

THURSDAY

September 14, 2006

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Canton resident hired as finance director

BY CAROL MARSHALL STAFF WRITER

What was Royal Oak's loss could be Canton's gain. The Canton Township Board of Trustees unanimously approved hiring Richard Eva to be the township's new finance and budget director. He will replace Tony Minghine, who left the position after 10 years of service, to take a job as the Chief Financial Officer for the Michigan Municipal League's offices in Ann Arbor.

Eva, 57, is the former finance direc-



Township Supervisor Eva had worked for Royal Oak for 10

years, which is a long time for a municipal finance director.

"That's a lifetime in that kind of job," Yack said, noting that often top administrators move along with the

Eva

change in political tides. Ten years ago, when Minghine landed the job in Canton, Eva had considered applying.

"But I was new on the job in Royal Oak - I'd only been there a year - and I felt I had some loyalty to the city that hired me," Eva said. "So when it came open again, the timing was right and I looked into it."

Eva was one of three candidates who were extensively tested and evaluated and were given thorough interviews

"As it happens, two of the three can-

didates were between jobs," Yack said, adding that Eva had left his job in Royal Oak and another candidate had extensive experience in Detroit, and was told by the current mayor's office he would continue working with the city. "But the position promised him never materialized."

Eva, who has lived in Canton for 23 years, was the top choice for the job not only because of his professional experience, but also for his personali-

"They all had excellent credentials and experience," Yack said. "But what put him over the top? Enthusiasm, I think. And he has excellent leadership skills."

Eva said he's worked for cities that have enjoyed good economic times, but also some cities that were struggling, and that experience will help as Canton reaches a mature status, and is finished developing and becomes ready for redevelopment.

Eva worked for the city of Ecorse during its state receivership, and also for Royal Oak, post-Proposal A. He

PLEASE SEE FINANCE, A5



Senior Summit sponsor state Rep. Phil LaJoy hands out door prizes during the fourth annual event on Monday.

Apple

time

Krause of

Plymouth

25th

Manager Mary

Canton powders

Orchards, which

is observing its

anniversary.

For a story and

more photos,

please see

page A6.

doughnuts at

Annual Summit a big hit with area senior citizens



Take some Bingo. And some entertainment. Add prizes, food and useful information, and you've got the makings of a pretty good day.

That day was Monday, as more than 340 senior citizens from Canton, Belleville and Van Buren Township gathered at the Summit on the Park in Canton for the fourth annual Senior Summit, hosted by State Rep. Phil LaJoy.

"The banquet hall was full," said Dianne Neihengen, senior recreation services coordinator. "This was definitely the largest one we've had."

It's a winning combination of fun and information that packs the house she said.

"I think they're popular because the sponsors were generous enough to provide both breakfast and lunch so people could come for a full day's activities,' Neihengen said. "And when you have food and entertainment and information and health information, you've got a lovely day with all the amenities."

Vendors included travel agents, home health agencies, Oakwood Health Systems which provided the health screenings, Waltonwood Cherry Hill and Waltonwood Carriage Park, St. Joseph Mercy Health Systems and Heartland Healthcare Centers.

"It really was a success," said LaJoy, who launched the program four years ago. "We had 60 vendors, from A to Z in terms of needs of seniors. So it provides a onestop shop for the seniors, and it gets everyone out together for a fun day."

By Carol Marshall



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER Music by the band Venus inspired Gloria Cifaldi, Ruth Fairbanks, Mary Sidick, Carol Bodenmiller, Ginny Gardner, Marilyn Grimm, and



Nurse Revalee Hutchens of Oakwood's **Heart Health** program, tests **Bonnie Poet's** blood for glucose and HDL cholesterol levels.



BY CAROL MARSHALL STAFF WRITER

The mother of nine children is being investigated, and faces possible charges for contributing to the delinquency of minors, after her children were left alone all night Tuesday in their Canton home.

"This is not an issue of babysitting," Sgt. Rick Pomorski said of the nine siblings. The oldest is 13 years old, and the youngest is 9 months old. "Their mom left in the middle of the night and they didn't know where she was."

When they woke Wednesday morning and discovered their

According to Pomorski, Child Protective Services has removed the children, and is working to place them into temporary protective custody.

mother missing, the children went to a neighbor's home to ask for help, Pomorski said.

Judy Schantz to get up and dance at the Senior Summit.

"These are beautiful children. They are all intelligent and wellbehaved, just really good kids who knew exactly what to do

when they needed help," he said. The neighbor called the police, who went to their home in the 42000 block of Barchester.

Officers took the children to the police station, where they all had breakfast, Pomorski said.

"We found their mother," Pomorski said. "She was in a house on the east side of Detroit."

She has been questioned, and her statement is being submitted to the Wayne County Prosecutor for review.

"If she is charged and convicted, she could face jail time. It's a misdemeanor," Pomorski said. Six of the children are schoolaged and none of them were able to attend school Wednesday. Three of the children are preschool-aged.

According to Pomorski, Child Protective Services has removed the children, and is working to place them into temporary profective custody.

"CPS said they are not returning the children at this point and they are finding placement," Pomorski said.

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Canton Public Works employee Jerry Lica (left) receives his award from MWEA President Fred Cowles.

Canton employee honored

Canton Public Works employee Jerry Lica was recently presented with the Michigan Water Environment Association's (MWEA) **Collection System Professional** of the Year Award for his dayto-day work in wastewater collections, displaying remarkable dedication to his employer and the MWEA, excelling professionally, and publicly promoting the wastewater profession.

Although he knew he had been nominated, Lica, who works as an equipment operator for public works, said he was surprised to hear he had won. "It feels good to be recognized, but I have to give credit to everyone else who works here," said Lica.

The MWEA represents more than 1,700 water quality professionals statewide who are dedicated to preserving, restoring and enhancing Michigan's water resources.

Only one award is given out each year by the MWEA and award criteria includes: Five vears of collection system experience, contribution to the advancement and understanding of collection system issues and possession of a Collection System Certification.

"Jerry has demonstrated an ongoing commitment to service in our sanitary sewer section," said Canton Municipal Services Director Tim Faas. "These types of awards are not easily achieved. Jerry is our 'go-to guy' for knowledge about the sanitary sewer collection system. We're proud he is a member of the Canton **Municipal Services** Department team."

Pet birthday celebration

Pet Supplies Plus, located at 43665 Ford Road (just east of Sheldon) in Canton, is hosting an event to benefit the "Critter Connection Rescue League" from noon to 4 p.m. on Sept. 23.

The event will feature a pet photographer, contests and prizes, as well as refreshments. There will also be pets available for adoption. Attendees will be able to register for the Pet Birthday Club, as well as have the opportunity to meet with certified instructor Ali Flaig of "Currey's Family Pet Care." For more information, please call (734) 981-9191.

New director United Way for

Southeastern Michigan recently announced that Canton resident Doug Plant has been named director for United Way's 2-1-1 call center



coordinator for the State of Louisiana. As director, Plant will focus on identifying new funding. He will also oversee the day-today operations of the call center and ensure quality standards are maintained.

Prior to United Way, Plant was the director of Marketing at Comfort Keepers, a home care company serving seniors and disabled individuals in southeast Michigan. In this role he oversaw the networking and sales operations of the Ann Arbor and Northville offices. He was also the director of Neighborhood Senior Services, a mid-size nonprofit organization that provides independence planning and support services to older adults.

"We are fortunate to have Doug's leadership on our team," said Michael J. Brennan, president and CEO, United Way for Southeastern Michigan. "The work of 2-1-1 continues to grow as more and more people see its invaluable service to the community. Doug will provide a seamless transition allowing 2-1-1 to effectively connect people to the services they need.' Launched in December, 2-1-

1 is an easy to remember, three-digit phone number that connects individuals to health and human services in southeast Michigan. Individuals can access information on mental health issues, mortgage assistance, youth programming and mentoring, volunteer opportunities, and much more. The service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Already since its inception, 2-1-1 has fielded more than 55,000 calls.

Fine art show

There will be an outdoor juried fine art show on Sept. 16-17, from 10 am.-5 p.m. at the Cherry Hill School in Cherry Hill Village. The show is being sponsored by Beechwood Inc. and Canton Leisure Services. For more information contact Kris Darby at (734) 560-6169 or Joyce Murphy (734) 394-5174. LaJoy aide to visit

Wendy Larvick, legislative aide for state Rep. Phil LaJoy, R-Canton, will hold office hours from 3:30-5 p.m. on Sept. 18 at Belleville City Hall, 6 Main Street, in Belleville. Local residents can meet with LaJoy's staff to discuss state government concerns or issues. Larvick will immediately convey any and all concerns to LaJoy. No appointment is necessary.

Radio control airshow

The Flying Pilgrims Model Airplane Club and IMAA Chapter 31 are hosting a radio control airshow 10 a.m.-5 p.m. on Sept. 16-17 at Geddes and Ridge roads in Ypsilanti. The

event is the 23rd Annual Fall Phase Out For Fun. The public is welcome.

Radio control airplane enthusiasts are also invited to participate, particularly Warbirds and scale owners. There is a 35-foot by 400-foot paved runway. There will also be lunch for pilots, as well as food concession and primitive camping on site. For more information, visit www.flyingpilgrims.com on the Web.

Choir auditions

The Canton Community Youth Choir and the Canton Community Adult Choir will hold upcoming open registration. The choirs rehearse on Monday nights at The Village Theater at Cherry Hill beginning Sept. 18 and ending with a concert on Dec. 8 at 7:30 p.m. at The Village Theater. The youth choir is for 5-15 year olds and the adult group is for 16 years and up. Youth meet from 6-7p.m. and adults meet from 7:30-9 p.m. in the theater's Biltmore Studio. The fee to participate includes music and is \$40 for youth and \$50 for adults. Auditions are not necessary - all singers are welcome.

To register please visit the Summit on the Park prior to Sept. 18, or call (734) 394-5460 for directions.

A toast to Canton

A wine and food tasting event to benefit the Canton Historical Society, Canton Christmas in Action and the Leadership Canton Alumni Scholarship Fund is scheduled for Friday, October 27, from 7 - 9 p.m. at Waltonwood at

There will be approximately 20 wine tables with a wide variety of red and white wines.

There will also be beer and non-alcoholic beverages available for tasting. A wide variety of hors d'oeuvres provided by Holiday Market is also included in the ticket price. Space is limited to 300 guests.

Tickets are \$35 in advance, and, if available, \$40 at the door. Tickets can be purchased at Holiday Market and the Canton Chamber of Commerce.

The event is sponsored by Holiday Market, Waltonwood at Cherry Hill and the Leadership Canton Alumni Association in cooperation with the Canton Chamber of Commerce and Charter Township of Canton. For more information, please call the Canton Chamber of Commerce at (734) 453-4040.

Volunteers needed for P-CEP party

The parents of graduating P-CEP seniors have a long history of providing one last chance to share an evening of fun and celebration together. Volunteers are needed for a variety of tasks.

If you are interested in helping plan this year's Senior Party for district seniors, there will be a planning meeting at 7 p.m., Tuesday, Sept. 19 at the **Plymouth High School** library/media center.

If you can not attend but would like to help, please contact Heide Leskun at pcep2007seniorparty@hotmail.com or (734) 207-0364 or Debbie LaFontaine at lafontaine5wowway.com or (734) 453-6706.

Party organizers are also looking for use of a storage unit, donated gifts/supplies, or monetary contributions by individuals or companies.

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LOCAL NEWS

Canton property tax rate to remain flat

No news is good news, especially when the news is about property taxes. So it was good news Tuesday when the Canton Township Board of Trustees held a hearing on Canton millage rates. There will be no changes to the property tax rate during the upcoming year.

The township board held its first public hearing on the rate, which will remain the same as last year, at 8.65 mills. The rate will be adopted at the board's Sept. 26 meeting. Township Supervisor Tom Yack said the 8.65 mills is at its lowest point in nearly two decades.

"This is the lowest rate we've had since 1978," he said.

Though the overall millage will remain the same as last year, there was a small shift from the police special assessment to the fire assessment. "Obviously over the years, some (millages) have gone up and some have gone down," Yack said. But he noted that there have been 16 roll backs of the millage rate since 1973.

But he can only vouch for Canton's millage rate. Only about 25 percent of all property taxes collected from residents are township property taxes. Wayne County taxes account for approximately 20 percent, and the state education tax is 18 percent.

Residential property is taxed at 50 percent of true tax value. So a home that is valued at \$120,000 will be taxed by the township \$519.00 per year. A property valued at \$200,000 will be assessed \$865.00 per year by the township, and the owner of a \$300,000 home will pay \$1,297 per year.



Men of Grace

Local singing group, Men of Grace, which is comprised of members who were formally homeless, will be recording a live concert DVD beginning at 7 p.m., Friday, Sept. 15 at Calvary Baptist Church, which is located at 43065 Joy Road in Canton. The group tours local venues raising awareness about the plight of homeless people. The public is encouraged to attend the concert and be part of the live recording. For more information, call Men of Grace at (248) 335-1222, or visit the Web site www.gracecentersofhope.org.

By Carol Marshall

Starkweather and Central among key bond issues

BY TONY BRUSCATO STAFF WRITER

The key components of a \$59.4 million bond proposal submitted by Plymouth-Canton Schools Supt. Jim Ryan include construction of a new middle school in Canton to replace an aging Central Middle School, with Central then being remodeled to — in part — house students who attend Starkweather Education Center, an alternative high school located in Plymouth.

The need for both were the main topics of discussion among Board of Education members Tuesday. Former board member, and former Starkweather principal, Carol Saunders, said there's a need for both issues to be addressed in an upcoming bond issue.

"One of those items has to be a new middle school, so the youngsters currently attending Central have a facility that is updated and can be equivalent to the other middle schools," said Saunders, once an interim principal at Central. "On hot days, the third floor is horrendous, and it's not a good learning environment."

Saunders also implored the board to then move forward with proposed plans to move Starkweather students to a repurposed Central, which would also house the curriculum center and community education.

"We have non-traditional students housed in a situation where there is no media center, there's no cafeteria and there's not a facility for

SCHOOLS

physical education," Saunders said. "Your are essentially disenfranchising a portion of your Plymouth-Canton pupils, and you're collecting state tax dollars on them, just the same as you are for any other pupil in the district."

The board — which has scheduled a 6:15 p.m. tour of Central next Tuesday, followed by a 7 p.m. bond workshop meeting at the middle school — is working through enrollment projections to help decide if the district should spend an estimated \$30.6 million to construct a new middle school on Cherry Hill Road, just west of Canton Center; remodel Central at a cost of \$13.2 million; and spend \$12 million to remodel and add a total of 15 rooms at East, West and Pioneer middle schools.

Trustee Dianne Gonzalez, who visited Central before Tuesday's board meeting, said she's not convinced Central can't continue its role as a middle school.

"It seems hard to justify not using it as a middle school," Gonzalez said. "(Plans call for) tearing down part of a building, when we're dealing with overcrowding. It seems like a sin, personally."

Other board members don't believe Central can remain a viable middle school.

"It would be very difficult to make that build-

ing meet our educational specifications," board President Barry Simescu said. "It would be very costly, and we wouldn't have the same number of students in that building, if we did. The other problem is ... we bus 70 percent of students from Canton to Central. We're busing them a long way."

Trustee Steven Sneideman reminded the board that Central was once repurposed after decades as Plymouth High School.

"In order to move move on and forward, and grow as a community, we honor the past," Sneideman said. "But if it's not working for what it's being used for, we should move on."

Trustee Richard Ham-Kucharski said if Central remains a middle school, the question of what to do with Starkweather would still remain.

"There's going to be a fair amount of expense to do something with that facility, or do something with that program," Ham-Kucharski said, "or eliminate that program completely, which I don't think we want to do."

While Ryan's "straw design" bond also calls for \$2.3 million to reimburse the general fund for the purchase of the middle school property

Portal Roble '04

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Try This with Manchego Chees in Canton, and \$1.3 million for 13 new buses, the bulk of the money is for middle school and Starkweather improvements, which has Gonzalez concerned.

"If we look at the straw design for the middle school ... we're pretty much done, and I don't know if we have any other needs in the district," Gonzalez said.

Gonzalez, who was not in favor of last May's \$120 million bond proposal that went down to defeat, said she's looking at all options before making her decision on what the next bond issue — most likely to be presented to voters in February — will look like.

"I'm looking at gathering money for this bond the way I would look at doing a project for my home," Gonzalez said. "If I couldn't justify giving the money myself, then I don't want to justify everyone else giving the money. I want to go through all the options.

"I kind of feel like they're (school administration) giving us one option, and it seems to be garnering a lot of support," she added. "I think they've (trustees) already made up their mind."

Kim Crawford '04

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Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, September 14, 2006

'Peace begins ... right here'

Students remember 9/11, pay tribute to victims of attacks

BY TONY BRUSCATO STAFF WRITER

Grade-school students at Our Lady of Good Counsel school in Plymouth spent the early part of their day Monday remembering the victims of the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

Eighth-grader Jillian Sommerville, 13, of Plymouth said she recalls being in school when the World Trade Center towers were hit.

"I remember everyone was watching TV, but the teachers wouldn't tell us what happened," Sommerville said. "When I got home, I found out what happened.

"I just feel bad for the families of those who died, it's really sad," she said. "We need to remember them."

Students, teachers and parents gathered in front of the school, where the American flag was flown at half staff.

"On Sept. 11, 2001, our country was scarred by hatred and revenge," read Samantha Gioia, an eighth-grader from Plymouth Township, during the introduction. "Hearts were broken, lives were lost, and fear and anger prevailed.

"We come together today remembering God is our refuge and strength, and we pray for a just and lasting peace," she read.

With many of the children in attendance too young to remember the events that changed the world, pastor the Rev. John Sullivan reached out to them in simple terms in remembering the victims of 9/11.

"When we have something very special that we're remembering, especially people who



PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Kindergartner Meghan Rotole at Our Lady of Good Counsel school in Plymouth holds up an American flag with the other kindergartners and first graders at the Prayer Service in Remembrance of the Fifth Anniversary of 9/11.

gave their lives for us, the flag is always at half mast," Sullivan said. "So, when you see the flag like this, you always know we're praying in a very special way for people who gave their lives for the nation."

Sullivan told students it was their job to make the world a peaceful place to live.

"Peace doesn't start because somebody in Washington, or somebody in one of the countries of the world, says let there be peace," Sullivan said. "Peace begins with every person that lives, like right here on our playground.

"When we're out playing and somebody gets upset, it's not the time to start thinking it's the time for fighting, it's the time for people to find the time to make peace," he said. "We have to try to be the bridgebuilders of peace."

Kindergarten and first-grade students, waved American flags during the mostly religious ceremony. First-grade teacher Mary Anne Napolitano said her students are too young to understand the significance of 9/11; however, she did explain to them what the day meant.

"I told them it was a very, very sad thing that happened five years ago, when they were babies," Napolitano said. "A lot of people died and are in heaven now, with Jesus. Their families are sad, and we're praying for them because they miss them."

Barbara DiPiazza of Livonia,

whose granddaughter, Stephanie Petrusha of Plymouth Township, took part in the remembrance ceremony, said she still can't watch video of the airplanes crashing into the World Trade Center towers.

"I couldn't watch the video (Sunday) night, it was too traumatic," said DiPiazza.

"As they played it over and over again, it just pried on your mind.

"I remember driving to work, and couldn't believe my ears when I heard it on the radio," she said. "That night, I couldn't even fix dinner. I just sat there in front of the TV."

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Seventh-graders Jesse Zelazany, Matt Greene and Jeffrey Confligtti and eighth-grader Stephanie Petrusha play 'God Bless America' at the prayer service.



The Rev. John Sullivan of Our Lady of Good Counsel gives his remarks to the children.



Our Lady of Good Counsel eighth-grade cantors Sarah Lipinski and Haley Willman led the song 'Ave Maria' during the school's ceremony.



LOCAL NEWS

More color district meetings set

The Canton Chamber of Commerce and the Canton Downtown Development Authority will be hosting two upcoming meetings regarding the Canton Color Districts. The meetings, which will be held at two different locations, are scheduled for 8 a.m., Sept. 19 at Bailey's Pub and Grille, located at 1777 N. Canton Center Road, and 8 a.m., Sept. 20 at Emagine Theatre, which is located at 39535 Ford Road. All Canton Business are invited to attend.

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There will be information about the Canton Chamber of Commerce and the Downtown Development Authority's partnership in promoting Canton's Ford Road retail corridor. Topics that will be discussed will be the impact Canton businesses have experienced now that IKEA has opened, along with a "Shop Canton for the **Holidays Marketing** Campaign."

"The Canton Chamber, in partnership with the Downtown Development Authority, is taking the first step to open the lines of communication for businesses to share their experiences in our community's new retail environment," said Dianne Cojei, president of the Canton Chamber of Commerce.

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On Wednesday, September 13th, from 6-9 p.m., the **Canton Chamber of Commerce** is offering a PowerPoint training course at Canton Computers, located at the southwest corner of Canton Center and Ford Road. This is one of many computer training

CHAMBER NEWS

courses that have been scheduled throughout 2006 and 2007, which are open to both chamber members and the public. Learn how to create power-

ful and persuasive presentations that have more impact using PowerPoint software. Cost for the seminar is \$25 for chamber members and \$40 for non-members. Class size is limited. Registration will be accepted on a first come, first serve basis.

To register contact the Canton Chamber of Commerce at (734) 453-4040.

Good Morning Canton

The chamber of commerce and Canton Township will host Good Morning Canton, on Friday, Sept. 21, at 7:30 a.m. at the Summit on the Park. The cost for breakfast is \$7 per person, which includes a full buffet breakfast, beverages, guest speaker presentation, and roundtable discussion. Reservations are required to attend the September 21st Good Morning Canton Breakfast. The reservation deadline for the Good Morning Canton Breakfast is Sept. 15. To make your reservation, contact the Canton Chamber of Commerce at (734) 453-4040.

Leadership Canton

Leadership Canton, an eight month class from October through May, is still accepting applications for the 2007 leadership class. Leadership Canton is a project designed by the Canton Chamber of

Commerce in cooperation with the township. Established in 1994, the program's main goal is developing leaders to meet the challenges of the future. It's a program that has been developed to help current and potential leaders broaden their awareness of leadership opportunities in the Canton Community.

The class costs \$800. Each day long seminar includes a lunch. Participants will learn a wide range of specific topics aimed at educating them in important topics essential to the community's well-being. The class meets once every month at various locations around the community and discusses topics like, The Nature of Leadership, Community Development, **Business and Economic** Development, Business and **Economic Development** Health and Human Services, Local, County and State Government, Education, Public Safety and the Justice System and Challenges of the Future.

To find out more about how you can register, visit www.leadershipcanton.com or contact Melanie at the Canton Chamber of Commerce by calling (734) 453-4040.

Online registration is coming to the Canton Public Library. Starting Oct. 1, you'll be able to register for popular library programs online. No more jammed phone lines or camping out for storytime. To register, you'll need a Canton Public Library card for the program participant.

That means each child will need his or her own card so stop in now and get one during National Library Card Sign-Up Month.

You'll be able to register from your computer at home or use one of our computers for most programs. Ask at the library for details.

Now @ your Canton Public Library

Teen Chess Club: Sept. 14,

FINANCE

FROM PAGE A1

also worked for three years as Wayne County's deputy chief financial officer. "I have experience managing budgets in communities like that, and with Canton going through a slow-down in growth, that experience is important," Eva said.

He is available to start work as early as next week, pending approval from

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at 4 p.m. Open play every Thursday, no registration required

Evening Book Discussion: Sept. 18, at 7 p.m. Too Close to the Falls by Catherine Gildiner. No registration required.

🛱 PowerPoint II: Sept. 19, at 9:30 a.m. Give your **PowerPoint presentations** more impact with graphics and movement. Registration required.

🗖 Teen Tuesday: Sept. 19, at 3 p.m. Stop by for crafts, fun and snacks. No registration.

Excel I: Sept. 20, at 6:30 p.m. Learn the basics of spreadsheet creation for a family or personal budget. Registration required.

MS Word III: Sept. 21, at 9:30 a.m. Create text boxes, columns, and other formatting

> the township's Merit Commission. Yack asked that Eva's salary start at \$102,000 per year.

"That's about where he left off at Royal Oak," Yack said.

Eva serves on Canton's Library Board, and will have to resign from that position, Yack added.

Eva has been married to his wife Mary for nearly 34 years. The couple has a son and a daughter.

cmarshall@hometownlife.com (734) 459-2700

tips to make a newsletter style layout. Registration required. Teen Chess Club: Sept. 21,

at 4 p.m. For chess players or teens who want to learn. No registration required.

🖀 Hindi Festival: Sept. 21, at 7 p.m. Celebrate the festival of Navratri and enjoy the dance troupe NADANTA, under direction of Chavla Thacker. Registration required.

Library Board Meeting: Sept. 21, at 7:30 p.m. Open meeting of the Library Board of Trustees.

Internet II: Sept. 22, at 10 a.m. Learn techniques for effective Web searches.

Open Mic: Sept. 23, at 2 p.m. Join host Sean Fitzgerald for open mic in the Community Room. No registration required, free admission.



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MILESTONE IN BUSINESS

Silver lining

Plymouth Orchards marks its 25th anniversary with pride

BY JULIE BROWN STAFF WRITER

Fall and cider mills just seem to go together, and for 25 years now Plymouth Orchards & Cider Mill has been the place to visit for local people.

"I think it's the owners and the pride they take in this place," manager Mary Krause said of owners David and Mary Emmett, who live on the site between Napier and Gotfredson on Warren, just over the county line into Washtenaw County. Great customers are key as well, and successive generations have come to the cider mill over the years.

"It feels like home to a lot of people," said Canton resident Krause. "I think they feel good when they come out here.'

One recent customer was Charles Allen of Westland, who was buying cider and doughnuts. "This is my first time," he said. "I stumbled on it looking for a shortcut to work."

The M-14 road construction brought Allen in, and he likes what he found. "It's great," said Allen who with his wife has two children, ages $2\frac{1}{2}$ and $4\frac{1}{2}$.

SILVER ANNIVERSARY Who: Plymouth Orchards

- Where: Warren, between Napier and Gotfredson
- What: Anniversary event, featuring wagon rides and music When: Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 16-17

Features: Open September through November; main store on Warren is open 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. seven days a week in September-October; 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. in November. Farm market on Ann Arbor Road open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. through Thanksgiving. Plymouth Orchards is also home to goats, sheep, pigs, a cow and some ducks who leave for the winter. Contact: Plymouth Orchards can be reached at (734) 455-

2290.

"It's close ... bring the kids back. I think they would enjoy it any day. Friendly people."

MILESTONE MARKED

Plymouth Orchards is marking its 25th anniversary this fall, and this Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 16-17, there'll be a number of activities, including music with Johnny Z. 1-4 p.m. both days. Krause points to the antique wagon and suggests visitors bring a camera for fall photos. It's too early for pumpkins, but Sunday there

will be wagon rides all day at \$3 per person and free for children age 3 and under.

David Emmett and his wife are glad they own the cider mill and don't plan to sell, even as the surrounding area gets built up.

"It was a dairy farm before that," David Emmett said of their buying the property. "We decided we needed a cider mill in order to sell the products locally. We learned farming the hard way. We made lots of mistakes."

These days, businessman Emmett does a lot of charitable work and owns R.J. Helicopters. His wife had worked in the past as a dental hygienist and neither had a strong agriculture background.

"We've pretty much decided we like the lifestyle," he said. We're not anxious to move. It's

been a great way to raise kids." None of the couple's three children are in the business. Their son is a builder, one daughter runs a nonprofit in Oregon and the other daughter is a professional mountain biker. The kids range in age from 28 to 34 and there's one

Orchards folks this year.

realized we had a 25th anniversary coming," David Emmett said. "The community's been very good, supportive." They find Plymouth Orchards offers an educational experience with its farm animals and picnic tables.

"It's become an afternoon experience as opposed to a quick in and out," he said, adding there are fewer cider mills in southeastern Michigan than in the past.

Each year, some 22,000 schoolkids visit Plymouth Orchards. Krause, who's going on her sixth season at Plymouth Orchards, started out teaching school groups.

"My husband had retired and Mary (Emmett) was looking for someone to prune trees," said Krause, who spent 15 years as a vehicle scheduling analyst at Ford Motor. She loves her job, and gets to work with her husband. The couple has four kids ages 18, 15, 13 and 12.

"It's been kind of a family affair," she said, explaining the Krause kids have worked at Plymouth Orchards and her mom made the curtains. She

didn't have a strong farming background either, although she spent summers growing up at a grandparents' farm around Kansas City, Mo.

"I want to be outside and I want to do physical stuff all the time," Krause said.

A BUSY PLACE

Plymouth Orchards is open September through November to customers, but staff works much of the year. After the season, three people prune trees to the end of January, and return in mid-March to make fields ready.

"A lot of mowing goes on, the painting goes on," Krause said. Plymouth Orchards gets some high school student workers. "We have a lot of moms," she said. "It helps pay for their Christmas presents."

The main store on Warren is open 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. seven days a week in September and October. November hours there are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily.

The main store closes for the season only Nov. 5, but the farm market on Ann Arbor Road stays open through the

Wednesday before Thanksgiving. Farm market

PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily September through November. Plymouth Orchards isn't a

U-pick place for apples, although kids do go into the fields for pumpkins. There's a belt press for making cider, quickly. It freezes well, Krause

The early cider was made of Macintosh and Ginger Golds, but more varieties are coming in now. There will be four-five varieties for eating and baking

Plymouth Orchards is home to goats, sheep, pigs, a cow and going to Plymouth Nursery for

"Working with all the great people here and all the customers with smiles on their faces," she said with a smile of her own.

jcbrown@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2111

which isn't pasteurized and must be consumed fairly noted.

this weekend, Krause said.

some ducks who leave for the winter, with some animals its nativity. Krause likes all aspects of her job.

Alex Fox and Christopher Forster pick a few apples at Plymouth Orchards, which isn't a U-pick facility for apples.

www.hometownlife.com





A goat nibbles a little grass offered by 6-year-old Olivia Gordon, visiting the orchards with her dad, Adam Gordon.



"We started adding it up and

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3rd Course: (Choose 1 of the following) Eggs Benedict - Canadian Bacon • 6 oz. Tenderloin Tips with Whipped Potatoes and Seasoned Vegetables Linguini Pomodoro • Pork Medallions with an Apple Brandy Blue Cheese Sauce • Chargrilled Salmon Laced with Asparagus, Lump Crab Meat and Béarnaise sauce

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LOCAL NEWS

PSO starts with Penn performance

With great celebration and fanfare, the Plymouth Symphony Orchestra hosts its opening-night concert, "Classical Brass," 8 p.m. Sept. 30 in the newly reopened Penn Theatre in downtown Plymouth. According to symphony officials the concert, featuring guest composer Jennifer Higdon, and guest artist, Ava Ordman, is already well on its way to being a sellout performance.

To commemorate the PSO's move to downtown Plymouth, the concert begins with brass choirs trumpeting the sounds of Giovanni Gabrielli in his two works, *Lieto Godea* and *Sonata Pian' E Forte*.

MSU music professor and trombone virtuoso, Ava Ordman, music professor at Michigan State and a trombone virtuoso, will be the soloist for the Michigan premiere of the *Concerto for Trombone* written in 2006 by attending composer Jennifer Higdon.

The PSO's own brass section will be featured in Beethoven's dramatic *Leonore Overture No.* 3, as well as Igor Stravinsky's enchanting and exotic, *Suite* from the Firebird. Alexander Borodin's lushly romantic In the Steppes of Central Asia rounds out the program.

Prior to the performance, patrons are invited to hear an on-stage talk at 7:15 p.m. featuring PSO Music Director and Conductor Nan Washburn and composer Jennifer Higdon, a special introduction and a chance to ask questions about the evening's musical program. A post-show reception will be held at Gem Asset Management for major donors to the PSO.

This concert is sponsored Community Financial. It is also supported by the Plymouth Symphony League and the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts.

Tickets for all PSO season subscription concerts are \$20 for adults, \$18 for seniors and are free for students through 12th grade. Groups of 10 or more receive a 10-percent discount. Tickets for PSO performances can now be purchased using the secure Online Box Office on the PSO Web site at www.plymouthsymphony.org, making ticket purchasing more convenient than ever. Tickets may also be obtained by contacting the Plymouth-Canton Symphony Society office by phone at (734) 451-2112, by fax at (734) 451-3458, by e-mail at info@plymouthsymphony.org or in person at 470 Forest Avenue, Suite 18 in Plymouth.



Yar," will feature a male cho-

singer, EMU voice professor

Donald Hartmann. The pro-

PSO/OC concertmaster, Mark

Schuppener, who will solo on

the evocative and hauntingly

beautiful Three Pieces from

Schindler's List for Violin and

Orchestra by illustrative film

Tchaikovsky & Friends,

treat for fans of the acclaimed

"Tchaikovsky & Friends" fea-

tures the lyrical sounds of his Andante Cantabile along with

his only large-scaled work for

string orchestra, the Serenade

quartet of OC musicians:

Libby Larsen's Four on the Floor, inspired by both "boo-

gie-woogie" and the compos-

hilarious parody of contemporary American life. In recogni-

tion of Martin Luther King Jr,'s

birthday, prominent African

American composer William

Grant Still will be featured in

his lively Danzas de Panama.

A captivating arrangement of

Brahms and Bolcom, Feb.

Bartok's Rumanian Folk

gram.

Dances rounds out the pro-

10, Northville High School

Auditorium — Former PSS

of Michigan senior Zachary Shemon heads up the talented

young group, the Twelve-Ten

soloists for the jazzy and virtu-

osic Concerto Grosso for saxophone quartet and orchestra

by Grammy Award-winning

As the concert title suggests,

composer William Bolcom.

Johannes Brahms is also prominently represented on

Saxophone Quartet, as the

Winner and current University

Youth Artist Competition

er's love of driving fast, is a

A new work performed by a

composer John Williams.

Jan. 20, Village Theater at

Cherry Hill in Canton – A

Russian composer,

in C Major.

rus, and solo bass-baritone

gram will also showcase

Ordman Higdon

Exchange Club seeking help in its fight against child abuse

BY CAROL MARSHALL STAFF WRITER

After becoming a mother, Aniko Martin paid attention to news in a different way. Suddenly, stories about child abuse took on new, more troublesome, importance to her.

"I had to do something about it," she said.

So she found herself at a Canton Exchange Club meeting, where she and other members engaged themselves in projects to raise money and awareness to fight child abuse.

"Because I was a stay at home mom, I first got involved because I needed a social activity, and I was concerned about child abuse," she said. "But the more involved I got, the more I learned how big the problem is. Doing something about it helps me feel more hopeful."

The Canton Exchange Club is inviting others to get involved as well. The club will host an open house later this month.

The club has focused on its largest fund-raiser, the Blue Ribbon Campaign, in hopes of opening a child abuse prevention center in western Wayne County.

The center would provide resources for parents at-risk of harming their children.

In order to move forward on the center opening, the club needs more people to get active, Martin said.

"Right now we only have about a dozen core members, but I know that there must be more people out there who care," she

For more information about Exchange Club of Canton, call (734) 207-8943 or e-mail Dave Loveland at dbloveland@sbcglobal.net.

said. "It's frustrating because a lot of people might care, but do nothing because everyone always thinks that someone else is taking care of the problem. But they're not."

Volunteering is based on individual interest and ability. "My first year I only volunteered maybe four hours all year," she said. "Now I want to do more, but I don't have to if I don't want to.

"There's something for everyone in this club," she said. "I challenge everybody to do something. It may not seem like much but something is better than nothing."

The Canton Exchange open house will be 6:30 - 8 p.m. Sept. 26 at Bailey's Pub & Grille, 1777 Canton Center North. The club is running a special for new members, and will excuse membership dues for the first three months.

For more information about Exchange Club of Canton, call (734) 207-8943 or e-mail Dave Loveland at dbloveland@sbc-global.net.

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(C) A7

Other concerts in the series:

Music of Remembrance, Nov. 18, Northville High School Auditorium - In collaboration with the Plymouth Community Arts Council, Plymouth Historical Society, Plymouth District Library, Plymouth Community School District, Friends of the Penn, and Eastern Michigan University, the PSO joins in commemorating the tragedy of the Holocaust while celebrating the triumph of the human spirit through the magnificent art it inspired.

Opening the concert will be Calm Seas and Prosperous Voyage Overture by Nazibanned Jewish composer, Felix Mendelssohn. The monumental Symphony No. 13 by Shostakovich, subtitled "Babi No. 1. The PCEP Middle School Orchestra and CYO "Strings" ensemble will join the PSO again in our annual "Side-by-Side"performance playing the St. Anthony Chorale and the finale to the Symphony No. 104 by Havdn.

the program with his majestic

Spring Fling, March 10, Penn Theatre in Plymouth -Celebrating spring, romance and just plain fun are the themes of the action-packed season finale, "Spring Fling." Center-stage will be a performance of the 20th century masterpiece, Appalachian Spring by Aaron Copland. On the lighter side, the utterly unique work by Elinor Armer, is The Great Instrument of the Geggerets. Written in 1989, "Geggerets" is a collaborative composition with science fiction writer Ursula K. Le Guin. In addition to the more con-

ventional musical instruments are two harmonicas and a bicycle wheel along with an array of "theatrics" from the orchestra players, which all add to the fun of this entertaining musical frolic. Rounding out the program are two favorites on the topic of "love": the seductive Bacchanale from "Samson & Delila" by Saint Saëns, and Tchaikovsky's tender Romeo and Juliet Overture.

Spotlight Players to stage 'Fiddler on the Roof' at Village Theater in Canton

The Spotlight Players is presenting the show *Fiddler on the Roof* at 8 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, Sept. 15-16, 22, 23, 29, 30 and at 2 p.m. on Sunday Sept. 17 and 24, at The Village Theater at Cherry Hill. Tickets are \$15 -\$18. For tickets or information call (734) 394-5460.

The theater group is also holding auditions for *The Lion in Winter* on Monday, Sept. 18 and Tuesday, Sept. 19 at the Village Theater (use stage door at rear). Registration is at 6:30 p.m.. Bring non-returnable photo and resume. For more specifics visit www.spotlightplayers.net or call (734) 480-4945.

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LOCAL NEWS

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, September 14, 2006

www.hometownlife.com

Families walk to help find cure for life-threatening PKD

BY ARLENE FUNKE CORRESPONDENT

A8

(C)

Many people know Molly Williams as the general manager of George Matick Chevrolet and leader in the Redford Township Chamber of Commerce.

Others have met her through her volunteer work with children's and school issues. She's friendly and enthusiastic.

But few know that in the body of this 33-year-old woman lurks a life-threatening disorder called polycystic kidney disease (PKD). Williams' mother and brother also have the disease, which causes kidney failure and other health problems.

Williams is the Detroit chapter coordinator for the PKD Foundation, which is sponsoring a fund-raising walk





Richard Newton, a certified public accountant and financial planner, was diagnosed with PKD when he was an adolescent. He had a kidney transplant at age 45. Over the years, he has suffered frequent infections, and has had lengthy hospitalizations for various problems. Marie Newton is grateful for the care her husband has received at the University of Michigan Hospital in Ann Arbor.

Saturday, Sept. 16, at Rotary Park in Livonia.

"I like to be involved and pro-active," said Williams, a 1991 graduate of Groves High School in Birmingham. "I'm doing this for my mom."

Williams lives in Northville with her husband, Bob, and their daughters, Elizabeth, 3, and Alexandra, 1.

"People are going to be surprised," Williams said. "I don't talk about (the disease).'

Rotary Park is located on Six Mile Road between Merriman and Farmington roads. Registration begins at 9 a.m. and the 2.5-mile walk begins at 10. The fee is \$15 for adults and \$10 for children 12 and under.

PKD is a characterized by fluid-filled cysts which grow in the kidneys, eventually overpowering healthy tissue and causing organ failure. PKD can also cause cysts in the liver and

According to the PKD Foundation, 600,000 Americans suffer from PKD. There is no cure. Many people have no symptoms until the kidneys fail, at which time patients must undergo dialysis or go on a waiting list for a transplanted organ.

"There is a 50-50 chance my kids could be affected," said Williams, who was pregnant with her first child when diagnosed. "I believe they are going to find a cure. If I didn't, I wouldn't have had two children."

Molly's mother, Nancy Meyer, underwent a successful kidney transplant in her 50s. Later, her liver became affected. While exploring a possible liver transplant, Molly and her brother, Bill Meyer, were tested as donor candidates. That's when the siblings were diagnosed with PKD. Another sister has not yet been tested to



Molly Williams, shown at George Matick Chevrolet in Redford where she works, is living with polycystic kidney disease. A fund-raising walk to help find a cure will be Saturday, Sept. 16, at Rotary Park in Livonia.

ed kidney and living in Northville. She did not have the liver transplant. Bill, who is in his 20s, lives in New York. Molly manages high blood pressure (a complication of PKD) with medication, and watches her diet.

"I try to live a healthy lifestyle," she said. "I feel very blessed.

Since being diagnosed, Williams has continued in her career and served as president of the Redford Township Chamber of Commerce. She is the current chamber treasurer.

She has taken part in South Redford School District fundraising projects and served as a board member for Redford's

keeps meetings "upbeat and educational."

Coordinating the Sept. 16 Walk are Marie Newton of Livonia, and her daughter-inlaw. Roxane Newton of Royal Oak. Organizers hope to raise \$30,000. For information, contact Roxane Newton at rnewton92@yahoo.com or call (248) 632-1328.

"We are trying to raise money to find a cure for this disease," Marie Newton said. "There are so many complications. Because it is a hereditary disease it keeps being passed down."

Marie Newton's husband. Richard, their son, Michael, and daughter, Christine, all

children do not have the disease. Roxane is married to Michael.

Richard Newton, a certified public accountant and financial planner, was diagnosed with PKD when he was an adolescent.

He had a kidney transplant at age 45. Over the years, he has suffered frequent infections, and has had lengthy hospitalizations for various problems.

Marie Newton is grateful for the care her husband has received at the University of Michigan Hospital in Ann Arbor.

"Receiving a transplant is not the end of the problem,"

FILE PHOTO



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Land touts good customer service in re-election bid

BY HUGH GALLAGHER STAFF WRITER

Depending on how the race between Jennifer Granholm and Dick DeVos ends in November, Michigan Secretary of State Terri Lynn Land is definitely looking to the governor's seat four, or eight, years from now.

"Like I told the Grumpies, at the time of the end of my second term I'll be 50 and that's very young, I've decided, so I have a few more races in me," she said. "We'll find what we can do next. I really like public service. I've lived in Michigan all my life and don't intend to move. It's something I'm looking at."

Land left a meeting Tuesday with the Grumpies to meet with Observer S Eccentric editors. The Grumpies are an informal group of frequent writers of strongly opinionated letters to newspaper editors. It was her first experience with the group and she said she enjoyed their company.

The Republican incumbent was out promoting her bid for re-election and talking about changes she's initiated in voting, campaign finance and management of the department. She faces Democrat Macomb County Clerk Carmella Sabaugh in the Nov. 7 election.

"Customer service was my campaign promise and what we ran on," she said. "Not just on the branch office side of getting your licenses and getting your plates, but on the election side, to make it easier to vote. ... I believe in public service, I enjoy it and I've done it all my life."

Land points to implementation of the federal Help



The Detroit Story League presents its 24th annual Storytelling Festival Friday-Saturday, Sept. 15-16, at the Livonia Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile, east of Farmington Road.

The festival features nationally known tellers Donald Davis and Linda Gorham, and includes adult and family performances plus workshops.

For more information, call (vonne Healy at (810) 225The Market Staft Photographer

Secretary of State Terri Lynn Land met with Observer & Eccentric editors.

America Vote Act as a major accomplishment of her first term in office. Under Land, Michigan moved this year to a uniform optical scan voting system, replacing numerous systems adapted by counties or local communities. Also, new voting equipment was used in the August primary to allow the disabled to vote in private for the first time.

Land said her local experience as Kent County clerk was helpful in working with clerks across the state and reassuring them that the changes could be implemented.

"I couldn't have been as successful as I've been if I didn't have that relationship with local clerks. I've been there," she said.

The Michigan Legislature also consolidated elections and placed responsibility for school elections with local and county clerks for the first time.

'HUGE THING'

"That was a huge thing for

Gorham, along with local

Detroit Story League mem-

bers, will be teaching educa-

Davis, a North Carolina

stretching the truth until it

tall tales are known for

porary life and African-

groans.

tional workshops on Saturday.

teller, is a former minister. His

Gorham, a Chicago resident,

bases her material on contem-

clerks. I told the Grumpies when you see a local clerk, give them a hug. They've had a heck of a couple of years," she said. "The federal government had never been involved in elections and all of a sudden the federal government has said, you have to have one system throughout the state, it has to be connected, you have to have a disability component."

The Automark system used for disabled voters had never been used in an election before, Land said. She said her options were limited in choosing a system from among only three election equipment vendors.

"We went with Automark and worked with the disability community. We 'practiced' with an election in August and some of them did not work, there's no doubt about it, they did not work and the ones that didn't were pulled and new ones put in," she said.

But, she added, overall the system was successful and disabled voters were grateful.

CONSOLIDATED OFFICES

Land also consolidated the Secretary of State offices during her first term, reducing the number of branch offices from 173 to 154 and creating Super and Plus centers. Many transactions can also be done online.

"We did this without laying anyone off," she said.

She said staff reductions were all through attrition.

"Some people had to move. We worked with the UAW, our union, and they understood that," she said.

Operations in Lansing were also consolidated to one building from five separate sites.

Land said she supports voter IDs, but would like to have the driver's license used as the ID.

"Driver's licenses now have a swipe on the back and I proposed and am proposing and working with the Legislature, but not all can see the vision, that you use your driver's license as your voter card," she said.

She said voters could swipe their card and their registration information would come up automatically on a computer rather than having them go through the slow process of having a poll worker check their books. She suggests that the program be voluntary because others would switch to the card once they see how efficiently it works. She said free voter cards would be given to non-drivers.

A9

(*)

Land also supports early voting as it's been done in other states.

"What they've found in most states that have done this is that with a two-week window, they've found 50 percent of voters have already voted, reducing the cost on election day. You don't need as a many people," she said.

Land has advocated a common ID card to enter Canada rather than a passport as suggested by the Homeland Security Department.

On campaign finance reform, Land supports "real time" disclosure. Under the system, donations would be posted as soon as the donation was deposited rather than having candidates file periodic campaign reports.



2204 or Barbara Schutzgruber at (734) 761-5118.

The tellers give a concert for adults and teens at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 15. A family performance for children and adults takes place 4 p.m. Detroit Story League members have been spinning their tales since 1912. They are available to tell stories at schools and organizations. For more information, visit www.DetroitStorytelling.com.

Metroparks break ground for aquatic center

The Huron-Clinton Metroparks have begun construction of Turtle Cove Aquatic Center at Lower Huron Metropark in Van Buren Township.

Once completed, the \$9.4 million facility will feature two water slides, an activity pool, a lazy river and waterspray area. The shallow section of the pool will have a zero-depth entry and water play features, such as ground sprays for children; the deeper end will have a lap swimming area. Slides, sprays and dumping bucket of water will be the focal point of the waterspray area. Turtle Cove will be able to accommodate up to 1,400 people.

The largest redevelopment project undertaken by the Metroparks, Turtle Cove will replace the swimming pool at Lower Huron, which opened in 1958. The existing pool will stay open for the 2007 summer season until the new facility is completed, projected for 2008. Mission Point welcomes guests to our delightful corner of bistoric Mackinac Island with a unique blend of style, grace, bospitality and incredible value!

Double Occupancy Deals

Guests can enjoy a midweek Mission Point stay (Sunday-through Thursday) for just \$79 per person, double occupancy. Or weekends from just \$89 per person, double occupancy. Round trip ferry tickets and luggage charges.

Mackinac Island Michigan

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RESORT

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Page AlO (C) Thursday, September 14, 2006

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Board shouldn't cave to pressure

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

The Van Buren Schools Board of Education made an error recently when it second-guessed Superintendent Pete Lazaroff's decision to move Belleville High School Assistant Principal Mike Van Tassell to South Middle School for the 2006-07 school year.

Lazaroff wanted to transfer Van Tassell to the middle school after he and the board decided to hire Sheila Brown as the new principal of the high school.

Van Tassell, the former longtime band director at the high school, is popular with parents and students, many of whom showed up at several board meetings to verbalize their displeasure with the move. Van Tassell, represented by the Van Buren Administrators and Supervisors Association, filed a grievance in August.

Less than a week before school was to start, a split board voted 4-3 to reinstate Van Tassell to his former position at the high school. Voting to reinstate were Toni Hunt, Robert Coutts, Martha Toth and Ralph Nodwell.

The move sets a sticky precedence for Lazaroff and all superintendents who will come after him. The No. 1 job for a schools superintendent is to pick a team of administrators that will implement his or her vision for the district. Now, any time Lazaroff must pick people to fill open jobs, he will have to be cognizant of the political ramifications of his decisions. That's not the best way to run a district, especially one that faces a multitude of challenges.

Lazaroff and the board deserve credit for hiring Brown, a former assistant principal from Northville High School. On the surface she looks to be a great hire for a district that has a long history of hiring people from within its own ranks. It must be remembered that Van Tassell also applied for the job, and must have been somewhat disappointed he wasn't chosen.

It only makes sense for the district to move Van Tassell, who only has one year of administrative experience, out of the high school. While we aren't suggesting that he will hold the district's decision not to promote him against Brown, it is not out of the realm of possibility. And Brown, who is bringing a fresh perspective to the job, shouldn't have to worry about looking over her shoulder.

We know how difficult it is to stand up to public pressure, especially when the district has been trying to get voters to approve a millage to build a new, much-needed high school. But the board hired Lazaroff to do a job. They need to let him do it.

9/11 anniversary a reminder to be ready

Our nation is observing the five-year anniversary this week of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks that killed nearly 3,000 innocent Americans in New York, Washington D.C. and Pennsylvania.

The memorial services and other events - as well as



Read the fine print

I recently received a piece of mail from Congressman Thaddeus McCotter. It was an obvious piece of campaign literature, touting his so-called accomplishments and full of empty slogans. Since we're in the middle of the campaign season, I was not surprised.

But when I looked at the fine print, I saw that this flier was paid for not by McCotter's campaign committee, but by the taxpayers of the United States of America. I was and still am outraged! Using funds reserved for official government business to pay for such a blatant political pitch for votes is not only unethical but also illegal.

Thaddeus McCotter should be ashamed of himself. If this is an example of his stewardship of the public purse, he is unfit for the office he occupies. If McCotter had any decency, he would immediately reimburse the U.S. Treasury for the cost of printing and mailing his campaign flier. I hope the voters of the 11th District will remember this abuse of

LETTERS

and qualification have nothing to do with it.

In this regard, is there any wonder our high school students are not achieving? If we return to true merit selection, we will see an improvement across the board in high school achievement. We will free people in our society who work hard to know that their efforts will be rewarded, regardless of their race. Any race. The only preference this country or state should give is to citizens of the United States because it is our country's duty to consider the welfare of its citizens first.

Please vote for the Michigan Civil Rights Initiative. Discrimination in any form hurts our society. Merit-based selection encourages unity and achievement.

> Peggy Robichaud Canton

Happy with roadwork

I want to thank Canton Township Supervisor Tom Yack every time I drive of paying for Canton's ever-lasting expansion. This is especially true in Plymouth Township, where I spoke to hundreds of voters this summer who told me these words, verbatim.

In fact, the people of Plymouth Township opposed the bond so strongly, it's sparked informal discussions of "splitting the district" throughout Plymouth.

Now, if you've lived in Plymouth for any time, you know this discussion of "splitting the district" is not new. I remember my parents talking about it when I was in high school, back in the mid-'90s. At that time, PCEP had over 4,000 kids, and the big issue was smoking on school grounds. Security was beefed up to deal with the problem.

Today, PCEP's population is approaching 6,000, with most kids coming from Canton. Plymouth residents, for good reason, are simply tired of paying for the growth of their neighbors to the south.

Collectively, we know that if our kids are to receive a world-class education, we cannot keep up this rate of expansion.

the recently thwarted terrorist plan to blow up planes flying to the United States from London — are reminders we need to be prepared. Not coincidentally, September is National Preparedness Month. The U.S. Department of Homeland Security is asking families, businesses and organizations this month to take the necessary steps to be ready in the event of another terrorist attack or other emergency.

Other emergencies include severe weather like tornadoes, power and water interruptions like those that occurred during the blackout of August 2003, and pandemic flu outbreaks.

The action plan includes four steps:

■ Get a kit — Get a kit of emergency supplies that will allow you and your family to survive for at least three days. The kit should include basic items like water, food, battery-powered radio, flashlight and first-aid kit. Don't forget prescription medications and be sure to check the kit every six months.

■ Make a plan — Plan in advance what you and your family will do in an emergency. Your plan should include an out-of- state friend who everyone in your family can call to say where they're at.

■ Be informed — Learn more about different threats that could affect your community and appropriate responses to them, as well as emergency plans that have been established in your area.

Get involved – Get training in first aid and emergency response and get involved in preparing your community. Citizen Corps provides residents with opportunities to prepare, train and support local emergency responders. For more information or to find your local Citizen Corps Council, visit www.citizencorps.gov.

For more information, such as a complete list of recommended supplies and suggestions for making a plan, go to www.ready.gov or www.redcross.org.



readers, nurture the hometowns we serve and contribute to the business success of our customers. office when they vote in November. Thomas B. Jankowski

Thomas B. Jankowski Canton

End affirmative action

Passing the Michigan Civil Rights Initiative is the right thing to do. Preferential treatment of any person based on their race or ethnicity discriminates against other races. Period.

For over 40 years, America has used preferential treatment. It was created to give an advantage to disadvantaged black American citizens. During that time, we have seen millions of black citizens gain new employment, get a college education and take advantage of the special treatment they were afforded because of former racial issues in our country. Mission accomplished. They can now compete on merit without discrimination. It is time that people, all people, are considered for jobs and college admission based solely on their merit.

Out of the first basic affirmative action grew other preferences. Hispanics, even if they are not citizens, are given preferential treatment. Foreign peoples are given preferential treatment because they are foreign. All women were then given preferential treatment. Today, all of these groups enjoy the protection of being special. In reality, we've created reverse-discrimination, in most cases against white males and, in some cases against white females. They are not afforded any special treatment, therefore they are discriminated against.

Asking a person to compete on merit alone encourages hard work. Entitlement thinking does not promote ambition or self-reliance. If a student knows that they can get into college with a lower grade based on their race, where is the motivation to achieve? If a student knows that they will be discriminated against based on their being of the white race, where is the motivation? No matter how hard they try or how much they achieve, the answer comes down to one fact. A person must fit into the pecking order that has been created. Hard work by the newly expanded intersection at Cherry Hill and Sheldon. The traffic flow is now much improved. I understand this expansion was part of a bold move to empower ourselves to solve traffic issues, instead of waiting for Wayne County who has the responsibility.

Tom's vision, along with leadership from township engineer Tom Casari, active participation from resident committee members including Canton Township trustee Karl Zarbo, guided a plan for 30-plus intersection improvements to come.

This problem solving, "no VICTIMS here" approach, is what I want in local officials. Please keep managing the growth a township with this desired quality of life is sure to experience.

Jennifer Lay-Luskin

Canton-

Why bond failed

I'm writing in response to the editorial "Next bond must be well-crafted" that recently appeared in the *Observer*.

I appreciate the results found by Epic/MRA — the Lansing polling firm hired to investigate why the Board of Education's recent bond proposal failed — but believe one crucial point was missed. Sure, the bond likely failed for the usual reasons — the public discerned it was asking for "wants" not "needs," people are tired of paying for our schools with debt, the board wanted too much money, and attempts to raise money for schools in Michigan are typically seen with a jaundiced eye, especially since the Engler years.

However, if the board wants their next bond proposal approved, they'd better understand the major reason this last one failed. To qualify my opinion, let me assure you that my opinion is derived from real-time experience, talking with thousands of voters in Plymouth and Plymouth Township this summer while running for state representative.

According to the citizens I spoke with, the bond proposal failed for one major reason — the people of Plymouth are sick

High school isn't college. Kids aren't little adults. And every time we add security guards to deal with the burgeoning student population, or build a new school on the corner of Joy and Canton Center, the adults in our schools and communities get further away from the kids.

Maybe the Board of Education ought to be thinking of ways of putting the next \$120 million into reaching our kids, not building lavish theaters and auxiliary gyms.

> Joe Hawver Plymouth Township

Bond needed?

Do the Plymouth-Canton Schools really need additional tax dollars? I see that they have rushed ahead with the new tennis courts at the park. Also, how much did the board spend to survey the community? The superintendent said \$10,000, the *Detroit News* said \$18,000, and I read some place \$28,000.

How much did it cost to find out that "It is the economy, stupid?"

Don Chumbley Plymouth

SHARE YOUR OPINIONS

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

Mail:

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

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QUOTABLE

"In the long haul, our society will come out on top. I like to think that the evils in this world will disappear... I do pity (Meredith's) killers, as crazy as that sounds ..."

- Canton resident Patricia Whalen, whose daughter, Meredith, was killed in the 9/11 attacks at the World Trade Center

K-16 ballot proposal another ploy to gut state's treasury

s you flip through the channels these days, you're likely to see ads featuring cherubic and hopeful faces in classrooms, with an announcer solemnly intoning phrases like, "We cannot compete in a global economy unless we dramatically improve education."

Sounds pretty good, doesn't it? It's an attempt to sell you on the so-called "K-16" initiative that will appear on the November ballot. If passed, K-16 would require the state of Michigan to provide annual funding increases to match



inflation to local public elementary, middle and high schools, intermediate school districts, community colleges and universities. Early polls show solid support: 65 percent in favor, 25 percent opposed, 10 percent not sure.

But unfortunately, the

amendment isn't really

Phil Power

about teaching at all. Instead, it's mostly about requiring taxpayers to pick up the rapidly increasing costs of school employee pensions.

Called by its proper name, stripped of all the cynically misleading verbiage, K-16 really should be renamed "No school retiree left behind." And should this turkey pass, K-16 would have two extremely bad consequences for Michigan.

First, it would take the pressure off local school officials, school boards and local voters by shifting responsibility for tough financial decisions to the state government.

Second, most of the new dollars K-16 is supposed to produce for kids' education will be gobbled up by school employee pensions.

What we are really looking at is a shell game. Yet it is one with a powerful comeon. The spin revolves around the superficially attractive idea that schools, community colleges and universities should be guaranteed annual increases equivalent to at least the inflation rate. (Now about 3 percent.) The suggestion is that the money will go to more teachers, smaller classes and so forth. But that's not where most of it would go. The biggest allocation comes from clever language that caps local districts' contributions to pensions for retired teachers and school employees. Mind you, it doesn't cap the pensions - just what the local folks will have to pay.

Who pays for the uncapped increases in pension costs?

The state, meaning you, the taxpayer. Back in July, the Senate Fiscal Agency, the bean-counting arm of the state Senate, estimated a first-year total price tag of \$566 million if the K-16 measure were approved. Of this, \$372 million (nearly two-thirds of the total!) would go directly to school retirement funds. Nobody I've talked to, including supporters of the K-16 proposal, disputes this analysis, by the way.

The reason school boards, superintendents and teacher unions are so hell-bent on shifting so much of their local liabilities to the state is because costs of retiree health care and pension benefits are eating them alive. In 1991, the cost of school retiree pensions and health care equaled about 11 percent of school payrolls statewide. Today, the retiree cost is 17 percent and growing rapidly. According to projections by the nonprofit, nonpartisan Citizens Research Council of Michigan, for every dollar paid to working school employees in 2020, the taxpayers will have to fork over 32 cents for retiree health care and pensions.

It's not as though this problem should have surprised anyone paying attention. Back in 2004, then-state school Supt. Tom Watkins warned the state Board of Education that "Combining increased pension contributions and health benefit costs for working employees leaves little room for increased spending directed to teaching and learning, even if the economy improves."

Citizens Research Council also suggested — fruitlessly, it turns out — a bunch of reforms at the local level that would help blunt the problem. These included lowering pension benefits for all new employees, greatly tightening costly early retirement benefits, increasing employee contributions for pension and health care and greatly tightening rules for retiree health care.

But nothing happened and the way it now stands, a Michigan school employee can work as few as five years to qualify for full health benefits upon retirement! In fact, even some of the proponents of K-16 admit in private that they never expected the measure to wind up on the ballot. They figured they could put enough public pressure on the Legislature and governor to get them to cave in without resorting to an initiative. Remember, they turned out nearly 12,000 demonstrators on the Capitol grounds for the purpose last June. But neither Gov. Jennifer Granholm or the Legislature buckled.

So where does leave us?

Only with the familiar, sickening feeling that once again, entrenched special interests are sneakily trying to snag public financing for a juicy perk, one that no private sector company can afford. And this time, they have the gall to pretend it's all for the kids. For shame!

Phil Power is the founder of The Center for Michigan, a moderate think-and-do tank based in Ann Arbor. The opinions expressed here are his own and do not represent official policy positions of The Center for Michigan. He welcomes comments at ppower@hcnnet.com.

District needs a fair policy when dealing with troubled athletes

ocal football fans were treated to a dandy of a game Friday night between the cross-campus rivals Canton Chiefs and Plymouth Wildcats. With a fall chill in the air that provided the perfect conditions for a classic game, the upstart Wildcats of Plymouth defied the odds and led throughout the first half. But Canton showed the toughness and resiliency that got it to the state championship game last year, converting some big plays into points and ultimately winning, 35-24.

It was the kind of game that fans love to watch, coaches love to coach in and kids love to play in. It was the kind of night that makes high school football so special.



One of the kids that was supposed to play in the game was sitting at home, or maybe even in the stands, watching his former Wildcats teammates try to bring down the state powerhouse. Unfortunately for this young man, he was kicked off the team last month after he admitted to Canton Police that he and another young man had been involved in a bit of a crime spree in late July. It must have been a hard pill to

swallow not being able to be part of such a game. Even more so considering

the other person he was with on that July night was suited up and playing a pivotal role for the Chiefs. It's not because Canton coaches or school administrators didn't know about the night the two went around a Canton subdivision and stole about \$60 in change from approximately 25 unlocked cars and a power inverter from an open garage. They were well aware that the two young men provided police with written statements admitting as much, after the police were tipped off by a witness a fellow Canton High student who recognized the Canton football star's car.

The reason this was more serious than just a petty misdemeanor is the fact that the garage they took the power inverter from was attached, which is technically home invasion — a felony. And that's exactly what Canton Police wanted to charge these two with. They sent the warrant down to the Wayne County Prosecutor's office, which decided not to go after the young men because the only known victim in the case (the woman who owned the garage) declined to press charges after meeting with school officials.

Principal Cassandra Smith, athletic director Suzanne Heinzman and coach Tim Baechler convinced the woman that the best way to handle the situation would be outside the legal system. Not only would the woman be reimbursed for her loss, the officials convinced her that the young football star would have to complete an alcohol abuse program and other character training.

If that's good enough for her, then I don't have a problem with this sort of leniency. I realize kids screw up. Let's face it, what these kids did was fairly petty in the big picture, and they probably shouldn't have to face jail time or have their futures ruined.

What makes this case so puzzling to me, however, is the way the two schools handled it. How could one player from Plymouth, who was only expected to play on special teams, get the boot, while Canton's star player received a mere slap on the wrist?

Plymouth-Canton Supt. Jim Ryan said the district's policy is to let each school handle its own disciplinary actions. The one thing that is quite clear is the two athletic directors (Heinzman at Canton and Terry Sawchuk at Plymouth) have interpreted the student handbook quite differently. Heinzman said the crimes were committed during the summer, and therefore the school couldn't discipline the kid like they would if the incident occurred during the season. However, Sawchuk said that players are held accountable for their actions 365 days a year.

I tend to agree more with Sawchuk, because anyone connected to the football team knows it is a yearlong commitment. The season extends beyond the regular season, and that includes the summer, when the team comes together to lift weights and do conditioning.

I would venture to say that just about every football player on both teams (not to mention every player on the Salem team) knows about this incident and the way it was handled by the powers that be. And you can bet they can see the absolute hypocrisy in the situation. Looking in from the outside, it sure looks like the talented kid caught a break that wasn't afforded to a player that was easily replaced in the lineup.

Sawchuk said he and Plymouth Principal Michael Bee met and decided to kick the player off the team. If he wants to participate in other sports this year, he must complete a substance abuse program, maintain good grades and improve his conduct.

"The message was sent. I think it was the right decision," Sawchuk said. "There had to be consequences for these actions."

I'll admit, losing a whole season is a pretty harsh punishment. Perhaps even too harsh, considering no charges were actually leveled against the two young men. But not losing even a single game — or a quarter, for that matter — as was the case for the Canton player, is also difficult to understand. What lesson did he learn here? Is letting him skate on this really going to help him in the future?

When I played high school football, our team's star player, probably the best to ever play at my alma mater, was caught smoking pot in the school parking lot. It was swept under the rug, and the entire team knew about it. Each of us wondered, though, if it had been us, would we have received the same treatment. He went on to play for the University of Michigan. During his senior season, he blew his knee out. Without football, which had always been his meal ticket, he turned to crime and has been in and out of jail ever since. And there were no football coaches or enabling administrators to bail him out.

And then there is Maurice Clarett, the former Ohio State star running back, whose life has spiraled out of control since football was taken away from him. It just seems all too often that star athletes are treated like kings — and their indiscretions swept under the rug until they are no longer productive athletes.

The bottom line in this situation is the district needs to have a uniform and consistent policy with the way it handles such matters.

Heinzman told me that Canton High is in the business of educating kids, and would rather see the young man grow and become a mature adult than just boot him off the team. That is commendable.

But you just have to wonder what lesson the kids, including him, really learned in this situation.

Kurt Kuban is community editor of the *Canton Observer*. He welcomes feedback at (734) 459-2700 or via e-mail at kkuban@hometownlife.com.



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Is cauliflower the new potato? PAGE D



Dana Buchman headlines benefit fashion show **PINK PAGE D8**



INSIDE

Garden calendar

Home calendar Food calendar

HOMETOWN

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



Menu: Tomato basil hummus, marinated shrimp and Italian sausage on a stick and basil lemon garlic chicken, served with side dishes like cucumber tomato salad and chicken tabbouleh.



Cucumber and tomato salad fields a colorful array of fresh vegetables.

Chef adds a little Mediterranean flair to her menu

(See related recipes inside and tailgating tips below.)

> **BY KEN ABRAMCZYK** STAFF WRITER

In the culinary world of Kelli Lewton, tailgating isn't about hot dogs and hamburgers.

The owner of 2 Unique Caterers and Event Planners in Bloomfield Hills believes tailgating can be fresh, Mediterranean-style with a versatility and balance that will please any palate. From chicken kebabs and shrimp and sausage sticks to tomato basil hummus and cucumber and tomato salad, Lewton sets up a menu with enough variety and layers of flavors to set the table for any football fan.

Her menu for today's Hometimelife.com section features tomato basil hummus, marinated shrimp and Italian sausage on a

PLEASE SEE TAILGATING, D4



Kelli Lewton prepares a tailgating meal consisting of pita breads and bread varieties (from left, clockwise), bruschetta, pita chips, chicken kebabs, olive salad, tomato basil hummus and tomato cucumber salad.

Chef Kelli Lewton's tailgating tips





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The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

OFF THE AIR WITH DICK PURTAN & PURTAN'S PEOPLE

But wait, there's more to say about this TV pioneer

uietly, and without much fanfare, an American era came to an end last week

Amid all the brouhaha of Katie Couric's debut we lost someone whose influence on popular culture will persist for generations to come.

I'm speaking, of course, of Arthur Schiff.

Don't feel bad if you don't recognize him. While Mr. Schiff was anything but a household name, his creations dot kitchens, garages and storage spaces from coast to coast.

You see, Mr. Schiff took that staple of



Dick

Purtan

late night TV - the infomercial - from temporary annoyance to a high art form. He is the man who created these now legendary advertising slogans: "Isn't that amazing?"

"Now how much would you pay?" "Act now and you'll also receive ...' and the granddaddy of them all, "But wait,

there's more."

(He isn't credited for other phrases like "Operators are standing by" or "Order before midnight tomorrow," but he was likely the inspiration for the growth of this genre.)

These advertising clichés enabled Mr. Schiff to build a multimillion dollar empire by selling such useful and musthave products as the "miraculous" Ambervision sunglasses, the Miracle Painter (and its cousins the Miracle Slicer and the Miracle Duster) and Armourcote Cookware.

But, his greatest accomplishment is the one that should land him in the advertising Hall of Fame: Quikcut Knives.

You say you don't recognize that

Here are tailgating pointers from Kelli Lewton: Menu planning: Don't overthink your menu. Pick an idea or theme that lends easily to being prepping a day or two ahead.

Form, function & flair: Team colors are a must. There are many newer styles of plastic ware available in interesting shapes and colors with lids that snap on airtight. They look much more like serving pieces than traditional food storage plastic ware.

A reusable tablecloth made out of artificial turf can be used, perhaps even styled by using white electrical tape or paint with a model version of the actual field lines. Inexpensive pompons can add a

little perk to any serving table.

Don't forget the two-sided tape or linen clips to keep your tablecloth from blowing away on a windy day.

Check on the Internet or at your favorite specialty store. You can find mock helmets with your team's name that double as dip holders, grills that you tow with your car or even wall-to-wall sports carpeting for under your tent.

Safety zone: Prepare as much food as you can at home, it is imperative to keep cold foods cold (under 40° F) and hot foods hot (above 160° F).

PLEASE SEE TIPS, D4 at a tailgating party.

Chef Kelli Lewton, owner of 2 Unique Caterers and Event Planners in Bloomfield Hills, believes keeping cold foods cold is easier than maintaining the heat on hot foods

Turn your back yard or basement into a big-screen movie theater



ood things come to those who wait. Lower prices on hot hardware, for instance. I'm speaking of the Optoma MovieTime (www.optomausa.com), a digital projector outfitted with a built-in DVD player and stereo speak-

Just point it at a light-colored wall or hung bedsheet, drop in a movie, and fire up the pop-

Tech Savvy

Rick

Broida

corn popper. Presto: big-screen cinema. When the MovieTime debuted last year, I loved the idea but balked at the \$1,500 list price.

Thankfully, my patience has paid off: The projector now sells for \$999 at stores like Circuit City. That's not much more than you'd pay for a typi-

cal projector, and you get the awesome convenience of the built-in DVD player.

Plus, the unit looks like modern art, with its domed shape and black-and-white plastic modeling.

I'm having tons of fun with this thing. Its name notwithstanding, the MovieTime can be used for more than just movies.

As with any projector, you can connect your cable box for watching TV, your PC for viewing presentations, and even your game console for big-screen gaming.

'PLEASE SEE BROIDA, D2



The Optoma MovieTime projector features a built-in DVD player and speakers, so you can enjoy bigscreen movies just about anywhere.

name? well, maybe the name Mr. Schiff created for that product will ring a bell.

Ginsu. Yes, the knife that slices everything. (Even a penny. Why you would need to do that was never established, but I guess if you could cut old Abe in half, a simple tomato would be no match for that tempered-steel, neverdull blade.)

The story goes something like this. Quikcut wasn't cutting it. So, Mr. Schiff decided to create a name that would conjure up an image of precision.

And that is exactly what he did. He made it up. Ginsu isn't some fancy Japanese word for "cuts like a Samurai sword." Ginsu is a completely made-up word. Like Kleenex. Or Strategery.

The rest, as they say, is history. Mr. Schiff's company became so wildly successful he eventually sold it to a company affiliated with Warren Buffett.

But, Arthur Schiff's passing was noted with barely a whisper. No highenergy pitches. No "amazing" or "incredible" eulogies.

You would think that, at the very least, QVC would do a retrospective of the man's work. After all, it owes its industry to the demand Mr. Schiff created. Instead, he slipped quietly into the late night.

In a fitting end to this pioneer's life. his family has asked that in lieu of flowers, you should send in three easy payments of \$19.95.

You can always reach Dick Purtan at dickpurtan@womc.com. Do it today!

Rapid Refill Ink. CANTON: 42075 Ford Rd. p:734.981.1500 LIVONIA: 17394 Haggerty Rd. p:734.464.4466 it www.raoidrefillink.com for additional Detroit area locations

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Reclaim freshman's room by degrees

avid of Canton writes: "My son is going off to college next week. His room is atrocious and needs serious attention.

"I don't know where to start. The walls need painting; new window treatments; new ceiling fan; closet doors; etc. "More

things up on a

You are in a



Design Solutions

Terri Guastella

year. Junior is heading off to college and it's time to find out what is *really* in that room. What damage is left on the walls behind the posters and under the bed?

It can be a little scary, but fear not, you will reclaim this room.

Before reclaiming, you need to decide the purpose of the room. This is very personal and varies quite a bit from family to family.

Generally speaking, Junior will be back to visit and will need a place to stay. I would caution you from turning his room into your spa retreat, at least not vet.

After deciding the purpose, take stock of the situation. The best way is to remove everything from the room. Take down the window treatments, empty the closet and remove all of the wall art.

If you aren't comfortable with tossing your son's old possessions, just get a few storage boxes and fill them up with your son's items. Label everything and store the boxes in the attic. He'll be picking these boxes up when he graduates.

of the room and can assess the situation.

nice paint color that is fairly neutral and sophisticated. Avoid any paint colors that are gender-specific.

If the carpet is in a beige tone, select a nice tan or coordinating beige color. You can use black accents or navy blue for a very clean, hip look.

You could even look for a comforter set on sale and select your color palette from the bedding. Many of these "Bed-in-a-

Bag" sets come with coordinating curtain panels or valances. too. This is a very inexpensive way to pull the room together.

Once you've chosen your color palette, make sure you repair holes in the walls, sand and prime before painting. This is also a good time for deep carpet cleaning.

If new furniture is required, establish your budget and then stick to it. With the new IKEA store in Canton, there are many ways to furnish a room inexpensively and not sacrifice style in the process.

Install the new light fixture or ceiling fan.

If you decide to keep the room available for your son to use when he visits, keep several of his items in the room. He will still need to store his out-

Alas, it has no ceiling-mount

option (understandable given

trouble making it a permanent

My other complaint is with

images so high that you practi-

cally need to put it on the floor

to achieve normal-height view-

Sure, you can prop up the

rear (which I often had to do),

but that's not an ideal solution.

Optoma promises 2,000

You should also consider the

its design), so you may have

something called lens shift:

The MovieTime projects

fixture.

ing.

Name

Addr

of-season clothes and will want some of his favorite things displayed.

While transforming this room, always try to keep your selections simple. This may not be the last time you will need to redecorate this room, so it is foolish to go overboard at this stage of the game.

Remember to first decide the purpose of the room, objectively assess the redecorating situation, select your color palette, do necessary repairs and cleaning, paint, and then decorate sparingly.

Your son will balk at all of the changes at first, but he may actually come to recognize the value of a clean, fresh room when he visits.

Dorm living can make a young adult appreciate his comfortable bedroom when he comes home.

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.

(which to my eyes didn't negatively impact brightness).

The MovieTime comes with a carrying case, remote and all the other usual stuff.

Now that the price has dipped below \$1,000, I have no problem giving the Optoma MovieTime my wholehearted recommendation.

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 guestions sent to rick.broida@gmail.com.



GARDEN CALENDAR

Hill & Dale Garden Club

14, at the Heritage Park Visitors

Road between 10 and 11 Mile.

The topic will be Black Gold:

and Alan Geisler.

Plant exchange

Orchard Lake Road.

Edible landscape

reservations.

mentals.

plants for yards.

Trees, shrubs

in Livonia.

MBH Garden Club

a.m.

Center, on the west side of Farmington

Indoor/outdoor Composting by Janet

The public may attend: For more infor-

place 8:30-11 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 16, at

Farmington Hills City Hall, on 11 Mile at

For more information, contact Linda

Goldner Walsh Nursery will present

ture in its Our Neck of the Woods

Cost is \$15, Call (248) 332-6430 for

Goldner Walsh Nursery is at 559

The presentation by Ken Asmus of

Oikos Tree Crops in Kalamazoo will

include a slide show, live plants and

some great-tasting landscape orna-

native edible landscape plants that

are hardy to our zone with ornamen-

Register for a chance to win a Pawpaw

tree (Michigan banana) valued at \$100.

Learn about the many uses of woody

trees and shrubs and how to select

and arrange them in your landscape,

and learn about various plant materi-

als available to landscape your yard,

in a class offered by Schoolcraft

Professional Development.

College Continuing Education and

The three-week class, Woody Trees

Wednesday, Sept. 20. It will take place

Haggerty between Six and Seven Mile

Cost is \$73 (senior cost, \$58.40), book

For more information, call (734) 462-

4448 or visit www.schoolcraft.edu,

Oakland University's Meadow Brook

Friday, Sept. 22, in the Coach House,

OU campus in Rochester. Coffee and

refreshments will be served at 9:30

Guest speaker Deborah Lee, president

of Shades of Green garden center, will

talk about how to select, plant and

Non-member donation \$5.

maintain a new tree.

Reservations aren't required.

adjacent to Meadow Brook Hall on the

Hall Garden Club will meet 10 a.m.

and Shrubs, will begin 7-9:40 p.m.

at the Schoolcraft campus on

and supplies included.

The talk will focus on edible and

tal qualities sought in landscape

Orchard Lake Road in Pontiac.

series, noon Saturday, Sept. 16.

The Edible Landscape, the second lec-

Talacki at (248) 646-4374 or

calamintha@yahoo.com.

mation, contact Mar Sclawy at (248)

333-3108 or stemar@comcast.net.

The City Plant Exchange will take

in Fall Container Gardening, a class The Hill & Dale Garden Club will have a offered at 7-9 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 19, at general meeting 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. The Community House, 380 S. Bates in

> Birmingham. Cost is \$25. To register and for more information, call The Community House at (248) 644-5832 or visit www.communityhouse.com. Instructor Heidi Cook is the owner of Liberty Street Gardens, which performs a variety of maintenance and design services for residential and commercial properties in and around Farmington. She is a master gardener and an instructor at the Michigan School of Gardening.

Indoor plants

English Gardens hosts free seminars 7 p.m. Wednesdays 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. Caring for Indoor Plants will be the topic Sept. 20. Tropical plants brighten a home and clean the air as well. Learn how to select and care for plants that will thrive indoors. Tips on bringing plants back indoors will also be featured.

Feeding Our Feathered Friends will be the topic Sept. 27.

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 Cooking with Roses (1 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 17, repeated 11 a.m. Monday, Sept. 18), and Winter Preparation for Roses (1 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 24, repeated 11 a.m. Monday, Sept. 25).

In the cooking program, learn how to grow edible roses and prepare tempting rose recipes, and sample rose treats.

The winter preparation program is a garden demonstration of techniques to ensure winter survival of all garden roses.

Small spaces

If you're a gardener with limited space who still wants a variety of trees and shrubs, attend Tips on Trees and Shrubs for Small Spaces, a class offered 7-9 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 26, at The Community House, 380 S. Bates in Birmingham. Cost is \$25. To register and for more information, call The Community

House at (248) 644-5832 or visit www.communityhouse.com.

BROIDA FROM PAGE D1

But I mostly love its movietheater-in-a-box versatility.

Recently we had an outdoor screening of Annie for a group of neighborhood kids. We hung a queen-size bedsheet from the deck rail, set the projector on a table about 8 feet away, and arranged blankets on the grass.

It was awesome, like being at a drive-in movie without having to drive anywhere.

The only problem was sound: The MovieTime's 5watt speakers are sufficient for a family room, but not for the

open space of a back yard. Thankfully, we'd planned ahead: A neighbor brought over a pair of bookshelf speakers and his stereo amplifier, which plugged into the projector's audio-out jack. This was well worth the extra effort, as great video is nothing without

To my thinking, this is the perfect time of year for backyard movies, as the sun sets at a reasonable hour and the evenings are cool enough to keep the bugs away (and perfect for snuggling under blankets).

works just as well in a basement, living room or wherever.

RADIATOR ENCLOSURES

great audio.

steep price of replacement bulbs: \$350. Of course, the MovieTime hours of life per bulb, or 3,000 if you switch off "Brite" mode

position that many parents are finding themselves in at this time of

Now you can get a clear view

I would suggest selecting a

D2 (*)

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Individual tickets are \$20 each • 7 6 Concert Bluegrass Series Price: \$105 (includes a \$15 discount) (Bluegrass series special must be orderd on or before September 22, 2006)	o order tickets, please return this form and a check to: Oakland Community College Performing Arts Department 2480 Opdyke Road Bloomfield Hills MI 48304

For more information, call (248) 608 0485 or (248) 310-8793, or visit www.meadowbrookhall.com. Fall fair

The Toligate Gardeners at the Michigan State University Tollgate Education Center will have their annual Fall Fair 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 16, 28115 Meadowbrook in Novi. Admission is free. Free refreshments will be available.

For more information, call (248) 347-3860, Ext. 212.

Fall containers

Learn about the beautiful flowers and foliage plants that will look spectacular in containers until mid-November

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Instructor Steven Nikkila iş co-owner of Perennial Favorites, a garden and landscape design firm. He is a senior instructor at Michigan School of Gardening and a Practical Gardening Institute trainer. Tree-mendous

Take a leisurely walk with your preschooler through the gardens and woods at Michigan State University Hidden Lake Gardens in Tipton in Treemendous Trees for Preschoolers, 10-11:30 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 20. Along the way, samples of leaves for an indoor project will be collected. Cost is \$8. Pre-registration is required. Call (517) 431-2060.

Not stuck with stippled ceilings

BY MORRIS AND JAMES CAREY FOR AP WEEKLY FEATURES

From Doug of Winchester, Va.: "I live in a house that has stippled ceilings throughout. This was put on several years ago. to hide imperfections. Is there a way to get rid of this texture so I can have smooth ceilings?'

Yes, you can have smooth ceilings again. The stippling effect is simply paint applied with a special stipple roller. If the paint used was latex, you can wet the paint and then scrape away.

If the paint used was oilbased, it will be slightly more difficult.

First, do a wash of the ceiling with synthetic TSP. Once dry, do a light sanding with 80-grit paper on a sanding pole. Finally, you can "float out" the surface with drywall joint compound.

Use a wide joint compound knife to spread thin layers of the compound into the voids on the ceiling to make a smooth surface. You may need to apply more than one layer.

Keep in mind that you will need to wait for the first coat to completely dry before adding other coats. Sanding each coat is also recommended.

Once your ceiling is smooth, you can paint normally, or apply a textured finish of your choice and then paint.

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Think before you call for appliance service

ve written about the quality of major home appliances, the expensive repairs, which may be needed, and the assurance and piece of mind that comes from buying an extended service contract provided it didn't cost you an unreasonable

Most impor-

see it. My

friend Linda

didn't, and as a

result she had

this story to tell



Appliance Doctor

Joe Gagnon

"Ever since my husband passed away suddenly last year I have had so much confusion in my life. He took care of everything and fixed all sorts of problems around the house. He paid the bills and always organized our calendar and I sure miss him.

"The central air conditioner stopped working the other day, no more cool air coming out of the register, so I called my son, who came over to look at it.

'He checked out the fuses outside in the fuse box and they appeared to be fine, so he called a friend who works in the heating and cooling business.

"This friend of his told me that I had a defective compressor and that he could replace it at a pretty expensive cost. I asked him to give me a few days to think about it, as the unit is 12 years old and I needed advice as to which way to go, replace or repair.

"The next day I called Consumers Energy on a matter not related to air conditioning, and they informed me that our home was covered by an extended warranty plan which my husband had signed up for several years ago.

"I explained my existing problem to them, and the next day they sent out a service technician to check out my central air.

"Lo and behold, he didn't find a bad compressor, he found a broken wire which connects to a relay. He fixed it and now the system works great.

"I am so pleased that my husband purchased this appliance plan. It didn't cost me for repairs and I saved a whole bunch of money in not having to replace the compressor. I had a strong conversation with my son concerning his so-called friend who was ready to take my money."

EYE OPENING

So you see, folks, sometimes we forget things, and I can attest to the normalcy of such happenings.

Sometimes we don't think about the unethical behavior of some service businesses and it's very eye opening when we encounter those types.

Take Stephanie, who called for repair on her refrigerator. The icemaker water valve was leaking and Ron Hoffman from A & R Appliance Service changed the valve at a charge of \$125.

One and a half years later, the valve leaked again, and her husband called another company who offered a free service call in their advertising.

He thought he was going to get a real break on fixing the broken water valve, only to be quoted an estimate of \$250 for repairs.

He escorted the repairman to the outside of his home, only to be told that he had to pay \$70 for the service call. He came to find out the service call wasn't free unless you had the repairs done by this company.

Stephanie is just disgusted with this whole event and wonders how these people can stay in business. She said, "They should be in jail."

It has been a while since I've written of examples of the wrongs that still exist in my appliance repair industry.

I must say that there has been great improvement here in Michigan, but it's still not perfect and it will never be. All the more reason for you to heed the words of an old man who has been in this game for many years.

Personally, I've had an extended service plan on my heating, air conditioning unit, hot water tank and major home appliances for the past 10 years.

I'm the guy who can fix any of them with his eyes closed and yet, I think it's worthwhile having. 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 guestion about an appliance or a problem you have with an appliance? E-mail your question to mklemic@hometownlife.com and it will be forwarded to Joe Gagnon.

HOME CALENDAR

Community Education in cooperation with The Design Spirit. The class, Finding Your Way Through Feng Shui, will take place 7-9:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 21, at Seaholm High School, 2436 W. Lincoln in Birmingham.

Cost is \$40, including materials. Class size is limited. Register by Tuesday, Call Birmingham Community Education at (248) 203-3800 between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30

Fall seminar

Design expert Ray Boley will host a free seminar on updating a home for fail 7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 19, at Art Van Furniture in Ann Arbor. Guests will be treated to refreshments and a gift. Reservations are requested; call (888) 619-2199. Boley owns and operates Sharod Designs in White Lake. During the seminar, he will share information on different decorating styles, and



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Sewing 101

Want to tackle home decorating projects but consider yourself sewing machine challenged? Learn the basic operation of a sewing machine in a class offered by Schoolcraft College **Continuing Education and** Professional Development. The two-week class, Sewing 101: For Home Decorating, will begin 6-8 p.m. Monday, Sept. 18. Cost is \$49 (senior cost, \$39.20); bring your own sewing

machine.

Stitch settings, threading the machine, winding bobbins, notions, interfacings and machine accessories will be featured. No projects will be assigned. You'll leave class with a review packet of instructions. For more information, call (734) 462-4448 or visit www.schoolcraft.edu.

Northville home tour

The Northville Historical Home Tour. sponsored by the Northville/Novi American Association of University Women, will take place 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 16. The tour will feature four homes in downtown Northville.

Tickets are \$15. They are available in Northville at Petite Maison, Pear-Aphanaila, Gardenviews and the Chamber of Commerce; in Plymouth at Cozy Cafe; and by calling (734) 207-1942.

Feng shui

Learn about feng shui, the ancient Chinese practice of placement, in a class offered by Birmingham

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p.m. weekdays. **Rochester Community Education in** cooperation with The Design Spirit is offering the class 7-9:30 p.m. Monday, Sept. 25, at Adams High

School, 3200 W. Tienken in Rochester, Cost is \$40, including materials. Class size is limited. Register by Thursday, Sept. 21. Call Rochester Community Education at (248) 726-3165 between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday. (Henry Ford Community College in cooperation with The Design Spirit is

offering the class 9:30 a.m. to noon Tuesday, Sept. 19, at the HFCC Dearborn Heights campus. Cost is \$35, including materials. Class size is limited. Register by Friday. Call HFCC at (313) 317-1500 between 8:30 a.m.

and 4:30 p.m.) The Design Spirit presents feng shui classes for Oakland Builders Institute. For a free brochure and current class schedule, call (800) 940-2014 or (248) 651-2771.

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demonstrate easy ways to update a home through accessories and other simple changes. The evening will end with a question-and-answer period. 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 through September. It also presents Tuesday After Work tours in downtown Detroit 5:30 p.m. every week.

Tours of the New Center area are available by appointment. Each tour offers a blend of the history of the area and what is happening now. Cost is \$10. Visit www.preservationwayne.org or call (313) 577-7674. Send calendar items at least two weeks ahead of the event to Mary Klemic, At Home Editor, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham 48009, e-mail mklemic@hometownlife.com, fax (734) 591-7279 ог (248) 644-1314.

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NSIGNMENT OUT

HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

You'll run up the score with these recipes

CHICKEN TABBOULEH

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, September 14, 2006

1 cup medium-grade bulgur (6 ourices) 11/2 cups boiling water or chicken stock

½ cup and 2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice

1 teaspoon kosher salt 2 large chicken breast halves on the bone ¼ cup extra virgin olive oil ¼ cup finely chopped red onion 1 cup finely chopped flat leaf parsley (approximately two bunches) ¼ cup finely chopped mint

1/2 seedless cucumber, diced small 1 pint grape or cherry tomatoes, halved lengthwise

Season chicken breast with salt and fresh cracked pepper, then brush with olive oil. Roast in 350º F oven for 30-40 minutes until cooked through. Let cool and pull chicken meat off the bone in medium pieces (about the size you would expect to see in chicken salad).

In a large heatproof bowl, combine the bulgur with the boiling water or chicken stock, lemon juice and 1 teaspoon kosher salt. Let bulgur mixture stand until the water has been absorbed and the grains are tender, about 20-30 minutes.

Mix pulled chicken and bulgur wheat with remaining ingredients. Season with kosher salt and fresh cracked pepper.

Serve with romaine hearts, crackers, pita bread and/or pita chips.

(Feel free to make this dish ahead and refrigerate for one day. You can also prepare it as far as two days ahead, but dress the salad with lemon juice and olive oil the night before or morning of the day the dish is to be served.)

TOMATO BASIL HUMMUS

- 1 (14 ounces) can of chickpeas or garbanzo beans, reserve liquid 2 cloves of garlic, chopped
- ¼ cup fresh lemon juice 1/4 cup liquid reserve from garbanzo
- bean can (if can does not total a ¼ cup, make up the difference
- with water) 3 tablespoons of reconstituted sundried tomatoes
- ½ cup Tahini (sesame seed paste sold in most grocery stores in gourmet or imported food section)
- 1 teaspoon kosher salt



Tomato basil hummus combines sun-dried tomatoes with the rich heartiness of garbanzo beans.

3 tablespoons basil, cut in thin strips

Place garbanzo beans in small pot and bring to medium simmer. for 3-4 minutes. Drain and reserve liquid.

Place garbanzo beans in food processor. Add garlic; sun-dried tomatoes, lemon juice, Tahini and reserved liquid from garbanzo bean can. Puree in food processor until smooth.

Season with salt and stir basil in by hand with a spoon.

Serve as a sandwich spread or dip with pita chips, breads and crackers. Yield 8-10 servings.

MEDITERRANEAN CHICKEN STRIPS

- 2½ pounds boneless skinless chicken breast
- ½ Spanish onion cut into%-inch pieces
- 1 tablespoon chopped garlic 2 tablespoons chopped black olives (optional)
- 2 tablespoons chopped reconstituted sun-dried tomatoes 2 tablespoons fresh chopped basil
- 1 tablespoon fresh chopped oregano (or ½ tsp dried)
- ¼ cup good quality olive oil 2 ounces of fresh squeezed lemon juice 1½ teaspoons fresh cracked pepper Kosher salt

Prep chicken 24 hours prior to cooking.

Cut chicken breast into 1-by -11/2 inch cubes and toss with fresh lemon juice, olive oil, garlic, chopped olives, sun-dried tomatoes, herbs and pepper and marinate overnight.

Skewer chicken on heavy bamboo or wooden stick, alternating chicken meat with a piece of onion. Season each stick with a sprinkle of salt.

Grill on barbecue approximately 12-15 minutes, turning often until cooked through.

Great served on an olive oil brushed and grilled hoagie roll, pita bread or just right off the stick. It's also great with a smear of tomato basil hummus and cucumber salad. (See other recipes.) Yields eight sticks.

SHRIMP AND SAUSAGE STICKS

- 16 large (16-20 sized) raw shrimp, peeled and cleaned
- 3 links of spicy Italian sausage or chorizo (4 ounce links) 2 tablespoons pesto Hearty sprinkle of red pepper flakes
- 1 tablespoon Dijon mustard 1 tablespoon olive oil Juice of ½ lemon
- Salt and pepper

Precook sausage on grill or in oven until cooked through and cool. Slice sausage into 1/2 -3/4-inch circles Mix pesto, red pepper flakes,

Dijon mustard, olive oil and lemon juice and toss with shrimp.

Skew sausage, alternating with shrimp, on wooden kebob style sticks. You should have three slices

until shrimp is cooked through and sausage has been reheated. Yields eight sticks.

CUCUMBER AND TOMATO SALAD

- 2 cups English cucumbers, peeled 2 cups of vine fresh heirloom style or plum tomatoes chunky medium dice
- ½ red onion, cut in thin strips

4 tablespoons red wine vinegar 3 tablespoons fresh chopped parsley ¼ cup good quality olive oil 1 teaspoon white sugar

Salt and fresh cracked pepper to taste

Peel English cucumbers, cut lengthwise and then cut in 1/2 inch moon shape.

Mix vinegar, oil, sugar and parsley. Toss chunky cut tomatoes, onion

and cucumbers in vinegar mixture and season to taste with kosher salt and fresh cracked pepper.

Cucumbers are a great addition to tailgate sandwiches or as a fresh crisp side salad. Yields eight servings.

Recipes courtesy of Kelli Lewton, owner of 2 Unique Catering in Bloomfield Hills. TAILGATING

FROM PAGE D1

stick and basil lemon garlic chicken, served with side dishes like cucumber tomato salad and chicken tabbouleh.

"What I'm seeing is people taking it to the next level," Lewton said. Years ago, the more adventurous tailgaters went as far as grilling chicken sausage, but now, you see more of the Mediterranean flavors and emphasis on freshness, she said.

Meats and vegetables marinated and skewered (like her accompanying recipes) on wooden sticks can please the crowds, she said.

"Try to choose something that isn't too labor intensive," Lewton said. "You can slap these on the grill, cook for about 10 or 15 minutes, and eat them right there." That allows enough time to socialize with family and friends without rushing to the game to make the opening kickoff.

Do not select foods that you have to hold hot for hours. It is better to have a larger variety of cold foods as it is easier to control the temperature and choose one or two raw foods you can keep cold and then grill fresh and hot on site.

"It is easier to keep cold food cold than to keep hot food 'hot," Lewton said.

Serve an array of out of the ordinary dips, spreads and marinated items paired with "fun dippers" including veggie and pita chips, toasted bread rounds and artisan style potato chips. Lewton also recommends keeping a game box in tow with items needed for each game - basic utensils, including extra serving spoons and openers, food wrap, potholders or barbecue mitts, tongs, plates, cups, napkins, plastic ware, paper towels and trash bags. These items can be bought in bulk and replenished as needed.

TIPS

FROM PAGE D1

Prep cold foods such as potato, pasta or meat salads at least one day prior to ensure your food has adequate time to be chilled completely.

Pack raw foods in a separate cooler from cooked foods. (Ignoring this step could most certainly be an invitation for food-borne illness.)

Keep iced beverages in a separate cooler.

Coolers should be located out of the direct sunlight. If you are preparing food for large groups and are bringing multiple or large coolers, consider bringing an extra cooler with additional bags of ice to re-ice food coolers.

Food should not be allowed to sit out for more than two hours.

Hand washing cannot be overlooked especially if you are handling raw meats. There are a variety of alcoholbased hand sanitizers and towelettes available in most grocery stores or pack a damp washcloth and soap from home, transported in a re-sealable food storage bag.

For ease of cleanup as well as good food handling, bring foods in disposable containers or heavy food storage bags. Meat, poultry and seafood should be doubled. bagged or stored in containers and then bagged to prevent cross contamination of raw foods.

Pack foods in reverse order so that the last ones in are used first.

Be careful with leftovers. When in doubt, throw it out.

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BEAUTY & THE BEAST

of sausage and two shrimp per skewer. Grill on barbecue 5-8 minutes



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Try cauliflower instead of potatoes in your next salad,

Is cauliflower the new potato?

BY DANA JACOBI THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR CANCER RESEARCH

These days, many cookbooks recommend eating a variety of fruits and vegetables in a rainbow of colors. Some actually present their recipes grouped by color, based on a main ingredient, such as yellow for corn chowder.

Looking at these books, I think of what my grandmother would have said and I smile. Strongly opinionated, she followed some heath-food gurus who held extreme views. Trying to reason with her led to years of heated but friendly arguments about what is good for you.

White foods were strictly taboo. Grandma knew that for artists, color theory defined white as the absence of color. She insisted that in food, white also meant a lack of nutritional value. Overlooking the goodness of chicken breast, halibut and

other white fish, she fastened on the nutrition deficiencies in white bread and white rice, which do, admittedly, provide many fewer health benefits than whole-grain bread and

rice. She also scorned mashed potatoes. Before pasta became popular, some Americans ate mashed potatoes every day, preferably pre-pared with a lavish amount of butter and sometimes cream as well.

To Grandma, this meant eating three foods she considered killers. I wish she was still around so I could serve her healthy, "smashed" potatoes made with the skin on and using low-fat milk or heart-healthy olive oil.

To heat up our debate, I loved to bring up cauliflower in our talks.

I even made mashed cauliflower for her, seasoning it with garlic and olive oil, two foods she ate all the time. (I used roasted garlic.) Of course, she refused to eat it even though I pointed out that it provides many of the

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same nutrients as cabbage, which she loved, and was much better for us than mashed potatoes.

I often use cauliflower to replace potatoes in other dishes as well. For a chunky no-potato salad with Scandinavian flavor, I combine blanched florets of cauliflower, cooled to room temperature, with diced apple, dill and a zesty mustard dressing.

CAULIFLOWER SALAD - 1 medium cauliflower (about 2

- pounds), cut in 1-inch florets 2 Gala or Fuji apples, peeled, cored and cut in³/-inch pieces
- 1/2 cup finely-chopped scallions, green and white parts 4 cup finely-chopped red onion 4 teaspoons Dijon-style mus-

tard 1 tablespoon lemon juice ½ teaspoon salt 1 tablespoon extra virgin olive

oil Freshly ground black pepper ¼ cup chopped fresh dill

Cook the cauliflower in a large pot of boiling water until tender-crisp, about 5 minutes. Meanwhile, set a bowl of ice water in the sink. Drain the cauliflower in a colander, then immediately plunge it into the ice water. Chill it completely, drain well, then blot with paper towels to remove excess water. There will be about 6 cups cooked cauliflower.

Place the florets in a large bowl. Add the apple, scallions and onion. In a small bowl, whisk together the mustard, lemon juice and salt. Whisk in the oil. Pour the dressing over the cauliflower and toss well to evenly distribute it. Season to taste with pepper. Mix in the dill. Cover and refrigerate the salad 1 to 2 hours before serving. This salad keeps well in the refrigerator up to 2 days. Check and adjust the seasoning before serving.

Makes 10 servings. Per serving: 55 calories, 1 g. total fat (0 g. saturated fat), 10 g. carbohydrate, 2 g. protein, 3 g. dietary fiber, 172 mg. sodium. Dana Jacobi is author of The Joy of Soy and writes for AICR.

Last-minute 'lasagna' (OK, it's really ravioli)

BY J.M. HIRSCH ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

CONCORD, N.H. (AP) -This is a slap-your-forehead sort of recipe. Much as I love lasagna - it's

so hard not to love something that celebrates the culinary triumvirate of pasta, cheese and tomatoes - it's been at least four years since I've made one.

That's because even with noboil noodles, assembly of a lasagna is an undertaking. And while I could block off some weekend time to make two or three to freeze and eat later, how likely is that to happen?

Plus, the freezer trick requires that I be organized enough to remember to move a lasagna from the freezer to the refrigerator the night before I want it. Or I could bake it frozen and plan to have it for breakfast the next day.

Which is why I was so completely wooed and wowed by the shortcut recipe for lasagna in Real Simple magazine's recent cookbook, Real Simple: Meals Made Easy (Real Simple Books, 2006, \$24.95).

This lasagna does away with lasagna noodles, boiled or otherwise, replacing them with frozen cheese ravioli. Brilliant! Add jarred sauce, bags of shredded cheese and frozen chopped spinach, and total prep clocks in at 10 minutes.

Now that's a lasagna I could make more than once every four years.

I also like this recipe's opportunity for easy variation. If you prefer meat in your lasagna, make half of the ravioli meatfilled. Or use a meat sauce. Or go in the other direction and use soy "cheese" ravioli and skip the shredded cheese.

You also could use ravioli with flavored pasta, such as green spinach ravioli or red tomato.

One caution: Be certain to squeeze the excess water from the spinach. Frozen spinach

PASSPORT TO SAFETY

This lasagna does away with lasagna noodles, boiled or otherwise, replacing them with frozen cheese ravioli. Brilliant! Add jarred sauce, bags of shredded cheese and frozen chopped spinach, and total prep clocks in at 10 minutes.

retains a tremendous amount of water which will drown your lasagna if not removed.

The easiest way to drain thawed spinach is to place it in the center of a kitchen towel, wrap it tightly, then twist and squeeze for several seconds over a sink. This should remove nearly all the water.

LAST-MINUTE "LASAGNA"

24- to 26-ounce jar pasta sauce

- Two 16- to 18-ounce bags frozen large cheese ravioli
- 10-ounce box frozen chopped spinach, thawed and

squeezed to remove excess water

8-ounce bag shredded mozzarella

1/2 cup grated Parmesan cheese

Preheat oven to 350º F.

Spoon a third of the pasta sauce into a 9-by-13-inch baking dish. Place half of the ravioli over the sauce in a single layer. Top with another third of a jar of tomato sauce. Sprinkle with the spinach and half the mozzarella.

Add the remaining ravioli in a single layer (you may not need all of them). Top with remaining sauce and cheeses. Cover with foil and bake 25 minutes. Uncover and bake until bubbling, about 5 to 10 minutes.

Makes 6 servings.

(Recipe from Real Simple: Meals Made Easy, Real Simple Books, 2006, \$24.95)

J.M. Hirsch can be e-mailed at ihirsch@ap.org.



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Burgundy marries California

arry Hyde grows 150 acres of wine grapes on the eastern edge of Napa Valley's Los Carneros appellation. He is so good at what he does that many winemakers want to be counted as his customers.

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Wineries that bottle and label wine grown by Hyde include such luminàries as Kistler, Patz and Hall, Paul Hobbs, Ramey Wine Cellars, Robert Mondavi and Mia Klein's Selene Wines.

In 1969, Hyde's cousin, Pamela, met Aubert de Villaine, one of Burgundy's most renowned winemakers. He was co-director of Domaine de la Romanée-Conti, the storied Burgundy producer. Aubert and Pamela were married in 1971 and have lived in Burgundy since 1973.

Together they make and market red and white Burgundies under the name A. & P. de Villaine.

CALIFORNIA KNOCKS

In 1998, Aubert tasted a Hyde Vineyard-designated chardonnay, was duly impressed, and that same year, initiated discussions with Hyde about starting a family partnership to make Hyde Vineyard wines from California fruit but by a Burgundy winemaker under the HdV (Hyde de Villaine) label.

Thus HdV joined the long list of French-American joint ventures making wine on the United States "left" coast.

In 2002, the first vintage of a 2000 HdV Chardonnay and 2000 Red Blend was released and quickly sold out. From the get-go, only the best barrels found their way into the HdV wines.

Hyde has farmed his Carneros vineyards since 1977. "I use mechanical tillage in place of herbicides, and compost instead of chemical fertilizers," Hyde said. "We seed

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insectary flowers in the cover crop to reduce the need for pesticides. Insectary flowers provide habitat for natural predators.

"Part of our sustainable farming program also keeps the riparian forest (located along a creek bed that borders Hyde's vineyard) intact. This care for environment pays back with various beneficials, such as owls, hawks, and wasps, whose habitat is the riparian forest."

De Villaine added: "Our decision to create HdV was based on our common belief that the highest quality, the level that is looked for by connoisseurs, is not reached through technological interactions, but from the reflection in the wine of the affinities that subtly marry a terroir and a varietal. It is from a 'place' where the grapes have been produced that a wine will gain this supplement of charm and purity, which will give it a chance to be named a great wine."

Stéphane Vivier, HdV's French-born winemaker, said, "The secret at Hyde Vineyards is its terroir — the vineyard produces ripe grapes with vibrant acidity, soft tannins and a distinctive minerality. In Carneros (with its cool climate), we make wines with good acidity."

WHAT TO BUY FROM HDV

🖩 2005 de la Guerra Carneros Chardonnay (\$37) showcases bright apple and tropical fruit. The wine's balanced fruit and oak create an attractive finish designed to

WINE PICKS

If our Focus on Wine column raised enthusiasm to try a White Burgundy (chardonnay), here are a few that are really tasty with notes of vanilla, apple and citrus, ending with balanced fruit and oak.

2004 Joseph Drouhin Meursault \$36.

2004 Joseph Drouhin Clos des Mouches Beaune S70, a powerful, yet elegant, expression.

- 2005 Olivier Leflaive Bourgogne Blanc "Les Setilles" \$17. 2005 JJ Vincent Bourgogne Blanc (Chardonnay) SI4.

The following are change-of-pace white wines to usher in the last week of summer. They'll match well with sushi, shellfish, fish, and Asian cui-

2004 Hugel et Fils Pinot Blanc "Cuvee Les Amours" Irom Alsace S15.

2005 Michel Torino Don David Torrontes \$15.

2005 Genesis Riesling, Columbia Valley Washington \$16.

2005 Trefethen Dry Riesling Oak Knoll Napa Valley S20.

2005 Bridlewood Reserve Viognier S24.

2004 Beringer Knights Valley Alluvium Blanc S16 (blend of sauvignon) blanc, semillon, chardonnay and viognier). 2004 Arrowood Cote de Lune Blanc, Saralee's Vineyard \$20 (blend of

roussanne, marsanne and vlognier).

And for readers grumbling, "where are the **reds**?". 2004 Castillo de Monseran Garnacha (Spain) S7 is a real deal.

If a retailer does not stock a specific wine we recommend, ask that it be ordered from the distributor or order it direct from the winery.

complement food.

2003 HdV Carneros Chardonnay (\$58) is produced from dry-farmed vineyards, yielding a mere two to three tons per acre. To retain the minerality, characteristic of the vineyard, fermentation was started in stainless steel. The wine was then aged in 25 percent French oak barrels and retained on its lees for 11 months, which adds depth and a broad palate while retaining the balanced acidity found in great chardonnays.

2004 HdV Carneros Syrah (\$62), grown in the cool Carneros region with foggy mornings and warm afternoons, results in a cool climate syrah with the finesse of one from France's northern Rhone Valley. It boasts black fruit aro-

mas and flavors, an attractive core of brown spices and a long, smooth finish.

2003 HdV Carneros Proprietary Red (\$62) could be labeled merlot since the wine's composition is 90 percent merlot with 10 percent cabernet sauvignon. Following a long, cool growing season that allowed fruit flavors to develop, extended maceration on the skins encouraged formation of fine, velvety tannins. The wine shows great length, richness and ageability.

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.

If you have an item for the Food 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. **Cooking classes**

The Community House offers the following culinary classes to the public this summer and fall: Make Your Own Take-Out, Asian inspired food, sample food and take home recipes, \$5 material fee payable to instructor, class taught by Katie Renton, owner of Chef Girl Productions in Birmingham, 7:30-9 p.m. Sept. 14, \$30; to register for this

class, contact The Community House, 380 S. Bates, Birmingham, call (248) 644-5832, or visit online at www.communityhouse.com.

Tasty tapas Explore the "little bites" trend of small plates packed with big flavor, \$10 materials fee payable to instructor at class, 6:30 p.m. Sept. 21, Berkshire Middle School, 21707 W. 14 Mile Road, Beverly Hills, Room 108, \$39. Register at www.communityed.net or call (248) 203-3800.

Wine exploration series

The Community House in Birmingham is offering a series of wine classes. Taste six wines representing six regions throughout the world, learn to read wine labels and order from restaurant menus at An Introduction to Wine, Wednesday, Sept. 20, \$28. Other classes include California and the Pacific Northwest, Wednesday, Sept. 27, \$28: French Wines, Wednesday, Oct. 4, \$26; More About French Wines, Wednesday, Oct. 11, \$26; Italian Wines, Oct. 25, \$26;The New Worlds of Wine: Australia, Chile, Argentina, South Africa and New Zealand, Wednesday, Nov. 8, \$26; Champagne and Sparkling Wines, Wednesday, Nov. 15. All classes begin at 7:30 p.m. For infor-

FARMERS MARKET

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.

Clarkston Farmers Market 8 a.m. to noon Saturdays, through October, across from Depot Park in downtown Clarkston, just west of Main Street on Depot Road, clarkstonfarmersmarket.org.

mation, contact The Community House, 380 S. Bates, Birmingham at (248) 644-5832 or visit www.communityhouse.com

Indian cooking

FOOD CALENDAR

Suvir Saran, master chef and author of Indian Home Cooking, presents four cooking classes highlighting the world of Indian cooking, 6-9 p.m. Oct. 22-25; at the culinary arts instructional kitchens at the VisTaTech Center at Schoolcraft College in Livonia. Each session is \$109, the series is \$399. Two hands-on sessions and two demonstration sessions are available. For more information, call Michele Bialo at (734) 462-4400, Ext. 5223 or email mbialo@schoolcraft.edu.

Grapevine School of Wine

Learn about wine at one or more of the following classes: Chocolate and Wine: Fable or Fabulous? 7 p.m. Sept. 18, Big Rock Chop House, 245 S. Eton, Birmingham, \$45; Introduction to Wine, 7 p.m. Sept. 19, Royal Park Hotel, 600 E. University Dr., Rochester, \$35; Italy: A Deep Dive into the Northeast Region, Royal Park Hotel, 7 p.m. Sept. 26, 600 E. University Dr., Rochester, \$60; Going Way South to Argentina and Chile, 7 p.m. Sept. 27, Big Rock Chop House, 245 S. Eton, Birmingham, \$45; France: The Mother of Modern Wine, 7 p.m. Sept. 28, Station 885, 885 Starkweather, Plymouth, \$45. Register

online at www.grapevineschoolofwine.com. For additional information, call (248) 990-4613.

Zuppe

Learn about healthy Italian soups from Giovanna Cappi, including pasta e fagioli (bean and pasta soup), minestra d'orzo (barley soup) and ribollita (Tuscan twice-cooked bean and bread soup), 6:30-8:30 p.m. Monday Sept. 25, \$24 plus \$6 fee payable to instructor at class, To register, contact The Community House, 380 S. Bates Street, Birmingham, (248) 644-5832, or online at www.communityhouse.com.

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.

Rochester Farmers Market

Every Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. through October. Located at the corner of Third and Water Streets just

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Fashion show helps the poor



PHOTO BY DAVID REED

Dana Buchman wears her signature fur shawl tied with a bow at a recent event at Saks Fifth Avenue Somerset. Dana Buchman headlines this year's event

n 1958, the ladies of the St. Hugo of the Hills Altar Guild staged their first fashion show to raise money for the poor.

Forty-eight years later the Altar Guild is still presenting the annual event, and "Fall Into Fashion" has come a long way since its humble beginnings.

"The first year, ladies of the St. Hugo parish were models and it was held in a school gym," said Mia Materka, treasurer for the Guild. "They raised \$2,000 at that time, and now at one fashion show we raise upwards of \$42,000."

This year, with Saks Fifth Avenue as fashion sponsor, professional models will show designer Dana Buchman's Fall 2006 collection at Oakland Hills Country Club.

Even better, Dana Buchman herself will make an appearance and sign copies of her new book "A Special Education: One Family's Journey Through the Maze of Learning Disabilities." "For her to come to Michigan Fall Into Fashion 2006

When: 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 27 Where: Oakland Hills Country Club What: Dana Buchman is a special guest at this annual charity runway show, sponsored by St. Hugo's Altar Guild and Saks Fifth Avenue. See Buchman's Fall 2006 collection, and get a signed copy of her book, "A Special Education: One Family's Journey Through the Maze of Learning Disabilities." Lunch included. Tickets: \$75, benefit 30 charities that provide food, clothing, shelter and education. R.S.V.P.: Call Cecelia Kelley (248) 561-1785, or Rose Obloy, (248) 646-1043.

is great, and it's also good to introduce her with our organization because it brings attention to what we do," Materka said. "The most important thing is to help the poor."

All proceeds from the show will be donated to 30 charities throughout Michigan and beyond. Money will be raised through admission and raffle tickets.

Top raffle prizes include a \$3,000 shopping spree at Saks; \$2,000 cash; a \$1,000 Old Masters portrait sitting; and a day of luxurious pampering at Luigi Bruni Capelli Moderni.

Buchman will donate proceeds from the sale of her book to the National Center for 22 of provide 1785, Learning Disabilities. Buchman began designing clothing for women during the

corporate '80s, but has since relaxed her sensibility so her collections can go from work to weekend flawlessly.

"Jackets worn with jeans and a great shoe can go anywhere," is Buchman's mantra, and her Fall 2006 collection includes jackets in rich rosewood suede, spotted animal print, houndstooth knit and antique leather. Fur trims, relaxed pants and pencil skirts complete the season's looks.

Fall Into Fashion Guests will receive a \$25 gift card toward Dana Buchman and Bobbi Brown Beauty purchases at Saks through Oct. 1.

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🕲 By Tanya Chisholm

Birmingham Salon & Spa Days Birmingham will celebrate its reputation as a leader in the beauty industry by hosting its first ever Salon & Spa Days, Sept. 19-20. For two days, patrons can get a haircut and blow-dry or mini facial at participating salons for just \$40. Participating businesses include: 90th Floor Salon, Antonino's, Avalon Salon & Spa. Bashar Salon, Beauty (SALON), Farrell Reis Hairdressers, Figo Salon, Margot's Euro Day Spa, Mary **Glancz European Facials and** Cosmetic Salon, Peter's Place, Red The Salon, Thomas D & Co. Salon, and Virtuoso An Elemental Salon. Book your appointment now by calling the salon of your choice

Mamaphobia Premieres

"Mamaphobia: The Truth About the Comedy of Motherhood," a one-woman show written and performed by Peggy Ward, debuts in metro Detroit at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 16 at the Boys & Girls Club of South Oakland County. Ward takes the audience on a journey from her pregnancy thoughts about motherhood - "How hard can it be? We'll sleep in and watch Oprah every day" - to hiding the fact that her two-year-old son still uses a baby bottle. Also performing will be comedian Ben Konstantin, winner of the comedy contest "Robert Klein and Six Guys from Detroit." Tickets, \$29, benefit Ashley's Friends, a counseling organization for children and the adults who care for them. Call (248) 219-9604 or visit www.ashleysfriends.org.



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We selected one top winner and three runners-up in our 2nd Annual Reader PINK Picks contest, but we loved Tanya Chisholm's entry so much we couldn't resist running it. Here are a few of the 33-yearold Troy resident's favorite things, and stay tuned to PINK for more reader picks!

Cut-off short shorts or balloon skirts with leggings

Cole Haan's new pumps or wedges with Nike Zoom Air Big Love

Dior Addict Ultra Shine lip color #612

NA SHO





Cartier Love bracelet

edding Crashers

Sheila Levine is Dead and Living in New York by Gail Parent Germanchocolatekake for the devil in you!

Coldstone Creamery Very Berry,

St. Elsewhere by Gnarls Barkley

nerionce 11. High tea at the Ritz Carlton 31544 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150 734-427-6270





COUNTY NEWS

www.hometownlife.com

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, September 14, 2006

Rotary International seeks team participants

Rotary club members of Oakland, Macomb, Livingston and Washtenaw Counties in Michigan and Kent County in Ontario are seeking four outstanding professionals to visit Thailand from Feb. 21, 2007, to March 20, 2007, as part of the Group Study Exchange program of The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International.

Through the program, teams of young professionals from two different countries exchange visits. For four weeks, team members experience the way of life, customs, and vocational practices of another country, while sharing information about their homeland.

The purpose of the program is to promote international understanding and goodwill through personal connection. While abroad, team members stay in Rotarians' homes and have the opportunity to meet their professional counterparts. They also give presentations to Rotary clubs and other groups about their home country.

The Rotary Foundation pays for round-trip airfare, and Rotary club members in the host country provide meals, lodging, and group travel in their district. Team members pay for personal and incidental expenses.

Young adults between the ages of 25 and 40 who are interested in applying should be employed full-time in a business or profession. Applicants must live or be employed in Macomb, Oakland, Livingston or Washtenaw Counties in Michigan or Kent County in Ontario. For an application, please contact Rotarian Judy Garver at (248) 977-9588 or e-mail:

judygarver2000@yahoo.com. Applications are due by Sept.22.

Area traffic crashes down significantly

Southeast Michigan experienced over 7,600 fewer traffic crashes in 2005 than in 2004, and nearly 14,000 fewer than in 2003, according to 2005 Southeast Michigan Traffic Crash Facts, a report released by SEMCOG, the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments. The report contains important statistical information about all traffic crashes reported in Southeast Michigan in 2005, and also focuses on injury traffic crashes, fatal traffic crashes, alcoholinvolved traffic crashes, vehicle-deer crashes, young driver traffic crashes, elderly driver traffic crashes, and truck/bus traffic crashes.

Sections at the end of the report contain data about safety-belt use and holiday traffic crashes. The main objective of this report is to provide useful data to aid local communities in their efforts to improve traffic safety.

In 2005, there were a total of 157,284 crashes (resulting in 43,680 injuries and 391 fatalities) in Southeast Michigan, down from 164,900 crashes in 2004 and 171,105 in 2003. The seven-county regional totals represent 45 percent of the total crashes in the State of Michigan. The state total was 350,838 for 2005, down from 2004's total of 373,028. The crash rate – the number of traffic crashes per 100 million vehicle miles traveled (VMT) – decreased in the region. The overall crash rate in Southeast Michigan was 323 crashes per 100 million VMT in 2005, down from 346 crashes per 100 million VMT in 2004, despite the fact that vehicle miles traveled increased from 47.7 billion miles in 2004 to 48.7 billion miles in 2005.

The report analyzes all traffic crashes by county; severity; crash type; age and gender of driver; rate of crash involvement by age group; and by month, day, and hour. Highlights include:

The number of reported fatal crashes per 100 million VMT continued to dip below one in Southeast Michigan to 0.74 crashes per 100 million VMT, and decreased in the State of Michigan to 1.04 crashes per 100 million VMT for the 10th consecutive year.

Nearly 88 percent of belted drivers escaped injury altogether when involved in a crash; only 60 percent of non-belted drivers suffered no injuries at all. Drivers in the 16-24 and 25-34 age groups were least likely to use restraints; more than twice as many miales as females were not wearing their safety belts at the time of a crash. Crashes involving alcohol totaled 5,442 in 2005. In Southeast Michigan 3.5 percent of all traffic crashes involved alcohol, but nearly 35 percent of fatal traffic crashes involved alcohol consumption.

There were 360 fatal traffic crashes in Southeast Michigan in 2005, killing 391 people. Continuing the trend from 2003, Southeast Michigan saw a decrease in the number of fatal traffic crashes in 2005. Fatal traffic crashes and traffic-crash fatalities also decreased in the state as a whole.

Crashes involving elderly drivers (those age 65 and older) in Southeast Michigan have decreased every year since 1996. In 2005, there were 17,957 crashes involving elderly drivers — 11.4 percent of all crashes involved an elderly driver. The hour with more elderly crashes than any other hour was between 3-4 p.m.; unlike all traffic crashes, those involving elderly drivers did not have a morning peak (see Figure 12 in report).

The complete report, 2005 Southeast Michigan Traffic Crash Facts, is available from SEMCOG Information Services, (313) 961-4266, or can be downloaded in PDF from SEMCOG's Web site — www.semcog.org.



(*) A



Don't you LOVE Michigan Winters?



With winter just around the corner, why not stay at Independence Village? Try us for the winter with no long term commitment. We can *guarantee*

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- You'll have plenty of activities to choose from!

Doesn't that sound better?

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Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, September 14, 2006

Match Maker plus

HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:

Answer an ad:

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Ready to meet great new people?

🕷 FORMER MODEL

SWF, 50, 5'6", slender, intelligence, creativity, passion for music and dancing. Seeks partner 38-50, who is attractive

and fit, to share this interests and more.

GET TO KNOW ME

Loving, open-minded SBF, 60, 145lbs,

attractive, enjoys music, dining, concerts,

travel. ISO honest, compassionate SM,

57-65, race open, N/S. Possible LTR.

I LISTEN WITH MY HEART

Attractive DWF, late 40s, Cancer, N/S,

seeks special, no games WM, 45+, N/S,

for caring, quality committed relationship.

Let's create sparks and watch them fly.

FAMILY-ORIENTED

Beautiful, shapely SBF, 34, 5'4", likes reading, long walks, working out, movies,

plays, concerts, spontaneous trips, travel-

ing, seeks patient, understanding BM, 34-46, N/S, with similar interests. 2123905

SEARCHING FOR YOU

caring understanding lady for friendship, fun, LTR? 5124127

A SPECIAL GUY DWM, 56, 5'10", handsome and secure, seeks honest S/DWF, w/sense of humor,

who enjoys travel, candlelight dinners,

plays, dancing, concerts, boating, and

movies. Friendship, possible LTR.

LET'S BE FREE TOGETHER

MUSCULAR & ATHLETIC

SHARE GOOD TIMES

seeks SB/HF 25-28, N/S, for friendship,

DATING FOR A BIT SBM, 44, 5'6", 162lbs, clean-cut, brown/brown, Taurus, N/S, outgoing, fun-

loving, likes bowling, concerts, movies, fishing, seeks WF, 39-59, feminine, well-

dressed, happy, similar interests, com-

FRIENDLY BLACK MAN

SBM, 46, brown-skinned, Leo, N/S, N/D,

respectful, honest, sociable, likes cook-

ing, plavs, movies, seeks woman, 20-60,

THE REAL DEAL SWM, 41, 6' 2", 165lbs, brown/blue, likes

movies, long walks, romantic dinners, seeks WF, 18-41, for possible LTR.

SEARCHING

SBM, 41, 5' 10", 195lbs, medium build,

marriage-minded, likes church, family time, seeks SWF, 28-45, for possible LTR.

friendship, hopefully more. 2114530

possible romance. 2980453

panionship. 2117697

2119789

2120475

2600106

a963760

m639272

REFINED AND FULL OF LIFE Very attractive blonde, fit, energetic and

happy, professionally employed, very youthful 60s, 5'3", trim and shapely, enjoys dining, travel, dancing, theater, family and friends. Seeking honest, handsome, fit, 55+, college grad, N/S, with youthful passion for life. Serious replies only. 2652360

SEEKING COMPANION SWF, 42, queen-sized, outgoing, enjoys walks, music, life, open to new ideas. Looking for SM who wants to do things together. Must be employed and like pets. 2909140

FRIENDS FIRST SBF, 37, 5'6", black/brown, easygoing, Aries, N/S, enjoys bike riding, long walks, travel, and cooking. Seeking WM, 30-50, N/S, for fun. 2933970

WHERE ARE YOU? Very attractive, sexy SBPF, 35, 5'2", medium build, enjoys dining out, jazz, plays. ISO SBM, 40-52, commitment-minded and sincere, for LTR. 23950732

SINGLE PROFESSIONAL WOMAN SWPF, 45, 5'9', average build, educated, Capricom, N/S, loves golf, reading, garden-ing, dining out, movies, seeks SWPM, 38-55, N/S, similar interests, for LTR. **29**83176

SWF, 39, 5', attractive, average build, dark/blue, Pisces, N/S, outgoing, fun-loving, seeks WM, 35-53, N/S, for LTR. 2112039

SBCF, 35, attractive, plus-sized, Capricorn, single mom, marriage-minded, N/S, seeks man, 40-55, family-oriented, old-fashioned, possible romance.

SWF, 37, likes motorcycles, movies, Star Wars, seeks WM, 34-35, N/S, with similar interests, for friendship, and more.

LOOKING FOR ME? Hard-working, affectionate SAF, 47, 5'1", 95lbs, very clean, N/S, N/D, loving and fun, seeks independent, responsible, respectful, secure man, 45-50, to share the special times in life. 2113534

LOOKING FOR ME ? Affectionate, sincere SWF, 63, 5'2", dark hair and eyes, employed part-time, enjoys travel, movies, dining out, more, ISO tail, active, open-minded, lovable man to share a little fun, possibly romance. 2959193

DREAMS COME TRUE Classy SBF, hoping to meet mature SBM, 45-60. I'm a very passionate, affectionate, loving person, who enjoys a variety of activities. If you're seeking your soulmate, why not try me? 2985794

SBF, 31, sexy, sassy, and classy, wonder-ful personality, self-motivated, seeks SWM, 25-65, for possible LTR, traveling, fun times, and more. **2**114816

Easy-going, intelligent, educated SJPF, 34, 5'4", 120lbs, N/D, N/S, from good famin medical field, play plano. Seeking JPM, 34-45, for LTR. 2120165

PETITE & SEXY SBF, sensitive, affectionate, loving, 51, looks 35, 5'1", 105lbs, NS. Seeking healthy SBM, 5'10"-6'1", to work out with.

LET'S ENJOY LIFE Female, 51, 138lbs, seeks independent, respectful male, 45-52, D/D free, who likes outdoors, walks, movies, for LTR. **\$987475**

WORTH A CALL

SWM, 48, 6', 175lbs, N/S, homeowner hard-working, easygoing, honest, secure, enjoys motorcycling, hunting, the out-doors. Seeking honest, secure, attractive slim/fit woman, 25-50, N/S, D/D-free. **a**956910

THAT'S ALL

SWM, 66, tall, thin, Scorpio, N/S, seeks WF, 60-68, N/S, old-fashioned, slim, fit, humorous, possible romance. 2116761 SEBIOUS WOMAN WANTED

SBM, 46, looking for that special personal for LTR, someone who enjoys walks, movies, sporting events, cuddling at home. Please be shapely, independent and know what you want in life. 2692418

OLDER WOMAN DESIRED SWM, 47, 6'2", 200lbs, muscular, athletic brown/blue, degreed, outgoing personali ty, enjoys outdoors, workout, new activi-ties, seeks friendly SF, age/location open. **2531308**

SERIOUS

SWM, 71, N/S, widowed, 5' 8", 150lbs young at heart, enjoys outdoors, cooking, dining out, traveling, seeks slim, petite female, 62-70, N/S. 2118483

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

CALL ME AND SEE DWM, 45, 5'9", 140lbs, father, N/S, N/D, employed, honest and fun, likes music, movies, bowling, family/friends, more. Looking for SWF with similar interests and qualities. 2950678

HELLO LADIES

HELLO LADIES SWM, 23, 5'10", 150lbs, brown/brown, looking for a fun, easygoing, sweet lady under 150lbs, to share talks, dates, friend-ship and then who knows? **1**17399

SECURE WM, 58, tall, slim, good-looking, would like to meet a nice, sweet, kind woman to go out with and see what happens from there. 28828139 The substrate of the substrate

HOLLA AT ME SBM, 26, 5'9", average build, Virgo, smoker, outgoing, adventurous, seeks BF, 35-45, smoker, laid back, open-mind-ed, for U.S. 2015 12 ed, for LTR. 2114532

GIVE ME A CALL SBM, 24, 6', chocolate skin, hazel eyes,

180lbs, HWP, likes good conversation, seeks cool, laid-back, down to earth, hon-est female, 24-30, for friendship, and more. 2120224

GET AT ME SBM, 20, 5' 8", 150lbs, dark complexion, athletic build, well-groomed, seeks woman, 18-26, N/S, for friendship, and

more. 2120392 SHARE GOOD TIMES SBM, 32, 5' 7", 165lbs, average build, brown/brown, seeks mature, respectful, independent BF, 18+, for friendship, and more. 2 120737

THE BASICS SWM, 66, 5' 9", slim build, youthful, 160lbs, seeks WF, 40-61, N/S, for friendship, possible romance. 2116789 LOOKING FOR YOU

SWM, 46, 160lbs, 5' 11", brown/hazel, adventurous, down to earth, smoker, likes Harley's, movies, seeks WF, 40-47, for friendship, and more. 2114545

SIMPLE REQUEST WM, 59, 5'8", 170lbs, dark/blue, looking for an attractive woman to go out and have a good time with. Age open. 2833911 SIMPLE REQUEST

ECONOMICALLY VIABLE SWPM, 54, 5'11", 170lbs, trim, Aquarius, N/S, likes music, art, golf, landscapes, architecture seeks WPF, 44-60, attractive, fit, active, financially

www.hometownlife.com



MEN SEEKING WOMEN GORGEOUS SBCM, 43, seeks educated woman, 25-

ISO CHIVALBOUS MAN

TAKE A CHANCE

2114057

SBM, 6', 220lbs, physically fit, retired, well-educated. I would like to meet a single female 52-62, who is understanding, loving and caring, for a LTR. 2869189 SWM, 48, 6'2", 200lbs, N/S, enjoys con-

versations, college football and new activities. Seeking a down-to-earth SF. Age/area open. 25982364

SBM, 27, 6', 162lbs, N/D, N/kids, slim build brown complexion, glasses, likes movies, long walks, Jesus, cooking, music, bowling, mexican food, shyness,

PAHAMA

DOWN-TO-EARTH

GREAT COMPANION SF, 65, looks 55, 5'2", unique, bright, w/many talents and interests. I'm welltraveled, very attractive, health-con-scious. How about you? Seeking non-smoking counterpart, 62-70. 2633527

2912553

44, N/S, slim to medium build, who has a great personality, and loves the lord. B121167 WHAT HAVE U GOT 2 LOSE SM, 47, on disability, honest, goodhearted, homebody type, loves movies, quiet times, togetherness. Seeking romantic, open-minded, non-judgmental

T269646

Free Ads: Free ads placed in this section are not guaranteed to run every week. Be sure to renew your ad frequently to keep it fresh.

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

voice messages. To review our complete guidelines, call (617) 425-2636



WOMEN SEEKING MEN

READY FOR NEW ADVENTURES SWF, 45, 5'7', blonde/green, average build, Pisces, smoker, educated, enjoys dining out, bowling, concerts, carnivals camping, canoeing, seeks easygoing, honest, financially secure WM, 40-55, for friendship, possible romance. 2115738 MADE TO ORDER

SWF, 52, attractive, Pisces, N/S, nice, educated, secure, fun, enjoys sporting events, movies, camping, travel, theater, seeks WM, 45-56, N/S, possible romance. 2993487

LOOKING FOR YOU Attractive SWF. Catholic, 59, N/S, 5' 6". good shape, seeks WM, 53-70, N/S, who enjoys golf, movies, theater, dining, long walks, church, and much more.

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

ONE GOOD WOMAN BBW. SWF. attractive. compassionate, down-to-earth. Enjoys movies, comedies, long walks, romantic evenings and more Seeking employed SM, 38-55, to do and share things together. Must like pets. **2**947175

FABOLOUS FIT FUN

Petite, 50s, young at heart, female, looking for one good guy, with SOH. Enjoys biking, water, working out, and life. 2970277

WE CAN HAVE SOME FUN Female, 37, 5'7", 135lbs, sexy, HWP, athletic build, Pisces, smoker, financially secure, fun-loving, likes sailing, seeks BM, 35-50, tall, dark, handsome independent, for friendship, possible romance. 2118000

LIFE IS BEST SHARED

SBCF, 44, 5'1", 120ibs, bright, warmhearted, creative, musician, enjoys concerts, sporting events, outdoors, travel, quiet evenings home, reading. Seeking honest, intelligent, confident, spiritual man, 45-60, emotionally/physically fit, for friendship/companionship. 2123621

FEMALE SPORTS FANATIC

DWF, 44, 5'1", redhead, N/S, very outgoing, romantic, likes college football, hockey, quiet nights at home. Seeking active WM, 39-48, SOH, kids ok, with similar interests, for friendship, maybe more. 2124056

FIND ME

Attractive SAF, 49, N/S, 5' 3", 110lbs, slim build, seeks WM, 45-56, N/S, for friendship, and more. 113901 SEARCHING FOR A MAN.. 45-60, who's looking for commitment,

love and laughter. I'm a 45-year-old who's bright, spunky and pretty. 2962317 LET'S TALK SOMETIME SWF, 38, mother, enjoys Harleys, rockn-roll, good talks, classic cars, sports,

amusement parks, casinos, meeting new people. Seeking outgoing, sweet, fun man w/spontaneous streak to share new adventures with. 2962910 LOOKING FOR LOVE SF. 47. beautiful inside/out, enjoys quiet

drives, romantic times, good talks, simple fun. Seeking A loving, gentle man to share a little friendship and fun, maybe romance. 2117115

LOVES BOATING

SWF, 65, 5'6", Aries, N/S, loves dancing and dining out. Seeking WM, 60-71, N/S, with sense of humor, for friendship, possible romance. 2890004

MR. RIGHT, ARE YOU THERE? SWF, 56, 5', HWP, easygoing, depend-able, reliable, Taurus, N/S, social drinker, likes computers, nascar, casinos, sports, seeks WM, 46-56, for friendship, and more. 2112612

SEEKING A LADY?

SBF, 56, 5'4", 110lbs, slim build, Sagittarius, smoker, honest, sincere, retired, enjoys movies, concerts, travel, park walks, seeks man, 45-70, similar, for friendship, possible romance. 2118410

TAKE ME GOLFING Tidy SWF, 60, enjoys fine dining, traveling. Seeking golfer, best friend, confi-dante, 58-70, widower a plus. Honesty, trust, a must to make a relationship work. **37976914**

SHALL WE DANCE?

I am a SBF, 58, 5'3", 170lbs, attractive, intelligent, creative, articulate, seeks SWM, 57-73, who is kind-hearted, articulate, who enjoys dancing, walking, traveling, movies, dining out. 2812098

NATURAL BBW SBF, 32, 5'5", 240lbs, N/S, N/D, N/kids, employed. Seeking a SM, 18-60, who is open-minded, N/S, N/kids and can appreciate a strong woman. 2924352

ARE YOU THE ONE? SF, 25, 5'7', shoulder-length medium

blonde hair, bright green eyes, outgoing, fun, loves fitness, outdoors, boating, cycling, camping, concerts, auto racing. Seeking active, fit, caring man who appreciates the same. 2953694 A GOOD FRIEND

SWF, 50, N/S, looking for SWM, 50-55, who loves movies, dining out, long walks. Must be employed. 2969547

LOOKING 4 GENTL Attractive, professional, educated WF, 55, 5'2", slim, N/S. Interest include movies, concerts, cornedy clubs, jazz, dancing, dining out, family ties. Seeking WM, 48-55, HWP, for lasting, loving LTR. 2973365

POSSIBLE LTR

SWPF, 57, 57, 57, attractive, slender, athletic, Scorpio, N/S, enjoys sports, concerts, dining out, seeks WPM, 55-61, N/S, educated, healthy, humorous, possible LTR. **a**993381

GREAT CATCH Attractive, youthful widow, 68, 5'3", 135lbs, brunette/brown, shapely, N/S seeks WM, 55-70, prefers N/S, in Livingston county or Oakland county areas for LTR, w/variety of interests. Seeks relationship/companionship and more. 2111193

59 YEARS OLD ENTREPRENEUR Pretty, charming SWF, successful, kind, compassionate, lots of fun, looking for her knight in shining armor. Any sincere, caucasian gentlemen, 55-80, please respond. Hopefully we'll be each others soul mates. \$592074

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

HOPE YOU'RE MY LADY

SBM, 40s, N/S, loves plays, movies. travel, jazz, comedy clubs. Seeking sincere, loving, genuine woman, with open heart and mind, who enjoys a finer lifestyle. Age/race open. 2124024 HELLO OUT THERE

Loving, sincere man, 58, 5'4", 146lbs, likes camping, movies, dining, bowling, more. Looking for a sweet, easygoing, fun-loving woman, 22-39, with like interests to share friendship, maybe more. 2116656

WHAT'S UP LADIES

SBM, 22, 6'4", 215lbs, brown complexion, athletic, looking for a good-looking, cool, sweet lady to kick it with, talks to. **Tat**120954

LOOKING FOR A FRIEND SWM 40, 5'11", 160lbs, enjoys movies, dining out, simple times. Looking for a woman, with children ok, to share nice friendship and/or relationship. Race open. **2117687**

SEEKS DOWN-TO-EARTH SBM, 37, 6'1", 265lbs, Gemini, smoker, fun-loving, outgoing, hard-working, likes clubbing, movies, seeks BF, 27-41, honest, down-to-earth, for friendship, possible romance. 72115848

JOIN ME? Honest, secure SWM, 73, 5'9", 200lbs, N/S, homeowner, enjoys karaoke, oldies music, dancing, keeping active, meeting new people. ISO sociable, sweet, sincere lady to share the special moments in life. **2982461**

secure intelligent, possible LTR **7 984220** TURNER SEEKS FONDA

Brash, outspoken, attractive, educated trim, salt and pepper businessman, 54, NW suburbs, seeks liberal lady, whose interests include art, architecture, classical, jazz, good conversation, 46-56.

LONELY & READY

SWM, 49, average build, Italian, heart of gold, Virgo, N/S, seeks WF, 45-55, with a nice build, ready for LTR. Serious replies only. 2860305

TRUE GENTLEMAN SBM, 52, 5'8", 185lbs, looking for a medi-um to full-figured SBF, 46-54. Someone who is worldly, nice, loves to laugh and just enjoying life to the fullest. 2912726

NICE GUY SWM, 66, 5'6", 150lbs, manufacturers' representative, Libra, N/S, works out, enjoys movies, restaurants, and summer festivals. Seeking SWF, 50-65, N/S. Shirley, please call back. **17708**126

LET'S TALK SBM, 58, 5'10", medium brown complexion, brown eyes, mustache, medium build, 190lbs, enjoys fishing, movies, music, sports, dining, cooking, travel. Seeking A loving lady for friendhsip and more. 7952241

POSITIVE PERSONALITY Attractive, romantic engineer, Asian American male, light complexion, 54, 5'8'', 148lbs, fit, financially secure, caring, fun-loving, seeks W/H/A/F, 40-55, for friendship maybe more. 2514300

The second second



LOCAL NEWS

(C) A15

Piano bar goes for some laughs

BY TONY BRUSCATO STAFF WRITER

"Good evening, ladies and germs."

The jokes are expected to be better and the laughs more vociferous when comedy returns to downtown Plymouth next month. Realtor Jim Courtney of Plymouth Township, who performed stand-up comedy in the late 1970s, is bringing comedy to Plymouth's downtown piano bar, 336 Main.

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'We're egomaniacs with 'massive insecurity complexes," explained Courtney, who is part-owner of Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle in Royal Oak. Courtney, who emceed comedy nights at the Penn Theatre for a short time, will once again emcee - otherwise known as the opening act -Tuesday through Thursday nights, beginning Oct. 3, in the lower level of the piano bar. The club will be known as "336 & 1/2* The Funny Half." "When Mark started his first

calling the following:

Publish: September 14, 2006

September 28, 2006 for the following:

Comedy Castle, it was in the lower level of a restaurant, a very small room like the one at 336," Courtney said. "I was thinking about that little room, and thought I bet we could bring in a few comics that would love to do work in an intimate setting of about 50 seats.

"We will have open mic on Tuesday nights, with a feature comic followed by a headliner on Wednesdays and Thursdays," Courtney said. "We'll probably charge \$5 for open mic nights, and \$8 the other two nights."

Most of the acts will be booked by comic Connie Ettinger of Franklin, who performs at such venues as Comedy Castle, Joey's in Livonia and Wise Guys in Novi.

"Plymouth is a good spot for stand-up comedy because there aren't any other venues around it," Ettinger said. "People aren't willing to drive far to see comedy, given its availability on television and

OE08472175

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

David Medley, ADA Coordinator

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

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,

FCGC PUBLIC RESTROOM

REMODELING DESIGN 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.

DVD, and will only travel a relatively short distance if it's a national act. We're going to tap into the local market and show Detroit has a huge wealth of comedic talent."

Ettinger, who gave up a career as an attorney at age 42 "because of all the dumb lawsuits" to become a comic ("I don't do lawyer jokes, but I slam the legal system"), said don't be surprised when top headliners show up at "336 & 1/2" for a couple of nights before performing at larger venues in the metro Detroit area.

"Where there are two or more people gathered, and there's laughter, we're there," said Ettinger. "We are adrenaline junkies. Comedians need external validation. There's something very wrong with us."

Ettinger said she's booked comedian Steve Iott of Sturgis, Mich. – who travels the country – for the opening week. "We'll get a lot of local headliners, and even some out-oftown headliners who are in for other gigs," Ettinger said. "They'll hone their act and

make a few bucks." Tom Guina of Plymouth Township, who owns 336 Main, said he's excited about the possibilities of "336 & 1/2."

"It will be cozy and intimate down there with about 50-55 people," Guina said. "We've had a lot of interest already. We hope it becomes a popular entertainment choice for downtown Plymouth."

Ettinger said aspiring comics who want to perform on open mic nights can contact her at openmic336@aol.com. "We'll let some new kids get their feet wet," Ettinger said.

"The only way to learn is to get out there and do it."

e coun- tbruscato@hometownlife.com | (734) 459-2700

Legal Notice Charter Township of Plymouth 2006 Summer Taxes

Summer Taxes are due July 1, 2006 and payable through September 14, 2006 without penalty. Additional information appears on the reverse side of your tax statement. MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO: CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH. Payments can be made at the Township Hall during regular working hours, Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. at the Treasurer's Office. After hours payments can be placed in the 24 hr WHITE DROP BOX located along the circular drive. LaSalle Bank Offices, will also accept payment for your convenience through September 14, 2006.

RON EDWARDS Treasurer Charter Township of Plymouth

OE08471984

Publish: September 14, 2006

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, September 28, 2006 for the following:

DEMOLITION OF 965 AND 903 LOTZ ROAD

Bid forms may be picked up at the Finance and Budget Department, from our website at <u>www.canton-mi.org</u> 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: September 14, 2006



Connie Ettinger is a featured comedian at Plymouth's downtown piano bar located at 336 Main.

CANTON POLICE DEPARTMENT 1150 S. CANTON CENTER RD. CANTON, MI 48188

The following vehicles have been deemed abandoned and will be sold at public auction September 19, 2006 at 10:00 AM. The auction will be held at Westland Car Care Towing, 6375 Hix Rd., Westland, MI 48185. The vehicles will be sold as is, starting bid is for towing and storage.

YEAF	R MAKE	MODEL	BODY	VIN#	
1991	FORD	EXPLORER	S/W	1FMDU34X8MUA29125	
1995	MERCURY	VILLAGER	S/W	4M2DV11W3SDJ47592	;
1986	HONDA	ACCORD	$4 \mathrm{DR}$	JHMBA7427GC011062	
1992	FORD	AEROSTAR	S/W	1FMDA11U1NZB23472	
1994	CHEVY	S-10	P/U	1GCDT19WXRK126440	
1993	FORD	RANGER	P/U	1FTCR10AXPPB04921	
1996	MERCURY	G. MARQUIS	$4 \mathrm{DR}$	2MELM74W7TX648111	
Publish	September 14, 20	06		OE08471982	

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, September 28, 2006 for the following:

TRANSFORMER REPLACEMENT

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

TERRY G. BENNETT, CLERK

Publish: September 14, 2006

OE08472178

TERRY G. BENNETT, CLERK

Publish: September 14, 2006

TERRY G. BENNETT, CLERK

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH REQUEST FOR A 10 YEAR INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES EXEMPTION FOR KARMANN MANUFACTURING, LLC TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2006

PLEASE TAKE NOTE: that a public hearing will be held on Tuesday, September 26, 2006, during a regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Plymouth to consider a request from Karmann Manufacturing, LLC, for a 10 year Industrial Facilities Exemption for cost of building improvements and new machinery, equipment, furniture and fixtures to be purchased and installed within the leased facility located at 15111 Keel Street, Metro West Industrial Park, Subdivision No. 2 Plymouth Township, Wayne County, Michigan.

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

The public hearing, commencing at 7:00 p.m., will be held in the Meeting Room at Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty Road, Plymouth, Michigan 48170, on Tuesday, September 26, 2006, during the regularly scheduled Board of Trustee Meeting. Telephone number 734-354-3224.

> Marilyn Massengill, Clérk Charter Township of Plymouth

Publish: September 14, 2006

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH REQUEST FOR A 12 YEAR INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES EXEMPTION FOR AUTOMOTIVE COMPONENTS HOLDINGS, LLC TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26 2006

PLEASE TAKE NOTE: that a public hearing will be held on Tuesday, September 26, 2006, during a regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Plymouth to consider a request from Automotive Components Holdings, LLC, for a 12 year Industrial Facilities Exemption for cost of new machinery, equipment, furniture and fixtures to be purchased and installed within the existing facility located at 14425 Sheldon Road, Plymouth Township, Wayne County, Michigan.

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

The public hearing, commencing at 7:00 p.m., will be held in the Meeting Room at Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty Road, Plymouth, Michigan 48170, on Tuesday, September 26, 2006, during the regularly scheduled Board of Trustee Meting. Telephone number 734-354-3224.

> Marilyn Massengill, Clerk Charter Township of Plymouth

Publish: September 14, 2006

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OE08472176



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THE Observer & Eccentric Newspapers ONI INF AT

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-

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COUNTY NEWS

I-696 crash ties up traffic, no major injuries result

A torrential rainstorm may have caused a chain reaction accident on westbound I-696 Wednesday involving 30 to 40 vehicles but resulting in no serious injuries. The accident started around 3 p.m. between Drake and Halsted in Farmington Hills as rain began to pour in the area. Cars began to skid into each

other. Kristina Baumgarten of Walled Lake walked off the freeway as her car was one of



Tom Ufer of Ann Arbor looks over his Audi after he was hooked up to a tow on I-696 Wednesday afternoon.

nd several being towed away. "I stopped to avoid the accident, I saw a car swerve out and then crash, crash, crash. My car was turned around and crashed into a ditch," she said. "When I got out I had to climb through the passenger seat."

Tom Ufer said that he was in the shoulder as a Ford F150 struck him and a woman told him that he went airborne in his Audi.

Farmington Hills Police Chief William Dwyer said it was fortunate that there were no serious injuries.

"One lady who is six months pregnant was taken to Botsford Hospital with very

minor injuries," he said. Dwyer said the Farmington Hills Police Department worked closely with the Michigan State Police to move vehicles off to the shoulder and open up two lanes of the threelane freeway.

"The scene looked like a war zone, we were fortunate we



PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

A woman truck driver took evasive action and turned her truck onto the shoulder of I-696 to avoid plowing into other cars.

didn't have fatalities," he said. The quick thinking of a woman truck driver prevented a more serious situation. The driver crashed her semi on to the shoulder.

"A lot of credit has to be given to that semi driver for taking evasive driving action to avoid plowing into other vehicles," Dwyer said.

Dwyer said the accident backed up traffic for seven miles. Traffic was moving again within an hour and a half.

The accident attracted the attention of people along the route.



Traffic began to move on I-696 around 4:15 p.m. after quick work by Farmington Hills and Michigan State Police



734.455.4677

College Night is Oct. 4

Area high school students and their families can investigate the programs of approximately 65 colleges and universities during Schoolcraft College's annual College Night on Wednesday, Oct. 4. The event is free and open to the community.

The schools, primarily from Michigan and the Midwest, will be on hand to answer questions and provide information on degrees, fields of study, admission requirements, cost and extracurricular activities. The program begins at 6:30 p.m. in the Physical Education Building on the Livonia campus and continues until 8:30 p.m.

A sample of in-state schools attending includes Michigan State University, Central, Western, Northern and Eastern Michigan universities, Adrian and Albion colleges, Ferris State, the University of Michigan Ann Arbor and Dearborn campuses, Lawrence Tech, and Wayne State University.

City Year Detroit and four branches of the military also will be on hand.

For more information, call the Schoolcraft Office of Admissions at (734) 462-4426.

A16 (*)

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See a banker for details and Official Rules. No purchase or application necessary. Open to legal U.S. residents residing in CT, RI, VT, NH, PA, DE, NY, NJ, OH, MA, MI, ME, IL, IN or KY who are 18 years of age or older. Void where prohibited. All accounts subject to individual approval. Maximum value of interest paid is \$30,000. Other restrictions apply. Visit a participating branch for Official Rules. Sweepstakes ends 9/22/06. Mail your completed entry, by 9/22/06, to Citizens Bank/Charter One Bank 0% Interest Loan Sweepstakes, PO Box 7948, Melville, NY 11775-7948. Equal Housing Lender.

Company offers free business seminar

Every other month, hundreds of business and sales professionals from across metro Detroit gather at a local theater to exchange ideas, network, and learn new methods for outselling the competition, increasing productivity, and staying motivated.

Although these individuals come from a variety of business sectors – real estate, mortgage, construction, automotive and others – they all have one thing in common: Each is a member of The Yes! Network.

Entrepreneur Michael Jeffreys developed a vision for The Yes! Network in 1988 with the idea of providing a place for positive-minded people to learn, grow and change with the times. The objective, he explained, was to help members maintain a sharp, competitive edge in the business world.

"A person who is committed to success in business knows that continuous learning is essential," said Jeffreys. "Whether you're getting new ideas, reminding yourself of something you've forgotten, hearing a different perspective on an old idea, or just coming for a healthy dose of motivation now and then, it's absolutely essential to keep your mind sharp."

Jeffreys seems to take his own advice, and recently celebrated the organization's 18th anniversary. In recognition of the event, The Yes! Network is offering complimentary tickets to its Sept. 19 evening event, a seminar designed especially for individuals in management or leadership positions.

Renowned speaker Don Hutson, who consults with companies such as 3M, Motorola, Sony, and Target, will deliver two-and-a-half hours of information on effective leadership skills and techniques that can be applied to managing a large company, a small business or a busy family.

"Over the years, it's really been the managers who have fueled our business by inviting us in to discuss the benefits of a Yes! membership," said Jeffreys, who still maintains an active role as the company's president. "This is our opportunity to give something back to the Detroit business community."

Here's how the Yes! Network works: Every other month, Jeffreys brings a nationally recognized business trainer in to share his or her best ideas with Yes! members. Attendees are provided with a note guide to help remember all the information they hear, and, since most successful speakers inject a good deal of storytelling and humor into their presentation, most participants find themselves laughing and having a good time while they learn, he said.

Members are also invited to take part in a one-hour networking session before each event, professionally facilitated by Local Business Network, in which they have the opportunity to form valuable new contacts and alliances, both personal and professional.

All seminars are held at the United Artist/ Regal Commerce Stadium 14 in Walled Lake. Call all (248) 383-2000, Ext. 204, to reserve your complimentary seats.

For more information on The Yes! Network, visit www.yesmidwest.com,



www.hometownlife.com

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.

SEPTEMBER

Mom2Mom sale

Table centers wanted for sale 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 30, at Garden City First United Methodist Church, 6443 Merriman at Maplewood. \$1 admission. Bake sale. Cost is \$25 for 6-ft. table, \$30 for 8-ft. table. Call Rhonda Harris for rental reservations or more information (734) 532-7818 or send e-mail to Harrisar@aol.com. Ladies Bible studies

Began Tuesday, Sept. 12, at Detroit First Church of the Nazarene, 21260 Haggerty, Northville. Call (248) 348-7600

Women of the Word offer the Life Change Study of the book of Genesis by NavPress 9:30-11:15 a.m. (\$15 registration feed includes interdenominational materials and free child care for ages through 5, and a study of the Patriarchs by Beth Moor 6:45-8:15 p.m. (\$20 fee and no child care.

5K Run

Sponsored by Kirby Church 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 16, at Willow Metro Park, Big Bend area (H) of Willow Road or I-275. It's a great course for a personal record. After the race will be food, awards, live music, games, and a raffle. For more information, call Tommy at (734) 231-0397 or (313) 292-5922.

Yard sale

Various tables of goodies including used household items, miscellaneous items and specialties such as Avon, candles, tools, houseplants and crafts of all kinds 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 16, at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 37775 Palmer, Westland. There will be a used clothing sale inside the church for \$1 a bag (plastic grocery). For information, call (734) 722-1735.

Monthly breakfast meeting

Bethany Suburban West meets Saturday, Sept. 16, at Leon's Family Dining, 30149 Ford Road, Garden City. Bethany Suburban West is a Catholic organization providing peer support to the divorced and separated of all Christian denominations. All separated, divorced and singles welcome. Call (734) 513-9479 for information. Brunch praise and worship

Fall Into The Arms Of Jesus with speaker Robin Sullivan at Brunch, Praise & Worship, Fellowship 10 a.m. to

1 p.m. Saturday, Sept.16, at the Sheraton Hotel on Haggerty, Novi. \$18 per person by Sept. 8, \$22 at the door if available. Order at

Robinsullivan.com or by phone at (248) 921-5453. Limited Seating.

ommunity picnic

ing, 7506 Inkster road, Dearborn Heights. For more information, call (734) 425-0732.

Re-marriage retreat

Remarried Ministries present a weekend getaway to Maranatha Retreat and Conference Center in Muskenon Sept. 22-24. Cost is \$299 per couple and includes two nights lodging, five meals, speakers Brent and Bonnie Keen, music by Bonnie Keen. Campfires, fun and fellowship. Remarried couples can call (248) 374-5912.

Religious education

Registration now being accepted for children's religious education on Sundays, sessions begin Sept. 24, at St. Aidan Catholic Church, 17500 Farmington Road, Livonia. Call (734) 425-5950. Attend 9:30 a.m. Mass as a family on Sunday followed by separate education sessions for children and adults that runs until noon.

Mom2Mom sale

10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 30, at Garden City First United Methodist Church, 6443 Merriman at Maplewood. \$1 admission. Bake sale. Call (734) 421-8628.

Mom to Mom Sale

9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Sept. 30, at Newburg United Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, between Wayne and Newburg, Livonia. If you are interested in renting a table at the sale call (734) 422-0149. Infant to pre-teen clothes, maternity clothes, furniture, toys and more. \$2 admission. Strollers welcome.

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.

Remarried workshop

Continues 7-8:15 p.m. Wednesdays to Dec. 13, at Ward Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile, Northville. This course is a must for any couples thinking about remarriage or already remarried. We can assist couples in blending families, parenting issues, communications, and finances. Call (248) 374-7400 for more information. No charge. Come for 1 session or all 13.

Prosperity program

Stretton Smith's 4 T Prosperity Program continues 8 p.m. Wednesdays to Nov. 22, at Unity of Livonia, 28660 Five Mile, between Inkster and Middlebelt. Sign-up fee including book is \$35. Call (734) 421-1760. **Bible study**

Explore the Gospel of Mark, chapters 8:22 to 16:8 Thursdays for eight weeks beginning Sept. 7. at St. Aidan Catholic Church, 17500 Farmington Road, Livonia. Call (734) 425-5950. Divorce recovery program Continues 7:30-9:30 p.m. Thursdays 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.

RELIGION CALENDAR

are currently held at Stevenson High

School on Six Mile, west of Farmington road, Livonia, All are welcome. For information, call (248) 960-8063 or visit www.DueSeason.org.

Farmington Women Aglow

Meets 5-8 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month at the Farmington Community Library, 32737 W. 12 Mile. For more information, call Linda Boone at (248) 476-1053. **Bible and playtime** For moms and tots began 10-11 a.m.

Wednesdays at Vineyard Church of Farmington Hills 29200 Shiawassee (by Middlebelt and Nine Mile). No charge.

For information, call (248) 766-0143. Scripture studies

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

Worship schedule

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

TOPS

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

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, September 14, 2006

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

Loving God by loving people, meets 10

Hazzagez

a.m. Sunday, at Westwood Community Church, 6500 N. Wayne Rd. at Hunter, Westland. Doughnuts and coffee served. Call (734) 254-0093.

Bible study

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



AMY KATHLEEN HUBERTY HAWES

Kathleen Huberty Hawes, age Amy 33, July 7, 2006. Amy was returning home from her work as a substance abuse counselor for "Kids helping Kids" families in Cincinnati, Ohio and died instantly in car crash. Amy was the beloved wife of Wade Hawes and cherished only daughter of Kay and Al Huberty of Bloomfield Hills. She also leaves behind loving aunts uncles, cousins, father in law Bob Hawes of Gobles, Michigan, siblingsin-law, and countless friends and others who loved her dearly, and whose lives were changed by her forever. Her grandmother, Nina "Granny Price, preceded Amy in death by only days. Âmy was a graduate of Lahser High School, and Western Michigan University, where she earned a bachelor of science and dual masters degrees in sociology/psychology. She held national certification in substance abuse recovery counseling, and was passionate in her efforts to help kids at isk, and her love for them. Amy adopted many homeless pets, and was a tireless volunteer for the needs of both kids and animals. She was a registered organ donor, and continues to help people through those donations Amy will be profoundly missed by all whom she touched, and her joyous and contagious laugh and spirit will live in their hearts and memories forever. In the short time she was given, she made a profound difference for the good in this world, and truly celebrated life. A celebration of her life and that of her beloved "Granny", Nina Price, will be held Saturday, September 16, 2006, at 1:00 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church of Birmingham, Michigan, 1669 West Maple Road. Donations may be made to Skyline Camp and Conference Center, 5650 Sandhill Road, Almont, Michigan, 48003. As Amy did, Skyline changes the lives of children for the good, and was a spe-cial part of her life and her career path.



JOSIAH EZRA MITCHELL

In loving memory of Josiah Ezra Mitchell. Born too early on October 20,1999. God sent you to us, a special gift, to love and care for in his all gracious timing. You have given us so much love and joy and have taught us so many things; love, patience, acceptance, courage, strength, and pure joy. You have changed our lives for the very best and have touched the hearts and lives of everyone you met. Your smile was like the sun, bright, beautiful, and magnificent. You will be with us for all eternity. We love you and we thank God for the almost 7 years that he graciously gave you to us. We miss you dearly and are sad that you are no longer here with us in body, but when the sun shines bright we will know you are smiling down from heaven above. May you rest peacefully in God's loving arms until we see you again in eternity. Josiah is survived by his parents Donald and Kathy Mitchell of Canton, Mi. His brothers and sisters: Joshua Mitchell of Leavenworth Ks, Jaimi Mitchell, LoRena J. Mitchell, and Jordan Mitchell all of Canton, Mi. His paternal grandmother Sharon Mitchell of Leavenworth, Ks and her late husband Donald A Mitchell. His maternal grandparents: Robert and Virginia Puvel of Barre, Vt His aunts and uncles: David and T'Nita Faataola of Ca, Maria Jackson of San Diego, Ca, Robert and Kerri Lamb of Barre, Vt, Amanda Mitchell of San Diego, Ca, Rebecca Mitchell of Lawrence, Ks, Y'Sondra Mitchell of Topeka, Ks, George and Laura Puvel of Thurmont, Md, Robbin Puvel of Calgary, Canada. Also survived by great aunts, uncles, and several close family, friends and cousins, devoted caretakers. Funeral service 11:00am at First Baptist Friday Church 45000 North Territorial Rd, Plymouth. Visitation Thursday 2-9pm at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home 280 South Main, Plymouth. And at church Friday 10:30am until time of service.Memorials to the Ronald McDonald House or to Make a Wish Foundation.

LUCILLE PATRICK

Obituaries, Memorials, Remembrances

1-800-579-7355 🚸 fax: 734-953-2232

e-mail: OEObits@oe.homecomm.net

Age 97, of Hume Township, died Saturday, September 9, 2006 at Sunny Acres Nursing Center in Bad Axe She was born August 16, 1909 in Fowlerville, daughter of the late Fred and Luella (Isham) Disbrow. Lucille married Clarence Henry Patrick on October 4, 1930. He preceded her in death on March 22, 1978. Lucille was a charter member of the Alpha Baptist Church in Livonia, where she lived for 60 years until moving to Port Austin in 1993. She is survived by her daughter, Beverly (Glenn) Rice of Hume Township; 16 grandchildren, 27 great grandchildren, 10 great-great grandchildren; and her sister, Gertrude Soules of Williamston. She was preceded in death by two daughters, one son, two grandchildren, four sisters, and one brother. Funeral Service will be Wednesday, September 13, 2006 at pm at the Knoblock Funeral Home 5720 N. Van Dyke, Kinde, MI 48445. 989-874-4022. Visitation will be held on Wednesday from 12pm until the time of service at 7PM at the funeral home. Burial will follow in North Stockbridge Cemetery in Stockbridge, MI.



MICHAEL KOSKO Age 77, September 7, 2006. Beloved

SUSAN MARY MOHRHARDT

* 7

(Simmons) of Lowell, formerly of Grand Ledge and Plymouth Michigan, aged 70, died September 9 2006. She was preceded in death by her parents, Paul and Mary Simmons and her brother, Robert Simmons She is survived by her husband David; children, Susan (Tim) Erhardt, Chris (Julie) Mohrhardt, Shanna (Richard) Calderon-Barrera; grandchildren, Rhiannon and Corinna Erhardt, Jacob, Cade and Caleb Mohrhardt, Hailey and Melody Calderon; brother, Tom (Susan) (Susan) Simmons; many nieces and nephews A private graveside memorial service will be held at Oakridge Cemetery in Marshall, Michigan. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the Kent County Animal Shelter, 3077 Wilson Dr NW, Walker, MI 49544.



VIRGINIA O. **CHRISTENSEN (SIMON)**

Of Lansing, formerly of Garden City, passed away peacefully on September 8, 2006, surrounded by her family She was born on December 7, 1916 in Detroit, the daughter of Walter and Zora Martens. In 1918, when Virginia was 21 months old, she won first prize in the Michigan State Fair Better Babies Contest. The judges must have known what they were doing as our beloved mom would have turned 90 vears old this December. She attended the Detroit Public Schools, and after

(*) A17

11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 16, at New Beginnings United Methodist Church, 16175 Delaware at Puritan, Redford. Join in the fellowship, fun, games, and food. For information, call (313) 255-6330.

Victorian tea

ROC International Church of Northville will again be sponsoring a Breakfast Tea to celebrate Northville's Victorian Festival 9:30 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 16, at Meadowbrook Country Club in Northville. A delicious breakfast, the finest teas and an atmosphere of genteel friendship will set the tone for this year's inspirational message of faith. Beginning this season, the Tea introduces the series. A Victorian Romance. The Proposal will be the first of a three part journey of romance and love. Subsequent teas will highlight The Wedding (2007) and finally A New Life Together (2008). Tickets are \$20 each and can be purchased at Northville Candle Shop, Northville Chamber of Commerce, La Corsetiere or by calling (248) 982-7489. Victorian Dress is optional.

Pancake breakfast

9 a.m. to noon Sunday, Sept. 17, the community is invited to Unity of Livonia, 28660 Five Mile, between Inkster and Middlebelt. Donation is \$3.50 adults, \$2 children, \$10 per family. Call (734) 421-1760. "Our goal is to have a space where the entire community can come and break bread together," says Unity pastor Dennis Skiles.

Sunday worship

10:30 a.m. Sundays, lessons from 1 Peter, teen/adult Bible study at 9 a.m. focuses on the complete text of Matthew, at New Beginnings United Methodist Church, 16175 Delaware at Puritan, Redford. For information, call (313) 255-6330.

Sunday schedule

9:30 a.m. Sunday school for ages preschool to adult, family friendly worship at 10:30 a.m., nursery care available for both session for infant to two-years-old, children's choir, Jammin for Jesus follows the children's story in service (for third to sixth grade students), Celebration Station is for age 3 to second grade, at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 30900 W. Six Mile, between Middlebelt and Merriman, Livonia. Call (734) 422-6038. Bring the family. All are welcome.

Rummage sale

9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Tuesday, Sept. 18-19, at St. Mel's Church activity build-

UPCOMING

50th celebration

St. John Bosco Church celebrates its 50th anniversary with a 11 a.m. Mass Sunday, Oct. 1, with Adam Cardinal Maida presiding, reception follows the mass in Sheltreau Hall, 12100 Beech Daly, Redford. For more information, call (313) 937-9690.

Blood drive

 The Red Cross will be holding a blood drive 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 8, in the Parish Hall at St. Edith Catholic Church, 15089 Newburgh, Livonia. Walk-ins are welcome. Call (734) 464-1222, ext. 309.

Parish mission

7 p.m. Sunday-Thursday, Oct. 8-12, at St. John Bosco Church, 12100 Beech Daly, Redford. Refreshments follow in Social Hall. Rev. Richard Hart OFM Cap. presents Sharing the Good News. Sunday evenings topic is What is the Treasure We Share?, Monday - Too Good a Secret to be Kept, Tuesday - Do You Love Me?, Wednesday - Are we a Forgiving Community? (reconciliation service), and Thursday - A Work that Cannot Fail. For more information, call (313) 937-9690.

Crafters needed

Riverside Park Church of God is sponsoring a craft bazaar Oct. 21 at the church, 11771 Newburgh, Livonia. If you would like to purchase a table for this event, contact the church office to register at (734) 464-0990.

Crafters wanted

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

ONGOING

Personal ministry

Join us as we study the Word of God. Due Season Christian Church is a nondenominational, multicultural, full gospel church that offers Sunday worship services at 10 a.m. and Tuesday night Bible study at 7:15 p.m. Services



CHARLES E. ERVIN, JR.

Sept. 5, 1916 - Sept. 8, 2006 Chuck" Ervin lived in Birmingham with his wife, Harriet, while they raised their family and he worked for the Detroit Diesel Division of GM After 37 years with GM, they retired to Arizona, where they enjoyed 26 years of fun and friendships. Chuck was preceded in death by his loving wife, Harriet, 1/5/06. He is survived by their son, Chad (Sally) Ervin; daughter, Heidi (Rob) Stevenson, 4 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren. Chuck will be remembered by his family as a good, gentle, depend able and loving man. Memorial Service will be Saturday, 9/16/06, at 10AM at BRADSHAW CELEBRA-TION OF LIFE CENTER, 2800 Curve Crest Boulevard, Stillwater, Minnesota. Private interment at a later date. Memorials preferred to Ironton Congregational Church, 03582 Washington Ave., Charlevoix, MI 49720.

JAMES R. BYRD

Age 70, September 9, 2006. Beloved husband of Charlotte. Dear father of Jim (Paula) and Karen (Tony) Carver. Also survived by seven grandchildren and one great-grandchild. Dearest brother of Bruce, Roy, Earl, Carl, Ron, Edna Billings and Grace Pennell, also survived by five step-children, 11 stepgrandchildren, and four step-great grandchildren. Visitation was held at R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home in Garden City on Wednesday, Funeral services will be held on Saturday at 12:00 Noon at the Miller Funeral Home in North Wilkesboro, NC.



LENORE M. HUDSON

Age 94 of Plymouth, passed away in her sleep on September 5, 2006. She and her late husband Joseph (who passed away in 1994) were long-time Plymouth residents. Lenore contin-ued to live actively in her home until her death. Dear mother of Richard (Pamela); Joyce (Ron) Finney; and John (Sally). Also leaves nine grandchildren and 21 great-grandchildren. Visitation and services were held Saturday at Vermeulen Funeral Home, Plymouth. To leave a message of condolence, www.vermeulenfuneralhome.com.



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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LORRAINE W. (Cunningham) DIETZ

Age 101, September 12, 2006 Beloved wife of the late George F Dietz, Sr., for 71 years. Loving mother of George F., Jr., M.D. (Helen), Gerald C., D.D.S., M.S. (Mary Frances), John H. (Emily), Anthony E., D.D.S., M.S. Paul J. (Bonnie Piceu), and Lori Boyle (Terry). Also leaves 29 grandchildren and 48 great-grandchildren. Family will receive friends at the A.. Desmond & Sons Funeral Home, 2600 Crooks Rd. (between Maple and Big Beaver), Friday, 4-8pm, with prayer service Friday, 7:30pm. Funeral Mass Saturday, 10:30am, at St. Alan Catholic Church, 2345 Coolidge, Troy. Visitation at the church begins at 10am. Memorial tributes to Lourdes Nursing Home, 2300 Watkins Lake Rd., Waterford, MI 48328. View obituary and share memories at www.DesmondFuneralHome.com

husband of the late Patricia. Loving father of Jeffrey M. Kosko, Kathleen E. Gemuend-Kosko, and the late Bradley L. Kosko. Cherished grandfather of Jessica and Ashley. Michael was employed by Ford Motor Company for 38 years as a systems methods analyst, retiring in 1992. Donations to the family will be put towards the DMC Huron Valley- Sinai Liver Cancer Research Fund. Private funeral services were held at Thayer Rock Funeral Home, Farmington.

www.thayer-rock.com



Michigan, formerly of Ann Arbor Michigan, and Harrison, Arkansas passed into rest June 26, 2006, in the arms of her loving family, after a courageous three-month battle with cancer. She was 88 years old. Nina was born May 2, 1918, in Harrison, Arkansas, to James Arthur and Cassie Hudson. She was named Miss Arkansas in 1932, and when the Miss America pageant was cancelled due to the Great Depression, she went on to be second runner-up in the Miss Rural America pageant. She married Galen B Price, Jr. in 1941. During World War II she worked in Washington D.C. as personal stenographer to the head the Department of Scientific Research. She was an accomplished pianist, organist, flutist and soprano, and served as organist and accompanist for churches in Arkansas and Michigan. She also was a talented and sensitive artist, whose exquisite china painting remains for loved ones to enjoy and cherish. Her love for animals, music, art and nature is a gift carried on by her children. Her husband Galen, sister Faye Hawkins, sister-in-law Helen Price, and brother-inlaw Jim Hawkins predeceased her. She is survived by her three children: Beth Price, of West Hartford, CT; Kay Price Huberty, of Bloomfield Hills, MI; and Richard Price, of New Fairfield, CT by her son-in-law, Alan Huberty, and her daughter-in-law Meg Bowles Price, and grandson-in-law Wade Hawes; by her nephew, Dan Hawkins and by her granddaughter, Hannah Her granddaughter Amy Price. Huberty Hawes, who passed away uly 7, 2006, briefly survived her Nina enjoyed being known as 'Granny", and all who had the privi lege of being touched by her life will remember her loving wisdom forever. Burial was at Maplewood Cemetery Harrison, Arkansas, on June 29. There will be a celebration of Nina's life. and of the life of Amy Huberty Hawes. at the First Presbyterian Church of Birmingham, MI, 1669 West Maple Road, on Saturday, September 16, 2006, at 1:00 p.m. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to: Skyline Camp and Conference Center, 1669 West Maple Road, Birmingham, MI. 48009; Protectors of Animals, Inc. P.O. Box 24. South Glastonbury, CT 06073: or the Danbury Music Centre, Nina Price Tribute Fund, 256 Main St., Danbury, CT, 06810.

graduation, worked as a secretary for the Cadillac Motor Car Division. She later worked in the family greenhouse business - Simon's Rose Nurserv which she and her husband, William Simon, operated on Ford Road in Garden City from 1947 to 1961. After the business was sold, she worked as a secretary for the Ford Motor Company, retiring in 1973. Virginia was known for her sweet disposition and her kind and generous nature. She loved animals, particularly cats, had a keen appreciation for the beauty of nature, and loved music, especially of the 30's and 40's - and, she could do the Charleston with the best of them! Virginia was preceded in death by her dear husband, Julius "Chris" Christensen in 2002 and by her sisters, Dorothy Martens and Donna Hilton. She leaves to mourn her loss: a son, Gary Simon (Eileen) of Canton; a daughter, Lynne Breen (Earl) of Lansing; three grandchil-dren, Kirk; David, and Kristen; and two great grandchildren, Amanda and Gavin. Graveside services were held at Glen Eden Cemetery, Livonia. Memorial contributions may be made to any organization that helps animals. Arrangements by the Estes-Leadley Greater Lansing Chapel.



<u>j</u> **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 vour 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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Perfect fit

Teen models grandmother's wedding dress at 50th anniversary party

BY SUSAN STEINMUELLER STAFF WRITER

Maxine and Bruce Smiley could not have been more delighted when at their 50th anniversary party, their granddaughter modeled Maxine's wedding dress.

"It fit her like it was made for her," Maxine Smiley said of Michelle Smiley, 15, of Canton. "It was a highlight of the party."

"It was amazing," said Bruce Smiley. "I think everybody was just joyous."

It brought back fond memories, too.

"I had six bridal showers. They did those things then," reminisced Maxine Smiley. She still has a newspaper

clipping of one of the showers. It details how she received an unusual bridal gift - a lifesized mannequin bride wearing a wedding dress made of white crepe paper and lace doilies. It came with a bucket of useful cleaning items such as a floor mop and scrub brush and a poem.

"A bride would be insulted today," she said. But then, it was much appreciated. "The scrub bucket was and is the only one I have ever used."

Everything in

PTR Center

nds 9/30/06

Bruce and Maxine Smiley of Beverly Hills are pictured at their 50th wedding anniversary party.

The party was held at The Community House in Birmingham on July 23. It was hosted by their children Robert (Laurie) Smiley of Canton, Mary Kay (Dan) Mohan of Madison Heights and Thomas (Elizabeth) Smiley of Valrico, Fla. Some 100 guests included their eight grandchildren, seven of their nine wedding.party participants, and relatives and friends from "near and far."

Michelle found out earlier this year that her grandmother still had her wedding dress, which was in pristine condition. She said she was not really surprised her grandmother had kept it because "she keeps a lot of things."

"I liked all the lace on it, and there are buttons on the back, all the way up."

When she tried it on, "we

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were both really excited that it fit." Michelle decided to model it at the party, along with her grandmother's bridal goingaway outfit, a two-piece blackand- copper plaid suit with 'bracelet" sleeves, which end above the wrist. Both were bought at Arthur's in Pontiac, a leading fashion retailer at the time, said Smiley.

They all helped prepare the clothes for the occasion.

At the party, many guests asked Michelle if she might wear the dress at her own wedding some day. But she said "I'm not really planning my wedding right now."

The Smileys were married on Sept. 8, 1956 at the First United Methodist Church in Birmingham. It was Bruce Smiley's family church; she joined that year. They are still active members.

On their actual anniversary on Friday, they celebrated in their traditional way, by dining alone together. This year they went to Mitchell's Fish Market - Birmingham.

Maxine Miller of Pontiac

THINKING ABOUT ..

FURNACE?

NEW

and Bruce Smiley of Birmingham, a graduate of General Motors Institute, now Kettering University, started dating while both worked at GMC Truck and Coach in Pontiac.

"I married at 24. I was the last one of my group from high school to get married," she said.

Maxine Smiley worked until she had her first child, Robert, in 1959. Bruce Smiley went into advertising at Campbell-Ewald, from where he retired.

Their first house, a \$13,000 brick ranch, was in Drayton Plains, now Waterford. They moved back to the Birmingham area for the school system, and are 41-year residents of Beverly Hills.

Both enjoyed raising their family and relish being a grandparent.

Maxine Smiley's traditions include hosting her grandchildren at her house every year to make Christmas cookies to take home. And, whenever they stay overnight, she serves them a Sanders hot fudge sundae before bed.

Bruce Smiley says his nickname "Geezer," given to him by Michelle, is "an accepted term



Michelle Smiley, 15, models her delighted grandmother Maxine Smiley's wedding dress.

of endearment." "Just my granddaughters use it," he said.

Bruce Smiley added of his grandchildren, "We have a lot of fun together."

"We are very blessed," said Maxine Smiley.

The couple enjoy time at '



Bruce and Maxine Smiley are pictured on their wedding day, Sept. 8, 1956, at the First United Methodist Church in Birmingham.

their cottage up north. They also are both very involved with The Community House. Bruce Smiley is a member of

the Senior Men's Club of Birmingham there; she is a board member and former president of The Community House Senior Women's Club.

Today, Grandparents Day, both are undoubtedly giving thanks for their children and grandchildren - as they are for them.

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TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth resident Larry Nagy displays his long-driving technique Monday afternoon during a practice session at Fox Hills Golf Course. Nagy will be competing in the 2006 RE/MAX World Long Drive Championship finals next month in Mesquite, Nev.

PLEN-TEE OF DISTANCE

Plymouth golfer qualifies for world long-driving finals

BY ED WRIGHT STAFF WRITER

From the second he stepped onto the Fox Hills Golf Course driving range Monday afternoon and pulled the 50-inch Bang-O-Matic driver from his golf bag, Larry Nagy defied all the stereotypes that usually follow longdriving competitors like a shadow.



New rules could pack stadiums

Churchill blanks Salem gridders, Page B3.

hat's up with all the empty seats? I've asked myself that question more than once while attending high school football games over the

past two years. As a sports editor/prep football diehard, I understand I'm biased, but I can't understand what could be more entertaining on a cool autumn evening than watching talented high school athletes

play their hearts out simply for the love of the game. In an effort to get more people to the games, I've come up

with the following ideas that may amp up interest:

Grid

Picks

Wright

Ed

Rule Change No. 1: The pre-game coin toss will be eliminated and replaced by the following procedure: Fans will be given different numbered, colored tickets - blue for home, red for visitors — when they enter the stadium. Five minutes before kickoff, a football will be placed at mid-field.

The public address announcer will then call off a red number and blue number. The fan on each side of the field whose number is called will leap out of their seat and race to the middle of the field in an attempt to secure the football before the other team's fan. The fan who gets the ball earns his or her team the right to receive the firsthalf kickoff.

No. 2: We'll call this one the George Plimpton Rule. Instead of a 50-50 drawing, fans can purchase tickets that will enable them to be their team's quarterback for one series of downs. Early in the fourth quarter, the winning numbers are announced — one for each team. The winners are taken

Steelers win 1-of-3

On Sunday, the **Plymouth-Canton** Steelers freshmen football team opened the 2006 campaign with a 27-13 victory over the Rochester Redskins, who are the defending league champions.

The winners' offense was paced by A.J. **Convertino and Mathew** McKoy, who combined to score four touchdowns. The offensive line was led by Justin Sydlowski. Phillip Avarmoski played a key role in the Steelers' strong defensive effort.

The Steelers' junior varsity contingent dropped a 19-0 decision to the Redskins. Running back Evan Pardo played well. for the offensê while

Angelo Lanava and Wade Lowell shined for the defense. The highlight was an 82-yard interception return by Josh Dennard. The varsity suffered a

For one, the 6-foot-1, 200-pound Nagy is not John

PLEASE SEE LONG DRIVER, B2

Plymouth's Larry Nagy will be shooting for the \$14,000 first-place prize at the RE/MAX World Long Drive Championship Oct. 24-28.

PLEASE SEE GRID. B3

Local flavor

Three P-CEP swim teams finish in top five at WLAA Relays meet

BY BRAD EMONS STAFF WRITER

Greg Phill downplayed it, but the Livonia Stevenson girls swim coach wasn't about to give back the Western Lakes Activities Association Relays title.

After a one-year hiatus, Stevenson reclaimed the seasonopening all-relay event championship Saturday by scoring a team-high 251 points.

With renovations going on at the Salem High pool, the WLAA Relays were moved to the Livonia Community Recreation Center for the first time in the meet's history.

Northville, the defending champion, was runner-up with 204. Salem (182), Plymouth (177) and Canton (164) were the next three teams in the 12-school field.

"You do the best you can putting the relay teams together, do the best you can, and have fun," said Phill, whose team has now won 16 of the last 17 Relays crowns. "It's kind of a novelty event, but our girls always compete well in a WLAA meet.

"We did not load up any relays. I thought what I thought I'd see. Obviously you're not trying to lose, but you always want to win if you can."

In 2005, Stevenson relinquished its Relays title for the first time in 15 years to Northville, led by Ava Ohlgren, a Division I state champion in the 200-yard individual medley and 500 freestyle.

The third-place Rocks were led by their second-place 400-yard freestyle relay contingent of Whitney Aumiller, Kathryn Gorman, Allison Burke and Alie Stencel, which was clocked in 3:53.02.

The Wildcats turned in their highest finish ever in a WLAA Relays meet thanks in large part to second-place showing from their 200 breaststroke unit (Ellen Palczynski, Sarah Palczynski, Alyssa Liakos and Siiia Hao) and their 200 freestyle relay team of Liakos, Emily Clanton, Michelle Chang and Sarah Palczynski).

"Many girls swam near or set their best times to accomplish what we did Saturday," said Plymouth coach Doug Schade.

PLEASE SEE SWIM, B5



PHOTOS BY TOM HOFFMEYER I STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Salem's Caitlin Heaney swims the first leg of the 200 yard breaststroke relay during Saturday's WLAA Conference Relays at the Livonia Community Recreation Center. The Rocks finished seventh in the event and third overall.



Canton's Maggie Carlson swims the second leg of the 400yard medley relay during Saturday's WLAA conference relays at the Livonia **Community Recreation** Center. The Chiefs finished fourth in the event and fifth overall. 24-7 setback to the 'Skins. Ben Merbler and **Tony Rhodes both played** well offensively while Brennan Beyer and Enrique Pardo (60-yard interception return) turned in stellar defensive efforts.

Preschool sports

The Plymouth Family YMCA is offering a variety of preschool sports programs. There is something for everyone.

The focus of these programs will be 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.

The programs are for children ages 3 to 5 years old.

The programs run the week of 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.



LOCAL SPORTS

Canton kickers shut out Patriots LONG DRIVER FROM PAGE B1

BY ED WRIGHT STAFF WRITER

B2

(CP)

The only thing dropping faster than gas prices these days is the Canton boys soccer team's goals-against average.

The Chiefs' GAA stands at 0.3 following Monday night's dominant 4-0 victory over Livonia Franklin in a match played at the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park soccer field. Coach George Tomasso's squad has yielded just three goals in nine games heading into Wednesday's key Western Activities Association showdown at unbeaten Northville. Results of Wednesday's game will be in Sunday's Observer.

Canton, which was ranked No. 7 in the latest Michigan High School Soccer Coaches Association poll, improved to 7-1-1 overall and 4-0 in the WLAA's Western Division. The Patriots slipped to 3-5 and 1-3, respectively. What's been the key to coach George Tomasso's team's defensive success?

"We're playing overall team defense - everybody's playing together back there," said Tomasso. "They're all giving that extra effort to make sure they're in the right position and they're doing whatever they can to keep the ball out of the goal." Junior goal-keeper Matt

BY ED WRIGHT

STAFF WRITER

In possibly the most talent-

rich event it's ever competed

in, the Plymouth boys cross

country team placed 18th at

Saturday's Tiffin Carnival

Tiffin, Ohio.

Cross Country Invitational

held at Hedges-Boyer Park in

Among the 40 teams in

John Jesuit, which is ranked

entire Midwest, according to

Plymouth coach Lee Shaw.

three kids that would have

placed first in the Michigan

among the top 10 squads in the

"Toledo St. John Jesuit had

attendance was Toledo St.

Revers notched the shutout on Monday, recording five saves. Offensively, the winners were paced by forwards Kyle Gring, a senior, and Eric Piwowar, a junior, who both netted two goals and an assist. Matt Epelman was also credited with an assist. CANTON 1, SALINE 0: On

Saturday, the Chiefs won thanks to a strong defensive effort led by goal-keeper Parker Laabs, who stopped six shots, and a penalty-kick goal off the foot of Eric Piwowar late in the first half.

"Canton and Saline have developed quite a rivalry over the last 10 years," Tomasso said. "Saline always plays at a high level when it plays Canton. But our boys stepped up and met the challenge. I think they still had a sour feeling after Saline knocked us out of the Districts last year."

Tomasso credited the victory to an "overall great team defensive effort."

SALEM 2-1 AT EAST LANSING

On Saturday at the East Lansing Invitational Soccer Tournament, the Rocks won 2of-3 matches thanks to air-tight defense and timely scoring by Brooks Belhart. Salem is now 8-3-1 overall and ranked 10th in the latest Michigan High School Coaches Association poll.

The Rocks' next big test will come Monday when they travel to Livonia Stevenson to battle the Spartans for supremacy in the WLAA's Lakes Division. The opening kick is set for 7 p.m.

In the opener of the threegame tourney played at the East Lansing Soccer Complex, Salem ousted Midland Dow, 2-0. Belhart and Scott Dreaver scored the goals. Tom Bennett assisted on Belhart's goal while Belhart recorded the helper on Dreaver's net-finder.

Belhart, a senior, now has 14 goals this season. The singleseason record is 38, according to Salem coach Ed McCarthy.

Matt Smokovitz was flawless between the pipes for Salem, knocking away five Dow shots.

The host Trojans, who are the top-rated team in Division 2, nipped the Rocks, 1-0, in the second game of the tournament. Salem keeper Brian Field stopped 6-of-7 shots in the loss to the Trojans.

Salem humbled Ann Arbor Huron in its final game on Saturday, 3-0. Belhart tallied two goals and Kyle Freeman added one. Sophomore Josh Pascarella, who was called up from the junior varsity for the day, and Bobby Towne each had an assist.

East Lansing won the invite with a 3-0 record.

"I thought we defended well all day, in particular in the East Lansing game," said McCarthy. "We didn't do as well on the attack end as we were unable to generate many goal-scoring opportunities that would have helped us capitalize on the defensive effort.

McCarthy praised the play of defender Jon Gibson.

SALEM 7, JOHN GLENN 1: Senior Brooks Belhart recorded a hattrick for the Rocks, who improved to 8-3-1 overall and 3-0-1 in the WLAA's Lakes Division. John Glenn slipped to 1-5 and 0-4, respectively.

Also scoring goals for the winners were Tom Bennett (two), Aaron Florn and Jon Gibson. Notching assists for Salem

were goalie Matt Smokovitz, Kyle Freeman, Belhart, Adam Brown and Nick Schreiber. Khalid Suleiman scored the

lone goal for the Rockets, who trailed 4-0 at the half. **CANTON AGAPE 6, HURON VALLEY**

1: The Wolverines improved to 2-3 thanks to two-goal efforts from Tyler Majeski and Mark Mullett. Brandon Pierson and Daniel Walker scored one goal a piece. Donald Mullett also played well, recording three assists. Jared Miller earned the win in goal, stopping seven Huron Valley shots.

Daly-esque large.

Secondly, he does not swing so hard that his spikes leave the ground during his backswing. And lastly, Nagy is a self-pro-

fessed average all-around golfer. But, boy, can the physically fit, smooth-swinging Plymouth resident pound golf balls great distances - sometimes in excess of 360 yards.

Not bad for a 30-year-old. Incredible for a 57-year-old man who only started playing

golf 10 years ago when he decided to discontinue an ultra-successful slow-pitch softball career. "Three years ago, I was hitting

a bucket of balls at Tri-Kor Driving Range, and the owner said, 'Larry, you should try this long-driving contest," Nagy said, reflecting on his introduction to the sport within the sport."I decided to give it a shot and went to one of the district qualifiers in Indianapolis. Only one golfer qualifies in each division, so it's pretty competitive.

"I hit one 348 yards, so I thought I had it won since that's a pretty good distance for my division. Well, another guy who had come up from Florida stepped up and hit one 375 yards."

THE DRIVE TO SUCCEED

Undeterred, Nagy continued to practice and compete in qualifying events. His perseverance paid off earlier this summer when he out-performed thousands of other big hitters to earn a berth in the 2006 RE/MAX World Long Drive Championship, which will be held Oct. 24-28 in Mesquite, Nev.

"It was raining extremely hard and a steady wind was blowing in at the qualifier I won in Pennsylvania," Nagy said. "Before the event started, I went to the car and called Steve Gill, an accomplished long-driving champion who's been helping me with my swing. I wanted to talk to him about what my mind-set should be.

"He said, 'Larry, since it's windy and raining, I'm telling you that more than half the competitors will think they have to swing harder than usual and put more into. I want you to go out and keep doing what we've

Quritah ta

been practicing.' Steve told me that if I reared back and tried to put something extra on it to compensate for the weather. I'd hit it out of bounds every time."

Nagy's 298-yard effort led when the final competitor blasted his last shot.

"The last guy had qualified for the Worlds before, so I was a little nervous," said Nagy, who uses a six-degree club when competing. "When he hit, I heard the crowd going, 'Ooooohhh, nice shot.' But they measured it right to the last inch and it came in at 295, so I won by three yards."

HOME ON THE RANGE

The format of the World Championships will be similar to the qualifying events. Nagy will be paired with three other golfers in the first round. They will each get six shots and the drives must land within a 50yard-wide fairway.

The winner of each foursome advances further along in the brackets. The finals are set for Saturday, Oct. 28.

The top six placers will receive cash prizes ranging from \$1,500 to \$14,000.

"You only get two minutes and 45 seconds to hit the six balls, so that's not a lot of time," said Nagy. "The key for me will be to relax, pace myself and not try to hit them all in 30 seconds.

"The first district qualifier I competed in, I was so nervous and my hands were shaking so bad that I could barely put the ball on the tee. Since then I've learned how to relax and concentrate."

Nagy admitted he rarely plays 18-hole rounds because he'd rather spend time with his family (wife Kathy and 15-year-old daughter Michelle).

"I play with my buddies anywhere from seven to 10 times a summer," said Nagy. "As a result, my all-around game isn't real sharp. For example, I went up north this past weekend and drove two greens (on par 4's), but I parred both of them. I was on in one and got a four both times. That shows you how much work I need on my putting."

Fortunately for Nagy, the winning phrase at next month's World Championships is, "putt for show, drive for dough?

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

Division 1 race last year," said Shaw. "It was a big eye-opener for the guys. They had great expectations going into the race, but they learned how much harder they really have to work."

The Wildcats placed 18th with 510 points, 362 more than first-place Toledo St. John Jesuit's 148.

The overall winner was Maumee (Ohio) High School's Bo Waggoner, who crossed the line first in a blistering 15:18. Anthony Scaparo, the

Wildcats' first finisher, placed 23rd in a time of 16:24. The effort earned him one of the trophies that were distributed

to the top 30 runners. Also competing for Plymouth were: Derek Lax (79th in 17:07); Matt Lewandowski (114th in 17:24); Cristian Chagas (139th in 17:37); Justin Huey (155th in 17:46); Alex Noble (164th in 17:56); and Patrick Slavens (241st in 19:08).

TOMMY TITAN INVITE

A split-squad of Plymouth runners competed in Saturday's Tommy Titan U of D Invitational, which was held at Cass-Benton Park in Northville. The 5,000-meter race consisted of a mix of collegiate, high school and former

No team scores were kept. Finishing for the Wildcats were: Henry Xiu (42nd in 18:54); Ty Schroeder (43rd in 18:54); Justin Scaparo (75th in 19:48); Stephen Ostrowski (87th in 20:00); Warren Buzzard (89th in 20:01); David Maycock (101st in 20:24); and Stephen Liu

collegiate athletes.

(123rd in 21:00). The Wildcats return to action this afternoon at the P-CEP City Meet, which will start behind Plymouth and Salem high schools.

The boys event is set for 4 p.m. while the girls race is set to begin at approximately 4:45 p.m.

'Cat runners 18th at talent-packed meet



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GRID

FROM PAGE BI

to the locker room and suited up with complete uniforms and given a playbook to learn.

They then get to play QB for their respective team's first drive of the fourth quarter. I can see the headlines now: **CONSTRUCTION WORKER LEADS** FRANKLIN TO WINNING TD!

No. 3: You've no doubt seen the flock of 100 or so high school students that show up on Friday nights, but spend the entire game socializing off to the side of the grandstand. I'm almost positive that 99 percent of them could tell you the capital of New Hampshire before they could tell you the score of the game.

Well, that's about to change. They will now be required to sit in a designated student cheering section and cheer for their school's team. The only time they will be allowed to get up will be to:

- 1. Observe the National Anthem;
- 2. Cheer for their team; and
- 3. Do the wave.

The penalty for an infraction is the loss of text-messaging and MySpace access for a week.

Speaking of changes,

Redford/Garden City Sports Editor Tim Smith and myself need some quick ones if we're going to catch Livonia/Westland Sports Editor Brad Emons in the Grid Picks standings. Heading into this week's games, Emons is 23-10 (he went 9-1 last week), giving the veteran prognosticator a two-game advantage over Smith and I.

FRIDAY'S GAMES (all 7 p.m. starts unless noted)

Walled Lake Western (2-1, 1-0) at Canton (3-0, 1-0), 4:30 p.m.: This is the Chiefs' first home game since they rolled over Detroit Martin Luther King in last year's Division 1 quarterfinal game. The three-game road trek didn't seem to bother Canton, which outscored its early opponents, 112-27. The Warriors handed the Chiefs one of their two regular-season losses last year. PICKS: Wright (Canton); Emons (Canton); Smith (Canton).

Livonia Franklin (2-1, 1-0) at Plymouth (1-2, 0-1), 7:30 p.m.: A Patriots' victory would set up a huge WLAA Western Division showdown next week with Canton. They'll need a better showing than the one they got last week when they came within a last-second missed field goal in losing to Wayne Memorial. The Wildcats hung tough with Canton last week before falling 35-24. PICKS: Wright (Plymouth); Emons (Plymouth); Smith (Plymouth)

Salem (0-3, 0-1) at W.L. Central (2-1, 1-0): The Rocks have played hard from the opening kickoff to the closing whistle in all three of their games under first-year coach Parker Salowich, but they haven't been able to find the winning chemistry yet. The Vikings have looked strong since losing to unbeaten Milford in Week 1. PICKS: Wright (Central); Emons (Central);

IT'S ALL ABOUT GOLF!

Smith (Central).

Westiand John Glenn (1-2, 0-1) at Livonia Churchill (1-2, 1-0): The Rockets are within a break here or a break there from being 3-0 and the talk of the WLAA Lakes Division. This is a do-or-die game for the Rockets, who let a huge lead slip away last week against Livonia Stevenson. PICKS: Wright (Churchill); Emons (Churchill); Smith (Glenn).

Liv. Stevenson (3-0, 1-0) at W.L. Northern (1-2, 0-1): The Spartans will take a lot of momentum into this one following a rousing comeback victory last week. PICKS: Wright (Stevenson); Smith (Stevenson); Emons (Stevenson).

Northville (1-2, 0-1) at Wayne Memorial (1-2, 0-1): Anything can happen when the Mustangs and Zebras get together. Judging by the early-season play of both teams, Northville and Wayne are much-improved over last year. This game will prove which team has improved the most. PICKS: Wright (Wayne); Emons (Wayne); Smith (Northville).

Livonia Clarenceville (3-0, 3-0) at Harper Woods (3-0, 2-0): This may be the best game in the area this week. The Trojans have outscored their foes 75-28 while Harper Woods has out-pointed their opponents 109-44. PICKS: Wright (Harper Woods); Emons (Harper Woods); Smith (Clarenceville).

Lutheran Westland (1-2, 0-2) at Southfield Christian (1-2, 1-2) at Birmingham Groves H.S.: It's easy to take the first-year Southfield Christian program lightly, but the Eagles proved they know what it takes to win last week. The Warriors have played in three tight games and have outscored their opponents 48-47 so far. PICKS: Wright (Lutheran Westland); Emons (Lutheran Westland); Smith (Lutheran Westland).

Clawson (1-1, 1-2) at Redford Covenant (2-1, 1-1): The Spartans are rolling along with a winning record in just their second season with a gridiron program. They come into this contest with a large helping of momentum after waxing Dearborn Heights Star International in Week 3. PICKS: Wright (Clawson); Emons (Clawson); Smith (Covenant)

Dearborn Edsel Ford (1-2, 0-1) at Redford Union (2-1, 1-1): As long as the Panthers can hang onto the football they should be able to grind out some touchdowns against the Thunderbirds defense, which gave up 48 points last week to Dearborn. PICKS: Wright (Edsel Ford); Emons (Edsel Ford): Smith (Redford Union).

Allen Park (3-0, 1-0) at Belleville (1-2, 1-1): The Jaguars will provide the Tigers with their stiffest test of the season. While it's a test few teams have been unable to pass the past decade, Belleville will at least have the opportunity to pull the upset in front of its home crowd. PICKS: Wright (Allen Park); Smith (Allen Park):

Garden City (0-3, 0-2) at Gibraltar Carlson (3-0, 1-0): Based on the way these teams have performed the first three weeks, the Cougars are in for another long night. PICKS: Wright (Carlson); Emons (Carlson); Smith (Carlson).

Redford Thurston (0-2, 0-3) at Ypsilanti (3-0, 2-0): The Eagles are in dire need of a fresh start to a so-far disappointing season. But high-powered Ypsilanti, tallying more than 35 points in each game so far, is not the opponent to wipe the slate clean with. PICKS: Wright (Ypsi); Emons (Ypsi); Smith (Ypsi).

1 200

5 turnovers prove costly to Rocks

BY ED WRIGHT STAFF WRITER

Five times three equaled zero for the Livonia Churchill defense Saturday afternoon in its Western Lakes Activities Association Lakes Division game against host Salem.

Churchill junior defensive back Ryan Whittum, who wears No. 5, picked off three Rock passes that were pivotal in the Chargers' 26-0 victory.

Two of Whittum's picks slammed the door on potential Salem scoring drives as one came in the red zone and another in the end zone. Altogether, the Chargers (1-2 overall and 1-0 in the Lakes) picked off five passes.

"We played a little shaky the first two games, so we knew we needed to step up today," said Whittum, moments after his most memorable game as a Charger. "On all three, I just dropped back when the ball was snapped, took my read steps. watched the quarterback, then broke on the ball when he threw it. I just happened to be at the right place at the right time all three times."

Churchill coach John Filiatraut said he hopes his team's stellar defensive effort sets the tone for the remainder of the season.

'We played well defensively, especially when they moved inside the 20," Filiatraut said. "We concentrated when we had to. Overall, we made some mental mistakes defensively, but not many in the red zone

"We've been close the first couple of games and we've continued to tell the kids that they're talented and we're close (to winning). We just didn't make the plays against Lansing Eastern and Northville that we made today.'

Filiatraut predicted Saturday's performance wouldn't be the last standout effort from Whittum.

"Ryan is just scratching the surface of his talent," said Filiatraut. "He's a very talented guy. If he'll take a few more chances, his athletic ability will help him out. He plays the ball really well. I thought he could have had a couple more (interceptions) today, believe it or not.'

Salem's offense showed signs of life behind the leadership of sophomore quarterback Heath Parling,



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Salem's Tez Hodge, pictured returning a punt in an earlier game this season, recorded an interception in the Rocks' 26-0 loss to Livonia Churchill Saturday afternoon.

who threw for 186 yards. But the Rocks' turnovers nullified several long drives into Charger territory.

"It's all part of the learning process we're going through right now," said Salem coach Parker Salowich, whose team dropped to 0-3 and 0-1. "We're trying to find a way to win. We have to change the attitudes and culture of losing around here. Once we do that, we'll start making plays.

"I was happy with the way we moved the ball today. We got some run game going against a very good, well-coached team. We had one seven-minute drive in the third quarter and didn't get a point, which is frustrating for both the coaching staff and the kids. We're going to put an emphasis on finishing drives this week in practice.

Salowich praised the play of Parling, who was called up from the junior varsity earlier in the week.

"Heath's going to be a good player for us in the future," he said. "He made some sophomore mistakes today, but you have to remember he was just brought up this week and thrown into the fire."

Churchill opened the scoring with 4:12 left in the first quarter when quarterback Tommy Myers snuck in from a yard out. The extra point was missed, leaving the score at 6-0.

The Chargers doubled their lead less than three minutes later when junior running back Michael Bargerstock bulldozed his way into the end zone from eight yards out to make it 12-0. The conversion attempt failed again.

Salem threatened to put a serious dent in the Chargers' lead midway through the second quarter, but Whittum picked off a Parling pass in the end zone and returned it to the 10. Five plays later, Bargerstock rumbled in from the 2 to make it 19-0 with 4:51 remaining in the first half.

The Rocks used 16 plays to march from their own 21 to the Churchill 10 on their opening possession of the second half. However, Charger junior defensive back Tom Tilley intercepted a pass that deflected off the hands of a Rock receiver to halt the scoring threat.

Churchill closed the scoring on a bizarre play with 2:25 left in the third quarter. The play started when Michael Berger took a Myers handoff and dashed to the Salem 7. He fumbled while being taken down and the ball was recovered by teammate Nick Seger, who sprinted the final seven yards for the TD.

Berger had a huge afternoon, racking up 151 yards on 14 carries. Bargerstock plowed through the Salem defense for 137 yards on 10 attempts. Joe Spiess picked up 29 yards on seven carries and caught two Myers aerials for 31.

Junior linebacker Michael Thayer picked off the fifth pass for the Chargers.

Parling connected on 14-of-36 attempts for 186 yards. His two favorite receivers were juniors Jeremy Epley (five catches for 68 yards) and Jesse Pointer, who also snagged five for 82.

Salem's leading ground gainer was Jon Wilson, who picked up 37 yards on 15 runs.

Tez Hodge and Shodipo Akintunde both notched interceptions for the Rocks.

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LOCAL SPORTS

Tie-breaker gives Salem narrow win over Chiefs

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, September 14, 2006

Junior Tyler Jeleniewski's oneover-par 36 led the Salem boys golf team to a thrilling, down-tothe-wire victory over Canton Monday afternoon at St. John's Golf Course.

The match was knotted at 164-all after each team's first four scores were recorded, necessitating the use of each team's fifth finisher. Salem was victorious thanks to Aaron Thompson's 44, which was one stroke better than the Chiefs' Jeremy Lindlbauer's 45.

"Obviously, it was a very close match," said Salem coach Rick Wilson. "I thought the scores might be kind of high because it started to get cold as the match went on and it got very windy. Other than Tyler's 36 and a 38 from Canton, the scores were higher than normal.

"Tyler's score definitely made the difference for us. It was an outstanding round, especially considering the conditions."

Also scoring for the Rocks were Brian Fifield (42), Quentin Higgason (43) and Eddie Mazorwicz (43). Joel Cheesman's 47 did not count. The victory evened Salem's

record at 1-1. Canton slipped to 0-1.

PLYMOUTH 160, W.L. CENTRAL 174: The red-hot Wildcats improved to 4-0 with the convincing victory over the visiting Vikings in a meet held at Hickory Creek Golf

Course in Canton Township. Mike Gerisch paced the winners with a sizzling, two-over 38. Also contributing to the win were Jeff Selasky (39), Matt Talbot (41) and Kyle Sanders (42).



Salem at Westland John Glenn, 4 p.m. Plymouth at W.L. Northern, 4 p.m. Canton at Livonia Franklin, 4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 16 Salem at Saline Invitational, 8:30 a.m. BOYS GOLF Friday, Sept. 15 Livonia Churchill at Salem at St. John's G.C., 3 p.m. Westland John Glenn at Plymouth at Hickory Creek G.C., 3 p.m. Canton at W.L. Central, 3 p.m. WOMEN'S COLLEGE VOLLEYBALL Thursday, Sept. 14 Davenport at Madonna, 7 p.m. Henry Ford CC at Schoolcraft, 7 p.m. Friday, Sept. 15 Spring Arbor at Madonna, 7 p.m. **MEN'S COLLEGE SOCCER** Friday, Sept. 15 Schoolcraft at Bryant & Stratton (N.Y.), 4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 16 Madonna vs. Aquinas College at Livonia's Greenmead Field, 2:30 p.m. Schoolcraft at Herkimer (N.Y.), 7 p.m. WOMEN'S COLLEGE SOCCER Saturday, Sept. 16 Madonna vs. Aquinas College at Livonia's Greenmead Field, noon Schoolcraft at Olivet JV, 1 p.m. MEN'S COLLEGE GOLF Saturday, Sept. 16 Madonna in WHAC Jamboree (No. 3) at Lenawee C.C. (Adrian), 1 p.m.





PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Kathy Murphy was the first woman finisher in Sunday's Plymouth Fall Festival 5K run. She was clocked in 21:53.

PLYMOUTH FALL FEST RUN RESULTS

PLYMOUTH FALL FESTIVAL 5-K RUN Sunday in downtown Plymouth OVERALL TOP 10: 1. Adam Lorenz, 17:16; 2. John Rarkowski, 18:39; 3. Stanley Wojeiechaoski, 19:06; 4. Andrew McDonald, 19:06; 5. Jason Kalis, 19:19; 6. Patrick Patterson, 19:21; 7. David Murphy, 19:27; 8. Marcus Sylvester, 19:34; 9. Brian Soash, 19:38; 10. Kirk Carlson, 19:48. WOMEN'S RESULTS

14 & under: 1. Emma Fricke, 30:22. 15-18: 1. Keisey Soronen, 23:46; 2. Rachel Kain, 28:32; 3. Kristin Boyer, 30:06. 19-24: 1. Heath Whittington, 22:10; 2. Sarah Stobbe, 26:02; 3. Kristi Soash, 27:04; 4. Jackie Gauthier, 27:05.

25-29: 1. Kristen Stempien, 22:26; 2. Debi Sherman, 26:45; 3. Sarah Stobbe, 26:52; 4. Elizabeth Spuck, 30:20; 5. Aimee Kearney, 30:25.

30-34: 1, Jennifer Chilnitz, 25:12; 2, Rachel Kalls, 26:37; 3. Stefanie Baier, 27:154. Jenny Lendrum, 27:40; 5. Julie Johnston, 29:58. **35-39:** 1. Alicia Gresser, 23:31; 2. Melissa Wiersema, 26:13; 3. Teri Les, 26:19; 4. Beth Hodgson, 27:23; 5. Julia Radke, 27:38. 40-44: 1. Julia Buzzard, 21:26; 2. Maureen Campbell, 23:03; 3. Kathy Anderson, 27:24; 4. Sheri Rogers, 28:09; 5. Jamie Senkbeil,

45-49: 1. Mary Genrich, 23:55; 2. Nancy Soronen, 27:14; 3. Carolyn Walborn, 29:09; 4. Phyll Tiderington, 30:42; 5. Rose Fricke 30:49. 50-54: 1. Janet Ferstle, 24:46; 2. Cindi Holman, 26:35; 3. Nan Jourdan, 30:31; 4. Barb Ziel, 30:38. 60-64: 1. Nancy Savage, 32:45. MEN'S RESULTS



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14 & under: 1. Thomas Patterson, 20:40; 2. Papul Rakovitis, 21:12; 3. Garrett Rogers, 21:12; 4. Jake Genrich, 21:20; 5. Mitchell Boehn, 22:44. 15-18: 1. Marcus Svivester, 19:34: 2. Sherif Hassanien, 19:55; 3. Brian Rakovitis, 21:05. 19-24: 1. Brian Soash, 19:38; 2. Erik Feldt, 20:28; 3. Brad Litwin, 20:32; 4. Paul Jeweil, 21:25; 5. David Ford, 22:58. 25-29: 1. Adam Lorenz, 17:16: 2. Andrew McDonald, 19:06; 3. Robert Barnes, 28:57. 30-34: 1. Doug Johnston, 28:30. 35-39: 1. Stan Wojelechaoski, 19:06; 2. Jason Kalis, 19:19; 3. Brian Kight, 20:18; 4. Richard Zdun. 23:42: 5. John Foley, 24:04 40-44: 1. Patrick Patterson, 19:21; 2. Kirk Carlson, 19:48; 3. Michael Marlow, 20:44; 4. Brian Anderson, 21:09; 5. Kevin Taylor, 22:48.

Adam Lorenz crossed the finish line first in Sunday's Plymouth Fall Festival 5K Run. Lorenz covered the course in 17:16, over a minute faster than runner-up John Rarkowski. The event attracted 118 runners.

45-49: 1. David Murphy, 19:27; 2. Todd Doenitz, 20:24; 3. Paul Benson, 20:34; 4. Joseph Fischer, 22:18; 5. Tom Cassidy, 27:10. 50-54: 1. John Rarkowski, 18:39; 2. Ken Arble, 20:10; 3. Jeff Ziel, 20:27; 4. Richard Schubatis, 23:58; 5. Don Keski-Hynnila, 24:49.

60-64: 1. Norman Hart, 22:27; 2. Freddy Standaert, 22:35; 3. Tim Klinkhamer, 26:08. 65-69: 1. Larry Mishler, 26:21; 2. Merion Knight, 27:37; 3. Ronald Gill, 27:59; 4. John Lockwood, 38:07. 70-99: 1. Jerry White, 23:29.

TENNIS RESULTS

SALEM 5 W.L. CENTRAL 3

Monday at W.L. Central No. 1 singles: Erica Rouleau (WLC) defeated Alex Ware, 6-4, 6-1; No. 2: Tracy Lytle (S) def. Sara Johnson, 6-2, 6-1; No. 3: Allie Carpenter (S) def. Liz Slusher, 6-0, 6-2; No. 4; Renee Cronin (WLC) def. Dana Anderson, 6-4, 6-2.

No. 1 doubles: Claire Madill-Linda Ling (S) def. Stephanie Indianer, 6-0, 6-4; No. 2: Liz McKinley-Kait McKinley (S) def. Danielle Martinek-Madison Bartlett, 6-3, 3-6, 7-6(2); No. 3: Stephanie Simowski-Raluca Bugescu (S) def. Angela Stawasz-Nicole Mehta, 6-4, 6-1; No. 4: Aleisha Segnetz-MacKensie Conn (WLC) def. Ariel Rojo-Tasneem Mohammad, 2-6, 6-1, 6-1. RECORDS: Salem, 1-0; W.L. Central, 1-1.

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SWIM

FROM PAGE B1

Canton was the lone local team to post a first-place finish. The Chiefs touched first in the 500 freestyle relay behind the efforts of Chelsea Selden, Laura Landis, Monica Blaesser and Allison Schmitt.

"Overall, we had some good swims on Saturday," said Canton assistant coach Ed Weber. "We didn't have enough divers, which affected our score a little. Chelsea Selden was prepared to dive, but our coaching staff didn't feel our second diver was ready, and you can't place unless you have two.

"Even though she didn't dive, Chelsea went on to swim extremely well for us."

Weber also praised the efforts of Alyssa Johnson and freshman Maggie Carlson.

Stevenson, featuring a leaguehigh of 75 swimmers on its roster, captured three of 11 races including the 200 backstroke. 200 breaststroke and 200 medley relays. The Spartans also added three runner-up finishes and a third.

"It was a good performance, but not great," Phill said. "The outcome, however, was to our liking. We're happy with it. And our young kids did not surprise because we figured they'd swim well."

Although John Glenn finished ninth in the team standings, the Rockets brought home titles in the 400 individual medley and 400 medley relays led by the quartet of Jill and Casey Peterson, Ashley Sells and Jordan Burgess.

Northville, meanwhile, earned wins in the 400 freestyle and 200 butterfly relays.

Other titles went to Walled Lake Northville (diving and 200 freestyle) and Canton (500 crescendo freestvle).

See complete meet results.

WLAA SWIM RESULTS

WLAA GIRLS

CONFERENCE RELAYS

Saturday at Livonia Rec Center

OVERALL STANDINGS: 1. Livonia Stevenson, 251; 2.

Northville, 204; 3. Salem, 182; 4. Plymouth, 177; 5.

INDIVIDUAL RESULTS

400-yard medley relay: 1. Westland John Glenn (Jill

Northern, 130; 8. Walled Lake Central, 128; 9.

Peterson, Jordan Burgess, Ashley Sells, Casey

Allison Schmitt, Katie Kubacki), 4:20.61.

Peterson), 4:15.05; 2. Livonia Stevenson (Ashley

Gordon, Brynn Marecki, Megan Holycross, Brittany

Eilers), 4:19.35; 3. Northville (Tanya Tereszczenko,

Megan Trotter, Emily Hopcian, Chelsea Miller), 4:20.16; 4. Canton (Alyssa Johnson, Maggie Carlson,

400 freestyle relay: 1. Northville (Jessica Weber,

Rachel Englert, Erin Shea, Kanya Meghan), 3:46.61;

2. Salem (Whitney Aumiller, Kathryn Gorman, Allison, Alle Stencel), 3:53.02; 3. Livonia Stevenson

Polkowski), 3:57.01; 4. W.L. Central (Rachael Dalian,

(Stephanie Buckley, Laura Holtz, J. Calahan, Brynn Marecki), 2:19.10; 2. Plymouth (Ellen Palczynski,

Sarah Palczynski, Alyssa Liakos, Sijia Hao), 2:21.72;

Buchanan, Rebecca Lee, Madi Sewell), 2:24.01; 4.

200 backstroke relay: 1. Livonia Stevenson (Megan

Holycross, Kieran Dolin, Catherine Moeler, Jillian

Beurer), 2:06.84; 2. Northville (Ashley Filopowicz,

Nicole Ambrose, Lauren Maslyk, Danielle McLeay),

2:13.29; 4. Canton (Katie Kubacki, Louise Kane,

200 butterfly relay: 1. Northville (Meghan Kanya,

Christine O'Keefe, Madd McDuff), 2:16.84.

Michaela Keady, Katherine Underwood, Julie

Gotberg), 2:10.68; 3. Plymouth (Chantel Cote,

W.L. Western (Stephanie Standriff, Holly Ferrari,

(Laura Timson, Blake Holtz, Kristin Turbiak, Anna

Michelle Gaunt, Jordan Daykin, Abby Pavelko),

200 breaststroke relay: 1. Livonia Stevenson

3. W.L. Central (Shawna Stevens, Brittany

Sarah Krueger, Chelsea Rauss), 2:24.38.

4.02.34

Elisabeth Morris, Abby Raymond, Emily Hopcian), 1:59.25; 2. Livonia Stevenson (Katie Kress, Sarah Opdyke, Nadia El-Sabeh, Anna Polkowski), 2:00.05; 3. Livonia Churchill (Nieri Avanessian, Emily Hiser, Ashley Cabadas, Amanda Timson), 2:05.58; 4. Salem (Elizabeth Staff, Kirsten Clemens, Sandra Canton, 164; 6. Livonia Churchill, 161; 7. Walled Lake Nahra, Danielle Roy), 2:09.96. 1-meter diving: 1. W.L. Northern, 290.30 points; 2. Westland John Glenn, 125; 10. Walled Lake Western, 112; 11. Wayne Memorial, 62; 12. Livonia Franklin, 51.

Franklin, 286.00; 3. Salem, 265.95; 4. Stevenson, 262.70. 400 medley relay: 1. Westland John Glenn (Jill

LOCAL SPORTS

Peterson, Jordan Burgess, Ashley Sells, Casey Peterson), 4:25.38; 2. Stevenson (Ashley Gordon, Sarah Opdyke, Adriane Turlo, Stephanie Buckley), 4:35.07; 3. Churchill (Samantha Reid, Nieri Avanessian, Lorie Avenessian, Amanda Foulds), 4:41.06: 4. Canton (Alvssa Johnson, Maggie Carlson, Meghan Sears, Ashley McClellan), 4:42.34. 500 freestyle relay: 1. Canton (Cheisea Seiden Laura Landis, Monica Blaesser, Allison Schmitt), 4:51.59; 2. Northville (Megan Nichols, Rebecca Myers, Rachel Englert, Jessica Weber), 5:05.41: 3. Churchill (Rachel Elery, Lauren Krupsky, Samantha Reid, Amanda Timson), 5:09.31; 4. Salem (Andrea Spohn, Alie Stencel, MEgan McManimon, Allison Burke), 5:17.74.

200 mediey relay: 1. Stevenson (Kieran Dolin, Laura Timson, Katie Kress, Brittany Eilers), 2:02.28; 2. W.L. Central (Abby Pavelko, Rebecca Lee, Madi Sewell, Jordan Daykin), 2:03.67; 3. Plymouth (Lauren Maslyk, Ellen Palczynski, Sijia Hao, Mellisa McKinstry), 2:04.87; 4. Northville (Tanya Tereszczenko, Camelia Das, Kara Folas, Chelsea Miller), 2:06.97.

200 freestyle relay: 1. W.L. Northern (Andrea Wozniak, Lauren Bell, Lauren Cockels, Dana Halse), 1:47.37; 2. Plymouth (Alyssa Liakos, Emily Clanton, Michelle Chang, Sarah Palczynski), 1:50.60; 3. Wayne Memorial (Kelsey Drennen, Sadie Earnest, Madelynn Bevill, Olivia LaFortune), 1:53.33; 4. Livonia Stevenson (Adriane Turlo, Laura Hurn, J. Calahan, Emily Cauzillo), 1:54.59.

CANTON SWIM RESULTS

CANTON 66

Tuesday at Canton 200-yard mediey relay: 1. South Lyon (Emily Martin, Shannon Moceri, Julie Kapler, Jenna Faletti), 1:59.65; 2. South Lyon, 2:04.41; 3. Canton (Maddy McDuff, Maggie Carlson, Monica Blaesser, Laura Landis), 2:06.61

200 freestyle: 1. Allison Schmitt (C), 1:52.45; 2. Kelsey Trabue (SL), 2:02.71; 3. Katie Kubacki (C), 2:15.51

200 IM: 1., Olivia Briolat (SL), 2:21.88; 2. Maggie Carison (C), 2:21.95; 3. Jacquie Trabue (SL), 2:27.44

50 freestyle: 1. Jenna Faletti (SL), 25.90; Melissa DiRado (SL), 27.16; 3. Melissa Permen (SL), 27.61. 1-meter diving: 1. Courtney Smith (SL), 179.80 points; 2. Chelsea Selden (C), 173.05; 3. Monica Gironza (SL), 160.35.

100 butterfly: 1. Monica Blaesser (C), 1:05.52; 2. Chelsea Kemppaien (SL), 1:07.51; 3. Shannon Moceri (SL), 1:09.17.

100 freestyle: 1. Jacquie Trabue (SL), 59.89; 2. Laura Landis (C), 1:00.21; 3. Melissa DiRado (SL), 1:00.67.

500 freestyle: 1. Allison Schmitt (C), 5:02.66; 2. Kelsey Trabue (SL), 5:21.22: 3. Julie Kapler (SL), 5:47.23

200 freestyle relay: 1. South Lyon (Jenna Faletti, Chelsea Kemppaien, Melissa DiRado, Kelsev Trabue), 1:46.45; 2. Canton (Katie Kubacki, Chelsea Selden, Alyssa Johnson, Allison Schmitt), 1:50.14; 3. South Lyon, 1:51.75.

100 backstroke: 1. Oliva Briolat (SL), 1:07.73; 2. Emily Martin (SL), 1:08.09; 3. Monica Blaesser (C), 1:08.23.

100 breaststroke: 1. Shannon Moceri (SL), 1:10.88; 2. Jenna Faletti (SL), 1:11.58; 3. Maggie Carlson (C), 1:15.78.

400 freestyle relay: 1. Canton (Allison Schmitt, Laura Landis, Katie Kubacki, Monica Blaesser), 3:52.82; 2. South Lyon, 3:53.40. CANTON'S DUAL-MEET RECORD: 1-1

YOUR LINK TO THE LINKS

Chiefs take sting out of Hornets

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, September 14, 2006

BY ED WRIGHT STAFF WRITER

When Canton's girls basketball team runs, the Chiefs' opponents can't hide.

Case in point: Tuesday night's 64-35 victory over visiting Saline, which couldn't stay with the Chiefs' push-the-ball-up-the-court offensive attack.

Canton surged to a 24-8 first-quarter lead and never looked back on the way to improving its record to 2-1. Saline slipped to 0-5.

"I thought we came out and ran the floor well and got a lot of easy shots around the rim," said Canton coach Brian Samulski. "For the most part, our focus was pretty good, but it's hard to keep it going the entire way in a game like tonight's.

Janee Morton paced the Chiefs with a 19point, 11-rebound performance. Becci Houdek also shined, scoring 14 points to go along with five steals. Lauren Delapaz tallied nine points, five rebounds and three steals while Hilary Payne chalked up eight points and eight boards for the winners.

Junior forward Baylee Hollowell nearly notched a double-double as she finished with 10 points and nine rebounds.

Madeline Winroms led the Hornets with 7 points. Saline was pressured into 23 turnovers by the tenacious Canton defense.

SALEM 48, F.H. MERCY 42 (2 OT): The Rocks put on a free-throw shooting clinic in the two extra sessions, converting all 11 attempts six of which were from senior forward Taylor Langham. The victory improved Salem to 2-1 heading into tonight's 7 p.m. home game against Canton.

We only made 6-of-14 free throws in our loss to Brighton and we didn't shoot that well against Belleville either, but tonight we were knocking them down," said Salem coach Fred Thomann. "It was a hard-fought, physical game."

Salem was 14-of-19 overall at the line while Mercy was 11-of-27.

"I told the girls it never should have gone to overtime," Mercy coach Gary Servais said. "We should have won the game in regulation.

The Marlins (3-2) missed two free throws at the end of the fourth quarter with the game tied, 35-35. Mercy got the final shot but missed at the end of the first overtime with the teams deadlocked at 37. The

Marlins fell behind in the second overtime and were forced to foul.

B5

(CP)

Langham and Teresa Coppellie posted 11 points apiece and Lauren Kurtz 10 for the Rocks. Kurtz also pulled down a career-high 23 rebounds.

CANTON 61, WEST BLOOMFIELD 46: The Chiefs made a loud and clear statement on the road Saturday when they upended West Bloomfield in a highly touted non-conference game.

Ja'nee Morton had perhaps her best game at Canton, scoring 21 points to go along with eight rebounds. Becci Houdek also shined, netting 18 points and nine assists. Junior Baylee Hollowell had a strong inside game, scoring 10 points while hauling down a team-high 13 rebounds.

While Canton senior guard Lauren Delapaz wasn't among the scoring leaders, she was instrumental in the victory, Canton coach Brian Samulski said.

"Del did a great job of defending their best player, Chanise Miller, and holding her to just 10 points," Samulski said. "Miller would flash to the high post, but Lauren denied her the ball. Because of her effort, West Bloomfield wasn't able to get into the flow of their offense."

Samulski also pointed to the defensive play of Marie Martin and offensive contributions proved by key reserves Kaylie Martin (four points, four rebounds) and Hilary Payne (five points).

The Chiefs travel to Salem to take on the Rocks Thursday. The opening tip in the cross-campus showdown is set for 7 p.m.

LUTH. WESTLAND 45, PLY. CHRISTIAN 35: Becca Refenes, a 6-foot-1 sophomore center, scored a game-high 21 points and grabbed 12 rebounds Tuesday as Lutheran High Westland (2-2) handed host Plymouth Christian Academy (3-1) its first setback.

Senior forward Kayla Gieschen chipped in with nine points and nine rebounds, while sophomore guard Allyson Yankee also scored nine points for the Warriors, who led 22-13 at intermission.

Lutheran racked up a total of 17 assists with Lauren Schwecke dishing out six and Andrea Guse' adding five.

Sara Ross led the Eagles with 11 points and Meghan Polera chipped in with seven.

'We didn't do a very good job defensively on Refenes," said PCA coach Carol Gerulis.

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ESSON ON GOLF By Jeff Lesson

THE RYDER CUP

I know this is painful Americans. It is almost that time every other year when we Americans get spanked by seemingly inferior golfers from Europe. That's right, the Ryder Cup is almost here.

This year in Ireland at a course decidedly American-like. It is a far cry from the typical Irish seaside links. Maybe this will help the cause? Or maybe it just won't matter.

Captain Tom Lehman, a few weeks ago, lamented his very young team, worrying about their lack of Ryder Cup experience. Maybe the lack of experience is a good thing in this case. After all, is getting clobbered every year by a bunch of underdogs a positive experience? Maybe new guys like J.J. Henry will be able to handle the Ryder Cup pressure a bit better than some of the past American participants. Let's face it. He cannot do much worse.

Even Tiger Woods has struggled in the Ryder Cup. His record is decidedly below 500 in this event despite playing in every event since 1997. Were it not for Tiger's record in singles, his overall Ryder Cup record would be much worse.

So it is time to let go of the past. It is time to embrace the new, the young and hopefully unflappable American Ryder Cup team. It is also time for an American victory. Because this thing has become downright embarrasing.

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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Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, September 14, 2006

Lions will need to 'Bear' down and scor

*here are three certainties growing up in

Chicago. Elections are always suspect, the Cubs will never win a World Series and you must know the Bears' fight song. Since I grew up in that city. I am always leery of the first Tuesday in November, I know the Cubs will never win the World Series and the fight song goes like this:

"Bear down, Chicago Bears. Make every play pave the way to victory ... Bear down, Chicago Bears. Put up a fight with a might so fearlessly. We'll never forget how you thrilled the nation, with your T-formation.

"Bear down, Chicago Bears and let 'em know why you're wearing the crown. You're the pride and joy of Illinois ... Chicago Bears! Bear down!

Man, I hate that song. Any self-respecting Lions fan would hate that song, too. The Lions-



Bears rivalry dates back 76 years. There have been some classic contests, with Chicago holding a 23-game advantage in the

overall series. From 1968 to October 1975, there were 15 games, with the Lions winning 13 of them. In the mid-'80s the Bears dominat-

ed under Mike Ditka. They won 10 in a row at one point, including the year Chicago won its lone Super Bowl with Walter Payton and Co. Since that time, neither team has won more

than three straight.

In essence, it's been a tighter series over the past 17 seasons. The Bears are back and they've won the past two games. Lovie Smith has Chicago back in a place of prominence in the

NFL. "Papa Bear" George Halas would be very proud.

What's the reason for all the history? This Sunday could be very ugly again if the Lions aren't careful. What the Bears did in Green Bay last weekend was awesome. Sure, the Packers are horrible, but to go into Lambeau Field and rip the Pack like they did is almost unprecedented.

"Yeah, give them credit. Maybe we just ain't very good," startled Packers quarterback Brett Favre said to reporters afterward.

On his way to the Pro Football Hall of Fame, a funny thing happened to the two-time MVP. He suffered the first shutout of his 16-year NFL career. Favre had never been on the losing end of a shutout. When the Bears had finished off the 26-0 blowout, they realized they made a little history.

The last time the Pack had been held to nothing was 1991, the year before Favre got there. The Bears did it that time, too. Some 233 games went by before Green Bay again put a big fat zero on the scoreboard.

PICK T

"You go back to the basics and you drill. We have to learn from our mistakes because Chicago is a very good football team. We have to pound the rock and move on," Lions coach Rod Marinelli said on our Lions review show.

The Lions' defense had its own reason to boast after holding the Seahawks to just three field goals last Sunday. Problem is, the Lions had only two field goals and, last time I checked. three beats two any day. Marinelli didn't want to hear about any kind of moral victories.

"It's not good enough," Marinelli said after the game. "I'm not interested in just playing hard and well."



IE PROS

touchdowns this Sunday in Chicago

To his credit, Marinelli is not going to be content with good, tough performances. He expects that on a weekly basis. We all know coaches in this league don't last long just playing hard. The wins have to be there or else those efforts just get wasted.

'We need to get a better, more consistent effort out of our offense. They are responding and we need to just keep on working," Marinelli added.

Mike Martz's new-look offense had some oldlook results. It was only game one, so certainly it's going to take some time, but a win over the defending NFC champs when you have them on the ropes would have been a huge boost to an organization looking for a boost.

It was almost five years to the day that Seattle last won a game by scoring only nine points. Just two days before the tragic events of

9/11, in the 2001 season opener, the Seahawks beat Cleveland 9-6. It was the same score against the Lions five years later.

The Bears have now won 11 of their last 13 regular-season games. The Lions have now lost nine of their last 11 games. The game is at the revamped Soldier Field. The outside looks like a spaceship. Maybe that's where they are hiding Pluto. In any case, it's going to be quite a task to go in there and beat the NFL's No. 1 defense.

Rex Grossman was efficient in the game against Green Bay. The Bears quarterback made only one mistake, but converted only four of 14 third downs. Former Michigan State WR Muhsin Muhammed had a 102-yard receiving day and Robbie Gould kicked four field goals. If Jason Hanson would have kicked four, the Lions would have beaten Seattle.

It's too hard to get into a field goal game with Chicago. Those winds along the lake have been a bugaboo for Hanson. The Lions need to score touchdowns. It was the complaint about Steve Mariucci's offense last year. Too many times Detroit had to settle for one or no TDs per game. Kevin Jones has to have a bigger day so the run sets up Jon Kitna in the passing game.

"Our job is to be better than we were today," said Lions wideout Mike Furrey, who debuted with five catches against the Seahawks.

Furrey is the guy the Lions kept in order to dump Charles Rogers. Mike Williams didn't even dress for the opener. Roy Williams didn't make his first catch until the third quarter. Corey Bradford is a good compliment, but Roy needs to be the go-too guy we all know he can be. Martz is working feverishly this week to

tweak the offense before the game Sunday.

'We will win this game. You can take that as a guarantee or whatnot, but we will win this game," Roy Williams said sternly to reporters Monday.

B7 (*)

No one likes to talk about the past, but last year the Bears tore through the Lions' defense in Chicago – 38-6 was the final. It also came in Week 2. This is Week 2 once again. Same city ... different coach. Maybe Marinelli can figure this one out. Lovie Smith has seen the tape. He knows it's a better Lions defense. It would be fun to not hear that Bears fight song Sunday.

Mark Wilson is host of the Lions pre- and postgame shows on WKRK-FM (97.1). He's a former Associated Press and Michigan Association of Broadcasters Michigan Sportscaster of the Year. He lives in West Bloomfield.



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Then there s Hector Cortes, foreperson at headquarters of the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA), in New York, which has 170 employees and 350 animals. People contact him when they re short on time, resources or skills at any of the city s three facilities. He modestly refers to himself as a handyman who transports vehicles, repairs doors and windows, and plasters walls. Hell tackle anything, including air conditioning.

Gayle Arbeznik, major account contract analyst at the Denver branch of the \$15.7 billion Xerox Corp., generates and maintains negotiated contracts for customers scattered from Denver to Hawaii. She also updates hundreds in her system, most done manually, as customers buy new products. Accuracy is huge, she reports. So is timeliness.

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country.

promises two-day turnaround.) Sales reps have learned that she gets her job done more quickly than her nine peers around the

Do these people know other hard workers? Cortes has a few friends and coworkers who work as hard as he does. Cunha has three brothers and three sisters who are equally hardworking. Their mother, a single parent, taught them, If you want something, you have to work for it, she recalls. Arbeznik, the daughter of a Marine and an HR senior executive, knows some hard workers at the Denver Xerox.

HOW THEY DO IT

What keeps spirited employees motivated? Cunha thinks about the money: Wherever I ve worked, I ve always treated their money as if it were my money. You get better work out of people and people will make decisions differently if it's their money. I tell employees that if we can t sell homes because our product isn t good, you won t have a job. As a worker, she follows through, keeping customers updated all of the time. If they know what s going on, she adds, it makes them feel more comfortable. They re spending a lot of money.

Arbeznik is equally compelled: I just don t like saying no to anyone. If I don t know the answer, I enjoy being a resource. She thrives on a simple thank you. Cunha s customers become friends. They ve been known to wave when she drives by and hand her a plate of food from their barbeque. Cortes is on a first-name basis with evervone.

Cortes and Cunha say that its imperative to find something you enjoy doing. Arbeznik recommends stepping back. Think about how many people you re touching every day, she remarks. You re helping the company and the customers. Your hand is touching everything. One or two people can make a real difference with one customer.

Not one of these remarkable employees has a glamorous job. Two of them work behind-the-scenes (Cortes and Arbeznik). Cunha works alternately



visibly and invisibly: I serve as liaison with villages, run the subdivision, sell, and schedule a house from

the day we dig the hole until people move in. She manages four salespeople, two trim carpenters and two clean-up guys, who make certain that properties inside and out are kept up at all times.

If you don t enjoy doing it, she observes, you ll never do a good job. It would be a headache every time you do it.

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

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By Marty Majchrzak **Avanti NewsFeatures**

Winnebago s 2007 Voyage 35A is Class A motor home with a head-turning exterior and a 7-foot-2 ceiling height that provides an incredible amount of head room. I love the new look Winnebago has given these monsters of motor homes in the past two years. The color combinations on the outside always turn heads as you enter the campground.

Advertising Feature

Observer & Eccentric

Automotive

The outside on our tester was painted a combination of four different colors: a white base, accented by burgundy, pewter and gold, making one sweet-looking ride. My wife Donna and I just love motor homes, but living in this kind of luxury makes you feel like you took your home with you.

The Voyage is 35 feet of pure luxury and a couple of new additions that make life a lot easier. A rear camera was great so I could keep an eye on my Sea Ray boat and with the additional side cameras, driving these coaches gets easier and easier. Side cameras are mounted under the mirrors and are activated when you put on the turn signal. It shoots a view down the side of the coach and into the next lane that makes lane changing a piece of cake.

You know the old saying: you can t have your cake and eat it, too. Well, with this Voyage, know that you can have your cake and eat it, too. You can also change the view from camera 1, 2 or 3 by hitting the button on the view screen. This was great!

The Voyage has lots of basement storage. It will store anything from barbeques to as many folding chairs you can pack. One of the first things I like to do is check out the basement storage because I like to bring everything we can think of.

As we pulled into our camp site at Lake Léelanau RV Park in northern Michigan, the director took our name and directed us to follow him to our camp site. They were so busy he let us check in the next day. Now keep in mind that with a total of 53 feet of motor home and boat, those cameras made it a piece of cake to maneuver in a tight camp ground. Boy, that cake is good!



2007 Winnebago Voyage 35A. Vehicle class: Class A motor home. Power: 8.1-liter fuel injected V8 engine. Mileage: 7.0 mpg in mixed driving. Where built: Forest City, Iowa. Base price: \$123,764. As tested: \$133,823.

As we pulled into our cement slab camp site we unhooked the boat and the park took it to the launch with my son, Matthew. Next was a quick meeting with the people next to us. Then I opened the coach driver s door, hit the leveling jacks power on and hit auto button. All four jacks came down, hit the ground and started leveling the coach; I just stood back and watched. I closed the door and turned and the people next to us said, How cool was that! I need more cake.

Now we re inside coach. We went to the back and slid out the bedroom, moved to the living room and slid it out, then turned and slid out the kitchen. This new kitchen slideout makes the living area huge. More room to cook, eat and pass other people by and in a pinch more room to sleep.

We took six adults with us to northern Michigan. The Voyage will sleep six but to be more comfortable, four is better, I think. That s where the kitchen slideout came into play. We were able to sleep two on an air mattress comfortably in the kitchen area, only because of that slideout.

My wife Donna liked the fact that our Voyage came with the washer/dryer combo from Italy that worked very well. The machine not only washes the clothes but also dries them in the same machine. It took a little longer, and in the spin cycle, it shook the motor home a little bit, but not long enough to be annoying.

The Voyage I tested had a little over \$10,000 in options. My last Winnebago motor home tester was an Adventurer 37B, and that had \$23,000 worth of options and was a gorgeous RV. With two slideouts in the bedroom and one in the living area, my choice for that third slideout is the kitchen area, to give you that extra room in the living area. Now if money is no problem than I move to the motor home with four slideouts.

My favorite option was the home theater sound system that had unbelievable sound and power. My kids and I one night at about 10 o clock decided to watch the movie V for Vendetta. Well, let me tell you with the big bass sound and the high pitch of fire and gunfire it was enough to have the camp director come calling at our door. I answered the door and the first thing he said was, WOW! What great sound! But we can hear it pretty good out here, so could you please turn it down a little bit?

Because of the quality and the options, this is a pretty nice coach and one that I would recommend for purchase.

Write Marty Majchrzak at marty.majchrzak@gmail.com

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