

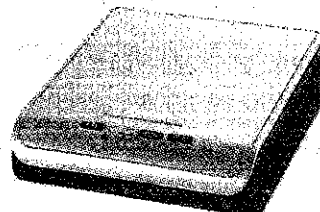
Annual cruising event is a green light for Aug. 19

FILTER - INSERTED SECTION



Highland Games celebrate history of Scotland

COUNTY NEWS - PAGE A8



Low-tech solutions to high-tech problems

HOMETOWNLIFE - SECTION D

THURSDAY
August 10, 2006

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McNamara, Bennett ready to square off after primary wins

BY CAROL MARSHALL
STAFF WRITER

After scoring easy primary wins Tuesday, Democrat Kevin McNamara and Republican Loren Bennett will square off in the Nov. 7 general election, each trying to win a seat on the Wayne County Commission.

"It's going to be a close race, but one we'll be fighting honorably," said Bennett.

Both candidates are Canton residents, and both have recognizable names in the political arena. Bennett served on the Canton Township Board of Trustees, and as a state senator before running for lieutenant governor. McNamara, son of the late County Executive Edward McNamara, has also established extensive relationships in county government, and has adopted a platform of cooperation among the communities in the 11th District - Wayne and Belleville, and the townships of Canton, Van Buren and Sumpter.

SMOOTH SAILING

In total, McNamara won 3,136 votes, easily defeating challenger Toni Clark of Sumpter Township, who earned 1,661 votes. Bennett garnered 3,216 votes to Canton resident Gerald Law's 2,122. Canton voters cast 2,157 votes for Bennett, to 1,472 for Law. McNamara earned 1,566 votes in Canton to Clark's 707.

But the margins won't be nearly as wide in November, both candidates said.

"It's going to be a nail-biter all the way," McNamara said.

To win in November, McNamara knows he has to get to work in his own hometown. The Canton resident did not knock on one door, or made one phone call to voters in his own community, instead concentrating on other communities during the primary.

PLEASE SEE PRIMARY, A5

2006 PRIMARY ELECTION VOTE TOTALS

The following vote totals represent how voters in Canton voted for contested races in Tuesday's primary election. The winner is denoted by a ✓.

U.S. Senate

✓ R - Michael Bouchard 2,465
R - Keith Butler 1,565

20th State House

✓ R - Mark Abbo 121
R - Don Schmettler 40
R - T. Cortez Spann 11
R - Beth Stewart 116
R - Jason Vorva 27
✓ D - Marc Corriveau 157
D - Joseph Hawver 45
D - Joanne Lamar 116

35th District Court

✓ Ron Lowe (I) 3,211
✓ James Plakas 1,744
Brian Stoebe 941

Wayne County Executive

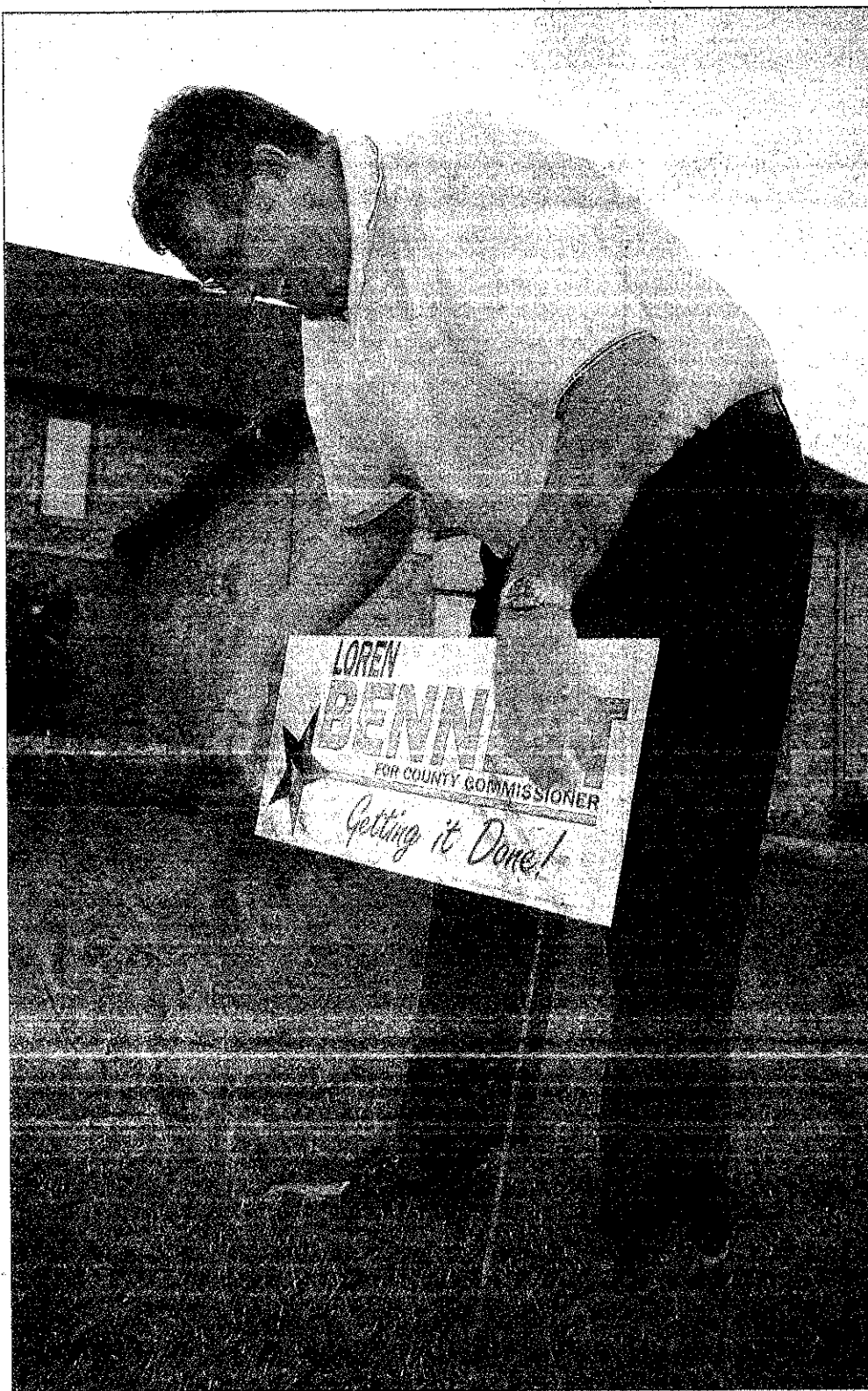
D - Marion Ector 197
✓ D - Robert A. Ficano (I) 2,086
D - Ricardo Rotger Moore 158
✓ R - Ramon J. Patrick 1,526
R - Deborah West 1,519

11th County Commission

✓ R - Loren Bennett 2,157
R - Gerald Law 1,472
D - Toni Clark 707
✓ D - Kevin McNamara 1,566

Van Buren Schools Millage

✓ Yes 292
No 199



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Loren Bennett, who easily won a Republican primary Tuesday, spent election night picking up campaign signs. Here he pulls the last sign off his own lawn.

Super Bowl manager known for soft touch

BY CAROL MARSHALL
STAFF WRITER

Some parents tell their children that the sound of thunder is the sound of angels bowling. The folks at Canton Super Bowl Lanes will be listening to see if their longtime manager, Mike Reffitt, is one of them.

Reffitt, 56, died suddenly early Sunday morning. Reffitt had gone Saturday night to an urgent care facility in his hometown of Belleville, and collapsed with a stomach aneurysm. He died early Sunday.

"We're just all taken aback by this. It was so sudden," said Roger Philipi, manager of Community Bowling Centers Operations, which owns the Super Bowl.

"He just was the greatest guy," said colleague Janeen Foreman. "He always worried about everyone else."

When the staff was at its busiest, just before the Super Bowl XL fund-raiser at the Super Bowl Lanes in February, Reffitt fretted over his employees.

"He was constantly asking all of us if we were getting enough sleep, or getting enough to eat," Foreman said.

It was his generous heart that made him well-known to Canton residents, as well. Those who knew him say he just wasn't the kind of guy who could say no to a worthy cause, and charity groups called on Reffitt frequently to ask if the bowling alley could host fund-raisers. Usually, it could.

"If you added up all the money that was raised there over the years Mike was there, it had to be more than \$1 million," Philipi said.

Reffitt is survived by two grown children, James Reffitt of Dayton, Ohio, and Cynthia Landolfi of Schertz, Texas.

His funeral services will be 10 a.m. Aug. 11 at McColaugh Funeral Home in Xenia, Ohio. A local memorial service will be held at Super Bowl Lanes in Canton at 10 a.m. on Aug. 15.

In lieu of flowers, donations are being accepted for the Michael Reffitt Youth Scholarship Bowling Tournament. Checks may be payable to Super Bowl, 45100 Ford Road, Canton.

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Abbo beats Stewart to win primary in 'nasty' campaign

BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER

Beth Stewart's bid to succeed her husband as the state representative for the 20th House District came to an abrupt ending shortly before 1 a.m. Wednesday. That's when - after a machine malfunction - the unofficial vote totals from Tuesday's primary election were announced by the Plymouth Township clerk's office.

Stewart, who trailed Mark Abbo of Northville Township by about 1,200 votes at the time, was hoping for a strong show of support from Plymouth Township voters to lead her to victory. And why not? It's where her husband, Rep. John Stewart, R-Plymouth Township, won three two-year terms to represent the 20th District.

However, when the ballots were counted, Stewart lost the Republican nomination

to Abbo by some 150 votes in her hometown, bringing to an end a campaign Beth Stewart called "sick and dirty."

Unofficial vote totals from the 20th House District show Abbo beat Stewart 4,178-2,787. Abbo meets Marc Corriveau, a Northville attorney who beat Joanne Lamar of Plymouth and Joe Hawver of Plymouth Township in the Democratic primary, in November's general elec-

tion.

The only one of five communities that voted in favor of Stewart was the city of Plymouth - by 81 votes - with Northville, Northville Township, Canton and Wayne joining Plymouth Township in voting for Abbo.

The 20th District only covers a small portion of Canton east of I-275. Elections results in those



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Mark Abbo gets a pat on the back from supporter Carl Berry after Abbo beat Beth Stewart in the Republican primary for the 20th House seat.

PLEASE SEE CAMPAIGN, A4

New school board president ready for challenges

BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER



Simescu

When Barry Simescu was studying at Thurston High School in Redford Township as a teen, the city of Plymouth was a frequent destination.

"I used to come to Plymouth when it was a trip to the country

down Schoolcraft (Road), and go to the Cloverdale Dairy and the Penn Theatre to see a movie," Simescu remembered. "On special dates, we would go to the Hillside, which is now Ernesto's."

Now a resident of Plymouth, Simescu - in his third year on the Plymouth-Canton Board of Education - is board president of

the fifth-largest school district in the state.

"I'm looking forward to the opportunity," said Simescu, 57, who chaired his first regular meeting Tuesday night. "I follow in some big footsteps - Liz Givens, Judy (Mardigian) and Mark (Slavens). That's five years of strong leadership."

"I'm humbled by it," he said. "I'm anxious to give back to the community and give back to the board."

It doesn't look to be an easy year for Simescu and the seven-member board, with another bond issue on the horizon and possible budget cuts that could reach deeper than

PLEASE SEE SIMESCU, A2

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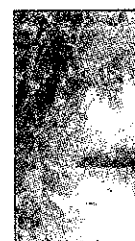
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AROUND CANTON

Leadership Canton

Applications are now being accepted for Leadership Canton 2007. Learn about community leadership building, meet community leaders and gain experience in the community planning process. This program is open to all persons living or working in Canton. Every year, each class develops a positive community project. Class size is limited. Tuition and Application are required by Aug. 18. Classes start in October. For more information, contact the Canton Chamber of Commerce at (734) 453-4040.

Rotary rummage sale

The Canton Rotary Club hosts its annual Rummage Sale Aug. 12-13 at Mettetal Airport on Lilley Road in Canton. The sale takes place 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 12 and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 13. Among the available items will be housewares, children's items, clothing, furniture, appliances, holiday items and a variety of miscellaneous items. The club is now accepting donations.

To arrange for drop-off or pick-up of items, or for more information, call Bill Brown, (734) 455-3344 or (734) 420-2733.



Playing it safe

Louie the Lightning Bug, DTE Energy's safety mascot, recently paid a visit to the Safety Town program at Canton High School. Offered through Plymouth-Canton Community Education, Safety Town teaches young children a wide range of safety lessons. Louie and DTE Energy instructor Laura Alves shared important rules with the children for staying safe around electricity. Pictured here during the Aug. 3 presentation are (standing, left to right): Collin Mueller, Calen Harshman, Alves, Cathy Boehl as Louie, Olivia Mueller, and Safety Town teacher Debbie Bargo.

School supplies

The Plymouth Salvation Army is conducting its annual "school supply drive." Included among the items they're looking for are notebook paper, pocket folders, pencils, erasers, colored pencils and back packs.

The Plymouth Salvation Army, which covers Plymouth, Canton, Northville and Belleville, is located on Main, just south of Ann Arbor Road. For more information, call

(734) 453-5464.

Sullivan office hours

Wayne County Commissioner John Sullivan will hold office hours in Canton and Belleville on Friday, Aug. 11 from 9-10 a.m. at the Tim Horton's restaurant on Ford Road just east of Canton Center. On Monday, Aug. 14, Sullivan will be at the Tim Horton's restaurant in Belleville on Belleville Road, just north of I-94.

SIMESCU

FROM PAGE A1

those made in previous years. However, despite the outlook, Simescu said student achievement is still at the top of the agenda.

"I think we need to maintain student achievement," Simescu said. "It's always our major No. 1 goal, and we need to keep the focus on that."

Simescu said he's not too concerned about the latest MEAP scores, in which the 2006 high school graduating class at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park recorded scores well below those of graduates from the previous year.

"I think you'll see improvement from the 2006 graduating class to the 2007 graduating class," said Simescu. "We don't like to have any scores go down, but if you look around the state you'll see it was a trend."

Simescu said when the federal Adequate Yearly Progress reports are released soon, district stakeholders will have a pleasant surprise.

"We made AYP at all levels (elementary, middle and high school)," he said. "We've never done that before, so that's a plus."

However, alternative education students at Starkweather Education Center failed to qualify enough students to be considered proficient on the MEAP test.

"We didn't make AYP at Starkweather. I'm not sure what happened there," Simescu said. "Those are students who use alternative education techniques, and they may not show

that well on testing procedures. But, we're looking into that and will have a plan of action."

Voters overwhelmingly rejected a two-question \$120-million bond proposal in May, and Simescu said survey results should be available for the Aug. 22 meeting to find out what went wrong.

"That will give us a good feel for how we proceed," Simescu said. "I think we're going to have to scale it back from what we had before. If we can keep it in a range of what we took off the tax rolls this year, that would be good."

"We certainly need it to get back the \$2.3 million for the (middle school) land (in Canton Township), which is necessary for the budget," he said.

"November would be extremely tight, we'll probably have to go in February."

As for the budget, Simescu said he's hopeful the district can avoid large-scale cutbacks, but it won't be easy.

"This may be a tough year," said Simescu. "We're going to look very carefully at the whole budget and make sure we're as lean as we can be. Hopefully, we won't have to cut more than we have, but it's getting pretty close to crunch time."

Mark Slavens, who just completed two years as school board president, said he's confident Simescu will continue the tradition of strong leadership.

"I think he's going to be a great president, and I'm completely supportive of Barry," Slavens said.

"I think he's shown good leadership skills. His ability to listen to people and ability to analyze issues will make him a good board president."

Read Filter

CORRECTION

A graphic that accompanied a story on Detroit Wayne County Airport's impact on the local economy incorrectly identified the University of Detroit as the source for the graphs. The information is from the University of Michigan-Dearborn.

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P.S. Golfers can also perform "pull-downs" by kneeling with rubber tubing wrapped around a fixed object over their heads and slowly pulling down toward their chests, bending the elbows as the arms are lowered. Then, raise the tubing slowly.

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LAWRENCE MCKEE | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Mike Bouchard with wife, Pam, and daughter, Mikayla, 16 speaks to the audience at The Community House Tuesday.

Bouchard focuses on winning in November

BY ALEX LUNDBERG
STAFF WRITER

With two challengers to the Republican Party's nomination out of the way, Oakland County Sheriff Michael Bouchard is calling on voters of every stripe to keep the pressure on to defeat Democratic Sen. Debbie Stabenow in November.

At an election-night rally at The Community House in Birmingham, the sheriff heaped praise on those who had helped him take the primary win.

"I want to thank the voters, without their support I would not be here today," Bouchard said. "But to get to the end, we're going to have to redouble our efforts."

He called on Democrats and independent voters as well as the GOP faithful for their help in the coming fight to defeat Stabenow.

"I need all your help to get

to Washington," Bouchard said. "And I promise, on day one I will get results. I will not let you down."

Bouchard defeated the Rev. Keith Butler to take the party's nomination with an unofficial count of 359,000 votes to Butler's 230,000.

An earlier contender, Grand Rapids think-tanker Jerry Zandstra, dropped out of the race early in the summer.

Oakland County GOP Executive Committee Member John Bowker said he wasn't surprised by Bouchard's win. The only question in his mind was by how much.

He said the stuttering start of the Bouchard campaign — he entered the race and then dropped out, citing health reasons, and then re-entered — had something to do with the numbers.

"The medical thing popped up and he had some pressure from home," Bowker said. "He had a safe job he could hold as

long as he wanted. Once he cleared that he was ready to run again."

He said Bouchard has a good chance to beat Stabenow in November, based on his governmental experience and his law enforcement credentials.

"He's going in with a good resume for the issues of today," Bowker said. "Social conservatives are comfortable with him and the issue of the U.S./Canadian border works to his favor. People are concerned about homeland security and people can cross the Canadian border with impunity. That's a two-fer for him."

What the sheriff is going to need, he said, is a "truckload of cash." Bowker said Bouchard will need to raise and spend about \$10 million between now and November to unseat Stabenow.

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Incumbent Lowe sweeps to win in court race

BY BRAD KADRICH
STAFF WRITER

Incumbent 35th District Court Judge Ron Lowe went into Tuesday's primary election hoping voters would give him a chance to keep his seat in the November general election.

If he was worried he wouldn't get the chance, he needn't have been.

Lowe, a Canton resident who's presided at the court for 12 years, easily outdistanced his two challengers — Northville lawyer Jim Plakas and Plymouth attorney Brian Stacey — to earn one of the two seats in the November run-off.



Lowe

"It's been 12 years since voters were given a choice between me and another candidate, and I am very humbled and appreciative of the wide support the election showed," Lowe said. "It leaves me optimistic about the race in November."

Lowe beat Plakas by better than a 2-to-1 margin, earning 8,421 votes to Plakas' 4,172. Stacey finished a distant third with just over 2,500 votes. Lowe, who lives in Canton, did it by winning easily in his hometown (3,211-1,744) and

in Plymouth Township (2,521-867).

The 35th District Court serves the cities of Plymouth and Northville and the townships of Canton, Northville and Plymouth. Lowe won in all five communities, while Plakas finished second in four of the five. Stacey finished second in the City of Plymouth.

"I'm hopeful people recognize I've been doing a good job as a judge, but I've also been very involved in the five communities," Lowe said. "That's always what we've claimed is my asset, and I think that was recognized."

bkadrich@hometownlife.com

CAMPAIGN

FROM PAGE A1

precincts showed Abbo with a slight edge over Stewart, 121 to 116.

One month before the primary vote, Stewart — the Plymouth Historical Museum's executive director for 17 years — came under fire for allegedly using the museum and its resources to promote her campaign, thus putting the museum's nonprofit status in jeopardy. Making the initial claims were three Abbo supporters, including campaign chairman Mark Mandell of Northville Township, campaign finance director Tom Hickey and supporter Carl Berry, both from Plymouth Township.

Last week, as part of an internal probe, the Plymouth Historical Museum's board of directors fired Stewart. The publicity, and subsequent Abbo campaign literature, was too much to overcome.

"I tried to run my campaign with integrity," Stewart said. "I really felt they stooped to some shallow and low levels, and I'm sad the voters didn't see through it more."

"I think it's a sad day for politics," she said. "People aren't going to want to run anymore if this kind of nasty campaign can happen."

Abbo referred to the campaign as "a tough battle."

"I didn't believe it was a dirty campaign," Abbo said. "We talked about our experience, our vision of where



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Corey Skaff and kids Catie and Douglas vote in Precinct 4 at Discovery Middle School in Canton. Only about 14 percent of eligible voters turned out in Canton for the primary election.

Michigan should be going."

The loss was a costly one for Stewart, who just last week lost her job as the Historical Museum's executive director.

"I gave up a lot, more than just about anybody would be asked to," Stewart said. "I was hoping I could do something here, and in the state of Michigan, and represent people in Lansing."

"They (museum board of directors) were pushed into a corner and did what they had to do," she said. "If I had to be the fall guy, and people had to take it this far to win ... it's not good."

Berry said his goal wasn't to get Stewart fired, but to make the museum board be

accountable for its political actions.

"Dirty politics are based on lies, and there was nothing that was a lie," Berry said. "Everything was presented factually. She committed some campaign finance violations, nothing was lied about."

Greg Hames of Plymouth Township said he decided to change his vote from Stewart to Abbo after hearing of the allegations.

"Why even put yourself in that position, she should have stayed away from it," Hames said. "If you're going to run for office ... you should be beyond reproach."

Carla Barrett of Plymouth said the campaign was typical Plymouth politics.

"This was so typical of Plymouth politics, people are just vicious with each other," said Barrett. "It was very political and nasty."

Supporters gave Stewart a round of applause for her efforts after they learned of the vote totals and outcome.

"I'm really proud of how you responded," said Jennifer Philpot-Munson. "You represent what it means to be a candidate with integrity."

Stewart said she won't support Abbo in the general election.

"With the low game he played, I wouldn't support him, I'd be silly," Stewart said. "I truly couldn't turn around and support him after he's done all this. I don't believe in the way he runs a campaign."

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World Trade Center (PG-13) 11:15, 1:50, 4:25, 7:00, 9:35
Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby (PG-13) 12:05, 2:25, 4:45, 7:05, 9:25 FR/SAT LS 11:45
Barney: The Original Party Animals (PG) 11:10, 1:10, 3:10, 5:10, 7:10, 9:10
Miami Vice (R) FR/SAT LS 11:10
John Tucker Must Die (PG-13) 4:45, 3:45, 5:45, 7:45, 9:45 FR/SAT LS 11:45
Monster House (PG) 11:00 AM
Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest (PG-13) 12:40, 3:40, 6:40, 9:40

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PRIMARY

FROM PAGE A1

“Even our Canton team didn’t work Canton,” he said of his volunteers. “Now we’ve got to get out there.”

Bennett also said it’s going to come down to a matter of will for the winner in November. It’s going to come down to which candidate gets out and meets the most voters, Bennett said, adding that in a district which is nearly evenly split between Republicans and Democrats, he can’t count on a lead solely based on his party.

And then there are things that

can’t be controlled. Like the governor’s race this November.

“Certainly there is absolutely no doubt in my mind that the governor’s race will impact our race. The better the top of the ticket does the better the bottom does,” Bennett said.

If he prevails in the Nov. 7 general election, McNamara said the first thing he would do as commissioner is to meet with every mayor and supervisor in his district – Belleville, Wayne and the townships of Canton, Van Buren and Sumpter – and form an advisory board.

“I would want to form an alliance of mayors and supervisors to influence legislation and funding formulas. Right now

those formulas are very skewed to the Detroit bloc,” he said.

The imbalance has meant that southwestern Wayne County lacks clout, and loses possible funding for roads, infrastructure and recreation, McNamara said.

And the first thing Bennett would do is to respond to businesses, who will help to drag the state out of its economic recession.

“Certainly every door that I knock on, where I can engage people, it’s all about the economy. I hear that 20 times for every one other questions,” Bennett said.

The solution to fixing the economy is not just a federal

issue or a state issue, he added.

“It’s got to be every level of government that has to have a mindset that we need more jobs and job providers. Small businesses over the next decade will generate infinitely more good jobs than big businesses will,” Bennett said. “We need, in my opinion, to protect the health, safety and welfare of the public. Other than that we really need to get out of the way.”

On that point, McNamara has agreed. The commission needs to identify functions that should be performed by the county and do them better, and abandon those things which should no longer be under the county’s control, McNamara said.

By handing off control and responsibility to the local authorities, the county can focus on those things it does very well, such as county roads maintenance and juvenile justice.

ON TO NOVEMBER

McNamara, 48, currently works as an account executive for Inland Waters Pollution Control.

He said he plans to continue working for Inland Waters Pollution Control, if he is elected in November.

Bennett, 55, served as a Canton Township trustee from 1980 to 1988. He then served as Canton Township clerk from

1988 to 1994, when he ran for state Senate and won. After two terms, he was term-limited out of the Senate and was in the process of running for Secretary of State when he was asked by former Lt. Gov. Dick Posthumus to run with him when he made a bid for the governor’s office in 2002.

When Posthumus lost to Gov. Jennifer Granholm, Bennett returned to work in the private sector, first as a small business owner, then as a representative for a medical supply company, where he plans to keep working even if he’s elected.

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Democrat
Corriveau
tops Lamar

BY BRAD KADRICH
STAFF WRITER

Democrat Marc Corriveau might not have much time to rest on his laurels after Tuesday’s primary win in the race for the 20th State House seat being vacated by the term-limited John Stewart.

Corriveau, a Northville attorney who beat Plymouth-Canton Board of Education trustee Joanne Lamar in Tuesday’s primary, watched with interest the tactics used in the Republican primary for the same seat.

Now, he says he’s ready for the campaign against the Republican winner, Northville Township Supervisor Mark Abbo, and he hopes it doesn’t degenerate into the same kind of divisive campaign.

“I hope the race will be like my Democratic primary was: issue-focused, communicating to the voters and giving them options to choose between,” Corriveau said. “I don’t expect it to go outside that. I only know what I can control, and I think Michigan has enough divisiveness. You won’t see any of that out of me, and I hope (Abbo) and his campaign decide to do the same thing.”

Corriveau, who lost to Stewart two years ago in his first run at political office, won in all six communities – the cities of Wayne, Plymouth and Northville and the townships of Canton, Plymouth and Northville – that make up the district, beating Lamar 2,222-1,375. Political newcomer Joseph Hawver finished a distant third.

He said lessons he learned two years ago – and the quality of the candidates in this race – forced him to work hard.

“I knew I wasn’t just going to be able to put my name on the ballot and go out and win,” Corriveau said.

“Having gone through that experience, I knew what would be expected of me, and I had two people who were worthy candidates who campaigned extremely aggressively. I worked as hard as I possibly could.”

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OUR VIEWS

Blood supply crisis no laughing matter

Go ahead and laugh. Most people do when they hear Red Cross volunteer Karen Lake of Troy talk about the need for blood donations.

You don't get it from cows, she says.

The chuckles are usually short-lived as her reality check hits home. Remember the last time you reached for a gallon of milk off the shelf at your local grocery store, without a second thought? We take it for granted that it will always be there, whenever we need it.

But blood doesn't come from cows; it can only come from each of us. And if we don't donate it, there is a very real possibility that it won't be there on the shelf when medical personnel reach for it in an emergency.

Such was the impending crisis hospitals throughout the metropolitan area have faced this summer. At one point last month, there was only a dangerously low four-hour supply of blood.

Heightening the worry was that there was no safety net for local hospitals. Carmen Timm, donor resources representative for the Red Cross, said the blood shortage was replicated throughout the nation. That's unusual, Timm said, and the cause was unknown.

What it meant was that there was no go-to location to supplement blood supplies, which traditionally decrease at this time of year, the height of vacation season.

Ultimately, the solution to the blood shortage lives within us. It is the determination to get over queasiness about make a blood donation and, instead, making the small time commitment of about an hour to ensure a blood supply for that emergency we pray will never come.

Qualifications are straightforward: You need to be at least 17 years old and in good health. There are some other considerations, like where you may have traveled recently, but Red Cross volunteers do a careful screening process to ensure your safety, and that of the blood supply.

For an appointment and a blood donation location, watch this newspaper or call the Red Cross at (800) GIVE-LIFE.

Officials say the need for more blood donors is continuing this month. And there is nothing funny about that.

Restricting passengers would save teens' lives

Summer is the deadliest time of year for teenagers.

That's because they have more free time to ride around in vehicles with friends.

Young drivers get into enough accidents on their own, but when extra teens are in the car, the combination can be a killer.

According to AAA, the fatal crash rate per mile driven is twice as high among 16-year-olds as it is among 18- to 19-year-olds.

With one passenger, the fatal crash risk nearly doubles. With two or more passengers, it increases five-fold.

Inexperienced new drivers need to concentrate on their driving and extra passengers in the car keep them from doing that.

Perhaps surprisingly, the passengers are most at risk. Two out of every three teenagers who die in crashes are passengers in a vehicle driven by another teen, according to Ford Motor Co. and the Governors Highway Safety Association, which produced a driving skills program for teens.

The Michigan House of Representatives has passed a bill that would restrict the number of young passengers a new driver can have in his or her car. A new driver could have one passenger under the age of 18 for the first 90 days after getting his or her license. For the second 90 days, he could have two and after the third 90 days, three.

Now it's up to the Senate to take action. Unfortunately, the AAA-supported bill stalled in the Senate when it was last in session.

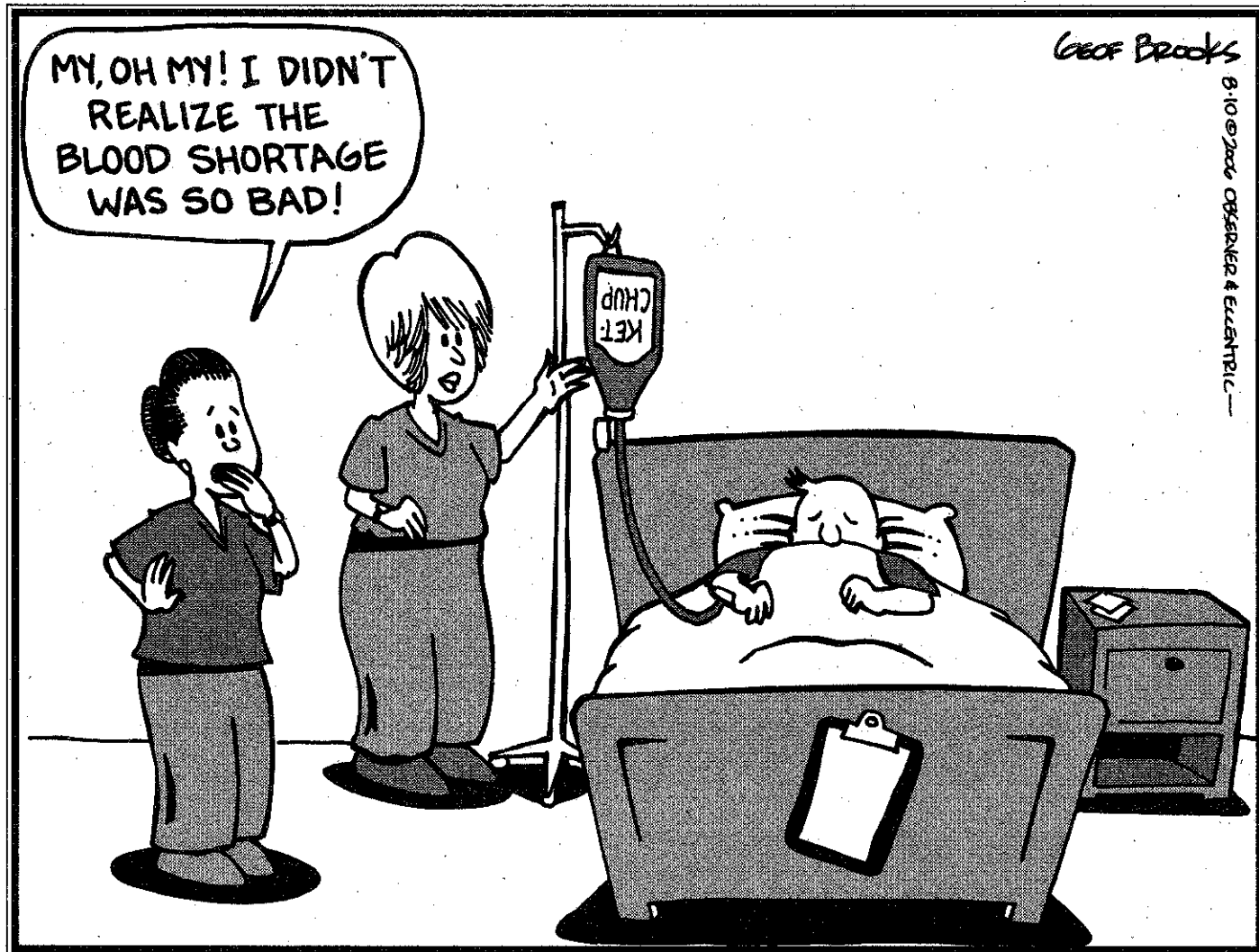
We urge readers to contact their state senators and ask them to support the proposed legislation when they reconvene.

In the meantime, it's up to parents to keep their teens safe — by limiting the number of teen passengers they can have in their vehicle and restricting whom they can ride with.

It may not be convenient. Parents may have to chauffeur their kids around for a little while longer rather than let them ride with their friends.

And it may not be popular — teens are likely to balk.

But in setting and enforcing restrictions, parents may be saving the lives of their children and their children's friends.



LETTERS

Keep wildlife wild

As a woman who grew up in the country and is forced to live in the suburbs, I appreciate nature and the wildlife around us.

I do not want to pay our police department to watch over wild ducks in Heritage Park that are not being treated cruelly (i.e. chased, beaten or otherwise injured by humans). The original article in the *Observer* stated an autopsy was performed on the ducks, and it came from bacteria. Being a nurse, I understand how germs and disease spread — close eating areas, crowded conditions, hot humid weather, and not enough capacity for excrement are factors in nature, as well as our human homes. With all of the education available regarding feeding wildlife, it never ceases to amaze me that people feel they are "doing good" by feeding wild animals — and that includes ducks at Heritage Park.

I concur that the water movement in the pond is less than desirable. However, if the water were truly stagnant, it "would show little or no sign of activity" (dictionary.com) — fish, frogs, turtles, crayfish as well as the ducks seem to be doing well before humans started feeding them.

I speak with experience in my own suburban back yard, as it has been certified by the National Wildlife Federation as a Backyard Habitat — it means we provide food, shelter, breeding/nesting areas and water for wildlife — mainly through native landscaping. We have had over 50 different species of birds come through our back yard since we built our house eight years ago — by using the landscape and letting them feed themselves natural foods of flowers, berries from shrubs, and insects that are in my yard.

Do I use bird feeders? Yes, but I don't worry about keeping them filled all the time. Feeders are a SUPPLEMENT to their diet — and only so I can observe them at close range. Corn, millet and "wild bird" food is the same as humans eating cheap fast food all the time to most wildlife — all filler and lacking in a lot of special nutrients. Quality seed such as safflower, sunflower and niger thistle brings in our native songbirds and is what I use. It also deters more "undesirable" birds such as pigeons and crackles, as they are most attracted to the cheaper seed.

The ducks at Meijer? I shopped there for over 20 years and this is the first that I heard of a nest in the parking lot — probably because there are SO many ducks in Canton and the mothers like a certain amount of space between each others' nests. To make it perfectly clear, the mother duck was probably forced into the parking lot due to the overabundance of mallards, causing overcrowding in more natural habitat, causing them to adapt to our unnatural urban surroundings.

In addition, I would like to point out that my "water weeds," found in my small pond, including certain types of algae, are actually eaten by the mallard ducks — unless of course they are too full of corn.

This year, our pond had mating couples of mallards and a mother duck eventually brought her brood of 12 daily to our pond — until they were destroyed. What destroyed them? Not people, not bacteria but domestic cats allowed to run loose. Maybe we should waste further tax dollars for the police to hunt down those murderers! Before anyone thinks otherwise, I have two cats (claws intact) that are kept indoors 24 hours a day/seven days a week as they are

DOMESTIC cats. The same day that the last letter ran, an excellent column by Dr. Brad Davis was also printed regarding letting domestic cat outdoors. I hope that everyone that is concerned about wildlife read it and follow his recommendations regarding domestic cats. Remember to keep and enjoy natural wildlife, you have to let it STAY natural and wild.

Karen Roberts
Canton

Setting record straight

We appreciate this opportunity to set the record straight from what we feel are inaccuracies in Mr. Kadrich's editorial of July 20 ("It would be nice, but naive, to think flap wasn't about politics").

First, it needs to be said the Stewarts are veterans of many campaigns. As this current campaign season has progressed we let slide many campaign finance violations from the Stewart camp. For example, many of the early Beth Stewart materials did not have disclaimer information as to who paid for the materials. The Stewart campaign has borrowed the logo of the Museum for both printed and Web site materials, to name two. We chose to let these "go by the wayside." However, the campaigning at the museum and the bulk rate permit just went too far.

Before we go any further, let's digress a moment and discuss the corporation. Make no mistake here a 501(c)(3) or any other nonprofit organization IS a corporation. The only difference is these entities are granted tax-free status based on the organization's "mission."

In the case of the Plymouth Historical Museum, this mission is to educate the citizens of our community's history and how Plymouth grew and developed. It is NOT within the museum's mission to assist in electing a state representative.

As it relates to campaign finance law, NO corporation may offer direct assistance to a campaign. Thus, the use of the bulk rate not for profit permit is a clear violation of campaign finance law and the Stewarts should certainly be aware of this.

Imagine the outrage if, for instance, another candidate, say, Dick DeVos, used the Alticor (Amway) postage meter to send out campaign material. Obviously, this paper and others would be up in arms.

In respect to a not-for-profit bulk rate permit the Stewart campaign gets a break of approximately 12 cents per piece. This is at the higher rate that they claim they will be paying back. The actual billed rate from the postal service to the museum is even lower.

With mailings in excess of 12,000 pieces this represents a savings of well over \$1,250 per mailing. We know the campaign did this at least twice. In our estimation, the Stewart campaign thus received a corporate benefit of over \$2,500. In a situation where the maximum a campaign can accept from any individual donor is \$500, this represents a benefit of five times the maximum of what a candidate can legally receive and the Stewart campaign received this benefit from an entity that is explicitly forbidden by campaign finance law to do so.

Even if the Stewart campaign was to reimburse at the full postage rate of 39 cents, their activity still represents a "loan" which also represents corporate support which is not allowed! Further, if they took

such a loan (i.e. borrowing the postage permit and then repaying the amount, this loan will need to be reported on their campaign disclosure documentation). Additionally, this providing a singular candidate the opportunity to use a corporate asset is an "implied endorsement" which is also not allowed by a 501(c)(3) organization. So, no matter which way they slice it the Stewart campaign has accepted corporate support. Perhaps they should allow this newspaper to audit their campaign finances to see exactly at which rate they reimbursed the museum and when.

Mr. Kadrich also suggests that we should have quietly contacted the museum's board before going public. What he apparently didn't take time to research (as neither one of us received a call from him) is that on at least three occasions and once in writing such attempts were made. Mr. Mandell had a conversation with museum board member(s) three weeks before this story went public. Mr. Hickey had conversations with museum board member(s) and acting Museum Executive Director Sanford Burr on July 3rd. It was our opinion that we received nothing but stall tactics, while in the meantime the Stewart campaign continued to accept CORPORATE support.

Why did we initiate this process? Well, first of all Ms. Stewart as executive director of the nonprofit museum for 17 years has a fiduciary responsibility to the museum, its board members and donors. However, with her campaign hat on she was clearly acting in conflict of interest and violated campaign finance law. As it relates to these matters the Secretary of State, who is responsible for campaign regulations, does not have field people out "policing" campaigns.

It is left to the respective campaigns to watch each other and report any irregularities. Thus, with such egregious violations stacking up we had an obligation to report it. However, we did attempt to contact and involve the museum first, before moving forward.

For those in the community that may be angry with us, let us suggest to you what we suggested to Mr. Burr: Perhaps your anger is misplaced. Any anger one has should be focused on the candidate who attempted to take advantage of a "Jewel" of our community and who has threatened its very existence because of her complete denial of what she ought to have known, and been aware of and follow the law of the land.

Tom Hickey
Plymouth

SHARE YOUR OPINIONS

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

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QUOTABLE

"It's always a challenge to compare year to year because we have different students. Different students have different strengths."

— Mike Bender, director of secondary education for Plymouth-Canton Schools, discussing recent MEAP results

CANTON
Observer

PUBLISHED THURSDAY AND SUNDAY

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

Quality must be built into schools all along the way

"It's the quality, stupid!"

Yes, this is a takeoff on the line made famous during Bill Clinton's first run for president in the early '90s: "It's the economy, stupid!"

As we plow into the 21st century global knowledge economy, we must make quality education the focus, regardless of where it is delivered.

There remains contentious debate on the quality of education delivered by some of our public, charter and private schools across the state and nation. Recent announcements about our schools have provided new rumblings.

■ MEAP (state standardized test) scores have dropped across the state.

■ The Editorial Project in Education, supported by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, shows Detroit Public Schools has the worst graduation rate of the top 50 large urban school districts in America. The district quickly provided statistics stating it actually graduated 44.5 percent in 2003 and raised that to 68 percent in 2005. Those numbers should make everyone feel better.

■ The U.S. Department of Education reports that public schools generally performed as well or better in reading and math than comparable children in private schools.

There is widespread support for our schools across Michigan.

A recent poll found that "nearly eight of 10 Michiganders say spending whatever it takes to produce the nation's best-educated workforce would be money well-spent to improve the state's economy." Never mind that even the generous promise by the governor and Legislature of an increase of \$210 per pupil for the next school year will be primarily gobbled up by rising health and pension costs with little or no money available to hire new teachers, buy new textbooks, upgrade technology or provide much needed professional development for teachers.

As a parent of two children who have graduated from Michigan public schools and as a former Michigan state superintendent of schools, I, too, am a major champion of education in general, and for our neighborhood public schools specifically.

Our public schools are the true Statue of Liberty of this great country, taking the tired, the hungry, the poor and people with disabilities and giving them hope and opportunity.

As big of a cheerleader as I am for our traditional public schools, I am an even bigger supporter of quality educational opportunities for all our children, regardless of the place of origin.

The debate from the left and the right swirls around the value of traditional public schools, charter schools (charter schools are public schools as well, you know) private and religious schools, home schools, and, God forbid (pun intended), vouchers for schools.

I have attended both public and parochial schools as a child, placed my children in public schools in Michigan and private schools while in Florida, helped to create the first charter schools in Michigan and Florida and visited hundreds of schools as state superintendent.

I can attest that there is an enormous gap in

the quality of our schools. We have a mix of the good, the bad and the ugly.

We have excellent traditional public schools in the city of Detroit as well as the suburbs. The majority of Oakland County school districts have a reputation for excellence. The charter school movement in Michigan has matured, producing some excellent schools, such as the Henry Ford Academy. Excellence abounds at the University of Detroit, Cranbrook, Detroit Country Day, Catholic Central and Cornerstone Schools.

We have schools (traditional, charter and private) that are soaring and schools that are sinking. The question that must be answered is, "Would you place your child in this school?" If the answer is no, it is not good enough for your child, than it should not be good enough for anyone's child.

The rallying cry in the 21st century knowledge economy, where business will be attracted to a quality and educated workforce like a moth to a flame (and as the recent Google announcement reinforced), must be: "It's the quality, stupid!"

We need supporters of all types of schools to agree to disarm the mutual rhetoric that attempts to tear down others in order to build themselves up. Let the focus be on quality schools for all of our children. A lousy school is a lousy school, regardless of what adjective proceeds its name.

I am tired of hearing traditional school supporters complain about losing 300 students to a charter school, that the schools are "taking their kids" as though they have some exclusive franchise on students. If 300 of your customers are fleeing to another provider, you need to do some serious soul searching on the quality of your product.

Further, it is perverse to hear traditional school supporters whine about losing 300 kids to a charter school when there is a deafening silence at the loss of thousands of kids to the streets when they drop out. What is the greater loss, the human potential or the per-pupil funding?

There is an old manufacturing saying: "You must build quality into a product along the way, it cannot be inspected in at the end." The same holds true for our schools. There is no student at the University of Michigan, Michigan State University or Oakland University who did not receive a quality K-12 education.

Our unemployment lines, jails and prisons are chock full of people who did not receive the education they need and deserve to thrive in our fast-paced global economy.

Today, given the flattened and technological world in which we live, good jobs can and are moving to cities, regions, states or nations with highly talented and educated people. Our K-12 system, be it traditional, charter, parochial, private or home school, is the building block on which Michigan's future is currently being built. They all need to be solid.

For all of our sakes, let's hope that every component has quality built in along the way.

Tom Watkins is a business and education consultant. He served as superintendent of Michigan schools from 2001-05 and president and CEO of the Economic Council of Palm Beach, Fla., 1996-2001. Read his internationally recognized report: The New Education (R)evolution at www.nacol.org. He can be reached at tdwatkins@aol.com.



Tom Watkins

Will ugly campaigning cease now that primary is over?

Maybe now it can be over.

Maybe now that Northville Township Supervisor Mark Abbo has beaten Beth Stewart in the Republican primary, the ugly politicking will stop.

But Republicans seem to want the 20th House seat being vacated by Stewart's term-limited husband, John, pretty badly. So if I were Northville lawyer Marc Corriveau, the Democratic primary winner, I'd be a little edgy today.

Abbo's victory came after a landslide (some would call it a mud slide) of negative publicity over Stewart's use of the Plymouth Historical Museum to help her campaign. Abbo's win isn't all that surprising because the people who campaigned against her pulled out

all the stops in what became an extraordinarily negative campaign.

Of course, the people doing the negative campaigning are largely the cause of the vitriol that permeated this race. Having said that, if Stewart is looking for anyone else to blame, she need only look in the mirror.

And let's just say up front, in an effort to head off Republican outrage, that if it turns out Stewart broke any laws at all, she should be held accountable for that.

She was, after all, with apologies to Shakespeare, hoisted by her own petard. Stewart, the longtime director of the Plymouth Historical Museum and the wife of a veteran politician, should have known better than to involve the museum in any of her campaigning.

She knows the people behind her opponents, and she knows — or certainly should have known — they play hardball. This is major league politics, and she offered up, in baseball parlance, a hanging curve ball. And Abbo's supporters belted it out of the park.

What she should have done, she probably acknowledges in her private moments, is walk completely away from the museum. When she took her leave of absence (which in hindsight should probably have come much earlier) she should have packed up her desk, walked down the steps and never looked back until the campaign was over.

What she did, instead, was walk face-first into the buzz saw of local politics. It doesn't get any more competitive, any uglier, than Plymouth politics. It's been that way for ages. Whether using the museum's bulk-mail permit for her campaign mailings, and scheduling a campaign event in conjunction with former Gov. William Milliken's book signing, were simple mistakes in judgment or calculated actions to benefit her campaign, Stewart is certainly intelligent enough to know people were going to jump all over it.

The campaign was going to be hard enough as it was. Certain Republicans want nothing to do with another Stewart getting elected to the state Legislature, and were going to move heaven and Earth to prevent it. That's why Plymouth City Commissioner Phil Pursell was recruited to begin with and why, when Pursell pulled out, the focus shifted to Abbo, who cer-

tainly appeals to the conservative base much more than the moderate Stewart.

However, lest one think the museum flap is the only way Republicans were ganging up on Stewart, consider one of the latest campaign mailings from the Abbo camp, which hit mailboxes last week. At first glance, it's a pretty typical campaign piece, extolling the virtues of Abbo while pointing out the differences between him and Stewart.

Until you actually read the differences. If you look up the word "distortion" in the dictionary, there's probably a picture of this campaign piece.

It says Abbo "believes marriage should be between a man and a woman," which is a fine, if unsurprising, stance for a conservative Republican. However, it says Stewart "supports same-sex marriage," and lists as its supporting material "www.now.org/issues/marriage/points.html." But if you go to the National Organization for Women Web site, there's no mention of Stewart. And she's on the record as saying she believes marriage should be between a man and a woman.

It says Abbo "opposes taxpayer-funded abortions," yet another predictable Republican stance. But it also says Stewart "supports taxpayer-funded abortions," and cites a Michigan Planned Parenthood Web site. Stewart is on the record as being pro-choice, which makes her a likely endorsement for Planned Parenthood, but nothing she's ever said publicly says abortion should be paid for by taxpayer money.

It's a guilt-by-association thing politicians use quite effectively. This group backs you, so you must believe in everything the group stands for.

You'd think people were getting tired of this kind of negative campaigning. Gerry Law tried it several years ago when he ran against Plymouth Township Treasurer Ron Edwards. Law sent out a last-minute, last-gasp piece about Edwards' relationship with his family. The trick backfired, and Edwards cleaned Law's clock.

This time it worked, but that doesn't mean this isn't exactly the kind of thing that keeps good people from getting into politics in the first place.

Abbo's victory relieved Republicans of what might have been something of a quandary. They certainly aren't going to throw their support behind Marc Corriveau, who won the Democratic primary. And they'd rather go collectively to get a root canal than back Stewart, which they'd look pretty silly doing anyway.

Luckily for their party, the Republicans can go ahead and back Abbo and, since the Republican usually wins out here, he's got a pretty good shot.

Corriveau already heard the perjorative "personal injury lawyer" being tossed around like an insult during the primary. Something tells us, based on how the Republican primary went, he'd better be prepared to hear it again.

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

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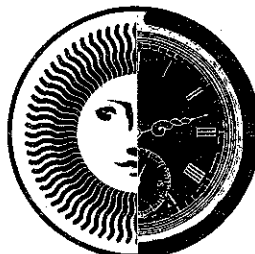
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Highland Games offer wee bit of Scotland

BY JULIE BROWN
STAFF WRITER

Dave Martin, a 32-year Livonia resident, is pipe major for the St. Andrew's Society Pipe Band, a position he's held a number of years. He was part of the crowd this past weekend at the 157th annual Highland Games at Greenmead historical park in Livonia.

"The games are the oldest Highland Games in North America," said Martin, taking a break from volunteer duties on Saturday. "People love the great Highland bagpipes, obviously a public of discerning taste."

Martin, whose work is in computers, is 100 percent Irish, unlike many others at the event celebrating the heritage of the Scots. "For some reason I seem to play reasonably well," he said of his love of the bagpipes. Martin praised Greenmead as "the best site we've ever had. They have been a great host."

Nearby Saturday was Pam Young Setla of Redford, a volunteer and member of sponsor St. Andrew's Society of Detroit. She also pipes with the Windsor Police Street Band. "They do the parades and that," said Setla, who works in university communications at Eastern Michigan University.

She's 100 percent Scot on her dad's side, the Rattray clan and Young. Her mom's side is a little Scot via Canada. "Scots have contributed a lot over the years," she said. "It's a very close-knit society. The Scots watch out for one another. When my husband was so ill, I got a lot of support from the St. Andrew's Society."

Husband Phil, a radiologist, died of multiple sclerosis complications in December 1998. Friend Ray Green of

Windsor, a retired Windsor police officer, has been working various games with wife Francine for some 20 years, traveling as far as Montreal, Quebec. "My son was a piper, my daughter was a dancer," he said. "We used to do the circuit with the kids."

The grandkids have carried on the tradition. Their 6-year-old granddaughter from Fort Worth, Texas, was in Livonia Saturday as a dancer for the Highland Games.

"It keeps the Scottish heritage going, shares it with the community," said Ray Green, who is part Scot. "We always try to make this a fun games."

Piper Jake Mack of Dearborn, a 17-year-old Dearborn High senior, likes the games at Greenmead. "It's interesting. It's a lot of fun," he said.

He finds the local games less stressful. "You know all the judges, you know what to expect." He travels to Pennsylvania, Ohio and Ontario to compete.

"Everyone's so easygoing, too," Mack said. "That's so nice."

Livonian Ed Bicknell, a piper with the St. Andrew's Society Pipe Band, is also proud of his heritage and was glad to participate Saturday. "My mother's family is McCall, so I am half Scot," he said. He has a McCall kilt but doesn't wear it for piping.

Greenmead was also front and center Saturday, with volunteers like Darlene Scarcelli showing off such buildings as the historic Shaw House. She was giving tours of the home built in 1843 and moved later from Six Mile.

"It just brings a lot of people for the Highland Games but don't necessarily know what Greenmead is," Scarcelli said.

The summer event's one of the biggest draws for Greenmead, helping with exposure.

Rachel Capps of Westland, who works in financial aid at Schoolcraft College, finds the games a fun family day. "We come out often, usually every year," she said. They were watching the athletes in such events as the caber toss, in which a telephone pole is tossed for accuracy rather than distance.

Capps was "getting ready pretty soon to go through the shops," of which there were plenty. "And besides a lot of men in kilts," she added with a laugh.

Capps has also attended and recommends the St. Andrew's Society Robert Burns dinner with a re-enactor representing the poet.

Martha Trafford of Canton, a

retired educator, came to the games with friends John and Beth Stewart of Plymouth Township. Trafford is Irish-Canadian.

"The music, the pageantry," she said of what she likes. "I enjoy watching the different activities." She likes the bagpipes and drums.

Trafford also enjoyed the tug of war between the U.S. Marines and Livonia Fire Department, which the firefighters won. Saturday's fun was preceded by a Friday night ceilidh, featuring music and dance. There were also children's activities and re-enactors.

Ean Pokryfky, age 16, competes in the amateur caber flip for the first time with adults twice his age and older.



MARCUS SINGLETON | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

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Voters give thumbs up to SMART

BY ALEX LUNDBERG
STAFF WRITER

The millage to support the Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation bus system was renewed by a wide margin by voters in Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties Tuesday.

In unofficial votes with nearly 100 percent of precincts reporting, Wayne County voters in communities with SMART service approved the millage 46,678 to 19,744. In Oakland County, the millage passed 64,718 to 20,465. Macomb County voters approved the millage 65,406 to 27,669.

The SMART ballot initiative is a renewal of the operating millage, but a reduction as well. Voters in Wayne and Oakland County were asked to approve a .59 mills package — down from .6 mills — that brought them in line with what Macomb County voters were paying for the bus service.

SMART Public Relations Manager Beth Gibbons said that while public transportation has a hit and miss history in Michigan, people understand that it has to exist in one way or another.



TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Voters in the tri-county area approved SMART's millage renewal in Tuesday's election.

"People look at it as something we need," Gibbons said. "They say, it may not be something I use but other people do and it's something we should have."

Besides the electoral numbers, she said the ridership numbers are doing well on their own. Since 2002, she said there's been a 25 percent rise in the amount of people using SMART buses to get from place to place.

If the numbers hold up, she said ridership will be free to continue to rise.

"If it passes, services continue as scheduled tomorrow and we're good for another four years," Gibbons said. "If

they don't, we're going to start eliminating weekend and night services and the rest of the service over the next couple of months."

In the primary for the Democratic nomination for Wayne County executive, incumbent Robert Ficano won handily as expected. With 99 percent of precincts reporting, he garnered 99,632 votes. Former Detroit Police lieutenant Ricardo Robert Moore received 9,741 votes and Marion Ector received 6,693 votes. Ramon Patrick won the Republican nomination with 22,240 votes against Deborah West who had 20,580 votes.

United Way names Local Community Committee for out-Wayne County

United Way for Southeastern Michigan has appointed its inaugural Local Community Committee (LCC) to represent Wayne County on the organization's Board of Directors.

The LCC is comprised of volunteers who are responsible for developing and implementing local strategies that align with United Way's regional priorities.

In total, there are four LCCs, representing Macomb, Oakland and Wayne counties, as well as the city of Detroit. The concept for the LCCs was created when United Way of Oakland County and United Way Community Services dissolved to form United Way for Southeastern Michigan, in April 2005. The new organization is focused on creating lasting change in local communities as well as region-wide. The LCCs further this mission by



Ardisana

involving each county and the city of Detroit directly with United Way's regional work and ensuring that local needs are met.

"The Local Community Committees give a stronger voice to the tri-county area and the city of Detroit," said Michael J. Brennan, president and CEO, United Way for Southeastern Michigan. Chair of the Wayne County LCC is Elizabeth Ardisana, CEO, ASG Renaissance. Committee members are: Judge Deborah Ross Adams, Wayne County Circuit Court Family Division; Ismael Ahmed, executive director, ACCESS; James Buford, director, Wayne County Department of Homeland Security; John

Colina, president, Colina Foundation; Dwight Dean, regional director, U.S. Department of Census Bureau; Reverend Dr. John E. Duckworth, pastor, Gethsemane Missionary Baptist Church; Victor Green, director of Community Relations, Wayne State University, Office of Government and Community Affairs; Karen Murphy, executive director, YWCA of Western Wayne County; Keith Pickens, Dearborn branch manager, AAA Michigan; Sue Pilon, director of Planning and Special Projects, Downriver Community Conference; Sue Ellen Small, principal (retired), Taylor school district; and Madelyn Williams, regional manager, Corporate and Government Affairs, DTE Energy.

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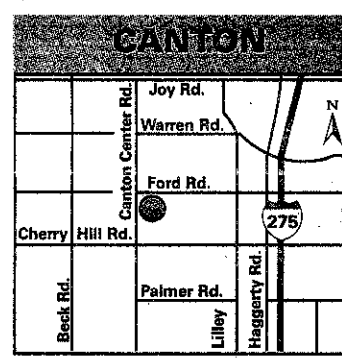
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Voters approve Van Buren Schools millage renewal

BY CAROL MARSHALL
STAFF WRITER

A millage renewal in the Van Buren Public Schools passed Tuesday, enabling the district to maintain its operations budget.

The non-homestead millage renewal passed 2,254 to 1,359 (62 and 38 percent). The millage applies to commercial, vacation homes and rental properties in the district, which includes Van Buren

Township, Belleville, most of Sumpter Township and some of Canton and Ypsilanti townships.

"I was happy that it was passed by a nearly 2-1 margin," said district spokesman Paul Henning. "To me that's not even close."

The votes against the millage are probably an indication of the economy, he said.

"If someone has lost their job and they see a millage renewal, they're not thinking that this

isn't going to affect them," he said, adding that the millage renewal raises taxes for no one, and in no way impacted residents of the district.

He added that there could also have been some confusion because the district sought bond approval from the voters earlier this year, and the bond proposal failed.

The millage accounts for some 24 percent of the district's revenue, according to Henning. The district receives

\$7,383 in state funding for every pupil. If the renewal had not passed, that amount would have been cut to \$5,263 per pupil.

The millage contributes to the district's operating budget. "The operating budget is the budget that pays for everything that makes the school operate every day. We're talking about electricity and gas, personnel and payroll, and books. This is the meat of what we operate on," Henning said.

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Looking for information about Canton events? Check the Everything Canton portion of Canton Public Library Internet Branch for links to fun things happening around town. It's easy — just go to www.cantonpl.org and click the Everything Canton link. You can also visit the Everything Canton kiosk in the library for current events, flyers, camps and other listings.

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■ Tween Ice Cream: Aug. 9, at 3 p.m. Make your own ice cream. Register now.

■ Safety Pin Bracelet: Aug. 9, at 4 p.m. A fun and easy craft for first- through third-graders, register now.

■ Adult Movie Night: Aug. 9, at 6 p.m. Part of the Adult

Summer Reading Program; watch *Memoirs of a Geisha*, based on the book by Arthur Golden.

■ Adult Book Discussion: Aug. 10, at noon *Pearl Diver* by Jeff Talarigo.

■ Get Your Game On: Aug. 10, at 6 p.m. Tween program, no registration required.

■ Teen Book Discussion: Aug. 12, at noon. *Airborn* by Kenneth Oppel.

■ ABC Activity: Aug. 14, at 10 a.m. For children up to age 5, with caregiver. Registration

not required.

What's new @ your library. Here's a partial list of materials just in at the library. To see the whole list, visit <http://catalog.cantonpl.org/flist>.

DVDs

■ *The Adventures of Brisco County Jr.* Complete Series
■ *Disney Rarities Celebrated Shorts, 1920s-1960s*
■ *Mommie Dearest*

Festival chance to learn of mosque

BY CAROL MARSHALL
STAFF WRITER

For years, the annual Muslim Community of Western Suburbs International Summer Festival has been a place where Waqas Jilani can enjoy a day of good times, good food, and socializing with good friends. But for people who are not part of the MCWS, the festival is a place to learn about Muslim customs and about the mosque in Canton.

"It's a traditional annual event, just like a lot of other festivals," said Jilani. "We have different kinds of foods, and will have a petting zoo, rides and a moon bounce for the kids. But it's also an open house. We have invited people of all faiths to join us."

The festival was started as a way for the 350 children who attend Crescent Academy to enjoy some summer fun, but in recent years the public has grown curious about Muslim religion and customs.

"It may be that they're just curious about what goes on,"

Jilani said. "I hope that events like this have helped a lot of the stereotypes and misunderstanding to go away. We're basically just like any other group of people, like any other religion."

The summer event at Crescent Academy in Canton draws more attention than your average church festival, Jilani said. And that's OK with him.

"We do get a lot of media and people who come because they're curious. But we welcome everyone. Our community is such an international community that we welcome everyone," he said.

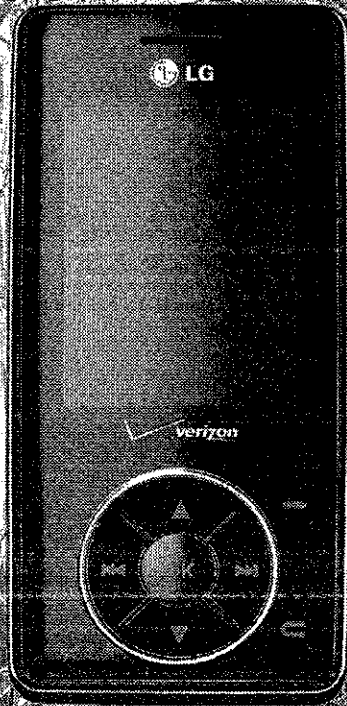
The 2006 International Summer Festival will offer ethnic foods, a bazaar, rides and open house tours of the new Crescent Academy center and masjid.

The bazaar will feature clothes, jewelry, art work, books and household items.

The festival will be held 1-6 p.m. Aug. 12 at the Crescent Academy at 40440 Palmer Road. Admission is free.

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248-253-1799

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(off Grand River,
in front of Target)
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BURTON
1295 S. Center Rd.
(at corner of Lapeer Rd.)
810-743-4846

CANTON
42447 Ford Rd.
(corner of Ford & Lilley
Rds., Canton Corners)
734-644-0481

DEARBORN
24417 Ford Rd.
(just West of Telegraph)
313-278-4491

FAIRLANE MALL
(3rd floor next to Sears)
313-441-0168

DETROIT
14126 Woodward
(Model T Plaza)
313-869-7392

FARMINGTON HILLS
31011 Orchard Lake Rd.
(S.W. Corner of Orchard
Lake Rd. & 14 Mile Rd.)
248-538-9900

FENTON
17245 Silver Pkwy
(in the Sears Plaza)
810-629-2733

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4129 24th Ave.
810-385-1231

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(Orion Mall 2 miles
N. of the Palace)
248-393-6800

NORTHVILLE
Three Generations Plaza
20580 Haggerty Rd.
734-779-0148

NOVI
43025 12 Mile Rd.
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Service Dr.,
North of Sears)
248-305-6600

Twelve Oaks Mall
(lower level play area)

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(across from
Summit Place Mall)
248-335-9900

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(at Auburn Rd.)
248-853-0550

ROYAL OAK
31921 Woodward Ave.
(at Normandy)
248-549-4177

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(at 10 1/2 Mile)
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SOUTHFIELD
28117 Telegraph Rd.
(South of 12 Mile Rd.)
248-358-3700

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(M-59 & M-53,
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586-997-6500

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(Lower Ct. play area)
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1913 E. Big Beaver Rd.
(Troy Sports Center)
248-526-0040

OAKLAND MALL
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next to Food Court)

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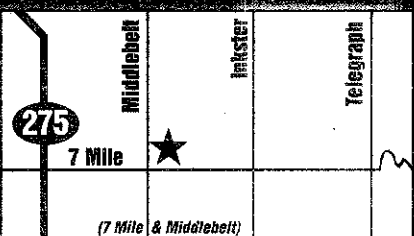
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Fine feathered friends

Club's presentation educates kids and adults about birds

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER

Dottie Kennedy has made plans for 15-year-old Kirby, if something happens to her. Making a will is something parents tend to do.

But Kirby isn't a child. Kirby is Kennedy's 15-year-old African Gray Parrot who, with a life expectancy of at least 80 years, will outlive her.

"You have to be sure the bird's taken care of," said the Livonia resident.

It's part of the message Kennedy and members of the Rainbow Feathers Bird Club deliver in educational programs they present at libraries, preschools, churches and vacation Bible schools in exchange for donations to fund the club's bird rescue program.

Thanks to a summer reading program theme of "Paws, Claws, Scales and Tails," club members have done 10 presentations, mostly at libraries, where youngsters hear about the birds, hear the birds talk and even touch them.

"It gets very noisy and they get very excited when the bird poops," said Kennedy. "We tell them that if they're very quiet, they'll hear the bird talk, but that doesn't always happen."

One of the talkers is Tammy Carol's green winged macaw named Max whose been part of



Rainbow Feathers Bird Club member Tammy Carol of Garden City talks about her Green Wing Macaw Max to the children attending the Garden City Library's summer reading club, Amazing Tales. Max can give hugs, roll over on his back and talk.

the road show for two years, but didn't start talking in front of the crowds until this year.

COOL STUFF

"I was talking about him and he told me to shut up," the Garden City resident said. "The kids think it's cool he can talk."

According to Kennedy, the club started doing the programs about five years ago. The three Livonia libraries needed an inexpensive program, and the club came up with the idea of doing the presentation in exchange for

donations to help fund its bird rescue.

"We've done it at the three Livonia libraries for several years, now we'll go anywhere, senior citizens homes, schools, wherever anyone ask us," said Kennedy, who happens to be a children's librarian in Livonia.

One of the club's stops this summer was the Garden City Library, where their avian show helped close out the summer reading program, Amazing Tales. The program featured a Golden Headed Conure called Autumn Sweetie Pie, Max and an chatty African Gray Parrot named Sparky.

Sparky belongs to Livonia resident Steve Plafhan and is "a good talker and very intelligent." While his command of the English language includes saying good morning when the sun rises, Sparky also enjoys playing with the kids and hanging upside-down.

"African Gray is a misnomer," Kennedy said. "Sparky's more of a teddy bear with feathers."

Kennedy's African Gray may not be the character Sparky is, but his speaking abilities got her son in trouble for 1 1/2 years.

"Kirby's an excellent mimic," said Kennedy. "If my son asked

to do something, Kirby would give him permission in my voice. He would make promises in my son's voice, and I couldn't understand why my son would never keep them. We didn't know he was doing that until we heard him do it one day."

MIMICS ABOUND

According to Kennedy, not only do parrots know how to talk and think, they're excellent mimics. They can imitate the sound of a microwave when it's working and the sound of a phone ringing, then carry on a one-sided conversation.

"We tell people to watch what they say when they're excited, they pick up that language quicker than what you say in a normal voice," she explained. "That kept my son from being a potty mouth when he was a teenager because the bird would get him in trouble."

The club was founded in 1997 and draws members from throughout southeastern Michigan. In addition to its educational programs and bird rescue - "We take in birds, we don't buy them," said Kennedy - it also raises money for scholarships for avian veterinary students at Michigan State University and to support avian research projects.

It started its rescue/relocation program in 1998 and has taken in almost 100 birds. Carol and her husband, Dave, along with Kathy Tromblay

coordinate the rescue program for the club.

According to Carol, the reasons for surrendering birds can range from allergy problems to the birds being too loud.

"People will buy the bird because they think it's cool or cute and don't realize how long it can live or the noise it makes," she said. "We try to help them keep their bird, but if they can't, we find a place for them."

Parakeets, depending on their health care, can live 10-20 years, cockatiels more than 25 years and Amazons up to 100 years.


"That's part of what we do at the libraries," she said. "We get the word out about the noise aspect and the age aspect. A lot of the birds in the program are young and they will outlive us."

Kennedy also points out another aspect.

"Living with a parrot is like living with a perpetual 2-5-year-old," she said.

The Rainbow Feathers Bird Club meets at 2 p.m. the fourth Sunday of the month at the First United Methodist Church, 6443 Merriman, south of Ford, in Garden City. Information about the educational programs is available by calling Dottie Kennedy at (734) 525-6833. For bird rescues, call the Dave or Tammy Carol at (734) 422-5981 or Kathy Tromblay at (734) 941-1517.

smason@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2112



CITY OF PLYMOUTH
COUNTY OF WAYNE, MICHIGAN

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON AMENDMENTS TO THE DEVELOPMENT PLAN AND TAX INCREMENT FINANCING PLAN OF THE DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF PLYMOUTH

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS IN THE CITY OF PLYMOUTH

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the City Commission of the City of Plymouth, Michigan, will hold a public hearing on Monday, the 5th day of September, 2006, at 7:00 o'clock, p.m., Eastern Daylight Savings at the City Commission Chamber, 201 S. Main Street, Plymouth, Michigan, to consider the adoption of an ordinance approving amendments to the Development Plan and Tax Increment Financing Plan for the Downtown Development Authority of the City of Plymouth pursuant to Act 197 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 1975, as amended.

The boundaries of the development area to which the amended Plan applies are as follows:

Beginning at the intersection of the north line of Church St. & the east line of Union St.; thence south along the east line of Union St. to the north line of Lot 19, Fralick's Addition; thence east along the north line of above said lot 19 to the east line of Lot 19; thence south along the east line of above said lot to the north line of Lot 11, May Subdivision; thence east along the north line of above said lot 11 to the west line of Elizabeth St.; thence south along the west line of Elizabeth St. to the south line of Lot 14, May Subdivision; thence west along the north line of George B. Shafer's Subdivision, a distance of 204.6 ft. to the east line of Lot 240, Assessor's Plat No. 9; thence south along said lot a distance of 165.00 ft. to the north line of Ann Arbor Trail; thence west along the north line of Ann Arbor Trail to the east line of Lot 710, Assessor's Plat No. 20; thence south along the east line of said lot to the north line of Lot 733, Assessor's Plat No. 20; thence west along the north line of said lot to the east line of Lot 734, Assessor's Plat No. 20; thence south along the east line of said lot to the south line of Maple Avenue; thence west along the south line of Maple Avenue to the east line of Deer St.; thence south along the east line of Deer St. to the southwest corner of Lot 763, Plymouth Plat No. 21; thence west along the south line of Lots 759 and 760, Assessor's Plymouth Plat No. 21, a distance of 130.94 ft; thence north along the west line of said Lot 759 a distance of 132.65 ft. to the south line of Wing St.; thence west along the south line of Wing St. to the west line of Lot 131, Nash's Plymouth Subdivision; thence north along the west line of said lot to the south line of Maple Avenue; thence west to the west line of Lot 285a2b1, Plymouth Plat No. 12; thence north along the west line of said lot a distance of approximately 148 ft. to the south line of Lot 285al, Plymouth Plat No. 12; thence west along the south line of said lot a distance of approximately 105 ft. to the west line of Lot 285al, Plymouth Plat No. 12; thence north along the west line of said lot a distance of approximately 82 ft. to the north line of Lot 285al, Plymouth Plat No. 12; thence east along the north line of said lot to the southwest corner of lot 288, Plymouth Plat No. 12; thence north along the west line of Lot 288 to the north line of Ann Arbor Trail; thence east along the north line of Ann Arbor Trail to the southeast corner of lot 347, Plymouth Plat No. 13; thence northerly along the west line of S. Harvey St. to the south line of Church St.; thence east along the south line of Church St. to the west line of Lot 191, Plymouth Plat No. 8; thence southeast along the west line of said lot; thence east along the south line of said lot; thence northeast along the east line of said lot to the north line of Church St.; thence southeasterly along the north line of Church St. to the point of beginning at Church and Union Streets.

Copies of the proposal Restated Development Plan and Tax Increment Financing Plan, maps, plats, etc. are on file at the office of the City Clerk for inspection.

At the public hearing, all interested persons desiring to address the City Commission shall be afforded an opportunity to be heard in regard to the approval of the Restated Development Plan and Tax Increment Financing Plan for the Downtown Development Authority of the City of Plymouth.

FURTHER INFORMATION may be obtained from the City Manager.

This notice is given by order of the City Commission of the City of Plymouth, Michigan.

This is a public meeting and any interested person is invited to attend. City Hall is in compliance with the American Disabilities Act and is handicapped accessible.

Linda Langmesser
Clerk, City of Plymouth

Publish: August 10 & 27, 2006

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH

To all residents and other interested parties: Agenda's and Minutes for the Township of Plymouth Board of Trustee Meetings are available for review under the Reference Desk Page of the Township Web site: www.plymouthtwp.org.

Minutes and agenda's are also posted in the Clerk's Office at Plymouth Township Hall, 42350 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth, for public perusal.

Marilyn Massengill, CMC
Clerk, Charter Township of Plymouth

Publish: July 13, August 10 & September 7 & 21, 2006

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON
COMBINED NOTIFICATION
FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
ON THE ENVIRONMENT
REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about August 28, 2006, the above named Township will request the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to release funds under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (PL 93-383) for the following projects located in the Charter Township of Canton:

PROJECT: Sheldon School Site Improvements, \$122,910 (2006), \$15,000 (2005), 44649 Michigan Ave. (New)

PROJECT: Housing Rehabilitation, \$100,000. ("Continuing Relevance")

PROJECT: Human Services Center Improvements (interior walls), \$5,000. (New)

PROJECT: Teen Center Outreach, \$1,350. (Public Services) (New)

DETERMINATION: It has been determined that such request for release of funds will not constitute an action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment and, accordingly, the Charter Township of Canton has decided not to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (PL 91-190). The reasons for such decision not to prepare such a statement are as follows: Sheldon School Site Improvements was environmentally assessed under 24 CFR 58.36. Housing Rehabilitation is categorically excluded under 24 CFR 58.35(a)(4). Human Services Center interior walls is categorically excluded under 24 CFR 58.35(a)(1). Teen Center Outreach is categorically excluded under 24 CFR 58.35(b)(2). An Environmental Review Record has been made by the Charter Township of Canton which documents the environmental review of the projects and more fully sets forth the reasons why such Statement is not required. This Environmental Review Record is on file with the Charter Township of Canton and is available for public examination and copying (for a fee) upon request at the office of the Community Services Division, 1150 S. Canton Center Road, Canton, MI 48188-1699, 734-394-5194, between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Nor further review of the projects is proposed to be conducted prior to the request for release of federal funds. All interested agencies, groups and persons disagreeing with this decision are invited to submit written comments for consideration by the Community Services Division at the above described address. Such written comments must be received on or before August 25, 2006. All such comments so received will be considered by the Township and the Township will not request the release of federal funds or take administrative action on the projects before the date specified in the preceding sentence.

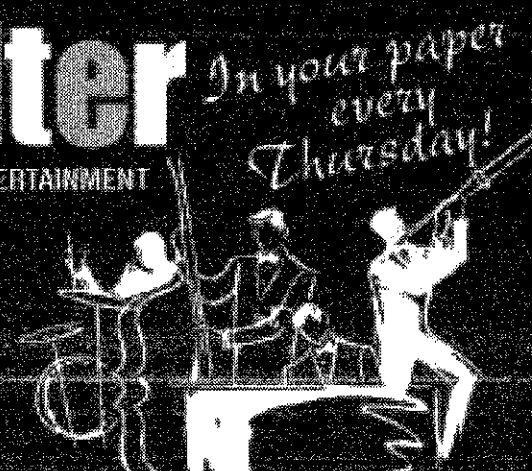
CERTIFICATION: The Charter Township of Canton will undertake the project with Community Development Block Grant funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) under Title I of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1974. The Charter Township of Canton is certifying to HUD that the Charter Township of Canton and Thomas J. Yack, in his capacity of Township Supervisor, consent to accept the jurisdiction of the federal courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to environmental reviews, decision making, and action, and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. The legal effect of the certification is that upon approval, the Charter Township of Canton may use the Block Grant funds and HUD will have satisfied its responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. HUD will accept an objection to its approval of the release of funds and acceptance of the certification only if it is on one of the following bases: (a) that the certification was not in fact executed by the Chief Executive Officer of the Applicant; or (b) that the Applicant's environmental review record for the project indicates omission of a required decision, finding or step applicable to the project in an environmental review process. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedure (24 CFR Part 58) and may be addressed to HUD at: McNamara Federal Building, 17th Floor, 477 Michigan Avenue, Detroit, MI 48226. Objections to the release of funds on the basis of other than those stated above will not be considered by HUD. No objection received after September 12, 2006, will be considered by HUD.

Terry Bennett, Clerk

Publish: August 10, 2006

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PURE ENTERTAINMENT

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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, 1150 S. Canton Center Road
Canton, MI 48188
(734) 394-5260

Publish: August 10, 2006

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Charter Township of Canton, 1150 Canton Center S, Canton, Michigan will accept sealed proposals at the Office of the Clerk up to 3:00 p.m. Thursday, August 24th, 2006 for the following:

COMPUTER INFORMATION WIRELESS BACKBONE PROJECT

Proposals may be picked up at the Finance and Budget Department, on 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 proposal name, company name, address and telephone number and date and time of bid opening. The Township reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals. The Township does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services.

Publish: August 10, 2006

TERRY G. BENNETT, CLERK

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, August 31st, 2006 for the following:

HOUSING REHABILITATIONS FALL 2006

Bid forms may be picked up at the Finance and Budget Department, from our website at <http://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.

Publish: August 10, 2006

TERRY G. BENNETT, CLERK

Wayne-Westland school chief still worried about costs

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER

At first blush, the state school aid bill that's been sent to Gov. Jennifer Granholm is good news for the Wayne-Westland Community Schools.

In all, the district will get \$3.1 million, or \$232 per student, in new money this year — a \$2.8 million increase in state school aid, \$150,000 for declining enrollment and \$150,000 to bolster its middle school math and science programs.

But the not so good news is that the district will be \$2 million short, or \$148 per student, when it comes to covering increases in health care, retirement and energy costs and salaries and the projected loss of 109 students.

"We're grateful for the \$210, but we're still extremely frustrated and disappointed with the leadership in Lansing because they have failed to solve the structural problems as they relate to the budget," said Superintendent Greg Baracy. "They have taken no action to solve the problem. They don't like to hear us express that, but they take actions that hurt us. The money for our students would be more if they stopped raiding the School Aid Fund."

The district is facing at least an 8 percent increase in health care, while retirement costs will be 17.74 percent of payroll. The latter cost is higher than Social Security and represents a 36-percent increase in cost since 2003-2004, Gary Martin, deputy superintendent of administration and business services, recently said.

Like everyone else, the dis-

trict is feeling the pinch of higher energy costs, projecting an almost \$500,000 increase, but has been able to hold salary increases to a "very, very modest" 1.5 percent.

"That's far below the state average and several of our neighboring school districts," Baracy said. "We have no step increases this year, we were able to negotiate a freeze, so those won't go up. A step increase is usual 6 percent."

The shortfall is even larger when the district factors in such items as textbook purchases, technology costs, maintenance and school supplies. Rather than being in the hole \$148 per student, the amount is closer to \$350 per student.

The district gets 95.3 percent of its revenue from state and local property taxes and has been using cost containment and its budget surplus to offset shortfalls to avoid cutting the educational program.

"We can't get ahead," he said. "We've literally done everything we can possibly do to preserve the educational programs for the children. That's our number one priority."

Baracy said the district has trimmed close to \$20 million over the past four years and will cut another \$6 million this year.

"It's the only way we've been able to maintain a modest cash flow to cover what state aid doesn't pay," he added. "I give credit to the employee groups who have negotiated cost containment and helped the bottom line immensely. Without our cost containment and reasonable contract negotiations, we

would be in deficit."

Baracy added that the state would have an additional \$100 million to give to schools this year, if it "stopped robbing Peter to pay Paul," referring to program and costs it has shifted from the general fund to the healthier school aid fund.

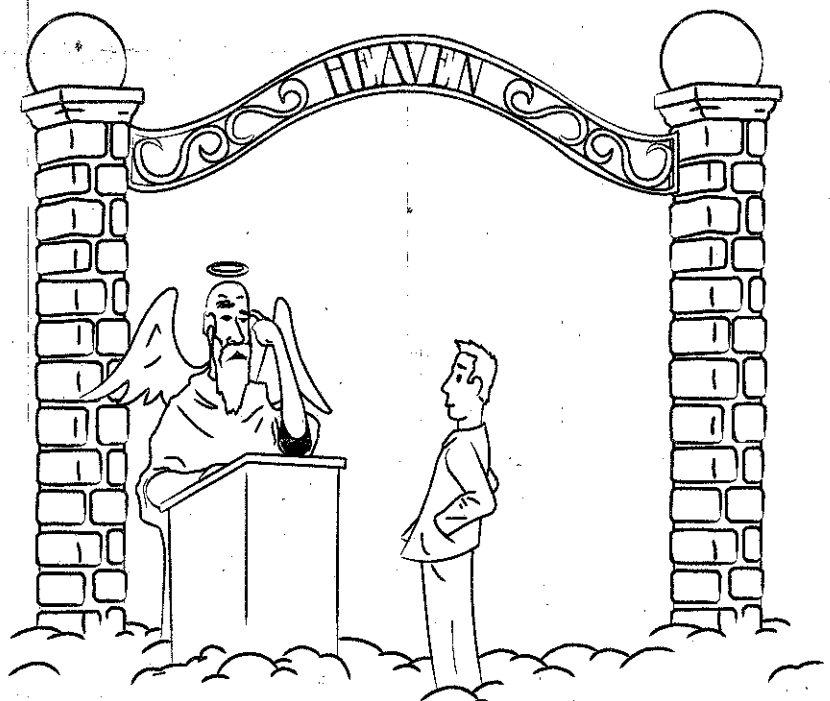
Former general fund costs now coming out of the school fund are the \$34 million to cover Durant lawsuit payments, \$1.3 million for school bus inspections once handled by the State Police, \$20 million to pay for the MEAP testing program and \$36.7 million in renaissance zone payments, Baracy said.

"The question remains, if they're going to talk quality global education, they have to step up and fund a quality program that allows us to deliver a quality global education program to children and stop raiding the school aid fund," he said. "We have to stop beating each other up and unite to provide the best education we can to meet the demands of a global society."

The state also needs to deal with the health care and retirement issues. Baracy said retirement costs stands at \$140 million across the state and health care is another \$200 million expense.

"We've budgeted real conservatively, we've learned to do with less over the last several years, but cutting \$4-\$5 million out of the budget is the only reasonable thing we can do to make ends meet," he added. "We can't keep doing that year after year."

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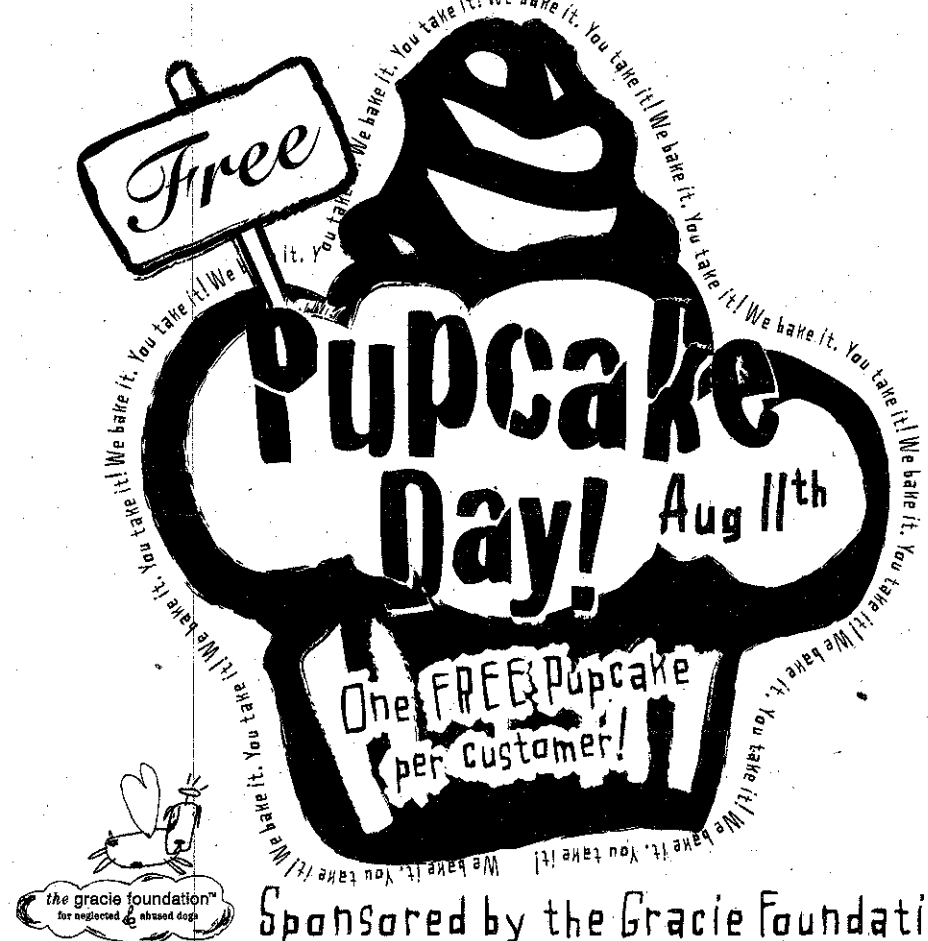
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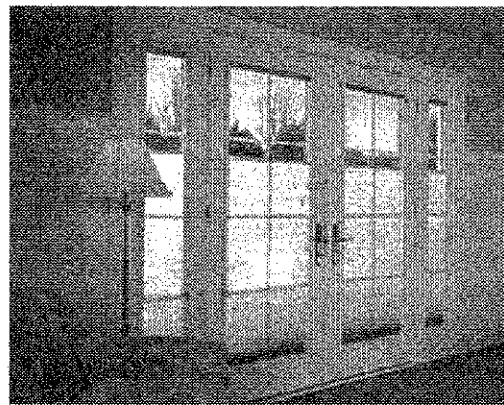
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DENNIS LOWRY

Age 58, August 5, 2006. Beloved husband of Barbara for 37 years. Dear father of Angie (David) Schulz, Amy (Henry) Morelli. Dearest grandfather of Ben, Nick, Jacob, Rachael, and Sami. Loving brother of Penny (Tony) Munoz. Visitation was Tuesday at the Harry J. Will Funeral Home, Livonia. Mass was Wednesday at St. Edith Catholic Church, Livonia.



ELIZABETH KAY GALEANA

July 25, 2006. Born October 20, 1983. Survived by her parents Jerry & Frank Galeana. Siblings: Brian (Amy) Evans of Lehigh Acres, FL, Frank Galeana, Jr. of Ft. Myers, FL, Roseann (Russell) Galeana McBain of Plymouth MI, Carl Galeana of Northville, MI. Nieces & Nephews: Bruce Evans, Michael Galeana, Hannah McBain, Emma Galeana, Russell McBain, Paige McBain, Carl Galeana, Natalie McBain, Rael Galeana. Grandmother: Karen Bennett. She was also survived by numerous cousins, aunts & uncles. Elizabeth was a delightful, funny, beautiful, goofy, wonderful girl. She loved animals and will be greatly missed by her cat Bailey and her dog Buttons. She was a world class shopper and enjoyed traveling, spending time in Key West, reading, movies, dancing. She loved the beach and hated the snow. She also loved butterflies, faeries and angels. Elizabeth's inner beauty was equally matched by her outer beauty. She will be greatly missed by those whose lives she touched. Elizabeth filled the world with sunshine. Now, she surely lights the heavens with a radiance that will never die. A Memorial Mass for family and friends will be held in Elizabeth's honor on Friday August 11 at 11 a.m. at St. Aidan Catholic Church, 17500 Farmington Rd., Livonia, with the family receiving guests at 10 a.m. In lieu of flowers the family requests that you honor Elizabeth with a memorial donation to the Catholic Hispanic Social Services of Lee County Florida, P.O. Box 50301, Fort Meyers, FL 33994. Arrangements by the R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, 15451 Farmington Rd., Livonia, MI. Please sign Elizabeth's online guestbook at: www.rgharris.com.

Let others know...

When you've lost a loved one, place your notice on our website and in "Passages"...a directory located in every edition of your hometown newspaper.

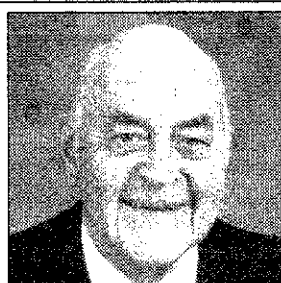
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J. MICHAEL REFFITT

Age 57 of Belleville, Michigan and formerly of Xenia, passed away Saturday at the St. Joseph Medical Center in Michigan. He was born February 9, 1949 in Dayton, Ohio, the son of James R. and Delores E. (Pennewitt) Reffitt. Mike was a 1967 graduate of Xenia High School, an avid bowler with thirteen perfect 300 games to his credit. He currently was the manager of the Super Bowl Bowling Center in Canton, Michigan and was the former manager of the Beaver-Vu-Bowl in Beavercreek. Mike was involved in the Canton Chamber of Commerce and Project Turnaround. Mike is survived by a daughter, Cynthia (Jason) Landolfi of Schertz, Texas, a son James Lee Reffitt of Dayton, father James R. Reffitt of Xenia, three grandchildren, Alex and Abby Landolfi, and Cory Reffitt, a brother Douglas (Janet) Reffitt of Baneberry, TN, uncle and aunt Donald and Phyllis Pennewitt, Xenia, a number of nephews, nieces, cousins and many close friends. He was preceded in death by his mother Delores "Dee" Reffitt in 2005. Funeral services will be held Friday August 11, 2006 at 10 a.m. at the McCaugh Funeral Home Inc., 826 N. Detroit Street, Xenia with Pastor Robert McDowell officiating. Burial in the Valley View Memorial Gardens. Visitation will be Thursday evening from 6-8 p.m. at the funeral home.

JOHN P. "JACK" RONAN

Age 74. Died August 5, 2006. Beloved Husband of Therese. Loving Father of five: Stephen (Janice), Charles (Dianna), Cheryl (David), Kathleen (Christopher), and Julie. Dearest Grandfather of eleven: Matthew, Stephanie, Brian, Sean, Eric, Adam, Kevin, Kyle, Erin, Kerry and Paige. Jack will be greatly missed by all his family and friends. He enjoyed the outdoors and loved his family. His true love and best friend is Therese. Funeral service on Thursday at St. Michael Catholic Church, 11441 Hubbard, Livonia. Family will receive visitors at 10:30AM with Memorial Mass following at 11:00AM. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to Rails and Trails Conservancy, 1100 17th Street NW, Washington D.C. 20036. St. John Hospice, 37650 Garfield, Clinton Twp., MI 48036 OR Michigan Humane Society Shelter, 900 N. Newburgh Rd., Westland, MI 48135. Arrangements made through L.A. Turowski & Son Funeral Home, 9300 Middlebelt, Livonia.
www.neely-turowski.com



JOHN R. CALDWELL, M.D.
Founder of the Department of Hypertension at Henry Ford Hospital, Detroit

Dr. Caldwell, age 87, of Birmingham, died August 3, 2006 at home. He was a physician dedicated to combating the ravages of hypertension. In 1955, he founded the section of Hypertension, which became one of the cornerstones of preventive medicine at Henry Ford Hospital. "He was able to correlate some of the complications of hypertension, that is left ventricular hypertrophy and proteinuria in relation to basal blood pressure, home blood pressure and office blood pressure," said hypertension specialist Arturo Pascual, M.D., who worked with Dr. Caldwell for nearly 20 years. Although he retired in 1987, Dr. Caldwell continued to direct the blood pressure screening program at Henry Ford Hospital. "He was a perfect gentleman," said Dr. Pascual. "His heart was always in the right place." Born in Middletown, Connecticut, Dr. Caldwell received his bachelor of arts degree from Lafayette College in Easton, Pennsylvania in 1940 and his medical degree from Temple University School of Medicine in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in 1943. Following graduation, he served for three years in the Navy during World War II. He trained at Kent General Hospital in Dover, Delaware and completed graduate training at the University of Pennsylvania Graduate School of Medicine in Philadelphia. He also served a fellowship in Internal Medicine at the Cleveland Clinic before joining the Henry Ford Hospital staff in 1952. He wrote numerous scientific articles, lectured frequently and conducted extensive clinical research relating to hypertension. He was highly regarded in all aspects of medicine - patient care, research and teaching. Hypertension Fellow Dr. Roy Moser and Dr. Caldwell were among the first to describe abdominal bruit for renal artery stenosis. Active in community, Dr. Caldwell served as chairman of the Hypertension Coordinating and Planning Council of Southeastern Michigan from 1973-74, and was chairperson of the Metropolitan Detroit Coalition for blood Pressure Control from 1986-88. He received the Laureate Award of the Michigan Chapter of the American College of Physicians in 1989. He was the founder and first chairman of Detroit Physicians for Social Responsibility and lectured often on the medical consequences of nuclear war. He is survived by his wife, Julie (nee: Matthews), his daughters, Ann Kelly (James), Sally Fisher (Gregg) and Beth Simon (Dan), his sons, John (Karen) and Mark (Nancy), 12 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren, and his sisters, Elizabeth Zimmermann and Bertha Jane Lee. Services have been held. For information call A. J. Desmond & Sons 248-362-2500. Memorial Tributes may be made to: Physicians for Social Responsibility, 1875 Connecticut Avenue NW, Suite 1012, Washington, DC 20009. Share memories at: obit.DesmondFuneralHome.com

JUSTIN G. PERRIN

Age 83, of Cross Village, MI (formerly of Garden City), died Monday, August 7, 2006. Born April 12, 1923, in Detroit, the son of James Justin and Geraldine R. (LeBlanc) Perrin. He was a World War II U.S. Air Force Veteran, retired supervisor for TWA Airlines, past commander for the Knights of Columbus Garden City, and a member of the Disabled American Veterans. Survived by former wife and good friend, Gladys Perrin of Howell; daughters Sharon (Daniel) Steiger of Cross Village and Michelle Walsh of Livonia; brothers Leo (Lucille) Perrin of Mecosta and Jerome Perrin of Garden City; nephew Joseph (Nina) Perrin of Garden City; brother-in-law Al Closser of MN; and sister-in-law Margaret Converse of Livonia. Mass of Resurrection Friday, 10am (in state 9am), at St. Joseph Catholic Church, Howell. Burial in Lakeview Cemetery. Visitation Thursday, 5-8pm, at MacDonald's Funeral Home, Howell (517-546-2800). Memorial contributions suggested to the American Red Cross or the Humane Society. Visit online guestbook at www.macdonaldsfuneralhome.com



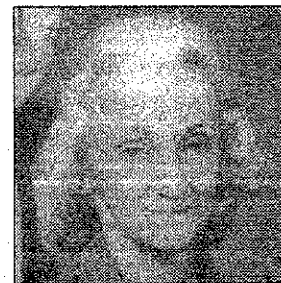
JULIANA "DOLLY" SCHUCK

August 6, 2006. Age 87 of Birmingham. Retired Administrative Assistant for Oakland Community College. Wife of the late Frank M. Jr. Dear mother of F. Michael (Susan), Barbara A. Strasbaugh (Alan), Deidre E. Etue and Lori S. Barresi. Grandmother of Scott, Matt, Jason, Andrea, Ryan and Kelly. Great grandmother of Chris, Savanna, Ben, Emily, Payton, Morgan and Derek. Sister of Joyce Kuslits (Ralph) and Evelyn Leary. Sister-in-law of Betty Rhodes (Vincent). Funeral Mass Thursday 10:00am at St. Regis Church, 3695 Lincoln at Lahser Rd., Bloomfield Hills. Visitation begins at church 9:30a.m.; Rite of Committal Holy Sepulchre Cemetery. Memorial tributes to Karmanos Hospice, 24601 Northwestern Hwy., Southfield, MI 48075. View obituary and share memories at www.DesmondFuneralHome.com



LOUISE WILLIS

Age 77, died August 6, 2006 at home after a long fight with breast cancer. Beloved wife of Joe, for 61 years. Loving mother of Cheryl (Sherry) and Ron Williams and the late Joey Willis. Dearest grandmother of Joey (Buddy) and Cristin Williams. Sister of Peggy Smith, Vera Weaver and the late Betty Majors and Lena Veanes. Dear aunt to several nieces and nephews and great-aunt to many. She was owner of C & J Fasteners for many years. She loved gardening, sewing, travel and doll collecting, but most of all she loved slot machines. Louise was a life-member of Eastern Star. Funeral Service Thursday in state at 9:30 am with Service to begin at 10:00am at the Neely-Turowski Funeral Home 30200 Five Mile Road (Bet. Middlebelt and Merriman) Livonia. Interment Grand Lawn Cemetery.



SYLVIA CAROLINE BYERS

Age 92, a 70 year resident of Plymouth, having moved here in 1936 and building 2 homes here. Mrs. Byers was born January 7, 1914 in Hooper, Nebraska to Frederick F. Barth and Marie E. (Luthold) Barth. She passed away August 8, 2006. Mrs. Byers worked 19 years as a sales clerk at the Kresge store in downtown Plymouth, retiring in the early 1970's. She enjoyed homemaking, gardening and church. She was a member of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Northville. Mrs. Byers was a devoted wife, mother and grandmother. She was the beloved wife of the late Eldon, dear mother of Marjorie M. Hyde, the late Ted, the late Wanda Kirby and the late Don, dearest grandmother of ten, great grandmother of twenty-three, and great great grandmother of six, dear sister of Ann Fischer. Funeral Friday, August 11, 2006, 11 AM at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 280 S. Main Street, Plymouth. Friends may visit Thursday, 3-9PM. Memorials may be made to St. Paul Lutheran Church, Northville.



THERESA BILLINGS

Age 75, of Lady Lake, FL, formerly of Garden City, MI, joined her late husband, Jasper (Tom) Billings to be with their Lord and Savior on August 8, 2006. After 37 years of service, she retired as Nursing Supervisor from Annapolis Hospital in Wayne, MI. She is survived by 5 daughters: Anna Proctor and Barbara Buddenborg of St. Johns, MI, Cecilia Dymecki of Littleton, Co, Donna Fairbanks of Alexandria, KY, and Elizabeth Billings of Ovid, MI; by her dear nephew, Casmer Bishop III of Goosecreek, SC; by 3 sisters and 2 brothers: Cecilia McTigue of Lady Lake, FL, Joan Gildea of Pittsburgh, PA, Donna Bishop of Ocala, FL, Raymond Bishop of Pittsburgh, PA and Harry Bishop of Tucson, AZ; by 11 grandchildren, five great grandchildren, and numerous nieces and nephews. Memorial mass will be held at St. Timothy's Catholic Church in Lady Lake, Friday, August 11th at 10:00 am. In lieu of flowers, donations to Hospice Foundation of Lake and Sumter, 12300 Lane Park Road, Tawres, FL 32778 are greatly appreciated.

VIRGINIA L. MCGEE

Age 86, of Plymouth (formerly of Northville), passed away August 7, 2006. She was born December 14, 1919, in Detroit, to David E. Roberts and Lydia F. (Horton) Roberts, and married William J. McGee in 1937. She has been a resident of Plymouth since 1966. Virginia retired as a supervisor from Michigan Bell after 29 years. Mrs. McGee was a member of the VFW Ladies Auxiliary in Plymouth and Northville. She enjoyed many types of crafts, especially bead work, sewing, and needlework. Survivors include her children, Faye Landreth and Mickey Gene (Louie) Sweet; her brother, David (Olaf) Roberts; grandchildren, Bill Sweet, Mary (Steve) Martin, and Robyn (James) Thomas; great grandchildren, Sean and Daryl Martin and Muriel, Astlee, and Laura Thomas. Mrs. McGee was preceded in death by her husband, and her grandson, Danny Sweet, (in 1962). Funeral Service Thursday, August 10, 11am, Casterline Funeral Home, Inc., of Northville, with Reverend Judith I. McMillian of the First Congregational Church of Ann Arbor officiating. Mrs. McGee will be laid to rest at Rural Hill Cemetery in Northville. Memorial contributions to the family would be appreciated.

PHYLLIS HARRIS

Age 84, Passed away on August 2, 2006. Beloved wife of the late Charles P. Harris. Loving mother to Christina Anderson, Gregory Harris and Wayne Harris. Devoted grandmother of Victoria LaFave, Scott Harris, Paul Anderson, Sandra Cain, Patrick Harris, Meghan Harris and Ian Harris. Great-grandmother of Faye Collyer and Riley Cain. Mom, Thank you for everything you did. We will miss you deeply.

OBITUARY POLICY

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

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RELIGION CALENDAR

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

AUGUST

Vacation Bible school

For age four through completed sixth grade 6-8:30 p.m. to Friday, Aug. 11, dinner will be served each evening as part of the event, at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 16360 Hubbard, Livonia. No charge. For information, call (734) 421-8451.

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. to Friday, Aug. 11 at Redford Aldersgate United Methodist Church, 10000 Beech Daly, between Plymouth and West Chicago. Call (313) 937-3170 to pre-register.

Tennis

4-7 p.m. Weekdays, and 1-5 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, at Rotary Park on Six Mile, between Merriman and Farmington, Livonia. Just stop by and mention Single Point Ministries (age 30 and up). Call (248) 374-5920.

Crosstalk

With Paul Clough leading a lively discussion on a topic of current interest 7 p.m. Friday, Aug. 11, at Ward Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile, Livonia. Learn how the Bible approaches modern day events and the Christian response to them. Free childcare. Call (248) 374-5920.

Bicycling group

10 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 12, at Newburgh Point, Hines Drive west of Newburgh Road. Single Point (age 30 and older) 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.

Arctic adventure

Vacation Bible School for ages 5-12, explores faith 9:45 a.m. to noon Sunday, Aug. 13, and 6:30-8:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday, Aug. 14-17, at Parkview Baptist Church, 9355 Stark Road, Livonia. For more information or transportation, call (734) 261-6180.

Bethany Together picnic

Sunday, Aug. 13, at Metro Beach, 16 Mile Road and Jefferson Ave. Cost is \$5 and a dish of real food, not a bag of chips or cookies, to pass. Also bring your favorite lawn chair to relax and listen to the music. For more information, call (586) 264-0284. Bethany Suburban West is a Catholic organization providing peer support to the divorced and separated of all Christian denominations.

God's Family in ACTION

Vacation Bible School 6-9 p.m. Monday-Friday, Aug. 14-18, at Trinity Church of Livonia. Preschool, elementary, jr. high and adult classes offered (fellowship meal at 6 p.m.). There will be music, singing, crafts, puppets, food and fellowship centered around the study of book of Acts. To register send e-mail to TrinSunSchool@aol.com, or call church office at (734) 425-2800, or Sunday School director at (313) 541-3892. When registering leave parents name(s), child's name(s) and ages, and phone number.

Vacation Bible school

This year's theme is Fiesta, where kids are hot for Jesus from Aug. 14-18 at Riverside Park Church of God, 11771 Newburgh at Plymouth, Livonia. Please stop by for a registration form or call to register. Call (734) 464-0990. Prizes will be given away for early registration.

Outdoor volleyball

6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 15, and every Tuesday, at Rotary Park on Six Mile, between Merriman and Farmington roads, Livonia. Male and female Single Point Ministries (age 30 and up) of every skill level. Just stop by and mention Single Point Ministries. Call (248) 374-5920.

Rummage sale

8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday-Friday, Aug. 17-18, and 8 a.m. to noon Saturday, Aug. 19, at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 34567 Seven Mile, west of Farmington Road, Livonia.

Divorce recovery program

7:30-9:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 17 to Sept. 28, and Oct. 19 to Dec. 4 (no workshop Thanksgiving Day), presented by Single Place Ministry at First Presbyterian Church of Northville. For information, call (248) 349-0911.

Conference

The Ministry of the Watchman International present the 11th annual Power & Glory of God Conference Aug. 17-20, at University of Michigan-Dearborn/Fairlane Center, 19000 Hubbard Drive, Dearborn. Meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 17 (some afternoon meetings at 1 p.m.). Special Healing School and Miracle Service 1 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 19. For complete schedule, call (800) 560-9240 or visit www.ministryofthewatchman.com. Glow golf 7-9 p.m. Friday, Aug. 18, at Fun Zone,

41953 Ford Road, Canton. Cost is \$17 and includes one round of glow golf (indoor miniature golf played under black lights), and pizza and pop. Advance ticket not required but appreciated. Presented by Single Point Ministries of Ward Presbyterian Church. Call (248) 374-5920.

Breakfast meeting

Saturday, Aug. 19, at Leon's Family Dining, 30149 Ford Road, Garden City. All separated, divorced and singles welcome. Presented by Bethany Suburban West, a Catholic organization providing peer support to the divorced and separated of all Christian denominations. For information, call (734) 513-9479.

Bicycling group

10 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 19, at Nankin Mills administration office parking lot on Hines Drive, one mile east of Farmington Road, Westland. Single Point (age 30 and older) 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.

Bridge club

7 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 19, presented by single adult ministries at Ward Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile, Northville. No fee or registration required. Call (248) 374-5920.

Pig roast

Sunday, Aug. 20, in Papp Park, Taylor. Presented by Bethany Suburban West, a Catholic organization providing peer support to the divorced and separated of all Christian denominations. Cost is \$20. For details, call (313) 996-8644.

Hands on handbells

No experience necessary for this refresher course in basis ringing skills 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 24, in the Holy Trinity Bell Loft in the Lutheran church, 39020 Five Mile, Livonia. Learn to read music 7 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 23, in the choir room. Call (734) 464-0211.

Rummage sale

Clean and usable items needed for rummage sale Aug. 24-26, at Garden City Presbyterian Church, 1841 Middlebelt. For more information, call (734) 721-3599.

Casting call

The Passion Play of Detroit is seeking volunteer cast and crew members to participate in a dramatic depiction of Jesus Christ and the events surrounding His death burial and resurrection in "HE'S ALIVE." Bring your talent and passions to this impacting community outreach at the vision/casting meeting 7 p.m. Friday, Aug. 25, and all a.m. Saturday, Aug. 26, at the Revival Outreach Center, 16115 Beck, between Five and Six Mile roads, Northville. Passion Play Ministries International is a non-profit volunteer organization dedicated to equipping people from all nations with the greatest hope message the world has ever known. Visit www.passion-play.org or call (248) 246-6391.

Free concert

Members of Bethany Suburban West, a Catholic organization providing peer support to the divorced and separated of all Christian denominations, will meet at the fountain for a free concert featuring Steve King and the Dittlies Friday, Aug. 25, in Kellogg Park, Plymouth. Call (734) 513-9479.

UPCOMING

Monthly dance

Bethany Suburban West presents a dance 8 p.m. to midnight Saturday, Sept. 2 (doors open at 7:30 p.m.), at St. Robert Bellarmine, 27101 W. Chicago at Inkster road. Bethany Suburban West is a Catholic organization providing peer support to the divorced and separated of all Christian denominations. Cost is \$10, refreshments included. Call (734) 261-5716 for information.

Catholic programs

You've been coming to Catholic liturgies for years with your spouse, but just haven't taken the plunge to become Catholic yourself. The opportunity has arrived at St. Aidan Catholic Church, 17500 Farmington road, Livonia. Sept. 5th sees the start of the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults for those who would like to become Catholic. Call David Conrad, Director of Faith Formation, at (734) 425-5950 to discuss your conversion journey and begin formal entrance into the Catholic Church.

Fall program

Explore contemporary moral issues via sci-fi. Morality, conscience, human dignity - the Catholic Church's understanding of these topics shapes her understanding of today's hot topics: euthanasia, assisted suicide, the theory of just war, stem cell research, and more. Join us for an explanation and exploration of these and other topics using sci-fi episodes starting 7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 6, at St. Aidan Catholic Church, 17500 Farmington Road, Livonia. Call (734) 425-5950.

Remarried workshop

7-8:15 p.m. Wednesdays, Sept. 6, to Dec. 13, at Ward Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile, Northville. This course is for couples thinking about remarriage or already remarried. Can assist couples in blending families, parenting, communications, and finances. Call (248) 374-7400 for information.

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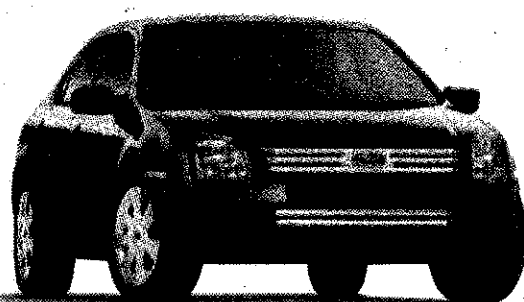


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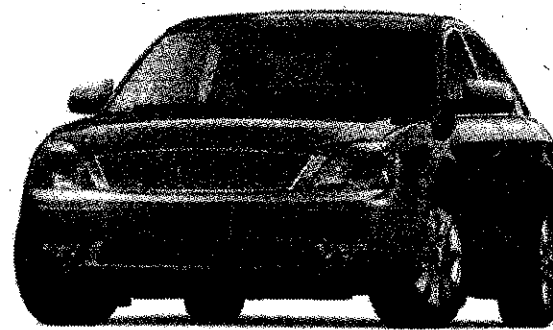


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Plymouth diver is ready for the world

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

The launching pad for 15-year-old Thea Vock's sky-rocking diving career turned out to be a springboard that hung over the University of Notre Dame's swimming pool in the summer of 1998.

As the then-7-year-old resident of South Bend, Ind., was having fun diving playfully into the sparkling water below, a lady approached her mother, Lilyan, who was watching from the side of the pool.

"The lady said she had been watching Thea and that, with some training, she thought she

could become a champion diver some day," Lilyan Vock remembered.

The lady turned out to be Ping Xie, a former Olympic-caliber diver and the wife of Notre Dame's diving coach, Caiming Xie.

"She told me that Thea was very strong and coordinated and she asked me if we could bring Thea to Notre Dame so that her husband could train her. At the time, diving was the last sport we thought Thea would get into. But it turns out she picked it up right away and has enjoyed it ever since."

Eight years later, it's apparent that Ping Xie has an eye for tal-

ent. On July 28, Vock captured one gold and one silver medal in her age division at the ultra-competitive 2006 Speedo Junior National Diving Championships held in Indianapolis.

Thanks to the sterling effort, Vock secured a spot on USA Diving's 16-member roster for the FINA Junior World Championships, which are set for Aug. 23-27 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

"I've never competed against divers from other countries, so I'm not sure how I'll do," said Vock. "From what I've heard, the girls from China are very good. I'm sure I'll be nervous, at

least for the first couple of dives."

Vock credits her current coach, Buck Smith, for much of her incredible success, which has included five Eastern United States National titles.

Smith has engineered Vock's training since she and her family moved to Plymouth in 2000.

"I only knew the basics when we moved to Michigan," she said. "Buck has taught me all of my dives and he's helped me with the mental part of the sport. So much of diving is mental."

While Smith helped Vock

PLEASE SEE DIVER, B2



Fifteen-year-old Plymouth resident Thea Vock will represent the United States at the FINA Junior Diving World Championships in Malaysia later this month.

Sidelines

YMCA preschool sports programs

The Plymouth Family YMCA is offering a variety of preschool sports programs, which will focus on fun, exercise and social interaction through sports instruction.

The programs include sports sampler, Y-Hoops, Bumble Bee soccer, Y-Pucks and Pee Wee T-Ball. There will be morning and evening classes available for children between the ages of 3 and 5.

The programs will be offered from Sept. 18 through Oct. 27. The cost is \$57 for program members and \$74 for community members.

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

The Plymouth Family YMCA is also looking for preschool instructors for these programs.

Wanted: women's softball teams

The Canton Sports Center, Michigan's largest softball complex, is accepting registrations for women's softball teams for its Monday league.

The league is tentatively scheduled to begin Aug. 14.

The registration fee includes a 14-game, double-header schedule with single-elimination playoffs.

For more information, contact the Sports Center office at (734) 483-5600 or visit csc.canton-mi.org.

Top 50 standouts

Several young area golfers excelled at the season-ending 2006 Michigan Top 50 Jr. Tour State Championship competition held Aug. 7 at the Flushing Valley Country Club.

"This tournament was played under the highest-quality tournament conditions," said Top 50 director Daniel J. Thomas. Local players who participated in the event were:

■ **Boys 15-and-under:** Canton's Shawn Simancas (79 - fifth place); Canton's Andrew Rickerman (83 - tied for 10th); Canton's Jeremy Lindlbauer (90); Canton's Andrew Overmeyer (97) and Canton's Kendall Persons (98).

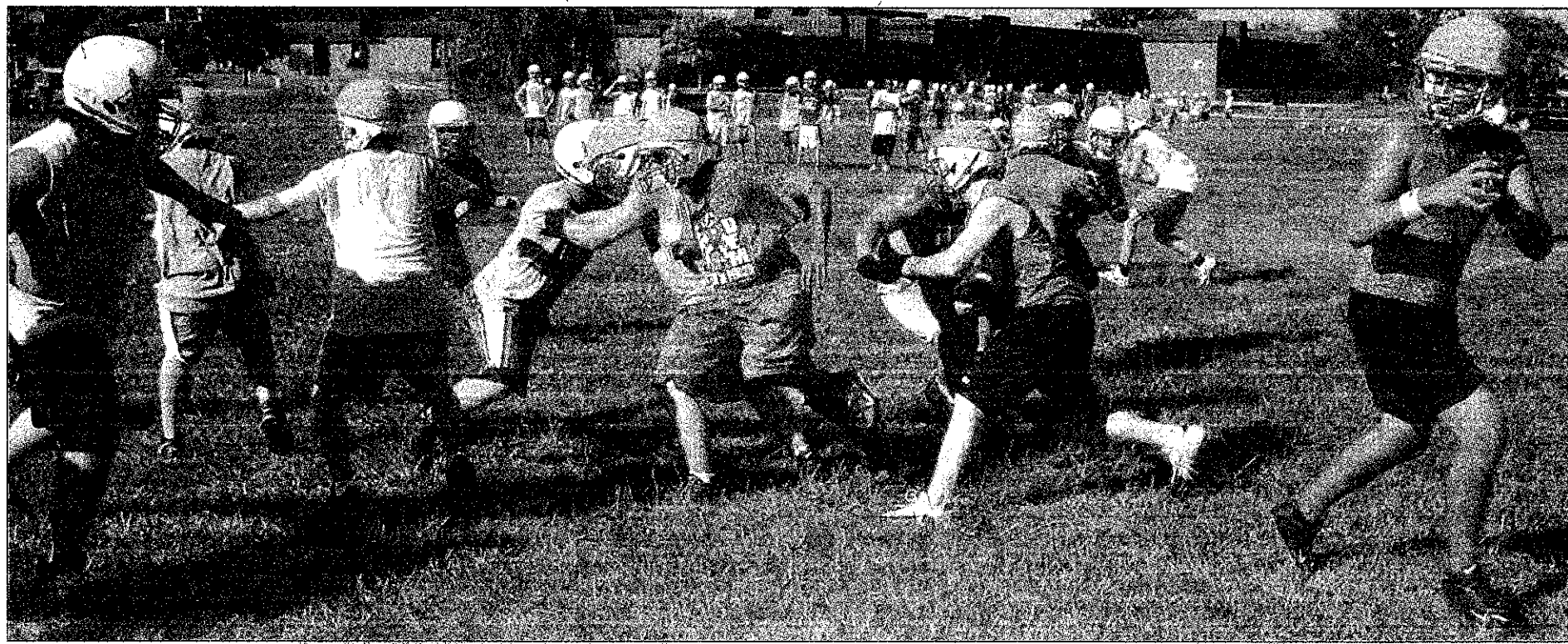
■ **Boys 16-and-over:** Canton's Kyle Sanders (92).

The Top 50 Jr. Tour offered tournaments for young players throughout the summer months.

Chiefs X-C practice

Official practices for the Canton High School boys cross country team will begin 8 a.m. Monday, Aug. 14, in front of Canton's Phase III. For more information, contact coach Bill Boyd at (734) 416-9970 or one of the team's captains: Dave Catalan, (734) 455-3045; Derek Hoerman, (734) 454-5746; or Aaron McClellan, (734) 981-7438.

2006 Prep Football Practice Kicks Off



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton junior quarterback Ben Vaughn (far right) carries out a fake during Tuesday morning's practice. Vaughn will be filling the shoes of graduated three-year starter Shawn Little.



First-year Salem head football coach Parker Salowich leads his team in a breakdown drill during Tuesday's practice at Pioneer Middle School. The Rocks' pre-season practices were shifted to Pioneer due to construction at Salem High School.

Plymouth football coach Jay Blaylock discusses a play with senior quarterback Matt Barrera during Tuesday's practice.



They're good to go

Prep football teams work hard to ensure success in upcoming season

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

Monday marked the official kickoff of the 2006 season for the three P-CEP football teams, which opened with two-a-day practices in mid-80-degree heat.

Players were required to practice in helmets and without pads until today, the first day that full-contact hitting is allowed.

Two of the local teams — Canton and Plymouth — are looking to sustain the success they experienced in 2005. Following a 2-2 start, the Chiefs finished 11-3 and were one win away from the school's first Division 1 state title, while the Wildcats qualified for the playoffs in their inaugural season with seniors.

Salem, on the other hand, is working toward improving on last year's 3-6 mark. The Rocks will do so under the direction of first-year coach Parker Salowich, who was hired in March to

replace Bob Cummings.

Following are brief reports on each team as they tackle the early days of fine-tuning for the 2006 campaign.

CANTON

In many ways, the Chiefs' season-opening football practice Monday morning mirrored the first two-a-day session coach Tim Baechler oversaw during his initial season at the school in 1998.

Padless, helmeted players endured a series of sweat-inducing conditioning drills under a blazing sun.

They then ran through plays before capping off the two hour-plus practice with several gut-busting sprints.

But in 1998 — unlike Monday — there were no television camera crews videotaping the Chiefs' practice.

There were no Detroit daily newspaper sports writers interviewing the Chiefs' players.

PLEASE SEE FOOTBALL, B2

Wildcats' new wrestling coach owns success-filled resume

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

When new Plymouth High School wrestling coach Jay Helm discusses the subject of winning at his first official team meeting later this fall, he'll be speaking from experience.

Helm, who was hired in June to succeed former Wildcats coach Sam Amine, won at an alarming rate during his high school career at Detroit Catholic Central. A three-time state champion from 1988-90, Helm earned All-American honors at 140 pounds following his senior season.

Following a stellar prep career, Helm enjoyed three solid seasons wrestling for Michigan State University before suffering an injury during the 1993 campaign.

"Probably the most important part of my coaching philosophy is that there are no shortcuts to success," said Helm, who has been an assistant high school wrestling coach for the past 12 years. "For me, it's all about hard work. The only way the kids are going to get better is to take advantage of the time they spend in the workout facility."

Among his high school coaching stints was a four-year stay at

Canton High School, where he assisted former head coach John Demick. Helm served as an assistant at Catholic Central the past four years.

Helm applied the energy he exudes in coaching in an effort to contact returning members of last year's team.

"Once I got a list of all the returning wrestlers, I called all 51 names on the list," said Helm. "I wanted to introduce myself and tell them about our Tuesday and Thursday optional workouts during the summer. A lot of the kids have been on vacation or have commitments with other sports like football, but we've

still had at least 20 kids at every workout we've had this summer, so that's encouraging."

Helm said his wrestling mentor is the late Ed Fowler, who taught him the sport's finer points during youth AAU competitions.

"Ed was my coach from the time I was 10 through 12 years old," Helm remembered. "Basically, he showed us how to work hard, have fun and become a champion at the same time."

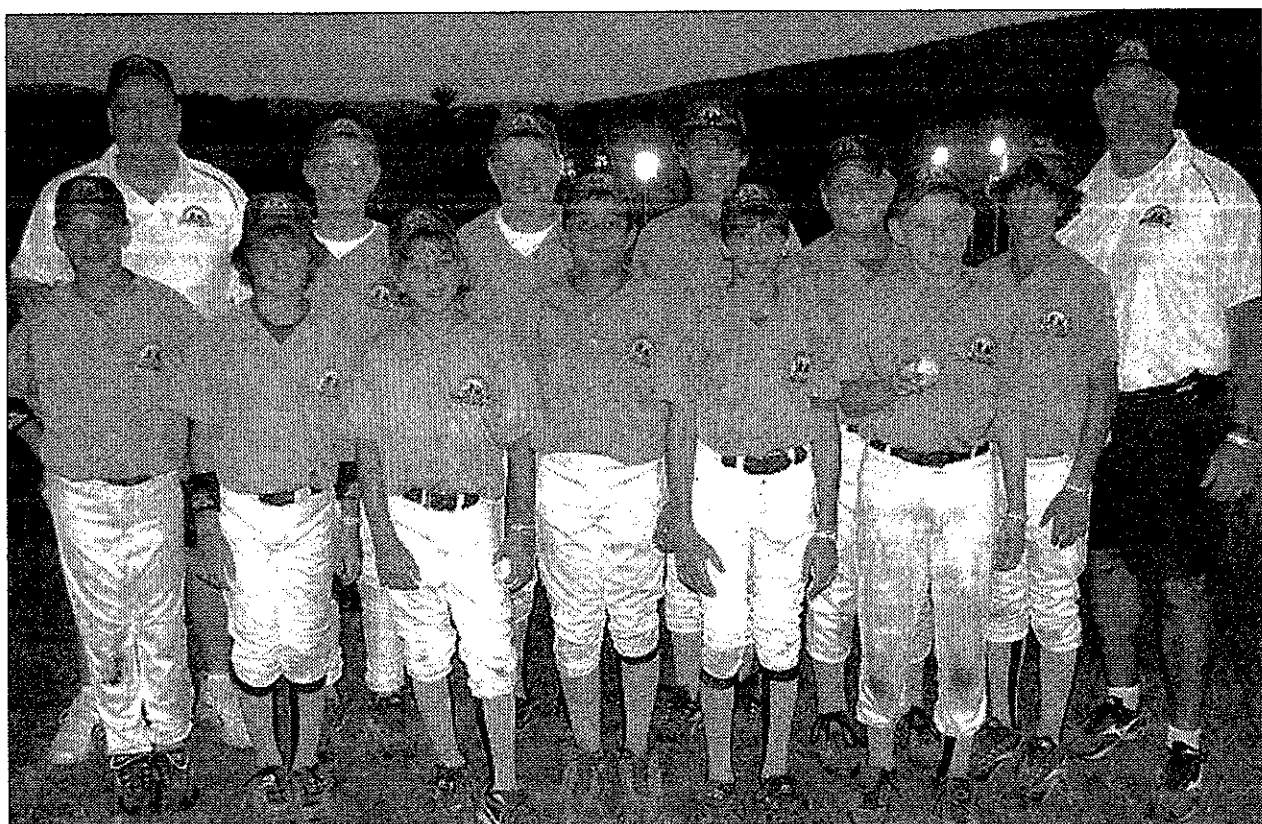
Helm said he has already lined up a partial staff of assistant coaches, including Jim Raglow, Tom Suchora and Rusty Fowler, who is the son of Ed Fowler.

"My older brother, Matt, who I attribute a lot of my wrestling success to, is also going to help out when he can," said Helm.

"He's an administrator at Michigan State and he lives in Lansing, but he said he'll come down and help out when he can."

Helm, who resides in Dearborn with his wife, Lynn, 11-year-old son Ross, and 5-year-old daughter Grace, has a teaching degree from Eastern Michigan University and is trying to secure a teaching position in the Plymouth-Canton School District.

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Top cats

The U12 Canton Alley Cats, a Greater Canton Youth Baseball & Softball Association travel team, recently finished first in the 2006 Kensington Valley American League with a stellar 13-2-1 record. The Alley Cats capped their season in Cooperstown, N.Y. where they placed ninth in the All-Star Village tournament, which included 24 top-notch squads from across the country. Pictured (front row from left) are Brett Ramirez, Chris White, Michael Boes, Tyler Hoeman, John Lopos, Nick McGovern, (back from left) assistant coach Frank Guglielmi, Gavin Potter, Richard Guglielmi, Matt Constance Ryan Bazner, Chris Perkovich and head coach Glenn Potter. Not pictured are Mitch Clinton and assistant coaches Bob Bazner and Kevin McGovern.

Plymouth Whalers sign first-round pick Cooper

The Plymouth Whalers signed Vern Cooper, 15, their first-round pick in last spring's Ontario Hockey League Draft.

Cooper, a native of Sudbury, Ont., was selected by the Whalers with the 13th overall pick in the draft.

"We're excited to have Vern in Plymouth," said Whalers President, General Manager and Head Coach Mike Vellucci. "He's a dynamic young player who are fans will enjoy watching for a long time."

"Cooper had the best set of wheels in the draft," said Plymouth head scout Jim Debenham a short time after Cooper was selected. "He's exciting to watch. He has speed, skill and hands."

Cooper, who tallied 45 goals and 47 assists and 50 penalty minutes for the Sudbury Nickel Capitals during the 2005-06 season, participated in the Whalers' Rookie Orientation Camp in May and displayed the skills that Vellucci and Debenham discussed.

The Central Scouting Service raved about the newest Whaler in a

recent report.

"It seems like the 'new' game was implemented just for Vern," the CSS report said. "A speedy player who is entertaining to watch. Has great anticipation and combined with one-step quickness, he intercepts



many passes, flies down the wing, the defense gets back-pedaling, the ice opens up from his speed and then his playing skills or scoring abilities become threats very quickly."

The signing of Cooper, seventh-round pick A.J. Jenks (Wolverine Lake), 2005 draftees Kyle Jendra and Frank Grzeszczak, and import selections Michal Neuvirth and Jozef Sladok brings young talent to a Whalers roster that won the West Division title last season with a 35-28-1-4 record.

Top players returning for the 2006-07 campaign include NHL draftees Dan Collins (Florida), James Neal (Dallas), Ryan McGinnis (Los Angeles), John Armstrong (Calgary) and Tom Sestito (Columbus).

DIVER

FROM PAGE B1

master the mental part of diving, the teenager's work ethic has gone a long way in helping her perfect the physical part of the little-room-for-error sport. Under Smith's tutelage, Vock has practiced at Eastern Michigan University's pool an average of 15 hours per week this summer.

"Thea's very dedicated to the sport," said Lilyan Vock. "She's never late and she's usually the first one at practice and the last one to leave."

"It gets tiring at times," Vock admitted. "But it's the only way I'm going to get better."

Vock's favorite dive is the reverse two-and-a-half from the three-meter board, a twisting, challenging maneuver for accomplished divers of all ages.

'I'll miss my friends and my coach up here a lot, but we're moving to a nice place. And Team Orlando always does well at the national meets, so that will be fun.'

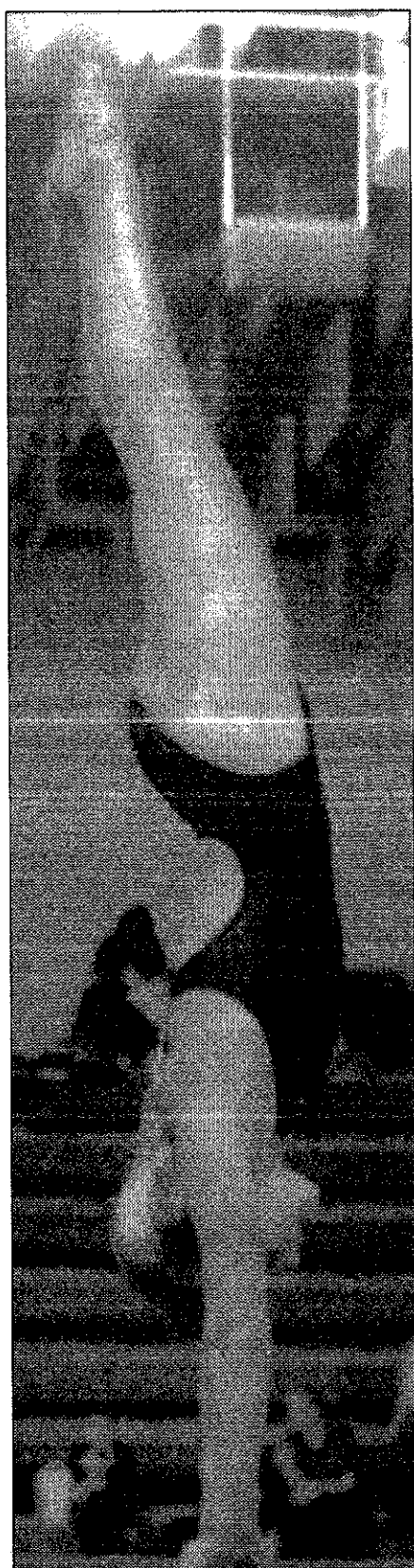
Thea Vock

"It took me about a year to really get it down," said Vock, who has scored as high as a 9.0 on the dive in competition.

The week after she returns from Malaysia, Vock will be packing her bags and moving with her family to Orlando, Fla., where she'll dive for Team Orlando, one of the country's most talented junior diving squads.

"I'm excited," she said of the move. "I'll miss my friends and my coach up here a lot, but we're moving to a nice place. And Team Orlando always does well at the national meets, so that will be fun."

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Plymouth resident Thea Vock won a gold medal in the 1-meter event at the 2006 Speedo Junior National Diving Championships July 28 in Indianapolis.

FOOTBALL

FROM PAGE B1

And there were no expectations the size of Ford Field.

"All the attention we're getting is both good and bad," said Baechler. "It's exciting because people care about what we're doing. When you're not very good like my first couple of years here, nobody outside of the program cares about you and nobody has any expectations. You just coach and play."

"But what the attention and the expectations do is make the target on your chest that much bigger. The only good thing about starting 2-2 last year was that everybody kind of forgot about us for a while."

Baechler said the sky-high expectations that have accompanied Canton's program the past few years have — to a certain degree — tempered post-victory feelings.

"During the first couple of years, after we'd win a game, it would be like, 'Yeaahhh!' It was pure and sweet. Now, obviously, it's still fun to win, but the feeling doesn't last as long. It's like, 'OK, we got one, now let's move on to the next one.'"

"I don't know how (University of Michigan coach) Lloyd Carr does it. He's on the biggest football stage there is. He won a national championship in 1997, but people are all over him if he has one bad year — and 10-2 or 9-3 is considered a bad year at Michigan."

It's easy to see why the Chiefs will carry high expectations into this season. They return several starters to a defense that got stronger as the year went on last year.

And the team's high-powered offense will be led again by senior running back Deshon McClendon, who rushed for over 2,000 yards as a junior.

Another thing that's different from Baechler's early years at Canton are the number of players in the program. As of Tuesday, the Chiefs had 66 players on their varsity roster, 40 on the junior varsity and 47 on the freshman unit. His initial varsity roster in 1998 had 30 players.

PLYMOUTH

Judging by what coach Jay Blaylock has observed over the past several months, the Wildcats will not be resting on their lofty 2005 laurels.

"This is the best summer we've ever

had," said Blaylock, who has guided the Plymouth program since its inception in the summer of 2002. "The kids' commitment has been great and it showed Monday in practice. Guys were making times that it took us until mid-season to make last year."

"Our numbers are up, too. When we started out, we figured if we had 160 players, we'd be in good shape. This year we have 184. I've been spending the past two weeks ordering more equipment."

More than anything, the 2006 season will be one of transition for the Wildcats, who lost several key starters to graduation.

"The biggest challenge for us will be to replace the 17 starters we've lost from last year's team," Blaylock said. "We're losing a lot of experience, but I think we can make up for it with our team speed. Plus, we're way more athletic than we were last year. We're a lot faster."

"This year's group of seniors want to build on what we accomplished last year. They feel like there is some unfinished business to take care of. We had a great group of seniors last year. They were unique and they set the bar high. Now, these guys want to raise the bar."

Blaylock said his players are out to prove that last year's success wasn't a one-year deal.

"I've told the kids that last year proved that we had a good team," Blaylock said. "But this year will define whether or not we have a good program that is capable of having continual success."

The Wildcats will open the season Saturday, Aug. 26, against Hudsonville in the second game of Big Day Prep Showdown II at Eastern Michigan University.

"It was a great honor to be asked to play in that game," said Blaylock. "It shows that we're looked upon as an up-and-coming program. To play a team like Hudsonville is going to be awesome. Looking back at last year, I wish we would have had more games like this and then we would have been more battle-tested for the playoffs."

SALEM

As the summer-long remodeling of Salem High School neared the home-stretch Monday afternoon, the remodeling of the Salem football team was only just beginning under the guidance of first-year head coach Parker Salowich, a long-time assistant who coached last

year at North Farmington.

The construction at Salem forced the Rocks to move their pre-season practices to nearby Pioneer Middle School, which was only a minor inconvenience, Salowich said.

"We're trying to put a positive spin on it by telling the kids that the world's against us," Salowich said, smiling, as he sat in a dimly lit Pioneer hallway during an hour-long break in Monday's two-day practices. "No, really, practicing over here hasn't been a problem so far. Everyone has been very nice and helpful. It's almost like being at camp because we're getting away to a different place. But in reality, we're only a long par 5 away from the school."

The construction project at Salem also barred the Rocks from their weight room this summer, but it didn't hamper the team's off-season conditioning program, Salowich said.

"Plymouth High School's football staff let us use their weight room this summer every morning from 7 to 9 a.m.," Salowich said. "People have really bent over backwards to help us out. We had anywhere between 70 to 80 kids at most of our summer workouts, which is really good. We only have 20 or so seniors and our junior class is kind of small, too, so we're going to have to recruit the halls and get more kids out next year."

Salowich said the acceptance he's received from everyone affiliated with the program — from the players, parents and Salem's staff — has been extremely positive.

"Everyone has been wonderful," he said. "The booster club has been outstanding. They've done a great job of keeping everyone's spirits high. We had a carwash fund-raiser the other day and we just about 100 percent attendance from the players at all levels, so that was encouraging."

By early September, it may be hard to tell what's been remodeled more — Salem High School or the Rocks' offense. Salowich is installing a more wide-open attack than the one the Rocks have relied on the past several seasons.

"We were able to implement some of the offense at our mini-camp, but we still have a ways to go," Salowich said. "By the first game, we want to have it narrowed down to our best eight to 12 plays, then rep them more and more until the kids have it down."

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TOMMY TITAN TUNE-UP

The second annual Tommy Titan Tune-up for competitors of all ages and abilities will be Wednesday, Aug. 16 at Cass Benton Park in Northville.

The women's cross country long and short course race will run concurrently at 6:30 p.m. followed by the men's long and short course runs at 7 p.m.

The long course will consist of one college and one high school loop (approximately 5,600 meters). The short course will be one college loop (approximately 3,200 meters). Individual entry fees at \$5 per athlete. Team rates are \$25 (6-to-14 athletes) or \$50 (15 or more). Coaches with teams will be entered in the run at no cost. Teams planning on attending with more than 10 athletes should send in a team roster before Aug. 16. (Detroit Mercy cross country T-shirts will be available for \$10.)

Contact UDM track and cross country coach Guy Murray at (313) 993-1715; or e-mail murraygr@udmercy.edu.

BASEBALL TRYOUTS

■ Tryouts for the 2007 Vipers, an 11-and-under Plymouth-Canton travel baseball team, will be from 1-4 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 20, at Plymouth Township Park (field No. 2), which is located off Ann Arbor Trail (between McClumpha and Beck roads).

Eligible players must be 12 years-old by Aug. 20, 2007.

For more information, contact Tony Boucher at (734) 454-4992 or tboucher14@yahoo.com; or Don Clark at (734) 455-1224 or arg8@aol.com.

■ The Pirates 2007 14-and-under baseball team, which represents the communities of Plymouth and Canton, will be conducting tryouts on Wednesday, Aug. 23, at 6 p.m., and Sunday, Aug. 27, at 2:30 p.m. at Heritage Park in Canton Township. Heritage is located behind the Canton Township offices on Canton Center Rd., just south of Cherry Hill.

Players must have a birth date on or after May 1, 1992, and enjoy playing at a competitive level.

The team is expected to participate in a total of approximately 40 games — both league and tournament — beginning in April of 2007. Players will also

have the option of participating in a fall baseball league beginning in mid-September.

For more information, contact coach Bruce Price at (734) 635-7497.

■ The Canton Yellow Jackets 10U travel baseball team will conduct tryouts for the 2007 season on Saturday from 11 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. at Heritage Park (field #1). The team will be coached by Bill Flohr. For more information, contact Flohr at pteridactyl@sbcglobal.net or (248) 761-9694.

■ The Plymouth Grizzlies travel baseball team is seeking an additional player for the fall 2006 season. Interested 11- and 12-year-olds should contact Rob Sudz at (734) 420-058. Players must be residents of or attend school in Plymouth, Plymouth Township or Canton.

■ Tryouts for the 2007 under-14 Motor City Chiefs travel baseball team will be held Saturday, Aug. 12, at 10 a.m. at UAW Field, located at 48055 Michigan Ave., just west of Beck Road.

The Chiefs are seeking tournament-quality players to compete in the Kensington Valley Baseball-Softball Association Elite League.

If you cannot make the scheduled times, and to confirm tryouts, send an e-mail to Mayger22@aol.com.

■ Tryouts for the under-11 Motor City Chiefs travel baseball team will be held on Saturday at 2 p.m. at UAW Field, located at 48055 Michigan Ave., just west of Beck Rd. The Chiefs are seeking quality players for a high-caliber team. If you are unable to make these tryout times, or have any questions, e-mail Ken Gaffney at kgaffney8@yahoo.com.

GCYBSA SIGN-UPS

The registration deadline for Greater Canton Youth Baseball & Softball Association fall baseball (ages 4-18) is Aug. 15. Forms are available and may be dropped off the Canton Softball Center or at Summit on the Park.

For more information, call the GCYBSA hotline at (734) 394-5489 or (734) 394-5358. You can also visit csc.canton-mi.org.

Games begin the first week of September and conclude in October.

LEARN TO SKATE

The Plymouth-Canton Hockey

Association is accepting registration for its Mighty Mini-Mites learn-to-skate program designed for the beginning player (must be 4 years-old by Dec. 31, 2006).

The program, which costs \$350, runs Saturdays from September through March. Full equipment is required.

Children will learn to skate, handle pucks and acquire the basic skills necessary to play the game of hockey. The PCHA instructional program is taught by experience USA Hockey certified coaches.

For more information, e-mail pchammm@comcast.net; or visit www.pchockey.org/pchaminimites.html.

FALL YOUTH LACROSSE

The City of Plymouth Recreation Department is offering a fall instructional lacrosse program for boys and girls in grades 3-8. Registration runs through the entire month of August.

The season runs from mid-September through the first week of November. Practices will be mid-week nights only. The program will also help prepare players for the spring competitive season.

For more information, visit the City of Plymouth Web Site at www.ci.plymouth.mi.us; or contact the Recreation Department at (734) 455-6620, Ext. 302.

IGNITION TRYOUTS

Open tryouts for the Detroit Ignition, a new franchise in the Major Indoor Soccer League, will be at 9 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 9 at the Soccer Zone in Grand Rapids.

A second trial will be at 9 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 16 at Soccer Zone in Lansing followed by a final audition at 9 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 23 at High Velocity Sports, official training facility of the Ignition, which will play its home games this season at the Compuware Sports Arena in Plymouth Township. (The season opener is Saturday, Nov. 4.) All participants must be 18 years of age or older and must be a high school graduate. There is a \$25 registration fee and pre-registration is required.

To download a registration form and MISL waiver, visit www.detroitignition.com. Call Kyle Karns at (248) 304-2855; or e-mail kyle.karns@detroitignition.com.

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LESSON ON GOLF

by Jeff Lesson

50 AND COUNTING

Tiger Woods' victory at the Buick Open this past week was the 50th of his career. He is the youngest to ever achieve that many wins on the PGA Tour. It took the legendary Jack Nicklaus until he was 33 to win that many.

Still, the only measuring stick Tiger seems to really care about is winning major championships. Sure, the Buick Open titles (his second) and the like are nice, but they are not majors. And, just in case you are wondering, he is doing OK there too.

Tiger has 11 major championships so far, trailing only the 18 that Jack Nicklaus won. Since most golfers hit their peak in their thirties, it is not at all a stretch to say that he will not only beat Jack's record - but destroy it.

In Tiger's first ten years on tour, he won 11 majors beginning with the Master win in 1997. Given his dominance at Augusta National, he may win ten more green jackets en route to the record.

At the roughless Augusta National, it is least important how many fairways you hit, since there is very little penalty in the rough. Hitting it straight off the tee has been the weakest part of Tiger's game the last few years but will seldom be an issue at the Masters.

At events like the U.S. Open, where he missed the cut, it is all about hitting fairways. However, given his new strategy of keeping the driver in the bag for the most part, this may no longer be an issue. Tiger is great with the three wood - see his last two wins at both the British and Buick Open.

This year's PGA championship will present a similar test. The fairways will average a mere 28 yards on the longest course on which a major has ever been played. And as long as his driver stays in the bag, the next 50 wins should come even quicker than the first 50.

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.

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4642 Baileys Lk. Rd.
3 BR, 3 bath, 3 car, ranch, 1.6 acres, contemporary brick w/gourmet kitchen, extensive granite & marble. Reduced \$50,000 to \$369,000.
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A MUST SEE \$139,500
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2003 built 3 bedroom 1.5 bath colonial. Living room with crown molding. Island kitchen with breakfast room. Fenced yard, deck, basement & 2 car attached garage. \$204,900.
Santina Palazeti
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Century 21 Today
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AFFORDABLE
ROCHESTER HILLS!
This ranch features 2 Bdrm. (could be 3 Bdrm.) 1 1/2 baths, huge 100 x 224 lot, large deck, covered patio, 2 1/2 car attached garage, finished walkout bsmt. with fireplace, home warranty, and all appliances are included plus the extra refrigerator and stove in bsmt. It is close to everything Oakland University, Meadowbrook, and restaurants and shopping in The Village of Rochester Hills are just minutes away. \$209,999.
Open Sun, August 13, 1-4 pm
For more information visit my website at: www.TheBestHomesInMichigan.com or call Sharon Taylor at 248-770-9430
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By Owner
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9976 Lucerne, S. of Plymouth Rd., W. of Beach Daly. Over 2,000 sq. ft., 4 bdrm. 2 bath gorgeous home. 2.5 garage, beautifully remodeled throughout. Immediate occupancy. \$165,000 248-390-9737.

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AFFORDABLE
ROCHESTER HILLS!
This ranch features 2 Bdrm. (could be 3 Bdrm.) 1 1/2 baths, huge 100 x 224 lot, large deck, covered patio, 2 1/2 car attached garage, finished walkout bsmt. with fireplace, home warranty, and all appliances are included plus the extra refrigerator and stove in bsmt. It is close to everything Oakland University, Meadowbrook, and restaurants and shopping in The Village of Rochester Hills are just minutes away. \$209,999.
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BERKLEY 3020
Buckingham, N/12 Mile, complete remodel, 1500 sq. ft., 3 bdrm. 3 full bath, new maple kitchen w/stainless appliances, new furnace/air, full bsmt. 1 car garage, deck. \$249,900.
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Beautiful, 2 bdrm. bungalow w/natural fireplace. Newly decorated. New driveway, roof, paint, carpeting, & kitchen vinyl. Immediate occupancy. Faces Lola Valley Park. Will consider all offers. \$109,000 or best offer. 248-231-0749.

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9976 Lucerne, S. of Plymouth Rd., W. of Beach Daly. Over 2,000 sq. ft., 4 bdrm. 2 bath gorgeous home. 2.5 garage, beautifully remodeled throughout. Immediate occupancy. \$165,000 248-390-9737.

By Owner
AFFORDABLE
ROCHESTER HILLS!
This ranch features 2 Bdrm. (could be 3 Bdrm.) 1 1/2 baths, huge 100 x 224 lot, large deck, covered patio, 2 1/2 car attached garage, finished walkout bsmt. with fireplace, home warranty, and all appliances are included plus the extra refrigerator and stove in bsmt. It is close to everything Oakland University, Meadowbrook, and restaurants and shopping in The Village of Rochester Hills are just minutes away. \$209,999.
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Call Jane
248-406-3087
Keller Williams
2900 Union Lake Rd.

Real Estate

Wayne 3424

3629 Clark, Wayne, MI.
Completely remodeled 1500 sq. ft., 3 bdrm., 1 1/2 bath Colonial, close to downtown. Own this home for \$820/Mo. List price is \$134,900. CLOSING COST/DOWN PAYMENT ASSISTANCE AVAIL. FREE APPLIANCES.
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3 bdrm., 2 bath ranch, 1994 sq. ft. sits on a huge lot, living room w/ fireplace, bsmt, in-ground pool, cabana, 2 car garage. \$188,500. Open House Sat. Aug. 12th, 12-3pm. Call office for details!
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PLYMOUTH
Very attractive 3 bdrm. Plymouth ranch. Updated kitchen & bath. Spacious rear yard. \$179,900. (90MA)

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Brookside Village West 4 bdrm., 2.5 bath colonial, lg. family room, deck overlooking backyard w/above ground pool. \$222,000 (46WO)

Century 21 Hartford South
734-464-6400
www.c21-hs.com

Westland 3446

Westland
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6791 Emily Court
Warren Rd. S on Farmington, left Yorkdale to Emily Ct.
Move in cond., brick ranch, 3 bdrm., 2 bath, 2 car detached garage, full bsmt, \$155,000
Scott Inman, 248-374-6673
Remerica United Realty
47720 Grand River

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32562 Benson Court
St. Joy, W. Merriman
Huge backyard, Livonia Schools, 4 bdrm., 2 full baths. Almost 1800 sq. ft. Complete move in cond.
Tom Konesky, 734-558-7963
Century 21 Premier
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Well Maintained Home!
8332 Denne
3 bdrm. hardwood floors, partially finished bsmt, appliances, 1 1/2 car garage. Newer windows, hot water heater, roof. Livonia schools. Paint and move in! \$137,900
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Wixom-Commerce 3480

DREAM HOUSE- Reduced
2004 Ranch, 4 Br. Marble & Granite 1 Acre \$499K. Keller Williams 248-767-5100
www.wixomranch.com

Lakefront/Waterfront Homes 3580

ORION TOWNSHIP Long Lake, Lakeview Lake access lot, \$85K/ best, sewer, gas, electric.
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Condos 3720

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ground floor w/laundry, updated kitchen, carpet. \$79,850. ShareNet Realty 248-642-1620

By Owner

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Lovely 2 bdrm 2.5 bath condo in prestigious Heathers, on golf course. Exc. condition. New roof & siding. Bsmt. \$353,000. (248) 338-1679

Westland 3446

IMMEDIATE OCCUPANCY!
2 bdrm ranch. Large kitchen, all appliances, living room w/ wood burning stove, newer windows, privacy fence, garage plus storage shed.
\$137,000
CENTURY 21 PREMIER (734) 453-4300
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MOVE IN FOR \$0 TO \$4995
Built in 1988! Immaculate cond. 3 bdrm, bsmt, 4 car garage, pool, free professional move, 1 year warranty, all appliances stay! Payment as low as \$1300.
John Toye, 734-718-3840
Remax 100
505 N. Wayne Rd

Westland 3 bdrm., 1.5 bath,
full bsmt., brick ranch. Livonia schools. Great investment! \$125,000 517-672-1984.

Condos 3720

Grosse Pointe City, Completely Renovated
2 bdrm., 2 1/2 bath condos off Jefferson. Granite counter tops, hardwood floors, natural fireplace - full bsmt., private front & rear entrance & 2 car garage. Low maintenance fees. Builders special. Must see! \$229,900.
313-300-7753

By Owner

LIVONIA FAIRFIELD CONDOMINIUMS
1 bdrm, approx 700 sq. ft., appliances, air, near rec center & senior center.
\$74,900. 734-427-7482

Plymouth
Charming!
374 Pinewood
Clean ranch condo right downtown. Cathedral ceilings, skylights, fireplace, open floor plan & deck. Lg. master bdrm w/walk in closet. In-unit laundry & storage.
Century 21 Hartford North 734-525-9600

Waterfront 1,058', \$79,900!
4.5 wooded acres of privacy, camp or build, excellent fishing & near state land.
Loon Lake Realty
8am-6pm daily 866-667-4468
www.loonlakerealty.com

Northern Property 3790

By Owner

MULLETT LAKEFRONT 2 PROPERTIES
100'x267', garage, with 1 bdrm apt. above. Ready to build! \$475,000.
42'x137' waterable vintage 1 bdrm summer cottage. \$299,000. 248-978-6224

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Lake Huron 119' beachfront w/ 5 cabins. Needs some TLC. \$249,900. Bring all offers! Robin Paavo, 989-942-1532.

Resort & Vacation Property 3800

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Florida Homes/Properties 3805

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www.estateacres.com

SPRINGFIELD TWP. 2 Waterfront Lots, each 2 acres, all sports Big Lake, wooded, Clarkston Schools.
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Cemetery Lots 3880

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Two plots, opening/closing, gravesites. Veteran's section \$9500 248-508-2017.

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3 plots 2-4 Garden of Ascension. \$1050 ea./reduced as package. 425-889-2427.

Glen Eden Memorial Park
Livonia. Two Plots, Graves 1-2, Lot #424. \$925 each 970-240-0192.

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Parkview Memorial Cemetery
Garden of Hours, Section 240, #2 & 3 \$2,000 616-251-6310
ddorris@nespower.com

Commercial/Industrial/Retail For Sale 3890

MILFORD 4400 sq. ft. building, heavy industrial condo w/outside storage, off I-96, W. of Wixom Rd. \$360,000.
586-206-7243

Investment Property 3970

BELLEVILLE LAKE
9 unit apt., many upgrades. Asking \$685,000, yearly income \$78,000. 734-699-2935

LIVONIA
Spacious 2 bdrm brick duplex, \$99,000 per unit. Principals only. 734-522-4271

Westland 3446

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2 bdrm ranch. Large kitchen, all appliances, living room w/ wood burning stove, newer windows, privacy fence, garage plus storage shed.
\$137,000
CENTURY 21 PREMIER (734) 453-4300
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MOVE IN FOR \$0 TO \$4995
Built in 1988! Immaculate cond. 3 bdrm, bsmt, 4 car garage, pool, free professional move, 1 year warranty, all appliances stay! Payment as low as \$1300.
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Remax 100
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Westland 3 bdrm., 1.5 bath,
full bsmt., brick ranch. Livonia schools. Great investment! \$125,000 517-672-1984.

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690 BROCKMOOR
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\$6000

28X56
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Living Room,
Dining Room and
All Appliances
\$28,900
Immediate
Occupancy
Won't Last Long
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Thursday PUZZLE CORNER

Challenging fun for ALL ages

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS

- 1 Happy sighs
- 4 Romantic island
- 8 Hollow pasta
- 12 Beat a retreat
- 13 Seaweed extract
- 14 Not odd
- 15 Drink mixer (2 wds.)
- 17 Must have
- 18 Deep black
- 19 Camelot lady
- 21 Tenet
- 23 Hack
- 27 Enthusiastic
- 30 "No way!" (nyph.)
- 33 Galena
- 34 Tien Shan range
- 35 Mountain pass
- 36 Hang around
- 37 Driveway topper
- 38 Later on
- 39 — spumante
- 40 Total indifference
- 42 Sandy's reply
- 44 Walking step

- 47 Clear sky
- 51 Takes a powder
- 54 Be my guest! (2 wds.)
- 56 Lotion additive
- 57 Omnia vincit —
- 58 Do arithmetic
- 59 Survey chart
- 60 Heirs, often
- 61 Caustic substance

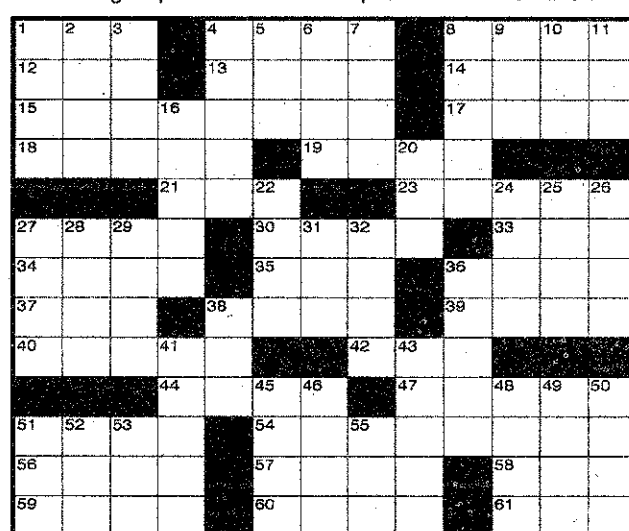
DOWN

- 1 Flight routes
- 2 Island dance
- 3 Rudely ignore
- 4 Diamond corners
- 5 In the past
- 6 Do dock work
- 7 Neighbor of Turkey
- 8 "The Prisoner of —"
- 9 — been robbed!
- 10 Tie-dyed garment
- 11 Wabash loc.
- 16 Deli crepes

Answer to Previous Puzzle

VIBES BRACE
YOOHOO QUICHE
ID SIB US OX
NIB LOBES SPA
GNAT EAU OOPS
EGOS DEARLY
XII DUB
EVICTS FIAT
KOAN CRT TIED
ACT SHARD DNA
FE HUE IRA UV
KNEADS PAPYRI
AEGIS BERET

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SUDOKU

5	4			1	8				
					1				9
	9	8							6
		4		3	2	5			
8	2	7			9	4			
				4		9	2		
		3		2				1	
			6		5	3	7		
4	6			1			8	5	

Level: Beginner

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

SEEK AND FIND

FIND THESE WORDS IN THE PUZZLE BELOW.

PEPPERONI SAUCE ONIONS
CHEESE MUSHROOMS OLIVES
CRUST SAUSAGE BACON
PEPPERS ANCHOVIES TOMATOES

THE WORDS READ UP, DOWN AND ACROSS.

T O M A T O E S W P
A N S D C C N A A E
P I X A V H M U N P
E O L I V E S S C P
P N I O P E K A H E
P S C R U S T G O R
E T Y U O E P E V O
R W B A C O N M I N
S A U C E D G L E I
M U S H R O O M S B

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	
7	6	5	4	3	2	1		
6	5	4	3	2	1			
5	4	3	2	1				
4	3	2	1					
3	2	1						
2	1							
1								

SEEK AND FIND

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

S	M	O	O	R	S	H	S	U
I	E	I	G	E	C	U	V	S
N	O	N	O	O	V	A	R	S
I	N	A	I	R	E	T	A	R
O	R	E	L	S	R	C	S	
H	O	V	E	K	E	O	I	N
P	E	R	P	E	R	O	N	
C	P	S	E	A	I	T	O	
N	A	V	A	X	T	O		
P	N	A	N	C	A	S	N	
S	E	M	O	S				

Apartments

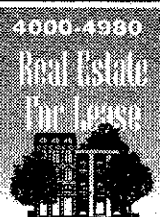
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4010... Apartments/Furnished	4230... Commercial/Industrial
4020... Condos/Townhouses	4240... Land For Rent
4030... Duplexes	4250... Garage/Mini Storage
4040... Flats	4260... Wanted To Rent
4050... Homes For Rent	4270... Wanted To Rent
4060... Lakefront/Waterfront	4280... Resort Property
4070... Mobile Home Rentals	4290... Furniture Rental
4080... Mobile Home Sites	4300... Rental Agency
4090... Southern Rentals	4310... Property Management
4100... Time Share Rentals	4320... Lease/Option To Buy
4110... Vacation Resorts/Retreats	4330... House Siting Service
4120... Living Quarters To Share	4340... Convalescent Care
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Apartments/Unfurnished

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Westland Walled Lake SUMMER SPECIAL \$250 Security Deposit*

2 Bdrm, 1 1/2 bath Townhouse: \$700 w/ coupon

1 Bdrm: \$540 w/ coupon

Walled Lake schools, large closets, cats/ small dogs ok (248) 624-6606 EHO

*some restrictions apply

WAYNE Nice and clean 1 bdrm., \$399. \$100 Security Deposit. 734-326-2770.

West Bloomfield, Thornberry Apts. Great Price, Great Location, 2 Bdrms. from \$825.00* (limited time only) Call for details! 888-206-4709 TTY: (800) 989-1833 Equal Housing Opportunity Handicap Accessible See our Display ad!

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Westland 1 Bdrms starting at \$499

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1 & 2 Bedroom plans

Playground Area

Pool & Clubhouse

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Spacious 1 bedroom, private entrance, blinds, walk in closet, laundry on site. \$485/month. *w/ approved credit. (734) 721-6699 EHO

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South Lyon - MEADOWS OF SOUTH LYON Starting at \$725. 2 & 3 bdrm. laundry. Pet friendly. 248-767-4207

SOUTHFIELD 1 bdrm condo. 1st floor. 13 Mile & Southfield Rd. No pets. References. \$695 mo. + sec. 248-318-8794

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1 Bdrm: \$540 w/ coupon

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*some restrictions apply

WAYNE Nice and clean 1 bdrm., \$399. \$100 Security Deposit. 734-326-2770.

West Bloomfield, Thornberry Apts. Great Price, Great Location, 2 Bdrms. from \$825.00* (limited time only) Call for details! 888-206-4709 TTY: (800) 989-1833 Equal Housing Opportunity Handicap Accessible See our Display ad!

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1 & 2 Bedroom plans

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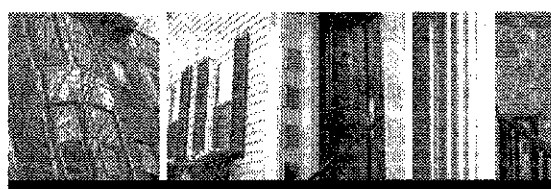
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Apartments

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Homes For Rent 4060

LIVONIA - Levan/7 Mile. Clean 3 bdrm, 1 1/2 bath ranch, bsmt, garage. No smoking/pets. \$1350. 248-368-2005

NORTHVILLE/LIVONIA FOR LEASE
NORTHVILLE 6 Mi. & Ridge, 2 bdrm., 2 bath, attached garage, built 2004. Asking \$1350 mo.

LIVONIA 6 Mi. & Merriman area. 3 bdrm, colonial, 1 1/2 bath, attached garage. Century 21 Market Place 248-688-4900

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NOVI Walled Lake, lake access, 3 bdrm, new paint/carpet, all appliances, lg. lot \$1100 248-535-3500

OAK PARK - Sharp 3 bdrm ranch, dining room, garage, a/c, option to buy. Immediate occup. \$700. 248-788-1823

PLYMOUTH - 1636 sq.ft., 2.5 baths. Appliances, master suite, 3 fireplaces, finished bsmt, 2 car, \$1575/mo. Agent, 734-671-5782

PLYMOUTH
2 bdrm ranch, living room, kitchen, laundry room, garage, Call 734-420-3071

PLYMOUTH - 3 bdrm, brick Cape Cod, 2 bath, appliances, bsmt, 1 car, \$2200/mo. D&H Properties, 248-888-9133

PLYMOUTH - 3 bdrm, colonial, new kitchen, oak floors, 2.5 bath, 2 car, \$2000. D&H Properties, 248-888-9133

PLYMOUTH 3 bdrm, ranch, appliances, a/c, close to school, 1 1/2 bath, family room, 2 car garage, bsmt. \$1300 mo. 734-797-6791

PLYMOUTH 9275 CORINNE, S. Ann Arbor, W. Main St. Rent to own, 4 bdrm, 2000 sq. ft., \$1750/mo. \$1000 security. Hurry! Agent/owner John Toye 734-718-3840

PLYMOUTH Charming 1 bdrm, wood floors, appliances, washer/dryer, C/A, garage, no pets, \$775. 248-345-2552

Homes For Rent 4060

PLYMOUTH downtown 3 bdrm, appliances, enclosed front porch, bsmt, small pets considered, \$1175/mo. + Sec. Utilities. 734-453-8375

PLYMOUTH Executive 4 bdrm, colonial on four wooded acres. Five miles W. of Plymouth near M-14. \$2500/mo. + sec. 734-330-3319

PLYMOUTH TWP. 2 bdrm, 1.5 bath, appliances, air, bsmt. No dogs. Avail now! \$1050. Credit ref. 248-661-3641

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3 Bdrm. home, Garage & part finished bsmt. \$800 mo. Call for details. 734-521-0198

REDFORD 5 & Beech 3 bdrm. New paint, carpet, windows, bath. No pets. \$750 mo. + security. 734-717-4510

REDFORD - Beautiful 3 bdrm, 1 1/2 bath, brick ranch, fireplace, garage. \$1000/mo. + security. 248-399-8813

REDFORD Sharp 3 bdrm, finished bsmt, garage, option to buy avail. Immediate occupancy \$850. 248-788-1823

REDFORD SOUTH 3 bdrm brick ranch. Upon credit approval. Finished bsmt, fenced, 2 bath. No pets. \$1000 mo. 313-971-6148

REDFORD TWP. 2 bdrms. from \$678 mo., 3 bdrm. from \$797. 4 bdrm. from \$990, all remodeled, many updates. 313-255-6878

REDFORD TWP Cozy 3 bdrm, 2 bath bungalow. Appliances incl. washer, dryer, A/C, deck near schools. (734) 812-0631

ROCHESTER-WOW!
For this price?? 4 bdrm, 2 bath, den, a/c, new carpet & paint, Ceramic tile, 2 car garage, large yard. \$1295/mo. Agent, 248-866-3685

ROYAL OAK 3 bdrm brick, 2 car garage, bsmt, deck, appliances, sunroom. \$1100/mo. 313-525-1012

ROYAL OAK CLOSE TO DOWNTOWN 4 bdrm, 2 bath. New everything! Pet OK. \$1400 mo. (586) 630-0954

ROYAL OAK Red Run Sub. immaculate 3 bdrm ranch, hardwood floors, A/C, full bsmt, washer/dryer incl 1 1/2 garage. \$1200. 248-336-0516

Homes For Rent 4060

SOUTHFIELD 3 bdrm, 2 bath ranch. New carpet/ paint. Bsmt, appliances. Lease w/option. \$950. 248-705-4344.

SOUTHFIELD: GREAT FOR STUDENTS! 5 bdrm, 2 bath. Dining room. Section 8 Many updates. \$1250. 313 443-4855

TROY - 3 bdrm, brick ranch, garage, bsmt, fenced, C/A, fireplace, great location, \$1050/mo. 248-842-6910

TROY 3439 Pasadena. 4 bdrm., garage, newly remodeled, Avail. Immed. \$1250/mo. Sect. 8 okay 248-379-3922

TROY 5 Bdrm., 2 bath, large lot, pets permissible. Lease w/option possible. \$995/mo. 248-879-3268

TROY - WATTS AREA 3 bedroom ranch, fireplace, no-smoking, no pets, \$995/month. 810-310-0041

W. BLOOMFIELD LAKEFRONT On Green Lk. 4 bdrm, 2 bath, \$1200+utilities. W. Bloomfield schools. 248-706-1763

WAYNE - 2 bdrm, 1 bath, bsmt, 1 car garage, hardwood floors, \$650/mo., lease w/option. 734-968-6348

WAYNE/ CANTON 3 bdrm, 2 bath ranch. Bsmt garage. Near Ford Truck Plant. \$300 w/ky + security. (734) 697-3185

WEST BLOOMFIELD 2 bdrm Ranch, C/A, appliances, garage, deck, lake view, \$1200. ShareNet Realty 248-642-1620

WEST BLOOMFIELD 3 bdrm, 2 bath, \$1900/mo. Call 248-318-3453 Agent/owner.

West Bloomfield 3 bdrm, lake privileges, new kitchen, wood floors, bsmt, attached garage. \$1155. 248-360-3887

WEST BLOOMFIELD Furnished, 2 bdrm, lakefront. Avail Sept-June, \$950. Dave 260-615-1532; 248-417-7700

WEST BLOOMFIELD Impressive 4 bdrm., 2.5 bath colonial, finished bsmt., 2 car garage, lake access. \$2395/mo. ShareNet Realty 248-642-1620

West Bloomfield Lakefront, 3 bdrm., 2 bath, new kitchen, wood floors, bsmt., garage. \$1195 mo. 248-360-3887

Homes For Rent 4060

WESTLAND - 2 bdrm duplex. Lovely home, C/A, bsmt, stove, refrigerator. \$695/mo. 888-635-3304 Section 8 welcome.

WESTLAND 3 bdrm., 1000 sq. ft., fenced back yard, rent w/option to buy. \$995/mo. 248-889-1232

WESTLAND 3 Bdrm. Duplex (Merriman/Palmer), Spacious, clean, fenced, carpet \$725 now avail. 313-418-9905

WESTLAND 35208 Fairchild, 3 bdrm, air, full bsmt. Pets neg. w/option. \$1150/mo. 734-461-3155

WESTLAND/LIVONIA 3 bedroom brick ranch, bsmt, fenced yard, Livonia schools, no pets. \$900/mo. 248-661-9062.

Lakefront/Waterfront Homes Rental 4060

GLEN LAKE COTTAGE
Sand beach, boat dock, avail. week of Aug 18. \$1400. Tom, 248-933-6640 email: tee34@msn.com.

Mobile Home Rentals 4070

CANTON We have homes for rent. Pets welcome. Call Sandy at Sun Homes for details at: 688-304-8941 Skyline/Clayton Retailer

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Living Quarters To Share 4120

BERKLEY Full privileges. Great location! Behind Westborn Market. Professional woman. \$550/mo. 586-419-6255

NORTHVILLE Private bath, walk-in closet, C/A. Non-smoking. Month to month. Women only. \$550. 248 505-0645

Living Quarters To Share 4120

PLYMOUTH
1600 sq. ft. Lots of amenities. Room with access to house. \$425 per month. Call 734-262-5500 after 6

PLYMOUTH - Avail Sept 1st. 2500 sq. ft. house to share, new kitchen, sunroom. Female only. Call Kate: 734 904-6536.

ROOMMATE MATCHING
Michigan's Largest Since 1979, Home-Mate.com 248.644.6845

Rooms For Rent 4140

Cherry Hill/Inkster Rd. Want mature male. Private upper, furnished room. \$95 per week. \$200 security deposit. 313-561-3922.

Livonia Must be clean/ neat, laundry privileges. Good rate. 734-522-6727

REDFORD AREA
Gentleman preferred. Clean quiet home. \$100/week. \$185 to move in. 313-534-0109

REDFORD - Private Entrance
Share kitchen, bath, laundry. Furnished. Utilities. Cable. \$110/wk. Male. 313-387-9884

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Rooms For Rent 4140

TROY HOME
Available. \$425/month. Studio being built on property. Must be working. 248-528-0606

Office/Retail Space For Rent/Lease 4220

FARMINGTON HILLS
Hamilton Business Center Executive suites starting at \$350/mo. T-1 internet available. Flexible lease terms. 248-324-3600

FARMINGTON HILLS
Lower office or storage area. Very reasonable rates, 13 Mile & Orchard Lake. 248-521-1978

FARMINGTON HILLS
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FARMINGTON HILLS
Retail Space Great Exposure. 1300 - 4480 sq. ft. Excellent Rates CERTIFIED REALTY INC. 248-471-7100

GARDEN CITY
Single room offices from \$175 & office suites from \$575. Up to 1200 sq. ft., incl. utilities. 2nd floor. Ford & Middlebelt. Call: 734-422-1195

LIVONIA - Great looking professional office for lease. Perfect for professional or sales rep. Possible referrals for Attorney or Accountant. 6 Mile, btwn Haggerty & Newburgh. \$500/mo. No lease required. Approx. 150 sq. ft. Call: 734-632-0900

PLYMOUTH Downtown. Office space avail. Individual offices & suites. 100-1200 sq. ft. Key Group Realty. 734-459-7100

REDFORD TWP.
Office Suites 400 sq. ft. - 1670 sq. ft. Beautifully redecorated. Great Rates including utilities. CERTIFIED REALTY INC. (248) 471-7100

Commercial/Industrial For Rent/Lease 4230

CANTON - RETAIL
1500-3000 SF retail space in new building. In Canton. On Michigan Ave. between Haggerty & Lilley. \$16.90 per sq. ft. Bela Spas 734-669-5813, 734-747-7888. #2412466. Reinhart Commercial.

LIVONIA
Great Location. I-96 corridor, 1,000-10,000sq. ft., \$400/mo. Call for details. 877-815-0508

PLYMOUTH
Old Village Light Industrial. 1800 sq ft office/warehouse completely renovated. 15 ft ceiling 12x14 overhead door \$1500 a month. Taxes included. No maintenance fee. 734-891-8781

WIXOM - DOWNTOWN
50160 Pontiac Trail Available Now 2,400 sq. ft. units; 600-1,100 sq. ft. office. Call: Deluca Development Inc. 248-684-0397/248-420-4470

Lease/Option To Buy 4580

LIVONIA-14095 Ellen
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Direct Care- Make a difference! Support people with disabilities living their life the way they want to! Assist with personal care, meals, taking care of their homes, getting places etc. Many locations, many shifts! If you are at least 18 years old, have a valid Michigan's Driver's License & are CLA, Inc. trained, call our Job Line 734-728-4201, Of.

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No exp. necessary. Up to \$8.75/hr. for trained, \$7.50/hr. for untrained. Co. benefits. Must have MI drivers license. Apply in person: Community Choices, 26405 Plymouth Rd., Redford Twp., 313-937-4170

DIRECT CARE STAFF
Part time for 8 quality group homes. Drivers License required. Call 248-391-2231

DOCUMENT IMAGING
Looking for a motivated self starting individual for a fast paced document imaging position. Scanning exp. in a production environment preferred. Proficient in Microsoft Windows and Office req. Must type at least 35 wpm. Fax resume to 248-568-6567 Attn: Jennifer

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Company seeking driver. Must have asphalt experience and CDL-A license. Health, dental, life ins. 401k, paid holidays. Submit application in person at K & B Asphalt, 734-722-5660

Help Wanted-General 5000

DRIVER - TOW TRUCK
Great opportunity. Farmington Hills location. Start immediately (248) 632-3132

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Growing Livonia based medical equipment company needs full time driver & full time warehouse person. Fax Resume to Jason at: 734-522-9380

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Technical society in Farmington Hills has exciting opportunity for highly-organized & motivated individual with expertise in proofreading, copyediting and desktop publishing. MS Word, FrameMaker, In Design, Photoshop and Illustrator desirable. Prepress exp. a +. 4 yr. college degree, 2 yrs. pertinent exp., excellent editorial and language skills. Commensurate salary and benefits. Resume & salary requirements to:

Director, H.R. - AE
P.O. Box 9060
Farmington Hills, MI 48333-9060
FAX: (248) 848-3771
EMAIL: Barb.Cheyne@concrete.org

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Phone: 734-354-0001 Fax: 734-354-5121

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Fax (734) 416-2200

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www.rgsinv.com EOE

hometownlife.com

JANITOR
Needed for a retirement community in Westland. 15-20 hrs per week. **FAX RESUME TO: 734-729-9840 EOE**

JANITORS/ CARPET CLEANER'S
All Shifts. Part/Full time. Must have exp. 734-525-3123

JOB FAIR
Action Assoc. is having a Job Fair on Saturday 8-19-06. We are recruiting for STIHL, Inc. located in Virginia Beach, VA. All positions require relocation/costs are paid. Looking for direct hire CNC Set Up Operators, Maintenance Mechanics & QC Specialists. Excellent pay & benefits! Call to register today! 810-227-4868 ext 120 & fax resume to: 810-227-1344
Attn: Kelly, or email: kelly@stskills.com. EOE

HUD FINANCIAL COORDINATOR / OCCUPANCY SPECIALIST
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TEAMING WITH A LABORER



WORKWISE

by
Mildred L.
Culp

workplace. This situation challenges them to collaborate on an entirely new plane.

That plane begins to emerge when the partners focus on something they both believe in, Thomas Kochan says. He is professor of Management at MIT's Sloan School of Management in Cambridge, Mass., where he researches labor-management partnerships. They can be providing great service to a patient in a hospital or producing a really exciting product, something for which they feel ownership, to serve a market or a need in society. That commonality of purpose builds shared commitment and the social capital they need to solve problems together.

Kevin Carroll, founder of The Katalyst Consultancy in Portland, Ore., has worked with business, humanitarian and educational organizations. He reinforces the importance of integrated efforts, which potentially return "tremendous outcomes in comparison with that of single, vacuous efforts."

Establishing this kind of working partnership can be extremely difficult because of significant differences in background, skill sets and experience. Judith Glaser, CEO of Benchmark Communications in New York City, maintains that the sine qua non of the relationship is appreciative

listening. This should come as no surprise on both sides of the partnership. She maintains that people set up roadblocks, go(ing) quickly from labels to judgments. We dismiss them and truly do not hear them or their wisdom...

ASSETS

What contributions transform ostensible mismatches into valuable partnerships? Kochan attributes to the laborer tacit knowledge and experience in how the actual work is done on the ground and how it can be improved, which comes from a good practical sense of how to get things done. A blue collar worker is very motivated to offer expertise when asked, but often isn't. He brings tremendous pride in the quality of his work. Carroll agrees, citing a rudimentary understanding of how business operates, how (the) work will affect the big vision.

An office worker, on the other hand, will more likely bring the ability to move throughout the organization, gaining support and assuring results, Kochan indicates. He will see the larger organizational context and know where the resources are to get things done, including whom to call and how to get the funding or commitment of others in the organization to support a project.

LIABILITIES

While each partner brings assets to the relationship, they both bring liabilities. Glaser comments that the office worker may assume greater knowledge, but that this is not always the case. It's more a stereotype.

Kochan states that the office worker may experience very great difficulty in sharing power, because the middle manager doesn't always have as much power and influence

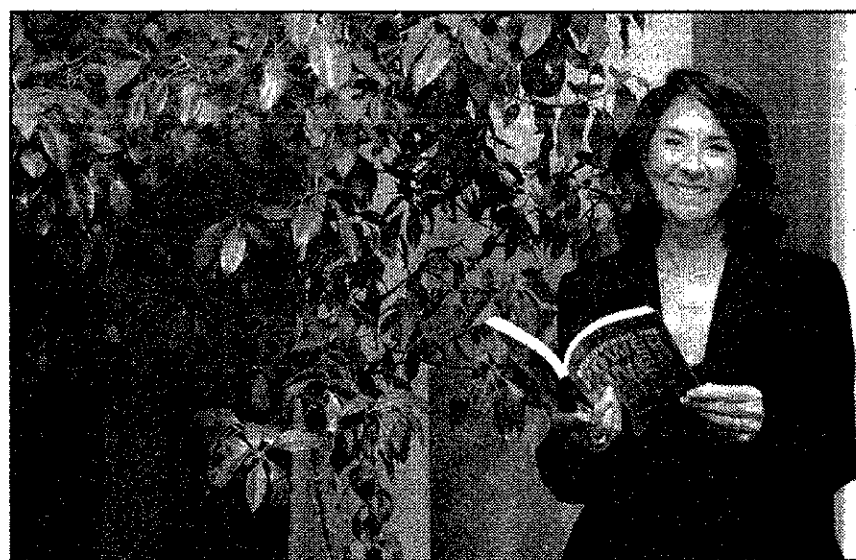
with superiors, yet is asked to share it with people who are or whom he perceives to be of lesser authority and status in the organization. Sometimes managers feel threatened by these kinds of partnerships; so they resist, often, in very subtle ways, such as not communicating, following through or sharing process.

Glaser discusses the fact that office workers may be blind to the life experiences that produce great insight and wisdom. A little creativity and imagination will go a long way, Carroll believes, in helping the person achieve better understanding of what the manager is doing.

Kochan outlines how communication can be a problem for the laborer, who typically:

- speaks differently and approaches problems differently;
- has a history of mistrust by management; and
- is viewed through the prism of acute status differences.

Glaser recommends that managers dispense with dictatorial, authoritarian



Judith Glaser

practices in favor of learning. Be a developer, she advises. Carroll advocates a sense of shared mission at all levels. He recalls President Kennedy's trip to NASA, where the president witnessed contributions at all levels in the organization. He was visiting to see all of the engineering, rocket, control panels and man on the moon, Carroll states. When Kennedy asked a janitor what he did, the man responded, I'm helping put a man on the moon, Mr. President. The organization respected, even celebrated his role in the mission.

(Dr. Mildred L. Culp is an award-winning journalist. Copyright 2006 Passage Media.)

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Help Wanted-General 5000

MAINTENANCE

Immediate opening for an experienced maintenance person for a Farmington apartment community. Applicant must have reliable transportation, own tools and pass background check and drug screen. Please fax resume to 248-474-1372 or call 248-474-2884. Great pay and benefit package! EOE

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Full time for luxury apts. in Rochester Hills. Exp. in plumbing, electric, HVAC, and drywall. Call 248-373-4488.

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Help Wanted-General 5000

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Rewarding Teacher opening Alt-Ed program in Ferndale. Secondary certification req. (math or English preferred). Computer lab environment using NOVANET & GEO interactive software. Previous exp. working with at-risk youth a plus. Hours: Mon. - Thur. 8:30am-3:30pm. Send resume to: alt-ed@wskills.com Fax 810-227-1344. EOE

TRUCK MECHANIC WELDER FABRICATOR

Heavy truck exp. necessary. Tools req. Dayshift. Call for interview 248-446-4533.

UPHOLSTERER

Experienced, full time Call 313-438-9931

WELDER: Experienced tig welder needed. For stainless food service equipment shop. Fulltime w/benefits. Livonia area. Call: 248-476-4502

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ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

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Church Secretary

Plymouth. Fulltime position with benefits. Requiring excellent organizational & phone skills. Windows environment. Quark & Shelby programs desirable. Exp preferred. Send resumes to dean@epumc.org

REAL ESTATE AGENT

Licensed to work approximately 20 hrs/wk. Doing administrative work, showing houses, etc. Must be available weekends. Fast paced, high production office with opportunity for more hrs. if desired. Email confidential resume, cover letter & references to: adminsst05@comcast.net

Help Wanted-Office Clerical 5020

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10 hour min work week. \$250-\$500 p/wk average. Will train. No exp required. Simple refund research needs internet. Call ERS for interview. 1-866-311-0701

FILE CLERK

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Position available for high school/co-op student filing clerk in busy Farmington healthcare facility. Please fax resume to 248-471-2727.

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Busy Farmington Hills office searching for pleasant, energetic person for general office duties with some accounts receivable/payables. 32-40 hrs/wk. Bob, 248-473-2100 Fax 248-473-2114.

LEGAL SECRETARY

Looking for a change? Suburban law firm seeks legal secretary 3-5 years experience. Word Perfect & Word proficient. Fax resume to: Office Manager (248) 592-0376

LEGAL SECRETARY

Farmington Hills based real estate development company seeks Legal Secretary with 5 plus years legal experience with real estate firm or practice. Must be highly organized and proficient in Microsoft Word and Excel. Transcription from dictation required. Offers competitive salary and benefits package. Please fax resume and salary requirements to: 248-855-0915

Legal Secretary/Office Asst.

Some exp preferred. Must be forward thinking & able to multitask. Send resume to: Manager, 134 N Main, Plymouth, MI 48170

OFFICE HELP

Manufacturing Co in Livonia seeking qualified individual for general office assistance, shipping and receiving involved. Full time Mon-Fri 8-5, benefits, 401K, fax resume to: 734-591-6906 email tammye@cdpdiamond.com or call Mon-Fri 8-10am 734-591-1043

Help Wanted-Office Clerical 5020

OFFICE ASSISTANT

Experienced, part time for small East Detroit nursing home. Includes typing, billing etc. Call Mike 248-737-4105

CLERICAL

Job available in our Westland office doing clerical & some computer work. Fulltime, Mon-Fri, 8-5pm. Apply at: 987 Manufacturers Dr. Westland. For directions call: (734) 728-4572

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Full-time for insurance agency in Livonia. (734) 462-9650

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For Luxury dealership Fulltime, full benefits, 401K. Exp preferred. Bloomfield Hills. Fax resume Attn Diane 248-642-6517

RECEPTIONIST

Needed for our Southfield location. Some computer knowledge helpful. Please call 248-356-6888

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Full time with benefits. Duties include answering & directing calls, light typing, sorting mail & other clerical duties. Please send resume to: Box 1403, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150

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ASSISTANT

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ASSISTANT

For Farmington Hills dental office. Part time. 1pm-closing. Mon-Thurs, no evenings. Must Have Dental Exp. Call 248-553-4740

Chairside & Front Desk-PT

Minimum 2 yrs. exp. West Dearborn (313) 274-9293

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For Farmington Hills Area. Must Have Dental Experience. Full or Part time, Monday-Thursday, no eves. Call Lori 248-553-4743

DENTAL ASSISTANT

For Livonia practice. Seeking a personable, team oriented individual. Exp., full time with benefits. Call 734-464-8020

DENTAL ASSISTANT

Exp preferred. Will train. Fax resume to 734-266-7170

DENTAL ASSISTANT

Exp., friendly, motivated person needed to join our periodontal team. Full-Time. Farmington Hills. Karen: (248) 851-1034

DENTAL ASSISTANT

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DENTAL ASSISTANT

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Dental

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must be computer literate to include scheduling software and word processing.

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Dental exp preferred & computer skills desirable. Submit resume Fax: 248-669-6606

DENTAL ASSISTANT

Exp'd for Northville practice. Fulltime. Fax resume to: (248) 349-7014

DENTAL ASSISTANT

Part time for Livonia specialist office. No evenings or Saturdays. Experienced & flexibility with schedule preferred. Competitive pay. Call 734-522-7313

DENTAL ASSISTANT

Are you energetic, motivated, (people person)? This position offers a great opportunity for the right person to join our very busy W. Bloomfield dental practice. We pride ourselves on team work, excellence and a warm caring approach toward our patients. Willing to train. Please call for interview 248-624-0008.

DENTAL ASSISTANT Part-Time

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DENTAL RECEPTIONIST

Full-time, experienced. Computer knowledge. Insurance billing, scheduling & collection. (248) 855-6613

Help Wanted-Dental 5040

FRONT DESK

Our dental office is in search of a fulltime experienced dental receptionist. Dentrix experience preferred. Great salary & benefits. Mon-Thurs. Reply SouthfieldDDS@aol.com or 248-356-8790

GENERAL DENTISTS & ORAL SURGEONS:

General Dentists, Oral Surgeons or General Dentists with strong OS skills. New local offices. Terry Herr 716-962-7950. See www.allcaredent.com for more info

ORAL SURGERY DENTAL ASSISTANT

We are a Premier Oral Surgery practice in Plymouth, MI seeking a full time Dental Surgical Assistant. Dental assisting experience preferred. Benefits, 401K and the opportunity to advance are available. Interested candidates please mail your resume with cover letter to 9416 S. Main Street, Suite 211, Plymouth, MI 48170 Attn: Rachel or fax to 734-455-4433

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F/T, Dental exp. req. Livonia office. Call 734-674-7728

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Motivated, self-starter needed for busy Livonia practice Parttime. 734-462-6400

Help Wanted-Medical 5060

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Full time for OB/GYN office in Farmington Hills. Experience Absolutely Necessary! Call Elaine (248) 489-1070

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Patient Care Coordinator
Sought by Rehab Services Co. Regs 1 yr. exp. in management of health related business. Minimum 2 yrs college with major in Bio Science. Send resume: HRM, Octagon Rehab Services, 42803 Schoolcraft Rd., Plymouth, MI 48170.

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Help Wanted-Food/Beverage 5000

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Now accepting applications for exp'd Bartenders, Waitstaff, Hostess & Bussers! Please come in btwn 2-4p to apply. No calls accepted. 42705 Grand River Novi

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Help Wanted-Food/Beverage 5000

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• Line Cooks • Hostesses
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If you are looking to place an ad for any of the above positions, check out our:

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You can place your ad for only \$45/inch (two inch min.)! The Observer & Eccentric's Restaurant & Food Service Recruitment Section will publish on Sunday, August 27th. Deadline to place an ad in this section is Monday, August 21st, at 5pm. Contact one of our Representative for more information, or to reserve your space:

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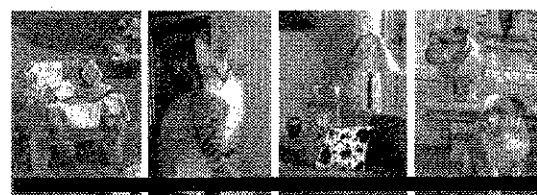
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screen, patio planter stands,
Linens, kitchen, sewing,
holiday trim, lights, Dept. 56,
tools, garden, golf items.
Cash, checks w/proper ID

7100 Estate Sales **7100**

Announcing 3 Great Sales
By Everything Goes
Fri-Sat, Aug. 11-12, 10-4
#1 778 N. Shady Hollow
Cr. Bloomfield Hills, W. off
Adams, N. of Big Beaver
(Quartern) Dining &
dinettes sets, sofa groups,
bdm sets, patio, wicker,
appliances, exercise &
garage equip, appliances,
accessories, more!
#2 3397 Willowood Ct.,
Commerce, S. off Com-
merce Rd., W. of Hiller, take
Thousand Oaks • Over
\$100K in Decorating! Rold
arm sofa group, dining
set by Drexel, wall unit &
king size canopy bdrm set
by Bernhardt, maple din-
ette, good art, stone table,
clothes, sports, accessories
#3 751 Industrial Ct.
Bloomfield Hills, W. off
Franklin Rd., N. of Sq.Lk.
Rd. 5000 sq.ft. building full!
Designer: dining & bdrm
sets, sofa groups, tables,
chairs, dinettes, art &
accessories, crystal, silver
& china, electronics, sports,
designer clothing, kitchen &
barware & much more!
OFFICE: 248-855-0053.

7100 Estate Sales **7100**

ANOTHER FRANKLIN RD. ESTATE SALE!

Fri.-Sat.
Aug. 11-12
10-4PM

3875 FRANKLIN ROAD
BLOOMFIELD TWP.
On Franklin Road, N. of
Long Lake. Park on one
side of road only

A Beautiful Large Home
Traditional, Antique &
Contemporary
Custom chertile uphol-
stered, Maitland-Smith
chairs, steel & glass cock-
tail table, handmade pine
Country French armoire,
hand-carved antique
Blackamoor fern stand,
oriental rugs, antique pine
grandfather clock, black
steel & glass dining table,
Chippendale partners
desk, pair of wingbacks,
round metal & glass
breakfast table, antique
oak icebox, BAKER king
size leather bed, antique
roll-top desk, antique
clocks, antique brass bed,
art, Picasso Dali lithos,
quality accessories,
McKenzie child china, sil-
ver, designer clothes,
Armani, Carlisle, Donna
Karan, Dressier, Zoran,
Sony large screen HD TV,
Whirlpool washer & dryer.
Plus much more! What a
good sale! See you there!

EDMUND FRANK & ASSOC.
LIQUIDATORS & APPRAISERS
313-854-6000

NEED TO SELL YOUR CAR...

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INTERNET ADDRESS

www.hometownlife.com

7100 Estate Sales **7100**

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7100 Estate Sales **7100**

ANOTHER ESTATE SALE BY IRIS

Fri.-Sat., Aug. 11-12,
10-4PM

1129 PARK PLACE
IN BLOOMFIELD CHASE
BLOOMFIELD HILLS
West side of Telegraph,
1/4 mile N. of Long Lake

"Gorgeous High-end Furniture & Accessories Decorator's Home!"
McGuire table & 6 chairs
• Several bdrm sets incl.
Henredon king-size bed
w/2 end tables & huge
wall unit • Century Rattan
sofa & chairs • 2 white
sofas & 3 chairs, cocktail
table, several end tables,
lamps, buffet, decorative
mirrors • Several area
rugs • Workout equip. •
Lg. cherry wall unit •
Antique etch glass gob-
lets • Exotic planters •
Several St. John knits •
Mink jacket • Huge set of
dinnerware • 2 TV con-
soles • Outdoor Brown
Jordan furniture • Too
much to mention!

IRIS KAUFMAN
248-626-6335
JAMES ADELSON
248-240-3269

Appraisers & Liquidators
for 45 Yrs in Metro Area.

7100 Estate Sales **7100**

ANTIQUE LOVER'S SALE BY ANTIQUES ON MAIN

248-705-9665

FRI THRU SUNDAY
AUGUST 11-13, 10 - 4
3181 KERNWAY DR.,
BLOOMFIELD HILLS
N off Long Lake;
Just W of Squirrel
E of Woodward
Italian iron console,
mirrors, bronze, mar-
ble bust, china, crys-
tal, silver, Deco the-
ater seats, Drexel din-
ing & bedroom sets,
art incl. Brunelleschi
plus old prints, many
books, jewelry &
much, much more!
For a complete list of con-
tents, visit
aomestatesales.com

BEVERLY HILLS - Furniture,
customer jewelry, china &
misc. 31188 Huntley, N off
13, W of Southfield, Fri.-Sat.,
10am-4pm.

Birmingham Hipster Sale!
Sat. & Sun. 10-4pm. Designer
clothes, women's/men's kids,
furniture, household items,
misc. 1918 Cole off Eton
btwn Maple & Lincoln.

Bloomfield Hills 3040
Bloomfield Shore Dr. Aug. 11-
13, 9-6. Quality furniture, col-
lectibles, art, coins, stamps,
toys, jewelry, antiques.

Bloomfield Hills Upcoming Estate Sale Next Week!
Fri.-Sat. Aug. 18-19
10AM - 5PM

Fine Furniture including
Henredon, Ethan Allen
& Drexel Heritage (for
the living room, bdrm,
library & sunroom).
Exquisite Accessories
& Fine Prints. Beautiful
& Glassware.
Much, much more!!!

By Appt. Only.
Please call for details:
248-263-1104

Sale by
LILLY M. & CO.

"It's All About Results"
Observer & Eccentric
1-800-579-SELL

CLARKSTON 7327 Mustang
Dr., btwn. Dixie Hwy. &
Andersonville Rd., Aug. 11-
13, 9-5. Household items, col-
lectibles and furniture.

7100 Estate Sales **7100**

ANOTHER BERNARD DAVIS ESTATE SALE

(313) 837-1993

3171 Hanley, Hamtramck
off of Jos. Campau
Between Holbrook and
Hamtramck Dr.
Friday & Saturday
August 11 & 12
9am - 4pm

Art, Oil Paintings: Still Life,
Floral, Landscape Scenes;
Sofas, Coffee and End Tables,
Lamps, Entertainment Unit,
Sony TV, Stereo, Bookcase,
Porcelain Accessories,
Computer Desk, Printer,
Cherrywood Bed, Chest,
Dresser w/mirror &
Nightstand, Daybed, Game
Table w/4 chairs, Kitchen
Accessories, Monogram
Stove, Old Ice Box, Blanket
Chest,
and MUCH MUCH MORE!!!

7100 Estate Sales **7100**

REDFORD 1996B Kinloch

4 blks w/Beach, N/Grand
River, Fri. & Sat.,
Aug. 11 & 12th, 9-4.

REDFORD TWP. RUMMAGE SALE
Aug. 12-13
Noon-5pm
Old stuff, dolls, household
good, few antiques.
20441 Five Points.
S of 8, W of Telegraph

REDFORD TWP. - Moving
Sale. Household, comics, etc.
1 Day Only! Fri. Aug. 11, 9-3
pm. 25835 Westfield, Beech
& West Chicago.

ROCHESTER - HUGE SALE!
Sat.-Sun., Aug. 12-13, 9-4pm.
Tools, furniture, kid's stuff &
more! 330 North Castelli, off
University, downtown.

ROCHESTER HILLS Fri. & Sat.
Aug. 11 & 12, 10am-
3pm. A few antiques, Civil
War/military items, coins,
not the usual fare. 109
Rose Brier, just N of
Walton between Squirrel
and Adams.

ROCHESTER HILLS Shop for
the holidays - now! Toys,
games, bikes, books. Some
household items. Friday 9am-
4pm. 407 Silvervale,
Brookdale West Sub, off
Walton, west of Adams.

ROYAL OAK - Moving after 36
years! Furniture, collectibles,
toys, much misc. 4118
Elmhurst, off Normandy, Aug.
12-13 & Aug 19-20, 9-4pm.

ROYAL OAK 424 W. Harrison,
btwn. Woodward & Lafayette.
Aug. 11-12th Three-family sale,
10-5pm. Children's items, fur-
niture, household items, etc...

ROYAL OAK - Fri. & Sat.
7am-dusk, 409 Catalpa, W. of
Main, E. of Woodward.
Antiques, 1930s fridge, camp-
ing, 7 doors, plus more.

ROYAL OAK - HUGE Multi-
family sale. Many large items.
Fri. & Sat., 9am-6pm, 214
Austin, near 11-1/2 Mile btwn
Washington & Main

ROYAL OAK MOVING SALE
Priced to Sell! 615 Vermont
(N off 11 Mile, just W of
Campbell), Fri. & Sat., Aug.
11 & 12, 8am - 4pm

Southfield 23354 Churches
W. of Telegraph, off 9 Mile Rd.
Aug. 11-13th, 10-5pm. Lots of
antiques, tools, and miscella-
neous items!

SOUTHFIELD 26965 W. 10
Mile Rd., btwn Beech &
Inkster. Furniture, tools, baby
items & toys. Aug. 10, 11, 12,
13, 9am-5pm.

Southfield 23445 Riverview,
W. Bell Rd. S/Coverly
Woods, Aug. 11-12, 10-4.
Usual & stereo speakers, com-
puters, TV's, bed frames, etc...

7100 Estate Sales **7100**

ANTIQUE LOVER'S SALE BY ANTIQUES ON MAIN

248-705-9665

FRI THRU SUNDAY
AUGUST 11-13, 10 - 4
3181 KERNWAY DR.,
BLOOMFIELD HILLS
N off Long Lake;
Just W of Squirrel
E of Woodward
Italian iron console,
mirrors, bronze, mar-
ble bust, china, crys-
tal, silver, Deco the-
ater seats, Drexel din-
ing & bedroom sets,
art incl. Brunelleschi
plus old prints, many
books, jewelry &
much, much more!
For a complete list of con-
tents, visit
aomestatesales.com

BEVERLY HILLS - Furniture,
customer jewelry, china &
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13, W of Southfield, Fri.-Sat.,
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Birmingham Hipster Sale!
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Sale by
LILLY M. & CO.

"It's All About Results"
Observer & Eccentric
1-800-579-SELL

CLARKSTON 7327 Mustang
Dr., btwn. Dixie Hwy. &
Andersonville Rd., Aug. 11-
13, 9-5. Household items, col-
lectibles and furniture.

7100 Estate Sales **7100**

DUMAR MOVING SALE
Fri & Sat Aug. 11-12 10-4
Numbers Fri. at 9:30
Grand Father clock, sofa, Relax
R Corp. Motorized leather
chair, bedroom set, dining
table/chairs, gun cabinet, deer
heads/horns, set of dishes,
jewelry, hunting/fishing gear,
tools, beer can collection,
misc.

30027 Grandon, Livonia
Take I-96 to Merriman, S. past
West Chicago, to Grandon, left.
SYLVIA 734-981-1625

LIVONIA
Kitchen set, 12-2-boy, Bassett
bedroom, curio, Gun cabinets,
Craftsman tools, fishing &
golf items and more. Fri. &
Sat., 9:30-4, 36607 Curtis,
N/6, off Levan.

MADISON HTS. - Estate Sale
8/10, 11, 12, 9am-5pm, 29673
Shackett, N/12, E/ Campbell,
248-259-5142. Full house incl
antique & vintage, Herschede
grand father clock; living/din-
ing bedroom furniture; oil
lamp; Royal Doulton store dis-
play case; Nazi medals, crys-
tal; Goebel, Fenton; figurines;
vintage Christmas; watches;
jewelry; full garage/bmnt.
Lionel; American flyer trains;
Fobs; coins; railroad sign,
lanterns, misc; Lots not listed.

Rochester Hills.
Sat. Aug. 12th 8am-5pm
60 yrs. must be sold! 50's
sectional and kitchen items;
cedar chest, waterlily dresser,
mahogany desk, wicker
buggy, Philco floor radio, can-
vas chairs, license plates,
tools, bottles, tins, pottery,
costume jewelry, stamps,
sewing. Much misc. incl.
high-end decorator. Very good
deals! 684 Shelley Dr. from
Hamlin E. of Rochester Rd. go
S. on Regency or Dorset, L.
on Hampton, R. on Shelley
248-852-6951

ROYAL OAK ESTATE SALE.
722 Golf St., 248-705-6039.
whole house, clubs, clothes,
tools, furniture, etc., Fri.-Sun.,
Aug. 11-13, 9am-4pm

Call to place your ad at 1-800-579-SELL(7355)

WARREN - Fabulous estate
sale incl. cameo, 1950's
Staub, Prussia, Doulton,
Lalique, signed cut glass,
Wedgwood, tons of elegant
glassware, Pewabic, signed
art, Nippon, tons of sterling
and silverplate, Beileek,
Moorcroft, lots of Lenox, fabu-
lous art nouveau clock, antique
candybri incl. Royal Ivy, art
deco wurt dining set, good
Victorian furniture, Cloisonne,
too much other stuff to list. For
photos check www.estate-
sales.net Thurs-Sat, 10am-
5pm. 32832 Newcastle Dr.,
please bring your own boxes.

7100 Estate Sales **7100**

WESTLAND childrens
furniture, car seats, bikes, toys,
speakers, motor, kitchenware,
blows, tools, records and
more. 34236 Barton, Wildwood
& Marquette off Ford Rd.

WESTLAND Oak mounding
pieces, shelving, assorted
wood, tools, records and
turntable, stereo, Super 8
movie projector, slide projec-
tor, old dressers, phones,
clothes etc. Thurs.-Fri., Sat.,
9am-4pm, 7270 N. Farmington
Rd. (off of Warren)

Moving Sales **7130**

BLOOMFIELD HILLS
Moving Sale. 2694 Heathfield
Rd., take Maple to Cranbrook
go south to Middleburg go
west (which is 1 bik. N. of
Lincoln & W. of Cranbrook
Rd.) to Heathfield, Deck tea
wagon, hutches, Deacon's
bench, chairs, dry sink, patio
furniture, chest-of-drawers,
storage closet, linens, small
appliances, tools, much more!
Thurs.-Fri., Sat.,

Automotive

There's nothing prissy about the rough, tough 07 Chevy Avalanche

Advertising Feature

Thursday DriveTime



By Tenisha Mercer
Avanti NewsFeatures

The comfort of a sport utility vehicle along with the cargo power of a truck—it's a sales pitch we've heard before, especially when it comes to automakers' efforts to bolster languishing SUV sales in recent years.

But it's a pitch that deserves repeating with the 2007 Chevy Avalanche. Dubbed a utility vehicle, the redesigned Avalanche—based on a new, full-size truck platform—adds better fuel economy, handling and interior upgrades while competing with full-size crew cab pick-up trucks.

Introduced as a sport utility vehicle/crossover pickup in 2002, the Avalanche stood out for its practicality. There's nothing prissy about it. A midgate allowed the best of both worlds: the ability to go from a six-passenger vehicle with a short bed to a three-passenger vehicle with a shorter bed.

A rear seat that folds flat allows longer items to be carried between the cargo bed and rear passenger compartment. The Avalanche's new platform based continues that versatile theme, but with a longer cargo bed and a new box frame that improves handling.

The truck bed measures 5.3 feet long and has 45.5 cubic feet of volume. For towing purposes, Avalanche offers up to 8,000 pounds of towing power.

Adding to its functionality as an SUV, truck or both, the midgate extends the length of the 5.3-foot-long cargo bed to 8.2 feet inches—two inches longer than past models. Close the midgate and fold the rear seat and the Avalanche has room for six passengers.

There's also hauling room. Open the midgate and fold the rear seat flat and the Avalanche can carry 4-foot by 8-foot sheets of plywood with the tailgate closed. Storage compartments along the cargo box provide plenty of storage space and drains that can be used as coolers—perfect for a summer picnic.

The Avalanche's second row seats fold to extend the truck bed to 35 inches—about the same length as a Ford F-150. Wider front and rear tracks give the Avalanche more stability. The new frame cuts vibration in the passenger cabin, while also reducing vibration.

Offered in LS, LT and a top-of-the-line LTZ 2WD and 4WD models—a Z71 off-road package with an updated fascia will debut later in the model year—a particularly appealing aspect about the Avalanche is



2007 Chevrolet Avalanche. Vehicle class: Four door sport utility vehicle/pickup. Power: V-8 engine. Mileage: 16 city / 22 highway, 2WD. Where built: Mexico. Base price range: \$32,490-\$42,905.

probably its fuel options.

Early 2007 models come with a 5.3-liter, V-8 engine with Active Fuel Management Technology that switches from eight-cylinder to a four-cylinder power to save fuel while delivering more power than previous models with 310 horsepower and 335-lb. ft. of torque.

Later, an aluminum 6.0-liter V-8 engine with Active Fuel Management Technology will also be available. There is also technology that allows the Avalanche to run on E85, a renewable fuel that is 85 percent ethanol and 15 percent gasoline. Ethanol is made mostly out of corn and burns cleaner than gasoline, but with similar performance.

New this year is a central locking tailgate that instead of a conventional lock uses interior lock switches or a remote key fob to unlock the tailgate. Straps on the cargo cover allow it to be held in place. A steeper windshield and smoother roofline lend to fuel economy and quieter driving.

An air-ride suspension system—standard on the LTZ—reduces body motion by using body and wheel motion sensors to react to road and driving conditions. New features such as roof-mounted head curtain side air bags with rollover protection for both rows add more safety.

Sensors in the front of the vehicle, in the side doors and within the occupant compartment activate safety belt pretensioners during rear end crashes. Rollover indication sensors monitor how fast the vehicle is going and if it is rolling over to deploy head curtain side air bags.

The Avalanche's stronger, stiffer frame absorbs energy better to limit crash damage. In addition, the Avalanche comes with StabiliTrak stability control system, a rain sensing wiper system and OnStar.

Inside, interior improvements such as lower

instrument panels and a deeper windshield improve visibility. There's more passenger space, including extra shoulder space for rear passengers. Slimmer seat designs increase cargo space behind the seats.

Newly designed front row seats have more room than previous models. A two-tone color scheme with chrome accents on the instruments and vents lends to a classier touch. Larger storage capability in the center console, a roomier glove box and new storage compartments add to the functionality.

A CD/MP3 compatible radio, ultrasonic rear parking assist, rearview camera system, touch screen navigation system and DVD rear seat entertainment system with a larger, 8-inch screen are also available.

The Avalanche's new, monochromatic design is leaner and more agile looking than years past. Though it closely resembles the Chevrolet Tahoe, the Avalanche's new fender design with wheel flares, a new grille and headlamps and a wraparound fascia gives the Avalanche a refined look.

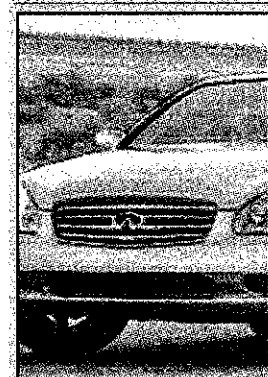
New this year is standard 17-inch and optional 20-inch wheels. An off-road Z71 package includes larger fog lamps, platinum chrome grille trim and 18-inch wheels and tires.

The redesigned Avalanche adds even more features to a vehicle that already offered plenty of options.

Write Tenisha Mercer at tenishamercer@yahoo.com. She covers the automotive beat from Atlanta as managing editor of the Mercer Media Group and as a columnist for Avanti NewsFeatures. ©2006, Fracassa Communications.

CLASSIFIED INDEX

CLASSIFICATION	NUMBER
■ Employment	5000-5999
■ Announcements	6000-6900
■ Merchandise	7000-7540
■ Autos/RVs	8000-8780
■ Boats, Motors	8800
■ Motorcycles, Mini Bikes	8970
■ Trucks	8220



Call Toll Free

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After Hours: Call (734) 591-0900

Deadlines: To place,

cancel or correct ads.

Sunday

5:30 p.m. Friday

Sunday Real Estate

5:30 p.m. Thursday

Thursday

6 p.m. Tuesday

Thursday Real Estate Display

3 p.m. Monday

View the Observer & Eccentric Automotive Classifieds on the web:

www.observerandeccentric.com



Market Place

Observer & Eccentric

HOMETOWNlife.com

7100 Estate Sales

SOUTH LYON ESTATE SALE
9580 Spencer Rd., 8 Mile, West of Rushton. Fri-Sun, 10am-5pm. Farm House Packed. Art, Antiques, Bdrm Sets, Jewelry 14k/Costume, china, guns, dolls, hydrostatic tractors, metal lathe, drill press and tons of power tools, snow blowers, hydraulic car lift and tons of tools. Bids can be placed on 2002 Impala. Action Estate Sales 586-489-0925

Baby & Children Items

LITTLE TIKES Computer Desk with drawers & light & Chair, exc cond, \$40. 734-953-2587

Household Goods

BDRM SET Solid oak, desk, hutch, chair, small & tall chests, no bed. Very good cond., \$450; coffee table, good cond., \$90; lg. solid oak shelf w/ plate grooves, pegs, heart cut-outs, very good cond., \$120 firm; 1 small & 1 lg. dog cage, \$25 & \$40. (313) 535-7333 after 5.

Bdrm. Set Queen \$950; coffee tables (glass) \$125; computer desk \$50; Dyson vacuum (new) \$350. 248-703-4796

BEAUTIFUL BAKER CHERRY WOOD DINING ROOM SET Beautiful, edge trim. Cabriole legs, 6 upholstered cane-back chairs, 2 pc. china cabinet, internal display lamp. New, \$20,000+. Moving, Sacrifice \$2000. SOLD

BED - 1 ABSOLUTELY NEW PILLOW-TOP KING SET In plastic, must sell \$175. Can deliver. 734-231-6622

BED - 1 ABSOLUTELY NEW PILLOW-TOP QUEEN SET In plastic, must sell \$115. Can deliver. 734-231-6622

BED - 1 SET, 2 PIECE, QUEEN PILLOW TOP MATTRESS New in plastic, sell \$125. 734-891-8481, Can Deliver.

BED - 1 SET, 3 PIECE KING PILLOW TOP MATTRESS New in bag, only \$195. Deliverable. 734-891-8481

BED - Full-size Mattress Set New, still wrapped, with warranty, sacrifice \$100. Call 734-891-8481

BEDROOM FURNITURE, Girls White, 8 piece, Twin. Nightstand, storage bench, dresser w/ mirror, desk & hutch w/ chair. 5 yrs. old. \$900. (248) 693-0367

BEDROOM SET DOUBLE, frame, dresser, mirror, chest, nightstand. Asking \$350/best. (734) 394-2091

CANTON Moving Must Sell! Amana Refrigerator, white, w/ ice/water dispenser, Frigidaire gas range, dining table/4 chairs; recliner; ladies bike. Misc. furniture. 734 740-9015

Household Goods

CHINA CABINET - American Drew, solid cherry, like new, original \$4000. Must sell \$1800. 734-394-0180

Contemporary OK Enter-tainment Center Five sections, lighted display, 109x76x22. Best offer. 248-569-1223

COUCH - 3 SEATER, 2 seater loveseat, Queen Anne chair & ottoman, Blue w/ wood trim. \$250. (248) 553-8213

DINING ROOM SET Thomasville, Cherry, w/ 6 chairs, china cabinet paid \$1500; asking \$600; rocker & wing chairs, blue, \$50; new King bed, \$300. (734) 967-0556

Drexel 1950's china cabinet, dining rm. table, w/ four chairs & two leats. exc. cond., \$600 248-302-0535

FURNITURE
Bed, single, Light Pine, Mission-style, chest footboard, \$100; red oak Mission-style double futon w/ mattress, \$75; Eggplant microfiber full sized couch, \$250; velvet Italian leather loveseat, \$200. TV, 27" Zenith CR, \$100; 46" Toshiba HD ready, Cinema Series projection TV w/ 2 yr. warranty, \$500. (248) 589-1862

FURNITURE/BABY/YOUTH White, excellent condition, convertible crib \$300, glider \$300, dresser/changing table \$400, corner shelf, \$100. Call 248-782-4673

GLASS TOP TABLE W/ CHAIRS 38"x38" wrought iron table, 4 wrought iron chairs w/ padded seats & backs. Like new! \$85. (734) 595-8955

MOVING SALE washer & dryer, \$195; tall oak cabinet, new \$100; oak coffee table, \$50; queen bed/2 dressers, \$100; Joy/Telegraph 313-724-9570, (734) 367-0556

NEW NAME BRAND BEDDING At Guaranteed Lowest Prices! www.thecloseoutbrokers.com 734-425-0955

RECLINERS Two dark blue matching recliners Very good condition \$150/each. 734-729-0346

RENOVATION SALE Major appliances, lawn care equipment, living & dining room furniture, TVs, misc. items. (248) 939-1942

TANNING BED \$300; Entertainment Ctr \$55; Total gym \$75; Grill \$55; Stereo, sewing, floor lamp. 734-308-5892

TV, MITSUBISHI
35", color, w/ stand. \$350. 248-882-1230

WATERFORD
Office furniture, sofa, loveseat, TV & TV cabinet, misc. (248) 482-3032

WICKER ROCKER W/ PAD Entertainment center, double dresser, chest, pictures. (248) 476-7665

Appliances

APPLIANCES Washer and Dryer, (gas) combo; Whirlpool, gas oven and refrigerator (white). \$250/\$200. 248-693-4944

GAS STOVE & DRYER
Whirlpool; Samsung double door refrigerator. Barely used, like new, \$1000 takes all. (734) 525-9245

NEW APPLIANCES
GE refrigerator & electric range; Kenmore microwave. All 3, \$700. 248-347-0963

RANGE/OVEN/CONVECTION
Viking 36" open burner, stainless steel dual fuel range/self-clean convection oven, professional series, commercial-type cooking power, with 4 burners, 12" wide griddle/simmer plate, 10" high stainless steel splash guard, stainless steel high shelf, stainless steel chimney wall hood ventilation, \$4500. 248-303-8774

TV Toshiba, TheaterWide, HD TV, 65" screen, 59" high x 59" wide x 23" deep, with custom stand, 28" high, hardly used, \$2000. Call The Frank Boos Gallery, 248-643-1900

Pools, Spas, Hot Tubs

HOT TUB 5 person; w/ lounge chair, w/ cover good condition. Tub Surface in good condition. \$200 - 248-974-8506

HOT TUB New in Box, with warranty. Colored lights, waterfall. Financing. Deliverable. \$1,975. 313-586-0008

Bargain Buys

TREADMILL Vitamaster #R8715. exc. cond., 2.25 hp, incline, display, \$75 734-464-2011

Bicycles

SCHWINN RANGE 1997 Women's, Logan Green, exc cond, incl water bottle, lock/key & peddles. Retail (\$370). \$150. 248-851-5945

Exercise/Fitness Equipment

TREADMILL, TRIMLINE Model #7200-DNE. Incl. floor mat, hand rails. Solidly built. 4 yrs. old. New \$1700; asking for \$400. (248) 990-2586

Building Materials

SHINGLES \$39.95sq 30yr Dimensional Shingles, Modified Bitumen roofing. Call for details. 248-356-2292

Electronics/Audio/Video

ELECTROSTATIC SPEAKERS
Acoustat Spectra 22, Black cloth oak bases, 66" high x 21" wide. Sound fantastic! \$750/best. (313) 937-8989

Electronics/Audio/Video

WANTED Old tube Hi-Fi equip. & speakers. MacIntosh, Morantz, Dynaco, JBL, Tannoy, etc... 734-649-0492.

Hospital/Medical Equipment

Electric Wheelchair New! Invacare Pronto M51 w/ SureStep. Best Offer over \$500. 1st \$1,000 offer takes it! Call Alan 248-960-0217.

Jewelry

JEWELRY SHOWCASES
Custom Oak w/ mauve inserts. 2 floor and 1 wall. \$500 ea. 248 828 8488

Lawn, Garden & Snow Equipment

LAWN EQUIP., riding mowers, tractors. Used, good cond. \$350-\$2000. ALSO small engine repair. (248) 673-1724

RIDING MOWER
Grasshopper, Model. 1212. \$700/best. Call 734-981-4618

Miscellaneous For Sale

DIANETICS IGNITES YOUR POTENTIAL. Discover what millions have read to improve their success in relationships, business and life. Call 1-800-722-1733 or go to www.dianetics.org

FREE PRESCRIPTION DRUGS
Available for households with incomes as high as \$80,000. Visit www.FreeMedicine.com or call 1-573-986-3333 to request FREE BROCHURE.

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Relationships improved! Is irrational behavior ruining your relationships? What prevents long-term relationships? Find out-read Dianetics! Call 1-800-722-1733 or visit www.relationshipplongevity.com

Musical Instruments

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS WANTED
Any Condition (248) 842-5064

PIANO CABLE NELSON Spinnet, w/ bench. Light Maple. \$400/best offer. (734) 455-8766.

PIANO Roland 4000S Digital piano, MIDI Capable with base, keyboard cover. Like new, console style. 9 voices, auto transpose, headphone socket. \$3,000 new. \$1,000/best 810-632-7045

Musical Instruments

PIANO
Baby Grand piano walnut, Kimball \$1100 734-620-1988

TRUMPET
YAMAHA, like new Must sell. \$600 or best offer 734-420-8175

Two Violins Caprice Full Size \$750, Roth ¾ size, \$475. Both in very good condition. 248-258-5713

Yamaha Clarinet w/case, plus B-45 mouthpiece \$500/best. Conn trumpet w/case \$300/best. 248-231-6018

Wanted to Buy

WANTED TO BUY: Baby crib, jogging stroller, rocking chair, sectional couch; all items 5 yrs or newer. 248-830-6973

WANTED: SHOTGUNS, RIFLES, PISTOLS, TOOLS (HAND & POWER), CALL ANYTIME. 586-216-6200

Playground Equipment

WOODEN PLAYScape
slide, swings, etc. Exc. condition. \$160. (313) 792-1310

Cats

BEAUTIFUL CATS To good homes. Himalayan & Persian mix. Approx. 1 yr. old, raised indoors. Good w/dogs & kids. Best offer. 313-515-4819

CATS - 2 lovable 4 year old twin males, fixed, to a good home (due to allergies). 734-564-8748

PERSIAN KITTEN Male, Beautiful, personable. 11 weeks. \$400. Farmington Hills, (248) 539-9093

Dogs

Bichon Frise Puppy
AKC, pup shots, male, 18 wks., \$550 incl. crate/gate 313-535-1087

BRITTANY SPANIEL PUPS
Born 5/26, champion bloodline. \$400. 734-260-1100

BULL DOGS
AKC Male & Female English Bulldogs puppies available. Champion bloodlines & come with health certificate, wormings, updated shots, small baggie of puppy food & full AKC registration & 1 year health guarantee. The puppies available now are \$700 each. Puppies available now for more information contact: lisabulldogs@gmail.com \$700 - 5471292556

DACHSHUND Miniature, female, long hair, chocolate/tan, AKC, 9 wks, 2 sets of shots. Must sell, moving! \$900/best. 734-674-7020

Dogs

Cocker Spaniel Puppy.
10 week male
Black & white, WKC 734-422-1086

Cocker Spaniel Pups AKC. Blonde, black/tan, parents on site \$300 & up. 989-277-2694

COCKER PUPS AKC, Beautiful Buff or Black Males. Champion Sired, 8 weeks old. \$500 586-798-1089

ENGLISH BULLDOG PUPPIES - AKC. Male & Female Champion sire. Lovingly hand raised in our home. 1 year Health Guarantee. All puppies are vet checked, dewormed, shots up to date and microchipped. Shipping available for more info contact tisa_petcare@yahoo.com \$700. 521-263-5252

Shih-Tzu Pups 8 weeks old. CKC registered. Black & white. Well socialized. \$450-\$500 734-306-2797

YORKIE PUPS, AKC 2 mos. old. First shots. Very small. \$800. 248-462-3032.

YORKIES TINY Calm, Champion line AKC puppies, 10 weeks old. Adorable. Shots. \$1500. 248-214-7299

Shih-Tzu Pups 8 weeks old. CKC registered. Black & white. Well socialized. \$450-\$500 734-306-2797

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8300... Buick
8310... Cadillac
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8330... Chrysler-Plymouth
8340... Dodge
8350... Eagle
8360... Ford
8370... Geo
8380... GMC
8390... Honda
8400... Hyundai
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Boats/Motors 8020

1986 Kawasaki 1986 Jet-Ski FREE! 1994 Yamaha Jet-Ski, and 1994 Shorelander trailer. You haul it away. Must show valid MI DL and sign titles. 313-628-4708 (days) or 248-626-4867

CARAVELLE 1979 19 ft. 165 hp; runs good. Mercruiser/ Shorelander trailer. Free Boat. \$800/best. 734-266-0516

Regal Sport Jet Boat 14' Reconditioned engine, new impeller, new starter with Trailer and Tube. \$4000/best. 734-421-7861

Sea Nymph 12 ft., w/trailer, trolling motor and extras. Asking \$350 SOLD

STARCRAFT 2001 14 ft. Evinrude 1988 9.9 motor, trolling motor/battery, fishfinder, great cond., no leaks, includes trailer. Priced to sell FAST! \$1560. SOLD

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THUNDERCRAFT MAGNUM EXPRESS 23 FT. CRUISER 1981 5.7 V8 (350cc) 260 hp inboard mercruiser outdrive, mooring cover & convertible top. 1998 Load-Rite Trailer \$5,500/best. Exec. Condition (313-820-9711)

YAMAHA 1996 Waverunner 3 person-pull a skier. Low miles-great condition. \$3000 with trailer. 248-620-9984

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Fourteen Ft. Boat Trailer New lights, \$150/best offer 248-442-9855

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HARLEY DAVIDSON 1999 Sportster 1200 XL custom. Under 10,000 miles. Lots of extras. \$5500. 734-377-3751

HONDA 2001 VFR 800 Like new cond. 3800 miles. Many extras incl. Heil bars, GIVI windshield & touring bags. New bike on order. Must sell. \$5500/best. (248) 358-0100 days, 248-477-4156 nights.

HONDA CB750X 1978 - 16,000 miles, all original, runs & looks good. \$1200. 248-231-1910

HONDA VTX 2003 1800R, retroed, spokes, 2K, \$8,950. JOHN ROGIN BUICK 734-525-0900

LXR MOPED 2003 49 cc, 2 stroke, yellow, \$600/best offer. 248-489-1189

YAMAHA XV500K 1983 VIRAGO. Red. Great condition. \$1000/best. (734) 266-0516

Recreational Vehicles 8100

1999 Jayco Designer 30 ft., fifth wheel, slide-out, no smoking, washer/dryer, 2 awnings \$17,900 734-337-9643.

SAFARI PANTHER 2000 40 ft. 425 hp Cat diesel, air bag suspension. Gerard awnings, 2 slide-outs. 2 yr. extended warranty on coach tires. 30,400 miles. \$180,000. (248) 421-9327

Campers/Motor Homes/Trailers 8120

COLEMAN 1999 Bayside Camper Excellent condition, king beds, 2 stoves heater slide out, galley kitchen, new tires less than 3000 miles, water heater. Asking \$5500/best. 313-600-5179 or 734-513-0151

COLEMAN BAYSIDE POP-UP CAMPER 1998, Slide-out. A/C, new tires, great condition. \$5700/best. (734) 266-0516

COLEMAN SUNRIDGE POP-UP 1997 Mint cond 2 Kings, 2 twins. Refrigerator, 2 stoves, sink, new wiring for lights. \$3900 firm. (734) 983-0301

JAYCO 1984 POP-UP Sleeps 6, nice cond, canopy, 3-burner stove, heater, newer tires, \$1500. 734-421-3746

JAYCO EAGLE 1996 5th wheel, 30 ft. Lots of extras. New carpeting, hitch assembly. 1996 Ford pickup, asking \$16,000/best. 734-422-6811

PROWLER LITE 2003 25 ft. travel trailer with slide-out, mint condition, sleeps 6-7, full bath inside plus outside shower, must sell! \$12,000 or best offer. 734-728-4351

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ROCKWOOD-1999 25 ft. travel trailer, great condition. \$5000. 248-486-6102 call after 4pm.

Campers/Motor Homes/Trailers 8120

TERRY LITE 1999 Travel Trailer 25', extras, hitch assembly. Must sell. Just reduced \$9,900. 734-427-6743

TRAIL LITE 2001 Travel Trailer 21 ft., loaded, extras included, excellent condition, \$7500/best. 248-437-5614

TRAILER, ENCLOSED 2002 White Haulmark, 8'x18'. Use for Landscape or car hauler. \$2000 (248-467-4245)

VIKING 2006 Pop-up camper. Sleeps 5. Like new condition. Many extras! \$2800 734-425-3370 or 734-751-9425.

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Auto/Track-Parts & Service 8160

PICK UP CAP fits Dodge ram. White fiberglass. \$350. (734) 425-3942

Auto Financing 8180

A-1 FINANCING. NO CREDIT/BAD CREDIT. Fox Hills Chrysler-Jeep (734) 354-6233

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Like to buy a good running tow truck. Medium price range. 313-653-0517

WE BUY CARS! Top dollar paid for good-clean cars, trucks, vans & SUV's. Call for more information. COLLINS MOTOR SALES WAYNE (734) 721-1616

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WRECKED & JUNK CARS WANTED! (734) 282-1700

Utility Trailers 8210

Rebellious Landscape Trailer 6 x 12, great cond., new floor/lights, spare incl. \$700/best. 734-634-0181

Trucks For Sale 8220

CHEVY - 1989 4x4 & 1991 2X2, step-sides, short boxes, (one runs), \$3000 for both. 248-496-4096

CHEVY AVALANCHE 2002, black as midnight! Low miles, \$15,995. Lou LaRiche Chevrolet 888-372-9836

DODGE GRAND CARAVAN SE 1997, air, cruise, all power, quad seats. Runs great! \$7000. 734-459-2259

DODGE GRAND CARAVAN 2006, stow & go, \$14,888. Fox Hills Chrysler-Jeep (734) 455-8740

DODGE DAKOTA CREW CAB 2001 SLT pkg, only \$7,995. Fox Hills Chrysler-Jeep (734) 455-8740

DODGE DAKOTA Quad Cab 2005 - V8, pw, ps, tilt, 18,000 miles, trailer tow pkg, 4x2, \$17,800. Eyes: 313-382-3915

DODGE RAM 2002 2WD, quad cab, loaded, \$11,995. Fox Hills Chrysler-Jeep (734) 455-8740

FORD F150 2003 Super Cab, 8 ft. bed, V-8, certified, \$17,495. Bill Brown Ford (734) 522-0030

FORD F-150 Lariat 1991 with top, loaded, V8, good condition, \$2100. 248-890-2790

FORD F150 SUPERCAB 2000, long bed, burgundy. Gorgeous truck! COLLINS MOTOR SALES WAYNE (734) 721-1616

Trucks For Sale 8220

FORD F-250 HD 1991 Trailer brakes, Auto. Bedliner, toolbox. Extra clean. \$3500. (248) 477-4817

FORD F150 PICKUP 2001 6 cylinder 5 speed. Bedliner, running boards, extra clean. \$5900/offer. (734) 459-5446

Ford F-150 XLT 1996 LOADED, Good cond., new parts, oversized tires, 100,000 miles, \$3000 734-261-4616

FORD RANGER 1996 super cab, 4x4, black, beautiful truck! \$3,995. COLLINS MOTOR SALES WAYNE (734) 721-1616

GMC SONOMA SLE 1999 Extended cab, 3 dr., 76,000 miles, red, loaded, superb cond. \$6,000 248-879-8183

Mini-Vans 8240

Astro LT 2003 4.3 V-6, all-wheel dr., loaded, tow package, running boards, rear air/heat, remote start, new tires, extended warranty. 48,000 miles \$12,000 734-673-4453.

CHEVY ASTRO VAN 2003 Seats 8. A/C, CD, 65,000 miles. Blue/Silver. Great cond. \$10,000/best. (734) 266-0516

CHRYSLER VOYAGER SE 2000 4 dr. V-6 FlexFuel. 40,000 miles. Rear air, PL/PW. \$5400. (248) 259-5209

DODGE CARAVAN LE. 1998 156,000 miles. Good cond. New tires & battery. \$2500. (313) 380-6553

DODGE CARAVAN SE 1995, excellent cond., 118K, \$3,000. (734) 354-6827

DODGE GRAND CARAVAN SE 1997, air, cruise, all power, quad seats. Runs great! \$7000. 734-459-2259

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FORD WINDSTAR SE 2001, leather, \$9,995. Bill Brown Ford (734) 742-0565

FORD FREESTAR SE 2005, certified, ready for vacation. \$13,995. Stk P19644 NORTH BROTHERS FORD (734) 524-1264

FORD WINDSTAR 1998, great transportation, \$3,995. Fox Hills Chrysler-Jeep (734) 455-8740

FORD WINDSTAR 1999, 76K, \$6,495. COLLINS MOTOR SALES WAYNE (734) 721-1616

FORD WINDSTAR 1999, good miles. Dual air, only \$3,995. First time buyer program available. COLLINS MOTOR SALES WAYNE (734) 721-1616

Mini-Vans 8240

GRAND CARAVAN 2001 Sport, quad seats, dual air. Must see! COLLINS MOTOR SALES WAYNE (734) 721-1616

Vans 8260

CHEVY EXPRESS CARGO VAN 2001, bronze mist, low miles, air, stereo, \$10,950. JOHN ROGIN BUICK 734-525-0900

CHEVY EXPRESS CARGO VAN 2005, ladder rack! 14K, make money! \$16,995. Lou LaRiche Chevrolet 888-372-9836

CHRYSLER 2005 TOWN AND COUNTRY TOURING, show-room cond., 7700 miles, \$19,500. 734-953-5504.

DODGE RAM 2000 CONVERSION VAN Vacation ready. \$8995. Stk P19713 NORTH BROTHERS FORD (734) 524-1264

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FORD E150 ECLIPSE 2002 Conversion van, black, \$13,495. Bill Brown Ford (734) 742-0565

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FORD E150 2008 - Club Wagon, SAVE! \$19,995. Bill Brown Ford (734) 522-0030

FORD 1997 Cube Van - 14 ft., low miles, exc. cond., rust-proofed, air, AM/FM, \$9500. 313-613-7152

FORD E-250 1995- Red, 129,000 miles, all maintenance records, cond. fair. \$1,500/best. 248-615-4448.

Ford E-350 2002 15 passenger V-8. Exc. cond., Runs good. Front/rear a/c, high miles, \$4975 248-624-1971.

4 Wheel Drive 8280

CHEVY S-10 ZR2 2000 Extended cab 4x4, own the trails for only \$11,432. Lou LaRiche Chevrolet 888-372-9836

CHEVY SILVERADO 1999 Extended cab Z71, 4x4, black, \$9,995. COLLINS MOTOR SALES WAYNE (734) 721-1616

CHEVY SILVERADO 2006 Extended cab 4x4, snow white, \$19,875. Lou LaRiche Chevrolet 888-372-9836

F-350 1999 - 4x4, low miles, dually, 9 foot Fisher snowplow. \$18,500. 248-345-3014

FORD RANGER 2008 Super cab 4x4, black, low miles, \$10,495.

Bill Brown Ford (734) 742-0565

FORD ESCAPE XLT 2003, escape from it all! \$12,875. Lou LaRiche Chevrolet 888-372-9836

FORD ESCAPE 2003 Limited, black, certified, \$14,995. Bill Brown Ford (734) 522-0030

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4 Wheel Drive 8280

FORD F150 2006 Super Cab 4x4, \$21,495. Bill Brown Ford (734) 742-0565

Sports Utility 8290

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CHEVY BLAZER 1996 Auto. Loaded, low miles. Exc. cond. Clean. CD, air. \$3495/best. 734-452-0111, 734-564-4037

CHEVY BLAZER LS 2001 4x4, looks & runs great. Check out our 1st time buyers program. Only \$8,495. COLLINS MOTOR SALES WAYNE (734) 721-1616

CHEVY BLAZER LT 2000- 4x4,



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Rare 1977 Mercedes Benz 6.9 Sedan AKA "Gentleman's Express" Great driver. Southern car, excellent condition, all orig. sunroof, 98,000 miles. So rare, present owner has never seen another example! \$10,500. 313-685-7882

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CENTURY 1999, full power, 1 owner, low miles, great 2nd car, \$5,950.
JOHN ROGIN BUICK
734-525-0900

CENTURY 2000 - low miles. \$7995. Check out our 1st time buyer program!
COLLINS MOTOR SALES
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CENTURY 2001
4 door, cruise, power windows, 26,000 miles, exc. cond. \$7,899 - 248-568-4273

REGAL 1991, 70K, V-6, full power, clean, 1 owner, \$3,900
JOHN ROGIN BUICK
734-525-0900

Regal LS 2001 limited edition 4 dr., sunroof, cd/cassette, dark grey, great condition \$8600/best 313-274-2519

Cadillac

CTS 2006 - Only 6000 miles. 4 year/50,000 warranty, all leather, all power, climate control, \$27,500. 734-451-5077

DEVILLE 2001
White Diamond,
Vogues, leather,
Sym top, spoiler,
40,000 miles, \$14,995.
734-398-5636

DEVILLE 1999 - Very clean, only 70,000 miles. Fully loaded, leather interior. \$7,600/best. 248-478-4716

DEVILLE 2005, glacier blue, loaded, leather, 1 owner, factory warranty, only \$19,950.
JOHN ROGIN BUICK
734-525-0900

DTS-2004 35,000 mi. fully loaded, very clean, \$26,500. 248-357-8926, btwn 9-4 or leave message

SEVILLE 1990 80,000 miles. No rust, California car. Perfect, like new! \$5000. (248) 737-9357

SEVILLE SL 1997, white diamond, loaded, chrome, low miles, must see! \$7,950
JOHN ROGIN BUICK
734-525-0900

STS 2005, very clean! All the bells & whistles. A must see, must drive, \$28,345. Financing available.
BOSTICK GMC
(248) 734-7600

Chevrolet

BERETTA 1994, auto, air, works great, \$2,595. 6C1387A
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(734) 524-1264

BERETTA 1994, auto, air, looks & runs great, \$2,995. 6C1387A
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(734) 524-1264

CAPRICE CLASSIC LS 1994, 45K, leather, loaded, 1 owner, great family car, \$6,950.
JOHN ROGIN BUICK
734-525-0900

CAVALIER 1996, auto, air, spotless, \$3,995. P19714
NORTH BROTHERS FORD
(734) 524-1264

CAVALIER 1997 - White, low miles, \$3,995. Check out our 1st time buyer program!
COLLINS MOTOR SALES
WAYNE (734) 721-1616

CAVALIER 1998
One owner. Auto. Looks/ runs great. New tires. \$1700/best offer. SOLD

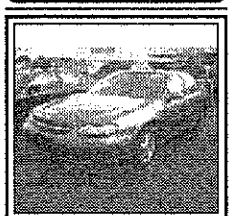
CAVALIER Z34 2000, moonroof, black, spoiler, extra sharp! \$5,995
COLLINS MOTOR SALES
WAYNE (734) 721-1616

COBALT 2005, red & ready, spotless, \$13,495. P19749
NORTH BROTHERS FORD
(734) 524-1264

IMPALA SS 2004, black leather, loaded, low miles, one owner, \$17,950.
JOHN ROGIN BUICK
734-525-0900

Chevrolet

LUMINA Z-34-1993 V-6, 3.4 liter engine, 140,000 miles. \$1,000/best 313-794-0353



MALIBU 2002, leather, moonroof, ice cold air, \$9876
Lou LaRiche Chevrolet
888-372-9836

MALIBU 2006, 2 to choose from, \$13,900. Financing available.
BOSTICK GMC
(248) 340-7600

MONTE CARLO SS 2001, white w/black leather. Let's make a deal!
COLLINS MOTOR SALES
WAYNE (734) 721-1616

MONTE CARLO SS 2001, full power, this one won't last, \$11,995. Stk P19733
NORTH BROTHERS FORD
(734) 524-1264

MONTE CARLO SS 2004, a real eye catcher. Seet ride! \$17,995. Financing available.
BOSTICK GMC
(248) 340-7600

MONTE CARLO SS 2004, black, loaded, \$16,950.
JOHN ROGIN BUICK
734-525-0900

NEONS - BREEZES - HYUNDAIS - KIAs
All Gas Savers! Under \$4k
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PT CRUISER 2003
Dark Red. Forget what your friends say - you will look cool in this! \$8999
TYME (734) 455-5566

Chrysler-Plymouth

CROSSFIRE LIMITED 2005
Like new, 6500 miles, black, 6 speed, loaded. \$21,500.
248-891-7989

HURST 300 1970
Restored
\$20,000 negotiable
248-544-9144

PT CRUISER 2001 Limited, sunroof, leather, chrome, 32K, 1 owner, \$8950.
JOHN ROGIN BUICK
734-525-0900

PT CRUISER 2005, 11,000 actual miles, \$10,995.
Fox Hills
Chrysler-Jeep
(734) 455-8740



SEBRING LTD 1999
Convertible. Rated Exc. 1. 52K, every option, leather, & chrome rims, new tires, no dents/rust, top like new! 6/CD, \$8490 248-661-8141.



SEBRING LX 2002
Convertible, have fun in the sun for only \$10,950.
Lou LaRiche Chevrolet
888-372-9836

SEBRING LX 2004 4 dr., full power, \$8,995.
Fox Hills
Chrysler-Jeep
(734) 455-8740

Dodge

INTREPID 2001 Runs great, good shape. 125,000 miles. Must sell. \$3100/best. (248) 760-6370

NEON 2004 Auto, air, great gas mileage, \$9500.
Stk P19718
NORTH BROTHERS FORD
(734) 524-1264



STRATUS 2002
4 dr., glorious silver, \$7,875.
Lou LaRiche Chevrolet
888-372-9836

Dodge

STRATUS RT 2004 - 4 door, power windows/seats, tilt, sunroof, tinted, CD, 9000 miles, \$13,800. 313-383-6778

Ford

ESCORT 1999 2 dr., red, great transportation, \$3,995.
Fox Hills
Chrysler-Jeep
(734) 455-8740

ESCORT LX 1997
Air, auto, AM/FM/CD, new brakes, exc. cond. \$3200/best. 248-667-1088

FIVE HUNDRED 2005, AWD, 6K, nice, \$19,995.
Bill Brown Ford
(734) 742-0565

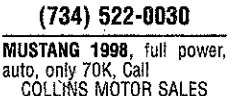
FOCUS SES 2000, power roof, \$5,995.
Bill Brown Ford
(734) 742-0565

FOCUS SE 2003 4 dr., full power, auto, check out our 1st time buyers program.
COLLINS MOTOR SALES
WAYNE (734) 721-1616

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

MUSTANG GT 2003 yellow convertible, only 12K, shaker hood, \$18,995.
Bill Brown Ford
(734) 522-0030

MUSTANG 1998, full power, auto, only 70K, Call
COLLINS MOTOR SALES
WAYNE (734) 721-1616



MUSTANG 2002
Convertible, glacier blue, snow white leather, \$13,875. Rare find!
Lou LaRiche Chevrolet
888-372-9836

Mustang 2003 Mint Cond., 28,000 miles, incl. warranties, bumper/bumper up to 75,000. Paint/fabric/undercoating protection. \$12,000/best 734-595-7947 after 5 p.m.

MUSTANG 5.0 1993
CONVERTIBLE
Perfect cond. Auto. \$7500. (248) 921-2619

MUSTANG CONVERTIBLE 2000 Screaming Yellow V-6. Less than 1000 miles. Extras! \$25,000. (734) 326-3079

MUSTANG GT 1996
Under 50,000 miles one owner. \$5,000 (248) 626-1652

MUSTANG GT 1990
CONVERTIBLE
Stored last 7 years. A Classic. Great little drive! \$5700 firm unless you offer \$4900!
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MUSTANG GT 2003
Convertible, lots of summer left! \$17,995. Stk 6T6201A
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(734) 524-1264

TAURUS 2006, 6 to choose. Miles as low as 2,000! From \$12,995.

Bill Brown Ford
(734) 522-0030

TAURUS 2001, clean, must see, \$8,995.
Bill Brown Ford
(734) 742-0565

TAURUS 2000 Runs perfect, \$5485. Stk P19631
NORTH BROTHERS FORD
(734) 524-1264

TAURUS 2002, cloth, power seat, aluminum wheels, \$7,495. Check out our 1st time buyer program.
COLLINS MOTOR SALES
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TAURUS SES 2002 - Black, moonroof, 76K, \$7995. Check out our 1st time buyer program!
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Bill Brown Ford
(734) 742-0565

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TAURUS SES 2002 - Black, moonroof, 76K, \$7995. Check out our 1st time buyer program!
COLLINS MOTOR SALES
WAYNE (734) 721-1616

TAURUS 2002 Runs perfect, \$5485. Stk P19631
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Bill Brown Ford
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TAURUS 2001, clean, must see, \$8,995.
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TAURUS 2000 Runs perfect, \$5485. Stk P19631
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TAURUS 2002, cloth, power seat, aluminum wheels, \$7,495. Check out our 1st time buyer program.
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TAURUS SES 2002 - Black, moonroof, 76K, \$7995. Check out our 1st time buyer program!
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Bill Brown Ford
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Ford

TAURUS 2003, certified, full power, 4 to choose, \$9,995. NORTH BROTHERS FORD (734) 524-1264

TAURUS 2003, 8 to choose from, starting at \$179 monthly. NORTH BROTHERS FORD (734) 524-1264

TAURUS SES 2003, loaded, only \$7,495.
Fox Hills
Chrysler-Jeep
(734) 455-8740

TAURUS WAGON 1999 One owner. Full power, lower miles, silver, immaculate condition. \$4000. SOLD

THUNDERBIRD 1986 - PS, PB, tinted windows, 90,000 miles, great for student, \$3000/best. 734-421-8556

THUNDERBIRD 2004 24,000 miles. \$25,000. (248) 344-0249 or 248-880-8302

Honda

ACCORD LX 2003
4 Dr., Air, Auto, pl. CD, pw. 88K highway. \$11,800
734-464-1009

ACCORD SE 2002 2 dr., auto, all the goodies, 47K, \$15,995. Stk P19750
NORTH BROTHERS FORD
(734) 524-1264

CIVIC 2003 4 dr., hybrid, low miles, loaded, \$15,950
JOHN ROGIN BUICK
734-525-0900

Kia

RIO 2004
4k miles. (Gas is the only reason you'd be seen driving this one). \$8999
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Jaguar

JAGUAR XJS 2+2, 1995
Convertible, 2 door. Exc. cond. Sapphire Blue, tan leather. Stored winters. 83,000 miles. New tires & brakes. \$12,750/best. 248-310-6688.

JAGUAR XJS-1988 Drives Great. 4 door. \$1500. Auto Connection, 734-765-5757.

Jeep

CHEROKEE 2006 4x4, nicely equipped. Great vehicle for the family \$18,990. Financing available.
BOSTICK GMC
(248) 340-7600

CHEROKEE SPORT 1998, 4x4, 4 dr., 68K, \$5,995. COLLINS MOTOR SALES WAYNE (734) 721-1616

CHEROKEE SPORT 1999 Red, first owner, under 45,000 miles, 4x4, keyless entry, exc. cond. \$7795 248-608-0018

CHEROKEE SPORT 2000, 4x4, loaded, only \$7,995.
Fox Hills
Chrysler-Jeep
(734) 455-8740

CHEROKEE SPORT 2001, 38K, one owner new, \$10,995.
Fox Hills
Chrysler-Jeep
(734) 455-8740

Grand Cherokee LTD 2000
Leather, moon. Even if gas goes up, it will still look great in your driveway! \$6999
TYME (734) 455-5566

LIBERTY SPORT 2005 4x4, 15K, mint condition, \$12,995.
Fox Hills
Chrysler-Jeep
(734) 455-8740

WRANGLER 2003, 6 cylinder, auto, air, hard top, \$14,995.
Fox Hills
Chrysler-Jeep
(734) 455-8740

Lincoln

CONTINENTAL 2002 Navy, low miles, 1 owner, loaded. \$11,950
JOHN ROGIN BUICK
734-525-0900

CONTINENTAL-1997 Well maintained, many options, new tires, \$3200/best. (313) 820-9711 or 734-536-2757

Lincoln

TOWN CAR 1998 Executive Series. Runs like new. New tune-up shocks, battery, tires, more. 123,000 miles. \$6000. (734) 673-4453

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VIBE 2003 Budget priced, \$8595. Stk P19721
NORTH BROTHERS FORD
(734) 524-1264

Salurn

Saturn L300 2002 Loaded, loaded! Exc. condition 112,000 miles black/black, mag wheels \$6,450 734-748-6666.

Volkswagen

JETTA 1996 5 SPEED
Good condition, \$3500 or best offer. call Debbie, 248-921-1101, 248-476-5623

PASSAT 1999 - 76,000 miles, air, sunroof, leather, pw/pl. \$7300. 248-767-4981

PASSAT GLS 2002 White, 5 speed, sunroof, \$15,950
JOHN ROGIN BUICK
734-525-0900

GRAND MARQUIS GS 2003
Only 2200 miles!! Like New! Silver/cloth interior, V8, Fully loaded. \$14,500
734-525-3495

GRAND MARQUIS LS ULTIMATE 2003 1 owner. Heated leather seats. Loaded! Like new. 35,000 miles. (20mpg) \$13,500 (248) 348-4406

MERCURY SABLE 2002, 6 cyl., silver & charcoal int. heated seats & remote start full power 38,000 miles, \$12,900. 248-643-7119

SABLE 2003 - Loaded, leather, moonroof, \$8995. Check out our 1st time buyer program!
COLLINS MOTOR SALES
WAYNE (734) 721-1616

SABLE LS 2001
Loaded. Must sell. \$7995. (248) 649-0028 or 248-376-6288.

SABLE LS 2001
Well maintained & good cond, black, gray interior, air, power, \$5500. 734-658-7961

Mitsubishi

ES 2004, 22,000 actual miles, auto, \$8,995.
Fox Hills
Chrysler-Jeep
(734) 455-8740

Aurora 2001 LOADED. Exc. cond., bronze mist/beige, 40,000 miles, \$9300. SOLD

INTRIGUE GLS 1998, leather, moon, black, loaded, low miles, \$8,950, now \$6,950.
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734-525-0900

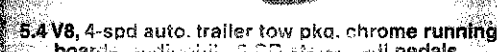
Grand Am 1996, auto, air, looks great - runs great. Financing available.
COLLINS MOTOR SALES
WAYNE (734) 721-1616

Grand Am 2000, dark blue, extra clean,

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Stk #M12221.....	\$17,900

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Thursday, August 10, 2006

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

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Gardening
raised
to a whole
new level



American House resident Stella Halaris picks a few tomatoes and green peppers from the residents' garden.

Plant passion

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK
STAFF WRITER

Anna Mickel always had a large garden. At one time, she grew cucumbers, green beans and tomatoes.

Today she lives in American House Senior Living Residence in West Bloomfield, getting around with the help of a walker.

For Mickel and many other residents there, time passes and the body may age, but the human spirit does not.



American House resident Frank Ruszala picks a ripe tomato from the garden.

Debby Stanley, manager of American House, realized that Mickel and many of the residents shared that same passion for gardening, but faced aging and the physical limitations it brings.

"A lot of people like to garden, but they can't get down on their knees to garden," Stanley said.

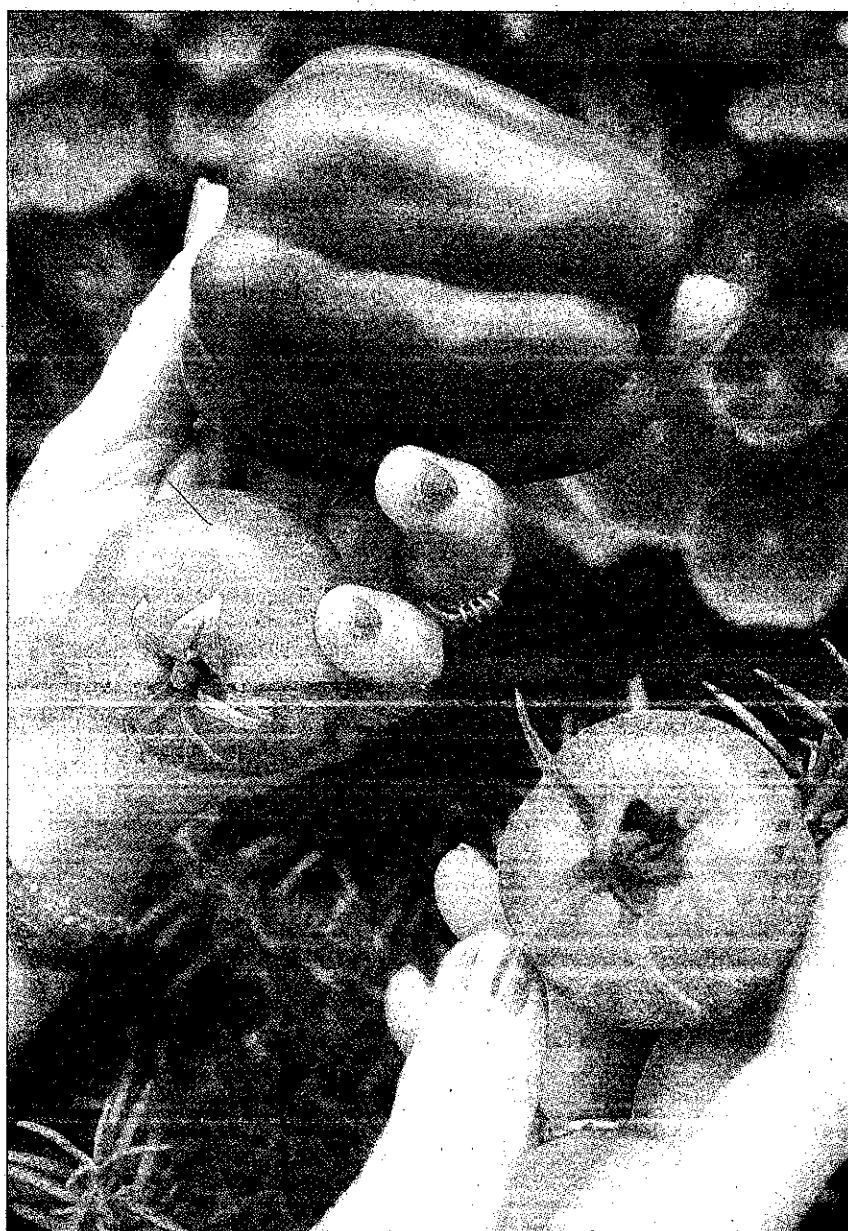
So Stanley and American House activities director Vicki Thuer did the next best thing - they literally brought the garden to them.

Today residents enjoy two raised garden beds in the facility's courtyard, built at about the seniors' waist level and about 5-by-10 feet in area, so they can grow their own herbs, vegetables and flowers.

The beds were built with railroad ties and installed this spring by American House's landscaping contractor, United Lawnscape of Novi.

The portable raised beds allow the seniors to reach the beds while standing, or using wheelchairs or walkers.

The beds also allow the seniors a chance to extend something they had at their previous homes - a passion for gardening and all the weeding, watering and nurturing of plants to sprout rich red



PHOTOS BY TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Residents at the American House Senior Living Residence in West Bloomfield cultivate their own herbs, flowers and vegetables in their raised garden beds.

PLEASE SEE **PASSION, D3**

OFF THE AIR WITH DICK PURTAN
& PURTAN'S PEOPLE

Thanks for saying 'You're welcome'

"You're welcome." A simple phrase of interpersonal politeness. It is indelibly linked to its partner: "Thank you."

When I was growing up, this simple social stimulus-response was drilled into me by my mother. Polite little boys learned the rules early or suffered the consequences.

However, have you noticed lately how this basic rule of human interaction has gone the way of \$2-a-gallon gasoline?

Try it for yourself. The next time someone opens the door for you or gives you the correct change, say "Thank you." Then, hear the different kinds of responses you'll get:

NOT A PROBLEM - Is saying "You're welcome" problematic? How can I solve this for you?

DON'T MENTION IT - OK, next time I won't. But then you'll think I'm rude.

MY PLEASURE - This one's close, though I doubt that you derived much pleasure from your actions. But the thought was there.

THAT'S OK - I'm OK, you're OK. What do you say we all get together for a group hug, dude?

SURE - Sure. Sure? What does "sure" mean? Are you acknowledging the fact that you performed a minimal act of human kindness without actually acknowledging the human you performed it for?

This one bugs me when it comes from retail clerks. They should be thanking me for my patronage.

UMMMM HMMM - This one takes the cake. It clearly states that you regret whatever action you just took on my behalf. I almost feel like I need to apologize for saying "Thank you."

I'm not sure what has caused this decline in politeness.

Is it because our interpersonal communications are usually conducted by way of instant messaging, voice mails, e-mails, cell phones and Post-it® Notes - all of which require zero human contact?

Or, is it because people are too lazy to just say "You're welcome"?

Either way, I'm making it my personal crusade to return "You're welcome" to its proper place in the social response pecking order.

It is my attempt to make the world a safer, saner, more polite place in which we live.

It's the least I could do. Don't mention it.

You can thank Dick Purtan personally by listening to him from 5 to 10 every morning on the Motor City's 104.3 WOMC.

Don't ignore low-tech solutions to high-tech problems



Tech
Savvy

Rick
Broida

You know me: I'm all about the high-tech.

Lately, however, I've realized that sometimes low-tech solutions work better.

Take calendars. I use my PDA to track all my appointments and events, but when I need to see my month at a glance, I pull out the old-standby paper calendar. That tiny screen just can't take the place of a full-size page.

Then there are audiobooks. For a while I was downloading them from Audible.com (a service I still love), copy-

ing them to my iPod, and listening to them in the car.

But it's a hassle. I have to make sure my iPod has sufficient battery power. I have to use a special gizmo (also battery-powered) to transmit the audio to my car stereo. And very often I hear static because high-powered FM stations interfere with the signal.

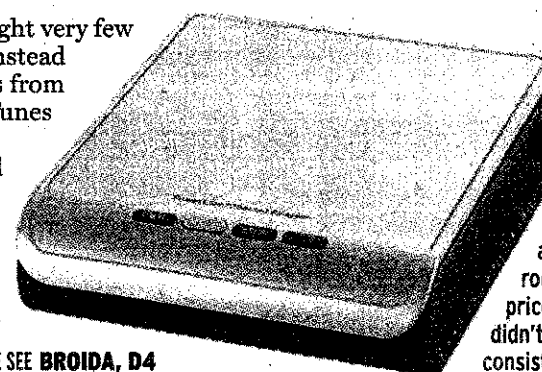
Now I just check out CD audiobooks from the library. They're much easier to work with, and you can't beat the price.

RETHINKING MUSIC DOWNLOADS

Speaking of CDs, I've bought very few over the last several years, instead opting for digital downloads from online music services like iTunes and Napster.

My reasoning: Why spend upwards of \$16 on a CD when I can get just the songs I want for 99 cents apiece?

Well, here's why: DRM



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GARDEN CALENDAR

Shade gardening

English Gardens hosts free seminars 7 p.m. Wednesdays in August at all six stores, including locations in West Bloomfield, (248) 851-7506; Royal Oak-Troy, (248) 280-9500; Dearborn Heights, (313) 278-4433; and Ann Arbor, (734) 332-7900. Visit www.englishgardens.com. Shade Gardening will be the topic Aug. 16. Basic information on planning, planting and maintaining flowers and plants in the shade will be covered. Special emphasis will be given on perennials that thrive in low-light conditions. Pests and Other Plant Problems will be the topic Aug. 23.

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 Japanese Beetle Control for Roses (1 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 13, repeated 11 a.m. Monday, Aug. 14), and Cooking with Roses (1 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 20, repeated 11 a.m. Monday, Aug. 21). The Japanese beetle program is a lecture and hands-on demonstration by Roger Lindley. In the cooking program, learn how to grow edible roses and prepare tempting rose recipes, and sample rose treats.

Hidden Lake trip

The Michigan Cactus and Succulent Society will have a field trip to Hidden Lake Gardens in Tipton, Mich., Sunday, Aug. 13. Members will meet at the gardens at noon. Guests are welcome. Call (248) 524-0227 for information.

Bromeliad show

The Southeastern Michigan Bromeliad Society will host its annual show and sale 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Aug. 19-20, at Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 Dixboro Road in Ann Arbor. Admission is free. For more information, call (248) 380-7359. More than 200 plants will be on display from this fascinating and diverse plant family, which includes the pineapple and Spanish moss. Demonstrations, books, supplies, and plants for sale will be featured.

Bulbs

Learn about major and minor hardy bulbs, how to plant them and what to expect over the years once you've put them in the ground, in a class at The Community House, 380 S. Bates in Birmingham. The class, Tips on Choosing and Using Bulbs, will take place Wednesday, Aug. 23. Fee is \$22. To register and for more information, call (248) 644-5832 or visit www.communityhouse.com. Instructor Pam Palechek owns and operates Petal Pushers and has been a senior instructor at the Michigan School of Gardening since its inception.

Bonsai show

The Ann Arbor Bonsai Society will have its annual show 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Aug. 26-27, at the University of Michigan Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Road in Ann Arbor. Admission is \$6 for adults (which includes the Matthaei conservatory), \$2 for children and teens. Visit <http://www.annarborbonsaisociety.org>. More than 100 member trees will be on display. Members will be available on the show floor to answer questions. Demonstrations of bonsai design will be offered each day. Vendors of plants, pots and bonsai tools will be available.

Native wildflowers

A free workshop, Native Wildflowers for the Home Landscape: Planting and Maintaining an Earth-friendly Fall Garden, will take place 7-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 29, in the second floor Multi-purpose Room of the Bailey Recreation Center, 36651 Ford, behind Westland City Hall. Sign-in will be at 6:30 p.m. Advance registration is requested. Call the Westland Community Relations Department at (734) 467-3198 or e-mail LDean@aol.com. Native plant specialist Vern Stephens of Designs by Nature of Laingsburg, Mich., will be the guest speaker. The program will review the origin of native wildflowers, identify easy-care plants for the fall garden, and provide maintenance tips. Native wildflowers will be available for sale before and after the slide presentation.

Conference

Registrations are being accepted through Thursday, Aug. 31, for the Unusual Gardening Conference, which will take place 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 17, at the Ford Education Center at the Detroit Zoo. The conference is presented by the

Michigan School of Gardening, in cooperation with the Practical Gardening Institute. Space is limited, so sign up soon. Registration is \$95 (\$75 for Practical Gardening Institute members), including parking, admittance to the zoo, lunch, all five presentations, question-and-answer sessions, and book signing with Janet Macunovich. Bring your books to the signing, or buy copies at the conference. To register, go to www.practicalgardeninginstitute.com and visit the Gardeners' Market. The conference will feature in-depth seminars, and time to interact and talk with presenters and fellow gardeners.

Topics will be Gardens of the World (Pam Palechek), Vines and Vertical Features (Sue Grubba), Water Gardens (Scott Bates), Rock Gardens (University of Michigan Herbarium curator Tony Reznicek) and 8 Months of Color (Janet Macunovich and Steven Nikkila).

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.

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.

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.

A designer can help with new office space

Jean of Canton writes: "I am a small business owner and have been working out of my home for several years. I am preparing to lease office space and am overwhelmed by the



Design Solutions

Terri Guastella

thoughts on this?"

Congratulations on your step from home-based to office-based business. This is quite an accomplishment.

The image you project from your office needs to reflect the type of business you have and your professionalism. It needs to meet building and fire codes, and be a functional and efficient space.

As an interior designer, I would naturally recommend that you use a designer for these selections. The exception would be if you have a background in design or architecture yourself. Don't be penny wise and pound foolish.

Depending on the size of your office space and the amount of build-out required, you may need to first hire an architect to develop the plans and then you will need city building approval for the design.

Then you may need a builder to implement the design by constructing walls, plumbing, electrical work, etc.

Most cities and townships require inspections along the way to verify that specific codes are met for safety.

After construction is complete, you will still need to meet fire codes with the wallpaper and fabric selections. There is much more to this process than most people realize.

You don't mention the type of business you have, but since you are requiring office space, I can assume that you may have clients or customers coming to see you there.

Work with a designer, if you can, to establish a color palette and an overall design scheme that represents the type of work you do.

Very often, a designer can work with you to establish an outline of ideas. Many of my clients take this outline and implement the ideas on their own. Others prefer to have me make specific selections as the build-out of the office space progresses. A designer can be there every step of the way, if you choose.

BE REALISTIC

It is important that you set a budget for the entire design process.

Include furnishings, accessories, carpet, artwork, design fees, paint, lighting, plants, etc. Don't leave anything out. A good designer will respect your budget and work within the parameters you have set.

I would caution you to be realistic. Don't select items that cost \$10,000 and expect a

designer to work within your \$2,000 budget. Be honest with your designer and expect the same in return.

It can be very difficult to get clients nailed down to a budget, but this is critical.

Seek out a designer who has a degree in interior design and has references that you can check out.

A designer is suited to helping you select things that not only look good but will have lasting beauty for the intended use. The designer can also inform you of the required maintenance on each selection.

It is important that your office decor reflect the type of business you have and your personality, as well. This doesn't mean that your country style chickens from home will have a place in your new office.

Always remember to be professional and be aware that you want your clients (male, female, young, old, etc.) to feel comfortable in your office, too.

I'm certain you have thought long and hard about taking this step in your business. Don't rush to complete it. An extra month or two now can save you many headaches and expense in the future.

Take your time in making these decisions. You will be spending many hours a week in your new office and you want to feel comfortable there. Good luck!

Terri Guastella, an interior designer and a Canton resident, specializes in space planning, design and color consultation. Do you have a question about interior design or decorating your home? Contact Terri Guastella at www.exclusiveinteriordesign.com.

HOME CALENDAR

Tile fair

Pewabic Pottery will host its annual tile fair 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 13, at Pewabic Pottery, 10125 E. Jefferson at Cadillac Boulevard in Detroit. Admission is \$3. This is the first time the event is taking place on the Pewabic Pottery grounds. Artists will display and sell a large selection of historic and finely handcrafted contemporary ceramic tiles. Tables, trivets and other tile items will also be available for purchase. The fair will also feature tile making and tile installation demonstrations, free art tile appraisal services, door prize giveaways throughout the day, tours of Pewabic Pottery, and a silent auction to benefit the Pewabic Museum and Education Departments. For more information, visit www.pewabic.com or call (313) 822-0954.

Dog training

The Wolverine Dog Training Club is celebrating "50 great years of training dogs and people." It has classes for every level in obedience and agility, and incorporates Rally in some of its obedience classes. The club's next class session will begin Thursday, Aug. 24. Visit its Web site, www.wolverinedtc.com, for information.

Auction

DuMouchelles will conduct an auction Friday-Sunday, Aug. 11-13, at 409 E. Jefferson in Detroit. Auction times are 6:30 p.m.

Friday, 11 a.m. Saturday and noon Sunday.

An exhibition will take place 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Thursday. Call (313) 963-6255 or visit www.dumouchelles.com. Featured items include a 1971 Rolls Royce Silver Shadow, an extensive collection of Pepsi memorabilia, musical instruments, furniture, porcelain, fine art, and early 20th century German tin windup toys.

Beginner pillow

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 Beginner Pillow, Mondays, Aug. 14-28 (cost is \$60). Many of the techniques taught in this beginning class will apply to future home decorating classes.

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.

Floor tiles have dull finishes for safety's sake

BY MORRIS AND JAMES CAREY
FOR AP WEEKLY FEATURES

From Anne of Winchester, Va.: "I live in a new home that has ceramic tile on the floors of both the bathrooms and the kitchen. The tile is a pretty pat-

tern, but very dull.

"I want this to be shiny, but several employees at a local home improvement store told me I can't do this. Is that true?"

While tiles used on walls and counters can be shiny, tiles used on floors should absolute-

ly not be shiny.

It's all about safety: Shiny means slippery, and you don't want to have anyone slip and fall.

Floor tiles are made with dull finishes to reduce the chances of slip and fall.

"Someday, I'll be a star. With my own dressing room. I'll have fans and flowers and be the greatest ballerina the world's ever seen! I can't wait!"

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PASSION

FROM PAGE D1

tomatoes and dark green peppers and cucumbers.

Mickel often brings her wheelchair to the residence's garden, but she's not riding it. She pushes it, as it carries a watering can.

"It makes them feel so important and it gives them something to do on weekends," Stanley said. (The gardeners meet on Saturdays.)

They also eat what they grow.

RIGHT OFF THE VINE

The gardeners grow lemon basil, chive and rosemary, all used by American House executive chef Andrew Kovacs.

Kovacs, formerly of the Birmingham Country Club, visits the garden daily to pick vegetables, herbs or flowers, such as pansies, for garnish.

Kovacs uses lemon basil in sauces, such as a béchamel (a type of cream sauce), on chicken or seafood. He'll use rosemary on pork, chicken or potatoes. Tomatoes and peppers will be used on salads.

"There's no substitution for right off the vine," Kovacs said about using the freshly picked vegetables. "It's the best produce, better than from any company you will find. Right off the vine is the best."

ENHANCES LIFE

Stanley said gardening is "exciting for them."

"They pull the weeds and water the garden, they cultivate the dirt, and put the (tomato) plants up," she said. "We come out and check on them, but they do all of the work. They're out here on their own."

"It's good for me and my mental health. It's fun to watch things grow," Mickel said.

She grows two plots, including nasturtiums, peppers, cherry tomatoes and pansies.

Mickel lifted her walker and moved about the perimeter of the boxes.

"Look at all the cherry tomatoes. Aren't they beautiful?" Mickel asked. "We really didn't

'Fresh peppers, tomatoes and cucumbers are wonderful. I've waited all winter for this.'

Stella Halaris
resident

do anything to them. We just watered them and watched them grow. It's something rewarding in watching these things grow.

"You miss it," Mickel said of gardening. "It was such a good idea."

Thuer said she has noticed that seniors have gone outside "a lot more."

"Some of them just come outside to look," Thuer said. "It gets them outside of themselves and enhances their life. It's a continuation of what they've done before in life."

While many retirement facilities have garden beds, this one is not only raised, it is also portable.

Stella Halaris, a resident, clutched a green pepper and tomato, freshly picked just moments earlier.

"It brings back a little bit of home," Halaris said. "It's just fun watching them grow."

"Fresh peppers, tomatoes and cucumbers are wonderful. I've waited all winter for this."

Frank Ruzsala planted cherry tomatoes and appreciated Thuer's work in helping the residents with their gardening.

"Vicki did a lot more work than everybody," he said.

"Before I came here, I had a home in Detroit," Ruzsala said. "My wife loved fresh tomatoes, so we had four to six plants. I'd give some to my neighbors. I had wonderful tomatoes."

"I would get letters from neighbors who had moved away and they said the thing they missed the most was the tomatoes," he said with a smile.

"You can pick those tomatoes off the vine, and two days later, they're wonderful."

kabramczyk@hometownlife.com
(734) 953-2107

It can be simple to prevent costly repairs from heat wave problems

Not only the living things on Earth are affected by abnormally hot weather; the appliances in your home can also be affected.

If the compressor on your refrigerator gets fried, you can expect to spend \$600 or more for repairs. Motor replacements for your dishwasher or clothes washer will cost you an easy \$200.



Appliance Doctor
Joe Gagnon

Joe Gagnon

Some simple remedies might have prevented all of these expensive repairs — maybe just as

simple as tripping the main circuit breaker in the house.

Let me explain some of the unknowns about electricity supplied to your home.

You heard the national media asking homeowners to dial up the temperature on the air conditioning thermostat. Please use the dishwasher and clothes washer in the morning hours, and shut off the unnecessary lights in the house.

There were many other requests and suggestions for reducing energy consumption, and the big reason was obvious. It was feared that we wouldn't have enough electricity to supply the country.

More worrisome was the thought of another nationwide blackout such as what occurred a few years ago.

Not mentioned by anyone I heard about: CLEAN THE CONDENSER UNDER THE REFRIGERATOR!

I do firmly believe that if everyone who has a dirty condenser would clean it, we wouldn't be screaming ENERGY CRUNCH.

I mean, there are many millions of dirty condensers in this country. No one cares about the subject unless they are educated on the subject and its importance.

Compressors burn out by the millions, and the refrigerator appliance guy is three weeks

late getting to your house because he is so busy.

We go through this just about every summer and the national media aren't smart enough to give out a real energy reducer. Here's an explanation of my irritation.

The normal wattage draw on a newer refrigerator is 150 to 200 watts. That's with a clean condenser that the homeowner takes care of every four months.

A dirty condenser can increase that wattage draw by as much as 200 extra watts during the operating run time of a refrigerator.

Now equate these facts to the many millions of dirty condensers and you can understand the great savings in energy consumption that would occur.

Let's add to this the air conditioning outside condenser, which is also plugged up by the millions.

That clean condenser would save even more than the refrigerator condenser.

I looked at one the other day that was spotless but had a huge problem: All of the plants and bushes that had grown up since the spring were laying on, almost glued to, the con-

denser. No wonder the homeowner has to spend \$1,400 to have the compressor replaced.

I'm not kidding, folks; I think we wouldn't have a crisis situation in this country if we could educate every consumer to follow the above criteria of appliance maintenance.

BROWNOUTS

The light bulbs dim, the television picture gets smaller, and other things happen to tell you something is wrong.

This brownout condition can and will cost you some expensive repairs to your electronics and major appliances.

If it happens to you, I suggest you shut off the main circuit breaker immediately and wait for things to return to normal. Meanwhile, 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 mkleimic@hometownlife.com and it will be forwarded to Joe Gagnon.

Panel to discuss architecture and design influences

Michigan Design Center (MDC) invites design and architecture enthusiasts to a panel discussion, Influences in Contemporary Architecture and Design in Detroit, 4-5:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 24, at MDC in Troy.

There is no cost to attend this event, but space is limited. Advance reservations are highly recommended. Reservations may be made by calling (248) 649-4772.

MDC is at 1700 Stutz Drive, north off Maple, between Crooks and Coolidge. The discussion will be moderated by

Dwell magazine editor-in-chief Allison Arief. It will be followed by a reception in the Mid-America Room, Suite 86, at MDC.

During this informative discussion about the many influences affecting contemporary architecture and design in Detroit, attendees will hear the views of some of this area's most respected architectural and design minds, including John Gallagher, architecture critic for the *Detroit Free Press*; Victor Saroki and Michael Poris, noted local architects;

William Massie, architecture department head at Cranbrook Academy of Art; and Clay Dean, automotive designer for General Motors.

MDC is a regional trade center serving the interior furnishings industry, and attracts a wide audience of architect and interior design professionals.

Consumers interested in products from MDC showrooms may call Designer on Call toll-free at (888) DIAL-MDC between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday-Friday.

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BROIDA

FROM PAGE D1

(a.k.a. copy protection) is a nightmare. Songs I buy from iTunes can't be played on any portable device except an iPod. And the iPod can't play songs bought from Napster (or any other non-iTunes service).

Meanwhile, songs downloaded from subscription services "time out" after a certain period unless I update their licenses, which is an undocumented and mysterious process at best.

Bleh. When I buy a CD, I can listen to it just about anywhere, and I can rip the songs to any format (and audio quality) I want. And I don't have to worry about my music being permanently lost if my hard drive dies.

Yes, lost. Some music services, iTunes among them, don't warranty your purchases. In other words, if your song files get damaged or deleted, you're not allowed to re-download them. Whoa!

Plus, CDs often come with liner notes and song lyrics, items you definitely don't get with digital downloads.

All this has rekindled my interest in those decidedly "low-tech" discs.

WI-FI WOES

In my dad's house, we're giving up on Wi-Fi.

Although the cable modem in the den is connected to a perfectly good Wi-Fi router (the same one I use, in fact), the signal simply won't travel beyond that room.

That's a bummer for Dad, whose notebook resides one floor up.

For a while we had luck with NetGear's Wall-Plugged Wireless Range Extender Kit (netgear.com), which plugs into the router at one end and an electrical outlet in his upstairs office.

Great product, except that it up and died after about six months.

Next we tried the Zyxel

HomePlug PL-100, which, like the NetGear kit, uses a home's electrical wiring to pass high-speed Internet access between rooms.

However, the HomePlug doesn't broadcast a Wi-Fi signal; rather, it provides a traditional wired Ethernet connection. The receiver plugs into the wall, and your computer plugs into the receiver.

You get all the speed of your broadband Internet connection without the hassles (and potential security problems) of Wi-Fi. And you don't have to install any new wiring. Anywhere there's an electrical outlet, there can be network access.

Setup was relatively easy, at least according to my dad, who was able to get everything working without my help (Good job, Dad!).

Just two problems. First, each PL-100 costs \$109.99, and you need at least two. That's pretty steep. Second, Dad reports that his notebook sporadically loses its Internet connection.

It's a weird problem, one we've been unable to successfully troubleshoot.

Needless to say, we've had it with these high-tech solutions.

So we're going low-tech: plain old Ethernet cable. Sure, it's a pain to run it through the walls from one end of the house to the other (and up a floor), but once it's done, it's done. And it provides full-speed, interference-free connectivity.

We needed a 100-foot length of cable to bridge the distance. It cost us exactly \$12.58, shipping included. That's the beauty of low-tech: Usually it's low-cost, too.

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.

Kitchen design contest is announced

The winners will be determined by a panel of experts, including special guest judge Candice Olson from HGTV's *Divine Design*, and will be announced at the 2007 Kitchen & Bath Industry Show (K/BIS) in Las Vegas in May.

and convenience.

"Thermador has a legacy of introducing revolutionary appliances, such as the first built-in wall oven, that have changed the way we look at kitchen design, functionality and performance," said Franz Bosshard, president and CEO.

"The breakthrough Freedom Collection continues this tradition as it offers consumers the ability to mix and match their refrigeration to suit whatever needs they have in their home."

The built-in Freedom Collection features the industry's first fully integrated and Truly Flush Mounted™ refrigeration columns that can be

Luxury appliance manufacturer Thermador®, which has been empowering cooking enthusiasts for more than 70 years, is calling on members of the designer community to "liberate" their kitchen designs for a chance to win cash and prizes totaling \$150,000 in the Freedom Collection Design Contest.

Now through April 2007, designers can submit their outstanding high-end projects that use Thermador's new Freedom Collection modular refrigeration and receive recognition for their work in a national advertising and publicity campaign.

The winners will be determined by a panel of experts, including special guest judge Candice Olson from HGTV's *Divine Design*, and will be announced at the 2007 Kitchen & Bath Industry Show (K/BIS) in Las Vegas in May.

For more information about rules and submissions for the Design Contest, visit www.thermador.com.

Thermador's Freedom Collection debuted on the Fourth of July.

It features a system of refrigerators, freezers and wine columns in different width sizes that offer new flexibility

placed anywhere in the kitchen.

The collection includes 24- and 30-inch fresh food columns; 18-, 24- and 30-inch freezer and 18- and 24-inch dispenser freezer columns; as well as the industry's first integrated and flush-mounted three-door 36-inch bottom-freezer (a two-door version is also available).

Special 18- and 24-inch wine preservation columns, with see-through glass doors and an interior that can hold both red and white wine in two separate temperature zones, will debut in December 2006.

In addition to its design aesthetic, each ENERGY STAR® rated column has its own compressor and evaporator to eliminate odor transfer and air exchange between the refrigerator and freezer.

The exclusive FreeFlow™ Air System (refrigerator column) regulates the interior temperature within a variance of 1.5 degrees, resulting in consistent air regulation and distribution to help keep "market fresh" foods longer.

Cool air also continually travels the length of the column door, ensuring that these items are just as cold as those on the interior shelves.

Other interior features include the motorized Liberty Shelf™, which conveniently moves a fully loaded top shelf of up to 22 pounds with the touch of a button.

And the heavy-duty Freedom Hinge™ allows all the columns to be flush mounted to cabinetry – without sacrificing accessibility to the interior and the full extension drawers. The hinge opens the column doors up to 115 degrees and can accommodate custom panels up to 220 pounds in total door weight.

Available in both stainless steel and fully integrated, the Freedom Collection is among the quietest refrigeration units in the built-in category.

Models will be available with a suggested retail price of \$2,899 to \$6,999; wine columns have a suggested retail price of \$3,699 to \$5,999.

Thermador is part of BSH Home Appliances Corporation, a fully owned subsidiary of Bosch and Siemens Hausgeraete GmbH, the third largest appliance manufacturer in the world.

For more information, visit www.thermador.com or call (800) 656-9226 to request a catalog.

Help your lawn beat the summer's heat

Soaring hot temperatures across the country are making caring for your lawn and garden a tougher task.

How do you protect your lawn through high temperatures and drought conditions?

The experts at Yardcare.com offer the following tips to help keep it looking good through the dog days of summer.

Yardcare.com is a combined effort of The Toro® Company and select experts in the fields of lawn care, gardening and landscape design.

For expert advice on caring for your lawn and other yard and garden topics, visit www.yardcare.com.

■ Water

"Keep your lawn well watered during periods of hot dry weather," said Dr. Van Cline, agronomist for The Toro Company.

"The key is to prevent the grass from wilting. Water deeply and infrequently instead of brief daily waterings."

■ Don't fertilize

Resist the urge to feed your lawn in midsummer.

"Fertilizing encourages plants to grow," said Cline. "This saps energy reserves needed to resist high-temperature stress."

"Fertilizers should be applied during periods of active growth in spring and fall."

■ Don't scalp your lawn

Leaving the lawn a little longer during hot, dry weather helps shade and protect the root system. It can also reduce moisture loss.

Increase the height of cut on your mower to at least 2.5 inches.

■ Be proactive

Cline advocates planning ahead.

"Anticipate midsummer stress by practicing sound turf management year-round."

"A healthy vigorous lawn with a deep root system going into hot dry weather will withstand stress like we're experiencing this year much better than a lawn on the edge."

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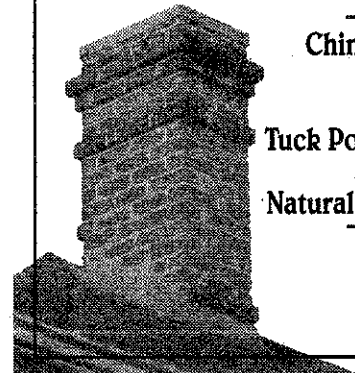
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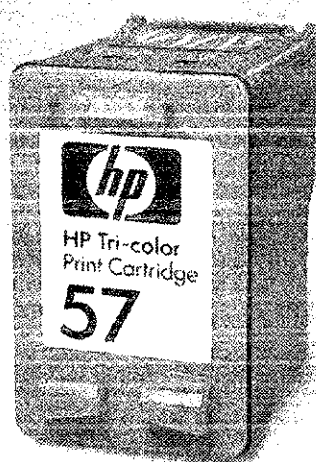
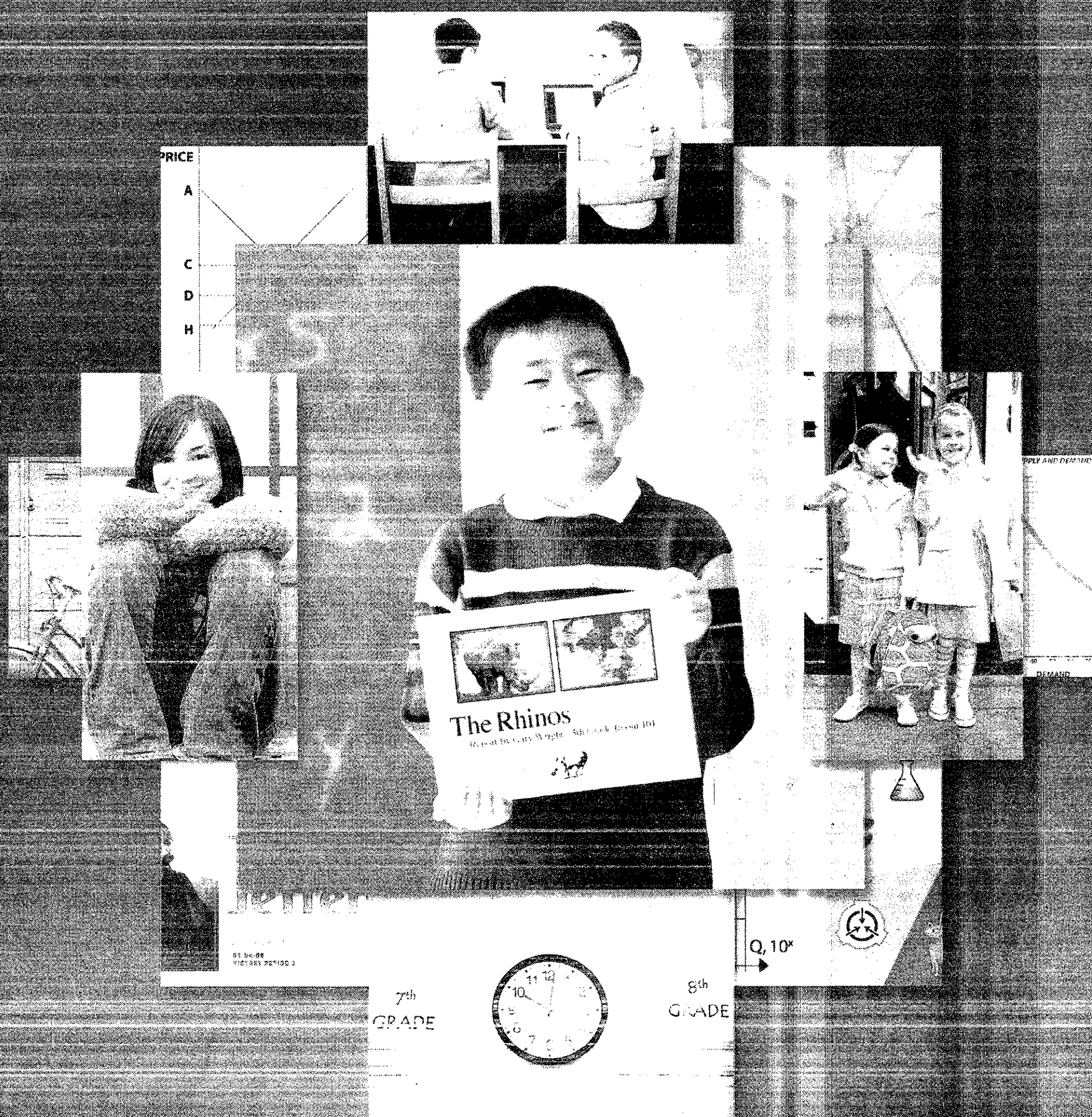
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invent

Michigan wines score big with judges

The U.S. wine industry is growing by leaps and bounds, and Michigan's right in the fray. Recently, the Federal Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau, that goes by the acronym TTB, released statistics on the growing U.S. wine industry, now in all 50 states at 4,280 wineries strong. That's 460 more than a year ago!

With more than 1,500 acres devoted to wine grapes, Michigan ranks eighth in wine grape production. Since 1997, vineyard acreage has increased 24 percent.

Michigan's commercial wineries produce more than 300,000 cases of wine annually, making the state 13th in wine production. The vast majority of production is from Michigan-grown grapes.

Annually, Michigan wine production and associated wine tourism contribute \$100 million to the state's economy.

OUT-OF-STATE PRAISE

Michigan's 46 wineries constitute a mere 1 percent of the total number of domestic wineries, but this year's winning wines at the 29th annual Michigan Wine & Spirits Competition impressed 20 judges, including us and Napa Valley and Amador County winemaker Scott Harvey, owner/winemaker of Scott Harvey Wines.

"Michigan's dry Rieslings, Pinot Blanc, Gewurztraminer, Pinot Noir and Cabernet Franc wines are impressive," Harvey said of the 340 wines entered in the competition.

Also in the chorus of praise were Michigan's three Master Sommeliers who served as competition judges: Madeline Triffon of the Matt Prentice Restaurant Group, wine consultant Claudia Tyagi, and Ron Edwards, who owns Five Star Sommelier Service and is education director for Grapevine School of Wine (www.grapevineschoolofwine.com)

SPECIAL AWARDS

In addition to awarding standard gold, silver and bronze medals, the Michigan Wine & Spirits Competition has a number of select categories including Best of Class and a Judges' Special



Focus
on Wines

Ray and Eleanor
Heald

Award, a merit recognition for a wine that judges believe was so close to achieving Best of Class that they want consumers to recognize it as special.

Judges awarded Best of Class Sparkling Wine to Chateau Grand Traverse 2002 Blanc de Blancs Extra Brut (\$20). Best of Class Dry White Wine went to Peninsula Cellars 2005 Gewurztraminer Manigold Vineyard (\$20). Best of Class Dry Red Wine is Brys Estate Vineyard & Winery 2005 Pinot Noir (\$24). Shady Lane Cellars 2005 Semi-Dry Riesling (\$14) won Best of Class Semi-Dry White Wine. Best of Class Dessert Wine was awarded to Karma Vista Vineyards NV Razz M'Tazz (\$16).

Open only six weeks, Longview winery is totally giddy about winning both Best of Class Fruit Wine for its 2005 Cherry Wine (\$13) and the Judges' Special Award for its 2005 Cabernet Franc (\$22).

DOUBLE GOLD

Double Gold designation is given to wines that are awarded gold by every judge on the panel of four judging it. In a way, they are a "cut above" gold medal winners.

Winners of Double Gold status for specific wines are: Black Star Farms NV Sirius Pear Dessert Wine (\$17.50); Cherry Creek Cellars 2003 Cabernet Franc (\$16); Domaine Berrien Cellars 2005 Traminette Sweet (\$11.50); Fenn Valley Vineyards 2005 Riesling (\$12); L. Mawby NV Conservancy sparkling wine (\$22); Peninsula Cellars 2005 Pinot Blanc Island View Vineyard (\$18) and Shady Lane Cellars 2005 Sparkling Riesling (\$19).

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

In addition to special recognition given to specific Michigan wines at the 29th annual Michigan Wine & Spirits Competition held Aug. 1, the following are the Gold Medal winners:

Bel Lago 2005 Pinot Grigio & Chardonnay
Black Star Farms 2005 Arcturos Dry Riesling
Black Star Farms 2005 Arcturos Pinot Gris
Black Star Farms NV Spirit of the Vineyard White Grappa
Brys Estate Vineyard & Winery 2005 Signature White
Chateau Chantal 2004 Proprietor's Reserve Riesling
Chateau Grand Traverse 2005 "Dry" Riesling
Chateau Grand Traverse 2004 "Select Harvest Dry" Riesling
Chateau Grand Traverse 2005 "Ship of Fools" White Table Wine
Chateau Grand Traverse 2005 "Whole Cluster" Riesling
Cherry Creek Cellars NV Apple
Cherry Creek Cellars 2004 Enigma
Cherry Creek Cellars NV Michigan Cherry Wine
Domaine Berrien Cellars 2005 Marsanne
Domaine Berrien Cellars 2005 St. Vincent
Domaine Berrien Cellars 2005 Vignoles
Fenn Valley Vineyards 2005 Cabernet Franc
Gill's Pier 2005 Houdek Dunes Whitewater
Leelanau Wine Cellars, Ltd 2005 Meritage
Leelanau Wine Cellars, Ltd 2005 Vignoles Select Harvest
Leelanau Wine Cellars, Ltd 2005 Winter Harvest Riesling Ice Wine
Mackinaw Trail Winery 2005 Cabernet Franc
Peninsula Cellars 2005 Lemberger
Peninsula Cellars 2005 Semidry Riesling
St. Julian 2004 Riesling
St. Julian NV Niagara Wine
St. Julian NV Solera Cream Sherry
Tabor Hill Winery 2005 Cabernet Franc Rose
Tabor Hill Winery 2004 Chardonnay

If a retailer does not stock a specific wine recommended, order it direct from the winery.

FOOD CALENDAR

If you have an item for the Taste calendar, please submit it 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.

Grapevine School of Wine

Register online at www.grapevineschoolofwine.com. For additional information, call (248) 990-4613.

Vintage Wine Tasting

Viewpoint Estate Winery, 151 County Road 50 East, Harrow, Ontario, hosts Southwestern Ontario Vintners Association 2006 Vintners Wine Tasting, 1-4 p.m. Aug. 12, tickets \$50, available at SVOVA wineries, visit www.vintagetesting.com

Cooking classes

The Community House offers the following culinary classes to the public this summer: **Time to Cook**, learn how to manage your time in kitchen, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, Aug. 10, \$25; **Olive Oil and Balsamic Vinegar, Italian Style**, 7 p.m., Tuesday, Aug. 22, \$29, \$6 materials fee payable to instructor.

To register for any of these classes, contact The Community House, 380 S. Bates, Birmingham, call (248) 644-5832, or visit online at www.communityhouse.com.

Cooking demonstrations

Chris Hessler, Kruse & Muer executive chef, prepares dishes using produce from Rochester Farmers Market, 10 a.m. to noon, Aug. 22 and Sept. 9, Rochester Farmers Market, Third and Water streets, one block east of Main, market open 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. every Saturday through Oct. 28, (248) 656-0060, www.DowntownRochesterMI.com.

Healthy cooking class

Vegetarian, whole foods cooking classes with Valerie Wilson, macrobiotic chef, with discussions on healthy benefits of ingredients, Summer Salads, 6 p.m. Aug. 16, \$30, classes in Garden City, visit www.macroval.com or call (734) 261-2856.

FARMERS MARKETS

FARMERS MARKETS

Several communities host farmers markets throughout the summer and fall:

Ann Arbor Farmers Market

7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesday and Saturday, 315 Detroit St., Ann Arbor, (734) 994-3276.

Birmingham

9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sundays, until Oct. 22, Parking Lot 6, on east side of North Old Woodward, (248) 433-3550.

Detroit Eastern Market

7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Saturday, 2934 Russell St., Detroit, (586) 393-8800, www.easternmarket.org.

Farmington Farmers & Artisans Market

9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturdays, the Walter E. Sundquist Pavilion in Riley Park, Farmington Road and

Grand River, www.downtown-farmington.org.

Livonia Farmers Market

9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesdays and Saturdays, through October, Middlebelt and West Chicago, Livonia, (734) 525-8718.

Royal Oak Farmers Market

January-April: 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays; May-October: 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesdays, Fridays and Saturdays; 316 E. 11 Mile Road, two blocks east of Main, (248) 548-8822.

Northville Farmers Market

8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursdays, Sheldon and Seven Mile roads, Northville, (248) 349-7640, www.northville.org.

Plymouth Farmers Market

7 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturdays, through October, 386 S. Main, Plymouth, (734) 453-1540.

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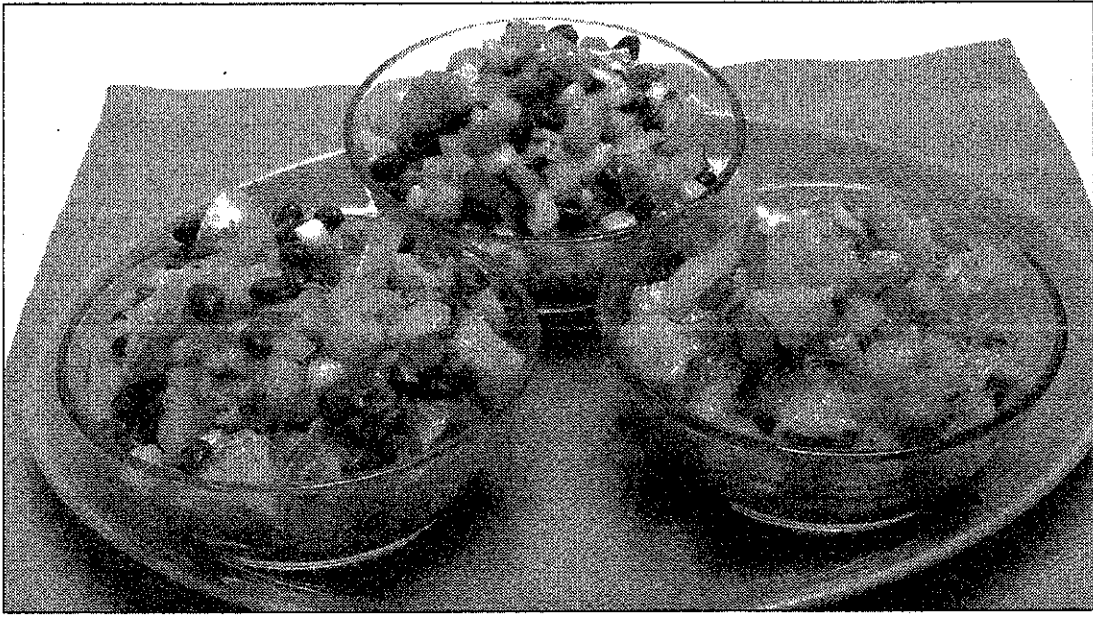
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Enjoy a little bit of variety in your salsas.

Salsas are a 'saucy' way to eat

There are many easy ways to meet your daily fruit and vegetable requirements.

You can add fruit to dinner salads and breakfast cereals. You can snack on a variety of vegetables. And you can eat salsa. Salsa is the Mexican word for sauce. It is traditionally made with tomatoes, chiles and cilantro. It can, however, be made from just about anything.

Fresh salsas are a great way to use summer fruits and vegetables and can be kept refrigerated for up to a week. Try these or invent your own.

TOMATO, CORN AND BLACK BEAN SALSA

1 cup seeded, finely chopped fresh tomatoes
 ½ cup black beans, rinsed and drained
 ½ cup fresh corn kernels, cut off cob
 ¼ cup finely minced red onion
 ¼ cup finely minced cilantro leaves
 2 tsp. extra virgin olive oil
 1 Tbsp. freshly squeezed lemon juice
 1-2 tsp. hot pepper sauce (optional)
 Salt and freshly ground black pepper

In medium bowl, combine all ingredients. Serve chilled or at

room temperature.

Makes 5 servings. Per serving: 55 calories, 2 g. total fat (0 g. saturated fat), 10 g. carbohydrate, 2 g. protein, 2 g. dietary fiber, 110 mg. sodium.

FRESH MANGO SALSA

1 cup chopped ripe mango
 1 large firm tomato, seeded, drained and chopped
 ½ cup finely chopped red bell pepper
 ¼ cup finely chopped red onion
 2 teaspoons lime juice
 1 tablespoon olive or canola oil
 ¼ cup chopped fresh cilantro or parsley
 Pinch of sugar
 Salt and freshly ground black pepper
 ½ teaspoon cayenne pepper, or to taste

Mix together all ingredients in a bowl. Refrigerate 1 to 3 hours to allow flavors to fully develop and meld before serving.

Makes 5 servings. Per serving: 60 calories, 3 g. total fat (less than 1 g. saturated fat), 9 g. carbohydrate, less than 1 g. protein, 1 g. dietary fiber, 3 mg. sodium.

BLACK BEAN AND ORANGE SALSA

1 navel orange
 1 can (15 ounces) black beans, rinsed and drained
 1 small orange or yellow bell

pepper, seeded and finely chopped

1 jalapeno pepper, seeded and finely chopped
 ½ cup cilantro leaves (stems removed), finely chopped
 ½ cup finely chopped scallions, white and green parts
 1 tablespoon fresh lime juice
 1 teaspoon canola oil
 Salt and freshly ground black pepper

Grate 1 teaspoon of zest from the orange and set aside. Peel and section the orange, holding it over a medium bowl to reserve the juice. Chop the sections and place them in the bowl into which the juice collected. Add the orange zest, beans, yellow pepper, jalapeño, cilantro and scallions.

Whisk together the lime juice and oil in a small bowl. Mix into the salsa, tossing with a fork to combine. Season to taste with salt and pepper.

Let the salsa stand 30 minutes before serving to allow the flavors to develop and meld. This salsa keeps for 1 to 2 days, tightly covered, in the refrigerator.

Makes 8 servings. Per serving: 44 calories, less than 1 g. total fat (0 g. saturated fat), 10 g. carbohydrate, 2 g. protein, 3 g. dietary fiber, 165 mg. sodium.

Recipe courtesy of the American Institute for Cancer Research. AICR's Web address is www.aicr.org.

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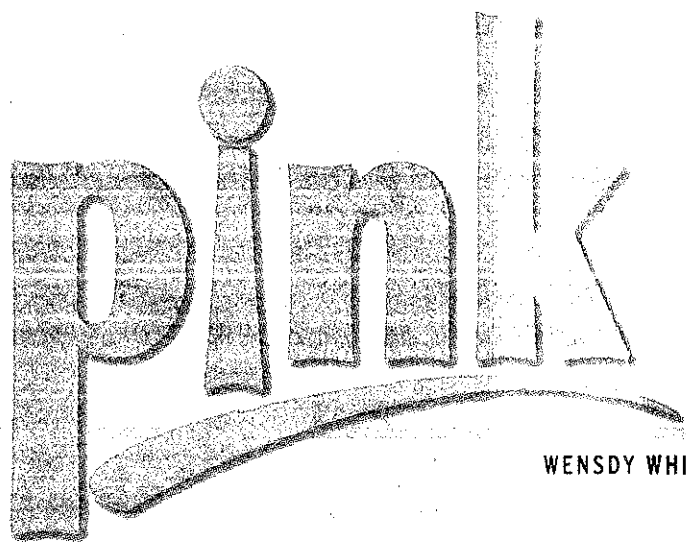
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Ruby's Balm Beauty Bets

Looking for a spark to re-heat your summer style? We asked Sheryl Freedland, owner of Ruby's Balm in West Bloomfield, to share some seasonal best-sellers that keep ladies looking cool at the beach or in the backyard. Whether you scoop up some for yourself, or for girly gifts, you can be sure to hit a haute note with these beauty buys:

Makeup Totes

Whether you're jet-setting with your girlfriends or visiting mom for the week-end, you'll definitely look chic packing a must-have **Chris Notti carry-on**. Notti's cute cases, \$41-\$69, come in many sizes, and contain smaller, detachable cases for eye shadows and lip balms. There is even a matching eye mask to make sure you're a sleeping beauty. Styles include playful Pucci-esque prints and orange faux alligator.

No Scream Cream

Ruby's Balm knows that staying swimsuit beautiful can be a pain ... but it doesn't have to be painful! **No Scream Cream** from **Relax and Wax** will make that dreaded bikini wax

a breeze. Just apply 30-45 minutes before your appointment and pain is no longer a problem.

Sun Hats

Protect your flawless face from harmful UV rays with cute and practical **Physician Endorsed bucket hats**. Ranging

\$40-\$50 (check for sales!) and available in cute reversible prints, such as camo and tropical flowers, this must-have hat is the perfect summer accessory.

Each hat comes with a tube of Celazome SPF 30 sunscreen and a UV intensity meter.

Surf Spray

When your hat comes off, ensure your hair is anything but dull with **Surf Spray** from **Bumble and Bumble South**. A few spritzes in dry or damp hair, with the help of a diffuser or simply the wind, will give you that sexy, wild, just-got-back-from-the-beach look. At only \$18 this salt-infused product will have everyone thinking you just stepped off the sand.

Body Glow

Ruby's Balm knows your summer style is not complete without the perfect scent. **NARS** offers an exotic and light solution to the never-ending search for a hot-weather fragrance. From flowers only found in Tahiti, **Monoi Body Glow II** captures the essence of the French Polynesian in moisturizing oil perfect for a massage or hot bath.

Cleavage Cupcakes

Because every woman needs a boost now and then, Ruby's Balm recommends some very uplifting products from **Her Look Enterprises**. Choose from **Takeouts** or **Cleavage Cupcakes**, both 100-percent silicone gel breast enhancers that provide all the fun and none of the commitment of more, ahem, permanent methods.

Ruby's Balm also offers a full line of make up, bath, fragrance and skin care products. Ruby's Balm is located at 6917 Orchard Lake Rd., West Bloomfield. Call (248) 626-7829.



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