These "seniors" are senior citizens Soichiro "Pat" Hirami and Akira Hirami, Ann-Nora's father and uncle, respectively.

The brothers have been denied their diplomas for more than 60 years after being removed from public schools in California after then-President Franklin D. Roosevelt ordered all people of Japanese ancestry on the west coast into internment camps in the aftermath of the Dec. 7, 1941, attack on Pearl Harbor. (Ann-Nora hates the term "internment," preferring to call them what she believes they were:

PLEASE SEE GRADUATES, A5

3 Canton teens arrested after series of business break-ins

BY CAROL MARSHALL STAFF WRITER

Three teenage boys were arrested Monday by Canton police, following eight break-ins at local businesses. The break-ins occurred between May 1 and June 22.

"We believe one of the teens was involved in all eight, and the other two were involved in one or two

each," said Canton Police Sgt. Rick Pomorski.

According to police, the 14-year-old boys were sneaking out of the house in the early mornings, between 3 and 4 a.m., getting on their bicycles, and going to the businesses.

In all, less than \$2,000 worth of cash and merchandise was missing from the businesses, which included

two dry cleaning stores, Radio Shack, a tanning salon and a Dairy Queen. Some of the businesses were hit more than once, according to police.

"They took things like cash, candy, i-Pods and a GPS system," Pomorski said.

The parents of the boys were cooperative, Pomorski added, and allowed each of the teens to be questioned.

The three teenagers being charged all live in Canton and attend Plymouth-Canton Community Schools. Canton police detectives have filed petitions with the juvenile court, charging one boy with eight counts of breaking and entering a business, and the other two boys with at least one count of

PLEASE SEE TEENS, A6

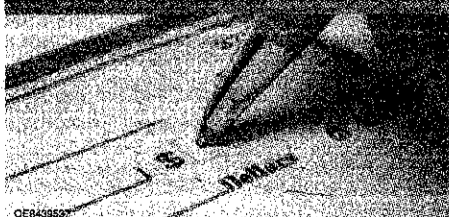
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Coming Sunday in HometownLife



Canine Crazy Part II

A look at the booming pet business and ways to pamper your pooch

Rockettes golf outing

The Salem High Rockettes will be hosting their 6th annual golf outing Saturday Aug. 12 at Salem Hills Golf Club in Northville, with registration beginning at 12:45 p.m. Participants will play 18 holes of golf in a scramble format and get a buffet-style dinner with beer provided. There will also be a \$10,000 hole-in-one contest, closest to the pin contest, first place prizes for men, women and mixed teams, a 50/50 drawing, and a silent auction.

The cost of the event is \$100 per golfer. Hole sponsorships are available for \$125 and door prizes are still needed and appreciated. Registration deadline is July 24.

For more information, call Bob Chamberlain at (734) 451-2209 or e-mail him at rdcham@wideopenwest.com.

Grub crawl volunteers needed

The Canton Chamber of Commerce is in need of bus volunteers for their upcoming Grub Crawl, which is scheduled for Tuesday, July 18. Bus volunteers will ride the bus for one of the two hour shifts.

The first shift is from 6:30-8:30 p.m. The second shift is from 8:30-10:30 p.m. At each stop, the bus volunteers will go into the restaurant and announce that the bus has arrived. Volunteers will not need to purchase a ticket in order to enjoy the second half of the evening. If you are interested in helping out, please call Melanie at (734) 453-4040.

Blood drive

A blood drive and bone marrow registry will be held Sunday, July 16 from 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. at St. John Neumann Parish, 44800

Warren Road, east of Canton Center Road in Canton. The event is co-sponsored by St. Thomas a' Becket. Please call Peggy at (734) 397-8495 or Sandy (734) 844-8718 to make an appointment for donating blood. Walk-ins are welcome. There are three options available: donate blood only; donate blood and register for the bone marrow registry; or register for the bone marrow program only. The fee for registering as a potential bone marrow donor is usually \$65. However, due to a grant received for this specific occasion, the tax-deductible fee is only \$25. There is no fee for minorities to register for the program.

Financial planner certification



Szymanski

Canton resident Cindy Szymanski, a client relationship manager at Bloom Asset Management in Farmington Hills, has passed the Certified Financial Planner (CFP) Certification Exam and has earned her CFP Certification, administered by the Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards, Inc. In order to qualify to take the CFP Certification exam, Szymanski completed five educational modules on various aspects of financial planning from the College of Financial Planning.

The Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards, Inc. founded in 1985 is a non-profit professional regulatory organization that aims to help people benefit from professional and ethical financial planning by establishing and enforcing education, examina-

tion, experience and ethics requirements for CFP certifications.

Szymanski, before joining Bloom Asset Management, worked for H&R Block as a senior tax advisor in the Livonia district since 1993, and has worked in the industry since 1988.

Banking excellence

Marvin Rankin of Canton, a mortgage loan originator with Citizens Bank, was named to the Chairman's Club of the bank's Grand Rewards program. Rankin is located at the Citizens Bank Novi Centre office at 28001 Cabot Drive in Novi.

The annual award, which includes a vacation trip for the winners, is based on operational excellence, generation of new accounts and retention of existing accounts. The Grand Rewards program was created to recognize and reward staff members for their contributions to the continued success of the company.

Red Cross blood drive

Contours Express, located on Sheldon Center Road in Canton, will be co-hosting a blood drive for the American Red Cross from 1-7 p.m. on July 7 at the Contours Express located at 31509 Cherry Hill in Westland (at Cherry Hill and Merriman, next to Quiznos and H&R Block). The public is urged to participate in event. The Red Cross says it is in need of blood supplies. Please call (734) 326-SLIM to schedule an appointment. Anyone who donates blood will receive a free two week pass good at three Contours Express locations, including the one in Canton.

Student presents at White House

Canton High student Kevin Birou recently presented his award-winning essay, John Adams: Taking a Stand for Justice, at the White House Visitor Center as part of



House welcome

State Reps. Phil LaJoy, R-Canton (left), and David Law present Olympians Tanith Belbin and Ben Agosto with a tribute on the House floor. The silver medal-winning ice dancers, who train in Canton, were welcomed by the full House and were presented with a tribute from LaJoy. The tribute saluted not just their skating success but their community service activities. "These two athletes have been a great example to young people who are working to reach their dreams," said LaJoy. "To get to this point has taken more than just athletic skill but heart and determination. We should be very proud of them and all they have accomplished."

Cihonski also supervised Kettering interns who developed software for a mobile tracking system to enable Forgotten Harvest to automatically track food donations and distributions.

"It has been great experience working with the Kettering interns in the development of a system that the agency has already put to use with three handheld devices for their drivers," said Cihonski. "My partner Bill and I were looking for an opportunity to give back to the community in a way that best utilized our skills."

For more information, visit the company's Web site at www.LogisticsToolbox.com or call (734) 751-8878.

Corvettes at the Summit

The second annual "Corvettes at the Summit" is scheduled for Saturday, July 15, at Canton's Heritage Park.

Presented by Corvette Legends Club and Canton Leisure Services with sponsorship by Les Stanford Chevrolet, the 2006 "Corvettes at the Summit" is expected to draw more than 100 Corvettes of all vintages for a daylong display and car show.

Specially trained judges will evaluate the presentation and condition of the entries. Trophies will be awarded to Corvettes that meet the judging standards.

The show will also feature music, food, a display of special interest Corvettes unique model cars, entertainment and door prizes.

It will culminate in a Corvette road tour leaving from Heritage Park at 4 p.m.

Show hours are 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Participant registration starts at 7:30 a.m. and closes at 9:30 a.m. The awards ceremony is scheduled for 3:30 p.m. Rain date is Sunday, July 10.

Admission is free for spectators. There is a registration fee for participants.

National History Day. Students from across the country wrote essays on the theme "Taking a Stand in History: People, Ideas, Events." Kevin's essay was one of 12 winners. He was encouraged to take part in the contest by his teacher, Carrie Chobanian. For more information about the program, please visit www.nhd.org.

C&C Logistics Group honored

Canton-based C&C Logistics Group was recently honored with the 2006 Star Award by Forgotten Harvest, a non-profit agency that provides food to metro Detroit's neediest citizens. The Star Award is presented annually to a company or individual who has provided exceptional support to the agency. Forgotten Harvest rescues prepared and perishable foods from grocery stores, wholesale food distributors, caterers and other sources and distributes them throughout the metro Detroit area.

C & C Logistics Group, a national consulting firm, provided logistical advice on managing Forgotten Harvest's fleet of trucks and drivers, insight and experience about the food industry, and recommendations for implementing efficiencies in donor acknowledgements. Through a partnership with Kettering University, C & C partner Tom

Volunteer ushers needed

The Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton is looking for people to volunteer as ushers for upcoming events, and will hold four free training dates in August: Monday August 7, from 6:30-8:30 p.m.; Tuesday August 8, from 9:30-11:30 a.m.; Monday August 28, from 6:30-8:30 p.m.; and Tuesday August 29, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. All training sessions will be at The Village Theater located at 50400 Cherry Hill Road in Canton. You can register for the date of your choice by calling (734) 394-5460 extension 0.

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Sounds of jazz to fill the air

Concert series will turn parking lots into stages

BY CAROL MARSHALL
STAFF WRITER

Summertime in Canton has a sound. And the sound has a name, that of jazz flutist Alexander Zonjic.

Zonjic will perform at The Village Theater at Cherry Hill Sept. 8, wrapping up a summer-long jazz concert series, which will be at various locations along Ford Road.

The series, new this year to Canton, is sponsored by the Canton Downtown Development Authority. Every Friday night from July 7 until Aug. 25, various jazz artists will perform from a portable stage, purchased by the DDA, in parking lots along Ford Road.

"Part of the reason for the series is because we want to draw people farther into the community along Ford Road," said Debra Bilbrey-Honsowetz, recreation and facilities manager for Canton Leisure Services. "But it's also because some people perceive all the parking lots along Ford Road as negative. This takes a negative and turns them into a positive. Now they're not just parking lots. We call them entertainment venues."

The Friday evening concerts are open to the public and are free to attend, except the final concert at the theater, which will be by invitation only for concert-goers who have entered a drawing to win tickets and meet Zonjic.

"For an incentive program, Canton is providing a \$500 shopping spree, and we are providing a back stage meet

and greet with Alexander Zonjic," said Johanne Maggard, account manager for WVMV-FM (better known as Smooth Jazz V98.7), which is working with the DDA to put on the series. Visitors will be able to pick up cards at the concerts, and they will be asked to visit businesses in each of the color-coded districts along Ford Road.

"When they have visited the required number of businesses, they will be entered into a drawing to win the prizes," Maggard said.

But even those who are not interested in participating are welcome to attend the concerts, said V98.7 General Manager Debbie Kenyon.

"When we've had similar programs in other communities, people just love the family friendliness of it, and being able to get out and enjoy a few hours of free music," Kenyon said.

When the radio station organized a similar series in Auburn Hills, the crowds started out very small and grew every week.

"By the end of the series we were seeing 1,500 - 2,000 people coming out," Kenyon said. "It really caught on."

The first performance in the jazz series will be July 7, and Lin Rountree will be on stage in the Kohl's parking lot, followed by Penny Wells on July 14, Gerard Gibbs and ReORGAN'YZ on July 21, United Music Machine featuring Gene Dunlap on July 28, Jesse Palter Quartet on Aug. 4, The Kimmie Horne Show on Aug. 11, John E.



Gerard Gibbs is just one of the performers scheduled to play in Canton's jazz series of free concerts in parking lots along Ford Road. The series kicks off July 7, and Gibbs is scheduled to play July 21.

Lawrence and Friends on Aug. 18 and D. Lee and the Edge on Aug. 25. For more information about locations, look in the township's Focus newsletter.

The DDA committed \$50,000 in its 2006 budget and unanimously approved the promotion at its February meeting. In exchange for Canton's financial support and use of the stage, which it purchased last year for \$98,000, the township will receive radio station advertising - 100 half-minute spots, as well as advertising by way of e-mail to 60,000 WVMV listeners.

Though the jazz series is the latest addition to the line-up of musical entertainment available, it's not the only one.

The township's tradition of its Concerts in the Park series on Thursdays continues this summer. The concerts are every Thursday evening at 7:30 p.m. at the Heritage Park amphitheater.

The Leisure Services Backyard Beats series also

continues this year, with concerts on June 28 at the Fellows Creek Subdivision, a July 12 ice cream social at Cherry Hill School, July 19 at Sunflower Subdivision and July 26 at Woodbridge Estates.

A somewhat newer tradition, Tuesdays are Terrific Youth Variety Series, also continues at the Heritage Park amphitheater. On June 27, the Dream Machine music, puppets and storytelling will take to the stage. July 11 will be Kooky Karly, a "scissors wizard." On July 25, Jonathan Park brings an interactive comedy act and juggling extravaganza to the park, followed by The Timekeepers percussion performance on Aug. 8.

All performances are free to attend.

"Everyone loves music, but especially the kids. They're just so uninhibited, and love to get up and dance," said Bilbrey-Honsowetz.

cmarrshall@hometownlife.com

Firefighters charity golf outing planned

The Canton Firefighters Charity Foundation will host its 10th annual Greg Unger Memorial Golf Outing on Tuesday, July 18, at Pheasant Run Golf Course in Canton. The cost for this year's golf outing is \$110 per person and includes 18 holes of scramble golf with a cart, lunch at the turn, dinner banquet with a door prize, contests, and raffle prizes.

This year marks the 10 year anniversary of Canton Firefighters Charity Foundation's annual golf outing fund-raiser. The outings were originally started to raise money for Greg Unger, then age 17. Unger suffered from cystic fibrosis and needed a double lung transplant. With the help of money raised through the charity foundation, Unger received the necessary transplant and follow-up treatment. Five years ago Unger passed away. Since then the outing has been known as the Greg Unger Memorial Golf Outing.

Over the past 10 years the charity foundation has given close to \$100,000 back to the community. Donations have been made to individuals and families who have suffered the devastating loss of their home and personal belongings due to fire. The foundation has also made donations to members of the community facing hardship due to a serious illness or injury. And the foundation continues to donate to suffering and/or surviving families of public safety personnel who have suffered a traumatic injury, illness or death.

The Canton Firefighter Charity Foundation is supported by a number of community fund-raisers, particularly the golf outing and the Liberty Fest spaghetti dinner, always held on the Friday of Liberty Fest weekend.

To register for the outing or to make a donation to the Canton Firefighters Charity Foundation, contact the Canton Fire Department at (734) 398-5462.

League to host candidates' forum

Voters eager to get a look at the crowded field in the race to replace term-limited state Rep. John Stewart, R-Plymouth Township, in the state House's 20th District get their chance July 13.

That's when the League of Women Voters of Northwest Wayne County, along with the Observer Newspapers, sponsors a two-part candidates' forum at Plymouth City Hall.

All eight candidates have been invited to participate. The five Republican challengers — Beth Stewart, Mark Abbo, Don Schnettler, Jason Vorva and T. Cortez Spann, Jr. — will face off at 7 p.m. in the Republican forum.

The forum for the three Democrats — Joanne Lamar, Joe Hawver and Marc Corriveau — starts shortly after 8 p.m.

The event will be taped for broadcast on local-access television several times before the Aug. 8 primary.

Candidates will be allowed a one-minute opening statement, one-minute responses to questions and a two-minute summation. The event will be moderated by a League of Women Voters member, who will read questions submitted by audience members.

The League of Women Voters is a non-partisan, political organization whose purpose is to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government. The League does not endorse or oppose candidates or parties, but it does work to obtain and distribute information to the public on candidates and their views.

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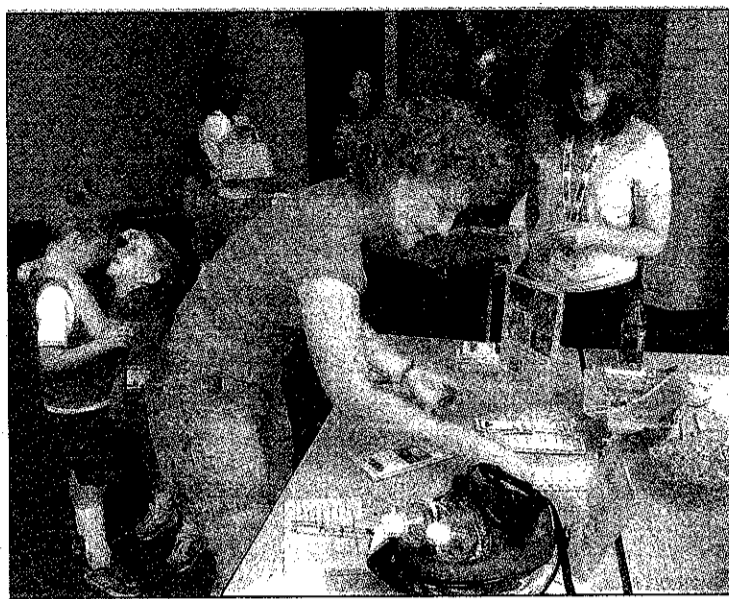
Library's summer reading program off to strong start

The Canton Public Library registered 1,076 children and 210 teens on the first day of the Summer Reading Celebration, proving that while school is out for the summer, learning will continue. Even circulation statistics increased, setting a new one-day record of 12,680 checkouts for the kick off of Summer Reading compared to a daily average of 4,500 checkouts.

The library's Summer Reading includes programs for children, teens and -- new this year -- an adult reading program. Laura Fawcett, adult librarian, was thrilled with the response to the first-ever adult offering, Drive In For Summer Reading.

"We registered 203 people so far," Fawcett said. "A lot of parents want to be reading role models for their children so they signed up the whole family for summer reading. And when they heard the grand prize was an iPod Nano or personal DVD player, they were really enthusiastic."

Weekly drawing prizes for adults include movie tickets, a DVD collection and gift certificates. The Teen Read Around the World program offers prizes each week and a grand prize drawing for a \$100 Twelve Oaks Mall gift certifi-



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Claire Winters signed up her sons Michael, 6, and Luke, 4, for the library's summer reading program, then signed herself up for the adult summer reading program with the help of Adult Services boss Rebecca Havenstein-Coughlin.

cate. The Children's Summer Reading Celebration offers prizes as a reading log is completed. Each reading program also has special events scheduled throughout the summer. Visit www.cantonpl.org to see dates and times.

"Reading is one of the most important summer activities your child can engage in," says Children's Librarian Kristen

Tierney. "Studies have repeatedly shown that children who continue to read during the summer months perform better when school resumes in the fall."

Registration for summer reading programs is ongoing with programs wrapping up July 27. For more information, call the Canton Public Library at (734) 397-0999.



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Hold on if you can

Amy Lesinski, 16, and Susan Young, 15, of Canton appear a bit apprehensive as they ride the Twister at the Livonia Spree last weekend. The two enjoyed themselves at Livonia's annual summer festival.

Are you missing the good stuff?

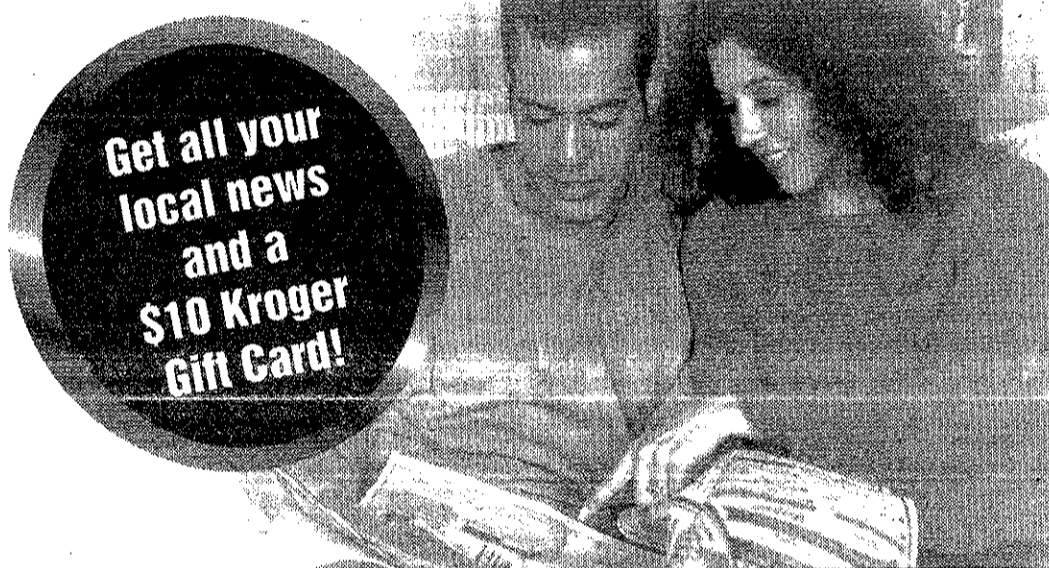
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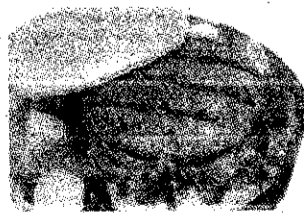
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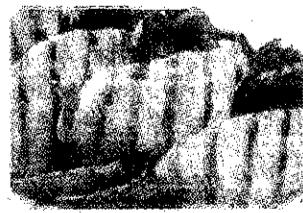


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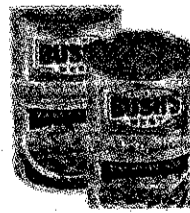
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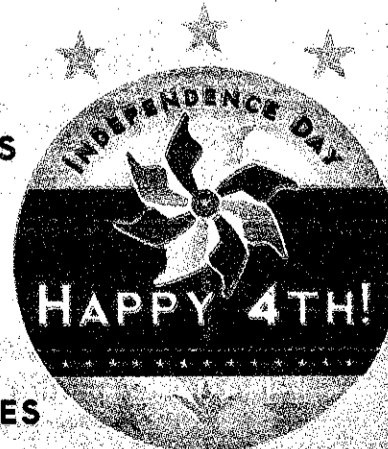
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GRADUATES

FROM PAGE A1

concentration camps).

But because of a California law allowing school districts to issue such diplomas retroactively, the Hiram family is in California, where the brothers will accept their diplomas during the commencement ceremony for North Hollywood High School, where they attended school before being interned.

"I hadn't thought about the diploma; life moves on and I just never thought about it," said Pat Hiram, a Livonia resident. "This is an event that's kind of unusual. It doesn't happen all the time."

If the story ended right there, it'd have a fairy-tale ending, the 80-year-old Pat Hiram and his 79-year-old brother, who lives in Denver, getting their diplomas. But it doesn't end there. In fact, that's just where it gets started.

To get the diplomas, the brothers had to fill out an application. Ann-Nora took care of that. During the course of that process, she had several conversations with Angela Hewlett-Bloch, an assistant principal at North Hollywood High. Ann-Nora just wanted to make sure she was following the right requirements, and making sure her dad's name was spelled correctly.

During one such phone call, Hewlett-Bloch asked if the family was coming to the ceremony. Ann-Nora and her mother, Cynthia, decided to make the trip. Then came yet another bombshell: Hewlett-Bloch asked Ann-Nora to deliver the commencement address.

"To talk about them as high school students when I'm a high school teacher is overwhelming me," said Ann-Nora, who will deliver the speech to some 600 graduates. "I can't imagine what they were like as the kids I teach now. I don't know if I'm going to cry or laugh more, (but) I know it's going to be an extremely emotional day.

"My grandparents will be looking down through a hole in the clouds from above," she added. "I want to deliver a winner in this address. I feel very inspired."

Like many Japanese-American families in the early 1940s, life ended as they knew it for the Hiram family after the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor. Students in public school, Soichiro and Akira Hiram, sister Mary and their parents Kiyoyoshi and Yazuno Hiram were whisked into Camp Manzanar.

Upon their release, the family had to start over. Kiyoyoshi was denied citizenship until 1957. Yazuno was never granted the right to vote before she died in 1952, when her death certificate listed her citizenship as "unknown."

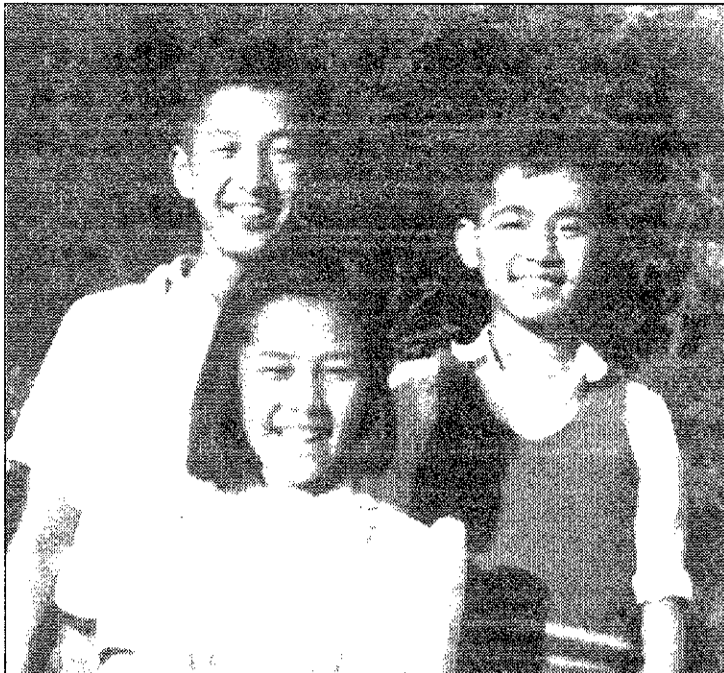
Soichiro got the nickname "Pat" from a teacher "who never bothered to learn how to pronounce his name," Cynthia Hiram said.

The family hopes to bury a little of the pain with a visit to Camp Manzanar during the trip. Soichiro has never been back, and Cynthia has never been there. Ann-Nora was there, with her sister Eileen, 16 years ago when the camp had been dismantled. Now it's been rebuilt and the family plans to return.

"Pat has never had any desire to go back," Cynthia Hiram said. "Now that this opportunity has come, I'm very glad to go back and see what's there. He's never talked about it, so I have a lot of questions. I don't know that I'll get any answers, but I'm still glad I'm going."

Soichiro spends little time thinking of such things — "Part of my cultural background is 'accept what you have to if you can't change it,'" he said — but they mean a lot to his daughter. Ann-Nora remembers driving up to the camp in 1990.

"Everything had been dismantled at that point, (but) it was very emotional for me," she recalled. "On the drive with my sister, I remember thinking, 'How did it feel for them on that bus?'"



Brothers Soichiro and Akira Hiram mug for the camera with sister Mary in an undated photo family members believe was taken not long before the family was sent to Camp Manzanar in California.

She'll be thinking such thoughts when she makes her speech. She burns more openly than her father at the indignities suffered by her ancestors — "It's the Irish part of me," she said, smiling — but will try to put that aside in her address to the graduates.

"Forgiveness is the legacy of my dad's life for me," Ann-Nora said. "I have a lot of individual lines and themes (for the speech), but I'm going to talk about forgiveness, because that's the legacy of the Hiramis."

bkadrich@hometownlife.com

IMPROVEMENTS

FROM PAGE A1

limit and Morton Taylor Road, the cost would be \$6.4 million.

"That's just the beginning," trustee Melissa McLaughlin said. That estimate does not include acquiring easements, the restoration of landscaping, or re-installation of overhead lights. It also does not include the cost of burying other utility lines such as telephone lines.

The DDA could also opt to leave out the burial of lines near I-275, bringing the cost of the project down to \$5.1 million

But Township Supervisor Tom Yack suggested working on only the utilities between Morton Taylor and Lotz.

"I'd stop at Lotz Road. Why would you bury the lines in front of vacant property?" Yack said, adding that the DDA would be wise to wait for development on the vacant property, and the taxes from future development could offset the expense of performing the work east of I-275. He did, however, say that the lines near the freeway should be

buried before then, to eliminate visual clutter.

The DDA will ask DTE to prepare an estimate which breaks the stretch between the freeway and the Canton-Westland boundary into two or three sections.

"We'll run out of money really fast doing this kind of stuff," Yack said.

Also on the list of projects the DDA would like to complete are wayfinding signs, garden walls, landscaping and decorative banners.

"We should be able to, in the next several years, make a significant improvement on Ford Road in terms of aesthetics and functionality," McLaughlin said.

Even if the DDA proceeds with the utility line project, DTE has estimated it would take as long as three years before it's completed.

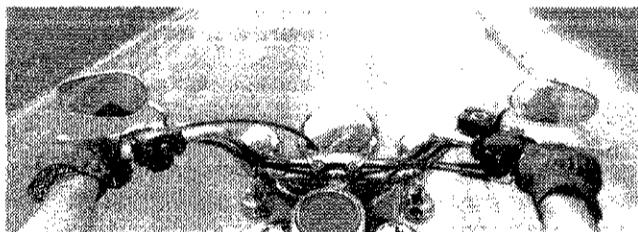
The \$40 million bonds for improvements to the water and sewer systems could mean that work can begin early next year.

The \$1.5 million for improvements to Fellows Creek Gold Course will pay for projects beginning this year.

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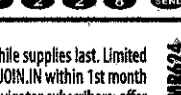
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BRIGHTON 8159 Chalis, Suite C (off Grand River, in front of Target) 810-225-4789	FENTON 17245 Silver Pkwy (in the Sears Plaza) 810-629-2733	SOUTHFIELD 28117 Telegraph Rd. (South of 12 Mile Rd.) 248-358-3700	COMMERCIAL Cellular Source 248-609-9400	UTICA The Wireless Shop 248-458-1111	SYLVAN LAKE Wireless Link 248-681-1700
CANTON 42447 Ford Rd. (corner of Ford & Lilley Rds., Canton Corners) 734-844-0481	FT. BRANTON 4129 24th Ave. (N. of the Palace) 810-385-1231	STERLING HEIGHTS 45111 Park Ave. (M-59 & M-53, Utica Park Plaza) 586-997-8500	NEW HUDSON Fusion Communications 248-437-5353	TROY The Wireless Shop 248-458-1111	TAYLOR Call Phone Warehouse 734-374-4472
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	NOVI 43025 12 Mile Rd. (Twelve Oaks Service Dr., North of Sears) 248-305-6600	WESTLAND 23000 Eureka Rd. (in the JC Penney wing)	ROYAL OAK Fusion Communications 248-549-7700	UTICA Mobile2/Mobile Wireless 586-739-9977	TROY The Wireless Shop 248-458-1111
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Bowling event honors former Salem student, aids scholarships

The inaugural "Bowling for Brian" fund-raiser, held May 21, raised \$2,000 to support college scholarships for students of Plymouth-Canton Schools.

The event and the scholarship are in honor of Brian Geick, a Salem High student, who succumbed to complications after heart transplant surgery last summer at Detroit Children's Hospital. According to his mother, Patricia Geick, her son aspired to be a filmmaker.

He also loved to bowl, which is why the family chose to hold a bowling fund-raiser, which she said was well attended.

"Friends, relatives, old and new neighbors and Brian's classmates, para-professionals and even teachers attended the fund-raiser to remember Brian in a special way," said Geick, who teaches at

Plymouth Children's Nursery in Canton.

"We even had everyone in attendance sign a picture of Brian. Everyone received a button, magnet, candy bar and wrist bracelet with words that described Brian -- dream, love, faith, courage, strength, and hope. Everyone in attendance had so much fun they said they would pay even more to attend next year's event."

Among those in attendance at Oak Lanes was Sorin Oprican, who is the very first recipient of the Brian Geick Scholarship.

Sorin is a 2006 graduate of Plymouth High School who will attend Schoolcraft College in the fall where he will study criminal justice.

Patricia Geick said the family is already planning next year's event. For more information call her at (734) 451-



Participants in the inaugural Bowling for Brian fund-raiser, held May 21 at Oak Lanes in Westland, had a good time and helped raise money for college scholarships for Plymouth-Canton Schools. Back row from left are Mikey Redman, Nick Mattson and Jeremy French. Second row are Amy Norton, Katie LaMonda and Amy Geick. Scott Foess and Tim Blough are in front. French, Geick, Foess and Blough all graduated from Salem High School in 2003.

0779. People can also order bracelets in memory of Brian by calling Busy Beads at (734) 844-7313.

Longtime police officer promoted to sergeant

The Canton Police Department recently promoted police officer Robert Sidor to the rank of Sergeant. Sgt. Sidor was hired by the department in 1980 as a police cadet.

During his 25 years of service with the department, Sidor has earned many awards including seven certificates of merit, three department commendations, three certificates of appreciation, two life-saving awards, and officer of the year.

He has also participated in several special units including field training officer, detective bureau, evidence technician and rapid response.

In 1988, Sidor earned certification in accident reconstruction from Michigan State



Sidor

University. Since then he has become a department expert in the field of reconstruction investigating over 65 fatal accidents as a

member of the department's Accident Investigation Team. Sidor, who earned a Bachelor's Degree in law enforcement from Western Illinois University, successfully completed an extensive testing procedure for the promotion.

Sidor has been married to wife Lisa for 21 years and has seven children ranging in age from one to 18.

Township gets good grades with audit

BY CAROL MARSHALL
STAFF WRITER

The numbers have been checked, and checked twice, and the results were no surprise to township officials — Canton's finances are in good shape.

The Canton Township Board of Trustees heard its annual audit report Tuesday from Plante & Moran. The auditing firm gave Canton high marks for its accuracy in accounting.

"Bonding agencies look at the auditors' opinion," said Frank Audia of Plante & Moran. "(The audit) is for people who are looking to see how clean your records are." He commended the finance department's thorough reporting of the township's finances.

According to Wendy Trumbull of Plante & Moran, the township's general fund revenues increased by \$4 million from 2004 to 2005, from \$21.9 million to \$25.9 million.

State sources of funding, such as revenue sharing increased slightly — from \$6.1 million to \$6.2 million, but made up for less of the township's general fund revenues. In 2004, revenue sharing accounted for 28 percent of the general fund and in 2005, just 24 percent.

Trumbull said the township is expecting revenue sharing to remain steady in the upcoming year.

Property tax revenue increased from a little less than \$6 million in 2004 to \$7.6 million in 2005, accounting for 29.5 percent of the township's revenues.

The township's unreserved fund balance fell by \$4 million since its all-time high of \$6.8 million in 2001, to \$2.8 million in 2005, but Audia said that's because the decrease was planned, it's not alarming and Canton's fund balance is well within respectable levels — a little more than 10 percent of its general fund budget.

Audia suggested that the township board may want to consider collecting a 5 percent administrative fee, as allowed by state law, for handling the township's special assessment district projects.

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DEATHS

H

Judith Howell
Howell, 63, of Westland died June 23.

M

Robert J. McDonald
McDonald, 55, of Livonia, died June 22.

O

Ann C. "Billie" Oancea
Oancea, 71, of Bloomfield Township, died June 23.

S

Nancy R. Simescu
Simescu, 81, formerly of Plymouth, died June 25.

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



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MHS offers kids day camp

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER

Youngsters with an interest in animals can learn more about their care and even make a disaster plan for their own pets during a week-long summer day camp being offered at the Michigan Humane Society's Berman Center for Animal Care in Westland.

The Summer Tails Day Camp for youngsters ages 9-11 will be offered in four one-week sessions the weeks of July 10, 17 and 31 and Aug. 7.

"We think it's really important that youngsters learn about having empathy with animals at an early age," said Kim Korona, main coordinator for the camp. "We've found that there's a tie-in with being kind to animals and being kind to people."

MHS has collaborated with other animal organizations to teach youngsters about companion animal care and the humane treatment of animals. They also will learn about ferrets from members of the Midwest Fellowship and rescued birds from representatives of Home Again Birds.

Canter Michigan, which rescues race horses, will make a presentation, as will the Detroit Zoological Society, which will provide information on the rescue of more exotic animals like lions, tigers, bears, horses and bald eagles.

"Some of the exotic animals people had in drug houses and when they were raided, they found these animals," Korona said.

There also will be a field trip to East Lansing and Michigan State University, where campers will learn about the care of horses and observe surgery on a large breed animal.

And if that's not enough to do, youngsters will get to visit with one of the stars of Detroit's installment of *Animal Cops* on Animal Planet.

"The camp is for children who may be interested in working with animal shelters or in being a veterinarian," Korona said.

Campers also will have time to work on their own disaster kit for their family pets. The issue came to the forefront during last year's hurricane season, when many people sheltered at home rather than leave their pets.

The camp will be from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and cost \$135 per camper. Scholarships are available for disadvantaged youngsters interested in attending. According to Korona, the scholarships are a way of giving back to the community and make the program accessible to children of all income levels.

For more information, call Korona at (248) 799-7400, Ext. 127, or e-mail her at kkorona@michiganhumane.org.

'... some big shoes to fill'

Retiring police detective earns accolades for his work

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

Westland police Sgt. James Dexter will never forget the grisly murder scene he saw when he went into a basement on the city's southeast side on a cold, February day in 2004.

There lay 42-year-old Anthony Pulley - his wrists and ankles tied up, his body stabbed and slashed 61 times, his head bludgeoned with a hammer.

Pulley, a U.S. Department of Defense purchasing agent, had been robbed of his fur coats, diamond rings, 1999 Mercury Sable and other belongings. And police had no suspects.

Within days, good detective work led police to Dalion Lamarr Davis, a 25-year-old Detroit man who initially told police he killed Pulley to thwart sexual advances. But Dexter dug deeper and ultimately got the killer to admit his real motive of robbery - a confession that led to a guilty plea, a prison sentence of 40-60 years, and accolades for Dexter.

"That was probably his shining moment," said police Lt. James Ridener, who is in charge of the Westland detective bureau.

Dexter, a Canton resident, has had many shining moments during his 26-year career with the Westland Police Department - a career that will end Friday when he retires.

"I'll miss this place," he said Monday, reflecting on his career during an interview. "I've made a lot of friends here, and I think I've done some good work."

His career path didn't hurt his love life, either. When he stopped a woman for driving with a loud muffler, little did he know they would marry.

"She was a waitress at Big



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

On Friday, police Sgt. James Dexter, a Canton resident, will retire from a job that not only allowed him to put the bad guys in jail - it also helped him find his wife, Linda.

Boy here in Westland, and when I went in there she reminded me that I had given her a ticket," Dexter recalled.

They started dating, and Dexter and wife Linda have now been married for 18 years. They have two sons, Jimmy, 15, and Kyle, 12.

Dexter, who celebrated his 49th birthday Wednesday, became interested in police work as a teenager attending Fordson High School in Dearborn. A counselor told him that she believed he would be good at it.

"It sounded like a pretty good idea," Dexter said.

One of 11 children born to his late parents, Robert and Shirley Dexter, he took law-enforcement classes at Henry Ford Community College and became a cadet for the Dearborn Police Department in 1976.

He eventually put in applications at various departments to become a police officer, and he was first hired in Las Vegas, Nev., where he worked for only two months before Westland contacted him.

"I came back because all my

family was here," Dexter said.

He trained at the Oakland Police Academy in 1980, and he has been with the Westland Police Department ever since, rising through the ranks of patrol officer and traffic-enforcement officer. He has been in the detective bureau since January 1997.

Dexter mentioned the Pulley murder as one of his most memorable cases. He also recalled investigating embezzling allegations that resulted in a decorated school official, former Adams Middle School Principal Celestine Sanders, resigning from her job.

Dexter has been highly active with police unions, helping to improve pensions and benefits for Westland's men and women in blue. He also has been instrumental in organizing events, such as picnics and basketball outings, that helped police officers and their families develop friendships.

His job has been rewarding because he has put some criminals behind bars. But he has had his share of frustrations, too.

"The murderers, the rapists, the robbers - they go to prison. But the most frustrating part of the job is seeing some defendants get a slap on the wrist," he said.

As an example, Dexter recalled one defendant who merely got an extension on his probation for being a repeat offender on home invasion cases.

"Three weeks later, he did it again," Dexter said.

Dexter has found himself in potentially life-threatening situations. He escaped gunfire in 1987 when he went to a Michigan Avenue motel where three Inkster officers were killed. The case involved a standoff with four suspects being sought for writing bad checks.

Although he is leaving the Westland Police Department, Dexter still plans to work. He will coach the freshman football team this fall at Salem High School in Canton. He played football at Fordson, and his sons are active in football, basketball and baseball.

Using skills he developed as a Westland officer, he also may try to find a job with an insurance company as a fraud investigator and an accident reconstruction expert.

No matter where he ends up, it's certain he'll be wearing a neck chain with his mother's wedding ring on it. He wears it as a tribute to her for inspiring 11 children to have productive lives.

"She must have done something right," Dexter said.

And so, it seems, did he. "He's a tenacious detective. He is the most organized detective I've ever seen," Ridener said. "He's a real professional, and there will be some big shoes to fill when he leaves."

dclem@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2110

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON NOTICE OF CLOSE OF REGISTRATION FOR THE AUGUST 8, 2006 STATE PRIMARY ELECTION

Notice is hereby given that **JULY 10, 2006**, is the last day registrations can be accepted in order to be eligible to vote in the Election to be held on Tuesday, August 8, 2006. Registrations will be accepted at the Township Clerks Office, 1150 South Canton Center Road, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Registration can be made at any Secretary of State Office or State Designated Agency. Persons with special needs who are unable to register in the above mentioned manner are urged to contact the Clerk's Office at 734-394-5120. Mail-in registration will be accepted postmarked by

July 10, 2006.

Terry G. Bennett
Clerk

Publish: June 29 & July 6, 2006

0E0846002

SHURGARD STORAGE

Notice is hereby given that the following units will be sold to the highest bidder by way of open auction on 07/07/06 at approximately 9:00 a.m. or there after at the following locations:

Shurgard Storage of Canton North *2101 Haggerty Rd*Canton* 734-981-0300

9045	Bayer	Pharmaceutical
6039	Bendross	Household
4209	Hayes	Household
4207	Mcghee	Household

Shurgard Storage of Canton South* 45229 Michigan Ave*Canton* 734-398-5416

3052	Collins	Household
2015	Hlavacek	Household
5952	DeJarnette	Household
4157	Hartley	Household
6001	Baker	Household
6004	Scott	Household

Shurgard Storage of Dearborn*24920 Trowbridge*Dearborn*313-277-2000

2286	Davis	Household items
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Shurgard Storage of Livonia*30300 Plymouth Rd*Livonia*734-522-7811

1013	Mason	2 Boxes
2121	Taylor, T	Household Items
3067	McGlocklin	Household Items
3069	Zonca	Household Items
3077	Garris	Household Items
3088	Williams, W	Household Items
4099	Taylor, N	Household Items
4129	Pryor	Household Items
4130	Flumerfelt	Household Items
5084	Shelby	Household Items

Shurgard Storage of Taylor*9300 Pelham Rd* Taylor*313-292-2950

3042	Clippert	Household Items
3036	Ryan	Household Items
4057	Ryan	Office equip,applian,furn,toys
6011	Farjarr	Lawnmower,handtools,furn.(b,l,d)
3071	Forsett	Furn,grill,

Shurgard Storage of Westland*36001 Warren* Westland*734-326-6000

4026	Dragan	Household Items
2036	Dunlap	Household Items
1118	Gibson	Household Items
3020	Holt	Household Items
1142	Merideth	Household Items
5176	Sellers	Household Items

Shurgard Storage of Plymouth *41889 Joy Rd*Canton*734-459-2200

9142	Rodebach	equipment
1045	Owens	household
4052	Austin	equipment
5054	King	household

Notice is hereby given that the following units will be sold to the highest bidder by way of open auction on 07/10/06 at approximately 9:00 a.m. or there after at the following location:

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

3025	Truex	Houseold
3008	Taste of CO.hicago	Business equipment
1058	Rose	Household

Publish: June 22 & 29, 2006

0E0846009

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Royal Oak 248-549-8000 * Bloomfield Hills 248-645-0300

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'I feel like I'm in college'

Schoolcraft's career summer camps reach youngsters in math, science

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA
STAFF WRITER

Patti Green, a middle school science teacher in Clarenceville, gave new meaning to the idea of adventure camps this summer.

As director of Adventures in Career Exploration, Green earned a federal grant worth \$248,000 to create a program targeting students with interests in math and science, and those who come from single parent homes or qualify for free or reduced lunch programs. It took a year to plan and a year to implement. The program is in action this week at Schoolcraft College in Livonia.

Green's passion in the project stems from her own experience at a career camp when she was a child. "This is very personal for me," she said.

The camps themselves were personalized for the 120 students who were chosen to participate, after the application process was complete. The kids come from schools in Livonia, Redford, Farmington, Plymouth, Canton and Northville.

Ranging in grades 5 through 9, students were divided into different camp programs based on available space and interest.

The camps include: Robotics, health occupations, aviation, environmental science and Michigan ecology.

Each day this week the campers were scheduled to travel around the metro area to meet with experts in the field, tour facilities most people will never see, and share hands-on activities - all in a college setting.

Dawn Bourbeau, health occupations instructor, planned a full schedule for the 20 students in her camp. Throughout the week the group would visit a cardiothoracic surgeon and view a video of an open heart surgery. They would meet an occupational, a speech and a physical therapist, and see a Med Flight helicopter.

As a full-time nurse at St. Joseph Hospital in Ann Arbor, Bourbeau was able to bring connections to the program and show students aspects of the health industry they would not otherwise have access to visit.

"I think it's great," she said. "This is a great opportunity for them to jump in at this age."

But it's not easy. Green said "Kids are working. This is six straight hours of go."

Andrea Kelch, a participant from Canton, said she heard

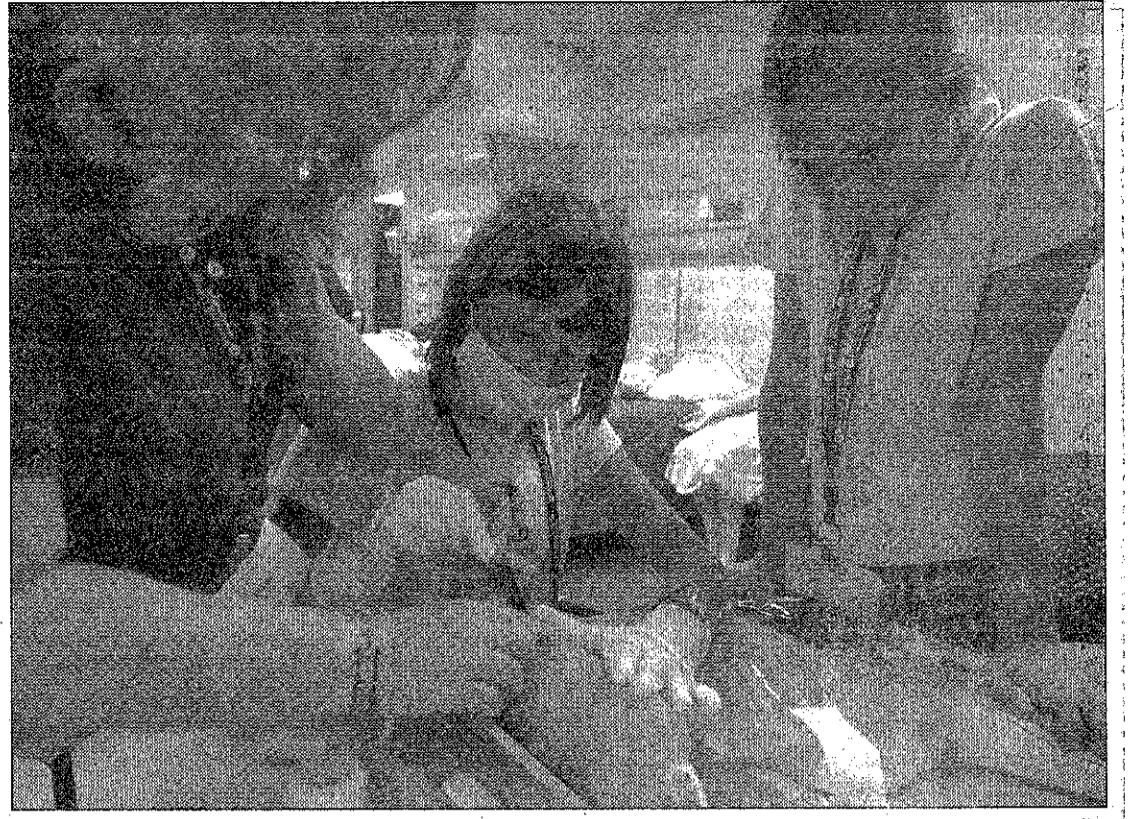
about the program from her father and was interested in learning more about the aerospace program. She said she was sure she'd enjoy the field trips the most.

Participants like Andrea received free shoulder bags, snacks and writing utensils. "I feel like I'm in college," she said.

That's another facet of the program. Students tour Schoolcraft's campus and learn what it takes to earn a degree in their field. They meet experts and explore all the different options available.

More than 800 students applied for Adventures in Career Exploration by February, thanks to aggressive efforts to spread the word about the program in area schools. A meeting for parents and students was held in November, and Green said representatives passed out information at holiday school events. Children interested in participating were required to write an essay and obtain two recommendations. Green, a Plymouth resident, said the difficult part came in choosing who would participate, and in what camp.

"They had to jump through a lot of hoops," she said. But the children in the program cer-



BRYAN MITCHELL

Twelve-year-old Fiona Greenshields (center) of Garden City learns how to insert an IV with help from instructor Kirsten Thulin, a University of Michigan nursing student. Robyn Davis, 12, of Canton waits her turn. The girls were part of a health careers camp held at Schoolcraft College.

tainly want to be there, she added.

Though the federal grant ends this year, the camps will go on and become part of Schoolcraft College's Kids on Campus summer programs. The Kids on Campus program has been running for 27 years and draws 1,500 students from grades one through nine.

Sandy Fisher, coordinator for the Kids on Campus program, said her programs will benefit from the supplies provided under the Adventures in Career Exploration grant. She

and Green see this as a self-sustaining endeavor.

"Hopefully it will continue

for many decades," said Green.

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CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON ACCESS TO PUBLIC MEETINGS

The Charter Township of Canton will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities at the meeting/hearing upon two weeks notice to the Charter Township of Canton. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Charter Township of Canton by writing or calling the following:

David Medley, ADA Coordinator
Charter Township of Canton, 115 S. Canton Center Road
Canton, MI 48188
(734) 394-5260

Publish: June 29, 2006

CE0640099

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON INVITATION TO BID

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Charter Township of Canton, 1150 Canton Center S, Canton, Michigan will accept sealed bids at the Office of the Clerk up to 3:00 p.m. Thursday, July 13th, 2006 for the following:

PUBLIC SAFETY DISPATCH RECORDING EQUIPMENT

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

TERRY G. BENNETT, CLERK

Publish: June 29, 2006

CE0640092

Charter Township of Canton Board Proceedings - June 15, 2006

A special meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton was held Tuesday, June 15, 2006, at 1150 Canton Center S. Supervisor Yack called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. **Roll Call** Members Present: Bennett, Kirchgatter, Badoy, McLaughlin, Yack, Zarbo Members Absent: Caccamo Staff Present: Director Minghine, Director Durack, Director Santomauro, Director Conklin, Director Paas **Adoption of Agenda** Motion by Bennett, supported by Zarbo to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried by all members present. **Citizen's Non-Agenda Item Comments:** Darin Sylvester, 46919 Doubletree, Teacher at Salem High School, stated: 25 students participated in a project researching the history of the Park, specifically the Cady barn. Mr. Sylvester is in favor of preserving the historical Cady barn. **GENERAL CALENDAR:** **Item 1.** Approve Support of the Move the Barn Campaign. Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin that the Charter Township of Canton Board of Trustees authorize the expenditure of up to \$37,500.00 (101-803-976-000; Capital Project/ Travis House) for the purpose of supporting the moving of the Historic Cady Barn/ School Farm Barn to the location on the Bartlett/ Travis House site. I further move that the expenditure of these dollars will be contingent upon and scheduled in conjunction with the contract schedule for the reassembly of the barn with the Amish Skilled Tradesman. Motion carried by all members present. **OTHER:** Supervisor Yack stated the study session for June 20, 2006 has been cancelled. The next Board meeting will be held on June 27, 2006, 7:00 p.m., Administration Building, First Floor, Board Room, 1150 Canton Center S., Canton, Michigan 48188. **ADJOURN:** Motion by Bennett, supported by Zarbo to adjourn at 8:00 p.m. Motion carried by all members present. - Thomas J. Yack, Supervisor - Terry G. Bennett, Clerk - Copies of the complete text of the Board Minutes are available at the office of the Charter Township of Canton, 1150 S. Canton Center Rd, Canton, MI 48188, during regular business hours and can also be accessed through our web site www.canton-mi.org after Board Approval.

Publish: June 29, 2006

CE0640010

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OUR VIEWS

Celebrate happiness this Fourth of July

On Tuesday, we'll celebrate the pursuit of happiness. The 230th anniversary of the ratification of the Declaration of Independence reminds us again of Thomas Jefferson's revolutionary, earth-shaking preamble.

"We hold these truths to be self-evident that all men are created equal and that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness ... that to secure these rights Governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed ... that whenever any government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. ..."

Jefferson curiously uses the word happiness twice. He borrows the phrase "life, liberty ..." from Adam Smith and John Locke, but replaces the word "property" with the less tangible "happiness."

Jefferson was not one to believe that governments could make people happy. In a very different age than ours, the gentleman farmer believed that the less government the better.

Commentators and scholars on the right and left disagree about what Jefferson had in mind. Those on the left see Jefferson as an advocate for social justice. Those on the right see the word as merely a substitute for the property that brought Jefferson and others their greatest happiness.

But happiness can also be seen in the context of freedom from government oppression and interference with private life and the "pursuit of happiness" that doesn't impinge on the happiness of others.

In a time when we are engaged in a fierce debate on the balance between security (a major function of government) and liberty and privacy, this Independence Day is a perfect time to think about the freedom we cherish so deeply and the limits we are willing to place upon it.

It's time to consider happiness.

Responsible driving doesn't take break

There is a reason why traffic has been so light as of late during morning and evening rush hours. School is out for the summer, and that means no teachers rushing off to work, no parents dropping kids off on their way to work and no buses picking up and dropping off youngsters.

It also means not having to deal with teenage drivers intent on their next date and not the driving at hand.

Stop before you celebrate too much the lighter traffic. Consider, instead, that all those thousands of kids are now at home. You can bet they're not all stuck in front of the TV. In fact, some post offices have issued proactive warnings to drivers and parents alike, encouraging them to watch out for roadside mailboxes — and young people anxious to see what the day's delivery may have brought them.

Rural and country-like settings where there are no sidewalks are cause for concern. Teens sometimes forget the rules for walking against traffic, or they weave on their bikes in the path of an oncoming vehicle.

Youths who live in subdivisions are no less prone to encounters with cars. Witness some who delight in Rollerblading up and down inclines provided for those with handicaps.

Kids in all of these situations don't necessarily mean to cause havoc with drivers, but they also don't always think of the consequences of what they're doing.

So, guess what? Being responsible adults, it's up to those of us on the road to drive defensively. That means giving kids — or anyone else, for that matter — a wide berth when they're walking or biking on the same road.

It also means watching out for the unexpected kid who may be on the sidewalk when you first see him, but not for long.

Sure, these reminders are nothing new, but they bear repeating. As we hurry off to work or our next appointment, it's easy to forget to be mindful of these simple safety precautions. But keeping our young people safe is everyone's responsibility, from the parents who must teach kids how to maneuver on the road, to drivers who take on an awesome responsibility when they get behind the wheel.

There is nothing routine on the road for drivers going about their rounds during these summer months. Don't let an apparent lighter volume of traffic lull you into unsafe speeds or a casual approach to what lies ahead.

There can be no vacation from responsible driving.



LETTERS

Boo-birds don't represent Canton

For the past 30 years, my wife, Phyllis, and I have made Canton Township our home. We chose to raise our family here, we decided to send our three children to local schools, we elected to become involved with service organizations and volunteer groups as we have sought to contribute to the positive growth and image our community displays to others. Over the years, we have witnessed a transformation. Canton has become an outstanding place — a model community — a destination point on the Michigan map. Clearly, Canton is a community which evokes PRIDE!

Already the year 2006 has seen numerous examples of how Canton demonstrates the essence of community spirit. Just recently, the Relay for Life to benefit cancer research ascended new heights, WSDP high school radio station served to bring us all together, volunteers continued to offer assistance to Katrina victims, philanthropists reached deep to save historical landmarks from oblivion, IKEA burst onto the Canton scene, and the Liberty Fest created a vibrancy that instilled memories to be recalled fondly.

These are but examples from a long list. But let us not forget, these community achievements don't just happen. Countless hours of planning and preparation precede exemplary execution. People like Debbie Zevalkink and Charlie Mott, Linda Shapona and Fred Bolton, and so many others deserve our collective appreciation for making the Liberty Fest weekend such a spectacular success.

As I walked the parade route again this year, there seemed to be hundreds of happy children along the way. Enjoying the celebration of liberty with moms and dads, aunts and uncles, grandmas and grandpas.

Amazingly, the glow of smiling faces can even brighten an already beautiful day. Community pride and exuberance were in abundance. That said, I must admit to being saddened when I got to the Capitol this week. The reason for my emotion was rooted in confirmation of a rumor. To my disbelief, I had heard that my friend, Lt. Gov. John Cherry, suffered the unwarranted indignity of being booed and hissed while walking in his first Canton Liberty Fest parade. While I did not personally observe such callous behavior, I did speak directly with Lt. Gov. Cherry about what I had heard. Regrettably, the rumor was confirmed as true.

Admittedly, I am a Republican and Lt. Gov. Cherry is a Democrat. Most of the time we are each proud of our party affiliations. He does not always agree with votes I have cast as a state Senator; and, I do not always agree with the policy decisions and methods of the Granholm/Cherry administration. However, it does not help to make such honest differences of opinion personal. Lt. Gov. John Cherry is a good man. He is an honorable gentleman. In my opinion, our Canton community's reputation was not enhanced by outbursts and displays of this sort.

It is far better for us all to reason

together and remain civil as we strive to resolve the issues we face. Please let me reassure the lieutenant governor that he and his wife, Pam, are always welcome in our Canton community.

state Sen. Bruce Patterson
Canton

Barn worth saving

I wanted to give thanks to the *Canton Observer* and editor Kurt Kuban for their support of the Cady barn, as well as the recently deceased trees along Ann Arbor Road and Haggerty in Plymouth Township.

Your recent editorial is important because the barn has been saved, but your note summed up what happened. Hopefully, the barn and the Penn Theatre will be prototypes of how to save those things which should be preserved.

You wrote that the barn is in "excellent condition." When Darrin Silvester's class made the presentation, I got to go back into the barn. It's been years since I had been inside and assumed it was falling apart. It is in great shape — the craftsmanship is a history lesson in itself, and it's beautiful.

You wrote, "I suspect, years from now, they will remember this project more than others from high school." They will. Darrin is a great teacher, but he's also given them a gift that I know they won't forget. He and all the students have my admiration. I love their enthusiasm. I don't have to worry about becoming a really old lady, knowing that there are people who will take care of the town. I can start to focus on other important things like going to movies at the Penn.

And here's to Mr. Boyer, one of the angels who stepped forward to preserve history and for listening to a group of history students who did their homework.

Debra Madonna
Plymouth Township

Supports Slavens

Last Saturday, as I rolled out of bed to get to the Liberty Fest Parade, I had to stop and ask myself, "Why are you up at 7:30 to march two miles through the blistering heat?"

I quickly reminded myself of the answer — to march for the man I know will help to positively change the current face of our state. Mark Slavens is running to be the next state Senator from our 7th District.

Besides being a family man and all-around great guy, Mark has a history of integrity, level-headedness and the ability to bring together diverse groups of people to get the job done. He has been doing it on the Plymouth-Canton Board of Education for the last seven years, serving the last two as president.

It truly is commendable that under Mark's leadership and the hard work of many community members, we have one of the best school districts anywhere, despite gross underfunding from the state.

On a personal note, when I decided to run for Plymouth-Canton school board trustee, it was Mark who took me under

his wing and encouraged me throughout the campaign. As many criticized me for running due to my age, it was Mark who told me to keep on fighting for what I believed. He encouraged me, as a young person, to stay involved and to voice my opinions and speak from my heart.

Well, after my race has finished and I can say that I spoke only about what I knew to be right and true, it is time for me to stand up and do the same for the man who encouraged me to do it.

I believe whole-heartedly in Mark Slavens and I encourage everyone to stand up for your children, your jobs, and for this community by joining me in standing together with Mark Slavens for state Senate. Mark gets the job done and we deserve a leader with his integrity and levelheaded style representing us.

Brandon Hynes
Canton

Patterson commended

The Michigan League of Conservation Voters recently named Sen. Bruce Patterson their "Environmental Leadership, 2006" recipient. This is a significant award.

Having watched Sen. Patterson's record carefully, I believe he fully deserved this distinction. He works wisely for all of Michigan; he considers himself elected from a district, but for the state. His landmark "Watershed Alliance Act" and the "Clean Water Bond Act," and legislation in the fields of technology and energy, and elsewhere, make him one of the most creative and far-sighted legislators we have today. He is keenly aware that term limits will make it more difficult for new legislators to get "up to speed" on the various studies on key environmental issues. So he has authored several bills to establish scientific advisory boards to keep our future lawmakers up-to-date in a nonpartisan fashion.

His work for a long-range energy plan that utilizes alternative and sustainable sources of energy fully is vital for our state's future. I congratulate Sen. Patterson for his award, and commend his concern for our whole state. We need more lawmakers like him.

David Baughman
Farmington

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

Fax:
(734) 459-4224

E-mail:
kkuban@hometownlife.com

QUOTABLE

"We know enhancing the arts program is a way to improve student achievement. Research shows students in arts programs do better on standardized tests in math, reading and writing."

— Barbara Rodenberg, Plymouth-Canton Schools assistant superintendent for instruction, on the reason the district has decided to hire a fine and performing arts coordinator at an annual salary of \$85,000 and fringe benefits

CANTON
Observer

PUBLISHED THURSDAY AND SUNDAY

GANNETT

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Managing Editor

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Susan Rosiek
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Livonia woman finds New Orleans still reels from Katrina

Elaine Chalom of Livonia visited her son, Ron, in New Orleans in April. This is her account of what she saw in the city six months after Katrina.

BY ELAINE CHALOM
CORRESPONDENT

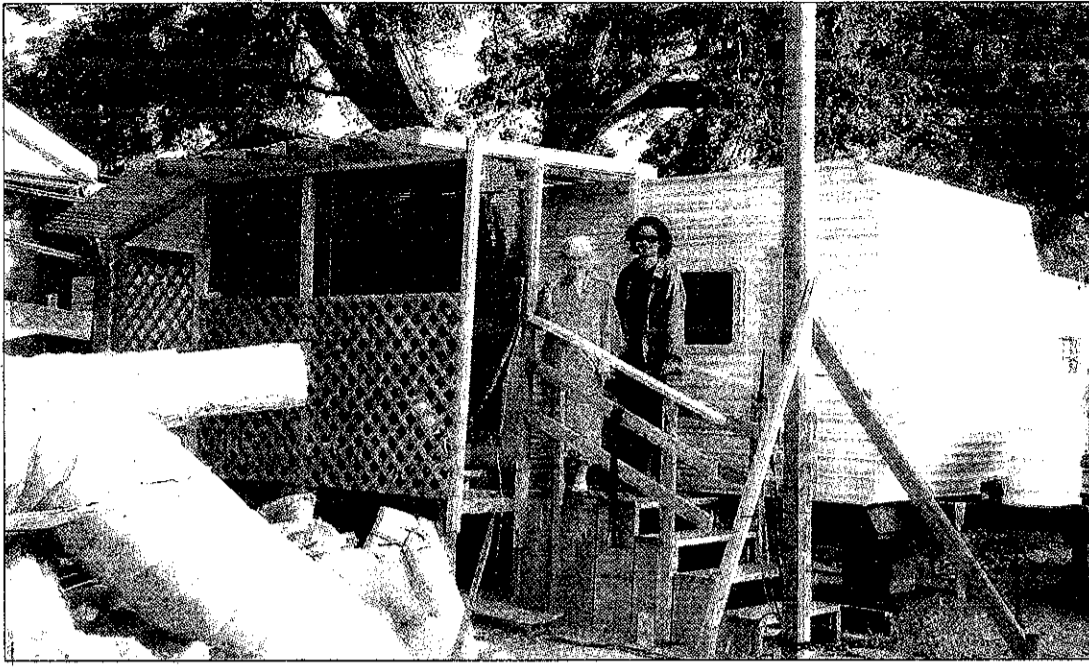
I followed the news of Katrina's effects on New Orleans with a heavy heart and was overwhelmed at seeing it for myself in April, my first trip there since the hurricane.

I have come to consider New Orleans my second home. The reason for my trip is that in 1997 my son, Ron, decided to buy a 150-year-old house in a historic district called "The Tremé." Fortunately for him, this area is two blocks from the French Quarter, which was built on the highest ground available (only 10 feet below sea level). Thus, his home is still standing and water did not infiltrate his house. He sustained wind damage and the effects of some unwelcome looters who did their best (worst) to make their presence noticeable.

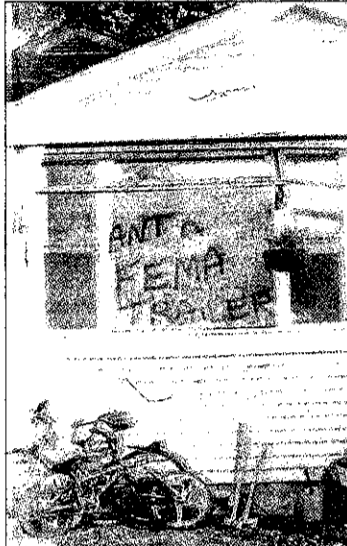
The French Quarter and downtown New Orleans weathered the storm with relatively minor damage. Streets were cleared, debris was removed, fallen trees trimmed, businesses were put back into commerce and many homes were made habitable again. It was said that the area was used to cleaning up after a storm since they have had to do it every year after the havoc of Mardi Gras.

I understand that out of 22,000 businesses, only 2,000 have reopened their doors. A tourist arriving today and staying in the French Quarter wouldn't even know that there was massive devastation in sections of the city - in 80 percent of the city to be exact.

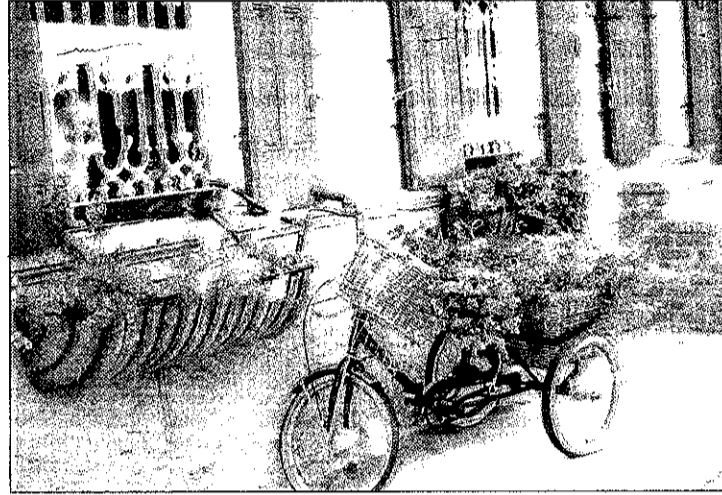
As we drove through the residential neighborhoods on my visit, it was apparent that homes were abandoned. Some floated off of their foundations and were either left half way in the street or pushed up against the homes of their neighbors. Some of the more substantial homes made of brick or adobe seemed undisturbed. However, water lines can be seen marking the height of the standing



Ron Chalom visits his friend, Mae, at her FEMA trailer, which she has been living in since shortly after Hurricane Katrina devastated New Orleans.



This message tells of the frustration with FEMA's response to the storm, saying "I want a FEMA trailer."



Some sections of New Orleans, including the historic French Quarter, were spared the worst of Katrina's wind and water damage.

floodwater. In some places, holes in the roofs can be seen where survivors hacked their way through their attics with axes to await rescue from the tops of their homes. These homes sit exposed to the world - stripped of their sheetrock, appliances, furnishings and personal belongings that made it a home. Each community appeared to be one "ghost town" after another.

FEMA TRAILERS

A good friend of my son,

Mae, decided to be pro-active and hung a heavy wooden board on the front of her house and wrote with bold letters, "I WANT A FEMA TRAILER." She also wrote a phone number where she could be reached. Within days, she was informed that she was getting a trailer. She welcomed the news, but was told that it would take a least three weeks before she was supplied with electricity, water, etc. and could inhabit her new home.

She is now living in her trailer, next to her home which is now only a shell. A group of volunteers from a Billy

Graham organization volunteered their time and energy to disembowel her home. They then collected money among themselves and presented her with a \$100 gift certificate to Wal-Mart. Many caring church groups are doing the same all over New Orleans.

Most of New Orleans, between the Mississippi and Lake Pontchartrain is located below sea level. Therefore, the city is totally surrounded by levees. The levees themselves did not fail. Much of the fault



Cars were still buried in rubble in April months after the Aug. 29 storm.

Most of New Orleans, between the Mississippi and Lake Pontchartrain is located below sea level. Therefore, the city is totally surrounded by levees. The levees themselves did not fail. Much of the fault lies with the floodwalls that lined the canals. They gave way when the storm surge that swept into the lake eroded the soft, marshy layer of peat into which the sheet pilings had been driven.

lies with the floodwalls that lined the canals. They gave way when the storm surge that swept into the lake eroded the soft, marshy layer of peat into which the sheet pilings had been driven. It was human error, rather than a random act of God that is blamed for the catastrophic flooding.

The flooding of the majority of the city was the result of what has been called "the largest civil engineering disaster in the history of the United States." Despite all the rebuilding efforts that you hear about, most of the city remains uninhabitable. In parts of the city closest to where the floodwalls gave way, houses were totally washed away or damaged so seriously as to be beyond repair. The storm knocked over hundreds of live oak trees, many of which were centuries old. The population of Greater New Orleans dropped from 1,338,000 to between 160,000 and 202,000.

The death toll from the

Katrina disaster now stands at 1,400 people, approximately 60 percent of them age 65 and older. There are still bodies being found, more than eight months after the storm.

My visit was a sobering one. Sadly, the lack of tourists is most apparent, particularly in the French Quarter. Stores have reopened, only to have the owners give up when it was apparent that the business is just not there. The neon lights burn bright while many restaurants and hotels are sadly quiet.

The city is "open for business" and invites back conventions and tourism. The governor of Louisiana and Mayor Ray Nagin are trying very hard to restore the city back to its former glory.

I will continue to visit New Orleans as long as my son lives there. The city has been known as "The Big Easy" for many reasons, but what the residents experienced last August was anything but "easy."

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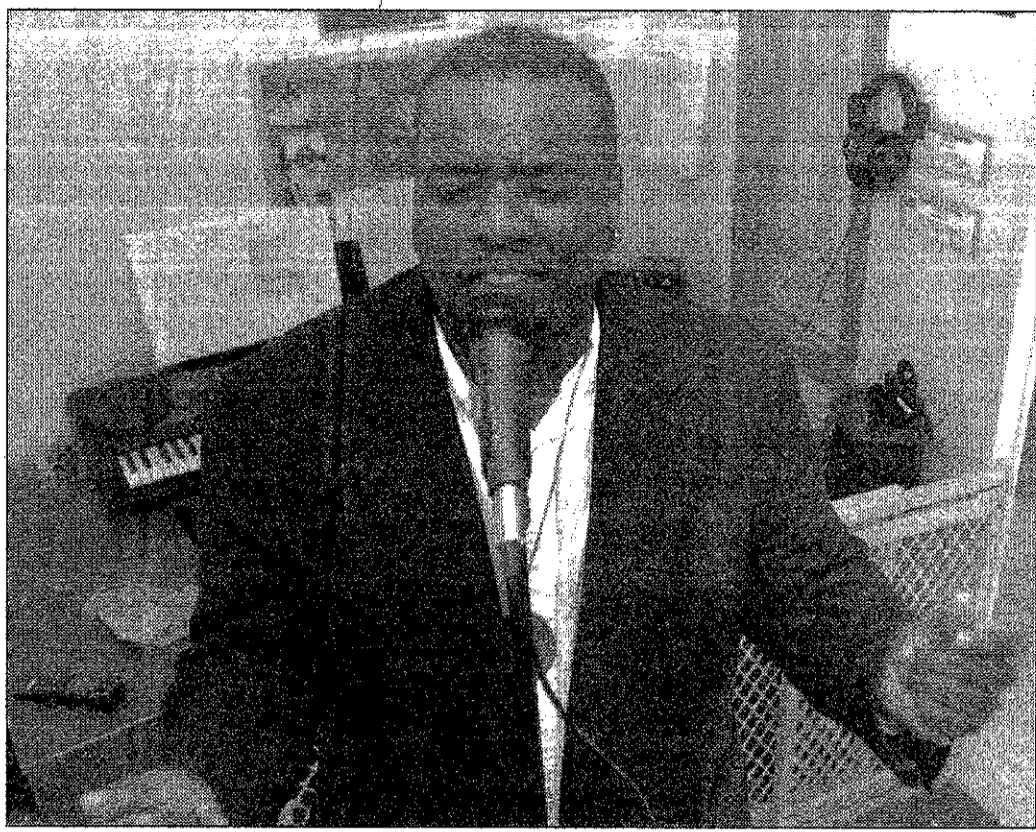
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Ordinance officers now part of public safety

Beginning June 26 Canton's four ordinance officers will become members of the Canton Township Public Safety Department. The decision for the relocation from municipal services to public safety was based on a variety of organizational benefits, as well as benefits to the community.

The ordinance officers will continue to work primarily on property standards but will also be assigned to a community policing team to work directly with police officers and fire inspectors on dealing with problems occurring in commercial and residential areas. The teams will work together with businesses and residents to achieve the common goal of compliance with ordinance requirements.

To reach the new Public Safety Ordinance Division on or after June 26, call (734) 394-5335.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Second place isn't bad

Dan Carter may not have won big in Las Vegas, but he did just fine. He returned this week to Canton after coming in second in the National Karaoke Idol Championship in Las Vegas on June 26. First prize was \$5,000 and a recording contract, but second prize wasn't too shabby either, he said. He won \$2,000 for his efforts. It was a close competition, according to Carter, and he was beat out by a woman from South Carolina, but was happy to report he had a great time during his very first trip to Las Vegas. "It was a lot of fun," Carter said. "I would do it again."

Student station hands out honors

WSDP, the student-run radio station serving Plymouth-Canton schools, wrapped up what station officials said was "a successful year" by handing out its three annual scholarships at the 88.1-FM Honor Banquet at Summit on the Park in Canton.

Canton High School senior Catherine Furman, who served for two years on staff including a stint as program director, won the Bonnie Dore/WSDP Founder Scholarship, named for the station's first general manager. The scholarship recognizes "dedication to the station and desire to pursue a career in broadcasting or a related field."

Furman plans to continue her studies at Specs Howard School of Broadcast Arts.

Canton High School senior Scott Decker won the Jeffrey L. Cardinal Scholarship, named after the station's third general manager, who served from 1974-1982, and recognizes dedication to the station over four years. The recipient must have a complete understanding of the station's role in serving the community and have experience in many areas of the station's operation.

Decker joined the station as an eighth-grader and has served as fund-raising, assistant sports, assistant music and sports director. He'll continue his studies at Western Michigan University.

Salem High School senior Emily Hulscher was awarded the John Seidelman Scholarship, named after the station's longtime advisor, who served in that position for 18 years. Seidelman also taught English and was a counselor at Canton and Plymouth High Schools.

The scholarship recognizes dedication to the station and academic success. Hulscher joined the station as a freshman and is currently the station's music director. She'll continue her studies at Eastern

Michigan University.

The station also recognized seniors, staff and Director's Award winners:

■ **Graduating seniors** — Ruby Braich, Scott Decker and Catherine Furman, Canton High School; Samantha Esper, Paul Jouney and Jessica Pilkiewicz of Plymouth High School; and Emily Hulscher, Bryan Kelly and Mandi Mikolajczyk of Salem High School.

STAFF AWARDS

■ **Most Improved DJ** — Carley Zimmerman, Salem High School
 ■ **Best DJ** — Colin Lazorka, Salem High School
 ■ **Best News** — Timothy Thompson, Salem High School
 ■ **Best Sports** — Ryan Winn, Plymouth High School
 ■ **Best Production** — Bryan Kelly, Salem High School
 ■ **Best Newcomer** — Timothy Thompson, Salem High School
 ■ **Most Valuable Person** — Scott Decker, Canton High School

DIRECTOR'S AWARDS

■ **Production** — Paul Jouney, Plymouth High School
 ■ **Programming** — Erin Bodine, Salem High School
 ■ **Promotions** — Ashley Forystek and Elizabeth Kruse, Salem High School
 ■ **Music** — Scott Decker, Canton High School, and Colleen Harder and Carley Zimmerman, Salem High School
 ■ **News** — Timothy Thompson and Carley Zimmerman, Salem High School

The station also named its directors for 2006-07: Mark Maletic, Salem, program director; Ashley Forystek, Colleen Harder, Carley Zimmerman, Salem, assistant music; Erin Bodine, Salem, news; Ryan Winn, Plymouth, sports; Ben Crumm, Canton, production; Sarah Mendonca, Canton, public service.

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Notice is hereby given that on Tuesday July 18, 2006 --on or after-- 10:00 A.M.

Simply Self Storage will be offering for sale under the judicial lien process by public auction the following units. The goods to be sold are generally described as household goods. Terms of the sale are cash only. Simply Self Storage reserves the right to refuse any and all bids. The sale will be at the following location: Simply Self Storage, 34333 E. Michigan Ave., Wayne, MI 48184.

- Cheryl Lawrence** — Unit A408 — Picnic canopy, 2 bikes. Misc. household items
- Candice Carothers** — Unit C144 — Dresser w/mirror & headboard. Misc. household items
- Elbert Chestang III** — Unit C153 — Stroller, high chair, play pen, luggage. Household items
- Kevin Campbell** — Unit E110 — Electric scooters, stereo cabinet & equipment, computer, beds & refrigerator, misc. household items
- Karen Christian** — Unit A409 — Sewing machine. Misc. household items
- Suzanne Shaw** — Unit C146 — Stroller, lawn furniture and misc. household items
- Melynda Tanner** — Unit D102 — Entertainment center, lawn furniture w/cushions, jewelry box, stereo and beds, misc. household items

Publish: June 29 & July 6, 2006

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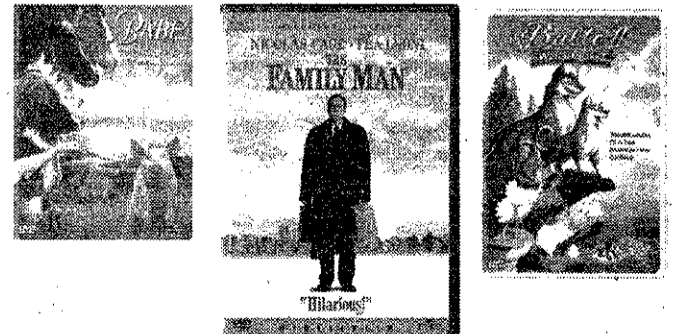
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Family frantically searches for parrot

BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER

Is a bird in the hand worth two missing in the Plymouth-Canton area?

Apparently not for the owners of two lost parrots.

Katherine Socall of Plymouth Township has been searching for Bernie — an orange-winged Amazon parrot she's had as a pet since 1982 — for nearly six weeks after the 13-inch-high bird flew the coop.

"She was being bird-sat in Northville (Haggerty and Five Mile) and flew out the porch door while it was open," said Socall. "She's actually afraid to go outside, so it's a fluke she flew out. Since then, there have been many sightings, but thus far no luck."

Socall, who has distributed about 100 fliers with Bernie's picture throughout Plymouth and Canton, thought her search was over when a Canton man found a parrot a week-and-a-half ago at Warren and Lotz.

"Craig (McDaniel) called me and said he had my bird," Socall said. "He was very

sweet about it, and was very nice, but it turned out to be somebody else's bird.

"It's a green with orange on its wings, but it has white on top and is smaller than Bernie," she said. "What are the odds that two birds which look similar are lost?"

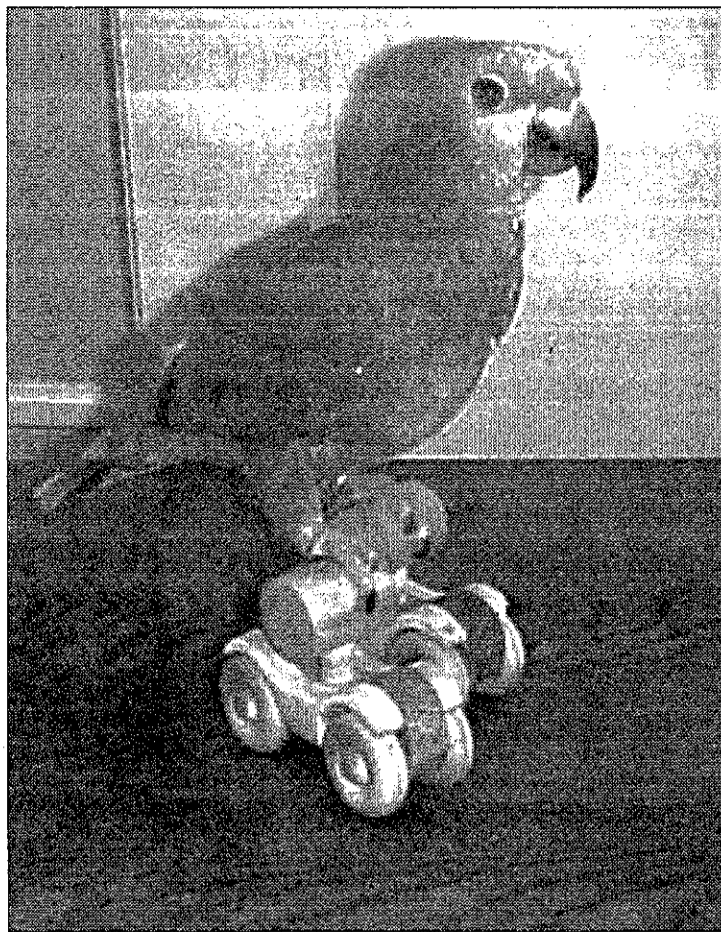
Which means there's a second parrot owner somewhere who is missing a bird.

"I saw the fliers and called her as soon as I could," said McDaniel. "I could have sworn when I found the parrot it was hers."

"I like the bird, and my daughter likes having it, too, but the right thing to do is give it back to its rightful owner," he said.

Socall, who lives in Country Club Village, said there have been numerous sightings reported to her, but thus far no luck.

"Parrots are a one-family kind of bird, and are hard to warm up to other people," Socall said of Bernie, who she thought was a male parrot until about 10 years ago. "She's not a real good talker, but can say 'pretty bird' and 'Bernie,' and does a great cat call, which



Katherine Socall of Plymouth Township has been searching for Bernie — an orange-winged Amazon parrot she's had as a pet since 1982 — for nearly six weeks after the 13-inch-high bird flew the coop.

all parrots do.

"They generally don't live beyond 18 years in captivity, so we want her back to have her remaining life with our family," she said. "I'm optimistic she's coming back home, and we're

praying every day."

Anyone with information about Bernie can contact Socall at (734) 634-7395.

tbruscato@hometownlife.com
(734) 459-2700

MHS extends adoption hours

It's never been easier to bring home a new best friend, according to the Michigan Humane Society.

The MHS — the state's leading animal welfare organization — has started helping more dogs, cats, rabbits and other animals find new homes by providing new, extended adoption hours at its locations in Westland, Rochester Hills and Detroit.

"Our expanded adoption hours will include Sundays and weekday evenings, making it convenient for busy adopters to add companion animals to their families," said Cal Morgan, executive director for the Michigan Humane Society. "Opening our doors seven days a week will be instrumental in helping us reach our goal of 100 percent adoption of adoptable animals by 2010."

New hours at all three MHS shelters as of June 25 are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Sunday and Monday and 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday through Friday. Shelters will be closed on major holidays. Check the Web site for scheduled holiday closures.

MHS shelter locations and phone numbers are the Berman Center for Animal Care in Westland, 900 N.

Newburgh, south of Ford Road, (734) 721-7300; the Detroit shelter at 7401 Chrysler Dr., the south service drive of I-75 at Exit 54, (313) 872-3400; and the Rochester Hills shelter, 3600 W. Auburn Road, east of Adams, (248) 852-7420.

For photos and descriptions of animals, visit the Web site at www.michiganhumane.org, Morgan said.

Adoptions include sterilization; age-appropriate vaccinations; a 10-day health plan; a medical check-up and temperament evaluation; a heart worm test for dogs; a 20 percent discount on group dog training classes at the MHS Pet Education Center; a \$10 discount on "microchipping" at the time of adoption; and trained counselors to help adopters find their perfect companion.

Other services offered during the expanded shelter hours include stray animal reclaiming and animal intakes.

For more information, contact one of the three Michigan Humane Society shelters during the new adoption hours, visit the Web site or call the MHS administrative office at (866) MHUMANE (648-6263) 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday.

County gives city Eloise fire truck

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

Westland's historic village will be home to a 1919 Model T fire truck once used on the old Eloise Hospital site at Michigan Avenue and Merriman Road.

The county-owned hospital served as an infirmary and housed psychiatric patients. In its heyday, Eloise served thousands of people.

Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano signed an agreement recently with Westland Historical Commission Chairwoman Jo Johnson to bring the old fire truck to the city's historic village, on Wayne Road south of Marquette.

"It's just a wonderful thing," Johnson said. "We're very happy to receive this, and we'll take very good care of it."

The fire truck, with its pump mounted on the front of its crankshaft, will be on display along with historic buildings at the village site.

The truck also will be displayed during local parades, said Johnson's husband, Ernie, vice president of Friends of the Westland Historical Museum. Although the Model T still runs, it will be towed or hauled on a flatbed truck to protect it, Ernie Johnson said.

He recalled that a blacksmith shop on the Eloise property burned in 1919 — the year the fire truck was made. Historians haven't yet been able to confirm that the Model T pump was bought in response to that fire.

Ultimately, the Eloise complex was so large that it had its own fire department, Ernie Johnson said.

It wasn't known this week when the fire truck will be delivered to the historical museum site, which is open to the public 1-4 p.m. Saturdays.

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Distracted drivers cause of many traffic accidents

BY ALEX LUNDBERG
STAFF WRITER

With the summer driving season in full swing and a new crop of student drivers taking to the road, a new study by a major insurance provider shows that a large number of drivers on the road don't know the basic rules for driving.

The GMAC Insurance National Drivers Test, which gauges Americans' knowledge of driving rules, shows that 18 million American drivers couldn't pass a license test.

In the test, Michigan drivers are the 17th most knowledgeable in the nation, with Oregon coming in first and Rhode Island coming in last.

The test was in two parts, a multiple-choice test that simulated a standard written driver's test and an evaluation of rules of the road knowledge in specific situations. The survey was done on 5,288 people ages 16 to 60, balanced male to female across all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

Vice President of Engineering for the Traffic Improvement Association Bob DeCorte said the big place in Oakland County for traffic accidents in 2005 was the intersection of Telegraph and 12 Mile Road. And no, it's not about the freeways.

"It has nothing to do with the freeways," he said. "There are 138,000 vehicles a day going through that intersection. There's a high volume and a high amount of drive-ways and signals."

What that means, he said, is that there's a lot of "conflict points" with other drivers - incidents where one vehicle crosses the path of another. Freeways have very few conflict points. While 50 percent



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of all of the miles driven in Michigan are on freeways, only 8 percent of fatal accidents happen there.

More vehicles plus more driveways plus more Michigan left turns plus on and off ramps mean that drivers are crossing each others' paths all the time.

This, he said, is where diminished attention to the road shows its toll. In these cases, he said, it's not about what your hands are doing

either. "The problem is where the mind is, not what the hands are doing," DeCorte said. "Studies show that talking on the phone is as bad as drunk driving."

The GMAC survey shows that people are not paying attention when they're behind the wheel. Calling drive time the new "down time," the report says people are eating (62 percent), talking on a cell phone (71 percent), sending text messages (24 percent), shuffling their Ipods (20 percent), putting on makeup or changing clothes (8 percent each), reading (4 percent) or sending e-mail (1 percent).

"It points out what people are using their drive time to do," said Anne Readett of the Michigan Office of Highway

Safety Planning.

She said it's information like that found in the GMAC survey that drives the state to push safety belt use. A person can be the best driver in the world, but that doesn't protect him or her from every other driver on the road.

Interestingly, she said most people do think they're the best drivers in the world.

"We talk about things people should be doing and they agree," Readett said. "But they take it to mean we're talking about other drivers. People believe they're good drivers and the advice isn't for them."

She said the only really successful driver's safety initiatives are ones backed by enforcement.

alundberg@oe.hometownlife.com | (248) 901-2536

Summer program keeps young musicians in tune

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER

String players don't have to worry about going out of tune this summer. Usually young musicians become rusty when classes cease until September, but not this year. The Livonia Youth Philharmonic Summer Strings Program will keep budding players practicing during a series of four classes 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Thursday, June 29, July 6 and 20, and Aug. 17, at St. Kenneth's social hall, 14951 Haggerty.

The cost is \$125. For more information, call (734) 525-7520 or send e-mail to summer@www.lypm.org.

There are no age restrictions.

"We're going to work on theory, technique, ensemble playing," said Julia Kurtyka who's conducting the program. Kurtyka has been directing the Livonia Youth Philharmonic symphonic and concert string orchestras for the last four years. In addition to the two string orchestras, LYPM is composed of a wind ensemble, flute ensemble and philharmonic.

"We (LYPM) try to offer different opportunities for students. One of the reasons

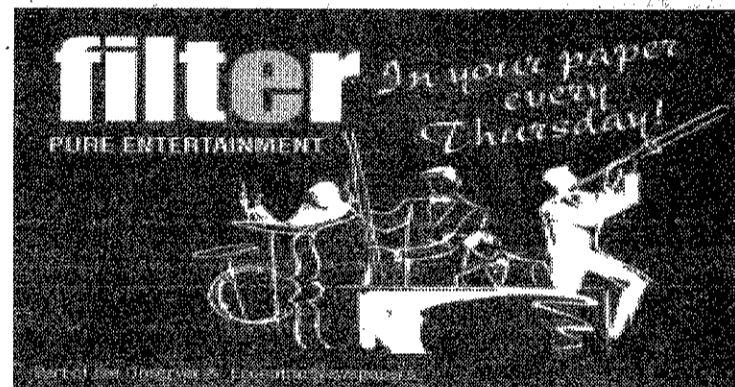
we devised the program was to develop the highest quality of musicianship.

"At end of sessions students should have maintained if not increased their skills and gained performance experience."

Kurtyka is planning to have the students play at different venues including a concert 7 p.m. Wednesday, July 26, at Shain Park in Birmingham with the Birmingham Bloomfield Strings Honor Orchestra, a group she founded this year.

Kurtyka has plenty of experience as a musician and hopes to pass that on to students. In addition to conducting the Pointe Area Youth Orchestra in Grosse Pointe, and serving as concertmaster of the Grosse Pointe Symphony, Southern Great Lakes Symphony (Downriver), and assistant concertmaster with the Birmingham Bloomfield Symphony Orchestra, she co-founded the Lexington Bach Festival now in its sixth year. The event begins Thursday, Sept. 14 and continues to Sunday, Sept. 17, with Alexander Zonjic and musicians from as far away as Ohio and Indiana.

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

JUNE

Murder mystery dinner

Death in Them Thar Hills, an evening of suspense, laughter and a meal 6:30 p.m. Friday, June 30, at Ward Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile, Northville. Tickets \$15, and must be purchased in advance. Call (248) 374-5920.

Scripture studies

7-8:30 p.m. Mondays in the lower level of Our Lady of Loretto Church, Six Mile and Beech Daly, Redford. Call (313) 534-9000.

Fall registration

Spiritus Sanctus Academy is accepting registration for fall for its academies in Plymouth and Ann Arbor. The private, Catholic schools grades K-8, are run by the Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist at 10450 Joy, Plymouth, call (734) 414-8430, and 4101 E. Joy, Ann Arbor, call (734) 996-3855.

UPCOMING

Bicycling group

10 a.m. Saturday, July 1, at Newburgh

Point, Hines Drive, west of Newburgh, Westland. Single Point bike rides are geared to the tourist level rider but riders of all ability levels are welcome. All riders must wear a helmet. For more information, call Ward Presbyterian Church at (248) 374-5920.

Holiday picnic

Noon to 5 p.m. Tuesday, July 4, at Rotary Park. Tickets \$5 adults, \$2 children under age 12, includes hamburgers and hot dogs (12:30-2 p.m.) and beverages. Please bring a dish to pass. No alcohol or gambling. Presented by Single Point Ministries at Ward Presbyterian Church. Call (248) 374-5920.

Classic car show

Livonia Church of Christ will hold its 5th Annual Classic Car Show 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, July 8, rain or shine. Classic car enthusiasts are invited to attend this event benefiting Angela Hospice in Livonia, with programs serving terminally ill patients and their families.

Spectators can attend the car show for free and participants can enter a car for \$15, includes a meal ticket. The first 100 entrants will receive a dash plaque and goodie bag. Entrants will also have the chance to vote for class awards. Judging will take place from noon to 2 p.m., with the presentation of class trophies, Best of Show, and People's Choice at 3 p.m. The event will also feature a DJ, refreshments and door prizes. Livonia Church of Christ is located at 15431 Merriman Road, north

of 5 Mile in Livonia. For more information, contact Mike Bennett at (248) 380-8078 or visit www.angelahospice.org.

Vacation Bible school

Faith Covenant Church in Farmington Hills invites all children ages 3 through grade five to join in at SonTreasure Island VBS 9 a.m. to noon Monday-Friday, July 10-14, at 35415 W. 14 Mile at Drake. For more information or to pre-register, visit www.4fcc.org or call (248) 661-9191.

Meditation classes

Begins 7-9 p.m. Monday, July 10, 2006, and continues to Aug. 7, Elizabeth Cleeland will lead the class on various meditation practices at Renaissance Unity, 11200 E. 11 Mile, Warren. No pre-registration necessary. A freeway offering will be taken at each class. For more information, call (586) 353-2300, or visit www.renaissanceunity.org.

Bible and playtime

For moms and tots 10-11 a.m. Wednesdays beginning July 12, at Vineyard Church of Farmington Hills 29200 Shiwasssee (by Middlebelt and Nine Mile). No charge. For information, call (248) 766-0143.

Breakfast meeting

For Bethany Suburban West, a Catholic organization providing peer support to the divorced and separated of all Christian denominations, 9:30 a.m. Saturday, July 15, at Leon's, 30149 Ford, across from Kmart, Garden City. All separated, divorced and singles welcome. Call (734) 513-9479.

Blood drive

8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Sunday, July 16, at St. Edith Catholic Church, 15089 Newburgh, Livonia. Walk-ins welcome. Call (734) 464-1222, Ext. 309.

Vacation Bible School

Fiesta: Where kids are fired up about Jesus 9 a.m. to noon Monday-Friday, July 17-21, at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 39020 Five Mile, Livonia. Cost is \$18 for first child, \$15 each additional child. A CD of the week's music may be purchased for \$6. Call (734) 464-0211.

Free event

For students entering fifth through seventh grade, meet new friends, bring old friends, games, ice cream, make no-sew blankets for charity 7-10 p.m. Friday, July 21, at St. Aidan Catholic Church, 17500 Farmington Road, Livonia. RSVP to (734) 425-9333.

Rummage sale

9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, July 21, and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, July 22, at St. Innocent Orthodox Church, 23300 W. Chicago, Redford. Call (313) 538-1142.

Feast day service

7 p.m. Thursday, July 22, at S.S. Simon & Jude Catholic Church, 32500 Palmer, Westland. For more information, call (734) 722-1343 or send e-mail to em2bott@att.net.

Vacation Bible School

For ages 4-12, kids travel to Mexico, Brazil, Poland, China and Kenya to trade places with children from other countries and learn about biblical heroes who traded one place in life for another 6:30-9 p.m. Monday-Friday, Aug. 7-11, at Redford Aldersgate United Methodist Church, 10000 Beech Daly, between Plymouth and West Chicago. Call (313) 937-3170 to preregister.

Crafters wanted

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

ONGOING

Worship schedule

New schedule continues to Sept. 3, 10:30 a.m. Sunday summer worship, coffee hour follows in Fellowship Hall, Sunday school has been canceled for the summer, nursery is still available for infant through 2-years old, at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 30900 W. Six Mile, between Middlebelt and Merriman, Livonia. Call (734) 422-6038.

TOPS

Stands for Take Off Pounds Sensibly, the group meets 7 p.m. every Thursday evening at St. Thomas a' Becket Church, 555 S. Lilley, Canton. Weigh-in is 6:15-6:55 p.m. We are a weight support group that encourages members to lose weight sensibly and keep it off. For more information, call Mary at (734) 394-1328.

Learner's Bible study

7 p.m. Mondays, in Room A101, at Ward Presbyterian Church, 40000 W. Six Mile, Northville. Call (248) 374-5920.

Church service

Loving God by loving people, meets 10 a.m. Sunday, at Westwood Community Church, 1119 Newburgh, Westland. Doughnuts and coffee served. Call (734) 254-0093.

Bible study

Two classes meet 10 a.m. to noon the first and third Wednesdays, and 7-9 p.m. the first and third Thursdays, at St. Michael's Catholic Church, on Plymouth at Hubbard, Livonia. The Wednesday group is studying Women of Courage in the Bible. The Thursday session is reading the Letters of St. Paul from prison. Based on Little Rock Scripture Series. Call (734) 261-1455.

School registration

Hosanna-Tabor Lutheran School is accepting applications for grades PK-8 for the 2006-07 school year, at 9600 Laverne, Redford. After school care 3-6 p.m. Call (734) 937-2233 for information.

Bible study

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

Senior activities

Gathering for seniors 50 years and older 11:30 a.m. on the third Friday of every month at Riverside Park Church of God, 11771 Newburgh at Plymouth, Livonia. Any questions, call (734) 464-0990. Put together a salad dish and come out and meet other seniors. Lunch is served followed by fellowship with some games and stories.

Bible study groups

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

Church activities

St. James Presbyterian Church offers a Wednesday luncheon every other Wednesday at noon; Thursday dinner at 6 p.m. for \$4 followed by Bible study at 7 p.m. and Chancel Choir rehearsal at 8 p.m.; Thrift store is open 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. every Saturday; 10 a.m. women's

study group second Saturday of the month, and Sunday worship at 10 a.m. (nursery available) and children's class at 10:15 a.m., at 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford. Call (313) 534-7730.

Eucharistic adoration

The monthly program of Parish Prayer and Eucharistic Adoration continues the third Wednesday of each month at St. Michael's Church of Livonia, corner of Plymouth and Hubbard roads. The church will open for worship from 10 a.m. until the 7 p.m. Benediction service. For information, call (734) 261-5331.

Worship services

All are welcome to attend worship service at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, Five Mile and Inkster roads, Livonia. Service is held at 10 a.m. every Sunday with an education hour all for ages at 9 a.m. Call (734) 422-1470.

Unity of Livonia

Services 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sundays, at 28660 Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Inkster roads. Call (734) 421-1760.

Shabbat services

The doors of Congregation Beit Kodesh, a Conservative synagogue located at 31840 W. Seven Mile, between Farmington and Merriman, Livonia, are open to the Jewish community of southeastern Michigan. Call (248) 477-8974.

Bet Chaverim

Services are open to all living in the western counties including Canton, Plymouth, Livonia, and Northville. The congregation follows traditions of Reform Judaism. Interfaith families welcome to attend services at 321 S. Ridge, south of Cherry Hill, Canton. Call (734) 646-3864 for information or visit www.betchaverim.com.

Detroit World Outreach

A nondenominational church with cutting edge drama productions, energized contemporary music, high-tech video and lighting, programs for kids and teens, for college students, singles, married adults and seniors. Services are 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sunday (6:30 p.m. the first Sunday of the month), Sunday school for all ages at 10 a.m. and Wednesdays at 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. Call (313) 255-2222.

Trinity Episcopal Church

Sunday Services 8 a.m. and 10 a.m., Wednesday service 6:15 p.m. - Bible Studies and Worship Center for all ages, at 11575 Belleville Road, four miles south of Michigan Avenue, Belleville. Parents with Young Children Bible Study 6 p.m. Sundays, includes dinner and child care. Call (734) 699-3361.

Shabbat Rocks

A musical celebration precedes traditional Shabbat service once a month at Adat Shalom Synagogue, 29901 Middlebelt in Farmington Hills. For more information, call (248) 851-5100 or visit the Web site at www.adat-shalom.org.

English classes

Conversational English as a Second Language classes are being offered for adults of all ages and backgrounds 7 p.m. Monday and Tuesday, at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia. Tutors will work on a one-to-one ratio to help students better understand and speak the English language. No charge. To register, call (734) 525-0191 or (734) 522-6830.

Scripture from scratch

If you've always wanted to learn about the Bible from square one, here's square one 7-8:30 p.m. Thursdays in the Activity Center at St. Aidan Catholic Church, 17500 Farmington Road, Livonia. Call (734) 425-5950 to register.

Sunday school

Congregation Beit Kodesh (31840 Seven Mile, between Farmington and Merriman, Livonia) is registering children, age 4 and up, for Sunday school. Financial assistance available. Special discounts for new members. For more information, call (248) 477-8974.

Services

St. John Lutheran Church (23225 Gill Road, Farmington Hills) invites the community to a new worship service 5:30 p.m. Saturdays. Also, Sunday traditional worship services are 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.; contemporary service is at 9:50 a.m.; and Sunday school hour for all ages is at 9:45 a.m. Call (248) 474-0584 for more information.

Single Point Ministries

For ages 30 and older, join more than 350 single adults 11:30 a.m. Sundays for fellowship and related topics in Knox Hall at Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile, Northville. Coffee, doughnuts, conversations are present. Call (248) 374-5920. Tennis continues 1-5 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays, and 4-7 p.m. weekdays any time the weather is above 45 degrees, at Rotary Park, Six Mile and Hubbard, Livonia.

Bible talks

4 p.m. Sundays, at the Friendship Center, 1119 Newburgh, Westland. Call (734) 728-9157.

Worship services

All are welcome to attend worship services 10 a.m. Sundays at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, Five Mile and Inkster roads, Livonia. For more information, call (734) 422-1470.

The Gap

A new youth Sunday School (God Always Present) at Garden City Presbyterian Church, 1841 Middlebelt, south of Ford Road. Lessons are taught using various media, computers, storytelling, games, cooking,

music and art, and a small theater complete with popcorn making machine. Adult Bible study at 8:30 a.m. with a traditional service and The Gap at 10 a.m. Child care available. Mustard Seed contemporary service at 6 p.m. with refreshments served afterward. Call (734) 421-7620.

Qigong

The ancient form of Chinese energetic medicine. A safe and effective way to rid body of toxic pathogens and years of painful emotions. Learn the art of natural movement and breath to cultivate vital life energy. Classes at Livonia Unity, 28660 Five Mile. Monday - movement Qigong, 7-8:30 p.m.; Thursday - Qigong meditation 10-11:15 a.m., and Friday - Therapeutic Qigong, 7-8:30 p.m. Call (810) 813-4073 for more information or send e-mail to gary@energeticarts.org.

Worship services

8 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sundays with an education hour 9:30-10:40 a.m., at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 37775 Palmer, Westland. Social hour follows each service. Call (734) 722-1735.

Aerobic class

Trinity Church of the Brethren, 27350 W. Chicago at Inkster, is offering a Women's Low Impact Aerobic Class to the community every Monday and Wednesday at 7 p.m. in the church basement. To participate in this free, 30-minute class, wear comfortable exercise attire (floor mats optional). For more information, call the church office, (313) 937-1199.

Community Bible study

Studying the Book of Proverbs, breakfast 7 a.m. or Bible study 8-9 a.m. at the American Table, Eight Mile, Farmington. Come when you can, leave when you must. For more information, call (248) 924-2779.

Contemporary service

New informal service in a casual environment 6 p.m. Sunday, at Garden City Presbyterian Church, 1841 Middlebelt, south of Ford. Fellowship hour after services including 10 a.m. traditional. Call (734) 421-7620.

Trinity Episcopal Church

Sunday worship 8 a.m. and 10 a.m., Bible studies Sundays at 8:50 a.m. and Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m., at the church 11575 Belleville Road, four miles south of Michigan Avenue, Belleville. Call (734) 699-3361.

New contemporary service

9 a.m. on the last Sunday of the month, at Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church, 9601 Hubbard, Livonia. A group of church members present a short drama on a theme relevant to the season, a church event, or current newsworthy situation. For more information, call (734) 422-0494.

Prayer group

Join in 7 p.m. Thursdays for music, singing, prayer and friendship, at St. Edith Church, 15089 Newburgh, Livonia. Come to the back of the church, enter entrance No. 2. For more information, call Grace at (734) 464-1896, Shirley at (734) 464-3656, or Geri at (734) 464-8906.

Women of the Word

Tuesday Ladies Bible Study, Women of the Word, studies the Book of Luke, entitled Grace Under Pressure 9:30-11:15 a.m. Tuesdays, at Detroit First Church of the Nazarene, 21260 Haggerty, north of Eight Mile. \$15 registration fee includes interdenominational study materials. Child care available for children through age 5. For more information, call (248) 348-7600.

New modern-style worship

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia, just north of I-96, presents a modern-style worship service. The multimedia service is informal, using modern and praise music, led by vocalists and various instruments. Dramas, led by the members, are often a part of this service. The service is held at 9:45 a.m. each Sunday, between the traditional services at 8:15 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sunday School, youth and adult Bible classes at 9:45 a.m. and 11 a.m. each Sunday. For information, call Linda Hollman, Outreach director, at (734) 522-6830.

Adat Shalom

Synagogue services 6 p.m. Friday, 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. Saturday, 7:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. weekdays, and 8:30 a.m. Sunday, at Adat Shalom Synagogue, 29901 Middlebelt, Farmington Hills. For more information, call (248) 851-5100.

Welcome to the church

Would you like to know more about the Catholic Church? Are you already baptized Catholic and have been away from the church? Now is the time to inquire about coming into the church or returning to the community of believers. Call Our Lady of Sorrows at (248) 615-5574 for more information.

Self-help groups

Local church provides space for self-help groups. Overeaters Anonymous, a 12-step program for eating disorders, meets 7 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. Alcoholics Anonymous, a 12-step program for alcohol-related problems, meets 8 p.m. Wednesdays and 7 p.m. Saturdays. Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous, a 12-step program for co-dependency and destructive relationship problems, meets 7:30 p.m. Mondays, at First Baptist Church, 300 Willis, one block north of Maple, one block west of Old Woodward. Parking adjacent to church's north entrance.

Passages

Obituaries, Memorials, Remembrances

1-800-579-7355 ♦ fax: 734-953-2232
e-mail: OEObits@oe.homecomm.net



ALFRED E. JOHNSON

Age 58 of Annapolis, MD, formerly of Plymouth, MI, passed away suddenly on Sunday, June 25, 2006. Loving husband of Cynthia Johnson, son of Thelma Miller, father of Jeffrey Johnson (Sarah), Dawn Peggie (Kenneth), Elizabeth Chuba (Matthew) and Jacob Miller, grandfather of Youssef Darwich, Benjamin Chuba, Kimberly Stokes, Daniel Chuba, Anna Chuba, Michael Johnson, Summer Peggie and Julie Johnson, brother of Wayne Stein (Cecily). Cremation has taken place. A celebration of his life will be held at St. John's Retreat Center, 44011 Five Mile Road, Plymouth, MI on Friday, June 30, 2006 from 3 to 6 P.M. Donations in his name may be made to Madonna University, 36600 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia, MI, 48150.



ALFRED W. GAULZETTI

June 27, 2006 Age 74 of Beverly Hills. Husband of the late Shirley Ann (nee. Rose). Dear father of Lisa Gaulzetti (Rich Plonkey), Janita Gaulzetti and Joseph Gaulzetti (Tracy). Grandfather of Elizabeth and Nicole Tennent, John Plonkey, Jaime Gaulzetti and Drew Gaulzetti. Also survived by 4 brothers and 1 sister. Family will receive friends at A.J. Desmond & Sons (Vasu, Rodgers & Connell Chapel), 32515 Woodward (btwn 13-14 Mile), Friday 1:00pm until funeral service 7:00pm. In lieu of flowers family suggests memorial tributes to Hospice of Michigan, 400 Mack, Detroit, MI 48201. View obituary and share memories at www.desmondfuneralhome.com

COACH EDDIE J. BENDER

Age 90, life-time resident of the Northville-Plymouth area. Coach Bender was a teacher in the Plymouth-Canton school system where he was also a football coach. He was a member of St. Kenneth Catholic Church, the Plymouth Knights of Columbus, the Plymouth Elks, and was a charter member of the Plymouth Lion's club. He was an alumnus and golden alumnus of Concord University in West Virginia. Beloved husband of Mary Kathryn, loving father of Michelle (Skip) Dorrington, Peter (Nancy) Bender, and Thomas (Susan) Bender. Cherished grandfather of Patrick (Holly) Dorrington, Michael (Nadine) Dorrington, Mandy Bender, and Meredith Bender. Great-grandfather of Cass Dorrington. Funeral service will be held Friday, June 30, 2006, at 9 a.m. at St. Kenneth Catholic Church, 14951 Haggerty, Plymouth. Visitation will be Thursday, June 29, from 4-9 pm at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 280 S. Main, Plymouth, and on Friday at church from 8:30 am until time of service at church. Memorial contributions may be given to Arbor Hospice or Concord University. To leave an on-line condolence, visit us at www.schrader-howell.com

JUDITH HOWELL
June 23, 2006, age 63, of Westland. Beloved wife of Donald Howell. Dear mother of Lori Dominick, Larry (Wilma) Hahn, Ronnie Hahn, Jimmy (Tiffany) Hahn and the late Randy Hahn. Grandmother of Crystal, Randy, Zachary, Amber, Brittany, Cyle, Kenny, Devin and Owen Hahn, Ashley and Shaina Dominick, Christopher Gabbard and Cody Bettiol. Services were held Tuesday at the Uht Funeral Home, 35400 Glenwood, Westland. Cremation rites were accorded. Please visit and post a tribute at: www.uhtfuneralhome.com



LOUISE A. CREWS
Age 60, June 25, 2006. Beloved wife of the late James Ray, Jr. Dear mother of Donald (Mary), Thomas, Tammy (Shawn) Peters, the late Arthur and the late Peggy. Grandmother of 9 grandsons. Sister of Lucille (Frank) Kannianen, Arthur (Pat) Bellotti, Cheryl (Larry) Donofrio, and the late Lillian Snellson. Daughter-in-law of Gladys Crews. Sister-in-law of Allen Crews. Dearest friend of Donna Larabell.
Arrangements by Santeiu & Son



NANCY R. SIMESCU
Age 81, longtime resident of Plymouth and Atlanta, MI, passed away June 25, 2006, in Superior Twp. Beloved wife of the late Eugene M., dear mother of Barry (Dorothy), William, and James Simescu. Loving grandmother of Daniel, Tyler, Will, and Layne. Sister of the late Shirley Gray. Mrs. Simescu retired 15 years ago from the South Redford School District where she was a secretary for many years. Funeral services will be held Friday, June 30, at 11 am at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 280 S. Main, Plymouth, visitation will be Thursday 3-9 p.m. Memorials may be made to the Tri-Township Ambulance Service or to Independence Village to their activities fund. To leave an on-line condolence, visit us at www.schrader-howell.com.

MR. WILLIAM G. GALINET (Widower of Florence) Muskegon

Mr. William G. Galinet, age 85, passed away Monday, June 26, 2006 at a local hospital. He was born on February 22, 1921 to Peter and Freda (Mueller) Galinet in Milwaukee, WI. Mr. Galinet worked for Ford Motor Company as a manager in the Design Center. He was a Navy Veteran of WW II. On October 27, 1943, William married the former Florence Brace, whom he met at Alma College, and shared a marriage of 61 years together; she preceded him in death on March 26, 2005. They had a love of playing golf together. SURVIVORS include 4 children, Cheri Muenchausen of The Woodlands, TX, Laurie (Robert) White of Muskegon, Greg (Geri) Galinet of Novi, MI, and Brett (Theresa) Galinet of Milford, MI; 6 grandchildren, Leighann, Charles, Grant, Jacqueline, Robert, and Julie; 2 great-grandchildren, Kylie and Dawson; 1 sister, Betty (Bill) Hutson. A private memorial service will be held by the family. In lieu of flowers please consider a memorial to Muskegon County Council Honor Guard. Share memories with the family at their "Online Guestbook" at: www.s

Your Invitation To Worship

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Virgil Humes, Pastor



Saturday Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.
Sunday Worship 7:45 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. • Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
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Clarenceville United Methodist
20300 Middlebelt Rd. • Livonia
248-474-3444
Pastor James E. Britt
Worship Service 9:30 AM
Sunday Evening Service 6:00 PM
Nursery Provided
Sunday School 11 AM

Aldersgate United Methodist
10000 Beech Daley
2 blocks south of Plymouth Road
9:30 a.m. Traditional Worship
9:30 a.m. Sun. School all ages
11:00 a.m. Cont. Family Worship
www.aldersgate.org

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church
14175 Farmington Road, Livonia just north of I-96
734-522-6830

Sunday Worship 8:15 & 11:00 am Traditional 9:45 - Modern
Sunday School 9:45 & 11 am
Early Childhood Center Phone 734-510-8413
Staffed Nursery Available

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(734) 453-5280
www.pfumc.org

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The Rev. Timothy F. Halboth, Senior Pastor
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Education Hour 8:45 a.m.
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CATHOLIC

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Confessions Heard Prior to Each Mass
Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions
Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M.

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Sunday 11am & Wednesday 7pm
734-451-1877 Michigan Bible School
John Nattie

Worship at Downtown Plymouth
First Presbyterian Church
Main & Church Streets • (734) 451-3461
8:30 & 10:00 AM

Risen Christ Lutheran
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(734) 453-5252
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May 28th thru Sep. 3rd
All are Welcome Come as you are!

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REV. RICHARD A. PERFETTO
Weekday Masses
Tuesday & Friday 8:30 a.m.
Saturday - 4:30 p.m.
Sunday - 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.

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734-421-8451
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Sunday 7:45 & 10:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist
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The Rev. John W. Henry II Rector

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Rev. Kelly Whitlock, Associate Pastor

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Child Care provided for all services
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Sun. 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
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Sunday Evening - 6:00 P.M.
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Contemporary Worship 11:40 A.M.
Nursery & Sunday School During All Morning Worship Services
Evening Service • 7:00 P.M.
Services Broadcast 11:00 A.M. Sunday
WMUZ 560 AM
For additional information visit
www.wardchurch.org

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1100 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth, MI
734-453-0970
Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School 10:30 a.m.
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Reading Room located at church
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734-453-0970

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Rekindle your Jewish roots with us.
Friday Night Services 8:00 p.m.
Saturday Services 9:00 am
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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

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Perfect for your...lake cottage, home, office, guest room, studio, recreation room, family room, basement and more!

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LAKESIDE	1309 Hall (Across from Lakeside near Old Navy)	586.532.8055
LIVONIA	31620 Plymouth Road (1 block West of Meridian)	734.425.1500
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ROYAL OAK	28074 N. Woodward (South of 12 Mile)	248.414.6909
SOUTHGATE	17820 Eureka Road (Between Rebeck & Allen Rd.)	734.281.7766
TAYLOR	22385 Ecorse (1/2 Mile East of Telegraph)	313.291.3603
TROY	3536 Rochester Road (Bet. Big Beaver & Waffles)	248.743.1088
TAYLOR	23840 Eureka (Near Southland Mall)	734.287.0454
WARREN	28645 Hoover (In the Hoover - 11 Shopping Center)	586.754.1500
YPS/ANN ARBOR	4563 Washtenaw (1/4 Mile E. of US-24)	734.975.9200

Topps tries to lure youths back to cards

All-Area team chosen

Rams secure lead with sweep



SPORTS

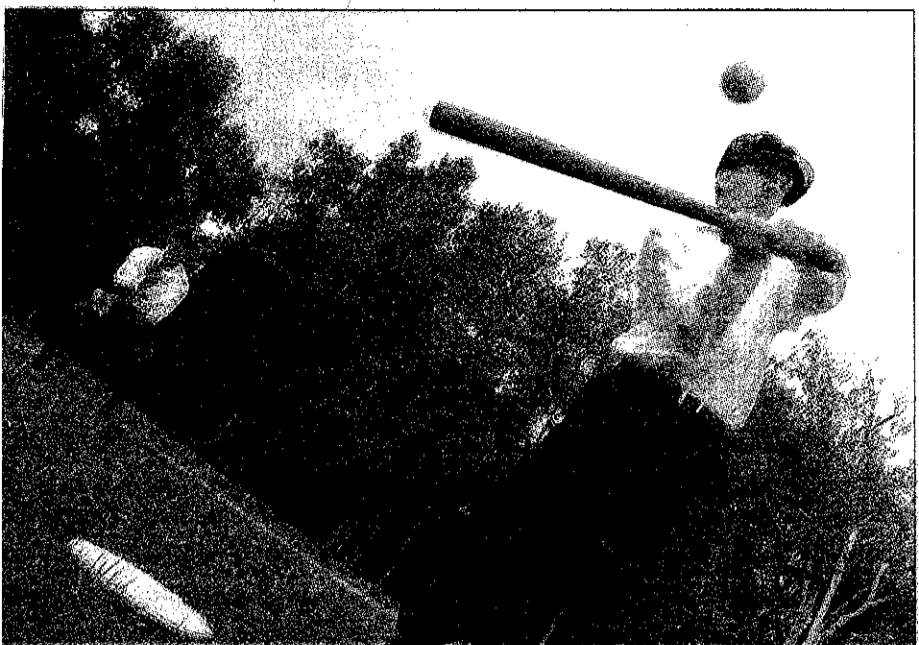


Thursday, June 29, 2006

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

www.hometownlife.com

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



David "Bender" Newhouse, a resident of Plymouth Township, connects with a pitch as Canton resident Greg "Inky" Palovich looks on.

Seems like old times

Vintage baseball game will take spectators back in time to 1869

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

The last time the Plymouth Lone Stars and the Eclipse Base Ball Club of Northville squared off, baseball players didn't wear mits, bang-bang plays were almost arbitrated by the base runner and the fielder, and fans didn't have to wonder if their favorite sluggers were bulking up with steroids.

Yes, times have changed over the past 137 years.

Baseball fans can see how much they've changed on Tuesday at 1 p.m. when the Lone Stars and Eclipse -- both of whom are made up of area residents -- square off in a vintage 1869-style game at Ford Field, which is located on Griswold Street, just north of Main Street, in downtown Northville.

The two teams will be decked out in complete 1869-era uniforms and the players will use bats and balls that are nearly identical to the ones the players used in the original post-Civil War contest.

The last time the two squads met, Northville won, 53-36, in a game that truly tested the depth of both teams' skill sets.

"Baseball was a much more gentlemanly sport back then," said Eclipse player Ed Fleming, a resident of Livonia

and charter member of the three-year-old club. "There was even a rule that stated players weren't allowed to swear, spit or scratch during a game. We always joke that that's just about all professional players do these days -- swear, spit and scratch."

GAME ON

The game will be the debut of the present-day Lone Stars, who were formed in March after several Eclipse players gave a vintage-baseball presentation during a Plymouth Rotary A.M. meeting.

"The members of the Northville team encouraged us to form our own team and they challenged us to a game like the one played in 1869 between Plymouth and Northville," said Lone Star manager Beth Stewart, president-elect of the Rotary Club. "We were able to round up 18 players and we've been practicing once a week with the Eclipse team, which has helped because there are a lot of new rules to learn."

"We've purchased 12 vintage baseballs and four bats, so we've already made a \$500 commitment to the equipment. Everybody is really looking forward to Tuesday's game."

PLEASE SEE VINTAGE, B2



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

A time machine won't be necessary to revisit 1869 on Tuesday when the Plymouth Lone Stars take on the Eclipse Base Ball Club of Northville in a vintage baseball game at Northville's Ford Field. Pictured are Northville players Ed "Preacher" Fleming (kneeling), (standing from left) Greg "Inky" Palovich, David "Bender" Newhouse and Mike "Tater" Ladwig.

A WALK INTO THE PAST

- **What:** Vintage baseball game (circa 1869) between the Plymouth Lone Stars and the Eclipse Base Ball Club of Northville.
- **When:** At 1 p.m. Tuesday, July 4.
- **Where:** Ford Field in downtown Northville. The field is located off Griswold Street, just north of Main Street, behind the Mill Race Village. The game will be played on the grass, north of the baseball field.
- **Why:** To re-enact the game the two teams played in 1869. Northville won the earlier game, 53-36.
- **Things to look for:** Both teams will be wearing 1869-era uniforms and vintage baseballs and bats will be used. Among the unique rules of that period were that batters were ruled out if fielders caught hit balls on one bounce, and there were no called strikes or balls.

Pair of Whalers selected early in NHL draft

When National Hockey League scouts came to the Compuware Sports Arena last winter, they invariably asked the same question: "How are John Armstrong and Tom Sestito doing?"

Ironically, Sestito and Armstrong were selected within two spots of each other in the 2006 National Hockey League Entry Draft, held Saturday in Vancouver.

Sestito, 18, was selected by Columbus in the third round (85th overall) and Armstrong by Calgary 7th overall.

Sestito joins Whaler teammate Jared Boll -- drafted by Columbus in the fourth round (101st round) last season -- as future Blue Jackets.

Sestito was named Plymouth's Most Improved Player last year after scoring 10 goals with 10 assists and 167 penalty minutes in 77 regular-season games. Some of Sestito's best work came in the playoffs when he scored five goals with two assists in 13 games.

Sestito credited Plymouth head coach Mike Vellucci and assistant coach Todd Watson for helping him in all areas. Sestito has developed into an excellent penalty killer and is an improving scorer.

"It all started during my first year with coach Vellucci and coach Watson," Sestito said. "They really

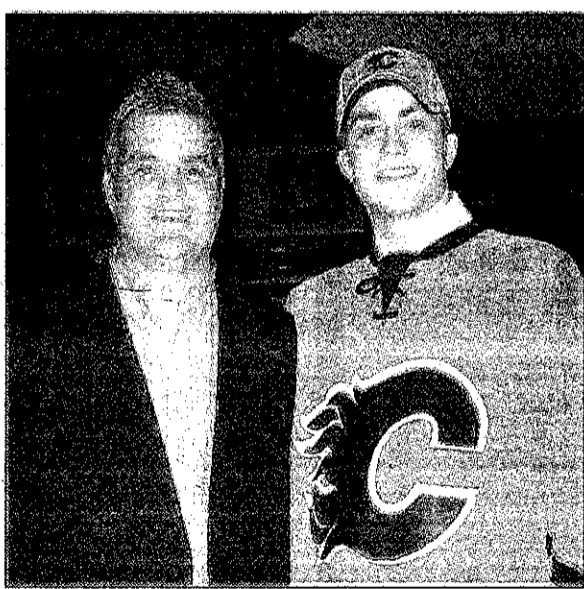
stuck with me early and gave me a chance to work on the defensive side of the game. There aren't many big guys that can do that job."

Vellucci credited Sestito and Armstrong for working hard in their development as players.

"We're excited for both of them," said Vellucci, who attended the NHL Entry Draft. "Tom Sestito has worked very hard in two years to develop into someone who was taken in the third round in the National Hockey League Draft. John Armstrong has been one of our most consistent players over the last two years. Both players are expected to continue to improve next season."

Armstrong scored 14 goals with 23 assists while racking up 75 penalty minutes in 65 games last season. Like Sestito, he saved some of his best work for the playoffs, scoring four goals with seven assists.

Armstrong and Sestito join fellow NHL draftees Ryan McGinnis (Los Angeles), James Neal (Dallas) and Dan Collins (Florida) on a Whaler team that won the West Division last season and is expected to contend next season. In addition, Boll (Columbus), Evan Brophy (Chicago) and Justin Peters (Carolina) could all return as overage players.



Plymouth Whaler John Armstrong is pictured with Whalers President, General Manager and Head Coach Mike Vellucci after getting selected by Calgary with the 87th overall pick in Saturday's NHL Draft.



Plymouth Whaler Tom Sestito is pictured in his Columbus Bluejacket sweater a short time after the NHL team selected the 18-year-old in the third round of the NHL draft Saturday.

Witherspoon earns nod as best coach

Please see All-Observer softball team, Page B3

BY BRAD EMONS
STAFF WRITER

Livonia Stevenson girls softball went somewhere that 22 other Spartan teams hadn't gone before.

This season, the Spartans reached the Division I regional final before losing 2-1 in the bottom of the seventh inning to Garden City.

That left the Spartans with a final record of 20-12, but more importantly, they were back on the radar screen when it comes to areas girls softball.

"Overall this season was satisfying to watch -- to see the seniors do what they did and the way they developed the past four years," said Stevenson's Rob Witherspoon, who was selected Coach of the Year by the Observer sports staff. "I was pleased how they played and the efforts they made in the preseason and during the season. They set high goals for the teams to come."

Witherspoon guided the Spartans to their first district championship

PLEASE SEE COACH, B2

Sidelines

All-Star football

The Plymouth-Canton Educational Park will be well-represented at the Michigan High School Football Coaches Association All-Star football game July 22. Canton head coach Tim Baechler has been selected as the head coach of the East squad. Among his assistants will be Canton assistant coaches Jake Houser and Tom Garrett.

The East roster includes recent graduates Ryan Jonik of Canton and Kevin Bradley of Salem.

Kickoff for the annual All-Star contest is set for 2 p.m. on July 22 at Michigan State University's Spartan Stadium.

Hawks tie Thunder

The Michigan Hawks Women battled the Minnesota Lightning to a 1-1 draw Saturday night at Livonia Stevenson High School.

The first-place Hawks are 5-1-2 in the Midwest Division of the W-League's Central Conference, while the Lightning are 3-3-1.

Both teams attacked during the first half with the Hawks outshooting the Lightning, 10-5. But neither team could find the back of the net.

The Lightning's Caroline Smith, on an assist from Sarah Johnson, finally put the ball past Lindsey Wredge (Michigan State) at the 25-minute mark in the second half.

Two minutes later, Kristi Swaving (Oakland University) notched her 10th goal of the season from a severe angle for the Hawks.

The Hawks return to W-League action 7:30 p.m. Friday against the Cleveland Internationals at Stevenson.

MU adds recruit

Madonna University women's soccer coach Mark Zathay announced recently the addition of Howell High standout Kaila Moore to the women's soccer program. Moore has officially signed her letter-of-intent and will enroll at MU this fall.

"Kaila is another great addition to our program as we continue to add to what should be a very good 2006 team," Zathay said. "She is a good soccer player and a good person, two ingredients that are very important to me."

Moore lettered for three years in soccer and twice in volleyball at Howell. She was an All-Kensington Valley Conference Academic selection as a senior while being named team captain.

Moore is the ninth player to sign a letter of intent with Zathay for the 2006 season which gets under way Aug. 21 at Houghton College (N.Y.).

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Cheer for the hometeam, read today's **SPORTS** section

VINTAGE

FROM PAGE B1

TRAVEL BASEBALL

Northville plays a 20-game schedule, traveling as far as Rochester, N.Y., for games. Like teams in the 19th century, players from both sides meet before the game to agree on the ground rules.

"Back in 1869, the rules of the game were different in every city," said Eclipse player Mike "Later" Ladwig. "So the two managers would meet

'Men used to have to pay five cents to get into the games back then. "They let the ladies in for free because they figured the ladies would keep the men in line.'

Ed Fleming

before the matches and decide, for instance, if the ball could bounce once before it was caught and still be considered an out.

"The rules became more uni-

form everywhere in the United States as the years went on and people started taking it more serious."

Unlike the 1869 game between the two teams, there will be no admission fee at Tuesday's game.

"Men used to have to pay five cents to get into the games back then," Fleming explained.

"They let the ladies in for free because they figured the ladies would keep the men in line."

Greg "Inky" Palovich, a resident of Canton, said the club sticks to the 1869 time frame as much as possible.

"We do use e-mail to communicate, though," he said, grinning. "I don't think they had that back in 1869."

To learn more about the Northville Eclipse, visit the team's Web site at www.eclipsebbc.com. Or — better yet — check out Tuesday's game.

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



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Greg 'Inky' Palovich displays one of the hand-sewn balls and a bat that will be used in Tuesday's vintage baseball game between the Plymouth Lone Stars and the Eclipse Base Ball Club of Northville. The first pitch is set for 1 p.m. at Ford Field in Northville.

COACH

FROM PAGE 1

since 1984 with a 6-1 win over Farmington in the finals following a 10-inning, 6-5 semifinal triumph over nemesis Livonia Churchill, the Western Lakes Activities Association champion.

"We had consistent pitching and experience on the field," said Witherspoon. "And this year, Jamie Johnson, pitched better than her 10th-grade status."

Witherspoon, in his sixth year with the Livonia Public Schools, is a fifth-grade teacher at Johnson Elementary School. He also coaches football at Livonia Churchill High.

The Allen Park native played baseball, football and basketball at Allen Park High School and graduated in 1998 from Eastern Michigan University.

The 34-year-old Witherspoon, who just completed his fourth season, has gradually put Stevenson softball back on the map. The Spartans went 14-16, his first season in 2003, followed by a 15-18 mark in 2004.

In 2005, the Spartans cracked the 20-win barrier with a 21-10 record before going 20-12 this season.

Witherspoon credits the team's rise because he is ably assisted by three coaches — former Churchill and Bentley varsity coach Dana Hardwidge, along with Jessie (Jenkins) Hans and Roger Jenkins.

"Without them, we wouldn't be where we are today," said Witherspoon, who is 70-56 overall. "They're a solid staff of coaches. They work as hard as anybody and we're able to give players the one-on-one attention that they need."

The 34-year-old Witherspoon, who just completed his fourth season, has gradually put Stevenson softball back on the map. The Spartans went 14-16, his first season in 2003, followed by a 15-18 mark in 2004.

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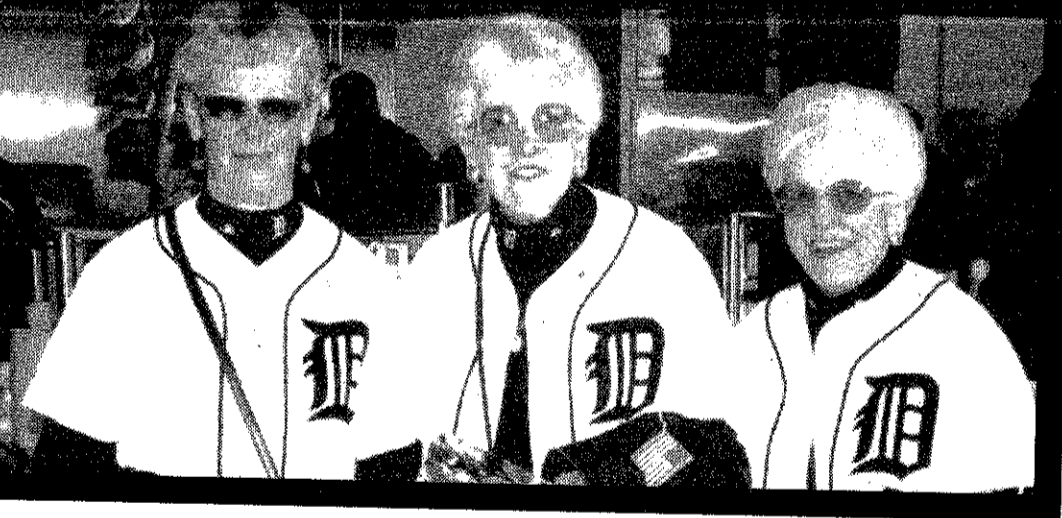
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With the County of Northville Record account of August 10th 1869 game.

Pictured is the flier that is being used to promote Tuesday's vintage baseball game between the Plymouth Lone Stars and the Eclipse Base Ball Club of Northville. In the lower left-hand corner is the box score from the teams' last game in 1869.

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SUMMER HOCKEY SCHOOLS:
Registration is underway for Suburban's Summer Hockey Schools at the Onyx-Rochester Ice Arena, Suburban Ice-Farmington Hills, Kensington Valley Ice House (Brighton), Novi Ice Arena, St. Clair Shores Civic Arena, Suburban Ice-Macomb, Birmingham Ice Arena, Suburban Ice-East Lansing and Dearborn Ice Skating Center. For more information, visit suburbanhockey.com or call (248) 478-1600!

All-Area Girls Softball Team takes the field

FIRST TEAM

Hallie Minch, Soph., P, Garden City: The youngster did it all for the Cougars, leading the team to a share of the Mega Red title and subsequent district and regional championships. She pitched brilliantly, compiling a record of 24-6 with a 1.32 earned-run average. And at the plate, she was the catalyst with a .451 batting average and a team-high 26 runs.

"Hallie did an absolutely fantastic job for us," said Garden City head coach Barry Patterson. "And not just as a pitcher."

But on the mound, Minch improved her velocity and command and nearly outdueled Harper Woods Regina's Nicole Nemitz in the state quarterfinal, losing just 1-0.

"Her game savvy she's gotten much better at," Patterson added. "She's very unfappable, there's no fear."

Minch was the team MVP and earned selection to the All-Mega Red, all-district and all-region teams.

Claire Ostrowski, Jr., P, Plymouth: Ostrowski excelled on the mound and at the plate, compiling a 27-6-1 record (1.40 ERA) and a .364 batting average for the Wildcats, who won the Western Lakes Activities Association Western Division. Ostrowski tossed three no-hitters, bringing her career total to five.

"Claire is a very determined athlete who always strives to succeed," said Plymouth coach Val Canfield. "She has gotten stronger every season."

Bridget Long, Sr., P, Liv. Churchill: The senior went 19-11 with an ERA of 0.58 as the Chargers won the Western Lakes Activities Association title. She had 250 strikeouts and walked 95.

Long, an All-Western Lakes pick, also had a .913 fielding average with 49 assists, 14 putouts and six errors.

At the plate, Long batted .255 (22-for-86) with five doubles and one triple.

"Bridget is a powerful, intelligent pitcher who has gotten us out of a lot of jams," Churchill coach Carrie Korican said of the four-year starter. "She has been calling her own pitches since she was a sophomore before I trust her knowledge of the game. She has an arsenal of pitches to us, and she mixed all of them up to keep batters off balance. This year her changeup was quite effective. She has worked hard all year-round to be the play she is and to help her team be successful. She conditions and hits all year-round, and she plays summer travel ball. Bridget has tremendous stamina."

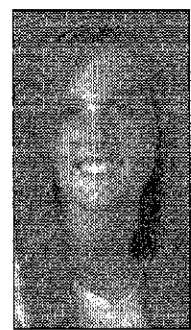
Lauren Taylor, Jr., P, Ladywood: The junior went 14-9 with a 1.86 earned run average. In 193 innings, Taylor struck out 147, walked only 35 and allowed just 45 runs on 97 hits.

The Division II first-team All-Stater led the Blazers to the Catholic League title and third straight trip to the state quarterfinals.

The All-Catholic League selection was the only pitcher to pin a loss on two-time Division I state champion Harper Woods Regina.

"Lauren pitched very, very well going into the Catholic League playoffs and pitched as well as she had the last three years in the tournament," Ladywood

2006 ALL-OBSERVER SOFTBALL FIRST TEAM
 P-Hallie Minch, Soph., Garden City
 P-Claire Ostrowski, Jr., Plymouth
 P-Bridget Long, Sr., Liv. Churchill
 P-Lauren Taylor, Jr., Liv. Ladywood
 C-Roya St. Clair, Sr., Liv. Stevenson
 C-Lauren Watts, Sr., Garden City
 INF-Cat Sidor, Sr., Liv. Churchill
 INF-Jill Schulz, Sr., Ladywood
 INF-Kim Klonowski, Jr., Plymouth
 INF-Erin McLaughlin, Jr., Ladywood
 INF-Lauren Delapaz, Jr., Canton
 INF-Brittney Scero, Sr., Canton
 INF-Rachel Wade, Sr., Canton
SECOND-TEAM
 P-Hilary Payne, Soph., Canton
 P-Jamie Johnson, Soph., Liv. Stevenson
 C-Madison Dresser, Jr., Plymouth
 C-Amber Hooid, Jr., Liv. Churchill
 C-Donna Mainella, Sr., Ladywood
 IF-Kirsten Gwizdala, Sr., Redford Union
 IF-Kelly Floetke, Jr., Garden City
 IF-Beth Heldmeyer, Fr., Plymouth
 IF-Kait McKinley, Jr., Salem
 IF-Amanda Alpert, Sr., Liv. Stevenson
 IF-Briauna Taylor, Fr., Liv. Franklin
 IF-Lauren Stemberger, Sr., Plymouth
 OF-Brittini Adams, Sr., Redford Union
 OF-Alacia Czapski, Sr., Liv. Churchill
 OF-Monica Plekarski, Jr., Liv. Stevenson
COACH OF THE YEAR
 Rob Witherspoon, Livonia Stevenson
HONORABLE MENTION
Churchill: Brynn Kerr; **Franklin:** Kim Topolewski, Natalie Sanborn, Heather Jaroh; **Stevenson:** Lauren Brueck, Danielle Smith; **Ladywood:** Alyssa Abramowski, Rya Suchy; **Wayne:** Alysa Henning, Carrie Lauberts, Emily Robertson, Abby Monit; **Westland John Glenn:** Lisa Pecorelli; **Bridget Borg:** Livonia Clarenceville; **Chelsea Carbonneau,** Cassidy Sublette; **Lutheran Westland:** Stephanie Rose; **Huron Valley Lutheran:** Amanda Gruenewald, Catherine St. John, Sarah Schaffer; **Redford Union:** Erin Cathery; **Garden City:** Christina Seward, Kristina Susalla; **Redford Thurston:** Melissa Joinville, Bobbie Debot; **Plymouth:** Rachel Juco, Danielle Bondy; **Canton:** Alyssia Johnson, Rachel Beaudoin, Sarah Anthony; **Salem:** Maureen Bohr.



Hallie Minch
Garden City



Claire Ostrowski
Plymouth



Bridget Long
Churchill



Lauren Taylor
Ladywood



Roya St. Clair
Stevenson



Lauren Watts
Garden City



Caitlyn Sidor
Churchill



Jill Schulz
Ladywood



Erin McLaughlin
Ladywood



Lauren Delapaz
Canton



Brittney Scero
Canton



Rachel Wade
Canton



Deanna Clendening
Garden City



Brittany Taylor
Franklin

our team. She's in the weight room all year-round."

During her illustrious career, St. Clair had a total of 19 homers and 137 RBI. She posted batting averages of .547 (freshman), .429 (sophomore), .495 (junior) and .522 (senior).

"It's going to be very different without her next year," Witherspoon said of the scholar-athlete, who carries a 3.3 GPA.

Lauren Watts, Sr., C, Garden City: Few base runners took liberties against the third-year starting catcher, who nailed 13 of 21 would-be base-stealers. She also gave her teammates plenty of confidence with solid defense (just six passed balls) and the ability to come through in the clutch at the plate.

Watts batted just .305, but coach Patterson said she led the team in key hits, with six game-winning RBI - including the decisive hit in the regional final victory over Livonia Stevenson.

"She really brought a stability to our team," Patterson said. "When the game was on the line, there was certainly no one else that I wanted up at the plate."

Cat Sidor, Sr., 1B, Liv. Churchill: A starter since her freshman year, Sidor finished her senior season with a .466 batting average including 10 doubles, five triples and two homers.

Defensively, Sidor made 186 putouts and had 13 assists with six errors for a .971 fielding average.

"Caitlyn is a consistent fielder and a remarkable first baseman who creates outs by her ability to scoop low throws and stretch for high throws," Korican said of the All-Western Lakes and All-State selection, who is named for Michigan's first female softball player.

She has a powerful bat. She has a lot of extra base hits because she is so strong.

She single-handedly kept us in the (WCAA) conference championship game by hitting a homer run early on in the game.

"Caitlyn works hard all year-round by conditioning, hitting, playing indoor tournaments in the winter, and playing summer travel ball."

Jill Schulz, Sr., SS, Ladywood: The Central Michigan University signee earned first-team All-Observer honors once again after finishing the year hitting .376 (46-for-117) with 26 runs scored and 20 RBI.

Schulz doubled seven times and tripled three times. She fanned only five times all season.

In 110 chances defensively, Schulz accumulated 65 assists and 38 putouts with only seven errors for a .936 fielding average.

"Jill's a good athlete, but what impressed me more than anything is the way she took control of the team and the way she showed leadership," Lulek said of the four-year starter. "She was my coach on the field."

Kim Klonowski, Jr., SS, Plymouth: The junior's spectacular season was capped off when she was voted onto the Division I first-team All-State team earlier this month. Klonowski hit .595 with a team-leading 30 runs batted in. She also anchored the Wildcats' defense with solid play from the short-stop position.

"Kim is just an unbelievable athlete," said Canfield. "She has a very bright future ahead of her."

Erin McLaughlin, Jr., 2B, Ladywood: The junior second baseman hit .344 (32-for-93) with four home runs, three triples and two homers.

Defensively, the first-team Division II All-Stater and All-Central Division

pick had a total of 135 chances, with 66 putouts and 59 assists with nine errors for a .932 fielding average.

"Erin got a lot of action at second base," Ladywood coach Bob Lulek said. "She fields the bunt situation as well as any player I've coached. I was also happy with the way she moved runners over, and still hit the ball for power."

Lauren Delapaz, Jr., SS, Canton: A three-year starter at shortstop, Delapaz enjoyed another stellar season for the Chiefs, hitting .444 with five doubles, six triples, two home runs and 36 runs batted in. The WCAA All-Division performer struck out just four times in 99 plate appearances and committed just five errors in 34 games.

"In all the years I've been at Canton, Lauren is probably the best overall athlete I've coached," said Canton coach Jim Arnold. "She's very fluid and professional-looking, both in the field and at bat. She knows the game inside-out. Lauren is one of those players that comes around once in a coach's career."

Brittney Scero, Sr., 3B, Canton: Scero enjoyed an exceptional year as the Chiefs' lead-off hitter, compiling a .443 batting average with four doubles, five triples and 15 RBI. The Madonna University-bound third baseman struck out just eight times in 97 plate appearances and provided the team with solid play at the hot corner.

"Brittney is a tough young lady with excellent leadership qualities," said Arnold. "She plays goalie in hockey, so she wasn't afraid of the ball when she played in at third. Brittney was a great lead-off hitter for us the past two years and was very difficult to score on."

Rachel Wade, Sr., 2B, Canton: Wade, who will take her softball talents to

Ferris State in the fall, capped off her high school career with another excellent season, hitting .400 with five doubles, three triples, 17 RBI and 21 runs scored. Wade committed just three errors in 34 games.

"Rachel can do it all," said Arnold. "She's a hard-nosed player who can bunt, slap and hit with power. She has a bright future ahead of her at Ferris State."

Deanna Clendening, Jr., OF, Garden City: When the season began, coach Patterson already had confidence in Clendening as an outfielder. But he didn't know that she was about to enjoy a fine year at the plate, batting .344 and driving in 21 runs with plenty of power.

"She really had a breakout season for us," Patterson said. "I knew we'd get a steady job from her in the field but she made really great strides on the offensive end and she had a ton of key hits."

Many of those were for extra bases, as she clubbed five doubles and three triples.

Brittany Taylor, Fr., OF, Liv. Franklin: The ninth-grade center fielder earned All-Western Division, All-District and All-Region honors as she batted .404 (40-for-99) with eight doubles, three triples and two homers. Taylor also scored 23 runs and knocked in 21. Her on-base percentage was .464.

Defensively, Taylor had 37 putouts, seven assists and only one error for a .978 fielding average.

"Brittany has unbelievable range in the outfield and an incredible throwing arm," Franklin coach Linda Jimenez said. "She's very coachable, modest, and always willing to learn more. Her outfielders' instincts are outstanding while placing her teammates first in everything she does."

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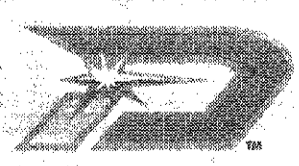


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Rams secure lead with sweep

A weekend sweep enabled the Michigan Rams to stay in the hunt for first place in the Livonia Michigan Collegiate Baseball League.

On Sunday, the 20-and-under Rams swept a double-header from the 22-and-under league leading Michigan Bulls, 3-2 and 6-2, at Livonia's Bicentennial Park.

The Bulls still have a two-game edge in the standings at 13-3, but the Rams are right on their heels at 11-5.

In the opener, Scott Martin sparked a two-run sixth-inning rally when he drove home Wayne's Eric Vojtkofsky (Detroit Catholic Central) with the game-winning run.

Vojtkofsky reached base on a single, advanced to second on Rob Campbell's hit and took third on Mike Sacha's sacrifice fly.

Campbell and Andrew Stafford also knocked in runs for the Rams.

Winning pitcher John Fileccia (Albion College) went the first 6.2 innings, allowing two runs on eight hits and one walk. Chris Rusin (University of Kentucky) came on to get

the final out on a grounder to short with the tying run on second base.

Kevin Zerbo went 2-for-3 and had two RBI to lead the Bulls' eight-hit attack. Joel Marshall also added two hits.

Bulls starter Andre Benjamin went all six innings, allowing three runs on four hits. He walked six and struck out five.

In the nightcap, winning pitcher Ryan Mosher (Wayne State) went six innings, scattering six hits to pick up the victory.

He struck out five and did not allow a walk before giving way to Rusin, who closed out the victory by striking out two of three batters he faced in the seventh to earn the save.

Losing pitcher Will Stewardson gave up six runs on nine hits in 6.1 innings. He struck out eight and walked six.

Ryan Shay led the Rams' offensive attack, going 3-for-3 with an RBI. Scott Cain knocked in three runs, while Vojtkofsky and Max Miller each added an RBI.

Livonia Stevenson High grad

and Central Michigan University catcher Brian Campbell went 2-for-3, while Mike Lepor added two hits and one RBI. Zerbo homered in the loss.

RAMS 8, PARK ATHLETIC 7: Pinch-hitter Mike Sacha helped celebrate Livonia's Spree Friday night at Ford Field with the game-winning RBI single to right center, scoring Scott Cain as the Rams (9-5) turned back Park Athletic (3-10-1).

Sacha's hit, coming with two-out in the top of the seventh, capped a three-run Rams rally.

Ryan Shay went 3-for-4 with a double, triple and two RBI. He also scored two runs. Scott Cain knocked in three runs, while Andrew Stafford scored three times.

Kyle Karup went 3-for-4 with an RBI for Park. Andrew Todd added two hits and one RBI. Josh Ivan and Jeremy Cooper each added a hit and RBI.

Bobby Henderson (Eastern Michigan) was the winning pitcher in relief of starter Steve Karchefski. Henderson went two innings, allowing two runs (one earned) on six hits and a walk.

Ryan Burzycki was the losing pitcher in relief of Matt Shoemaker. Burzycki gave up three earned runs in two innings on three hits and one walk.



Relatively new to the market, Topps Heritage baseball cards are pricey. But modeled after Topps' 1957 edition, they provide a nostalgic jolt to anybody who collected cards during the 1950s and '60s - often considered the golden age of the hobby. Topps also sells regular cards for under \$2 a pack, to lure younger buyers.

Topps tries to lure youths back to cards

BY TIM SMITH
STAFF WRITER

ANYONE GOT A MANTLE?

Baseball cards used to be the lifeblood of youth among American boys, when packs of Topps cost a nickel and featured cards dusted with delicious, pink bubble gum.

Fast forward several decades, however, and the baseball card-collecting landscape is much different. For starters, a pack of Topps' 2006 set runs for \$1.75 and there's nothing to chew but plastic-coated cardboard.

It is so different that the industry launched the first-annual National Baseball Card Day on Saturday. At area hobby stores such as Comics Archives in Redford Township and Fanatic U in Garden City, it was a chance to hopefully find new customers or turn older ones back on to the pure fun of collecting.

"It's a good idea because baseball is our national sport and it's important that we get kids back into the hobby," said 42-year-old Jeff Patterson, an employee at Comics Archives on Plymouth Road east of Beech Daly. "If (stores) don't offer them something to get interested in the hobby, it will die."

Another employee at Comics Archives, Mike Polvi of Dearborn Heights, said he endorses the concept of National Baseball Card Day.

"If it creates interest and buzz and people come in then I think it's excellent," said Polvi, 49.

Where Topps used to be the only choice a young consumer had back in the 1950s and '60s, arguably the heyday of the hobby, today's consumer has an endless string of options.

Cards today aren't bought for the fun of it, to fill checklists. Instead, they are investment opportunities for adults. And youngsters aren't flocking to party stores the way Polvi did as a kid.

Enter promotions such as Saturday's intended to get folks to at least kick the tires. The job of helping today's eight-year-olds discover baseball cards is far from automatic, however.

Many people of all ages became turned off to the hobby over the past 20 years because baseball cards became more about plastic portfolio sheets than shoe-box fare.

Topps had plenty of company, such as Upper Deck, Fleer and Donruss, and each of those companies flooded the market with too many choices for people to consider.

"I think the people who started making the cards forgot what it was supposed to be, a hobby," emphasized Patterson, a Livonia resident. "They priced the kids right out of it."

Cards still are pretty pricey, especially compared to Polvi's boyhood experience of visiting his neighborhood party store and shelling out a quarter for a fistful of packs.

"I tried to get one of everybody and trade with kids in the neighborhood to complete the set," Polvi said. "Nobody cared about value back then."

But they cared about baseball cards then. Patterson and Polvi can only cross their fingers that efforts such as National Baseball Card Day (not to mention the re-awakening of the Detroit Tigers as a competitive force) will start the pendulum going the other way.

To that end, Comic Archives ran newspaper ads offering free packs of cards to the first 300 customers on Saturday. But as of late afternoon, only about 100 had taken advantage. And there were no kids in the store.

"We had quite a bit of traffic earlier today," Patterson said. "We had a lot of adults coming in with their kids."

Although Fanatic U, located at 30409 Ford Road, did not have an official promotion on Saturday, the store also is trying to get kids interested in baseball cards. Current Tiger gum-chewing pitcher Nate Robertson is scheduled to sign autographs and probably blow bubbles from 7-9 p.m. Thursday.

Patterson and Polvi undoubtedly hope those who stopped by Comic Archives would check out the current cards and pick up a pack or two.

They could buy Topps Heritage packs for \$3.49 and enjoy cards designed to look like the 1957 edition - tugging on the impulse-buy-heartstrings of aging baby boomers who did exactly what Polvi did with their weekly allowance.

Kids without much disposable income could buy packs of the 2006 Topps regular set, for \$1.75. Apparently, that is considered a bargain, especially when a pack of one high-end-brand sells for \$11.50.

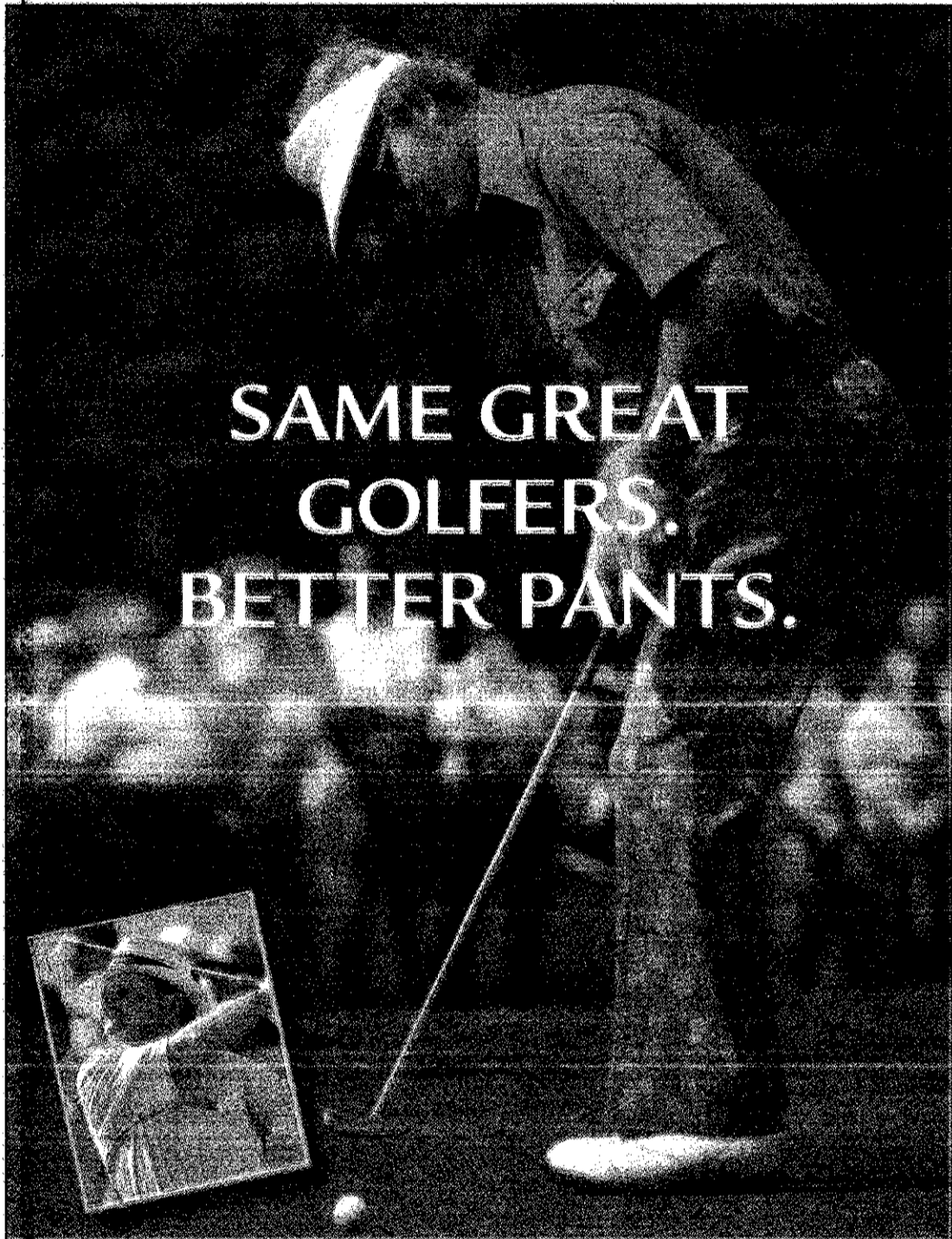
According to the employees, economics dictate that the hobby will never completely revert back to its innocent heyday. For stores to pay the bills, high-priced cards need to be produced and sold to those who do buy them for investment purposes.

Yet there is room to bring in the younger set, perhaps to the point where "national days" won't be needed.

"I have nieces and nephews and I buy them cards for their birthdays," Patterson said. "They like 'em."

That's a start.

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SPORTS ROUNDUP

SOCCER WORKOUTS

The Salem boys soccer team will begin optional summer conditioning sessions soon for all players who plan on playing on one of the Rocks' three teams in the fall.

Sessions will begin 6-8 p.m. July 5 and continue every Monday, Wednesday and Friday through July 21. The workouts will be held in front of Canton High School's Phase III facility.

Players should bring soccer shoes, shin guards and water.

For more information, contact Salem soccer coach Ed McCarthy at (248) 561-2846.

CANTON X-COUNTRY

Nonmandatory summer conditioning sessions have begun for anyone interested in trying out for the Canton boys cross country team in the fall. The team will meet at 8 a.m. on weekday mornings outside Canton High School's Phase III facility.

Training sessions will consist of a warm-up run, stretching, workout run, cool down and more stretching. Runners are encouraged to bring their own water.

For more information, contact one

of the team's captains: David Catalan at (734) 455-3045, Derek Hoerman at (734) 454-5746 or Aaron McClellan at (734) 981-7438.

Interested participants are encouraged to send an e-mail to mcllellan1982@wowway.com with their name, phone number and e-mail address so that they can be kept updated on any changes to the summer running schedule.

FALL SOCCER

The City of Plymouth will be accepting registration forms for its fall youth soccer program through June 30 at the Plymouth recreation office located in the Plymouth Cultural Center at 525 Farmer. Business hours are 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

All first-time registrants require a birth certificate.

The fee for Under-6 through Under-8 divisions is \$65 for Plymouth residents and \$100 for nonresidents. The fee is \$70 for U-9 and older divisions for residents and \$110 for nonresidents.

For more information, call the recreation department at (734) 455-6620, Ext. 304.

SUMMER CAMPS

Canton Leisure Services will be offering three summer sports camps:

■ A lacrosse camp for boys and girls between the ages of 4 and 18 will be held Monday through Thursday, July 10-13 at Heritage Park in Canton. The sessions will run from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and 2:30-5:30 p.m.

To register, visit www.american-lacrosse.com or call (248) 333-3929.

■ A baseball camp will be held 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. July 17-21 at Heritage Park. The camp is for kids between the ages of 7 and 14. The camp will be run by Pat Watson, who offers instruction, games, videos and guests. For more information, call (734) 483-5600.

■ A basketball camp will be held Aug. 21-25 at the Summit on the Park in Canton. For more information, call (734) 483-5600.

P-CEP HOCKEY GOLF OUTING

A golf outing that will raise funds for the P-CEP's hockey teams will be held Saturday, Aug. 26, at Hickory Creek Golf Course in Canton.

The entry fee for a foursome is \$400, which includes 18 holes of golf (scramble format), a steak dinner, silent auctions and an opportunity to win several prizes.

For more information, contact Chris Wolfe at (734) 453-8332, Kathy Lash at (734) 453-6518 or Noreen Desilets at (734) 397-5691.

YMCA HOOP

The Plymouth Family YMCA will be hosting a basketball camp the week of July 24-28.

The camp, which will be run by a former collegiate basketball player and current high school coach, will help players become familiar with the ball and develop a love for the game.

The camp will run from 9 a.m. to noon for 6- to 8-year-olds and from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. for kids between the ages of 9 and 11.

For more information, contact the YMCA office (734) 453-2904 or visit www.ymcadetroit.org.

VELOCITY CAMPS

Velocity Sports Performance, which is located on Michigan Avenue in Canton, will be offering several camps this summer that will be geared toward making athletes faster, stronger, more powerful and more explosive.

The summer schedule includes:

■ Football Speed and Agility Camp - Session 1 will be held July 10-13 and Session 2 will run from July 17-20.

The four two-hour sessions, which are for athletes 14 years old and up, will go from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

■ Junior Football Speed and Agility Camp - This four-day camp, available to athletes between the ages of 8 and 13, will run from July 24-27 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

For more information on the camps, visit www.velocitysp.com/canton.

YOUTH GOLF

Plymouth's Fox Hills Golf and Banquet Center will serve as one of 105 national qualifying sites for the 2006 Mutual of Omaha Drive, Chip & Putt competition.

The event, a free golf skills competition for kids between the ages of 7 and 14, will be held at 4 p.m. Thursday, July 20, at Fox Hills.

More than 35,000 youngster throughout the country are expected to compete in the DC&P.

Winners from each local event will have the opportunity to compete in regional championships and possibly represent their hometowns at the national championship in October.

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

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LESSON ON GOLF

by Jeff Lesson

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Boyne USA, with resorts in Boyne City, Petoskey and Harbor Springs boasts 162 holes of superb golf. It also has three courses on the "Lesson on Golf" Top 10 Northern Michigan list. They are the Heather and Hills courses at Boyne Highlands, and the Bay Harbor Resort (Links/Quarry) in Petoskey.

Treetops Resort in Gaylord has four excellent championship tracks of its own in addition to the best par three course in the land.

Grand Traverse Resort in Acme features layouts by Jack Nicklaus and Gary Player. Just down the road at Shanty Creek are super layouts by Arnold Palmer and Tom Weiskopf. Roscommon features another top Weiskopf layout, Forest Dunes, which still allows outside play.

Over on the eastern side of the state there is the Otto family owned and operated Garland Resort in Lewiston. In Oscoda there are two great Kevin Aldridge designs, the best of which is the Gailes at Lakewood Shores.

The above mentioned barely scratches the surface. Explore at will!

Jeff Lesson hosts "Lesson on Golf" weekend mornings on WWJ Newsradio 950 and Saturday mornings 7-8am on 1270 XYT. He also co-hosts "Michigan Golf Weekly Saturdays at 6pm on CBS Detroit TV.

COURSE DIRECTORY

Fox Creek Golf Course 36000 Seven Mile Rd. Livonia, MI 48152 (248) 471-3400	Rolling Meadows Country Club 6484 Sutton Rd. Whitmore Lake, MI 48189 (734) 662-5144	Tanglewood Golf Course 53481 W. 10 Mile Road South Lyon, MI 48178 (248) 486-6367
Fox Hills Country Club 8768 N. Territorial Plymouth, MI 48170 (734) 453-7272	Sanctuary Lake Golf Course 1450 South Boulevard Troy, MI 48065 (248) 619-7600	Westland Municipal Golf Course 500 S. Merriman Westland, MI 48186 (734) 721-6660
Heathers Club of Bloomfield Hills 900 Upper Scotsborough Way Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304 (248) 334-9770	Springfield Oaks Golf Course 12450 Andersonville Road Davisburg, MI 48350 (248) 625-2540 www.golfoakland.us	Whispering Willows Golf Club 20500 Newburgh Road Livonia, MI (248) 476-4493
Hickory Creek Golf Course 3625 Napier Road Ypsilanti, MI 48198 (734) 454-1850	Sylvan Glen Golf Course 5725 Rochester Road Troy, MI 48065 248-619-7600	White Lake Oaks Golf Course 991 Williams Lake White Lake, MI 48336 (248) 698-2700 www.golfoakland.us
Idyl Wyld Golf Club 35780 Five Mile Road Livonia, MI (734) 464-6325	City of Livonia Golf Division Adult Beginner Instruction Learn basic fundamentals during 6 instructional sessions on & off the golf course!! Evening Classes - Begins July 10th Saturday Night "STEAK-OUT" Enjoy 9 Holes of Golf w/ Cart... plus a Steak or Chicken Dinner! All in one location & at a GREAT Price!! - call Fox Creek for details Fox Creek Golf Course: 36000 Seven Mile Rd., Livonia, MI 48152, (248) 471-3400 Whispering Willows Golf Club: 20500 Newburgh Rd., Livonia, MI 48150, (248) 476-4493 Idyl Wyld Golf Club: 35780 Five Mile Rd., Livonia, MI 48152, (734) 464-6325 Please Visit www.golfivonia.com	City of Southfield Golf Courses Spring Special Weekdays play between Open & Noon \$20 for cart & 9 holes for 2 Seniors: \$15 for cart & 9 holes for 2 Beech Woods Golf Course & Driving Range 22202 Beech Road (248) 796-4655 Evergreen Hills Golf Course 26000 Evergreen Road (248) 796-4666 Exp. 05/28/08

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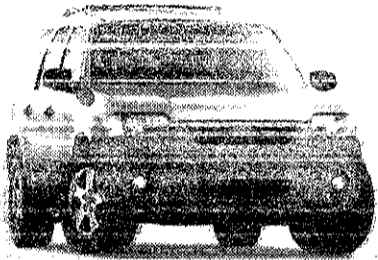
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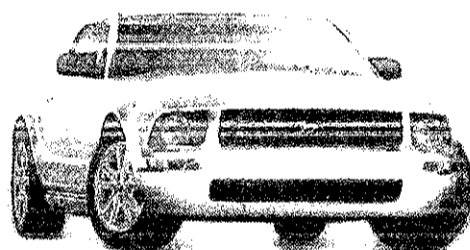
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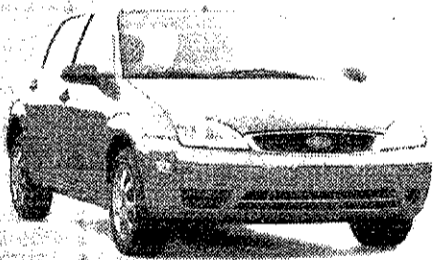
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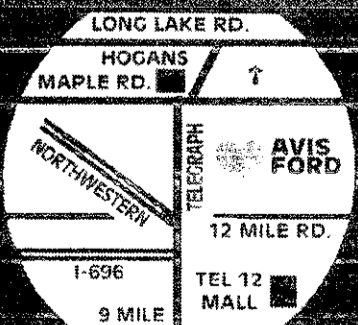
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or Fax: (734) 416-3810
or e-mail:
hr_manufacturing@hotmail.com
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Rapidly expanding manufacturing facility in Plymouth is recruiting for Production Technicians. Ideal candidates will be team oriented, willing to learn all aspects of our operation and have the ability to display excellent attendance. Qualified candidates will have at least one or two years experience in a manufacturing environment. Experience with high speed automated filling and packaging equipment is a plus. Overtime will be required to support the needs of the business.

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Garage Sales

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Loads of misc. items! 1355 Shipman, (14 Mile and Southfield). CLARKSTON Bridge Valley Subdivision 4 Family Garage Sale 8556 High Meadow Trail (Holtcomb between I-75 and Davisburg Rd) June 29 - 30, 9am-1pm CLAWSON 709 Emsford, off Bywood between 14 Mile & 15 Mile Sat-Sun 10-5. NEW toys, new and gently used clothes, baby gear, and collectibles DEARBORN HTS - 3 Family. Electric dryer, chairs, tables, Olympic weights, kids things, curtains. 8476 Riverview (Joy & Telegraph). Thurs-Fri, 9-5. DEARBORN HTS. Multi-Family Garage Sale Fri-Sat, 10-5pm. On Ann Arbor Trail (btwn Inkster & Telegraph) DETROIT - BIG SALE! FRI.-SAT. 9-4PM. Trucks, trailers (enclosed & open), blowers, trimmers, edgers, backpack blowers, skid loader, trenchers, excavators, rotor-tiler & silt seeders & aerators, & all other kinds of equip. All kinds of household items. 30,000 sq. ft. warehouse full of everything. 14459 Wildemere, S. off Fenkel, just E. of Livernois, off Lodge. 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Collectibles, crafts, trading cards, housewares, toys. June 29-July 1, 9am-5pm. LIVONIA 13979 Hubbard. Multi-family sale, Thursday-Saturday, June 29-July 1. Open at 9am. Kids clothes, bikes, competitive figure skates and much more.	Garage Sales 7110 LIVONIA 36713 Summers, 5 Mile/Schoolcraft. Thurs. & Fri., 9am-4pm. Dishwasher, Dishes, Entertainment Center, Treadmill, Clothing, Books, Home Items. LIVONIA - Bikes, sporting goods, baby clothes and lots of stuff. Fri. & Sat, 9-6pm. 32925 W. Chicago, E. of Farmington Rd, S. of Plymouth Rd. LIVONIA: Benefit for Breast Cancer 3 Day Walk June 29, 30, July 1, 9am-5pm, 14917 Sunbury, 5 Mile & Middlebelt. NOVI Multiple Garage Sales - June 29-July 1st. 42726 & 42762 Wintondale Way, N. of 13 Mile, off Novi Rd., Thurs/Fri., 9am-5pm, Sat., 8am-1pm. Toys, games, bikes, baby items, sports equip, household items, misc. OFFICE FURNITURE Computer Parts & Electronics. Used office furniture, Computer parts/equipment. Rochester Hills. Call for hours: Thurs.-Mon. 248-821-3899 PLYMOUTH Thurs.-Sat., 9-5. 9429 Marilyn, 1 blk W. of Haggerty, S. off of Ann Arbor Road. Lots of items. PLYMOUTH 9999 Follows Hill Court off of Ann Arbor Rd., W. of Ridge, in Country Club Village, Fri.-Sat., 9-4 p.m., furniture, no junk, quality items. PLYMOUTH ESTATE SALE June 29-July 1, 10-4pm, 40602 Newport Ct., Off Haggerty by Ann Arbor Rd. E. photo/info: www.livianiques.com or 586-344-2048	Garage Sales 7110 REDFORD June 29-30 & July 1, 8-4pm, 13200 Laverne. TV's, household goods, boys toys, Oak media center, Oak twin bed. REDFORD June 30-July 2, 9-7, 19701 Poinciana. Appliances, furniture, cd's, tapes, nik-nacs, a little bit of everything. REDFORD 2 family June 29-30, 8:30-5:30, 11668 Norborne, Plymouth/Beach, Waterbed, Peavey amp, boys clothes (NB-3T), home goods. TROY ESTATE SALE June 29, 30, July 1, 8a-4p. 5857 Nileas, off Square Lake near Livernois. inside & out! 50 yrs. accumulation, entire household. Furniture, old tools, old records, collectibles, antiques, jewelry, lawn & garden. REDFORD 24552 Orangelawn, @ W. Chicago & Telegraph, Thurs-Sun, 9-5. Multi-family sale, toys, dishesware, linens, clothes, appliances, plants REDFORD Sat. 9-3pm, Dept 56 Snow Village, Santa Bears, collectibles, clothing, video games & more! 25978 Dover, corner of Joy & Beech Daly. REDFORD: FURNITURE antiques, household goods, craft items. 1 day only, Thurs., June 29, 9-3, 18284 Lexington, btwn 6 & 7, Beech & Inkster. ROCHESTER HILLS Sat., July 1, 9am-4pm, 1071 S Adams Rd., btwn Avon & Hamlin. Household, baby clothes, toys (Star Wars), books, more! ROYAL OAK HUGE MOVING SALE - Home, kitchen, computer parts, monitors, furniture & more! Sat., July 1, 2408 Starr Rd.	Garage Sales 7110 ROYAL OAK MULTI-FAMILY SALE. Great bargains on tools, household, etc. 2839 Wood-lee, S of 13 Mile, E of Woodlee. June 30, July 1, 9am-4pm. SALEM TWP. Fri.-Sat., June 30-July 1, 9am-5pm. 8224 Brookville, btwn Gottfradson & Curtis, N. of North Territorial. Household items & toys. SHELBY TWP 53067 Briar, W of Shelby, N of 24 Mile. Craft kits & books, fabric, scrapbooking, Stixx, much more! Thurs. & Fri., 9am-3pm. SOUTHFIELD - Furniture, school supplies, household items, clothing, washer/dryer, misc. June 30- July 2nd, 9am-5pm. 22552 Hallowell Trail, 1 blk, S. of 12 Mile, 1 blk. W. of Lahser. SOUTHFIELD FANTASTIC GARAGE AND SIDEWALK SALE. Old & new items, furniture, clothing, jewelry & lots more! July 1-3, 23150 Twining Drive - off Nine Mile Road (248) 350-6688 SOUTHFIELD - Garage Sale. June 29-July 1. 29777 Somerset, off 12 Mile. Plants, tools, golf balls, jewelry, household & much more! TROY June 29, 30 & Jul 1, 9am-4pm. 2965/2949 Denise, W. of Dequindre & N Long Lake. Kids, crib, Gas Dryer, New Washer, Mulch Lawn Mower, lots of good household, Misc. REDFORD 15223 Salem, @ 5 & Beech, Thurs-Fri., 8-4, Sat. 9-4pm. Plus sizes Liz, Polo, men/women's clothes, toys, furniture, & kid's clothes.	Garage Sales 7110 WEST BLOOMFIELD Generator, sump pump, baby lot, household antiques, book items & more. Fri., June 30-Sun., July 2, 6084 Kiev St., Orchard Crest North Sub at Hiller & Greer. WEST BLOOMFIELD antiques, furniture, marquetry, Allan organ, cookbooks, womens clothing, more! Thurs-Sun, 9am-5pm, 2221 Lakeshire Dr., W off Inkster, N of Quaker. WESTLAND 2 FAMILY SALE. 700 Alvin, Cherry Hill & Veno off Hvely, July 1 & 2, 9am-5pm. Home Interior pictures, furniture, clothes, many household items. WESTLAND Thurs-Sat: 9-5. 3 family sale, household, beautiful girls clothes newborns to 4t, 2434 Treadwell E. of Newburgh N. of Glenwood. WESTLAND Garage Sale. Antique dealer cleaning out garage. Lots of deals. 34715 Florence, Wed & Thurs, June 28 and 29, 9 to 5. WESTLAND ONE DAY ONLY! Sat. July 1st, Anthony Pond, Hix btwn. Warren and Joy. Combo garage/moving sale. Large & small furniture, decor, tools, toys. Must Sell! WESTLAND Garage Sale - June 29 - July 1, 9am-5pm: 30532 Bradford Street, South of Avondale & East of Merriman. Tools, Computer Hardware/Software, Party Lite, Collectibles and other items. WESTLAND - 8249 Ravine, W. of Wayne, S. of Joy. Sat.-Sun, 9-4pm. Plus sizes Liz, Polo, men/women's clothes, toys, furniture, & kid's clothes.	Garage Sales 7110 WESTLAND - GARAGE SALE Sun.-Mon, July 2-3, 10-6pm. 31424 Fairchild, off Merriman & Avondale. Variety of good stuff! Moving Sales 7130 BIRMINGHAM June 29 ONLY! Cherry 4 poster bed, maple nutch, plank chairs, household items, antiques. 833 Redding, 1 blk. S. of Big Beaver off Woodward, 10am-4pm. BLOOMFIELD HILLS - Huge! Antiques, tools, furniture and household goods. Thurs. - Sat. 9-4pm. 5125 Kensington, N. of Big Beaver, E. of Woodward CANTON MOVING SALE - June 29/30 - Entertainment center, bookcase, tables, toys, TV, clothing, St. John knits-sz 8/M. Something for everyone. 7061 Newgate Ct. (Warren & Beck) Call to place your ad at 1-800-579-SELL (7355) CLARKSTON Refrigerator, sofa & loveseat, dining table & hutch, treadmill, antiques. (248) 802-1580 DEARBORN HEIGHTS - Everything must go! Furniture from all rooms, holiday items, toys & more! Thurs. & Fri, 8-3pm, Sat. 8-1pm. 8518 Norborne, btwn Ann Arbor Tr & Joy Rd. FARMINGTON HILLS MOVING SALE Car, furniture, dishes, glassware, linens, toys, clothing. 25339 Arden Park Drive, June 30, July 1, 2, 10-6pm. Everything Goes.	Moving Sales 7130 PLYMOUTH 46361 Quail Ridge, off McClumpha. June 29-July 2, Thurs & Sat, 9-5 Fri. & Sun, 1-5. Dressers, bookcases, piano, big screen TV, mowers, exercise equipment, game tables & more! PLYMOUTH - Moving Sale. June 29-July 1, Thurs-Sat, 9-7 11326 General Drive, E. of Mill, S. of Ann Arbor Trail. Furniture, washer, dryer, craft supplies, collectibles, misc! REDFORD Furniture, misc. household goods, tools, much more! June 30- July 5, 9am-5pm, 27209 W 6 Mile Rd., first house W of Inkster, S side. SOUTHFIELD King size bed-room set, leather love seat, couch, tables. Lots of other goods! 248-356-1809. TABLE Ethan Allen Dining Table and Chairs. Beautiful, cherry pedestal with leaves and pads. Four side chairs and two host chairs. \$2400/best. 248-347-1917 WIXOM MOVING SALE June 29, 30 2006 9:00 to 5:00 3980 W. Maple (15 mile), 1/2 Mile W of Wixom Rd. Furniture, Appliances, Hand & PowerTools, Garage & Household, 13 HP Riding lawn Tractor, 10'x12' Canopy Compound Bow w/case, Deer target, Metal Wire Storage Racks, 1999 Dodge Window Van w/Handicap Lift. All Items priced to sell. See flyer at: wauctionsstatesales.com CLASSIFIEDS WORK! 1-800-579-7355
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Pools, Spas, Hot Tubs 7180

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ESCORT GT 1992 2 Dr., Auto, cruise, CD, sunroof, 114k miles. Runs Great! \$1200. 734-453-1292

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FOCUS WAGON 2002, must see, extra clean, \$8,295. Bill Brown Ford (734) 522-0030

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Ford (8480) MUSTANG 2004, 12K, summer orange, like new, \$14,995. Bill Brown Ford (734) 522-0030

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MUSTANG GT 1998- Convertible, white w/beige leather, 4.6L, V8, 100,000 miles. exc. cond., \$7100. 248-649-6967

MUSTANG LX 2001 CONVERTIBLE Dark Burgundy. All options. \$9500. TYME (734) 455-5566

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SONATA GLS 2005, V-6, 4 dr., auto, very low miles, only \$13,995. (248) 353-1300

SONATA GL 1998, 4 Door, Burgundy, air, cruise, good mileage, runs great. \$5500. Call John, (248) 474-1503

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OPTIMA LX 2006, V-6, 4 dr., auto, air, great buys, \$12,995. (248) 353-1300

SENTRA 2002 Leather, power moon. Immaculate! \$7999. TYME (734) 455-5566

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X-TYPE 3.0 2004, auto, silver, 30K, ABS, leather, pl/pw, CD, air, cruise, ps/pb, \$20,995. HUMMER of NOVI (248) 476-4466

CHRYSLER JEEP CHEROKEE LAREDO 2005 Under 40,000 miles. Loaded. mint cond! \$21,500. 734-398-9950

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GRAND CHEROKEE 2003, full power, 46K, extra clean, only \$12,888. Fox Hills Chrysler-Jeep (734) 455-8740

GRAND CHEROKEE 2004, V-8, leather, power roof & much more, \$15,595. Fox Hills Chrysler-Jeep (734) 455-8740

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LIBERTY SPORT 2004, red, 29K, priced to sell, \$12,995. Fox Hills Chrysler-Jeep (734) 455-8740

LIBERTY SPORT 2004, 4x4, full power. SIK 6T6458A. \$14,995. NORTH BROTHERS FORD (734) 524-1264

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Lincoln (8560) CONTINENTAL 2001, exc. condition, new tires & front brakes, 64,000 miles. \$9,950. (248) 345-4657

CONTINENTAL 1995, Naples Fla. car, exceptional luxury & comfort, low miles, like new. \$4900. (248) 738-4445

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MAZDA 6 2005 looks like new. \$15,995. SIK P19675 NORTH BROTHERS FORD (734) 524-1264

MIATA 1999 CONVERTIBLE Cute little car - great on gas. \$4499. TYME (734) 455-5566

MIATA MX-5 LS CONVERTIBLE 2003 Air, cruise, CD, pw, ps, pl, am-fm stereo, leather, Cobalt Blue, excellent! \$14,750. 734-658-9010

GRAND MARQUIS LS 1999- 83,000 miles, tan, Florida car, always garaged, immaculate. \$5900/best. 248-477-7911

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SABLE 1999 Good mileage! Nice Car! \$4,995. COLLINS MOTOR SALES WAYNE (734) 721-1616

SABLE 2002 LS PREMIUM silver w/leather, sunroof, wife's car, original owner, 81,000, excellent shape, asking \$7500. 734-462-2851

SABLE LS 2005 Dark Red. 1800 miles. Leather, aluminum wheels. Clean! Clean! Asking \$14,000. 734-776-8679

ECLIPSE GT5 2003 Exc. cond. Auto, Premium Sound, Beautiful Blue Pearl finish, 2 tone leather. New brakes/ tires. Adult owned. Less than 49,000 miles. \$14,995/best. (248) 686-2146

ALTIMA 2006, 2.5, auto, black, 24K, pl/pw, CD, air, cruise, ps/pb, \$16,995. HUMMER of NOVI (248) 476-4466

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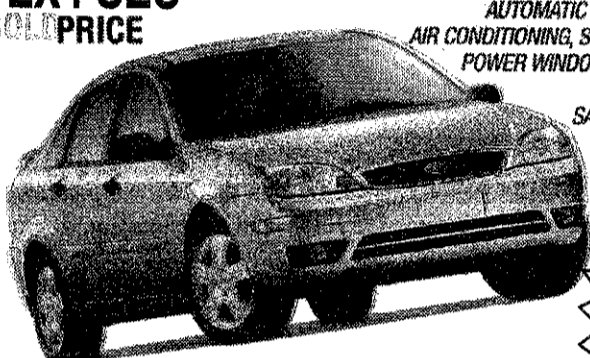


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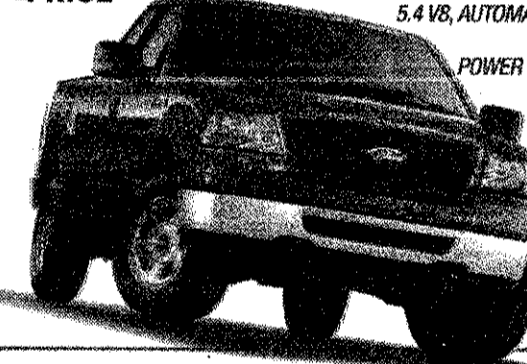


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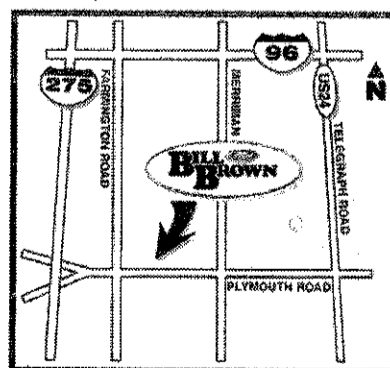
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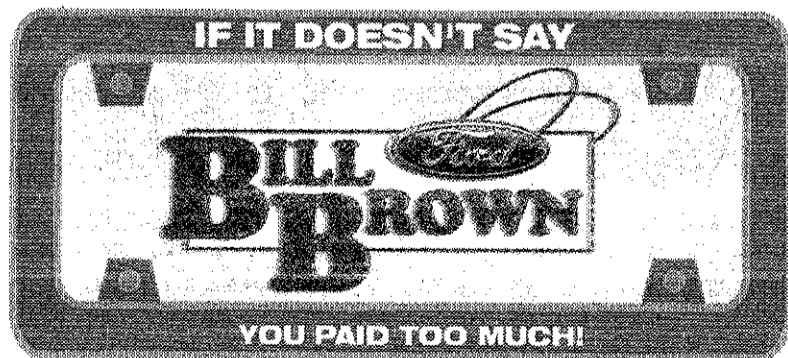
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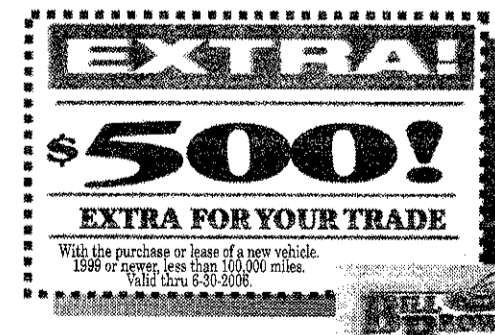
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Save money: Clean your refrigerator's condenser

A sweet, colorful treat



Celebrate the Fourth with America's wines

Garden Walks 2
Garden calendar 5
Food calendar 6



Thursday, June 29, 2006

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

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Pools provide comfort from the summer heat.

Lower maintenance is the new trend

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK
STAFF WRITER

When commuters look to escape from the daily rat race, many of them go directly to their back yard.

The yard turns into an outdoor room, and quite often homeowners buy a pool to create a grand centerpiece.

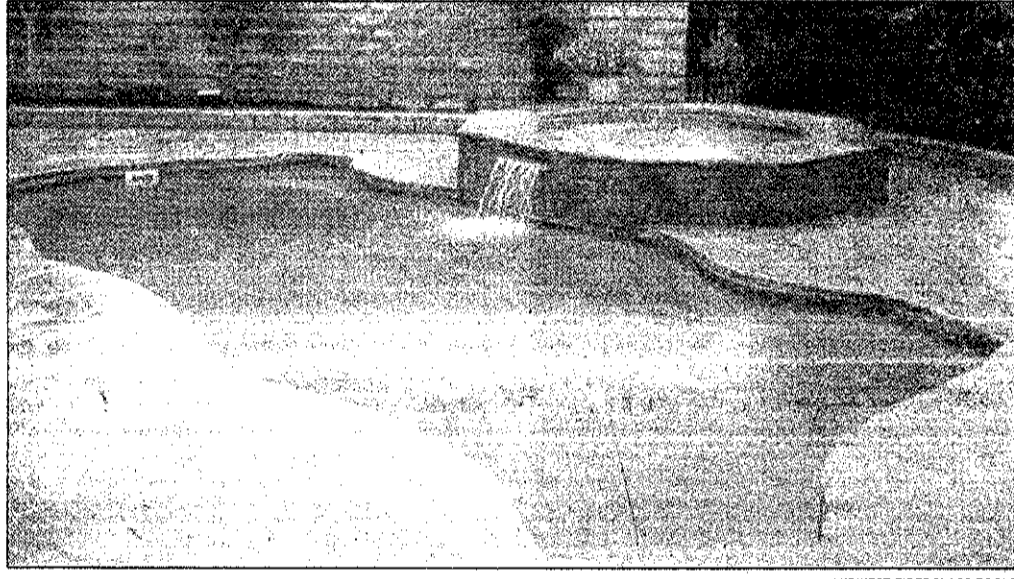
They create a haven of relaxation, a place to take a dip to cool off, or a place for an early-morning or evening swim, a little stress-busting exercise to soothe those frayed nerves.

"They like having a pool in the back yard and use it every day versus going up north to a vacation spot, where the first thing you have to do when you get up there is cut the lawn," said Jerry Jason, sales manager of Midwest Fiberglass Pools in Grand Blanc and Utica.

"It's just easier to use the pool every day, especially with the price of gasoline the way it is."

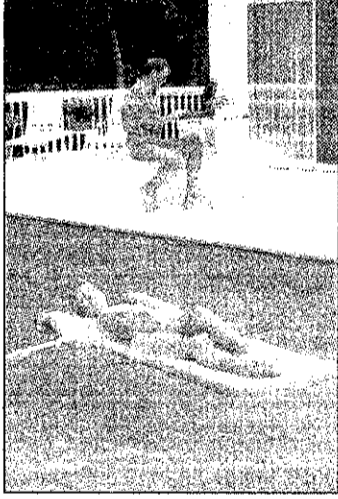
Fiberoptic lighting, little waterfalls and massage jets are options in many in-ground pools. The invisible edge pools, prominent on the East and West coasts, aren't seen much in Michigan, Jason said.

PLEASE SEE POOLING, D3



MIDWEST FIBERGLASS POOLS

A waterfall adds to the soothing water experience in the back yard.



A pool in the back yard gives homeowners a chance to relax during the warm summer months.

BEFORE PUTTING IN THAT POOL

Check with your local municipality or township on pool installation requirements. "They need to know what regulations are for the city with what the setbacks are (in distance) from the house, fencing and overhead wiring," said Jerry Jason, sales manager of Midwest Fiberglass Pools of Grand Blanc and Utica.

Check on any contractors during the pool installation. "Make sure you do your research on your contractors," said Joe Durnell of Durnell Construction in Livonia. "There's a lot of shady characters out there. Ask to check their references on jobs that the contractor has done in the past."

OFF THE AIR WITH DICK PURTAN & PURTAN'S PEOPLE

No joking, but fighting words, this week

Longtime readers of this column (*Editor's note: this is the third column*) know it has been our mission to deliver a weekly dose of humor (*Editor's note: we're still waiting, but remember, this is only the third column*).

Anyway, from time to time we may take a respite from the "hilarity" to address bigger issues. This is one of those times.



Dick Purtan

If you'll indulge me for the 300-plus or so words that I believe I have left, I'd like to take a moment to thank you.

Over the years, you've been kind enough to invite me into your life via the radio, and along the way we've shared the good times and bad times together.

That being said, many of you who tune in on a regular basis know that our family has been battling cancer for more than nine years.

My incredible bride Gail has courageously prevailed over ovarian cancer in defiance of the odds. With your support, we have taken our private battle public in an effort to help eradicate this silent killer.

Every year, approximately 25,000 women are diagnosed with ovarian cancer.

The good news is that when it's detected early, the recovery rate hovers around 90 percent. The bad news is that ovarian cancer is one of the most difficult cancers to detect.

As a result, of those 25,000 new diagnoses, more than 16,000 women will succumb to the disease, making ovarian cancer the deadliest of all gynecological cancers.

Despite these disturbing statistics, ovarian cancer continues to lag significantly behind in terms of public attention and funding. Frustrating — to say the very least.

As with all forms of cancer, we desperately need to do more research in the hope of expediting ways to detect, treat and cure this dreadful disease.

That's why we created the Gail Purtan Ovarian Cancer Research Fund at the Karmanos Cancer Institute. Over the last few years we have, through the kind generosity of our listeners (and readers!), raised more than \$850,000.

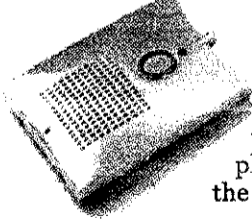
Words, on the radio or in this column, aren't enough to thank you for your support.

Our family has been blessed as we continue to fight the fight against ovarian cancer. But as anyone who has faced cancer in their life knows, it's a battle that must never end.

Back next week with a little lighter fare! Join Dick Purtan & Purtan's People for the ninth annual Dick Purtan Golf Classic to support the Gail Purtan Ovarian Cancer Research Fund, Monday, July 10, at the prestigious Scharf and Katke-Cousins golf courses of Oakland University. Go to WOMC.com for details.

Dick Purtan & Purtan's People can be heard 5-10 a.m. every day at The Motor City's 104.3 WOMC.

Hands-free phone kits let you keep both hands on the wheel



The Mvox MV900 works not only in your car, but anywhere you need a speakerphone to go with your cell phone.

As someone who spends a fair amount of time driving in and out of Detroit, I was actually pleased about the cell phone ban that was passed by the city council in May.

Dialing while driving is inherently dangerous, as is steering with one hand while the other mashes a phone against your ear.

Still, I'm as guilty — and unsafe — as the next driver,



Tech Savvy

Rick Broida

which is why I appreciated being legally nudged into doing the right thing: Buying a hands-free kit.

Although the ban doesn't

allow a police officer to stop and ticket you solely for talking on a handset, you can get slapped with a \$100 fine for it if you're stopped for something else.

Thus, going the hands-free route will not only keep yourself and other drivers safer, but also potentially save you money.

The easiest and least-expensive option is a wired headset. Many phones come with them; if yours didn't, you can probably pick one up for around \$20.

But wired headsets can be somewhat unsafe, as you have to futz with an always-tangled cord and juggle the phone while trying to plug in the connector. Plus, I find that those little earbuds get uncomfortable pretty quickly.

That's why I opted for a more high-tech solution. Because my phone is equipped with a Bluetooth wireless radio, as

PLEASE SEE BROIDA, D4



At \$99, the EasyDrive is an affordable hands-free solution for drivers. But sound quality could be an issue if your car is noisy, and the controller can be difficult to mount.



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Clean your refrigerator's condenser

Just gave Valorie 15 caps to wash in our new Maytag Neptune washer. The last bunch she did come out so clean and undamaged I decided to bring home a bunch of them from the cottage in Canada.



Appliance Doctor

Joe Gagnon

A few of these I bought more than 30 years ago, and the only water that has ever touched them was rainwater. I will let you know how they come out.

The washer is still in the test stages at our house and Valorie is still in love with it.

She continues to show me stains that are removed during a wash cycle, and tells everyone how wrinkle-free clothes are when they come out of the dryer.

I continue to stick my nose inside the front door opening and I can't detect any odor that is offensive.

It appears the past problems of this front loader are gone and it's getting an A-plus rating from our house.

Make sure you pull the power cord before you do any of this.

CLEAN THE CONDENSER

Summer is here. It's time for me to point out that the hardest thing on your refrigerator is the heat factor.

I recently talked to a service man who told me they are very busy with no-refrigeration calls. At this time of year, consumers sometimes have to wait several days before a service technician shows up at the door.

The one common maintenance aspect that the homeowner needs to perform to prevent needless service rendered to a refrigerator is: Clean The Condenser.

Usually located underneath the refrigerator (some are on the back), this condenser is the method used in the refrigeration process to remove the heat from the food.

If the condenser is dirty, you can expect warmer food temperatures, and a compressor (which will be overheated) will use excessive electricity and possibly fail, causing a \$600 repair bill.

Cleaning the condenser can be done by most homeowners, even those who have never held a screwdriver.

You need a condenser brush, which is available at most hardware stores or appliance parts and service shops. It's a skinny, long-handled brush with stiff bristles that you gently stick and prod into the black steel coils under the refrigerator.

You need to use the vacuum crevice tool alongside this brush to remove all the dog and cat hair and dirt and dust that accumulate on the coil.

I have many times in years past filled brown paper grocery bags with the huge amount of dirt under there, and I can't stress enough how hard that is on the operation of the compressor.

Many thousands of homeowners each year are having a compressor replaced because it is all plugged up. Once these people dish out \$600 to have these repairs done and the service technician tells them it was caused by a dirty condenser, the lesson has been learned the hard way.

I can assure you that most folks clean it on a regular basis, which I recommend every three or four months.

I would also suggest that if the condenser hasn't been cleaned from the backside of the refrigerator in the past three years, do it from there as well.

Pull out the refrigerator and remove the cardboard cover at the bottom, and make sure you put it back on when you're all done.

Also clean the fan blades of lint and dust. The extra weight on the fan blades can cause the condenser fan motor to turn slowly and also burn out the motor.

The cleaner it is under the refrigerator, the longer it will last, the temperatures of the food will be colder, and you'll save \$5 to \$10 every month on your electricity bill.

One last thing before I go: Make sure you pull the power cord before you do any of this. Stay tuned.

Joe Gagnon can be heard on Talk Radio WAAM 1600 at 8 a.m. Saturdays. He is a board member of Spectrum Human Services and the Society of Consumer Affairs Professionals (SOCAP). His phone number is (734) 971-1600, Ext. 28. Do you have a question about an appliance or a problem you have with an appliance? E-mail your question to mklemic@hometownlife.com and it will be forwarded to Joe Gagnon.

GARDEN WALK CALENDAR

Northville

The 13th annual Gardens of Northville Garden Walk will take place 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday, July 12. The Country Garden Club of Northville, a member of the Woman's National Farm and Garden Association, is sponsoring the event.

Tickets are \$10 in advance, available at Gardenviews, 202 W. Main in Northville.

Five gardens will be featured. Cady Inn at Mill Race Village will be transformed into The Potting Shed, where complimentary, homemade sweets and lemonade will be served. Music will be played as local vendors offer a selection of plants and garden items. Raffle tickets will be available at Mill Race Village only on the day of the event.

Water gardens

The Southeast Michigan Koi and Pond Club's ninth annual Pond Tour will take place 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, July 15.

For information and tickets, call Bruce E. Modetz at (734) 425-7490 or visit www.mkpc-se.com. Ten ponds clustered in the Milford and Highland Township area will be featured. Partial proceeds from the event will be donated to local charities. The Michigan Koi and Pond Club is a not-for-profit organization.

Northville and Novi

The Gardeners of Northville & Novi will present The NO-NO's Gardening Adventure 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, July 15.

Tickets are \$10 in advance. They are available at www.gardener-snorthville-novi.org. Anglin Nursery in Novi, Backyard Birds in Plymouth, Gardenviews and Water Wheel Health Club in Northville, Bordine Nursery in Brighton and Saguro in Whitmore Lake. They are also available by mail: Gardeners of Northville & Novi, P.O. Box 344, Northville 48167.

The event will feature six exceptional home gardens and 17 individual gardens at the Tollgate Education Center. Gardening lectures and demonstrations will take place throughout the day (the ticket booklet lists the time for each session). Plant and garden art vendors, garden-related displays from local organizations and artisans, a quilt exhibit, a raffle of garden-related items, and homemade refreshments will also be featured.

The plant vendors will have a selection of the plants shown in the gardens.

South Lyon

The Four Seasons Garden Club of

South Lyon is sponsoring the eighth annual South Lyon Garden Walk 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, July 15. Tickets are \$10 and will be available the day of the event at McHattie Park, off Pontiac Trail south of 10 Mile, starting at 10 a.m.

For information, call (248) 437-8751 or visit www.homestead.com/fsqc/gardenwalk.html.

Six private country gardens will be featured, and garden treasures and plants will be sold in the park. Proceeds will be used for community beautification and horticultural education.

Canton

The Canton Garden Club's eighth annual Garden Walk will take place 1-6 p.m. Sunday, July 16, rain or shine. Visit beautiful private gardens in the Canton area. Shop for garden-related items from vendors at the Garden Market on the grounds of the Canton Historical Museum, where the Country Lines Michigan Heritage Quilt is displayed.

Free admittance to the Garden Market and the museum. Garden Walk tickets are \$6 in advance, \$7 the day of the event. They are available at Backyard Birds, Gray's Greenhouse, and Plymouth Nursery Home & Garden Showplace, all in Plymouth; Crimboil Nursery & Sweetwater Village, Keller & Stein Florist and Greenhouse, and Mary's Farm Market, all in Canton; and Feather Your Nest Antiques in Superior Township.

Tickets will also be available July 16 only at the museum and each garden location.

For more information, call Dianne at (734) 254-1023.

Shelby Township

Garden Walk 2006, sponsored by Shelby Gardeners Club, will take place noon to 8:30 p.m. Thursday, July 20.

Tickets are \$8 in advance (available from club members, Shelby Parks and Recreation and Shelby Library), and \$10 the day of the event at Heritage Gardens, 52700 Van Dyke (Jack Millard Boulevard), south of 24 Mile. Advance tickets are also available by mail (send check before Monday, July 10, to: Shelby Gardeners Club, P.O. Box 183324, Shelby Township 48318).

For ticket information, call Ivy Schwartz at (586) 781-6742 or Pat Franks at (586) 781-4151.

Visit eight beautiful Shelby Township gardens. See artists painting on site, then participate in a silent auction at Shelby Library from July 24 to Aug. 13.

Open Days program is called success

The six gardens in Oakland County's Open Days Program this year had 1,600 visits.

"We're so pleased with the results of this year's Oakland County Open Days held on June 11," said Erin Plimley, Open Days Coordinator at the national office of the Garden Conservancy in Cold Spring, N.Y.

"This event continues to be one of the highlights of the Open Days Program in the Midwest.

"We also send our sincere appreciation to all of the garden owners, volunteers, visitors, and the press who made the day such a terrific success."

"There is no doubt," said Alice R. McCarthy, regional representative for the Conservancy, "that many of the visitors to the six magnificent gardens shown on June 11 believed these were among the most beautiful in Oakland County."

For more than 10 years, the Open Days Program has opened the gates to hundreds of America's very best private gardens by working with volunteers to coordinate schedules, and to collect and release information.

Many of these gardens are rarely, if ever, otherwise open to the public.

"The Conservancy tour gives gardens national recognition," McCarthy said.

Founded in 1989 by the distinguished American gardener Frank Cabot, the Garden Conservancy works in partnership with individual garden owners and public and private organizations, and uses their legal, financial and horticultural resources to secure each garden's future.

Hundreds of gardens across this country and Canada have benefited.

The Conservancy works with the individual garden owners and established garden organizations on issues as diverse as

fund-raising approaches to horticultural practices, landscape restoration plans and public relations strategies.

"It is the generous outpouring of talent and resources of garden owners and of volunteers that produce thousands of visits nationally to outstanding gardens," said McCarthy.

For information about the organization of Open Days and how to become involved, write the Garden Conservancy, P.O. Box 219, Cold Spring, NY 10516; phone (845) 265-5384; fax (845) 265-5392; e-mail opendays@gardenconservancy.org.

GARDEN CALENDAR

Rose programs

Roger and Nancy Lindley, owners of Great Lakes Roses, present a series of educational programs for the public. The popular programs are at the historic 1890s barn and display garden at Great Lakes Roses, 49875 Willow Road in Sumpter Township. Admission is free. Reservations aren't

required. Each presentation lasts about 1-1/2 hours. Dress for the weather. For information, visit www.GreatLakesRoses.com or call (734) 461-1230. The schedule includes Garden Preparation and Planting of Roses (1 p.m. Sunday, July 2, repeated 11 a.m.

Monday, July 3) and Japanese Beetle Control for Roses (1 p.m. Sunday, July 9, repeated 11 a.m. Monday, July 10). The preparation and planting program will feature a slide lecture and hands-on garden demonstration.

The beetle control program will feature a lecture and hands-on demonstration by Roger Lindley.

Hydrangea Fest!

Goldner Walsh Nursery, 559 Orchard Lake Road in Pontiac, will present Hydrangea Fest! 1 p.m. Saturday, July 15. Admission is \$15. Call (248) 332-6430 for reservations.

Discover exciting new and colorful hydrangeas with Goldner Walsh manager Joel Miller. Register to win a Big Daddy hydrangea that is valued at \$50. Refreshments will be served. Miller will review effective techniques for successfully growing hydrangeas, and dispel myths. Goldner Walsh carries

more than 20 different varieties of hydrangeas.

Master gardener

The Michigan State University Extension-Oakland County Master Gardener Training Program will begin Aug. 22 and run through Nov. 14. Seats will be offered on a first come-first served basis. The application fee is \$25 and the class fee is \$300. For an application, call MSUE-Oakland County at (248) 858-0887, or go to the MSUE Web site at www.msue.msue.edu/oakland and look under horticulture and gardening.

The 13-week class will meet 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Tuesdays in the MSUE offices in the Oakland County Service Center, 1200 N. Telegraph in Pontiac. Each session will focus on a different horticultural topic that will prepare participants to fulfill a 40-hour community service commitment to earn master

gardener certification.

Outdoor living

English Gardens will host free seminars 7 p.m. Wednesdays in July at all six stores, including locations in West Bloomfield (phone (248) 851-7506), Royal Oak-Troy (phone (248) 280-9500), Dearborn Heights (phone (313) 278-4433) and Ann Arbor (phone (734) 332-7900). Create the Garden of Your Dreams will be the topic July 5. Learn how to maximize your outdoor living area. Gardening in the Shade will be the topic July 12.

Hidden Lake Gardens

The Royal Oak Garden Club will go on a field trip to Hidden Lake Gardens in the Irish Hills 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 2. The tour bus will leave from the Mahany/Meininger Community Center, 3500 Marais in Royal Oak. Cost is \$7, which includes the tour bus,

admission and boxed lunch. Space is limited, so register early. Call Sherry Jurva at (248) 280-2540. The 755-acre botanical garden features a greenhouse complex, a lake, a picnic area, a 6-mile, paved scenic drive, and thousands of labeled trees, shrubs and flowers. Indoor plants include bamboo, banana, cocoa, coffee, sugarcane, tapoca and vanilla. A visitor center has informative exhibits.

Volunteers sought

Do you live in a condo or apartment and miss gardening? The Royal Oak Garden Club is seeking volunteers (club members only) to tend these Royal Oak community gardens now to October: Gilda's Garden, Community Center Garden, Community Center Iris Garden, Cemetery Garden and the Zoo Garden. Club membership is \$10 per year. Call Sherry Jurva at (248) 280-2540.

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Spas are built to last longer

Don't want a pool? Try a spa.

You can use them year-round and they take up less space.

Today's spa uses plastic synthetic materials, and not the wood of old. In fact, none of the hot tubs on display at a recent Backyard and Spa Show in Novi were made of wood.

"Nowadays people are concerned about putting it outdoors, that they want something that will last," said Bryan DeGayner, CEO of Lifestyles HotSpring Spas, headquartered in Fenton, with locations in Ann Arbor, Canton, Novi, Rochester Hills and Utica.

"They want every efficiency, and they want the latest gadgets and music."

The speaker in the SpAudio system is built into the shell, and adds the rhythm of the spa itself.

"So you're feeling and hearing it at the same time," DeGayner said.

"It's a balance with everything, whether it is hot tubs or cars, to match the right amount of jets with what's comfortable. More jets isn't always better, less jets isn't always better."

Jets are varied in power and size.

"Some jets will have more pressure than others. The pump only has a certain amount of pressure." If there are too few jets for that pressure, "it will hurt," DeGayner said. "More variety in the jets will give you the therapy you are most looking for."

One unit has seven varieties of jets.

"Two jets start at the top and

go to the bottom with a sweeping motion," DeGayner said. "Jets also mimic fingers on a massage. There's jets for calves and feet. There's a big jet that can be stopped for a sore spot. There are jets with seven spots specifically aimed for the shoulder blades."

The spas are now enclosed with Everwood, a plastic encasement for all four sides.

"It gives the spa an outdoor furniture look. It's low maintenance, and there's no staining required. It can be stained (for looks), but it doesn't require stain every year," DeGayner said.

Spas include waterfalls and LED lighting.

"The light is a rotating color wheel," DeGayner said. "You can find the color or the mood you'd like, and it stops. It also has a dimmer switch."

The price range is \$3,000 for basic to \$11,000 for a fully-loaded unit.

Another basic unit has an indoor/outdoor option: The Solana TX lists for \$4,000.

"It has the same features as a big spa, but it is built for a compact space. You have the option of putting it indoors."

That spa often appeals to empty nesters or one- or two-member households. It can fit in the corner of a deck.

Dave Fritz, manager of Insideout Home Recreation in Canton, said music, waterfalls and custom lighting are the new rages in spas.

"The lighting and waterfalls really change the whole experience in the back yards," Fritz said.

Spas have changed over the past five years.

"There's a lot more movement to the jets. There's more ways to give a more penetrating massage."

Spas range in price from \$4,000 to \$12,000. The spas use aromatherapy, chromatherapy and reflexology, all part of hydrotherapy in the spa experience.

Between new outdoor furniture, spa and grill islands, homeowners can create a fun oasis in the backyard for their families, friends and party guests.

"That's really been well received," Fritz said. "It gives the backyard a unique look, a place where you don't want to leave it."

Don't want to get wet? Here's another option:

The dry wave spa (\$6,000) gives a massage. The person lays on top of the spa, and a jet runs a track from the user's heels to the bottom of his or her neck. The jet operates underneath the surface.

"You can stop it in one area," DeGayner said.

SOURCES

■ Lifestyles HotSpring Spas, 42647 Ford Rd., Canton (734) 844-1795; 3310 Rochester Road, Rochester Hills (248) 852-2620; 42875 Grand River, Novi (248) 735-2700

■ Insideout Home Recreation, 41915 Ford Rd., Canton (734) 404-2440; 35630 Van Dyke, Sterling Heights (586) 365-3080



MIDWEST FIBERGLASS POOLS

Fiberglass inground pools can be dressed up with concrete and brick pavers.

POOLING

FROM PAGE D1

"That requires a reservoir to sit below the pool," Jason said.

Pool owners are dressing up the backyard, too, around the pool. Tile and mosaic are used on walkways adjacent to the pool.

"They're putting fancy concrete around it," Jason said. "Stamped concrete is made to look like cobblestone. It gives it a totally different feel around the pool. It really makes it a backyard getaway."

Pools cost approximately \$200 a month between heating, electrical and paying for chemicals, Jason said. Jason installed a Viking pool at his home in Livonia.

"People are installing pools just for a place to relax," Jason said. "A lot of (customers) are grandparents buying them for their grandkids."

AMENITIES

While there isn't much new in terms of amenities within the last few years, pool owners want ease in maintaining the pool. Working couples want the pools, but they don't want to have to skim and vacuum them every day.

More pool buyers want the automatic cleaners, said Grant Hord, manager of Pools & Spas A Go Go in Rochester Hills.

"The automatic cleaners vary in prices in different pools from \$150 to \$1,500," Hord said. "It takes the place of the vacuum."

The cleaners put dirt into the return or pick it up and put it into bags, or sweepers work to put debris into floor drains.

Other people want the non-chlorinated pools, using a

hydrogen peroxide for sanitation with periodic checks rather than dumping chlorine in the pool every day, Hord said.

Salt generators also are used for cleaning. The salt is split creating a sodium and hydrochloric acid, which cleans the pool. The units run \$400 to \$1,500.

Pools & Spas A Go Go sells above ground pools. Hord doesn't see many amenities in those units in terms of waterfalls or lighting.

"(Waterfalls) will add \$3,000 to \$4,000 extra. They use more water, because you lose water to evaporation when it is free-falling. You also lose chlorine."

Rising gas prices have pool owners using more portable solar collectors.

"It costs far less than what you pay to run your gas furnace," Hord said.

For a 15,000-gallon pool, three 2-by-20-foot panels are required, at \$360 per panel. The panels can be placed on a garage roof, but they require southern exposure.

The only drawback is your pool temperature is beholden to the sunlight.

"If you have four bad days and the sky is overcast on Friday, you won't be able to heat it up for that Saturday party," Hord said.

If the weather cooperates with sunlight, pools with a solar cover can maintain that heat at night that was absorbed by the panels during the day.

Pool owners dress up pool surroundings with black aluminum, chain link or wooden fencing. Often they will use shrubs to beautify the area.

"But when you have bushes, you have more bugs and mos-

quitoes," Hord said.

Joe Durnell, owner of Durnell Construction in Livonia, installs and services usually custom pools with vinyl liners.

"We're seeing the automatic vacuum and automatic chlorination and less and less lighting features," Durnell said.

More families with young children are interested in buying pools, so they often focus on swimming during the daylight hours and aren't interested in lighting as much, Durnell said. More slides are being installed by pool owners, he said.

They also dress up the yard with large concrete areas.

"They really vary," Durnell said. "We see about the same amount of regular concrete, stamped concrete and brick pavers."

kabramczyk@hometownlife.com
(734) 953-2107

SOURCES:

■ Midwest Fiberglass Pool Distributors, 3090 W. Cook Road, Grand Blanc; 6991 Auburn Road, Utica (800) 450-7665

■ Pools & Spas A Go Go, 3100 S. Rochester Rd., Rochester Hills (248) 852-8900; 2750 W. 12 Mile, Berkley (248) 398-4577, and 48270 Van Dyke, Utica (586) 739-5333

■ Joe Durnell (installation and service), Durnell Contracting, 29900 Joy Road, Livonia (866) 756-6428

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BROIDA

FROM PAGE D1

many phones are nowadays, I can pair it with any number of Bluetooth hands-free kits.

Two companies were generous enough to send me their products for review.

I spent the last few weeks testing the \$99 Parrot EasyDrive (parrot.biz) and \$129 Mvox MV900 (mvox.com), and came away with mixed feelings about both.

PARROT EASYDRIVE

The EasyDrive consists of a trumpet-shaped speaker that plugs into your cigarette lighter and a microphone/controller that's tethered to it.

There are no batteries, which is nice, but you have to find a place to mount the controller using double-sided tape.

In my compact Chevy Cavalier, I had a hard time finding a suitable spot — and the tape wouldn't stick to the dashboard.

Furthermore, the EasyDrive can be tricky to use, its name notwithstanding.

There's no screen that shows mode or status; the system relies on voice-driven menus that you navigate using a large dial. Thus, setting up features such as voice recognition can be cum-

bersome.

Fortunately, once you've got everything configured to your liking, you'll rarely need to delve into those menus again.

The real problem I had with the EasyDrive was audio quality. All callers said I sounded "terrible," and at my end it was hard to get the volume up to a sufficient level.

Granted, my car lets in a lot of road noise, but ultimately the EasyDrive was almost unusable when I was tooling down the highway.

When I moved into my wife's much quieter Ford Explorer, things improved considerably. I'd recommend the EasyDrive, but only for drivers with relatively quiet cars.

MVOX MV900

The feature-packed Mvox MV900 is about the size of a deck of cards and can clip to your overhead visor — a much more convenient placement.

It relies on a rechargeable battery, which provides four hours of talk time and 200 hours of standby, according to the company.

During my informal tests, callers said I sounded reasonably good, though not great. At my end, volume was more than sufficient — almost too loud, in fact, resulting in some distortion.

Regrettably, the volume controls are terrible. A jog dial adjusts the

level, but there are no markings to indicate which direction is volume-up and which is volume-down. Plus, when you make a change, the MV900 beeps and the speaker momentarily cuts out.

The MV900's features include voice commands, voice dialing and Caller ID (in which the unit rapidly announces the phone number of the incoming call).

As an added bonus, the device is designed to double as a speakerphone — ideal for phones that lack that feature or have weak volume. You can even connect it to your PC and use it as a speakerphone with Skype and other voice-over-IP services.

Except for its volume problems, the MV900 worked well, even in my noisy car. It's a product I can wholeheartedly recommend.

There are lots of hands-free solutions out there. I strongly advise adopting one, because the roads are plenty dangerous without trying to juggle a phone in one hand.

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.

Dig into classes at School of Gardening

Do you love to garden and want to learn more? Did you just move into a new home and are wondering how to keep your landscape beautiful? Are you yearning for practical information? Check out classes this summer at the Michigan School of Gardening.

Summer is a great time to take classes because gardeners are active in their gardens and encounter questions daily.

What better way to answer those questions than to take a class and interact with other gardeners, while learning from knowledgeable and enthusiastic instructors?

The Michigan School of Gardening conducts classes throughout the year in Ann Arbor, Birmingham, Livonia, Pontiac and Troy.

This summer, these popular classes are offered:

In Ann Arbor — Mixed Borders, Doubling Up Perennials, and

Perennial Combinations.

In Birmingham — Drought-tolerant Plants, and Bulbs: Tips on Choosing and Using.

In Troy — Keeping Your Garden Fresh, Renovating a Garden, and Ornamental Grasses.

Classes take place in the evenings on weekdays, and range from \$22 to \$42. For the schedule, the full curriculum and registration information, call (248) 4-GARDEN or visit www.michigangardening.com.

The Michigan School of Gardening has been providing classes in gardening, design and horticulture since 1996.

Classes range from the most basic to the very specialized, for beginning and avid gardeners as well as professional gardeners and landscapers.

Instructors include rose expert Nancy Lindley and author, educator and professional gardener Janet Macunovich.

SUMMER Breeze

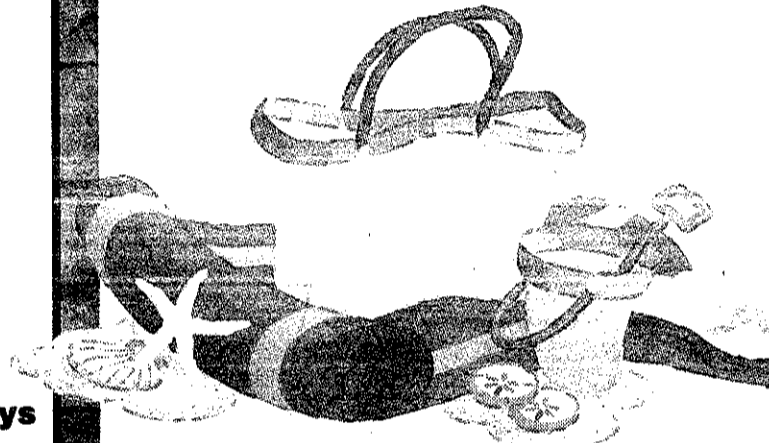
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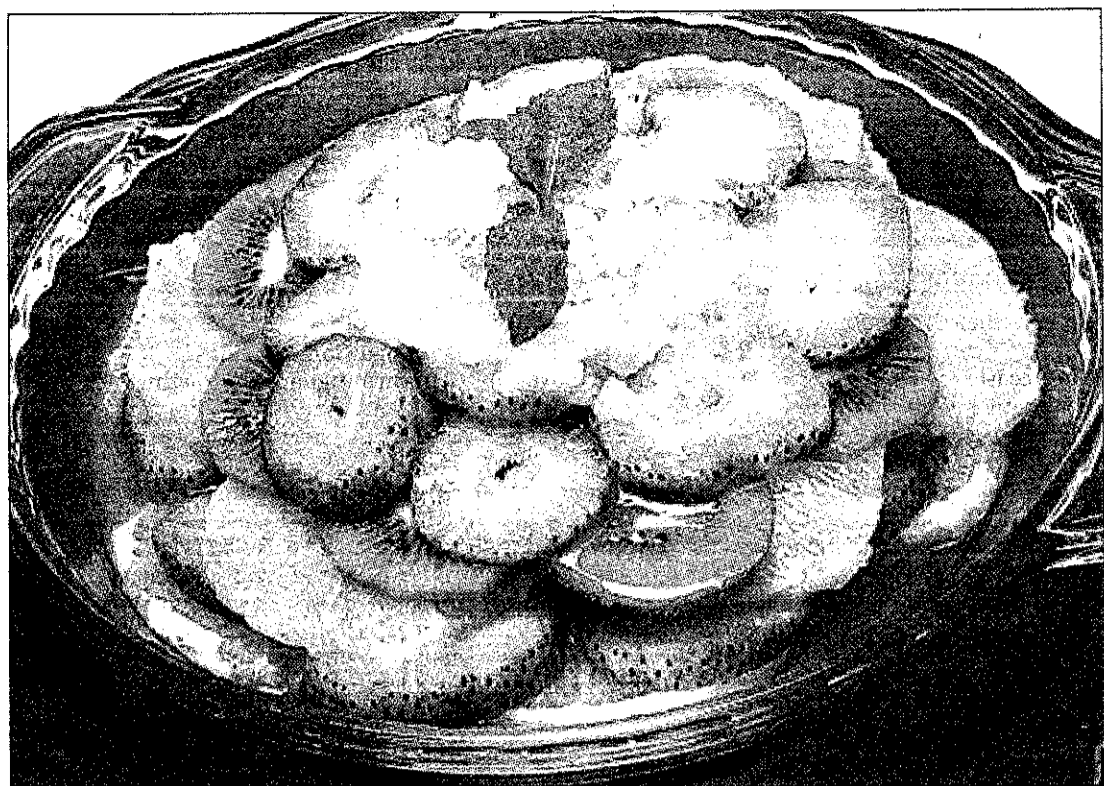
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This version of ambrosia calls for oranges, strawberries, kiwi and pineapple, making it an especially colorful dish.

Ambrosia a sweet, colorful treat

BY DANA JACOBI
THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR CANCER RESEARCH

How do you satisfy a sweet tooth without eating sugar? Fruit is the easy answer.

When other kids were dipping chocolate sandwich cookies into glasses of milk, my mother kept me happy without serving foods made with sugar. She put pecan-stuffed dates into my school lunch box and served ambrosia as an after-school snack. This sweet and tart dish can be served as either a salad or dessert. It also has many variations.

My mother's version was distinctive because she used honey, while most recipes call for sprinkling the fruit with super-fine granulated or confectioners' sugar. I prefer the latter, sifting it evenly over the fruit, because it does not pull out as much liquid. Using a small amount, plus some vanilla, makes the fruit seem sweeter.

I do follow Mom's lead in using unsweetened shredded dried coconut. You can, today, find it made without sulfites and even with reduced fat at natural food stores.

In classic literature, ambrosia was the food of Greek gods, eaten to preserve their immortality. In early American society, ambrosia was a popular dessert in the South that combined oranges and coconut, and traditionally served for Christmas dinner. Later, other fruits were included, such as pineapple, bananas, grapes and even berries, but oranges and coconut always remained the base.

This version of ambrosia calls for oranges, strawberries, kiwi and pineapple, making it an especially colorful dish. For the pineapple, I prefer using canned crushed pineapple because it looks pretty and is less expensive than fresh.

Ambrosia has a jewel-like glow. To show it off at its best, assemble it in a glass container either a large glass bowl (or even a clear pie plate) or individual glass compotes or the kind of footed dishes used for sundaes, mousse or parfaits. Add mint for garnish and, if used as a dessert, serve it with vanilla yogurt for guests to dollop on.

AMBROSIA

- 3 navel oranges, peeled and cut into thin slices
- 4 teaspoons confectioners' sugar
- 9 large strawberries, hulled and sliced
- 1 kiwifruit, peeled and cut into 7-8 slices
- ¼ cup orange juice
- 3-4 drops vanilla extract
- 1 tablespoon unsweetened shredded coconut
- ½ cup canned crushed pineapple, drained
- Fresh mint sprigs, for garnish
- 16-ounce container low-fat or fat-free vanilla yogurt (optional)

In individual clear glass bowls or a serving dish or pie plate, arrange orange slices to cover bottom.

Place the sugar in a small strainer and sprinkle some of it lightly over the oranges.

Cover the orange with the strawberries and sprinkle on some sugar. Add another layer of orange, then one of kiwi. Finish with the remaining strawberries, sprinkling each layer with some sugar.

Combine the orange juice and vanilla in a small container. Drizzle evenly over the top of the fruit.

Add a layer of pineapple. Top with the coconut and sprinkle on any remaining sugar.

Cover with plastic wrap and refrigerate 2 to 12 hours. Using a turkey baster, remove excess juices from bottom of each dish. Garnish with the mint and serve chilled. If

desired, stir the yogurt and pass it as a sauce to drizzle over the Ambrosia.

Makes 4 servings. Per serving: 76 calories, less than 1 g. total fat (less than 1 g. saturated fat), 18 g. carbohydrate, 1 g. protein, 3 g. dietary fiber, 2 mg. sodium.

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Celebrate the Fourth with America's wine family

If you haven't tried a Gallo wine lately, celebrate Independence Day with America's wine family and their new Sonoma Reserves. Priced from \$13 to \$15 per bottle, they include a chardonnay, merlot, pinot noir and cabernet sauvignon - all excellent wines for the money.

In the case of Gallo, big is not bad. In fact, it's very good. Gallo has the capital to do things right and they do. They've invested millions in vineyards, wineries, technology and state-of-the-art equipment, all to bring the highest quality wines to the market at affordable prices.

GALLO IN SONOMA COUNTY

In Sonoma County alone, where Gallo wines are grown, they account for over 3,000 acres of vineyards. Gallo's viticultural experts know exactly where to grow grapes and what varieties to plant where.

Their Two Rock vineyard, for example, is located in Sonoma's most exciting appellation, the Sonoma Coast. Its cool, windy climate in the rolling hills near Petaluma, is ideal for growing cool climate varieties like chardonnay, pinot gris and pinot noir. When is



Focus on Wine

Ray and Eleanor Heald

the last time you had a pinot noir or chardonnay for \$13 to \$15 that tastes like it cost \$30?

In the warmer reaches of Sonoma County, Dry Creek and Alexander Valleys, Gallo grows cabernet sauvignon, zinfandel, merlot and other varieties that prefer warmth.

The other great thing about Gallo's viticultural practices is that they leave the land better than they found it. They are recognized internationally for their environmental management practices.

Q & A

You may ask, "how can such a large vineyard and winery make wine with an artisanal approach?" The answer is that at each large winery, Gallo has created a small winery-within-a-winery to make wines in very small batches to test fermentation and blending techniques. Results of these experiments permit better decisions in the vineyard, too. Gallo farms its

vineyards in small blocks of 10 to 12 acres and the grapes harvested are kept separate and monitored through pressing, fermentation and aging.

"Scaling up artisanal winemaking techniques gives us more focus," explains third generation family winemaker Gina Gallo. "It helps us make wines that are delicious, accessible and lets the grapes speak for themselves."

Gallo has created a new name and label art for their flagship brand around the world. As current wines are sold they will be replaced by Gallo Family Vineyards Sonoma Reserves and eventually by an entire range of wines from \$5 to \$75. This will include Single Vineyard and Estate wines as well as the value label known as Twin Valley.

"We're in transition now as the last vintage of wines with the previous names and labels are selling out, and the new vintages, with the new name, are arriving on store shelves and wine lists," said Stephanie Gallo, director of marketing.

BEST JULY 4 BUYS FROM GALLO FAMILY VINEYARDS

■ 2003 Gallo Family Vineyards Sonoma Reserve

Merlot \$13, an easy-drinking wine that begins with aromas of fresh berries and red cherries then transitions to flavors of berries and jam. A very pleasant wine.

■ 2003 Gallo Family Vineyards Sonoma Reserve Pinot Noir \$15 was grown on the cold and windy Sonoma Coast where the grape skins thicken to give bright berry and dark cherry flavors in a medium-bodied version that is very likeable.

■ 2003 Gallo Family Vineyards Sonoma Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon \$15. Aromas of dark cherries and spice introduce flavors of raspberries and currants. Velvety tannins give this cabernet a lush mouthfeel.

■ 2003 Gallo Family Vineyards Sonoma Reserve Chardonnay \$13. A balanced touch of toasty oak introduces a tasty melange of citrus, lime and melon, ending smooth and rich. A real value.

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

Cabernet Sauvignon enhances any grilled red meat you may serve on July 4. Here's how we ranked the best in a recent tasting.

SUPERIOR

- 2002 Grgich Hills \$58
- 2002 Raymond Generations \$75
- 2003 Napanook \$39
- 2003 Chateau St. Jean, Sonoma County \$27 (best value)
- 2003 Flora Springs Trilogy \$60

EXCELLENT

- 2001 Rodney Strong Reserve \$40
- 2002 St. Supery Napa Valley \$28 (top value)
- 2002 Wattle Creek Alexander Valley \$50
- 2002 Clos du Val Stags Leap District \$52
- 2003 Franciscan Oakville Estate Napa Valley \$28 (top value)
- 2002 Frank Family Napa Valley \$40

WALLET PLEASERS

- 2003 Bogle \$11
- 2004 Inca Cabernet Malbec (Argentina) \$9

If a retailer does not stock a specific wine we recommend, ask that it be ordered from the distributor or order it direct from the winery.

FOOD CALENDAR

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

Wine classes

Summer tasting of wine regions, instructed by Nidal Daher and Marc Jonna, with the following class scheduled: All American wines, 7:30 p.m. June 29, \$28, The Community House, 380 S. Bates, Birmingham, (248) 644-5832, www.communityhouse.com.

Grapevine

The schedule of classes from the Grapevine School of Wine, includes Cabernet Sauvignon: The Velvet Hammer, 7 p.m. July 10, Royal Park Hotel, 600 E. University Dr., Rochester,

\$32; Wonderful Red Under \$15, 7 p.m. July 11, Big Rock Chop House, 245 S. Eton Street, Birmingham (includes valet parking), \$35; Pinot Noir: The Seductress of Red Wine, 7 p.m. July 25, Quarter Bistro & Tavern, 300 S. Maple, Ann Arbor, \$35, register online at www.grapevineschoolofwine.com. For additional information, call (248) 990-4613.

The Community House

Cooking classes will be taught this summer at The Community House, 380 S. Bates, Birmingham. To register, call (248) 644-5832 or visit www.communityhouse.com

Vintage Wine Tasting

Viewpoint Estate Winery, 151 County Road 50 East, Harrow, Ont. hosts Southwestern Ontario Vintners Association 2006 Vintners Wine Tasting, 1-4 p.m. Aug. 12, tickets \$50, available at SWOVA wineries, visit www.vintagetesting.com

HOME CALENDAR

HOME CALENDAR

Bolster, triangle pillows

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

Call (248) 541-0010, e-mail ContactUs@HabermanFabrics.com or visit www.HabermanFabrics.com. The schedule includes Bolster and Triangle Pillows, Mondays, July 10-24 (fee is \$60).

Interior design

Learn how to create a harmonious home environment in The Do's and Don'ts of Interior Design, a class at The Community House in Birmingham

Wednesday, July 12.

Cost is \$25, plus a \$2 material fee payable in class. Bring 1/4-inch graph paper, a No. 2 pencil with eraser, a ruler, and some inspirational design photos to discuss.

To register and for more information, call The Community House at (248) 644-5832 or visit www.communityhouse.com.

Instructor is interior designer Mary Antenucci, a founding member of the Designer On Call program of the Michigan Design Center.

Detroit walking tours

Preservation Wayne presents guided walking tours of five historical areas of Detroit (downtown, Eastern Market, Midtown, Auto Heritage and the

Cultural Center), 10 a.m. Saturdays now through September.

It also presents Tuesday After Work tours in downtown Detroit 5:30 p.m. every week.

Tours of the New Center area are available by appointment. Each tour offers a blend of the history of the area and what is happening now. Cost is \$10. Visit www.preservationwayne.org or call (313) 577-7674.

Send calendar items at least two weeks ahead of the event to Mary Klemic, At Home Editor, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham 48009, e-mail mklemic@hometownlife.com, fax (734) 591-7279 or (248) 644-1314.



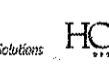
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Sunday, June 9 | 10 AM - 5 PM



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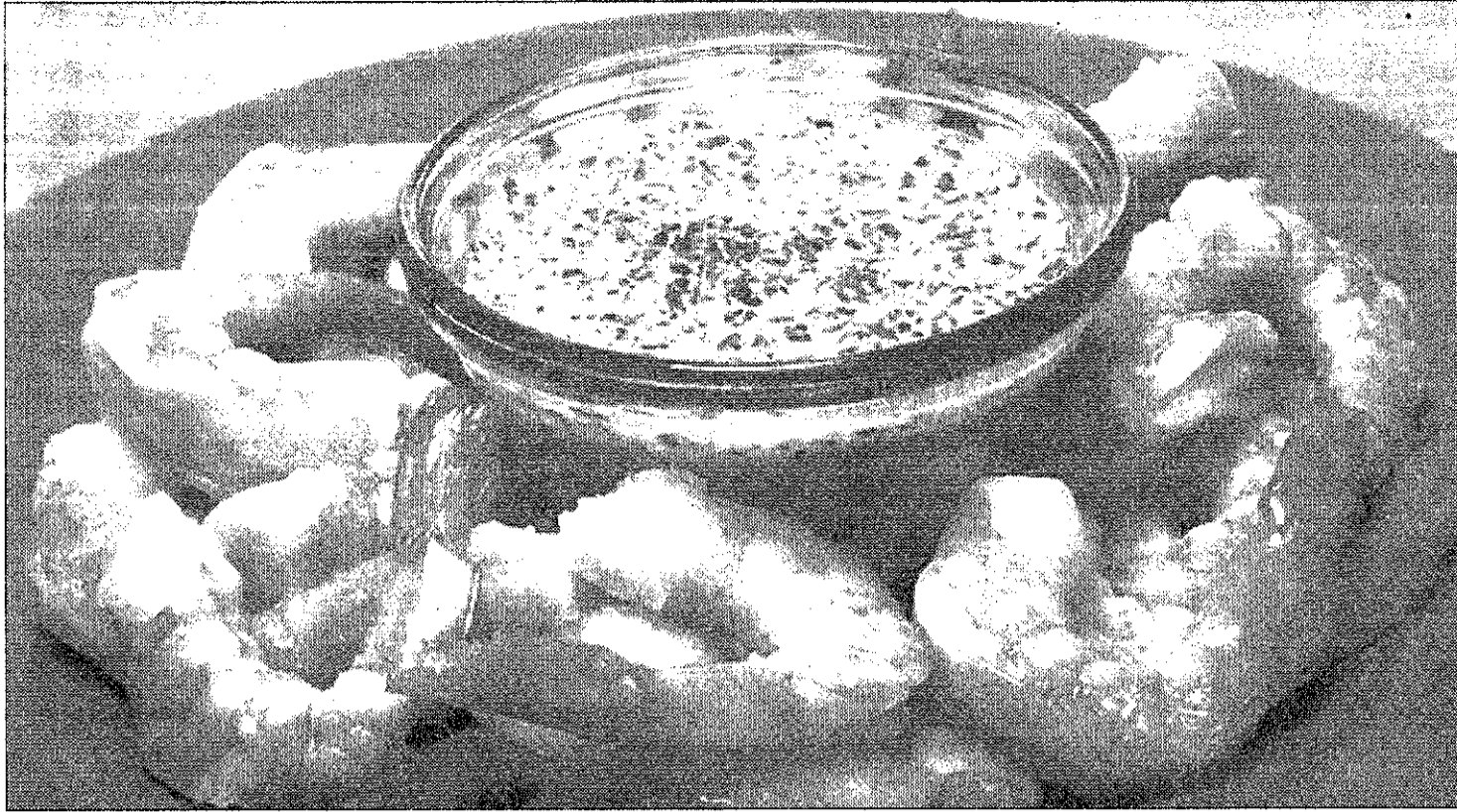
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Orange-crumbed baked chicken is a low-fat dish

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Orange-crumbed baked chicken packs health and taste benefits from so many of its ingredients it's almost too much to believe it could also be a low-fat dish.

But it is, so it's a good item to include in a family buffet or pack in a picnic basket for those on a careful diet.

The recipe has a good pedigree, shared with about 500 others in the third edition of *Weight Watchers New Complete Cookbook* (Wiley, 2006, \$29.95). Recipes are handily laid out in a sturdy ringbound volume, some shown in color photos, all with nutrition details, seasoned with sidebars of cooking and healthy-eating tips.

Beyond the stocks and sauces, through appetizers, pasta and pizzas, main dishes to desserts, there's a chapter on holiday baking around the world - so that even traditional feast days can be free of diet guilt.

To add to the nutrition in this flavorful dish, the cookbook's editors say, be sure to use whole-wheat crackers. And if you prefer, substitute lemon juice and zest for the orange.

AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR CANCER RESEARCH

Puree fresh cilantro, basil, parsley and a chopped green chile with orange juice and a touch of low-fat mayonnaise, then serve with shrimp.

Fresh herbs can make a great sauce

BY DANA JACOBI
THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR CANCER RESEARCH

When I first learned to cook, using herbs meant garnishing dishes with parsley and using dried herbs in cooked dishes. Nobody ate the parsley sprigs - except me. If you wanted fresh herbs, you usually had to grow them and most of us bought dried dill and chives, not realizing how little their flavors resembled fresh.

For me, this changed when I lived in Paris in the early 1980s. At the local street market, Mme. Epice, as she was known (French for spice), sold every kind of herb fresh and I quickly learned how much better they taste compared to dried. When I complained that using fresh thyme was too much work, Madame explained that you could toss whole sprigs into the pot for soups and stews rather than laboriously picking off the

leaves from the stem. At the end, you could just pick out the woody stems, as you would a bay leaf.

Later on, traveling in Italy, I fell in love with two sharp green sauces made with fresh herbs: Salsa Verde, from northern Italy, includes parsley, anchovies, capers, garlic and vinegar. Salmoriglio, from Sicily, uses parsley, oregano, and garlic, plus lemon juice. Both are great with grilled, roasted or poached fish or chicken.

Recently, I created my own refreshing herb sauce, perfect for warm days.

Simply whirl together fresh cilantro, basil, parsley and a chopped green chile with orange juice and a touch of low-fat mayonnaise until pureed.

Serve this bright green sauce with grilled, broiled or poached fish or chicken. It also makes a great dipping sauce to accompany boiled shrimp, as a change from the usual red

cocktail sauce. With all we now know about the benefits of carotenoids and the concentration of other health-protecting phytonutrients in herbs, this sauce is a great way to use them generously.

CHILLED SHRIMP WITH GREEN SAUCE

- 4 tablespoons fresh orange juice
- 2 tablespoons reduced-fat mayonnaise
- 1 cup cilantro leaves, packed
- 1/2 cup basil leaves, loosely packed
- 1/2 cup flat-leaf parsley, loosely packed
- 1 serrano chile pepper, seeded and chopped*
- Salt and freshly-ground black pepper
- 1 pound medium shrimp, cooked, shelled and deveined

Place the orange juice and the mayonnaise in a blender or food processor. Add the cilantro, basil, parsley, and chile pepper. Process until the mixture is a

pulpy puree. Season the sauce to taste with salt and pepper. Transfer it into a small bowl, cover and refrigerate until it is chilled and thickened, 3 hours to overnight. (Use within 24 hours.)

To serve, bring the sauce and the shrimp to room temperature. If using for hors d'oeuvres, transfer the sauce to a serving bowl and place in the center of a large serving plate.

For individual entrees, divide the sauce among 4 small bowls to place on 4 dinner plates. Arrange the shrimp around the bowls. For appetizers, use one large plate and bowl for a buffet-style meal, or use 8 small bowls and plates for individual servings.

*For a hotter sauce, do not seed the pepper.

Makes 4 entrees or main servings, or 8 servings as an appetizer. Per main serving: 145 calories, 3 g. total fat (less than 1 g. saturated fat), 4 g. carbohydrate, 24 g. protein, less than 1 g. dietary fiber, 239 mg. sodium.

ORANGE-CRUMBED BAKED CHICKEN

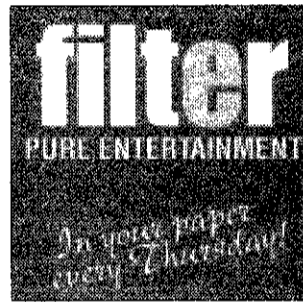
- 2 tablespoons orange juice
- 2 tablespoons Dijon mustard
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 cup whole-wheat cracker crumbs
- 1 tablespoon grated orange zest
- 1 shallot, finely chopped
- 1/2 teaspoon freshly ground pepper
- Four 3-ounce skinless boneless chicken thighs

Preheat the oven to 350° F; spray a nonstick baking sheet with nonstick cooking spray.

In a small bowl, combine the orange juice, mustard and salt. On a sheet of wax paper, combine the cracker crumbs, orange zest, shallot and pepper. Brush the chicken on both sides with the mustard mixture, then dredge in the crumbs, firmly pressing the crumbs to coat both sides. Place the chicken on the baking sheet. Bake 15 minutes; turn over and bake until cooked through, 15 to 20 minutes longer.

Makes 4 servings (1 thigh each).

Nutrition information per serving: 179 cal., 4 g total fat (1 g saturated), 59 mg chol., 518 mg sodium, 20 g carbo., 3 fiber, 16 pro.





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Local designer graduates in high fashion

By Wendy White

Watch for Carl Christian Dahlstedt's name coming soon to a label near you. The 25-year-old Bloomfield Hills native is making a name in the world of fashion, and has designs on producing an international clothing label.



Dahlstedt graduated from Chicago's Columbia College on May 14, and sewed up his senior year by taking first place the Richard Driehaus Foundation Award for Fashion Excellence in Chicago. He competed in the invitation-only fashion show, held in a loft in the South Loop, against 23 other students from the Illinois Institute of Art, Columbia College, International Academy of Design and Technology and the Art Institute of Chicago. His Spring 2006 line for men earned him the \$3,000 grand prize.

The collection features nine impeccably crafted garments in black and white, with simple shapes and sophisticated detail. "It's contemporary," Dahlstedt says. "It's kind of a neutral palette right now, very crisp and clean and very wearable at the same time." Pin tucks add texture throughout the collection. Dahlstedt twists, layers and crosses them,



Dahlstedt crosses hand-sewn pin tucks to create a pattern on this men's shirt. (\$252).



Dahlstedt's Spring 2006 line features wool flannel pants (\$265) and a white shirt with folding pin tucks at the rib (\$252) for men; and a 12-panel pleated and pin tucked skirt (\$1,054) with gathered lace collar and lace sleeves (\$339) for women.

or edges them with cashmere for a subtle, couture effect on women's dresses and skirts, men's shirts and the back pocket of men's cotton twill pants. "I'm really into the construction of the garments. There's a lot of hand-stitching," he said. "There's a lot going on, but you can still wear it anywhere." Dahlstedt started sewing his junior year at Lahser High School, encouraged by a coun-

selor. When he signed up for classes at the Oakland Technical Center, he found a mentor in Dr. Horst Griesser. "He encouraged me, taught me a lot," Dahlstedt says. Dahlstedt quickly excelled and won first place in the Oakland Technical Fashion Show two years in a row. Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley recently invited Dahlstedt to display his work at a Chicago

City Council meeting. "He's trying to push fashion there, have all the designers stay there and not move to New York," Dahlstedt says. So will Dahlstedt settle in the Windy City? "I'd like to have a storefront in Chicago soon and then I'd like to get my clothes everywhere — Detroit, L.A., Europe and Asia. I'm working on all that right now," he says.

List

Pure Detroit Design Lab
Under brand-new Director Samantha Bullock, the Detroit Design Lab welcomes featured designer Charketa Glover of East Pointe, and her label Chargrets. Glover began designing as a hobby, converting thrift store finds into unique one-of-a-kind pieces. She is now one of Detroit's

most sought after designers with her eye on the international market. Her work will be displayed through Aug. 11, with an opening reception 8-11 p.m. June 30. Bullock recently took over the Design Lab from former director Sarah Lapinski, who left to pursue her men's clothing line Wound Full-time. Bullock says she wants to showcase Detroit designers and help them compete in other, larger metro areas. The Design

Lab is located at 158 W. Congress in downtown Detroit. Call (313) 961-8320 or visit www.puredetroitdesignlab.com.
BBAC artBlast
Looking spend a fashionable Fourth? Try the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center's artBLAST, 7-11 p.m. July 3. Before watching the fireworks at Lincoln Hill Golf Course, duck inside the BBAC to learn Shibori silk painting on

scarves during a workshop hosted by Ellen Firestone. Other family activities include printmaking, 3-D mixed media sculpture, a barbeque by Chef Randy Smith, cash bar, and music by Robert Jones and Matt Watroba. Tickets, \$50 for adult and \$25 for ages 4-16 can be purchased at (248) 644-0866, ext. 104. Visit www.bbaccenter.org. The BBAC is located at 1516 S. Cranbrook Road in Birmingham.

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A cute bathing suit cover-up

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Headbands

Baby It!
Kingsley 'Pots and Pans Band' tee (à la Shiloh Nouvel Jolie-Pitt)

Download It!
Eye to the Telescope by K.T. Tunstall

Fourth of July fireworks and parades

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Daily Candy A to Z: An Insider's Guide to the Sweet Life

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Bellini-tinis at Vinoteca Wine Bar in Royal Oak

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Those picks will be featured in our August 20, 2006 PINK issue, and our deserving reader will receive a \$500 shopping spree at Laurel Park Place, just in time for Fall!

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Enter your choices for the following PINK Picks categories:

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 Kick It!
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 DVD It!
 See It!
 Head It!
 Hear It!
 Drink It!
 Eat It!
 Use It!
 Do It!
 Experience It!

You must submit at least 12 PINK picks to be eligible. Use this issue's PINK Picks as an example.

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Don't be fashionably late! Get your picks to us by JULY 23rd



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