Look for the special shopping section inserted in today's Observer



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SUNDAY November 19, 2006

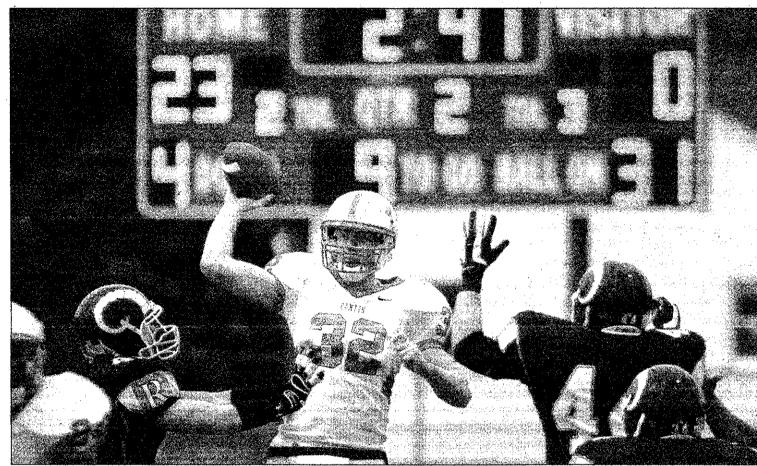
Observer

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Rocked again

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton High School quarterback Steve Paye launches a pass late in the second quarter under pressure from Rockford defenders. Canton's best efforts weren't enough. The Rockford Rams beat the Chiefs 30-0 in the Division I football semifinal game, played at Lansing Everett High School. For more on the battle, see today's Sports section and hometownlife.com online.

Shopping trek to Canton ushers her into millionaire's club

BY JULIE BROWN STAFF WRITER

Loretta Brown, 48, of Detroit is glad she shops at IKEA in Canton. "I go to IKEA to shop because it's a good store, lower prices," she said of the retailer on Ford Road, a new arrival on the local shopping scene. She recently was shopping and stopped at the Shell station at Ford and Haggerty in Canton, where she bought a \$75 million winning ticket in the Mega Millions 12state lottery game.

said. "I can say yes; I can say no." The jackpot announce-

The jackpot announcement was made by lottery officials Thursday afternoon. "This is always the



She wore sunglasses to the news conference, which she removed, and was circumspect in answering press questions. "The less exposure, the better off it is," said Brown, who considers privacy important now that she's a millionaire.

Goodfellows help spread holiday cheer in Canton

BY NANCY DEUTSCH CORRESPONDENT

Every year around this time, Nancy Spencer starts praying and hoping.

The president of the Canton Goodfellows for the past 15 years, Spencer knows how important it is to find people to help out with the "Be An Angel" program and make Christmas happen for the more than 500 Canton children who may not receive any gifts otherwise.

This year will be particularly difficult. "We're quickly approaching 525" children who need "angels" to provide Christmas gifts, she said. "I'm hoping I can get them all adopted."

Last year, there were fewer children on the list, and "it was coming close" but all children received gifts, Spencer said.

There are 2500 families who live below the poverty line in Canton, she noted.

The Canton Goodfellows Project, the organization's main endeavor for the year, is to supply families on their list with food for the holidays, and gifts for the children. Most of the children are identified by schools as being on the free or reduced lunch programs.

The Goodfellow organization, comprised solely of volunteers, fund-raises to supply food baskets to the families on their list, to get them through the holi-

"I just felt like I was going to win that day, I really did," Brown said Thursday afternoon during a news conference at Michigan Lottery headquarters in Lansing. She's a loan officer who works in West Bloomfield and plans to keep her jöb. "Now I don't have to

work under stress," she

best part of being a lottery commissioner," Gary Peters said in introducing Brown and giving her the oversized check. "We've got a great winner here in Michigan."

Brown is married with two adult children. She bought two tickets at the Shell station that lucky day, and had difficulty tracking down family members when she found out she'd won on the news. Her husband won't keep his job, she said.

Brown chose the lump sum payment of some \$44 million, which will work out to about \$30 million after taxes. She received \$1 million Thursday at the lottery office in Lansing, and didn't have to go home

Loretta Brown of Detroit, the Mega Millions winner, is congratulated by Gary Peters, state lottery commissioner, at Thursday's news conference in Lansing. Brown bought her winning ticket at the Shell station at Ford and Haggerty in Canton.

empty-handed.

She was headed to "DTE Energy. I'm going to pay my gas bill." Brown noted the tough times in the metro area, something she sees in her work.

"Truly it has been a tough time," she said. "Of course, I'm a loan officer. I do mortgages." She added "Thank the Lord" for her good fortune. The family has no trips planned and she hasn't yet considered any charities to support. Brown described herself as "just a regular student" while at Detroit Finney High School. "It's going to take a few days before this sinks in," Peters, the commissioner, added after Brown and her family left the room. He noted that lottery officials recommend that winners get professional legal and financial advice.

The Shell station owner who sold the winning ticket — which was shown to media Thursday — will receive \$50,000 from the lottery. Raj Anghan also got a publicity boost when the news was announced.

"I'll be down there in the next couple days," Peters said. "He's very excited as well." days, Spencer said.

The paper sale Dec. 2 is "our major big fund-raiser," she said, but unfortunately, "that doesn't raise major big funds."

The newspaper put out by the organization is not much, she said, but "you have to sell something. It behooves us to raise money." Aside from the sale, various businesses in Canton help out by doing their own fund raising or simply donating funds, Spencer said. "Some businesses in Canton are very generous."

Linda Robin, owner of Showroom of Elegance, a fine jewelry store on Canton Center Road, has volunteered with the Canton Goodfellows for four years. For the past three, the store has held a contest, asking people to drop in with children's toys or nonperishables. In return, the donator gets a point per donated item, and people with the most points win prizes, she said.

This year, they will only collect nonperishable food items, Robin said. The contest is open now until Dec. 9 and no store purchase is necessary, she said.

In addition, Robin is an "angel" through the organization and provides Christmas gifts anonymously.

PLEASE SEE GOODFELLOWS, A5

Hundreds pay final respects to fallen soldier

BY BRAD KADRICH

Evelyn Burgess wants her son, Sgt. Bryan Burgess, to be remembered most for one thing.

"That he was loved by many, and that he loved people," said Evelyn Burgess. "And that his second love was the Marines."

Those emotions were evident Saturday, as hundreds of people — many of them members of the military who turned out in their dress uniforms — turned out to pay their final respects to Bryan Burgess, who was buried with full military honors following a funeral Mass at St. Bernardine of Siena Church in Westland.

Burgess, 35 of Canton, was killed last week in Iraq by a sniper while on patrol with the 1st Battalion of the 24th Marines in Fallujah.

"They were doing a typical security mission checking vehicles, stopping and searching for weapons," said Gunnery Sgt. Steven Kosinski of Weapons Company, 1st Battalion, 24th Marines in Perrysburg, Ohio. "The machine gunner keeps watch, and it was at that point where Sgt. Burgess was shot by a sniper while observing his checks." Burgess' flag-draped coffin returned home Thursday, accompanied by a halfdozen Marines who stood by his side through the funeral services Saturday. At St. Bernardine, a military bagpiper squeezed out the notes to *Amazing Grace*, a bugler played the notes to *Taps*, and seven U.S. Marines fired a 21-gún salute as a sign of respect for their fallen comrade.

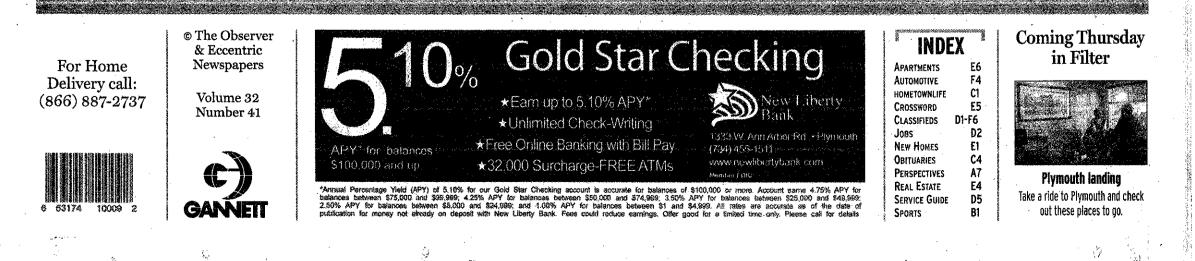
It was a sense of respect that permeated the entire day, which began with a Marine processional that stopped in front of Evelyn Burgess' Westland home and, with

PLEASE SEE RESPECTS, A5



TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Members of the Patriot Guard line the walkway at St. Bernardine as friends and family members arrive for funeral services for Sgt. Bryan Burgess.



LOCAL NEWS

Shop Canton holiday effort promotes local businesses

BY NANCY DEUTSCH CORRESPONDENT

A2

(C)

The holiday season is fast approaching, and Canton residents don't need to venture far to find bargains and great gifts.

That's the message behind a marketing strategy called Shop Canton created by a marketing committee comprised of members of the Downtown Development Authority, Canton Chamber of Commerce, Canton Township, and other community business members.

"It's just promoting our shopping district," said Karyl Niemi, creative director for Canton Creative Marketing, one of the people on the marketing committee, and the brainchild behind the new venture. "There's strength in numbers. The more businesses that partner together, the stronger the message."

About 30,000 homes in Canton - which is most of them - should receive a Shop Canton discount card in the mail, she said. Fifty-six area businesses have signed up to offer discounts of 10 percent off merchandise purchased when the buyer uses the card



between Nov. 15 and Dec. 31. The businesses included develop their own restrictions on the offer, which can be 10 percent off the entire bill, or off certain items, or with certain exclusions, Niemi explained.

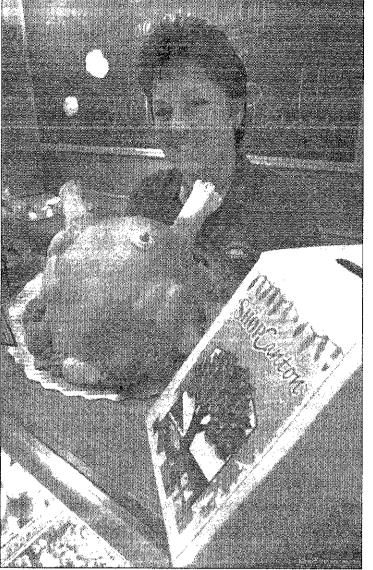
Stores pay anywhere from \$100 to \$200 to participate, depending on whether or not they are a member of the Chamber of Commerce or DDA, Niemi said, but the project is nonprofit. In fact, "we're underwritten by the DDA," she said.

People who have not received a discount card will be able to obtain one at the stores offering the discount or at various places throughout the township, she added. They will also be able to print one out on the Web site (www.shopcanton.org).

In addition, each time a purchase is made with the card, the shopper will receive a chance to win a gift basket valued at about \$500, which is comprised of "a great selection of prizes" from all the stores, Niemi said. The drawing will be held Jan. 12.

"We're trying to brand Ford road as a place to shop," she said.

Dianne Cojei, president of



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Tracey Pawlowski, of Back Home Bakery, promotes the Shop Canton program. The bakery's turkey cake is a big hit this time of year.

paign to form unity with our shops.'

The marketing committee is also holding a Shop Canton Holiday Fest on Dec. 9 at Canton Corners, which is at

coupons, "it just brings them (customers) right back in," she said. "The whole trick to my business is getting people to taste the product.

She is happy that the mem-

AROUND CANTON

Exchange Club

Exchange Club of Canton is having a special meeting 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 21, at the Canton Souvlaki & Coney Island, on Lilley in the Golden Gate shopping center (across from the airport). The speaker is Tina Gatt, B.A., B.S.W., coordinator of Child Abuse Council of Windsor.

Those attending will learn about Gatt's program. Attendees can order from the menu if they wish to eat.

Holiday show

United Home Health Services, a not-for-profit home care agency located in Canton, will host a charity event Saturday, Dec. 9, at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton. The event begins at 6:30 p.m. with a wine and cheese/dessert reception, followed by a holiday concert by the 60-member Canton Concert Band at 7:30 p.m.

Proceeds go to United's Patient Support Fund, which is used to provide home care to individuals who do not have medical insurance or whose needs go beyond the scope of insurance coverage. It is also used to provide emergency medications, food, clothing, transportation, and medical equipment to patients in need.

Tickets are \$30 and can be bought by contacting Mary Jane Swanson at United Home Health Services at (734) 981-8820. Sponsorships are also available for this event.

Please call for details.

Goodfellows. Reservations are necessary by Friday, Dec. 1, and can be made by calling the chamber office at (734)453-4040. The cost of the

Holiday craft fair

event is \$20.

Tri-City Christian Center, 3855 Sheldon in Canton, is having a Holiday Craft Fair 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 2. More than 75 crafters will be selling their wares. There will also be refreshments served and a bake sale. Admission is \$1.

Computer course

The Canton Chamber of Commerce is offering a MS Word Part I course at 6 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 6, at Canton Computers, which is located at the southwest corner of Canton Center and Ford roads. This is one of many computer training courses that have been scheduled throughout 2006 and 2007. These classes are open to chamber members and to the public.

Cost for the seminar is \$25 for chamber members and \$40 for nonmembers. 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. Registration deadline is Dec. 1. All 2006 seminars and computer training courses are sponsored by Telcom Credit Union.

'Capturing ancestors'

through the library. Guests are

LOCAL NEWS

Retiring police officers remember fallen comrade

BY KURT KUBAN STAFF WRITER

The Canton Police Department said goodbye to three of its original officers at a party recently. It was a joyous affair, but one with a notable absence.

In addition to Lt: Robin Cripe, Lt. John MacDiarmid and Officer Rene LeBlanc, who all hired on in 1978, the retirement party should have also honored Gordon "Lew" Stevens, who was killed in July of 2003, when his squad car was struck by a motorist on Lotz Road. Stevens, also one of the department's original officers, remains the only officer in the department's history to die in the line of duty.

For most of the officers, the day Stevens died will forever be etched into their memories, and offers a stark reminder of how dangerous their job can be.

Cripe, who along with Stevens was one of the department's first cadets, said he still remembers speaking to Stevens 20 minutes before he was killed. He said he was in disbelief when he heard the news.

"We see death every day, but when it is someone you work with, it's different," Cripe said. "It changes your outlook about the job. You just realize that your family is the most important thing.

When Cripe, who grew up in Plymouth, hired onto the department in 1978, he was issued the very first badge. He was promoted to the rank of corporal in 1980, and sergeant in 1984. In 1990, he was promoted to the rank of lieutenant, becoming responsible for performing the duties of a shift commander for the department.



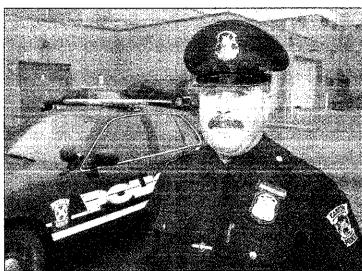
BILL BRESLER 1 STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Lt. Robin Cripe was issued the Canton Police Department's first badge in 1978.

Cripe said he was only getting paid \$2.50 an hour when he first hired on as a reserve, which was a pay cut from his other job working security for the Great Scott supermarket chain. But he said much has changed about the department, which has grown from the original 12 officers to 84. Just like much has changed in the township itself.

"When we first started here, we only had 17,000 residents in Canton. We only had one paved road running north and south, which was Canton Center," said Cripe, 51. "Since the late 1980s, things have changed. We are starting to see more serious crimes. Back then we were lucky to have three or four runs a day. Last week, I had an officer who had 21 runs in a day."

MacDiarmid also hired onto the department as a police officer in 1978. One of his first



BILL BRESLER I STAFF PHOTOGRAPHEI

Officer Rene LeBlanc has served Canton for 28 years, during which time he received more than 20 departmental awards and citations.



John MacDiarmid

assignments was to the department's detective bureau where he enjoyed working undercover on auto theft and narcotics cases, and conducting surveillance investigations. He was promoted to rank of sergeant in 1986, and lieutenant in 1990.

During his career, MacDiarmid received more than 30 departmental awards and citations including a department commendation for the apprehension of three male suspects who had kidnapped a young woman and were in the process of assaulting her; and a department citation for rescuing a 5-year-old boy from drowning. In 2004, MacDiarmid received a thank you from the United States Secret Service for his assistance during a visit by President George Bush. LeBlanc, who has received

more than 20 departmental awards during his career,



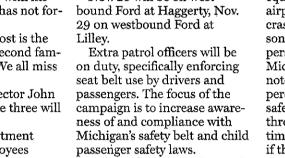
Gordon 'Lew' Stevens

including a life saving award and Officer of the Year, said many incidents stand out over the years, including responding to a plane crash at Mettetal Airport in 1994. But, without the question, the thing he will miss most about the job is the camaraderie he had with his colleagues. He also has not forgotten Stevens.

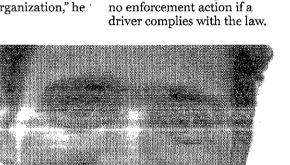
"What I'll miss most is the people. This is my second family," LeBlanc said. "We all miss 'Lewey.'

Public Safety Director John Santomauro said the three will be missed.

"The police department is losing three employees who have contributed so much to the organization," he said.



no enforcement action if a driver complies with the law.



Canton police plan seat belt enforcement push

BY JULIE BROWN STAFF WRITER

Seat belt use saves lives, as Sgt. Jerry Hardesty, a command officer in charge of the traffic unit for the Canton Police Department, knows. 'We believe that seat belts help to save lives and to reduce injuries," Hardesty said. Canton police partner with Michigan State Police and Wayne County Sheriff's deputies in the Click It or Ticket seat belt enforcement program, which will be in Canton in coming days.

"This is a statewide enforcement action. Different departments do it at different times," said Hardesty, noting you're likely to see some commercials on TV in conjunction with the enforcement.

'We try to coordinate the times we do our enforcement actions. We have seen a marked increase in the number of people that wear their seat belts." When the effort started a couple years ago here, that was less true.

"You can see it when you work these initiatives. It's more difficult to find violators. That truly is what we want. We'd like to have 100-percent compliance," the sergeant said. "It's a nice gentle reminder.'

It will run Nov. 21-22 and Nov. 28-29. Nov. 21 will be on westbound Michigan Avenue at Sheldon, Nov. 22 on eastbound Ford at Morton Taylor.

Nov. 28 will be on west-

There will be a sign first and

"Then we'll take enforcement action," if needed, Hardesty said.

Most of the time, they're not paying attention, he finds among people who don't wear seat belts, although some believe it is their legal right. "But in reality we know that people are less prone to injury in a motor vehicle accident if they're wearing a seat belt," he said.

Seat belt use is especially important now with air bags, Hardesty said. A seat belt should be worn properly, with the shoulder harness over the shoulder, designed for good bone support in the case of a crash.

In Michigan, state law requires:

All front seat passengers to be buckled up

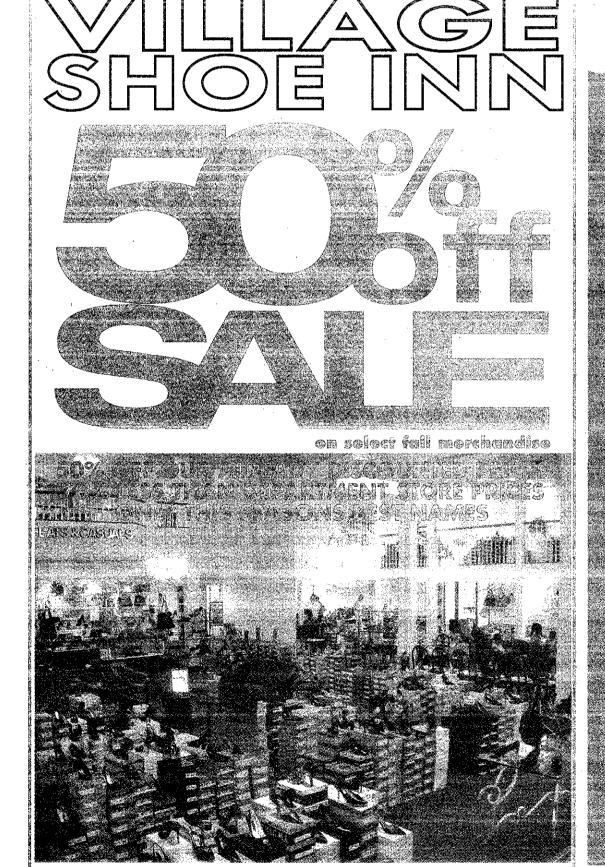
All passengers under age 16 to be buckled up, in all seating positions

All children under age 4 to be in an approved child safety seat, in all positions

Michigan's safety belt law allows police officers to stop a motorist solely for not wearing a safety belt in the front seat of a vehicle. Police officers can also stop a motorist if a child age 4-15 is not properly restrained no matter where he or she is riding in a vehicle. The law also requires all children under the age of 4 to be properly restrained in an approved child safety seat.

In this country, we lose the equivalent of a fully loaded 737 airplane each day due to traffic crashes. A total of 1,279 persons were killed and 112,484 persons injured in crashes in Michigan during 2002, police note. Of those people killed, 40 percent were not wearing a safety belt. Studies show that three out of five of these victims likely would have survived if they had buckled up.

"Just wear your seat belts and then everybody will have a good day," Hardesty said.



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HEGSIER

Copper Creek Condo paving proceeds

BY JULIE BROWN STAFF WRITER

Work will proceed on paving at the Copper Creek Condominiums south of Warren and west of Old Haggerty.

Several condominium residents from the 72-unit complex spoke at Tuesday night's Board of Trustees meeting, mostly in favor of establishing a special assessment district to pay for the work.

"Our roads have crumbled," said Judy Bailey, president of the condo association. "None of us wants to spend \$8,000 over 10 years." She said the technical advice from the township and county was sound and work should proceed.

"We feel this is the best option, even though it's the most expensive," Bailey said. "They are literally crumbling into pieces."

Tim Faas, municipal services director for Canton, has met with residents who voted for a full replacement to last some 25 years. He expects that work can be done in 2007.

"It's a lot better than 98 percent of the subdivisions unless they were built last year," said resident Ron Estes, the only opponent at Tuesday's meeting. He cited plant closings, downsizing and foreclosures to come. "We're going to be able to buy it at a heck of a lot less money,"

Estes told the board. The current plan calls for removal of the concrete and reconstruction with new concrete to address durability concerns at an estimated cost of \$400,000.

Trustee Melissa McLaughlin asked about extending payment time for Copper Creek residents if needed. Supervisor Tom Yack said they would remain informed of work: "We'll keep you in the loop, so to speak."

A total of 78 percent are in favor, and it must fall below 60 percent, Faas said. "So it's still moving forward."

The board also denied unanimously a rezoning request for the south side of Hanford between Beck and Ridge. The Planning Commission had recommended the denial unanimously for the 3.25-acre parcel.

Realtor K.C. Mueller spoke to the board to urge approval of the rezoning, but concerns were raised about lot width requirements with the addition of a private road.

In other action, the board: ■ Reappointed Sharon Dillenbeck, Darian Moore, Herb Scott, Timothy Smola and Donald Soenen to the Cultural Commission. New member Tim Schoenherr, replacing Ray

VanHoeck, was also appointed, with all to serve through the end of December 2009.

Approved spending up to \$5,000 for customer service training for township employees. The four-hour mandatory training will be held in December.

"This will be for all full-time employees in the organization," said Ann Conklin, Canton Leisure Services director.

Recognized two new police lieutenants, Scott Hilden and Mark Schultz, who were recently promoted and attended with their families. "I wish you the best of luck," McLaughlin told the men.

OK'd 3-percent raises for all nonunion employees, some 75 people, to take effect Jan. 1, 2007, based on a merit commission recommendation.

Approved improvements to Fellows Creek Golf Club, including woodwork restoration, ceiling tile replacement and restroom remodeling. Rule and Associates will do ceiling work for \$13,906, J and N Contracting LLC will do woodwork for \$5,300, and Evangelista Corp. will do restroom work for \$42,600.

"Real active bidding, which is always in our best interests," Yack said of Fellows Creek Golf Club.

Christmas in Action looking for Canton homes to make over

Applications to receive a 2007 Christmas in Action home makeover are due Dec. 31. To participate in this free program you must live in Canton, own your own home, be elderly or disabled, and unable to afford repairs to your home.

Christmas in Action is a nonprofit organization with chapters throughout the country, which have been providing "extreme makeovers" since 1973. In 2004, a Canton chapter was formed, and with the combined efforts of more than 200 community volunteers, they've provided free repairs to several Canton homes. The repairs range from simple, but critical, plumbing and painting, to a new roof, siding, windows, and concrete driveways.

All repair costs are sponsored entirely through donations from community businesses, churches, schools, civic groups and individuals.

Applications for eligible recipients are available online at www.canton-mi.org, and on the first floor of Canton's Administration Building, located at 1150 Canton Center. Once you've completed the application, send it to: Christmas in Action, P.O. Box 1781, Canton, MI 48187.

Christmas in Action's event day is always the last Saturday in April and next year's event will be held April 28.

Canton's CIA Chapter is composed of an eight member board headed by Jim Cisek and is endorsed by the Canton Board of Trustees. For more information on CIA, call (734) 844-8900 or visit the Web site, christmasinactionwayne@comcast.net. To volunteer for the April

28 action day please e-mail Pat VanDusen at pvandusen@canton-mi.org.

Home invasion, torture case delayed

Four defendants charged in a torturous home invasion on Westland's northwest side still don't know whether they will face trial in Wayne County Circuit Court.

James Michael Hobson, 18, Harry James Taylor, 23, DeCory Lamar Sharpe, 19, and Laquinta Terry, 19, were brought from jail Thursday for a preliminary hearing in Westland 18th District Court. Their hearing, however, was delayed for a second time after Judge C. Charles Bokos was told that new defense attorneys needed more time to review the case and prepare for the court proceeding.

The defendants are accused of a home invasion that happened about 2 a.m. Sept. 20 at Westland Village Apartments, on the southeast corner of Joy and Hix roads.

A 47-year-old man told police that intruders entered the doorwall of his apartment, robbed him at gunpoint, tied him up and put packing tape around his mouth and head, while they ransacked his place for a half-hour.

The defendants face multiple felony charges. If tried and convicted, they could face penalties ranging up to life in prison.

Hobson and Taylor are Canton residents. Sharpe is from Westland, Terry is from Southfield.

ONE DAY ONLY! Friday, November 24th • 9am-6pm PANDORA TRUNK SHOW Stroll our store... Buy 4 Pandora Beads, Meet Pandora's Melissa Ginopolis Free Refreshments & Entertainment Get the 5th Bead Hourly Drawings for FREE Pandora of equal or lesser value) Merchandise Buy One Silver Pandora Bracelet Must Present This Coupon • One Coupon Per Person Patent # 7,007,507 Benson Diamond Jewelers FINE JEWELRY . DIAMONDS . SWAROVSKI Located In the Westland Mall Kohl's Corridor 734-525-4100

Canton police enforce hunting ordinances

The Canton Police Department will strictly enforce all state and local hunting ordinances for the 2006 hunting season.

In Canton, hunting areas are classified as open, closed or restricted. In areas designated open, hunting with a shotgun is permissible in accordance with existing state statutes. In closed areas, hunting is prohibited. In those areas classified as restricted, based on existing

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this newspaper

township ordinance, hunting is allowed only with a shotgun firing shots not larger than No. 6. Hunting with a long rifle is strictly prohibited in Canton.

In open and restricted areas, verbal permission from the property owner is required for hunting to be permitted. Additionally, Michigan's Safety Zone state law states that a person will not hunt or discharge a firearm within 150 yards of an occupied building, dwelling, house, residence, cabin, barn or any other type of building used in conjunction with farm operations. Careless and reckless discharge of a firearm is a misdemeanor, punishable by 90 days in jail and/or a \$500 fine.

A map of Canton detailing the open, closed and restricted hunting areas is available from the clerk's office of the Canton Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road.

DEATHS

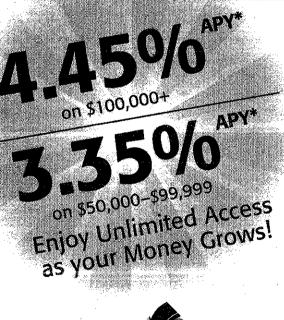
R Donald W. Reamy Poamy 77 of White Lake Te

Reamy, 77, of White Lake Township, died Nov. 14.

A4 (C)

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*Checking Plus rates are guaranteed through December 31, 2006 and may change anytime afterward at the credit union's discretion. Minimum deposit \$2,500. Annual Percentage Yields (APY) are as follows: \$100,000+ 4.45%, \$50,000 to \$99,999 - 3.45%, \$10,000 to \$49,999 - 1.45% and \$2,500 to \$9,999 - .45%. Fees, if any, may reduce earnings. NCUA Your savings federally insured to \$100,000 by the National Credit Union Administration, an agency of the U.S. Government. IRAs are insured to \$250,000 by the NCUA. The NCUA is a subsidiary of American Share Insurance. December 2006 Community Financial Ruth Lucas Schumacher Billing Billing, 98, formerly of Livonia, died Oct. 25.

Arnison, 93, of Plymouth, died Nov. 14.

Eleanore M. Arnison

M Dolores McCarthy McCarthy, of Lake Leelanau, died Nov. 13.

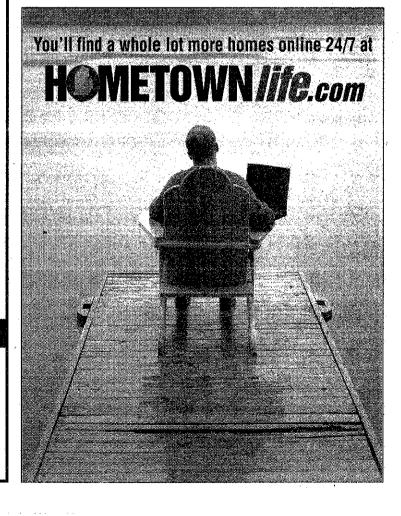
Elven A. Porter Porter, 69, of The Villages, Fla., died Nov. 15. James Clayton Roshirt Roshirt, 55, of Northville, died Nov. 2.

S Douglas Stevens Stevens, 73, of Traverse City, died Nov. 14.

Complete paid obituaries can be found inside today's newspaper in Passages on page C4.

Subscribe today, call (866) 88-PAPER





Local girls in Thanksgiving parade

The Mid-American Pompon All-Star Team, featuring some 25 girls from from Plymouth and Canton, will perform in its 20th straight America's Thanksgiving Day Parade in downtown Detroit Thursday.

The team, which originated in 1986 with only 40 members, has grown to more than 160 performers from all over Michigan who perform annually at events throughout the United States. The team is made up of pompon girls from more than 40 Michigan cities, including the 25 from Plymouth and Canton, who attend Plymouth, Canton and Divine Child high schools.

The girls, who will gather at

the Novi Sheraton at 9 a.m. Wednesday, practice just one day for the performance. The girls are responsible for learning the routines prior to the event from a DVD created for them by the Mid American Pompon staff. Their performance style is traditional pompon, which involves sharp, precise moves and spectacular kicklines.

During the parade, they will perform their routine up to 40 times. Several members of the team also will perform the parade's opening number; a routine choreographed for television, done in a "stage-style" format. The All Star Team sports patriotic uniform colors of red, silver, blue, and black with metallic pompoms.

"The All Star Team was created to allow pompon girls throughout the state the opportunity to showcase their skills in a non-competitive environment," said Karen Blazaitis, president of Mid American Pompon. "We are honored to be part of the America's Thanksgiving Day Parade for our 20th year and look forward to entertaining all of the spectators."

To be eligible to try out for the Mid American Pompon team, girls must be a member of a high school varsity pom/dance team. Each year team members are selected

based upon their showmanship, academic stature and pompon/dance performing qualities.

Auditions take place at Mid American's summer camps. The girls perform together three to four times a year. In addition to America's Thanksgiving Day Parade, the team has performed at Presidential Inaugural Parades for President Bill Clinton and President George W. Bush; the Fiesta Bowl and Citrus Bowl Parades; the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta; Sea World of Ohio; Epcot Center; Pistons games and on Carnival Cruise Lines.

Mid American Pompon, established by Blazaitis in 1979,

Card sale supports yule meals

U.S. Navy veteran and member of the Patriot Guard Rick Gifford stands with an American flag along the entrance at St. Bernardine Church in Westland in honor of Marine Sgt. Bryan Burgess, who was killed while serving in Iraq.

RESPECTS

FROM PAGE A1

Mrs. Burgess and several neighbors looking on, rendered a salute to Mrs. Burgess.

Greg Raymond, who called Bryan Burgess "my best friend," served as a pall bearer and was in that processional.

"It was a tremendous show of respect ... I was honored to be part of it," said Raymond, a Belleville resident. "Everyone has shown so much respect for him, for his family and his

"Now I adopt three or four

Spencer said angels get the

first name, age and size of the

child and provide a few toys

families every year," she said.

GOODFELLOWS

FROM PAGE A1

friends. Everyone was giving their condolences, even people we've never met, people (Burgess) never even met."

SSgt. Javier Martinez, leader of the Marine firing team that performed the 21-gun salute, said Burgess' death was one that would be felt throughout the Corps.

"Regardless of the situation you're in, you've lost one of your own," he said. "Whether it's a retired veteran who served in Korea or Sgt. Burgess now, it's still felt."

name of a child who has come to the program under special circumstances, such as a parent being ill, she said. "If you say you have a need, you have a need. That s why I love the

group of volunteers that have hearts. While the job of finding

Goodfellows. We are just a

other teenage items, for so many seems daunting, Smith has faith. "This community has come through. We've

zation is relying on the generosity of Canton residents.

al holiday cards.

The Bank Day hours will be 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and volunteers will be asked to commit to working three hours -10a.m. to 1 p.m. and 1-4 p.m. There will be a meeting the week before Bank Day when volunteers will get boxes of cards they will be selling. Vail estimates she needs 80-plus volunteers to work Dec. 8. She also is looking for more

banks to participate in the program as well as businesses interested in selling cards.

"Some organizations in recent years have bought a box or two of cards and placed a business card or logo sticker in the signature area," she said. People can sell cards in the community through Dec. 22.

There are lesser events like a hot dog roast and golf outing, but the Holiday Cards provide a bulk of the money needed to pay for the meals.

"We usually raise enough to support our Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter dinners, but since we've added Labor Day, we need to raise more, ' Vail said.

For more information, call Vail at (734) 727-2017.

"We hope to, once again, meet our motto 'No Canton Child Without a Christmas."

Anyone wining to volunteer by providing a gift or giving time is asked to call Nancy Spencer at (734) 397-8975. Donations may be mailed to Goodfellows at 1150 S. Canton Center Canton 48188.



The Mid-American Pompon All-Star Team, featuring some 25 girls from from Plymouth and Canton, will perform in its 20th straight America's Thanksgiving Day Parade in downtown Detroit Thursday.

has had more than 2,000 performers participate in America's Thanksgiving Day Parade. For

more information on the squad, visit its Web site at www.midamericanstudio.com.

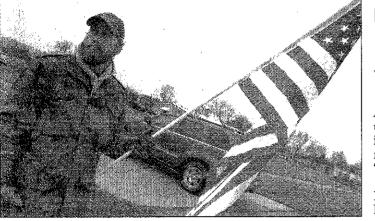
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TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Last year, when The Senior

BY SUE MASON

STAFF WRITER

Alliance put out a call for volunteers to deliver meals to seniors on Christmas Day, the response was nothing short of "overwhelming."

This year, Senior Alliance Interim Director Lori Vale is hoping for another good response to the agency's Bank Day holiday card sale.

"The need isn't so much for volunteers to deliver meals this year, what we do need help with is volunteers to stand at banks and sell the cards," Vail said.

On Dec. 8, volunteers will be at participating banks, selling holiday cards for \$5 each. The money raised will pay for meals delivered to seniors on Thanksgiving, Christmas, Easter and now Labor Day. The \$5 represents the cost of one meal.

When a person buys the card, they will be asked to sign it and include a greeting. The card will be delivered with the meal to a senior on Christmas Day. Since there will be more cards sold than meals delivered, each senior will get sever-

gifts, such as movie tickets and

never yet been unable to provide.'

As Spencer said, the organi-

and one or two warm winter clothes for that child as part of the gift. The gift should be valued at \$50 or more, she said. Spencer said that people who offer to donate for all the children in one family are "asked to make it even" by spending an equal amount on each child. The wrapped gifts are then brought to The Block, on Michigan Avenue, on Dec. 13, where volunteers will work to wrap the donations from companies, Spencer said. Volunteers make deliveries of the presents and food on Dec. 16 - "kind of like Santa Claus without the white beard."

Donna Smith of Canton has been on the Canton Goodfellows' Board of Directors for 12 years. She has the difficult job of finding gifts for children in the 13 to 18 age group. She expects to have to find people to provide for about 100 children this year. "I remember, probably five years ago, I had 35," she said. "Many of them are first-timers." Sometimes they get the

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PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Everyone reacts to the lighting of the display.

Annual Lightfest has 1 million lights, Santa

Wayne County Parks opened the annual Lightfest Thursday.

The Lightfest on Hines Drive features more than 35 animated displays and one 1 million lights. It is the Midwest's largest and longest light show. The complete lightfest route is over four miles of Hines Drive. It is open through Jan. 1, 2007, but closed on Christmas Day.

Dec. 7, 14, and 21 will be Toy Nights, Wayne County will be lending a hand to provide toys for disadvantaged children in Wayne County. On these three nights, the community is invited to bring a new, unwrapped toy in lieu of the suggested \$5 donation fee. Visitors are also welcome to contribute the recommended donation.

At the end of the festival drive, visitors can stop by

Santa's Workshop at the Warrendale Picnic Area for refreshments and gift shopping. Santa will be there from Thanksgiving until Christmas Eve. Don't forget to bring your letters to Santa. Outside of Santa's Workshop there will be a giant mailbox where kids of all ages can drop off their letters to Santa. Santa's elves will pick up the letters each night.

Although Lightfest begins at 7 p.m., Hines Drive will be closed to traffic beginning 5:45 p.m. nightly. Visitors enter the Lightfest at Hines Drive and Merriman, 2-1/2 miles south of I-96 in Westland.

Lightfest is provided by a partnership with Friends of Wayne County Parks, Fox2 News, AAA Michigan, ITC Transmission and DBT Marketing.



Above, Alelia Evasic, 8 years old, of Livonia, chats with Santa Claus and Santa's helper Jennifer Zaenglein. At left, Fireworks announce the opening of the Wayne County Lightfest.

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A6 (*)

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Where are talented people going? To vibrant communities

ast night, I went on a long walk in the neighborhood with my 11month-old son. I hadn't planned on going out, but when I arrived home from the office I got the "I've been here all day with a teething baby and I need a break!" look from my



wife Lori. Having seen that glare before, I knew just how serious it could be. So although I was tired myself, I grabbed Graham and the stroller and out we went into the twilight for a little father and son time.

Dan Gilmartin

We only made it three houses when I

spotted our neighbor Julie stacking boxes in her garage. When I asked what she was up to, I was surprised to hear that she was getting ready to move to Portland, Oregon. Although she admitted to being nervous about leaving home, she was clearly excited about joining the thriving knowledge-based economy in the Pacific Northwest and experiencing the high quality of life that Portland and its surrounding communities have to offer.

Julie is a young, highly educated individual who until recently had a big job with one of the auto companies. She is the kind of person that all the policy makers claim that they want to attract to Michigan, yet she, like many others, is moving on elsewhere.

We talked for a few minutes longer until Graham began to fuss, cutting the conversation short. As we resumed our walk, I couldn't help but feel a little anger building inside me about our conversation. I certainly wasn't angry with Julie for moving, since she was only doing what most of us would do if confronted by a similar situation. What irritated me was that I had heard this type of story so many times before and yet most state policymakers appear almost disinterested in implementing a meaningful strategy to slow the "brain drain" of talented, young people from our state.

It seems that all anyone in the Legislature is interested in talking about when it comes to anything economic is our tax structure, with the latest debate centered on the elimination

of the Single Business Tax (SBT). Yet Julie's move has nothing to do with the SBT. She doesn't pay it, and I doubt she even knows what it is. I bet she doesn't know anything about the Oregon tax structure either. She is headed to that city because there is abundant economic opportunity there due in large part to the state's willingness to invest in its own future.

Whether it is Portland or any other region whose prospects are soaring, public investment in communities plays a leading role in driving the economy and attracting knowledge-based workers and businesses. Do you think the city of Portland's extraordinary open spaces get maintained for nothing? What about the economically imperative public transit systems in greater Chicago? Or Charlotte's brand new downtown?

I have read at least a dozen studies about cities, regions and states that are succeeding in the new economy. The reports make it crystal clear that a positive state and local partnership that includes significant public investment in communities is a major part of the recipe for success, especially in attracting knowledge-based workers and businesses. Unlike previous generations, today's young, educated people choose where they want to live first and then they look for a job.

But in Michigan, our short-sighted recipe to date has been quite different - a \$2 billion cut to state shared revenue, repeated legislative attacks on local revenue streams and a lack of consensus on transportation strategies that has resulted in millions of federal dollars being left on the table in D.C. All of these decisions have had a damaging effect on cities and villages in Michigan. Our soup, it seems, doesn't taste so good, especially to those who matter so much to our future economic prospects.

Vibrant communities attract talented people. Talented people attract knowledge-based businesses.

Together, they make for a strong economy and a higher quality of life for everyone. If you don't believe me, just ask Julie.

Daniel P. Gilmartin is executive director of the Michigan Municipal League.

Defeat of Proposal 2 opensed door for dialogue on race

hen Jennifer Gratz met with Observer S Eccentric editors as the spokeswoman for the

Michigan Civil Rights Initiative (ballot Proposal 2), it was an off-hand remark that rang true. It wasn't the scripted platitudes like, "You can't fight discrimination by discriminating."

It was when she said, "There are more people who think they've been harmed by affirmative action than have actually been harmed by it."

And supporters of the amendment argued that this feeling by the majority population that someone was getting special treatment was more divisive than the MCRI proposal that would constitutionally eliminate affirmative action (or in their words racial and

gender preferences) in public university admissions, government hiring and government contracting.

Despite massive efforts by the political establishment, including leaders from both major political parties, mainline church leaders and business executives, Michigan voters overwhelmingly supported the initiative. Fifty-eight percent of Michigan voters said no to affirmative action.

And let's be clear, the majority of voters never, ever entertained the idea that affirmative action was about advancement for women. Opponents of the MCRI tried to steer away from the race issue, but it was always about race. Even the supporters for the amendment who believe fervently that affirmative action is detrimental to race relations understood that the vote was about race.

Now some of those who worked for the passage of the amendment want to use it as a launching point for discussing racial issues and dealing with the problems caused by literally decades of racial discrimination.

One of those calling for this discussion on race is William Allen, an African American and political science professor at Michigan State University. He is also chairman of the Toward a Fair Michigan organization. During the campaign, he participated in several debates in favor of Proposal 2. His organization is sponsoring a Leadership Assembly on Dec. 8 which a release describes as "a daylong, invited workshop devoted to appraising the current state of reconciliation and inclusion within Michigan and to planning for progressive change within the state."

That's a good thing. Political campaigns like the fight over MCRI always seem to degenerate into demonizing

anyone and everyone on the other side of the argument. The radical group By Any Means Necessary or BAMN was specifically chosen as the prime opposition. by MCRI to make their case that affirmative action was too radical for Michigan. And One United Michigan the true prime opposition to the proposal, did nothing to distance itself from the ugly rhetoric and past confrontational baggage that BAMN brought with them.

But that's not why the proposal passed.

A law student I know, at the top of his class with a finely developed ability to argue a case, voted for the proposal and also for the Democrats who opposed it. He argued that the whole idea of diversity as promoted by the University of Michigan was a sham, that a distinction made on the basis of race rather than economic need was unfair and divisive, that contractual arrangements made for reasons other than competency and costs were unfair to taxpayers and that hiring based on anything but competence was detrimental to good government service.

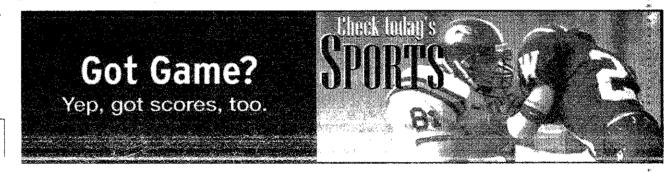
All fine arguments. His description of the usual state university campus where blacks gather in one group and whites in another is not any different than it was many years ago when I went to Wayne State University. Then it always seemed the student center was divided, ε into two somewhat hostile groups who never came together except in the classroom and even there only in mass lecture halls with no interaction.

So I accept the honesty of his arguments. But they don't take into account the long, tortured history of race relations in this country and in this state. It is a the history of slavery, forced ghettoization, discrimination in housing, jobs and educational opportunities. Too many people are well aware of the consequences but not the causes.

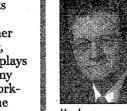
U-M President Mary Sue Coleman made an emotional appeal after the election, vowing to continue to fight for affirmative action. In light of the strong vote, against the proposal, it is time that she and others move on to strengthening outreach programs that recruit black students, programs that benefit the economically disadvantaged and programs that work with low-income school districts to provide tutoring or special college readiness programs. None of these are prohibited by the amendment.

Time and the courts will decide where we go from here. TVAEL

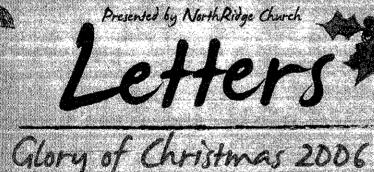
Hugh Gallagher is the managing editor of the Observer Newspapers. He can be reached by e-mail at hgallagher@hometownlife.com or by phone at (734) 953-2149.



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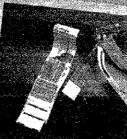
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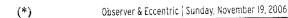
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Canton denied second straight basketba



Ed Wright a cillor (734) 953-2108 .ewright@hometownlife.com

DIVISION 1 SEMIFINAL SHOWDOWN Mistakes, Rams frustrate Chiefs, 30-0

BY ED WRIGHT STAFF WRITER

Four first-half turnovers, three critical penalties and two dropped passes helped spell doom for Canton's football team Saturday afternoon in the Division 1 semifinal game at Lansing Everett High School.

But it was one awfully tough opponent that ultimately pulled the curtain down on the Chiefs' ultrasuccessful 2006 season.

Two-time defending champion Rockford showed why it's well on the way to a third consecutive title by knocking off the uncharacteristically mistake-prone Chiefs, 30-0. The Rams will take their 12-1 record into next Saturday's D1 title game against Macomb Dakota.

Canton, which finished 12-1, actually got off to an encouraging start when it drove to the Rockford 18 on its first drive. However, a botched handoff resulted in a lost fumble and the field seemed to slant in the direction the Rams were heading the rest of the afternoon.

Canton coach Tim Baechler used a golf analogy to sum up his team's nothing-goes-right afternoon.

"Have you ever walked onto a course, laced your first drive, then went on to shoot a 90?" said Baechler. "That was us today. We hit that long pass and had a nice drive going, then it was like double-bogey, double bogey. It's like you just want to start over.

'The bottom line is, we didn't stop them enough in the first half and we made too many mistakes offensively. Our offense is predicated on staying on a schedule - three yards here, four yards there. We got away from that and we couldn't get back on schedule."

The Rams came out in a no-huddle, spread the field, West Coast-style offense that gave the Chiefs fits from the opening snap. Rockford quarterback Tom Fusee spread the ball around to seven different receivers in the first half alone as the Rams raced to a 23-0 lead at the break.

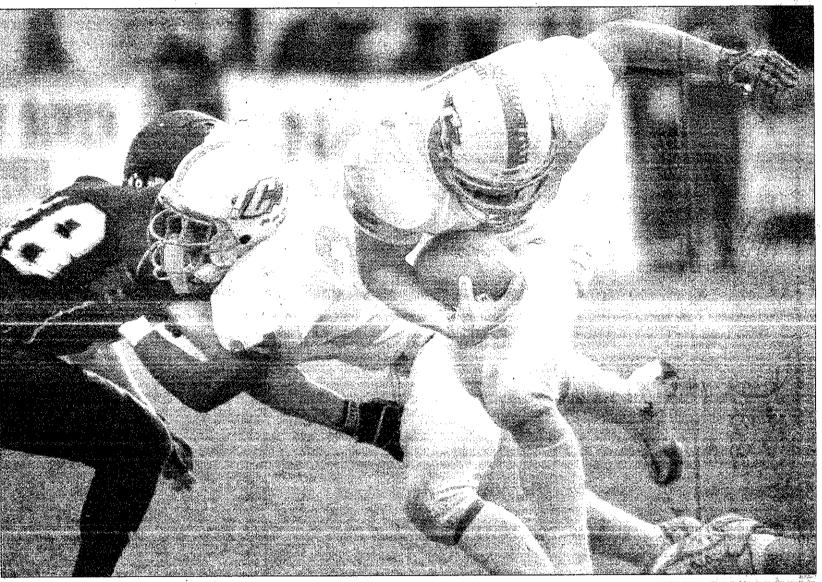
The Rams' bag-of-tricks offense tried everything from a fumblerooski run by a guard to a pair of halfback passes. Whatever they tried seemed to work.

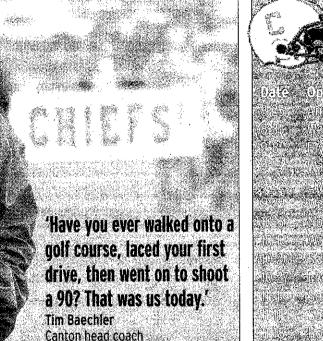
"It was far from perfect, but it was beautiful," said Rockford coach Ralph Munger, whose team ended Canton's season last year as well, 31-21, in the D1 title game at Ford Field. "The kids played with such emotion and such intensity today. I couldn't be prouder of every one of them.

"Our game plan is always to do whatever we think we can be successful at and today we guessed right." The Chiefs moved from their 40 to the Rockford 18

'Have you ever walked onto a golf course, laced your first drive, then went on to shoot a 90? That was us today." Tim Baechler Canton head coach







www.hometownlife.com

Sunday, November 19, 2006

on their opening drive thanks to a 38-yard Steve Paye-to-Billy Turner hook-up. However, the drive stalled two plays later when a botched hand-off resulted in a fumble.

Rockford seized the opportunity and moved briskly down the field behind the arm of Fusee, who went 5for-6 on the drive, which ended with Mark Schlaudt's 37-yard field goal with 6:35 left in the first quarter.

Aided by a pair of defensive penalties, the Rams drove 55 yards in seven plays on their second possession and went up 10-0 on a 3-yard TD run by Zach Breen.

Rockford took advantage of Canton's second fumble of the afternoon by driving 41 yards in just five plays before scoring on Frank Heeringa's 1-yard plunge to extend its lead to 17-0.

The Rams closed out their first-half point barrage on Michael Mudgett's 5-yard sweep to paydirt. Schlaudt's extra point hit the right goal post, leaving the Rams' advantage at 23-0.

The game's final score came when Rockford backup quarterback Robert Banaszak connected with Curtis Mobley on a 27-yard TD pass with 7:35 to play.

Fusee went 13-for-16 for 92 yards before being replaced midway through the third quarter by Banaszak. Mudgett led the winners' ground game with 83 yards on 14 carries.

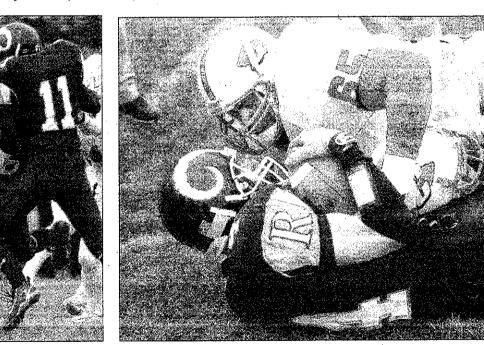
Antwaun Hawkins paced the Chiefs' offense with 33 yards on seven carries. Paye completed 5-of-14 passes for 97 yards.

"Whenever you win 12 games like we did, it's a great season," said Baechler. "I just hate to see it end like this. These kids have meant so much to me and the program."

Canton's senior class compiled a stunning 41-4 record from their freshman season through Saturday's setback.

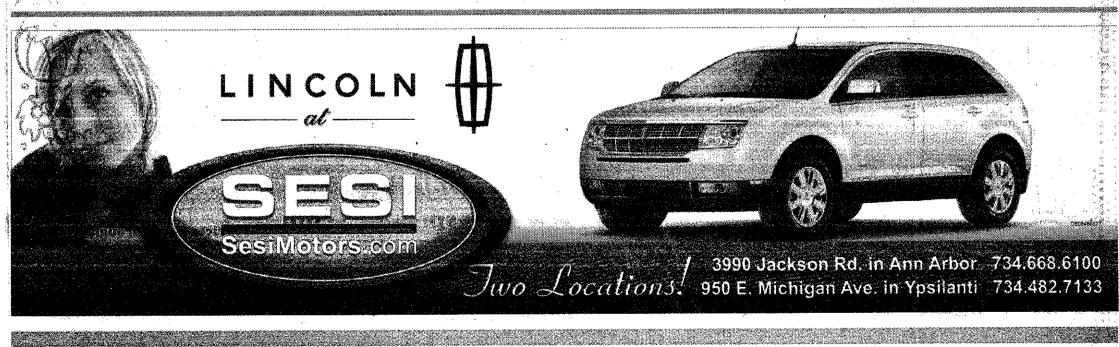
, ewright@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2108 Ball carrier Nick Moores gains a few yards with help from Antwaun Hawkins, blocking Rockford's Curtis Mobley.

PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Far left, Canton's Jay Bailey and Dan Wanshon stop Rockford's Nick McIntyre.

Left, Canton's Jay Bailey and Dan Wanshon stop Rockford's Nick McIntyre.



LOCAL SPORTS

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, November 19, 2006

Blast gain revenge on Ignition, 11-5

The Detroit Ignition (2-1) registered its first-ever loss, 11-5. at the hands of the defending **MISL Champion Baltimore** Blast (2-1). at 1st Mariner Arena in Baltimore on Friday.

B2 .

(CP)

Midfielder Denison Cabral registered the game-winning goal for the Blast, a two-pointer, at 11:02 into the opening frame of play. MISL Goalkeeper of the Week Sanaldo (2-1) took the loss for Detroit, while Sagu earned the win for Baltimore stopping 14

BASEBALL TRAINING

ball players.

#B017

#A021

#C112

#C113

#D027

#D052

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#E071

#E081

Dennie Taft, former Detroit

Tigers' strength and condition-

ing coach, is teaming with

High Velocity Sports to offer

an 8- or 12-week performance

training camp specific to base-

One-hour sessions (2:30

p.m. to 3:30 p.m.) will feature

drills and exercises designed to

develop speed, agility, quick-

ness, core strength and power

-the same ones used to pre-

pare area professional baseball

players Nate Robertson,

Charlie Haeger, Anthony

Tomey and Bobby Malek.

of the 16 shots he faced on the night.

Baltimore struck first with a two-point goal from defender P.J. Wakefield off a pass from Machel Millwood to take a 2-0 lead at 4:28 of the opening frame. Veteran forward David Bascome extended the Blast lead to 4-0 at 9:57 by burying a two-point goal off a pass off the wall from Millwood, who tallied his second assist on the night.

Ignition forward Hewerton

responded quickly, beating Blast goalkeeper Sagu for his first two-point goal of the season at 10:18 to cut the Baltimore lead to 4-2. Less than a minute later a tripping call near the goal gave Blast midfielder Denison Cabral the chance to capitalize on a shootout goal and extend the Baltimore lead to 6-2 at the end of the first quarter.

Jamar Beasley brought the Ignition to within one with the only goal of the second frame,

SPORTS BRIEFS

Participants can choose either the Monday-Wednesday-Friday session or Tuesday-Thursday session. Camps run the week of Nov. 27, through the week of Feb. 26, 2007.

For more information and pricing, contact Dennie Taft, TAFT Strength and Conditioning, at (734) 751-0923. You can also reach him at tafttraining@msn.com.

HIGH VELOCITY ADDS HOOP

Canton-based High Velocity Sports has partnered with Joe Dumars Fieldhouse to replace its roller hockey rink with four

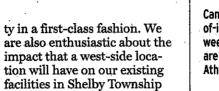
hardwood basketball/volleyball courts.

Leagues for both youth and adults are now forming and will begin play the week of Dec. 1. The basketball/volleyball season will last 12 weeks and include 10 games plus playoffs. The cost for adult players is \$110.

"We are very excited to be able to announce the development and imminent opening of Joe Dumars Fieldhouse inside High Velocity Sports in Canton," said Joe Dumars. "We are confident that the operation will serve the league basketball needs of the communi-

putting a long three-point goal into the upper corner to cut the Blast lead to 6-5 at halftime.

Following a scoreless third quarter, the Blast extended their lead to 8-5 with a twopoint goal off the left foot of Millwood, his fourth point of the night, 4:12 into the final frame of play. An empty net three-point goal by Robbie Aristodemo at 13:35 gave the Blast the 11-5 victory and tallied the first loss of the season for the Ignition.



and Detroit." HVS is offering 5-on-5 and 4-on-4 adult leagues. The fee for youth players is \$135. Players in both leagues will receive a free jersey.

Daily drop-in basketball is available from 10 a.m. to midnight. The cost is \$8. We think adding Joe

Dumars Fieldhouse basketball to HVS is one of the biggest sports revelations to hit Canton," said Bryan Finnerty, leading owner of HVS. "We are honored to forge an alliance with one of professional basketball's greatest ambassadors." HVS will also be offering

basketball clinics; floor hockey and tee ball for youngsters; and volleyball classes. Adult co-ed volleyball leagues are also available for a fee of \$85 per player.

For more information, visit www.hvsports.com; or call (734) HV-SPORT.

Please recycle this newspaper

Ready for the next level

Canton senior basketball player Becci Houdek (seated) signed a letterof-intent to attend to play basketball at Ferris State University last week in a ceremony held at Canton's Phase III. Looking on (from left) are Canton coach Brian Samulski; Houdek's mom, Donna; Canton Athletic Director Sue Heinzman: and Houdek's dad, Randy.

Whalers sink Spirit

In a battle of two winning streaks, the Plymouth Whalers won their fourth straight game in defeating the Saginaw Spirit, 7-3, in an Ontario Hockey League game Friday night at the Compuware Sports Arena.

Plymouth is 12-9-0-0, in third place in the OHL West Division. Saginaw had a five-game winning streak snapped and remains in first place in the OHL West with a record of 16-6-0-1.

The Whalers never trailed in the game in getting a hat trick and an assist from Columbusdraft Tom Sestito, a goal and four assists from Chicago-draft Evan Brophey, a goal and three assists from Dallas-draft James Neal and single goals from Andrew Fournier and Steve Ward. Plymouth goaltender Michal Neuvirth (a Washington Capitals draft choice) stopped 38 of 41 shots for his sixth victory of the year.

Saginaw received goals from Nigel Williams, Tomas Zaborsky and Chris Chappell.

Plymouth won the battle of special teams decisively. The Whalers — the top penalty killing team in the OHL at 85.1 percent - killed off all seven Saginaw power plays while going 5-for-7 on their own power play.

The Whalers led, 3-1, after 20 minutes and 4-2 after two periods.

www.hometownlife.com

Sestito's first goal of the game came on a power play and gave Plymouth a 3-1 lead at 16:06 of the first period when he pounced on a loose puck at the left wing lip of the crease and beat Saginaw goaltender Ryan Daniels with the shot. Ward extended Plymouth's lead to 4-1 on another power play at 6:32 of the second period when he ripped a shot from the slot to finish good Whaler pressure in the Saginaw zone.

Sestito could have scored another goal when he was awarded a penalty shot at 8:22 of the third period, but was stopped by Daniels. Sestito finished his hat trick - his second of the season - with third period goals at 11:08 and 14:55 respectively, sandwiched around Neal's team-leading 13th of the year at 12:38.

Plymouth has now taken two of the three games played so far this year with Saginaw, winning 5-1, on Sept. 27 in Saginaw. The Spirit defeated Plymouth, 5-2, on Oct. 29 at the Dow Event Center in Saginaw. Plymouth and Saginaw will meet five more times this season.

Personal property described below in the matter of: Dresser, Mirrors, Microwave Couch, Loveseat, Television Chairs, Entertainment center, Dresser Ccuch, Chair, Mattress Bed, Bicycle, Boxes Couch, Chair, Microwave Office Equipment, Office Tables, Office Chairs Dresser, Shelving, Mattress Dresser, Couch, Television

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Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, PS Orangeco, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc. will sell at public auction by competitive bidding. Sales are cash only. Removal within 24 hrs., for sale and storage unit in which rent and fees are past due.

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#3111	Chad Field	Boxes, Furniture, Equipment
#4047	Mark Baerwalde	Boxes, Appliances, Couch
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Kieth Martinez Shawn Bell

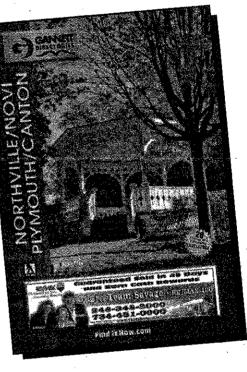
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#3214	Shawn Croschere	Totes, Couch, Equipment			
#6046	Universal	Mattress, Tables, Couch			
#3052 #4162	Jennifer Harnos Alie Faraj	Boxes, Appliances, Couch Tables, Chairs, Mattress			
#4142	Dan Robinson	Couch, Televisions, Boxes			
#4138	Tiffany Creecy	Mattress, Totes, Equipment			
#4036	Charlene Hickman	Boxes, Couch, Appliances			
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#3030 #2056	Don Fields Mike Witkowski	Mattress, Furniture, Appliances Tables, Chairs, Boxes			
#1300	Sherard Brown	Tables, Chairs, Mattress			
#1164	Lois Kenyon	Couch, Televisions, Boxes			
#1118	Cliff Gibson	Mattress, Totes, Equipment			
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#9260	Dustin Mitchell	Totes, Couch, Equipment			
#9142	GPS Entertainment	Mattress, Tables, Couch			
#9124	Frank Plastipak	Boxes Tables Chairs Mattress			
#9209 #9210	Martin Caruana Martin Caruana	Tables, Chairs, Mattress Boxes, Appliances, Couch			
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#3046	Edna Smith-Gordon	Entertainment Center, Toys, Stereo			
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#4026	Kenneth Marshall	Couch, Chair, Microwave			
#3044	Philippe Lorezca	Couch, Microwave, Totes			
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.#3008 #6053	Georgina Buba Richard Oconnell	Dresser, Shelving, Mattress Dresser, Couch, Television			
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#2006	Rhonda Knight	Dresser, Couch, Television			
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_,#3027 ™#3028	Rhonda Knight Rachel Laster	Boxes, Appliances, Couch			
#4022	Derek Wright	Tables, Chairs, Mattress			
*#5107	Gloria Parham	Couch, Televisions, Boxes			
#4161	Linda Lowery	Mattress, Totes, Equipment			
#4148	David Fuller	Boxes, Couch, Appliances			
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	Christopher Hahn	Couch, Televisions, Boxes Mattraca Totas, Fauinment			
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LOCAL SPORTS

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, November 19, 2006

RA

(CP)

Novi denies Canton hoop team its 2nd straight District title

BY ED WRIGHT STAFF WRITER

The glorious high school basketball careers of Canton seniors Becci Houdek, Ja'nee Morton and Lauren Delapaz came to an end Friday night. But not without a fight.

In a Class A District final game at South Lyon High School, the senior-led Chiefs battled back from a 12-point deficit late in the third quarter to get to within 37-33 on a long, arcing Houdek triple with 5:20 left. But the rally proved to be insufficient against a hot-shooting Novi team that played perhaps its best game of the season.

The 19-4 Wildcats survived the comeback and the Chiefs to win 47-36 and advance to Monday's Regional semifinal game at Rochester High School. It was Novi's first District title since it became a Class A-sized school over 20 years ago, according to coach Bill Kelp.

The loss ended the Chiefs' highly successful season at 19-

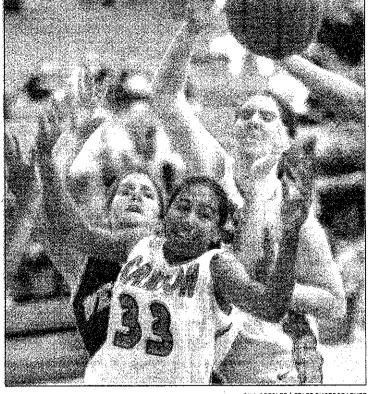
"I told the girls in the locker room after the game that I wouldn't trade this team for any other one," said Canton coach Brian Samulski. "I always had faith in them, even when we were down 12. We made a nice push there in the fourth quarter, but we couldn't quite get over the hump.

"Novi did a great job of forcing us to play fast. We ended up playing faster than we wanted to and we took quick shots, which allowed them to get out into their transition game."

Kelp admitted he didn't rest easy until the final horn sounded.

"I knew they were going to make a run, even when we were up 12," said Kelp. "They have a great coach, a great program and, like us, they work so well together. I never felt safe at all. I was just hoping the clock would keep ticking."

The Chiefs' trio of seniors may go down as one of the school's best ever - maybe not for their individual stats, but for the number of wins and championships they'll leave behind. Led by Houdek's ball distribution, defense and scoring; Morton's ability to get to the rim and rebound; and Delapaz's unwavering defense, the Chiefs not only went 10-0 in the Western Division this year, they also captured the past two Western Lakes Activities Association tournament titles and won a District crown last year. "I can't say enough about the contributions the seniors have made to this program," said Samulski. "Becci was a fouryear starter who played hard every minute she was out on the court. Lauren's main sport is softball, but she worked hard to become a great defensive player. And Ja'nee joined us last year and was a great addition from the first day." The two primary reasons Canton's players will be turning their uniforms in Monday afternoon are Novi senior guard Stephanie Crawford and junior guard Katie Chaklos, both of whom netted a gamehigh 13 points. Graybiel's damage came mostly from drives and free throws (7-for-8) while Chaklos, a reserve, was a



BILL BRESLER I STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton's Ja'nee Morton (33) and Baylee Hollowell battle for a rebound during a game earlier this season against Walled Lake Western. The Chiefs saw their season come to an end Friday night, 46-37, in a Class A District final against Novi

sharpshooter from the perimeter, hitting three critical threepointers.

Senior center Taylor Graybiel also had a strong game, registering eight points and seven boards.

Kelp said that Chaklos' impressive showing won't earn her a promotion for Monday's game.

"After tonight, I'm not messing with the starting line-up," he said, smiling. "Plus, I like the spark Katie has coming off the bench."

Morton and Houdek both twined 12 for the Chiefs. Morton's production was impressive considering she sat out more than half of the game in foul trouble before eventually committing her fifth with 1:59 to play and Canton trailing, 43-34.

Baylee Hollowell (six points and 13 rebounds), Delapaz (five points, two steals) and Marie Martin (four points, five rebounds and three steals) also made significant contributions for the Chiefs. Canton led 11-10 after one quarter before the Chaklosled Wildcats rushed out of the second-quarter gate to nab a 22-17 halftime advantage. A Chaklos triple with 1:10 to go in the third quarter gave the Wildcats' their biggest edge, 35-23, however, Delapaz sparked the Chiefs' comeback when she buried a long three just as the thirdquarter buzzer sounded.

on a Morton bucket at 7:29 and Houdek's pretty lefthanded layup 30 seconds later.

After Kristine Chaklos converted a driving bank-shot to put Novi ahead 37-30, Houdek delivered a 22-footer from the right wing to bring the Chiefs to within 37-33.

"I called a timeout (after Houdek's shot) and told the girls that that was their run and now it's time for us to make a run," said Kelp. "I told them, 'Let's do what we do. Don't get flustered, just do what we do."

Following the TO, the Wildcats responded with an 8-1 streak down the stretch to put the game on ice.

Once the game was out of reach, Samulski gave Houdek and Delapaz an opportunity to soak in the cheers one last time when he removed them from the game on separate occasions with less than a minute to play.

"The bottom line is we gave up 47 points and you're not



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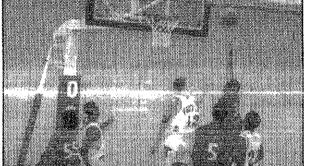
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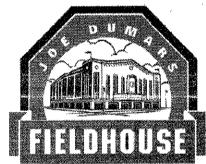
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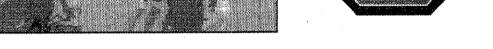
Y You to Be

Canton narrowed its deficit to 35-30 early in the fourth

going to win many games when you give up 47," Samulski said. "To Novi's credit, they made a lot of shots, but we didn't get out on them and we weren't talking through the screens."

Canton hit 13-of-51 field goals (25.4 percent) and 10of-16 free throws (62.5). Novi made 15-of-42 shot from the field (35.7) and 10-of-13 free throws (76.9).

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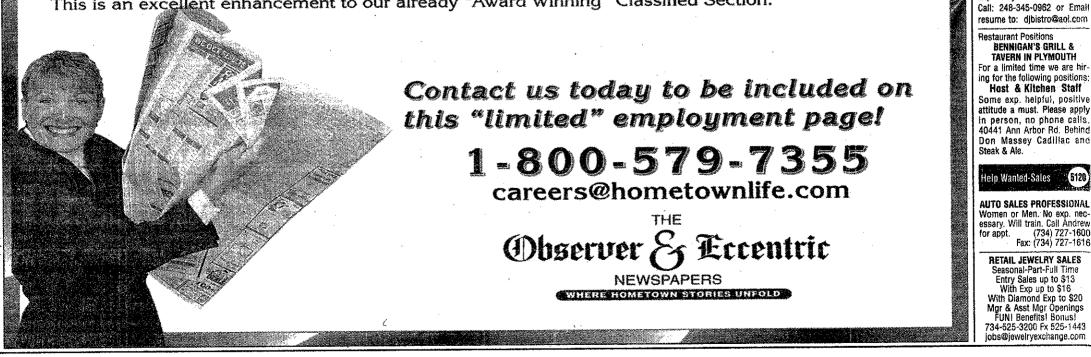
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Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, November 19, 2006

Drop the puck: Local icers ready to light the lamp

BY ED WRIGHT STAFF WRITER

With 15 players returning from last year's 14-8-2 contingent, the forecast for the 2006-07 Plymouth hockey team is as shiny as a newly resurfaced sheet of ice.

Second-year coach Chuck Dubois is optimistic heading into next weekend's seasonopening Allen Park Thanksgiving Tournament and for good reason. The Wildcats displayed their potential at times Thursday night when they dropped a hard-fought 2-1 exhibitiongame decision to perennially state-ranked St. Clair Shores.

"We're playing in three tournaments this season and our goal is to win them all," said Dubois. "We have a lot of seniors and 15 returners, so if everybody works hard we should be OK."

Anchoring the Wildcats' defense will be senior net-minder Justin Desilets, an All-Observer first-team performer last season. Also serving time in the net for Plymouth will be senior Nathanial Gibson.

"Justin is a top goalie, but he has to continue to work hard and he has to continue to play the way he's been playing," said Dubois. "He's not only a good player, but he's a good kid and a good student."

The Wildcats' top returning blue-liner is senior Jason O'Guinn, who has displayed a flair for scoring as well as defending.

"Jason is one of those kids who can take the puck end-toend and put it in the net," said Dubois.

Offensively, the Wildcats will be paced by senior forwards

Nick Cote, Mark Olivier and Nick Rosochacki, all of whom made major contributions as juniors.

One of the team's top newcomers is freshman Connor Dresser, who scored the Wildcats' lone goal in Thursday's setback.

"Another goal we have is to win the division," said Dubois. "It won't be easy, though, with teams like Northville, and then you never know about Walled Lake Western and Canton."

Plymouth's opener is Friday night at 8 p.m. in Allen Park.

SALEM

With captain Dave Carey having graduated, the Rocks will be looking for someone to fill the leadership void this season. They'll

also be looking

for a few more

speed is better

victories fol-



lowing a fourwin campaign last season. "Overall, I think our team

Desilets

tĥan it was last year," said Salem coach Fred Feiler. "We're quite a bit stronger up front. The guys have been working hard in practice so far and they had a good off-season.

"Our teamwork is better than it was last year, too. The guys believe in each other and they're willing to give the puck up because they know there's a good chance they're going to get it back."

The top candidate to fill Carey's leadership void will be senior captain Steve Heisler, a potentially high-scoring forward

"We're looking for Steve to

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton's Chris Wies (14) and Salem's Ralph Aspenwall (goalie) are both returning this season after solid junior years in 2005-06.

lead the way offensively," Feiler said.

He'll be joined up front by seniors Kris Brant and Brad Nycek, a first-year high school player who has excelled in travel leagues prior to this season.

The Rocks' defense will be led by seniors Jason Sharrow and Tony Garbarino: and junior Mike Haburne.

Minding the net for Feiler will be senior Ralph Aspenwall and junior Mark Barkoff, with Aspenwall holding the early edge in the race for openingnight starter.

"We're a young team, so I think it's important that we get off to a strong start," said Feiler.

The Rocks will open the season by hosting the Salem Thanksgiving Invitational Friday and Saturday at the Plymouth Cultural Center. Salem will host Canton at 6 p.m.; Chippewa Valley and Grand Valley Forest Hills will

test. The winners of each game will advance to Saturday's 6 p.m. final, which will follow the 4 p.m. consolation game.

square off in the 4 p.m. con-

CANTON

The Chiefs return only a handful of players who saw significant time during last year's 8-15-3 season, which explains coach Mike Behen's three-word forecast for the upcoming season.

"We're extremely young," said Behen. "We only have four seniors and two juniors, so we'll be relying on our underclassmen a lot this season. "If I had to pick our strength, I'd say our defense should be pretty good."

Among the returners for the Chiefs are senior forward Brad Barath, a three-year varsity player who Behen predicts big things from in his final high school season.

"He was one of our better players at the end of last year and I see that carrying over to

PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools invites all interested and qualified companies to submit a Bid for the Remodeling of Eriksson, Field, Hoben, and Hulsing Elementary Schools. Bid documents are available by phoning Doug Underwood of McCarthy & Smith, Inc. at (248) 427-8400 or are available for public inspection at the office of the Construction Manager, McCarthy & Smith Inc., 24317 Indoplex Circle, Farmington Hills, MI. 48335; FW Dodge Plan Room, Southfield; Construction Association of Michigan Plan Room, Bloomfield Hills: Daily Construction Reports Plan Roem, Detroit; Builders Exchange, Grand Rapids; Construction News Service, Grandville; and Reed Construction Data. Novi, MI.

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this year," said Behen.

Behen also praised the potential of first-year senior Alex Lajoie, who is currently playing

for the Chiefs' football team. "He's quick and a hard worker, so he should help us a lot," he

said. Another top returner is

Derek Trosper, a senior forward who should be one of Behen's top scorers.

Behen also has high expectations for senior defenseman J.P. LaFontaine; junior forward T.J. Wies; and sophomore Blake Van Tiem.

Protecting the net will be sophomore Shane Birchler and junior Kevan Swanberg.

"Our goal is to win the division championship," Behen said. "The schedule sets up well for us because we don't have a division game for about a month and a half."

PCS PENGUINS

First-year coach Eric Mink will inherit a team that went 22-3 last season and advanced all the way to the state championship game before falling to Grosse Pointe South, 5-1.

The Penguins picked up right where they left off on Tuesday when they opened with a 5-1 victory over Port Huron.

Leading the way were Kelsey Nikkila (two goals); and Katie Zimmerman and Keely Kowalski, who netted three points a piece.

(CP)

Even though this is Mink's first year at the helm, he knows the Penguins well having served as an assistant under previous coach Lori Callahan for the past two seasons.

"We're looking pretty good so far," said Mink, a 2001 graduate of Livonia Stevenson High School and a recent graduate of Eastern Michigan University. "We lost five girls to graduation and two to travel hockey, but we have six newcomers who should help us out a lot."

Among the key returners from last season's juggernaut are Adrienne Cercone, the Kowalski twins - Keely and Kristie – Zimmerman, Nikkila and Amy Coleman. Kristie Kowalski has shined in net for the Penguins since her freshman season and led the league in shutouts as a sophomore.

Leading the contingent of new players are Sarah Manner, Chelsea Osburn, Kara Bongiovanni, Shauna Siebert, Nikki Fonger and Jennifer Grodus.

OE08488948

ewright@hometownlife.com

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON ACCESS TO PUBLIC MEETINGS

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

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

Publish: November 19, 2006

PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools invites all interested and qualified companies to submit a bid for Data, Voice and Video Wiring for Miller Elementary School. Bid documents will be available for pickup on or after November 15, 2006 from the District's technology consultant: Innovate located at 37558 Hills Tech Drive, Farmington Hills, MI 48331 or vial email at info@innovatetcg.com (request document #PC0604). A pre-bid meeting will be held at the District's E.J. McClendon Educational Center 454 South Harvey, Plymouth, MI 48170, on Monday, November 27, 2006 at 2:00 PM. Sealed bids will also be received at the E.J. McClendon Educational Center and must be clearly marked "MILLER ELEMENTARY CABLING BID" no later than 2.00 nm, local time on Monday. December 11, 2006 at which time they will be read publicly. For additional information, phone Dan Phillips, Assistant Director of Finance & Purchasing at (734) 416-2746. The Board of Education reserves the right to accept and/or reject all bids and to waive any bid irregularities, as they judge to be in the best interest of the school district. Board of Education Plymouth-Canton Community Schools JUDY MARDIGIAN, Secretary Publish: November 19, 2006 OE08489341

CITY OF PLYMOUTH PUBLIC NOTICE PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED **USES OF 2007 COMMUNITY** DEVELOPMENT BLOCK

GRANT FUNDS Pursuant to Federal guidelines, the City of Plymouth is announcing

its objectives and possible uses for developing projects using Year 2007 Federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding

OBJECTIVES:

- To provide benefits to senior citizens.
- To provide benefits directly to persons of low/moderate income and/or areas in which at least 51% of the residents are of low/moderate income.
- 3. To maintain a high level of performance in the management



all CDBG funded programs while offsetting administrative costs to the General Fund

PROPOSED YEAR 2007-08 PROJECTS:

The City anticipates receiving approximately \$65,000 in CDBG funds for the contract year 2007-08, and has identified the following potential projects for use of these funds:

1.	Bricks & Mortar Projects		\$46,150 \$12,350
z.	Public Services		ə12,300
З.	Administration/Planning		\$ 6,500
		TOTAL	\$65.000

PUBLIC HEARING:

Citizens are invited to comment on the proposed projects listed above, and to suggest other projects. All projects must meet one of the Federal CDBG objectives.

A public hearing for the purpose of receiving comments on the proposed uses of 2007 CDBG funds, and additional suggestions for use of said funds, will be held at the Plymouth City Commission Meeting on Monday, December 4, 2006 at 7:00 pm in the Commission Chambers at Plymouth City Hall, 201 S. Main St.

> Linda J. Langmesser City Clerk

Publish: November 19, 2006

A pre-bid meeting will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 29, 2006 at the main office of McCarthy & Smith, Inc. at the address noted above. Bids are to be submitted in a sealed envelope supplied by the Construction Manager, McCarthy & Smith Inc. with the bid division being bid identified on the outside of the envelope. All bids should include 2 copies (1 original, 1 copy) and are due to the PCCS E.J McClendon Educational Center on or before 10:00 a.m., Thursday, December 14, 2006 where they will be opened and read publicly. For additional information, phone Dan Phillips, Assistant Director of Finance & Purchasing at (734) 416-2746. The Board of Education reserves the right to accept and/or reject all bids, as they judge to be in the best interest of the school district.

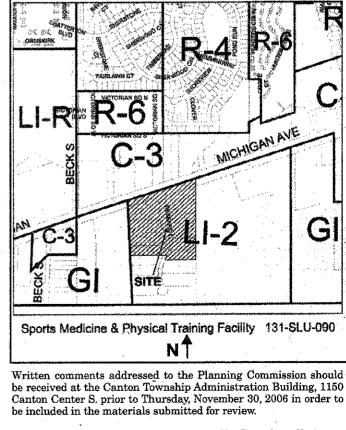
Publish: November 19, 2006

Board of Education Plymouth-Canton Community Schools JUDY MARDIGIAN, Secretary 0E08489342

PLANNING COMMISSION **CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON** NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Michigan Public Act 110 of 2006, of the State of Michigan, as amended, and pursuant to the Zoning Ordinance of the Charter Township of Canton that the Planning Commission of the Charter Township of Canton will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, December 4, 2006 in the First Floor Meeting Room of the Canton Township Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road at 7:00 p.m. on the following proposed special land use request as provided in Section 27.03 of the Canton Township Zoning Ordinance:

SPORTS MEDICINE & PHYSICAL TRAINING FACILITY SPECIAL LAND USE - CONSIDER REQUEST FOR SPECIAL LAND USE APPROVAL FOR A MEDICAL FACILITY/INDOOR RECREATIONAL FACILITY AS REQUIRED IN SECTION 21.02B.3 AND 21.02B.6 FOR PARCEL NOS. 131 02 0001 000, 131 02 0002 000, 131 02 0003 000, 131 02 0004 000, 131 02 0015 000, 131 02 0023 000 AND PART OF THE COMMON ELEMENT AREA. Property is located south of Michigan Avenue between Beck and Canton Center Roads.



Publish: November 19, 2006

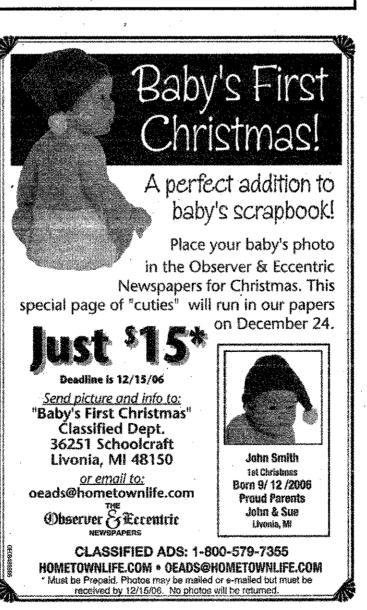
Vic Gustafson, Chairman

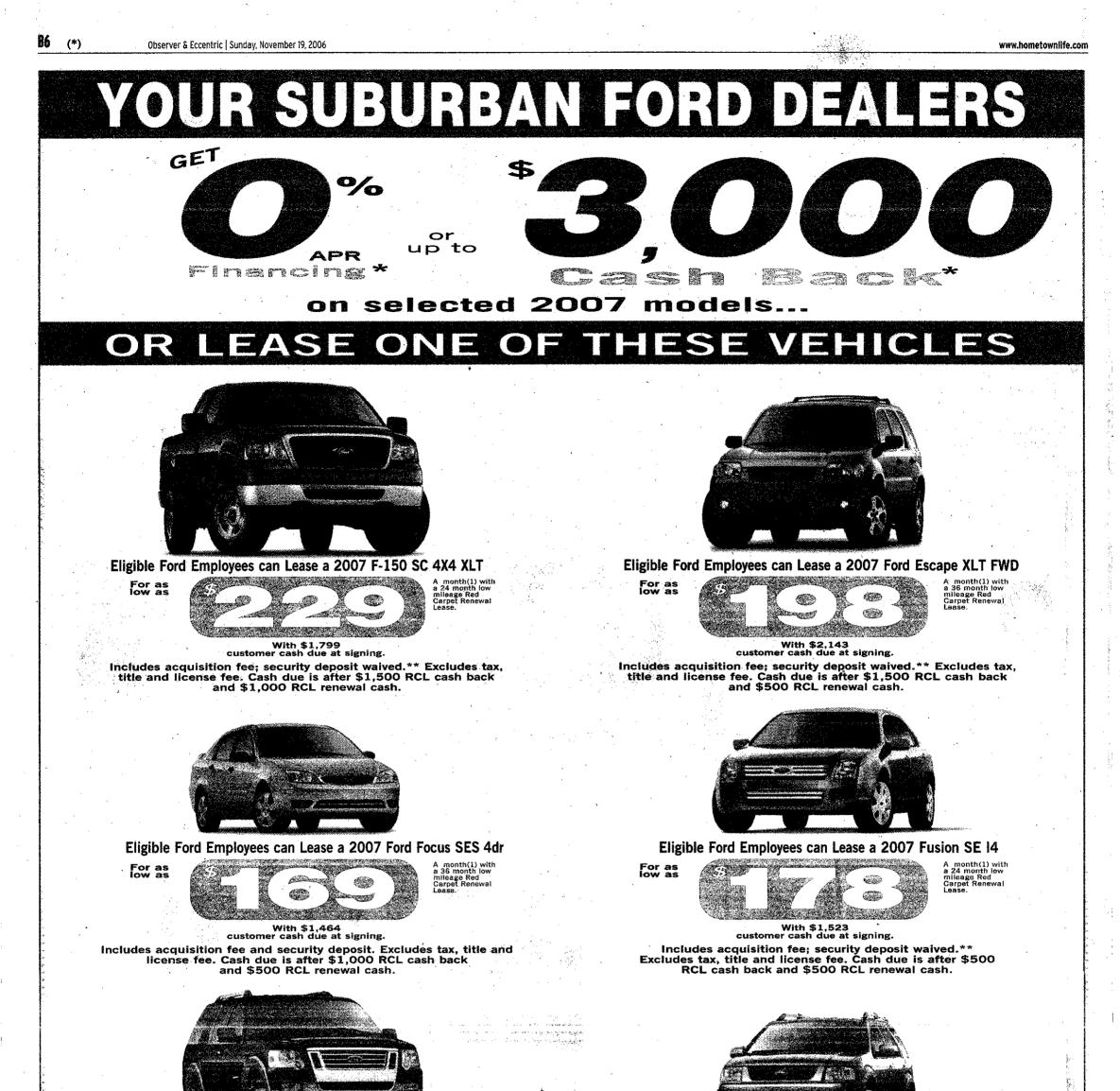
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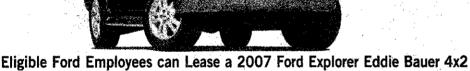


Deadline is 12/15/06 Send picture and info to: "Christmas with the Pets" **Classified Dept.** Mr. Bigglesworth 36251 Schoolcraft What him you are to have around the house! Livonia, MI 48150 We hope we bring you as or email to: much fun as you bring us oeads@hometownlife.com Ron & Liz Observer S Trceatric Livonia, M CLASSIFIED ADS: 1-800-579-7355 HOMETOWNLIFE.COM • OEADS@HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

fust be Prepaid. Photos may be mailed or e-mailed but must be received by 12/15/06. No photos will be returned.









Eligible Ford Employees can Lease a 2007 Ford Freestye SEL



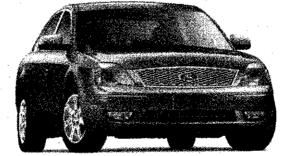
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Includes acquisition fee; security deposit waived.** Excludes tax, title and license fee. Cash due is after \$1,000 RCL cash back and \$1,000 A-plan bonus cash.

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For as low as

Chrome Package Includes:

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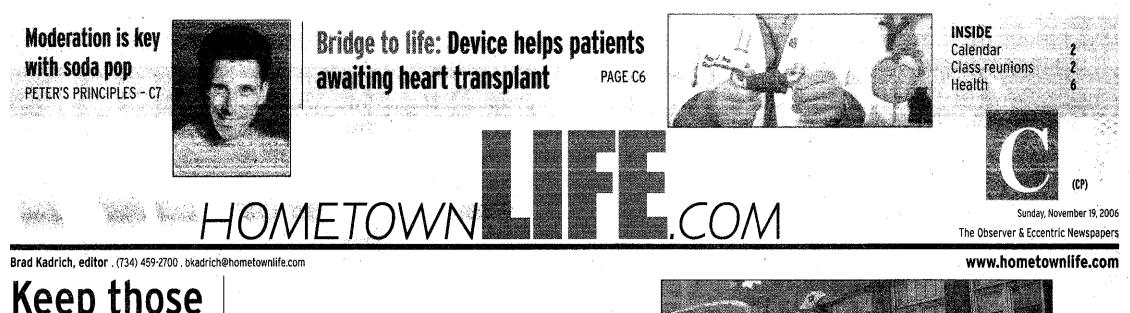
7070 Michigan Ave. 734-429-5478

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ATCHINSON 9800 Belleville Rd. 734-697-9161 BELLEVILLE

HINES PARK

I-96 at Milford Rd. 248-437-6700 LYON TWP.



Keep those children reading

he teen room at the Canton Public Library is impressive. When I was there Tuesday afternoon, I saw the large mural done by Betty Huang and Millie Li, now sophomores at Salem High School. One wall of bookshelves was lined with graphic novels, and teen librarian Kevin Scanlon noted that many more of those are checked out.



Students were busy that day doing homework, using the computers and just hanging out. The library boasts Teen Tuesdays 3-5 p.m. each week, a drop-in program, as well as monthly Book and Pizza Club discussions for both

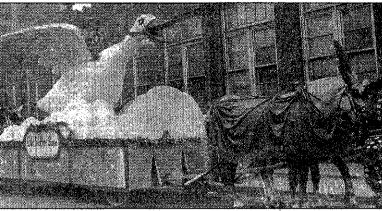
Brown teens and younger

'tweens in fifth and sixth grades. "This is important because you're giving teens their own space, their own identity within the library," Scanlon said of the teen room, in

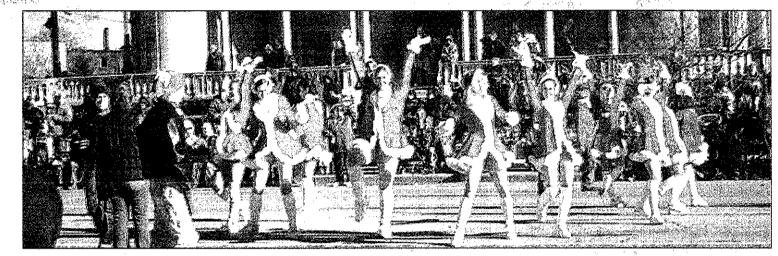
existence for about five years. Scanlon added that some question the educational value of the graphic novels which teens gobble up. In my day, it was Nancy Drew/Hardy Boys books that were considered less than desirable. I loved Nancy's adventures with friends Bess and George, but the grade school librarian didn't care for them and didn't carry the titles.

These days, the local public libraries still carry Nancy Drew and Hardy Boys books, with Scanlon noting their perennial popularity. Many argue the books keep kids reading at a critical time they're all to likely to get out of the habit. The same argument can be applied to graphic novels.





Old Mother Goose rolls down Woodward Avenue in the first Thanksgiving Parade in 1924. The parade's oldest float returns this year.



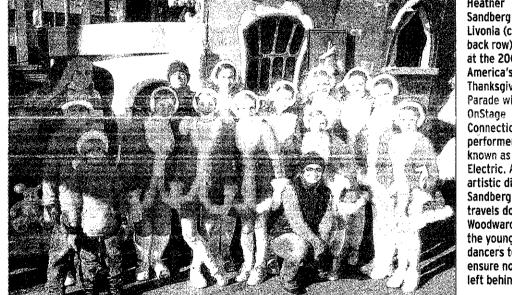
Members of the Onstage Connection Performing Company will be decked out in Santa's Angel Helpers costumes. The group first performed in America's Thanksgiving Parade in 2004 when they were known as Dance Electric.

Parade celebrates 80 years of thrilling crowds

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN STAFF WRITER

The young members of the OnStage Connection Performing Co. wouldn't have been as excited about dancing in the first Thanksgiving Parade 80 years ago.

In the 1920s, it took hours for horses to draw Mother Goose down Woodward Avenue and televising the floats was impossible since the medium didn't exist. During a Monday night rehearsal, a chorus of voices revealed the dancers' main reason for



Heather Sandberg of Livonia (center back row) poses at the 2004 America's Thanksgiving Parade with OnStage Connection performers then known as Dance Electric. As artistic director

Wednesday night, I had my Contemporary Books discussion at the Plymouth District Library (we read The House of the Spirits by Isabel Allende), and I took a few minutes to check out the teen offerings there.

Students in the Plymouth-Canton community are fortunate to have such excellent libraries with a strong focus on serving their needs. Sure, schoolwork is important, but so is leisure reading and the two complement each other.

As we discussed Allende's book Wednesday, I thought how fortunate students in our community are to have their own discussion groups. Both libraries have undergone expansion in recent years, and community residents deserve credit, too, for their support of these libraries.

The popular summer reading programs bring younger kids in droves to the libraries each year, and the school year also brings eager young readers into the libraries to check out what's new.

Kids need a place to go, and certainly the local library is as good as any. Libraries aren't quite as quiet as they used to be, either, and there are plenty of opportunities for students to speak up, such as in a spirited book discussion.

When I left school in my early 20s after graduation, I didn't read a lot away from work for a while. That didn't last too long, however, and before you knew it, I had another library card and was reading away.

These days, I try not to miss the **Contemporary Books discussions** (7:30 p.m. the third Wednesday of the month) at the Plymouth District Library.

Often, we find we have a better discussion when the book wasn't universally loved, and it's fun to learn what each person thought of the author's work.

It's interesting as well to learn more about authors like Allende, and I often go online before the discussion to do just that. Whatever your age, why not check out the offerings at the Plymouth library, (734) 453-0750, or Canton, (734) 397-0999?

Julie Brown of Plymouth Township is presentation editor for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. She can be reached at (734) 953-2111 or via e-mail at jcbrown@hometownlife.com.

wanting to march in the magical event the opportunity to be seen by millions of viewers.

Brittney Arcenal and Madison Bow do admit to being uneasy about appearing before one million spectators along the route, but not enough to forego their few seconds of fame as 102 million households nationwide tune in to view America's Thanksgiving Parade. Thirteen performers in all from OnStage Connection studios in Farmington Hills and Hartland will be dancing to the music of Sleigh Ride beginning at 9:20 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 23, in Detroit. The route is modeled after the original parade and takes marchers down Woodward Avenue from Mack to Congress.

The festivities kick off with the fund-raising Hob Nobble Gobble 6-10 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 22, at the Michigan State Fairgrounds, followed by the Turkey Trot run Thanksgiving morning. After the parade, the fun continues at the fairgrounds where visitors can view and photograph themselves with the floats at Holidays on Parade.

Members of the OnStage Connection Performing Co. will be decked out in Santa's Angel Helpers

costumes for the parade. The group first danced its way down Woodward Avenue in 2004, when it was known as Dance Electric.

"I'm really excited and a little nervous just in case I mess up," said Brittney Arcenal, a 14-year-old student at Salem High School in Canton.

"We're practicing, doing it over and over again," said Madison Bow, 12, who attends Warner Middle School in Farmington Hills. "I practice at home, too."

Company artistic director Heather Sandberg rehearses the dancers 16 hours a week to prepare them for the route, which can be cold and rainy. This year, she's recommending performers wear leggings.

"It takes a lot of energy out of the kids," said Sandberg, of Livonia. "They're moving really fast."

PLEASE SEE TRADITION, C3

LOVE A PARADE

The Parade begins in Midtown at Woodward and Mack Avenues at 9:20 a.m. on Thursday, Nov. 23, and ends in downtown Detroit at Woodward Avenue and Congress Street.

The festivities kick off with the fund-raising Hob Nobble Gobble 6-10 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 22, at the Michigan State Fairgrounds, followed by the Turkey Trot run Thanksgiving morning.

For details about any of the events, call (313) 923-7400. The parade is free except for the grandstand tickets (\$22 to \$45), available online at www.theparade.org or by calling (313) 923-7400, ext. 227. Holidays on Parade runs from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Nov. 24-25, and from noon to 6 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 26, at the Michigan State Fairgrounds. Admission is \$5, free for age 2 and under.

Artist finds time for every purpose 'Under Heaven'

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN STAFF WRITER

Jeff Von Buskirk likes to tell a story with his fine art. The ability to make his paintings speak to the masses most likely comes from 14 years of experience as a commercial mural painter. Public art has to relay a message if it's to be successful.

Von Buskirk realized a long time ago that viewers need to connect with a work of fine art as well. His latest show, Under Heaven, documents the circle of life by focusing on the Old Testament's A Time to Every Purpose from Ecclesiastes 3. Historically, the Bible was an inspiration for artists. Von Buskirk's series of paintings takes viewers through the day in the life of one woman, capturing the times of joy and mourning in a wash of acrylics. He uses the wood grain of the exposed board surface to create transparent backgrounds that are lyrical

in nature. The show continues to Nov. 30, at Sherrus Gallery of Fine Art in Northville.

"I kept the portraits somewhat static and changed the lighting to see how light in the portrait would affect the time of day," said Jeff Von Buskirk, a 34year-old Northville painter who grew up in Livonia.

"I was working on a mural in Detroit and kept noticing the plywood on buildings that was covered with old paint. I wanted to create a texture on the background and paint on top of it, to experiment with the plywood. I wanted to put it together relatively quickly and keep it affordable."

Von Buskirk has always been concerned with making his art marketable. As a student at Stevenson High School, he painted jackets and sold them in stores. He later took science classes at

PLEASE SEE ARTIST, C3



BILL BRESLER I STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Jeff Von Buskirk poses with paintings from his Under Heaven series. The work is on exhibit at Sherrus Gallery of Fine Art in Northville through Nov. 30.

travels down Woodward with the young dancers to ensure none are left behind.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR



Get on the ball. **SPORTS**-coverage!

Rock

AROUND TOWN

Olivet scholarship

Olivet College is offering every high school in Michigan the ability to nominate two graduating seniors to receive the new Olivet College High School Guidance Counselor Scholarship. The scholarship is worth \$2,000 a year for four years equaling a total of \$8,000 for each qualified student. Enrollment availability is based on a first come, first served basis. The scholarship program empowers the guidance counselor or staff to chose two responsible seniors who have at least a 3.0 cumulative GPA and 19 or higher on the ACT. One of the selected students must also demonstrate a greater need for financial assistance. For more information on the Olivet College High School Guidance Counselor Scholarship program, contact the Office of Enrollment Management at (800) 456-7189 or e-mail admissions@olivetcollege.edu

 Harvest Thanksgiving Dinner
A Harvest Thanksgiving Dinner takes place noon-3 p.m. Nov. 19 at Victoria Chapter #290, OES, Redford Presbyterian Church, 22122 W.
McNichols in Redford. Cost is \$8 for adults, \$4 children under 12. For more information, call (734) 459-6063.
Card party/luncheon

Victoria Chapter #290, OES, Livonia Masonic Temple hosts a card party/luncheon noon-3 p.m. the second Tuesday of each month. Admission is \$6; event features table prizes and door prizes. The temple is located at 27705 W. Seven Mile in Livonia. For more information, call (734) 459-6063. Holiday nights

This December, step into a Christmas card of the past during Holiday Nights in Greenfield Village, December 1-2, 8-9, 15-17 and 19-23. Tickets are on sale now and can be purchased by calling 313-982-6001 or visiting The Henry Ford's website at www.thehenryford.org. 'Capturing ancestors'

The Western Wayne County Genealogical Society will be meeting at 7:30 p.m. Monday, Nov. 20, at the Livonia Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road, in Livonia. Speaker Susan Vitali will discuss "Capturing Your Ancestors Through Photos and Journaling." At 6:30 p.m., a session will cover online book catalogs available through the library. Guests are welcome. The group's Web site is www.rootsweb. com/~miwwcgs. Contact Margie (734) 522-4050.

Vespers and nativity concert The Council of Orthodox Christian Churches of Metropolitan Detroit (COCC)



Chiefettes kick

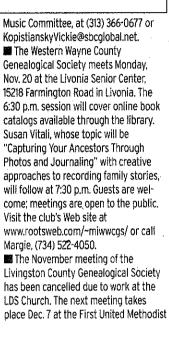
The Canton Chiefettes Varsity squad recently competed in the Mid-American Pom Pon Varsity High Kick competition. The squad performed an amazing original routine and won second place in the state. In addition to competing, the team performs at various Canton High School sporting events. Formed in 1973, the varsity Chiefettes are coached by Jenny Kesler.

JV honors

The Canton Chiefettes JV squad recently competed in the Mid-American Pom Pon JV High Kick

competition. The hard-working, up-and-coming squad earned "Honorable Mention" for a strong performance of their original routine. The JV Chiefettes are coached by Katie Nuss.

will sponsor a Vespers service and Nativity concert on Sunday evening, Dec. 3 at St. Clement Ohridski Macedonian-Bulgarian Orthodox Church, 19600 Ford Road, Dearborn. The evening begins at 6:30 with a Vespers service concelebrated by priests from COCC member churches and sung by the COCC's Inter-Orthodox Choir. Following the service, the choir will sing a concert of Orthodox liturgical and para-liturgical music for the Nativity season and selected Eastern and Western European Advent and Christmas carols. The story of St. Nicholas and gifts for children will follow the concert. Refreshments will be served. The evening is free of charge and open to the public. A freewill offering will be collected. For further information, contact Victoria Kopistiansky, director of the Inter-Orthodox Choir and chair of the COCC



Church, 1230 Bower Road in Howell. The public is invited. For more information, call Margaret Bowland, (810) 227-7745. Crafters needed

The annual Holiday Craft Show at Hawthorne Valley is looking for crafters. The show is set for Dec. 3. For information please contact Sue or Paul, (734) 844-3128. Hospice training

Heartland Hospice is looking for caring and dedicated people with an interest in serving terminally ill patients and their families in Washtenaw, western Wayne, Monroe and Livingston counties. Volunteers provide a variety of services including companionship, light housekeeping, errand running, grief support and clerical services. For more information, contact volunteer coordinator Candice Jones, (888) 973-1145.

Literacy Council tutors The Community Literacy Council (CLC) is looking for volunteer tutors in Western Wayne County to help adults improve their reading, writing and communication skills. The CLC will provide training to interested volunteers. Previous experrience or a bachelor's degree is not

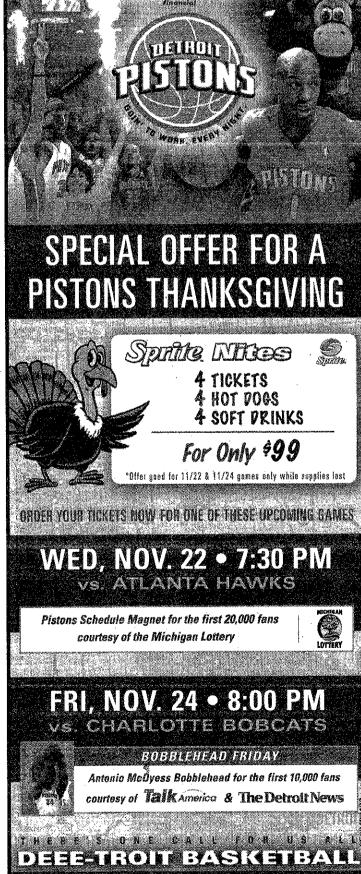
required. The council will provide free training and materials, and then match you with an adult student in your area. Call (734) 416-4906 for more information.

Toastmasters meet

Do you have a fear of public speaking? Do you need to do presentations at work and don't know where to start? Or are you terrified of the thought of standing in front of a group of people to present that report? If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, then Toastmasters is for you! Canton Communicators Club meets every Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. at the Canton Coney Island on Lilley, just south of Joy, in the Golden Gate Plaza. Contact Bonnie at (734) 646-2237.

Grief support

New Hope Center for Grief Support is a Christian-based bereavement outreach and resource center located in Northville. Age appropriate groups for widows and widowers are provided in various locations in southeastern Michigan including groups for young widows and widowers and their children between the ages of 4 through the teen years. Groups for parents who have lost a child, adults who have lost a parent. pet loss, and other specialized groups are offered at various times of the year. All services for adults and children are offered at no cost to the participants. If you are grieving or know someone who is, call the office at (248) 348-0115.



FOR TICKETS CALL 248-377-0100, VISIT THE PALACE BOX OFFICE ANY ticketmaster LOCATION OR LOG ON TO PISTONS.COM

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C3

(CP)

ARTIST

FROM PAGE C1

Schoolcraft College to become a physician, but soon realized the career was not for him after his parents' friends took him on as an apprentice to paint commercial murals.

Over the next seven years, their clients included Busch's Markets and other businesses in metro Detroit.

Eventually, Von Buskirk produced a variety of subject matter such as the moose on the exterior of the Lower Town Grille in Plymouth on his own. General Motors' world headquarters and restaurants including Sweet Lorraine, Cheli's Chili, Pike Street, and Grapevine Cafe in the Greektown Casino are among a partial list of his commissions. Von Buskirk's work is also in the private collections of attorney Geoffrey Fieger and celebrity Niki Hilton.

Most recently, Von Buskirk restored a historic sign on the exterior of a four-story building that once housed the Willys-Overland Motor Co., inventor of the jeep. Future projects include a mural for a Franklin home.

Like his painting, Von Buskirk isn't remaining static. He continuously moves from one commission to the next as a way of pro-



Jeff Von Buskirk and a painting from last year's show.

viding for his wife Wensdy and 15-month-old son Verick while studying digital animation at College for Creative Studies. Von Buskirk is moving in a new direction with his art and says the transition came about after becoming a husband and father. A year ago, Von Buskirk opened the gallery with an exhibit of paintings he refers to as distorted pop art. Since then, the work has evolved into portraiture that captures the triumphs and tragedy in life.

"People see it on the street and make a bee line in to see it," said Cherrie Fergusson, gallery marketing person. "I think it's the background." * BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Sherrus Gallery of Fine Art is located at 109 N. Center, north of Main, Northville. For more information, call (248) 380-0470. To view Von Buskirk's art

online, visit www.jlvb.com. For information about the gallery, go to www.sherrusgallery.com.

ichomin@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2145

TRADITION

FROM PAGE C1

When Ralph Skinner joined The Parade Co. as an artist in 1977, building and hauling a float down Woodward was not easy. Ninety-five percent of the superstructure was handcrafted from wood without the help of power saws.

Today, artists bend and shape smaller amounts of steel with welding tools, then cover the forms with muslin.

This year, Skinner is especially excited about one of the new floats — Has Anyone Seen Christmas? The theme was taken from a book by Michigan author Anne Margaret Lewis and illustrator Wendy Popko. Only the 24 freelance artists and hundreds of volunteers who worked on the float know exactly what it looks like. Parade-goers will have to wait to see the float on Thanksgiving Day.

"With all the advances over the years in glues and adhesives, it's changed the way we build floats. We use spray foam used for insulation in homes. It's a great time saver. We can make snow and clouds, icing on large cakes. For the 80th birthday float, we're working on a cake 14-foot high. Everything is really big here," said Ralph Skinner, senior art director. Skinner earned his master of fine art degree in sculpting from Michigan State University. "We used to use a lot of papier mache. We now use a lot of muslin. It's faster, more artist friendly. We make a lot of props out of Styrofoam and use muslin to give it a skin."

This year, like last, Sharon Scott plans to stand along the route pointing to the two-foot tall candy corn she painted for Has Anyone Seen Christmas. For the last four years, she and husband Keith, daughters Danielle, 21, and Courtney, 19, and son Robby. 16, have volunteered to build, paint and restore floats such as the 1924 Mother Goose that returns for the 80th birthday parade. This year Danielle, a Saginaw Valley State University student, returns to walk in the parade, while Keith drives the Party Bus. Sharon; Courtney, a Grand Valley State University student; and Robby, a Churchill High School student, will be

cheering Danielle and Keith on. "Everyday is different," said

Sharon Scott, of Livonia. "We've attached grass to a float, painted objects. Since spring I've been sewing clown costumes. There are always things to do and they so appreciate the volunteers. As a volunteer, you see how they start with chicken wire and put muslin over it and then paint. When you see the floats go down the street, you know how it was made.

"On the day of the parade, I'm always nudging my family saying I painted on that egg. My favorite part of the parade is seeing the floats the family worked on. The parade is such a great civic event, it makes you feel good knowing I put two cents into that."

Keith Scott became hooked on volunteering after a field trip to the float drivers school with Indian Guides. Since then, he's not only worked on floats, but volunteered to help at the July Fourth Fireworks put on by The Parade Co. On Wednesday, Keith will navigate and drive floats down the back streets so they're ready to roll Thursday morning.

"The real challenge is taking those floats on the side streets. Two years ago it was cold and rainy, but even in the rain kids lined the streets anyway. It's like a parade before the parade. Volunteers bring their leftover Halloween candy and throw the candy to the kids," said Keith Scott, a buyer for American Axle. "There's a certain pride in volunteering, to know I helped put the hat back on Mother Goose."

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Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, November 19, 2006

Kari and Stephen Foust-Christensen were married on Aug. 26. Kari wore the same gown her grandmother Joyce Livermore did when she took her vows in 1946.



Joyce Livermore married naval officer Frederick Foust in 1946 in this wedding dress.

Bride marches down aisle in grandmother's dress

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN STAFF WRITER

Kari Foust made her grandmother's dream come true on Aug. 26, when Foust walked down the aisle to marry Stephen Christensen in Joyce Livermore's wedding dress. Livermore first wore the gown to marry naval officer Frederick Foust on Aug. 3, 1946 in Ann Arbor.

Livermore came across the dress when moving two years ago. Before long plans were in place for friends and family to make the day truly one to remember. Jules Joyner of St. Clair Shores altered the gown which was trimmed with the rosepoint lace from Foust's paternal great-great-grandmother's gown. Livermore's gown was

made from candlelight satin trimmed with rosepoint lace from her paternal-grandmother's wedding dress. Her floor length veil flowed from a cap made from her grandmother's rosepoint lace wedding handkerchief. Foust added a blusher to her floor length veil.

Foust's great-aunt Gail Shlanta Peasley flew in from Sioux Falls, South Dakota to officiate at the ceremony in Risen Christ Lutheran Church in Plymouth. Her aunt Carol and uncle Kelvin Chen of Westland, and Donna Kallie, Foust's former flute teacher provided the instrumental music at the ceremony. The four-layer wedding cake was made by Foust's aunt Carol Seeburger of Blissfield, Mich, and enjoyed by guests at the reception in Hawthorne Valley Country Club. Videographer John Smith, Foust's God-father from Georgia, recorded the event.

The entire family is still talking about the wedding. Kari, a former Plymouth resident, and Stephen, formerly of Lexington, Kentucky, now live in Holland where she is a staff writer for Group Tour Magazine and he is completing a degree in computer science at Hope College.

Kari is the daughter of Brian and Cathy Foust. Stephen is the son of Drs. Ralph and Evelyn Christensen.

"It was a very family wedding," said Cathy Foust of Plymouth. "Everybody said let me be involved. This is so family.

Ichomin@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2145



Galindo-VanWashenova Andrea Galindo and Dale

VanWashenova were married on July 15, 2006, at St. John's Chapel in Plymouth.

Andrea is the daughter of Mario and Joyce Galindo of Livonia. She graduated from Churchill High School in 1998 and Central Michigan University in 2002. She is currently employed at Trans-Man Logistics in Taylor.

Dale is the son of Lorna VanWashenova and the late Dale VanWashenova of South Rockwood. He graduated from Airport High School in 1995, Central Michigan University in 2001 and Eastern Michigan University in 2004. He is currently pursuing an elementary education teaching position.

Andrea's matron of honor was friend Lisa DiPonio. Her bridesmaids were sister-in-law Nicole Galindo, new sister-inlaw Angela VanWashenova, friends Caroline Oosterhouse and Angela Marinoff. Flower girls were cousins Haley Galindo and Faith Pustover.

Dale's bestmen were his brother Jeff VanWashenova and friend David Illes. His groomsmen were friends Jason

Pemas-Lorenzetti

Jennifer Pemas and Randy Lorenzetti were married Nov. 4, 2006, at The Little Wedding Chapel Heritage Park in Taylor. The bride is the daughter of Alexander and Nina Pemas of Garden City.

The groom is the son of James and Diane Lorenzetti of Dearborn Heights. A reception was held at Roma Hall of Garden City.

The couple honeymooned in Cancun Mexico.



ANNIVERSARIES

McGarrie 50th Anniversary

Thomas and Patricia (Bartkus) McGarrie celebrated their 50th anniversary with family and friends at St. Damian's Church in Westland with renewal of their wedding vows.

The couple were married at Our Lady of Sorrows Church in Farmington on Nov. 3, 1956, by the Rev. John Dunn.

Pat and Tom have lived in Livonia their entire married life, raising three children -Jean Harris of Houston, Texas,



Baas, Joel Baas, Tim Odette and new brother-in-law Brian Galindo. Ushers were friends Cyrus Baker and Nick DiPonio and new cousin Stephen Galindo.

The wedding reception was held at Glen Oaks Country Club in Farmington Hills. Many friends and relatives attended from out of town including the Bride's aunt and uncle from Bolivia.

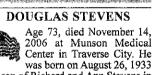
Andrea and Dale honeymooned in the Bahamas and are living in Canton where they've bought a house.



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RUTH LUCAS SCHUMACHER BILLING Age 98, formerly of Oscoda. Age 98, formerly of Osedua. MI, died Oct. 25, 2006. Born March 5, 1908, in Laurium, MI, the moved to Highland MI, died Oct. 25, 2006. Born March 5, 1908, in Laurium, MI also set the set of the set o





SINGLES

MISC. SINGLES

Moon-dusters Ballroom Dancing to a live band every Saturday 8:30-11 p.m. at the Livonia Civic Center, 15218 Farmington Road, Livonia. Admission: guest/\$6, associates/\$5.50, members/\$5. Dress: Ladies - date style clothes, gentlemen - jackets and ties. for more information, call Joe Castrodale (248) 968-5197.

Holiday dance, 7-10:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 10. Roma Banquet Hall, 32550 Cherry Hill Road, Garden City. Doors open at 5 p.m., dinner at 5:45 p.m. Formal attire recommended but Sunday best will do. Tickets \$26 members and associates, \$29 guests. For information or reservations, call Joe

MI, she moved to Highland Park in 1915. She married Harry Schumacher in 1928 and moved to early Livonia in 1940. Members of Salem Church in Farmington, they enjoyed round dancing in the Farmington Masonic Temple and were active in Masons and Éastern Star. Ruth was active in the Red Cross during WWII and sang in the Livonia Civic Chorus. Harry preceded his Harry preceded his wife in death in 1955. They had three children, Betty (Jack) Gazvoda of Farmington Hills, Lois DePencier of Myrtle Beach, SC, and John (Pat) Schumacher of Farmington Hills. Ruth has six grandchildren, Dawn (Sam) DePencier, Julie (Gene) Filipowicz, Ross (Debbie) DePencier, John (Tracie) Schumacher, Liz (Stan) Lniski, and Chris Schumacher. She is also survived by three great grand-daughters, Ashley, Natalie and Maebel. Ruth married Clarence Billing (deceased 1973) in 1968 and moved to Oscoda, MI. She acquired a second family, including dearest friend Clara Simpson, Joyce (Walt) Gagnon, the late Marge (Camp) Prisk, the late Betty (Earl) Milburn, Cora (the late Harold) Dettinger, and Earl (Dorothy) Billing, and eleven grandchildren, numerous great and great-great grandchildren. A memorial service will be held on December 9th, 11:00, at Salem United Church of Christ, Farmington. (248-474-6880). Memorials may be made to the church.

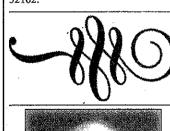


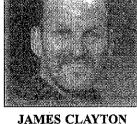
PHYLLIS M. KELLY

Nov. 17, 2006, Age 79 of Canton. Beloved wife of the late James. Loving mother of Patrick (Janice), Danie (Trina), Bridget, James, John (Lynne), the late Timothy (Kathy), and the late Colleen. Also survived by 13 grandchildren. long time active member and volunteer at St. Thomas A. Beckett Catholic Church. She was always on the go, never letting her health issues, including Multiple Sclerosis slow her down. Visitation Monday, 5:00-9:00 PM at Vermeulen Funeral Home, 980 N. Newburgh Road, Westland (btwn Ford and Cherry Hill). Wake service Monday 7:00 PM. In State Tuesday 10:00 AM until 10:30. Funeral Mass at St. Thomas A. Beckett Church, 555 S Lilley Road, Canton (at Cherry Hill). memorials may be made to the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. To leave a message of condolence for the family log on to

www.vermeulenfuneralhome.com

2005. He was retired as Vice President of K.F. Associates in Auburn Hills, MI. He was an avid golfer, fisherman and hunter. Survivors include his wife Tari L.; daughters, Marni Joseph of Hampden, MA; Leslie McDonough of Belleville, MI; Heidi Wyman of Sterling, MA and six grandchildren. He is also survived by his sister, Ruby Cummins of Lake Worth, FL and brother, Lloyd Porter of Meridianville, AL, plus several nephews and greatnephews. A memorial service for Mr. Porter will be held in August of 2007 in Canton, MI with details at a later date. To receive updates regarding memorial service details as they are available, please send an e-mail to Al Porter Memorial@comcast.net. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to The Villages Hospice House, 601 Casa Bella, The Villages, FL 32162.



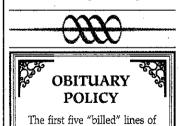


JAMES CLAYTON ROSHIRT

Age 55, of Northville, Michigan died suddenly at home on November 2, 2006. James was born July 16,

1951 in Detroit to Clayton and Marian Roshirt. He graduated from Bentley High School-Livonia in 1969 and Miami University of Ohio with a degree in Communications. Mr. Roshirt served in the U.S. Navy and was a Vietnam War Veteran. He continued to serve after the Navy in the Army Reserves. He was an avid boater, loved music, remodeling, gardening and landscaping, traveling. He had visited 48 of our 50 states during his lifetime. At the time of his death, Mr. Roshirt was doing volunteer work at Botsford General Hospital. He is survived by his mother, Marian, a brother Paul (Therese), a sister Kathy Herring, three nieces: Melissa St. John (Chris), Dana Roshirt, Katie Roshirt, and one great nephew Lucas St. John. Funeral services were held at Schrader Howell in Plymouth on November 6 and interment was at Woodlawn Cemetery in Detroit. Donations may be made to American Heart Association.

the son of Richard and Ann Stevens in Highland Park, Michigan. Doug married Norma J. Eustice on February 10,1988. He served the U.S. Army during the Korean Conflict as a Staff Sgt., shooting instructor and armorer. He was a member of the American Legion Frankfort Post No. 221 and the Cedar Rod & Gun Club. He was also a lifetime member of the NRA. Doug attended Blaine Christian Church and was employed with AAA for 29 years. Surviving is wife, Norma; children Linda Stevens of Grand Blanc and Scott (Jennifer) Stevens of Shelby Twp.; 2 grandsons, Jacob and Danial stepson, Jeffrey Butler of Frankfort brother, Godfrey (Delores) Stevens of Westland, Michigan; and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents and an infant sis-ter. A celebration of Doug's life will be Saturday, November 25th at the Benzonia Chapel of McElduff-Jowett Funeral Home, 7223 South St., Benzonia, 49616, with Rev. Bob Larimer officiating. Burial will be in Blaine Twp. Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to the Benzie County Animal Welfare or the NRA. The Benzonia Chapel of McElduff-Jowett Funeral Homes & Cremation Service is handling the arrangements.



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

Deadlines: Friday 4:30 PM for Sunday Wednesday Noon for Thursday Obituaries received after these deadlines

will be placed in the next available issue. e-mail your obit to ocobits@hometownlife.com

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Anytime 6:30-9:30 p.m. Meets at the Main Lounge at Drakeshire Lanes, 35000 Grand River Ave. just east of Drake Road in Farmington Hills. Cash bar and reasonable priced dinner is also available off the menu. \$5/members, \$6/non-members. Volleyball

Anytime 6:45-9:45 p.m. Drop-in volleyball in the gym and fieldhouse of the Bloomfield Hills Middle School, 4200 Quarton Road, west of Telegraph. Cost is \$6. In the park, Farmington Hills, anytime 6:30 p.m. to dusk. Heritage Park. Farmington Road, between 10 Mile and 11 Mile. Cost \$2.

BETHANY SUBURBAN WEST

Monthly Dance

8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 2, at the Don Hubert V.F.W. Hall, 27345 Schoolcraft Road, Redford. Cost is \$10. Refreshments includ-

Sock Party/Potluck

ed.

7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 8, at St. Linus Activity Center, 6466 Evangeline, Dearborn Heights. Admission is a pair of new socks, scarf or mittens and a dish to pass. For details, contact Michele (313)996-8644.

SINGLE POINT MINISTRIES

Single Point Ministries of Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church is at 40000 Six Mile Road, the corner of Six Mile and Haggerty, in Northville. Sunday Fellowship

Meet at 11:30 a.m. every Sunday in Knox Hall for fellowship and encouragement. Coffee, doughnuts, conversation and Christ are always present. Call the SPM office at (248) 374-5920.

Laurie (Shahram) Ariane of Laguna Niguel, Calif., and James (Colleen) McGarrie of Livonia. They have five grandchildren, Lauren, Arielle, Sasha, Jessica and Jacob. Tom retired from Cargill Detroit in 2000. Pat retired as a legal secretary from patent attorney Charles Chandler's office in Livonia.

Together they enjoy visiting their out-of-state children, planning picnics and parties with friends, playing cardsm

Grevtoks' 50th anniversary

Gilson and Patricia (Naylor) Greytok of Livonia are celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary.

They were married Nov. 17, 1956, in Detroit. The couple has lived in Livonia for 40 years.

They have three children, Gary Greytok of Westland, Michael Greytok of Hamburg and Michelle (Tom) Sexton or Northville. They have three grandchildren.

The Greytoks are retired.

ENGAGEMENT

Whittemore-Bearer

Dennis Whittemore of Pelham, Mass., and Kim Whittemore of Amherst, Mass., announce the engagement of their daughter, Dr. Jessica M. Whittemore of Waterford, to Dr. Ryan W. Bearer of Livonia.

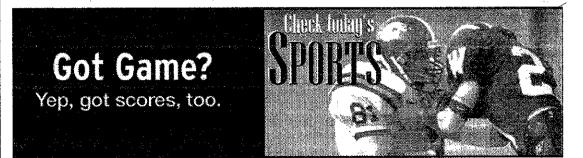
The bride-to-be is a 1995 graduate of Amherst High School. She received a bachelor of science in biology from Syracuse University in 1999 and a doctor of optometry degree from the Pennsylvania College of Optometry. She is in private practice at Grand Blanc Vision Clinic in Grand Blanc.

The prospective groom is a 1994 graduate of Livonia-



Stevenson and a 1998 graduate of Wayne State University. He is received a doctorate from the Pennsylvania College of Osteopathic Medicine. He is an anesthesiology resident at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit. A Sept. 1, 2007, wedding is

planned.





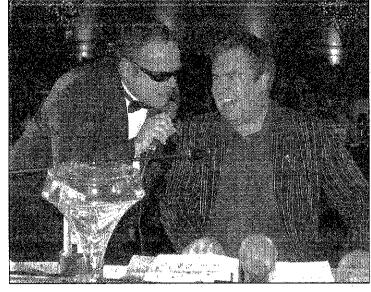
ushering at plays and just sharing retirement together. A trip to Scotland is planned.

Hospital's annual fund-raiser accents colorful shoes

It was a fun, kick up vour heels kind of night on Friday, Oct. 27, at Garden City Hospital's annual Fall Fundraiser "Isn't it Grand," at Laurel Manor in Livonia.

Cutting through the sea of black and white casual attire, were the colorful shoes. At this vear's event, attendees were invited to wear their wackiest, craziest, and most colorful shoes. It was all about the fun atmosphere and the conversations that follow. Guests were spotted wearing fuzzy slippers, clown shoes, old gym shoes, while other chose to design their own colorful shoes.

"Isn't it Grand" was sponsored by National City and featured an entertaining dueling piano performance by Cool2Duel. Elaborately themed baskets created by hospital employees were raffled off. There was a silent auction. This year's auction had a wider



Fund-raiser attendee Michael Lance makes a special donation to sing Elton John's 1973 hit Crocodile Rock with pianist and entertainer Mike McKesson from Cool2Duel.

variety of items including donated art. Proceeds from "Isn't it

Grand" will benefit the building of Garden City Hospital's new Surgical Center.

Verdi Theatre spotlights competition winners

The Verdi Opera Theatre of Michigan is pleased to announce its upcoming concert 7 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 19, will feature a group of artists performing together with the Birmingham-Bloomfield Symphony Orchestra and the Rackham Symphony Choir, conducted by Michigan Opera Theatre's Assistant Music Director Suzanne Mallare Acton at the Macomb Center for the Performing Arts in Clinton Township.

Tickets are \$25 and available by calling (586) 286-2222. For more information send e-mail to verdiopera@comcast.net.

The first part of the program, Spotlight on Opera. includes famous opera arias, duets and ensembles with chorus. The second part will be a concert performance of Giacomo Puccini's comic oneact opera, Gianni Schicchi, with the added attractive of English surtitles projected over the stage. The evening's artists include acclaimed baritones Scott MacLeod, Allen Schrott, Chris Vaught, and Dino Valle plus popular sopranos Eva Evola, Lisa Agazzi, Kimberly Swan, and Elena Repnikova as well as noted tenors Lonel Woods and Michael Parr.

Of particular interest will be the debut with the Verdi Opera of Scott MacLeod in the title role of Gianni Schicchi. MacLeod, a native of Okemos, was the winner of the Verdi

Opera's 1996 annual Italian Songs and Arias Vocal Competition For Michigan High School Students, now in its thirteenth year. The vocal competition inspired MacLeod to pursue a career in opera.

He has performed over 50 roles with opera companies throughout the United States including Opera Omaha, St.Louis Opera and Central City Opera.

Another noteworthy and growing artist who made her debut two years ago with the Verdi Opera is soprano Eva Evola who will sing the role of Lauretta in Gianni Schicchi. Evola debuted last year with Michigan Opera Theatre in the role of Clotilde in Bellini's Norma.

LIBRARY PICKS

Every week, the Plymouth District Library staff provides the Observer with their list of Best Sellers based on the number of requests for titles by library patrons. The books are available by placing a request with the library at (734) 453-0750 or online at www.plymouthlibrary.org

FICTION

1. "Dear John," Nicholas Sparks

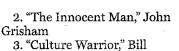
2. "For One More Day," Mitch Albom

3. "Lisey's Story," Stephen King 4. "H.R.H.," Danielle Steel

5. "The Collectors," David Baldacci

NON-FICTION

1. "The Audacity of Hope," Barack Obama



O'Reilly 4. "State of Denial," Bob

Woodward

5. "I Feel Bad About My Neck," Nora Ephron

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- Monica Wellington
- 2. "Boo and Bea Have Company," Lena Landstrom
- 3. "All for Pie, Pie for All," David Martin
- 4. "Ten in the Bed," Jane
- Cabrera 5. "An Apple for Harriet
- Tubman," Glennette Turner







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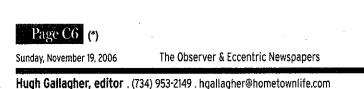
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Bridge to life

Device helps patients awaiting heart transplant

> BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN STAFF WRITER

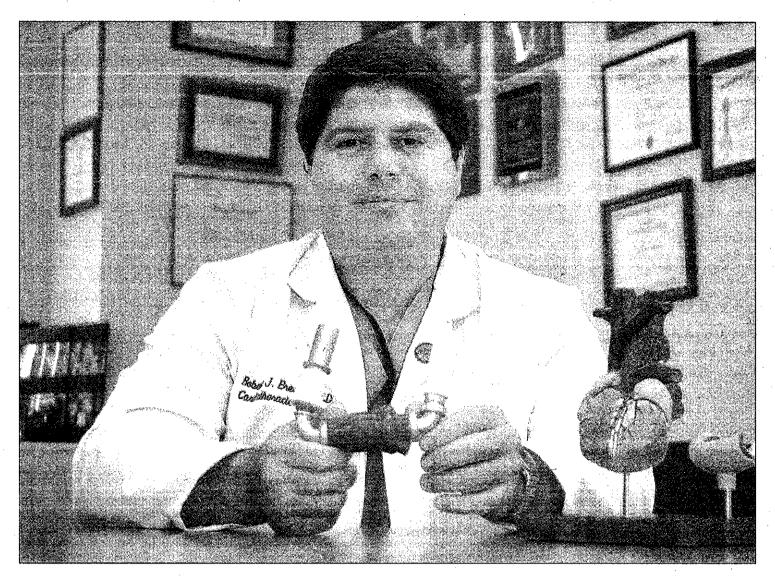
Danny Smith couldn't be happier about being able to play with his three young children again even though he is still waiting for a heart transplant.

On June 28, cardio-thoracic surgeon Robert Brewer implanted the second generation of a left ventricular assist device (LVAD) to keep Smith's heart working until an organ donation becomes available. The first generation was too large to fit into the 53-year-old Southfield man's stomach. Although the LVAD device has been around for more than a decade, technology for the mechanical pump continues to be developed and studied. The Heart Mate II is considered experimental and is currently in clinical trials at Henry Ford Hospital. The second generation device was recently featured on the Minds of Medicine Overcoming Heart Failure program on WXYZ-TV Channel 7.

"Many patients die while waiting for an organ," said Brewer, director of the circulatory assist device program at Henry Ford Hospital. "We do about 2,200 heart transplants a year in the U.S. and the number hasn't changed in a decade. We are limited by donor availability. People are living longer. We are just starting to look at destination therapy for heart failure patients who are probably not going to get a transplant because of medical issues and problems. For large males the



www.hometownlife.com



Cardio-thoracic surgeon Robert Brewer is implanting the Heart Mate II Left Ventricular Assist Device in patients at Henry Ford Hospital. The LVAD not only provides a bridge for those awaiting a donor heart, but for patients who have become too sick to undergo transplant surgery even if a heart was available.

odds of finding an organ donor of his size becomes slim."

The LVAD device is now being studied in hospitals across the country to not only provide a bridge to transplantation but sustain life for patients not eligible for transplant because they are in end-stage heart disease.

"The National Institutes of Health had an artificial heart program 20 years ago. What's become more clear is that while there are some niches for artificial hearts most patients just need an assist device," said Brewer. "The mechanical pump is electrically powered or runs on batteries to be portable."

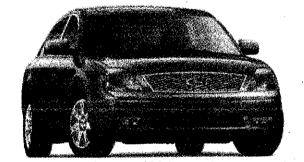
Smith doesn't mind the inconvenience of having to be plugged in by his wife at night or changing two battery packs every three hours as long as the pump continues to help his weakened heart circulate blood through his body. Smith is delighted to be alive for his wife, Pam Robinson-Smith, their 7-year old twins, Daniel and Danita, and Jasmine, age 6. It's been a long road for Smith since suffering his first heart attack in March 2003.

Physicians decided to perform a triple bypass after tests revealed a 96-percent blockage. In June of that year, Smith had another heart attack and then another the following day. In August, he suffered one more heart attack while physicians were inserting a stent. By this point Smith'sheart was so badly damaged a defibrillator had to be implanted in November 2003. Smith said he was feeling pretty good afterwards but his heart continued to weaken. On a visit to Brewer in March of this year, it was suggested he be listed for a transplant. Although Smith is still waiting for an organ donation, his quality of life has improved with the implantation of the LVAD after going into congestive heart failure.

"I feel good," said Danny Smith. "At first I had shortness of breath for a little while. Now I can go up the stairs without

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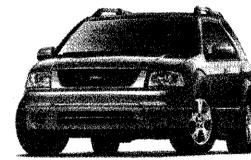
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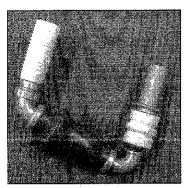
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HEALTH

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, November 19, 2006



The Left Ventricular Assist Device helps heart failure patients live longer.

BRIDGE FROM PAGE C6

shortness of breath.

"I'm glad they had this new technology available to keep you alive and can recommend it to anyone that this is a good way to go. It works. It's reliable."

Pam Robinson-Smith is grateful she can hear the device humming when she's changing Danny's dressing twice a day. The LVAD has made it possible for her husband to live long enough to receive a donor heart.

"He's doing much better," said Robinson-Smith. "There's a little less of an unknown Having it has been a big relief."

In 2005, 83 heart transplant patients received the gift of life thanks to organ donors in Michigan, of those 53 were residents. Danny Smith is still waiting. As Chet Szuber, a heart recipient, put it "there's no shortage of organs. Only a shortage of donors."

Signing the back of your license isn't enough to become an organ donor. Discuss the decision with family then register at any Secretary of State branch, Gift of Life at (800) 482-4881, or online at www.giftoflifemichigan.org.

"So far this year we have 491 mothers, fathers, children, brothers, sisters who have received a second chance at life," said Tammie Havermahl, public education director for Gift of Life Michigan. "That is only possible because of the gift of someone who passed on life at the time of their death."

Ichomin@hometownlife.com (734) 953-2145

Gift of Life recognizes organ donation supporters

ears filled the eyes of at least one woman as organ donor families and transplant recipients told their stories at the Gift of Life Foundation's annual awards meeting to recognize those committed to saving lives.

Death is never easy to accept. On Nov. 9, I was especially touched by the peace that seemed to come from family and friends knowing a loved one lives on. The decision to register as an organ and tissue donor can eventually save

or improve the quality of life for up to 50 people. That's why it's important for me as the Observer & Eccentric Linda Chomin

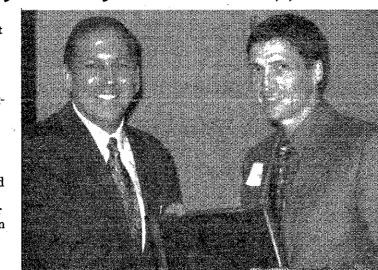
Newspapers health reporter to remind readers from time to

time that if they haven't signed up for the Gift of Life Organ, Tissue & Eye Donor Registry to do it now by calling (800) 482-4881 or visiting giftoflifemichigan.org.

Kimberly Marie Smith helped three patients receive a second chance when family members donated the young woman's liver and kidneys after she was killed in a car accident in August. While Kimberly's aunt, Sue Smith was coordinating the donation she met with obstacles from authorities who said they wouldn't be able to prosecute the drunk driver if organs were removed. Sue Smith received Gift of Life's Advocate for Change Award for urging the prosecutor and sheriff to find another way to preserve evidence.

Sue Smith was among a number of recipients on hand to receive Gift of Life awards. The Michigan nonprofit organ and tissue recovery organization has served as a liaison between donor hospitals and recipient transplant centers since 1971.

"It's important that we have leaders in our state who have the passion and commitment to improve the donation and transplantation system ultimately saving more lives," said Tammie Havermahl, public education director for Gift of Life



Dr. Randy Janczyk (right) receives a Professional Service Award from Richard Pietroski, Gift of Life Michigan Associate Executive Director. Janczyk is a trauma surgeon who has worked to make William Beaumont the state's second leading hospital for procurement of organ donations.

Dr. Wisdom

himself. Janczyk, a Beverly Hills resident, has worked to make organ donation a routine process there. The Beaumont transplant center in Royal Oak has procured more lungs per donor transplanted than any other donor hospital in Michigan even though the facility does not perform lung transplants.

Beaumont was one of five Michigan hospitals that comprised 54 percent of organ donations in a 12-month consecutive period. It is one of eight hospitals in Michigan to achieve an 80-percent conversion rate or better and receive a Gift of Life award. Foote Memorial in Jackson and St. John Macomb Hospital converts 100 percent of potential donors to actual donors. Spectrum Health Butterworth in Grand Rapids can take pride in a 93 percent conversion rate, Mt. Clemens General Hospital an 89 percent rate, Bronson Methodist Hospital in Kalamazoo 88 percent, and Children's Hospital of Michigan in Detroit 82 percent. Beaumont ranked fifth with an 80 percent conversion rate as

did Borgess Medical Center in Kalamazoo. **Professional Service Awards**

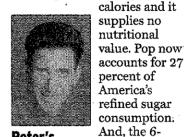
went to Mary Juriga, a registered nurse at Mercy Hospital in Cadillac for championing new organ donor policies, and Scott Thomas and Anne Quinn, respiratory therapists at Spectrum Health for establishing a successful policy for organ donation after cardiac death.

In addition to Janczyk other Community Service Award recipients included U.S. Rep. Dave Camp for introducing H.R. 2051 to remove a restriction which provides only 36-months of immunosuppresive drug coverage for transplant patients, and Paul Charette, Michigan Department of State Office of Government Affairs Research Manager for implementing laws to link Secretary of State offices and drivers licenses to the Michigan Organ Donor Registry. Michigan's Surgeon General Dr. Kimberlydawn Wisdom received a Community Service Award for encouraging all state employees to sign the organ and tissue donor registry. I received a Community Service Award as well for writing articles about organ transplants and donors. It was a very humbling experience as I can't count myself among the heroes who are saving lives every day. I only tell their stories. To contact Linda Chomin, call (734) 953-2145 or send e-mail to

Moderation is key with soda pop

Stephanie from Harper Woods has been a heavy pop drinker her whole life and e-mails asking how much is too much.

Michelle, pop is delicious but the fact is, it's just another junk food. Pop is usually high in



Peter's **Principles**

Peter Nielsen

As obesity rates have skyrocketed, so has the consumption of soda. A 12ounce cola contains approximately 150 calories. If you take in around 2,000 calories per day, and add one soda per day, you'll probably gain up to 15 pounds in just one year! Remember,

moderation is always the key!

Samantha from Lansing e-mails asking for information on whether high heels can cause any long term damage.

C7

(*)

Samantha, you'll see that the proof is in the pump! Three years ago, we first learned that wearing high heel stiletto-style pumps could lead to the development of osteoarthritis. Now, a follow-up report says that wide heeled pumps can cause as much, or even more, damage than their high heeled counterparts. Researchers asked 20 women to walk with various types of heels ranging from stilettos to 3 inch wide and 3 inch tall, and then barefoot. Wearing narrow high heels put 22 percent more pressure on the knees than walking barefoot. But, walking in wide heels added 26 percent more pressure! Many women choose wide heals over narrow. But actually, they're twice as likely to get arthritis in their knees. The reason: researchers find they wear them longer because they're more comfortable!

If you have a health or fitness question you would like answered in the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, e-mail Peter at www.peternielsen.com.

Arthritis Today

ounce bottles

of the 1950s

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JOSEPH J. WEISS, M.D. RHEUMATOLOGY 18829 Farmington Road Livonia, Michigan 48152 Phone: (248) 478-7860



MONITORING

Medical car includes more then diagnosis and treatment. Monitoring plays an mportant part of ongoing care. In caring for your arthritis, the most important aspect of monitoring is a continual check on the side effects of your medication. If a medicine is any good, it also can be somewhat bad. In the medications used to treat arthritis, their side effects are most likely to occur in the bone marrow, liver and kidneys. To exercise proper oversight, your physician

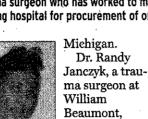
schedules you on a periodic basis, usually once a month, for laboratory tests. The purpose of this testing is to reveal changes in your blood count, kidney, or iver function that could be related to your arthritis medication. Other medications require different oversight. For example, a class of medications called the TNf inhibitors are excellent in the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis, psoriatic arthritis, and ankylosing spondylitis. However, a side effect of

these inhibitors is that they can activate latent tuberculosis. Therefore, before you start a TNF inhibitor, you need a tuberculin test. if that test is positive, you require treatment for tuberculosis before you can start on the arthritis medication. Furthermore, you should repeat the tuberculin test annually for as long as you continue the TNF inhibitor

If you are taking arthritis medication, monitoring those drugs is important, though it may seem tedious, keep the schedule your doctor orders.

www.drjjweiss.yourmd.com





accepted two awards on behalf of the hospital and

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, November 19, 2006

HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Big production

Bloomfield Hills woman keeps floats, balloons, marchers in line for 80th parade

BY SHARON DARGAY COMMUNITY LIFE EDITOR

C8(*)

Eat healthful foods. Take your vitamins. Wash your hands. If that sounds more like motherly advice than a CEO's directive, consider what Joan LeMahieu's facing this week.

As president of The Parade Company, she heads a staff of 13 paid employees and several hundred volunteers who are expected to please hundreds of thousands of their "customers" this week by producing a firstrate, perfectly staged Thanksgiving Day parade with floats, balloons, celebrity guests, clowns and marchers.

With artists still slathering paint on new floats and costumers busy stitching flashy fabrics, it's no time to get sick.

"I'm serious about it," says LeMahieu, quickly making a peanut butter and jelly sandwich for lunch in The Parade Company kitchen. She's so serious that she made a sign and posted it encouraging staff to stay healthy.

"I wipe down the counter every day and all the (cabinet) handles," she noted, producing a container of disinfectant wipes. Another staffer is charged with disinfecting keyboards and individuals are encouraged to clean their cell phones and wash their hands. Everyone's invited to share in the kitchen's stock of fresh apples, vitamins and healthful snacks.

Sniffles or not, the show must go on. And at 9:20 a.m. on Thursday, Nov. 23, the 80th America's Thanksgiving Parade, will travel along Woodward in downtown Detroit to the delight of thousands watching in person and on television.

LeMahieu, 51, will be right there with it, directing the action, making on-the-spot decisions and encouraging volunteers.

"It's kind of like being the conductor of the orchestra, making sure all the people are coming in at the right time, playing at the right pitch, you know, all of that," she says, settling into her desk near the size 58 EEE shoe, a parade for Clifford the Big Red Dog's traveling show.

"We can do so much more of that. It's just that we're a hidden gem. We really haven't put together a business plan to get out and be as entrepreneurial as we could be. We're taking our time. Our main focus its to provide world class family events for Detroit and the surrounding area. We can't lose our focus, but we can do it in our spare time."

LeMahieu, who is married to Tom, a consultant in geographic information systems, and has an 18-year-old son, acquired her business knowhow on the job but formed a work ethic early in life, while working on the family farm.

"I'm first generation. My parents were both born and raised in Holland and we were a true immigrant family. We didn't have a lot," she said. "When there was a day off, like Thanksgiving, we worked in the yard or worked on the farm. We might have a special meal – but not necessarily turkey – or an aunt and uncle come over, but we didn't really celebrate Thanksgiving as such."



Joan LeMahieu of Bloomfield Hills has done a little of everything – from donning a "big head" to sculpting foam to piloting a float – during her two years directing America's Thanksgiving Parade in downtown Detroit. Some of the older heads, like the one she's standing near, are damaged and kept in storage.

BUSINESS CAREER

She was the first member of her family in North America to graduate from college. She taught fourth grade for a year, realized it wasn't for her ("T'm too impatient") and took on a job at a temp agency in California where she was living as a newlywed.

"I was working in the marketing and sales area, so I really got a good overview. But I got bored with it, so I looked around the company and the human resources department needed someone to manage their benefits program and affirmative action training. They knew I was a self-starter and had a lot of get up and go, so they promised to train me." And because she grew up in

an immigrant family, LeMahieu was sensitive to issues of fairness and equality. She worked in human resources in the private sector and then in a municipality, where she eventually applied for a position managing its community center and two performing arts theaters.

She took vacation time to research public facility management, job shadowed in a hotel and convention center and asked a lot of questions.

"It was totally amazing that the people I called out of the blue took the time to spend 20-30 minutes on the phone to talk to me," she said, adding that she also rarely turns down inquiries.

"I do spend time with young people and people in job transition."

After managing public facilities in California, she opened the Frank Lloyd Wright design center in Madison, Wis., and consulted with the Green Bay Packers and the Detroit Lions before landing the position full time at Ford Field.

She sees similarities between parade and big venue management, big crowds and celebrities being two facets they share.

But at Ford Field, she never had to don layers of clothing, leave for work at 4:15 a.m., and spend hours outdoors.

Does she mind working on a major holiday?

"I'm a bit of a workaholic," she admits. "We don't have a big family tradition where I feel like I'm missing out on something."



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prop, that rests on a shelf overhead.

Instead of a conductor's baton, LeMahieu relies on a fistful of colored marking pens – for the creative side of her work – and a calculator for business matters. Her job, managing the company that produces both the parade and the Freedom Festival Fifeworks in June, is a bit of both.

BEING CREATIVE

In addition to planning and managing the "creative side" of the parade, she also has dabbled in float creation and float driving, balloon handling, painting, foam sculpting, and even some of the more mundane tasks such as stuffing envelopes, since taking charge of the annual Detroit-area tradition as interim president in 2004, after being laid off as manager of Ford Field. She dropped the interim from her title in 2005 and began looking for ways to maintain the cherished Thanksgiving Day tradition in an economicallychallenged environment. The Parade Company is a nonprofit entity that depends on corporate and individual donations.

* "For the first time ever this year we're becoming a little more entrepreneurial in what we do," she said. "One of the things we're doing for the first time ever is we're building floats for other parades."

The Parade Company's design studio artists created a float for the Indianapolis 500 parade last May. Another one led Chicago's Light Procession this week.

The organization sold commemorative pins for the first time last year, will sell cozy winter hats made in its costume shop this year, and rents some of its 3,000 costumes, as well as its papier mache "big heads." It also rents portions of its warehousing facility – a couple celebrated their wedding reception just yards from parked floats recently – and has made and repaired props

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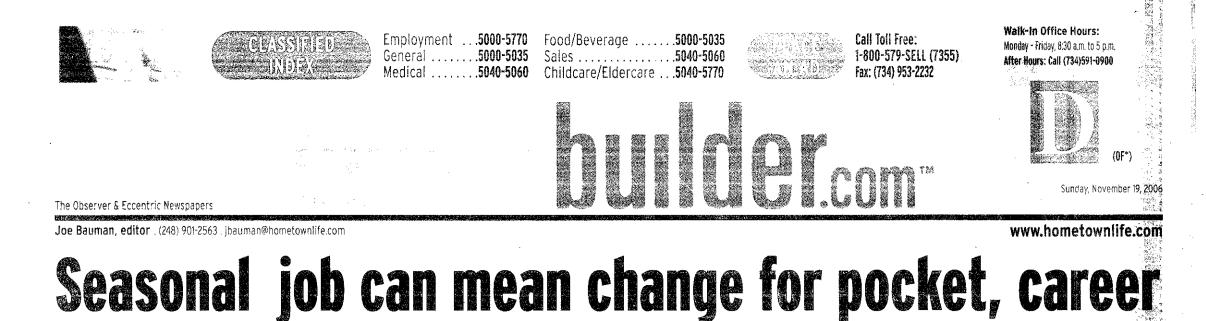


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BY JULIE BROWN STAFE WRITER

* Looking to boost your resume and make some money for holiday gifts? A holiday job

may be just what you're after. Retailers often hire extra staffers around the holiday season to cope with increased business. Those workers can enjoy income earned and in many cases discounts on purchases.

"About 35 percent of the whole year is in November and December," said Larry Bird, owner of Gabriala's in Plymouth, which sells home accessories and related items. "It's very difficult to operate without additional help."

He hires additional staffers each holiday season for his store on Main in downtown Plymouth. Some will then leave after the holidays, while others stay.

"So it gives you the opportunity to bring on new people," Bird said. He also asks those already on staff at Gabriala's to pick up more hours during the holidays, and staffers like the extra income.

"We have a nice environment to work in," he said of the store, adding that employees like to decorate and make it look nice.

Saks Fifth Avenue at the Somerset Collection in Troy is also taking on extra staffers to cope with the holiday rush. Hiring's been under way in recent weeks, said Jessica Quinlan, senior human resources assistant.

"We're hiring some seasonal employees," Quinlan said. Those staffers will work through the end of December. "We always are looking for cosmetics help." Saks hires people to work in general sales. An outgoing personality is needed, Quinlan said, as are attention to detail, initiative and passion. "Pretty much we do look for people who have retail experience."

At Grand Rapids-based Meijer stores, there's less hiring done for the holidays, according to spokeswoman Stacie Behler. "Our stores are staffed so we can meet our customers' needs," she said. "We've got great folks on our teams already. We're always looking for great team members."

Some Meijer stores do add holiday staff, she said, but there's not a big push. Current employees pick up extra hours. "We have a pretty good handle on the needs we have."

For those who'd like to work at Meijer, the primary requirement "is really focused on what our No. 1 thing is in our stores and that's to provide customer service." Staffers need to be service-oriented. Behler said, whether they're working the deli counter, stocking shelves in the grocery or holding another job.

"Ultimately, we're all focused on providing great service to the customer," she said. Meijer hires a number of local high school students, she added.

Business does pick up at Meijer this time of year, notably on the day after

Thanksgiving, the traditional kick-off to the holiday shopping season. Behler noted shoppers can find gifts and grocery items alike at the stores.

"Christmas is a wonderful time for Meijer because we get to help our customers out during the hectic holiday season," Behler added.





DŽ www.hometownlife.com (*) Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, November 19, 2006 careerbuilder.com 5000 Help Wanted-General Help Wanted-General (5000) Help Wanted-General 5000 Help Wanted-General Help Wanted-General (5000) Help Wanted-General 5000 Observer & Eccentric Driver APPOINTMENT SETTER HVAC Banking Caregiver **ADMINISTRATOR** Classified ideal for anyone who can Marketing/Outside Sales Answer the call. not get out to work. Work A downtown CPA is seeking a Firm Administrator. This is a challenging opportunity to work with Livonia. (734) 525-1930 part-time from your home If you've got the drive, we've got the scheduling pick-ups for Purple Heart. Call 9-5, Mon-Fri. (734) 728-4572 HVAC & R opportunity highly motivated & compe-tent teams. Discernment for confidentiality, tact, & diptomacy are crucial. Maintenance & Service needs friendly, upbeat, SEASONAL ASSEMBLY/SERVICE TECH Livenia Manufacturer Commercial/Industrial service-oriented SCHOOLCRAFT DRIVERS individuals to work PART-TIME. 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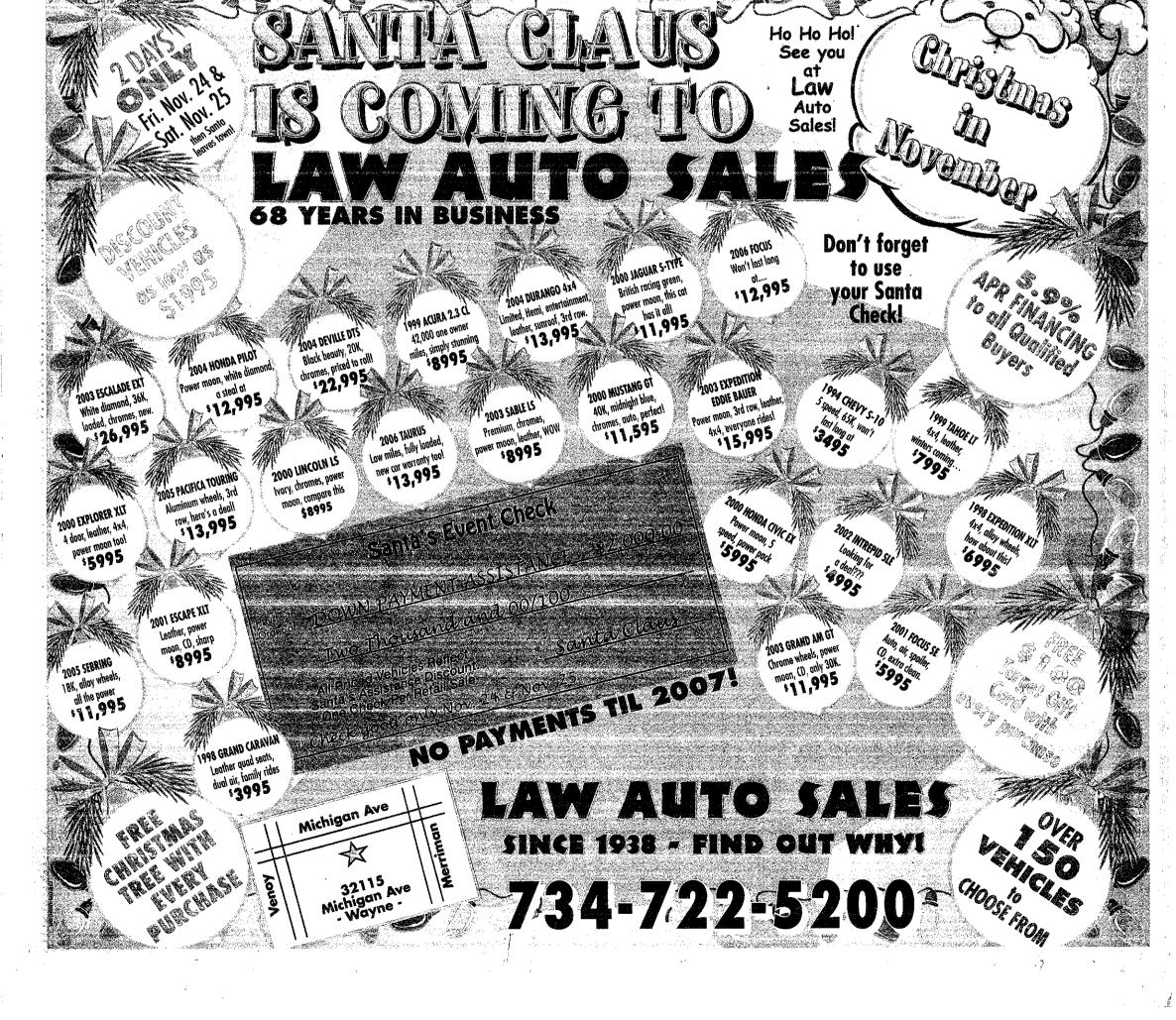
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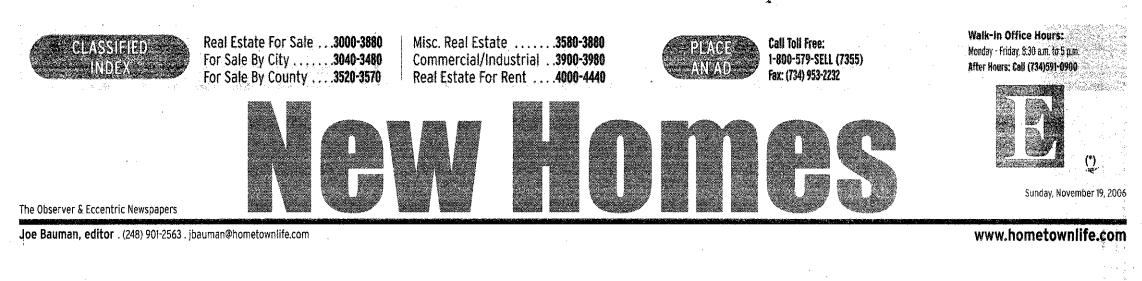
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Western Oakland continues to attract new housing

BY JOE BAUMAN STAFF WRITER

Hardly a day goes by that another story comes out about Michigan's sagging economy, and the strain it is putting on the local real estate market.

Foreclosures are at an all time high; market values are decreasing across the region, and some builders are resorting to public auctions to shed surplus inventories.

Despite the general doom and gloom, there are pockets of success, certain areas continue to be "hot" and new developments continue to hit the market.

Western Oakland County continues to attract new housing developments. And two local companies have joined forces to develop a 140-unit condominium complex and 180 single-family homes in Lyon Township.

Woodwind Glen Condominiums is being built in two phases by Curtis Building Company and A&M Custom Built Homes.

Located on the north side of 10 Mile Road between Chubb and Milford roads near the Novi border, the development will encompass 41 buildings featuring two, three and four-bedroom units. Prices range from just under \$250,000 to just under \$360,000 for a four-bedroom unit.

All of the condominiums include full basements, two-car attached garages, up to two and a half baths and G.E. appliances. Total living space ranges from 1,700 to 2,700 square feet.

Curtis Building Company was founded in 1945 and is led by Allen and Melvin Menuck. A&M Custom Built Homes is headed by partners Angelo and Mark Evangelista. The two companies combined have built more than 5,000 homes in southeast Michigan.

Other Curtis and A&M joint venture communities are located in Livonia, Plymouth, Northville, Novi, Farmington Hills, West Bloomfield, Canton, Lake Orion and Rochester

For more information about the Woodward Glen development, contact the company at (248) 486-7000.



Located on 10 Mile Road in Lyon Township, Woodwind Glen Condominiums is a joint venture by Curtis Building Company and A&M Custom Built Homes.





NEW HOMES

E3

(*)

Empty nesters should flock to this new home

For a young family planning to build their first home, or empty nesters wanting to downsize current living accommodations, the 1,605 square foot Martha (337-011) deserves a good look. This floor design delivers more for your building dollar than many comparable sized plans on the market.

An attractive wood siding exterior, trimmed in brick and topped by wood shakes, is pleasing to the eye. A generous front porch with waist high railing and front facing garage give an added symmetry to the Martha.

The entry leads directly into the vaulted family room. This room is the hub of the Martha and large enough to entertain friends and family in comfort. Appealing plant shelves are available over the stairs leading to an optional basement.

To the left of the entry is a unique hearth room. Built with either hardwood or tile flooring, and featuring a cozy fireplace, this room is the perfect spot for quiet conversations or rainy day reading.

The two secondary bedrooms are both well proportioned and are divided by a full bathroom. One of these, if not in use, could be converted to a home office,

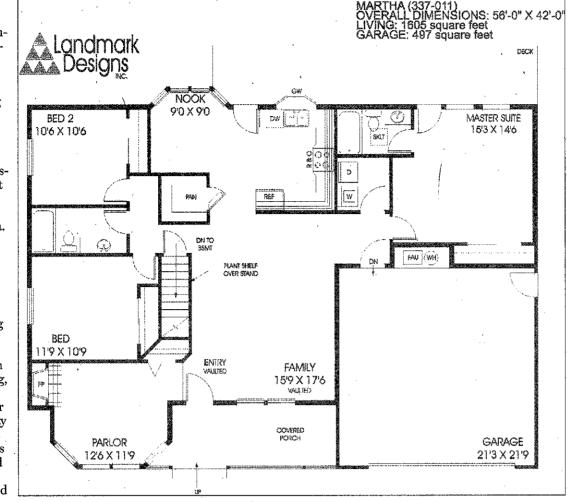
music or sewing room. Each has ample closet space and a window.

The master bedroom is quite impressive for a home this size. Amenities include a large closet with mirrored doors, personal access to the large back deck and a private skylit bathroom.

The bright kitchen area, in addition to all the built-in appliances, has a nice walk-in pantry, Garden window and roomy breakfast nook. There is also a door to the back deck, where the whole gang can enjoy sunny summer barbecues.

A handy utility room is conveniently located near the inside access to the garage.

For a study plan of the MARTHA (337-011), send \$15.00, to Landmark Designs, 33127 Saginaw Rd. E., Cottage Grove, OR 97424 or call 1-800-562-1151. Be sure to specify plan name and number. Compact disks, with search functions are free of charge, to help you search our portfolio for you dream home (\$5.00 shipping and handling will apoly). Or you may order or search online at www.ldiplans.com.







"It's the best time to invest in Michigan?"

In the 75 years since my grandfather founded our company, there has rarely been a better combination of low interest rates and a larger inventory of homes, making this year the best time to purchase your home. — Dan Elsea, President, Brokerage Services



Ο 1.



LIVONIA - Excellent location in popular sub. Colonial w/1829 sq ft, 4/5 beds, 1 1/2 baths and treed private backyard. Lrg deck, covered porch, fireplace, fin basement. Newer furnace, roof, kitchen and bath. N off Schoolcraft to Brookfield to E, on Scone, Call Michael Price.

\$ 209,900 S32486 734-216-9920

LIVONIA - Well Maintained 3 bedroom, 2

bath ranch located in Green Brier Estates

Sub. .5 acre lot with mature trees. Home

also has a Florida Room and a 2.5 car

- JUST

INSTANTLY APPEALING 1 One-half acre

of beautifully designed landscaping invites

you inside this great updated Cape Cod.

Hardwood floors thruout the main floor.

denotes

virtual tour

Call Carol Hussey.

M16810

313-820-9711

REDUCED!!!

\$3,000 toward

\$279,900

garage. Call Larry Hatfield.

\$229,500

PLYMOUTH

closing costs.

Finished 3 basement.

\$305,000 26181946



hardwood floors, new bath in basement. This is a must see. Call Kevin Tindell

734-673-3624 \$134.900 17414



LIVONIA - Great Open Floor Plan w/ cathedral ceilings in the GR and MSTR STE. Lots of windows, private back yard. Basement plumbed for bath. Library/office with bay windows & French doors. Call Jim Donohoe

L10218

313-570-5511



PLYMOUTH- BUYER CLOSING CREDITS UP TO \$15,000! All Brick Ranch w/maple kitchen, new carpets and full walkout lower level. For Sale or Lease w/Option! Call Kay Merx Appointment Only.

\$188,500 2606481





CANTON STUNNING CONDO Contemporary Ranch w/cathedral ceilings and skylights. 1722 sq. ft. formal dining rm, great rm and den. All appliances included. Association Dues paid through Call Carol Hussev '06.

\$186,900 26156107 734/751-9563



SALEM TWP. - VIEWS RULE - AND THEY CAN BE YOURS! Over 5,000 sq. ft. of custom elegance, embraced by 10 picturesque acres. All wildlife nourished by scenic fresh pond. Acreage may be split into two 5 acre parcels



Marble sills. Call Joan Landry.



Plymouth. New construction, 2 or 3 BR

condo w/2 car att gar, 2.5 Bas, Irg deck for

leisure living, for as little as \$219,900. Call

734-591-9200

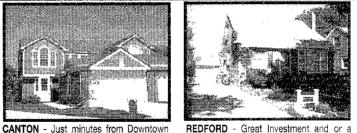
for weekly specials.

\$219,000 ColmbSq



BR, 2BA, Ranch, w/open floor plan. New whirlpool appl., jetted tub in main bath. Fin basement w/wet bar. Newer furn. C/A. HWH, HDWD FLRS. custom wind treats.

\$150,000 H6805



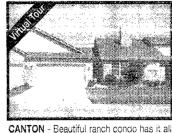
REDFORD - Great Investment and or a Great starter home for a young family. 3 or 4 bedroom, part finished basement, C/A, new fur w/air cleaner, freshly painted with pleasing color. Call Larry Hatfield

130,900 S10019 313-820-9711



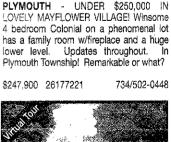
LIVONIA - PRIVATE DEAD END/COURT LOCATION IN LIVONIA! Sprawline 3 bedroom/1.5 bath Ranch with tons of updates. Light, bright and airy w/lots of windows. 2.5 car finished garage, full finished basement

\$242,000 26180756 313/475-1350



decorated in neutral colors, spacious open floor plan with cathedral celling. Door wall to deck w/view of pond & fountain. Updated kitchen with large pantry. Cal Mike Judge

\$212,000 C327 734-591-9200 Ext. 155



WESTLAND - This home is in Excellent

condition! Home offers e/i kit, w/exit to

back & 10'x 20' covered patio. Newer

furnace, carpet, roof, & doorway. Ext offers fenced yard, 2.5 car gar w/ opener, sprinkler sys. Appl. incl. Call Larry Hatfield.

313-820-971

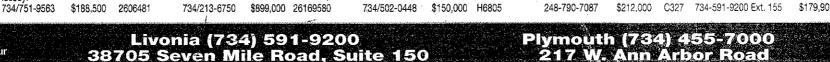
\$159,500 C8141



LIVONIA - Brick Ranch, 3 BD RM, 2 Bath finished Basement, completely updated: Kitchen, new roof, windows, furnace, A/C, carpet & freshly painted - 2 car detached garage, landscaped & fenced yard. Call Mike Judge

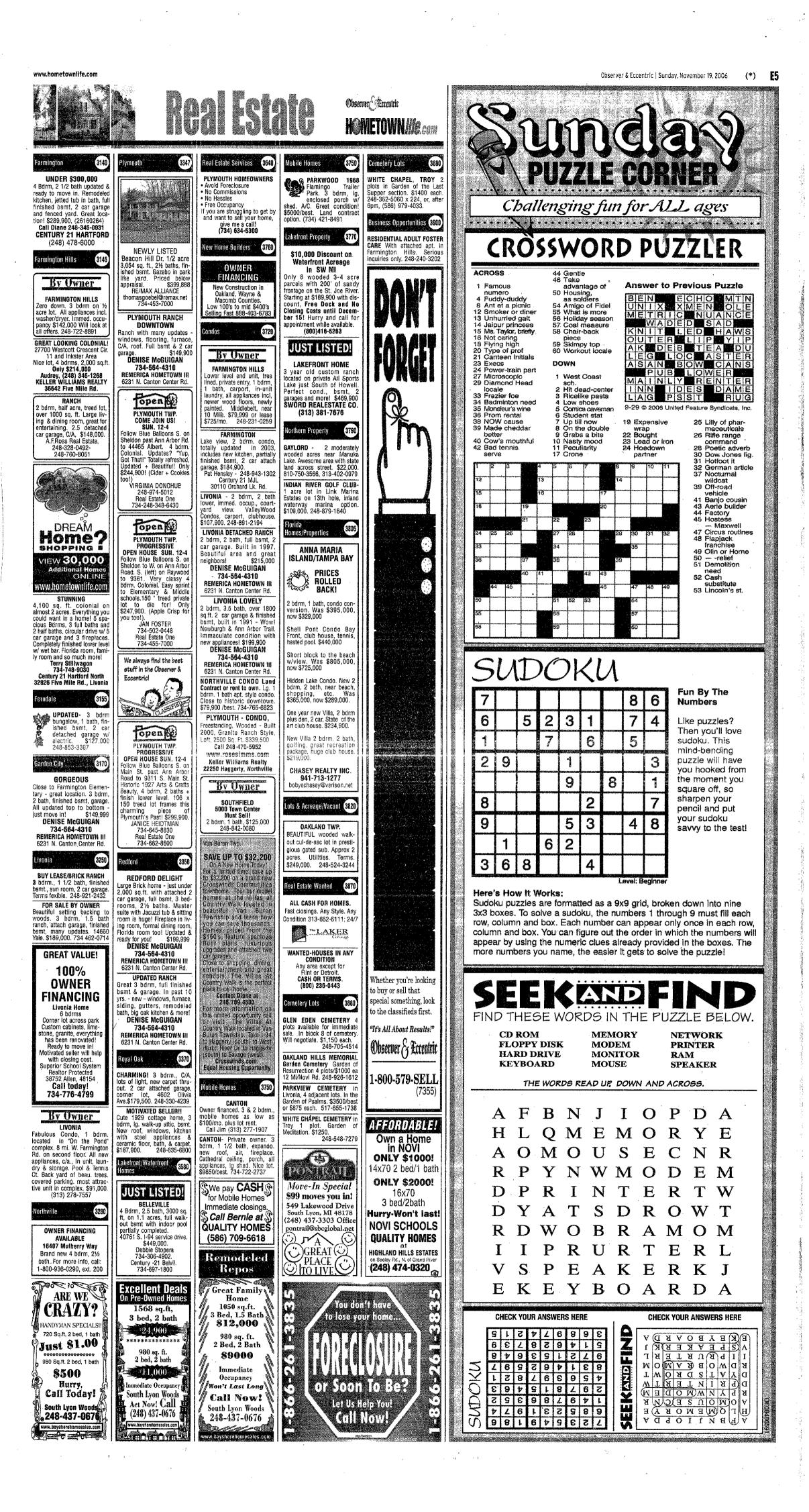
\$179,900 |19642 734-591-9200 Ext. 155

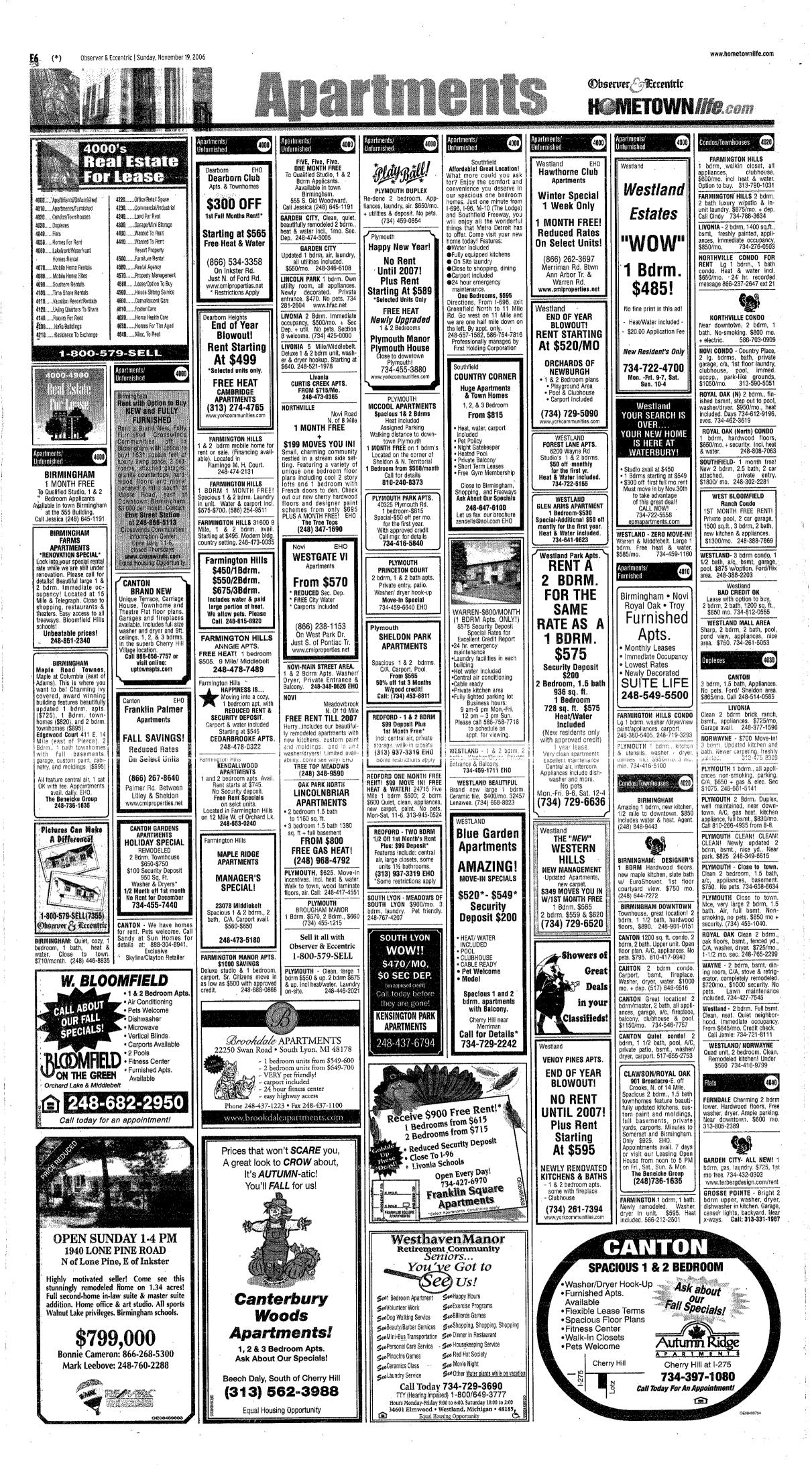
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Flats

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, November 19, 2006 (*) E7.. nartments Observer & Eccentric HOMETOWN/ife.com Office/Retail Space For 4220 4050 4050 4050 4050 Mobile Home Rentals 4070 (4140) 4040 Homes For Rent Homes For Rent (4050) Homes For Rent Homes For Rent **Rooms For Rent** Homes For Rent Rent/Lease PLYMOUTH- Country ranch. 3 bdrm, 2.5. bath. With out-buildings, \$1350; house only, \$1150. 734-516-1000 FARMINGTON HILLS The FARMINGTON HILLS FARMINGTON HILLS **REDFORD** Ample parking LIVONIA Fully furnished CANTON Owner financing, WEST BLOOMFIELD 4 bdrm. Furnished room, mini kitchen. Male. No smoking. Legends Halsted/14 mile 3.5 bath, family rm. w/fire-place, eat-in kitchen, 2 car, sec. sys., invisible fence, ½ acre. Dog under 15 lbs ok. 1 1 & 2 Bedroom. \$70/wk. & up. Appliances. No pets. Deposit req. (248) 473-5535 bdrm lower w/fireplace, flat //high traffic visibility directly rent to own, low down, easy terms, problem credit ok. Must see! \$1195 w/50% rent on 5 Mile. 1100 sq. ft space. Recently remodeled. \$700/mo ROCHESTER HILLS 2 bdrm, 3.5 bath,granite, \$2400 D&HProperties-248-888-9133 screen TV all utilities & cable \$65/wk 248-478-9047 \$895/mo. 313-538-2819 bdrm. house. 2689 Hickory util. 313-541-7770 credit! 734-667-1906 FERNDALE 1000 sq. ft. 3 REDFORD 1500 sq. ft., lg, liv-NORTHVILLE Pivmouth Duplex. Near Hines Lawn, No pets, \$750/mo yr. lease. Long term ok. N. of Maple/W. of Middlebelt. 2 bdrm. 1 bath, upper flat in downtown Northville, updated odrm, 1 bath, fenced yd. 4100 ing room, extra storage house privileges. \$100/wk Time Share Rentals CANTON - We have homes Updated 2 bdrm, 1.5 **REDFORD TWP.** 248-852-1113 after 5pm. Maple/W. of Middlebelt. \$2300/month 248-939-2559 kitchen appliances. Clean & for rent. Pets welcome. Call bath, bsmt, large vard, no pets updated. \$750 248-698-4070 incl. utilities and satellite Office Suites t/o, neutral decor, bsmt \$750. Agent, 734-718-6779 **OBLANDO FL CONDO** Sandy at Sun Homes for cable, 313-820-0964 garage, ali appliances. \$800 mo. \$1200 sec. deposit 400 sq. ft. -1670 sq. ft. Beautifully redecorated. WEST BLOOMFIELD. details at: 888-304-8941 FERNDALE Newer 3 bdrm REDFORD 2 bdrm, 1 bath Feb. 24-Mar. 3, 2007 Birmingham Schools. 3 bdrm, 2 full baths, Walnut Lk. access, Exclusive 1.5 bath, big kitchen, c/a, ail HILTON HEAD SC CONDO bsmt. All appliances incl. washer/dryer. \$800/month References: 734-591-6432 Great Rates including utilities. CERTIFIED REALTY INC. Credit check & references Skyline/Clayton Retailer SUNRISE STUDIOS appliances, fenced yard \$995/mo. 248-340-9755 ROYAL OAK 1203 WYAN-319 Randolph. Call Tina at 734-416-8736 Feb 17-24, Both 2 bdrm, 2 \$1690. addedvaluerealty.com \$25 OFF DOTTE AVE., 3 bdrm, 1000 CLAWSON 2 bdrm, 1 bath, Agent, 248-787-7325 bath, Sleeps 6, 7 nights, \$700. sq. ft. Large fenced vard. All GARDEN CITY, Sharp 3 bdrm (248) 471-7100 hardwood floors, appliances, 2 car garage. \$850/mo. With This Ad Make offer! (248) 348-6352 PLYMOUTH 289 E PEARL ST appliances, yard service, WESTLAND - 2 bdrm, bsmt, brick ranch. Finished bsmt 3 bdrm lower. Freshly painted \$760 mo. 1 yr. lease. No pets Brand NEW A/C Rooms mediate occupancy. all appliances, A/C, new car-pet, pets neg. \$750+/mo. Section 8 OK. 734-397-8187 snow removal included. WEST BLOOMFIELD 248-435-0216 TV/Phone / HBO/CABLE \$1200 mo. (248) 544-9134 4110 Therapy Space 3 extraordinary psychologist/ psychiatrist suite w/3 lg private offices. Sound conditioned, windows, in & out entrance, to buy. \$850, 248-788-1823 Credit check. (734) 453-4679 Resort/Rentals LOW RATES DEARBORN HEIGHTS-3 bdrm, INKSTEB 3 bdrm ranch, 2 car ROYAL OAK 1500 Sq. Ft. ROYAL OAK SPACIOUS 2 REDFORD 20449 Woodworth. 734-427-1300 1.5 bath, finished bsmt, 3 car garage. Crestwood Schools. garage, bsmt \$650; 3 bdrm ranch, bsmt, \$500. Option FLORIDA: FT. MYERS/ SANI-Colonial with part finished basement & 2 ½ car garage! Avail. January 1st \$1,595 per WESTLAND - 3 bdrm. Appli-Livonia bdrm upper flat, \$675 plus 3 bdrm, air, full bsmt. Pets BEL Waterview, 2 bdrm, 2.5 bath, gated. (313) 885-2525 ances, deck, fenced yard, C/A. Ford & Wayne Rds. \$925/mo. utilities. Immed. occupancy Call (248) 203-9860 No pets, \$975/mo., 1 mo. sec neg. \$975/mo. w/option. **TRIPLE A DELUXE MOTEL** avail. on both. 248-788-1823 parking at the door & exterior signage. 248-932-8480 Call: 248-347-6623 dep mo. Carlo @ 248-821-1894 visit www.palmasdelsol.com 734-461-3155 No Section 8. 248-346-6108 LIVONIA 10945 Laurel 2 bdrm A/C, Jacuzzi in rooms, maid service, HBO. Low daily/wkly DEARBORN Bent to Own, 3 ranch, 2.5 garage, all appli ances. Pets ok. \$950 + sec. FT MEYERS BEACH, FL REDFORD ROYAL OAK 3 bdrm, 1.5 bath. 4050 WESTLAND rates. commercial/Industrial Homes For Rent bdrm. bungalow, bsmt., gar-3 bdrm bungalow on Fenton, N. of West Chicago. \$725/mo. + utlities. 734-558-8010 Bsmt, garage. Washer, dryen included. \$1100 mo. 248 Condo. 2 bdrm, 2 bath, min-4230 3 bedroom duplex Must see! \$650 248-890-4439 734-427-1300 Sunrise Inn age. Cute house, nice area 313-779-8506 utes from water. Avail March For Rent/Lease 313-535-4100 248-544-1575 Tel-96 inn BERKLEY, 11/Woodward, 4 bdrm., 2 full baths, hardwood great starter. 248-921-2432. \$800/wk. 519-966-8385 470-1166 or (248) 889-5090 LIVONIA 3 bdrm 1 bath 1/2 Royal Inn AUTO REPAIR FACILITY- 2800 acre, lease option to buy. NAPLES FLORIDA CONDO-Fairlane 248-347-9999 DETROIT, DEARBORN HTS 3 sq.ft. available for rent near-busy Auto Mall, high traffic. I-96/Newburgh. 248-798-9957 floors, garage, \$950/mo. security. Available Dec. 1. REDFORD **ROYAL OAK-OPEN SUN 1-5P** WESTLAND, 35856 Rolf, 3 Relax Inr 734-595-9990 4 bdrms. Attn: Sec 8 tenants \$150 credit/winter heat. \$300 \$169,900 or \$975/mo. 3 bdrm., double lot w/garage & bsmt. Could be 0 down or rent to own. 734-521-0235 weekly rentals-\$2200. 3 bdrm DOWNTOWN'S BEST LEASE! 248-467-6334 bdrm, extra clean, fenced 2 bath, ocean & pool view Luxury unit. 248-933-6640 Office/Retail Space For 4220 1416 East Fourth St. yard, garage, C/A, dishwasher washer, dryer, \$950 a month. 248-362-4666 off move in fee. 1-800-990 8960, or Phil: 734-444-5758 7 biks E of Main, S/ 11 Mile LIVONIA-1.000-10.000 sq.ft. Rent/Lease 3 bdrm brick bungalow w/ updates. Lawn/snow care incl.! (734) 837-3612 Industrial/ Office, perfect loca-tion, 1-96 corridor, built to suit. **BEDEORD** 3 Bedroom Brick Living Quarters To 4120 **CANTON-RETAIL** Ranch, bsmt., 2 car garage, \$900 mo 19213 Marcarther, 7 DETROIT (Northeast) Small pet(s) okay! \$988/mo. WESTLAND-6148 WILMER. Share Busy Michigan Ave. corridor in Canton. New 5100 sq. ft. building with one tenant. 4.5 acre site has room for anoth-LIVONIA Mike Zalucki, Keller Williams 248-854-5228, 248-288-3500 On-site mgt. (877) 815-0508 Bedrooms, remodeled, big Ford, Newburgh area. 2 bdrm 1 bath. 850 sq.ft. Double **BERKLEY** Beautifui home 3 bdrm, 2 bath. Like new! 3 Mile & Beech. 248-476-6498 **DESIRABLE HOMES** NORTH FARMINGTON HILLS fericed yard. Immediate great condition, great neigh \$350-\$550 monthly GREAT SUB-LEASE OPPORTUNITY car garage. \$1075 mo. 248-Occupancy, \$500/mo., \$700 security, 734-782-3930 fenced in lot. Tenant pays ALI **REDFORD AREA 2 Bedrooms ROYAL OAK-** Remodeled 3 borhood! 2 bdrm, C/A, bsmt Home-Mate.co utilities. Call: 734-522-1512 787-6808, 248-471-5606 bath, laundry facilities, base-ment. No pets. Discounts er 15,000 sq. ft. bullding. \$1,400.000. #2615853 BELA SIPOS bdrm, finished bsmt, new Only \$1/sq. ft./month (Triple Net) approx. 11,300 sq. ft., \$850, Barbara, 248 545-8334 Small fee, 248,644,6845 LIVONIA 3 Bdrm, home on kitchen & bath, a/c, apoli-WESTLAND Attractive 3 bdrm BIRMINGHAM 3 bdrm ranch FARMINGTON 2 Bdrm hard corner lot w/great room & wet bar. Could be 0 down, rent to available \$700, 313-255-7845 ances. \$1150. 248-669-1457 Net approx. 11,300 sq. h., splitable. One story office suite with main street exposure and great parking. Perfect for any professional office. Willing to sacrifice at this low low price! brick ranch, bsmt, updated bath & kitchen, option to buy avail. \$1050, 248-788-1823 wood floors. Laundry hook-ups. \$700. Ref. & deposit reg 734-669-5813/734-747-7888 2 bath, great room, fireplace new hardwood floors. Ful SOUTHFIELD 8 Mile & Inkster **Reinhart Commercial REDFORD** Immediate Oc own. 734-521-0235. Option to buy. 248-348-0066 3 bdrm., 2 bath, upgraded kitchen, Ig. deck. \$910/mo. + bsmt, 2 car garage. Buil 1985. \$1390. 248-252-3863 cupancy. 3 possbile, 4 bdrm brick bungalow, finished basement, 2 car garage, CA. FARMINGTON HILLS LIVONIA - 3 bedroom, 2 car WESTLAND DUPLEX, **Hamilton Business Center** c/a, finished basement, stove FARMINGTON HILLS 1-1/2 sec. dep. 734-845-0809 Norwayne Area, 3 Bdrm. \$675. 2 bdrm., \$575, newly decorated, 248-420-0573. This Won't Last Long. For more info call 313-300-5517 BIRMINGHAM-3 bdrm ranch Executive suites starting at \$350/mo. T-1 internet availalrefrigerator. Pets. Negotiable. \$1000/mo. 734-717-3452, 734-717-7643 Professional roommate want ed. Charming house. Furdouble lot, wood floors newly remodeled. 2 car garage, attached, no pets. SOUTHFIELD 9 Mile/Tele kitchen appliances. \$1200. graph. Lg 3 bdrm, 1 1/2 bath, Ig lot, appliances. Sec 8 ok. ble. Flexible lease terms nished, Exc. location. \$425 **FARMINGTON HILLS** 734-495-9741 248-324-3600 \$1359/mo. 248-643-9079 mo. incl. util., cable, LIVONIA- 7 Mile/Gill, 3 bed-WESTLAND great location! 3 bdrm, 1 car garage, no \$995/mo. 313-532-4121 4300 & cleanings. 813-205-9926 Garage/Mini Storage BIRMINGHAM - 3 bedroom bdrm ranch. hardwood, fin-ished bsmt, 2 car. Appliances. \$1095. 734-276-2783 REDFORD New 3 Bdrm. bun room brick ranch, 2 bath, 1900 hsmt \$900 mg 248-787 **FARMINGTON HILLS** galow, finished bsmt., 1100 sq. ft., all appliances, deck, \$800. 313-537-4477 2 car garage, air conditioned ★SOUTHFIELD/DEARBORN ★ LIVONIA Female to share with finished basement Office Space Avail. 6808. 248-471-5606 HEIGHTS/CLARKSTON and 5 bdrms. \$1600 488 Harmon appliances, 2 car. \$1800/MO same. Full house privileges. \$595 (mo to mo)+ security AUTO AND GENERAL 1or 2 Room suite 313-570-9626 STORAGE LIVONIA N. W., 3 bdrm., 2.5 WESTLAND 1-275 area 3 \$1800/mo. Avail. Immediately. Great Bates in heated, secure, under-ground garage. Birmingham/ Troy. 248-352-9770 incl. utilities. 734 425-9592 bdrm, 1.5 bath, finished bsmt., appliances, C/A. Decorated. No BLOOMFIELD - 6811 White bath, all updated, pets maybe no smoking inside, \$1685 **REDFORD NO BANKS NEED-**CERTIFIED REALTY INC. FARMINGTON HILLS 3 Meadowbrock Realty ED 3 Bdrm. bungalow, bsmt. 2 car garage, \$975/\$3500. LIVONIA- furnished w/utilities. Pine. 4 bdrm. 3 bath \$1995/best Land Contrac 248-561-0077, 248-352-3180 248-471-7100 room -\$350 + sec. Shared aundry. 248-982-3602 or Sec 1.5 mo. 248-755-3125 pets. Exc. area. 734-591-9163 bdrm, Many extras. All appli-SOUTHGATE Sharp 3 bdrm \$20,000 down. 517-351-5993 LIVONIA- Quiet neighborhood near park. 3 bdrm, 1 1/2 bath, 248-921-2432 laundry. ances. 1 yr. lease. \$800/mo. WESTLAND Updated brick 4580 ranch, garage, C/A, immediate 248-310-6652 **FARMINGTON HILLS** Lease/Option To Buy CANTON 3 bdrm, 2 bath ranch, 3 bdrm, 2 bath, bsmt. 2 car, 1575 sq. ft. \$1100/mo. (313) 588-0904 REDFORD- (North) 3 bdrm, occupancy option to buy Retail Space fenced yd., 2 car garage, pool fireplace, Canton Schools finished bsmt w/Jacuzzi/hom bath, family rm., oak floors new kitchen w/appliances available. \$850, 248-788-1823 COMMERCE TWP 3 bdrm, 1 FARMINGTON HILLS 10 Great Exposure office, 2 car garage. FL room D&H Properties 248-737-4002 30650 W. 9 mile. Charming historical 2 bdrm. home with 1 bath. Appliances. Pets wel-1300 - 4480 sq.ft. \$1225/mo. 248-240-6975 A/C, all appliances, freshive bath ranch. Newly painted SUPERIOR TWP. Immed bsmt. \$850/mo. 248 deck. WESTLAND- (Venoy/Paimer), 3 Bdrm. duplex 1 1/2 baths, and 2 bdrm. ranch, fenced, Excellent Rates Close to lake w/privileges. \$895/mo. 248-684-4173 painted water included. Pet Occup.. 4 Bdrm, 2.5 bath, deck, sprinkler system, appli-ances. Built. 2003, just W. of 872-6706 btwn 8am-8pm CANTON 3 bdrm. Beautifu ok. \$1200/mo.313-387-3676 181-14 CERTIFIED REALTY INC. house on 3/4 acres. 2000-sq. ft. Semi-finished bsmt \$775/mo..1-1/2 sec REDFORD, RENT OR LEASE MELVINDALE 2 Bdrm. brick 248-471-7100 248-477-3040, 248-797-8341 - 10 **FARMINGTON HILLS - Rent** N/ option. Adorable, 1350 sq. t., 3 bdrm. 1.5 bath, new Canton. \$1390/md decorated, 313-418-9905 ranch, garage, \$650; 2 bdrm. ranch, \$500. Option on both. \$1100 mo. (734) 306-7781 with option to buy a new (734) 516-2492 NORTHVILLE DOWNTOWN. FARMINGTON HILLS WESTLAND Wayne & Cherry CANTON Avail immed.! 4 bdrm., 2 full bath, new car-Landmare condo. Call for kitchen, garage, \$995/mo. 810-599-3452 **Executive Office Suites** 248-788-1823 Charming 3 bdrm, 2 bath SYLVAN LAKE - 2 bdrm. 1 Hill. Sharp 3 bdrm brick ranch w/bsmt. Fenced yard. Exc.area. \$925/mo + sec. 734-455-7585 details 248-427-1900 Flexible Lease Terms. attached garage, large family room, 1700 sq. ft. \$1300/mo. PLYMOUTH 3 Bdrm. 1 bath bath, park/lake privilages West Bloomfield schools pet/paint, attached garage. \$1350/mo. 734-981-6592 majesticrentals.com 248-347-6811 near downtown, 1 car garage PLYMOUTH fenced yard. Many updates. \$1400mo, 734-812-0565 REDFORD TWP. 1 odrm \$495 Agent, (248) 848-9443 \$750/mo. 248-745-0665 **Plymouth Downtown** Convalescent Care 4600 1600 sc. ft. Boom with 2 bdrms. from \$670 mo., 3 bdrm. from \$845, 4 bdrm., CANTON Mobile Home Rentals 4070 Office space, 525 sq.ft, from \$975, all remodeled, many updates. 313-255-5678

FARMINGTON HILLS Clean 3 Large 3 bdrm, 3 level duplex w/bsmt, A/C, no pets. Ford/Sheldon, \$997/mo. bdrm.garage, fenced. \$775. TODD A. SMITH , RE/MAX Classic 248-449-6263 Call: 734-395-0829 NOW! FARMINGTON HILLS Large 1

CANTON- Newer 4 bdrm Brick Colonial, 2.5 bath, 3 car 3083 sq. ft. \$2500/mo. D&H Properties, 248-888-9133

fireplace.

\$2300/mo.

PLYMOUTH - 3 bdrm, 2 bath bdrm, secluded, completely remodeled, pet-friendly, \$695 / mo. Agent, (248) 767-4207 finished bsmt, appliances, 2 fenced yard, 734-717-5091 car garage, \$1200/mo.

See 🍂

REDFORD Updated 3 bedroom, C/A, washer/dryer. 15871 Winston. \$795/mo. 248-615-9206

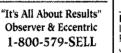
WAYNE- Remodeled 3 bdrm ranch, huge master bdrm, immediate occupancy, option to buy, \$750, 248-788-1823 WAYNE & WESTLAND 3

bdrms. Pets ok. \$900. One w/garage. (734) 612-7708 or (734) 722- 8943

CANTON - We have homes for rent. Pets welcome. Call

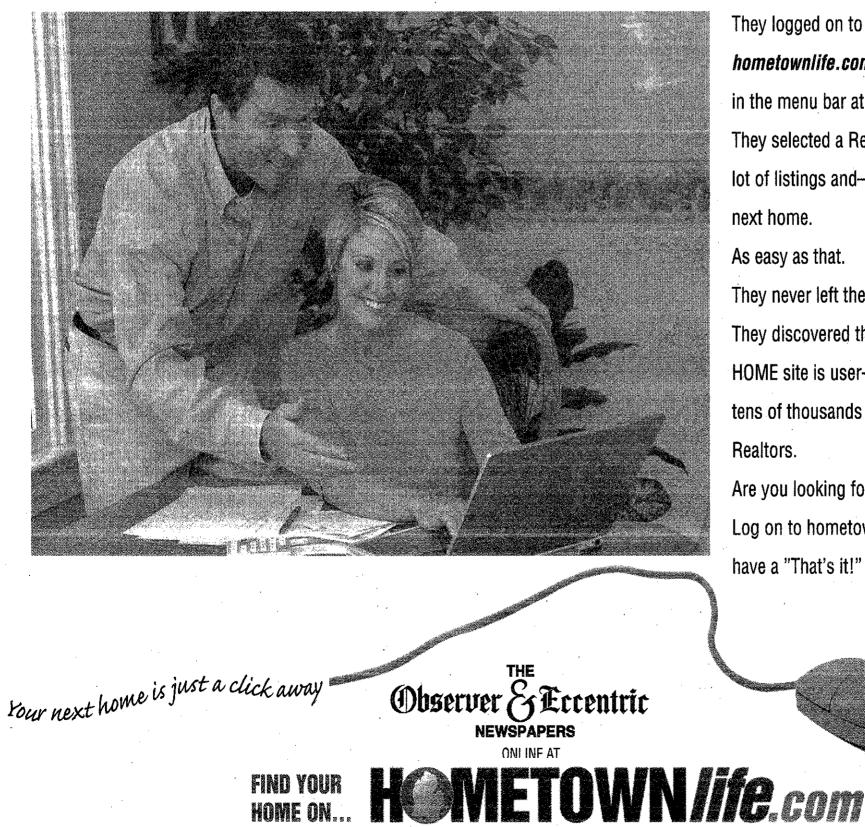
Sandy at Sun Homes for details at: 888-304-8941 Exclusive Skyline/Clayton Retailer

access to house. \$425/mo Call after 6pm 734-262-5500



includes utilities & THINK YOUR LOVED ONE **NEEDS A NURSING HOME?** ample parking. Maybe not. Licensed residen-(734) 455-7373 tial home in Farmington Hills PLYMOUTH Officespace for lease, 800 sq. ft., 45185 Joy offers personal, 24 hr. care far below nursing home rates. Please call 248-476-3798 Rd., \$1000 gross, available Jan. 1st. 734-459-3434 for additional information.

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E8 (*) Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, November 19, 2006 www.hometownlife.com



OE08489903



* Lease payments are plus tax for qualifying A/Z Planners with \$1000 down, \$2200 down for qualifying non-A-Planners. Includes acquisition fee, excludes tax and license fees. All rebates assigned to dealer including assumed lease renewal. Security deposit waived with renewal. 10,500 miles per year. Due at signing: Fusion \$1338, Explorer \$1585, Sport Trac \$1435, Five Hundred \$1372 & Freestyle \$1435, Escape \$1424, Focus \$1304, F150 \$1457, Edge \$1364. +For qualifying A-Planners plus tax, title and destination. Add \$1200 if not A-Plan. Pictures may not represent actual vehicles. Offers end November 30, 2006. Subject to availability. Not all buyers will qualify for lowest payments or APR. Payments per program in effect at publication and are subject to change.

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F2 (*) Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, November 19, 2006

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BROWN SUGAR

Sexy SBF, 49, N/S, likes church, going out, parks, movies, concerts, seeks man, 45-65, for quiet times, and more. 2138528

WAITING FOR YOU SBF, 19, 5'1", full figured, beautiful smile, enjoys comedy and horror films, jokes and enjoying life. Seeking someone with same interest. 27142407 WHY WAIT?

WHY WAIT? Down-to-earth, fun-loving SBF, 38, mom, brown complexion, medium-length hair, 5'4", full-figured, great personality, D/D-free, likes dancing, cooking, relaxing at home watching movies etc. Seeking compatible man to share some fun. 121130211 FIND ME

Attractive SAF, 49, N/S, 5' 3", 110lbs, slim build, seeks WM, 45-56, N/S, for friendship, and more. 2113901

SWF, 45, locks younger, blonde/blue, 117lbs, employed, independent, secure, loves animals, kids, IV/S, social drinker, enjoys listening to music, just having fun. Seeking open-minded, honest, dependable man into the same. **13**(3059)

FORMER MODEL SWF, 50, 5'6'', slender, intelligence, creativi-ty, passion for music and dancing. Seeks partner 38-50, who is attractive and fit, to be the interactive and more MECODIOS share this interests and more. 2600106

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 sin-cere, for LTR. 737950732

ALL OF ME SWF, 50, 5'10", big beautiful woman, 300+ pounds, easygoing, N/S, light drinker, enjoys nights out or in. ISO loving, happy, commit-ment-minded man to share a happy, lasting, loving reliterable **DESCOO** loving relationship. 2956929

GORGEOUS SWF, 39, 5', attractive, average build, dark/biue, Pisces, N/S, outgoing, fun-toving, seeks WM, 35-53, N/S, for LTR, 2112039 ISO CHIVALROUS MAN

SBCF. 35, attractive, plus-sized, Capricorn, single mom, marilage-minded, N/S, seeks man, 40-55, family-oriented, old-fashioned, possible romance. 37112231

MADE TO ORDER MADE TO OHDER SWF, 52, attractive, Pisces, N/S, nice, edu-cated, secure, fun, enjoys sporting events, movies, camping, travel, theater, seeks WM, 45-56, N/S, possible romance. **19**93487

TAKE A CHANCE SWF, 37, likes motorcycles, movies, Star Wars, seeks WM, 34-35, N/S, with similar interests, for friendship, and more. 2114057

LOOKING FOR ME? 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. 12113534

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. 2124235

SEEKING SOMETHING NEW SEEKING SUBJECT FIING VETY Down to earth, attractive SBF, 36, N/S, 5' 7", professional, enjoys movies, dining out, shopping, traveling, seeks WM, 35-55, N/S, for friendship first, possibly more. **2**123659

FRIENDS FIRST WIWF, 69, 5'6", 145lbs, healthy, honest, happy, likes comedy films, country cooking. Looking for outdoorsy, active man affection-ate and warm-hearted, to share the good theore in the 57120210. things in life. 2139719

LOOKING FOR ME? Energetic SBPF, 52, N/S, attractive, educat-ed, sociable, 5'7", 170lbs, enjoys movies. reading, concerts, theater, dining, travel, try-ing new things, ISO intelligent, spontaneous, active gentleman, N/S, to share these. Let's talk 27135617

ARE YOU THE ONE 4 ME? SF, 29, loves family, the outdoors, cooking, people, more. Looking for bright, level-headPOSSIBLE LTR

SWPF, 57, 5'7", attractive, slender, athletic, Scorpio, N/S, enjoys sports, concerts, dining out, seeks WPM, 55-61, N/S, educated, healthy, humorous, possible LTR. 25993381 SEEKING A LADY?

Ready to meet great new people?

SEF Ning A LADT r 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

HOPE TO HEAR FROM YOU Easygoing SWF, 57, CNA, N/S, N/D, enjoys talks, togetherness, day trips, soft rock. ISO loving Christian man, N/S, N/D, w/children ok, to share talks, dates, simple times, then who knows? 2126925

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 activi-ties. If you're seeking your soulmate, why not try me? 2985794

IS IT YOU? Bright SBF, 18, full-figured, confident, inde-pendent, enjoys cooking, shopping, friends. ISO nice, honest respectful guy intelligent, motivated, goal-oriented who likes having fun, sports, good talk. Friendship first. 7913556 **a**135256

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. 2639272

MEN SEEKING WOMEN

GOOD CATCH SM, 36 enjoys shopping, traveling. Seeking someone who likes to have fun for friend-ship and LTR. 2142878

MUSCULAR ATHLETIC SWM, 48, 6'2", 200lbs, brown/blue, in shape, college grad, enjoys working, read-ing, travel, dancing, sports. Seeking outgo-ing SF, with similar interests, for friendship and more. **2**(431926

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. 17269646

SWEET GUY Good-looking SWM, 52, 6'1", 197ibs, college graduate, financially secure, homeowner, bodybuilder, seeks patite SWF; 35-50, sexy, attractive, to enjoy dining out, movies, for serious relationship, maybe marriage. 2255073

FANTASY OR BEALITY? SBM, 50, 5'8'', medium-build, N/S, fun-loving personality, likes dancing, jazz/blues, quali-ty time, traveling. Seeking passionate and sexy SF, 20-50, slim-to-medium build, race open, kids ok, for sharing time and romance. 22946417

HERE I AM

Confident, fun mature, respectful SBM, 32, dark complexion, hardsome, independent, neat, seeking mature, loving SF, 32-35, to share good times and more. \$136424

HANDSOME MALE SBM, 33, 5'8', 165lbs, handsome, inde-pendent. Seeking full figured female with good conversation for friendship possibly LTR. 2143029 HANDSOME MALE

COME OUT WITH ME SM, 6'0", 197lbs, brown complexion, enjoys shopping, going out dancing and having fun. Seeking female companionship who likes same. 27142274

UNUSUAL REQUEST

Nice-looking, extremely busy, Grosse Pt. SWPM, 6'3", 228ibs, N/S, N/Drugs, ISO over 45 also extremely busy SWPF, pretty lady, for great friendship and special times. I know how to treat a lady and practice the golden rule. 20143494

NEW TO AREA

SWM, 36, 6'5", athletic build, dark blond/blue, enjoys sports, outdoors, music, movies, cooking and more. Seeking cre-ative, fun lady with an open mind and heart to share friendship and fun. 🕿 14

WHY NOT CALL?

SWM, 42, 6'4", 225lbs, not about games self-employed, loves the outdoors, camp-ing, fishing, hunting, bowling, walks and more. Seeking spontaneous, outdoorsy SF to share the good times in life. 27135980 WILL IT BE YOU?

Honest, Ioyal DWM, 48, 5'10", 135lbs, blond/blue, sett-employed, enjoys bonfires, sports, quiet nights, cuddling, much more. WLTM a special lady, H/W proportionate, to share the good things in life. 27139870

SERIOUS WOMAN WANTED SEHIOUS WOMAN WANTED SBM, 46, looking for that special persona for LTR, someone who enjoys walks, movies, sporting events, cuddling at home. Please be shapely, independent and know what you want in life. 27692418

WORTH A CALL SWM, 48, 6², 175lbs, N/S, homeowner, hard-working, easygoing, honest, secure, enjoys motorcycking, hunting, the outdoors. Seeking honest, secure, attractive slim/fit woman, 25-50, N/S, D/D-free. 2956910

LOVE COMFORT LAUGHTER SWM, 49, 5'9", 195lbs, is nuts about nature, enjoys the outdoors, fishing, etc. Se patible SWF, to have and hold. 2114846 LOVE COMFORT LAUGHTER

SWM, 49, 5'9", 195lbs, is nuts about nature, enjoys the outdoors, fishing, etc. Seeks com-patible SWF, to have and hold. 1992943

FRIEND AND CONFIDANT SWM, 74, active, educated, financially-secure, seeking a nice woman. Join me for dining, dancing, and classical music. I'm a good listener, and would love to hear from you! 27139382

AMERICAN MADE WM, 45, above-average looking, brown/blue, athletic, honest, good sense of humor, seeks compatible woman, with same interests, age open. 2131277

THE LONG RUN Male, 31, smoker, 6' 3", 200lbs, clean-cut, hazel eyes, seeks smart, intelligent SWF, 21-28, HWP for friendship, and more. \$138369 HARD MAN TO FIND

Fit, affectionate SM, 5'10", 180lbs. Seeking attractive female, 35-55. Enjoys outdoor activities, movies, cooking, camp-ing. Looking for same qualities, and inter-ests, for LTR. 2972650

CALL ME SOMETIME Professional WIWM, 53, 5'10", bald, familyoriented, N/S, enjoys kids, classic cars, out-doors, walks, music, dancing, animals, good food, travel, more. Seeking SF, 40-50, to show these \$12761 share these. 27137501

SOUND LIKE YOU?

SBM, 25, 5'8", 190lbs, dark complexion, long hair, no kids, looking for fun, energetic lady affectionate and real, who knows how to have fun in life. 2122364 WORTH IT

SM, 63, blond, 6', 200lbs, fit, active, fun, enjoys keeping active, the gym, sports, cars, boats, horses, pets. Seeking good-humored, fit, energetic, attractive lady w/spontaneous streak, who enjoys the same. 2135531

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. 2708126

LONELY & READY

SWM, 49, average build, Italian, heart of gold, Virgo, IVS, seeks WF, 45-55, with a nice build, ready for LTR. Serious replies only. Redford Area. **18**60305 LET'S BE FREE TOGETHER

LET'S BE FREE LOGETREN 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 LTP. **1**2669189 THAT'S ALL

SWM. 36, tall, thin, Scorpio, N/S, seeks WF, 60-68, N/S, old-fashioned, slim, fit, humorous, possible romance. 2116761

CUT TO THE CHASE SBCM, 51, 6'3", 250lbs, N/S, enjoys plays, concerts, country drives. ISO SWF, for friendship and much, much more. Age open. 2 121414

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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

LET'S TALK SOMETIME

SWF, 38, mother, enjoys Harleys, rock-n-roll, good talks, classic cars, sports, amusement parks, casinos, meeting new people. Seeking outgoing, sweet, fur man w/spontaneous streak to share new adventures with. 2962910 CHRISTIAN LOVER

SW, 48, Christian enjoys traveling, movies and dining out. Seeking a N/D, N/S, independent, outgoing, considerate, respectful, no head games, Christian a +. 12142751

SHALL WE DANCE? am a SBF, 58, 5'3", 170ibs, attractive, intelligent, creative, articulate, seeks SWM, 57-73, who is kind-hearted, articulate, who enjoys dancing, walking, traveling, movies, dining out. \$\$12098

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

IS IT YOU?

SWF, 56, tall, trim, seeks hard-working or retired, conservative SWM, 5'11"+, 58-65, with good values, educated, no tattoos, drugs, or games please. 2138981

ARE YOU THE ONE? SBF, 56, BBW, loves jazz, concerts, movies, travel, walks, great conversation. Seeking commitment-minded, mature, loving man with similar interests for possible

LTR. 2140023 VERY CUTE SBF, 56, 5'3", 122lbs, interested in fit, good-tooking, confident male, 45-58, N/S, intelli-gent, sincere, down-to-earth, who wants to commit to someone special, \$\vec{a}\$113198

SOMEONE SPECIAL SBF, IVS, 18, 5'9", thick, seeks sweet, out-going, honest, respectful, open-minded man, 18-28, for friendship, and more. 2140694

WANTED: TALL, CLASSY MALE I am in my early 60s, 5'2", brown/brown, I enjoy dancing, outdoors, and travel. Seeking a companion, 60-70, and maybe a relation-ship. Please call. \$\$7982305

IN SEARCH OF

Optimistic, healthy WIWF, 68, sense of humor, healthy, honest, N/S, great listener, loves to travel. Seeking special man, healthy, N/S, N/D, with a sense of humor. \$765933

SINGLE PROFESSIONAL WOMAN SWPF, 45, 5'9', average build, educated, Capricorn, N/S, loves golf, reading, garden-ing, dining out, movies, seeks SWPM, 38-55, N/S, similar interests, for LTR. 2983176

MAYBE US?

SF, 42, blonde/blue, leggy, loves all types of music, dancing, movies, nature road trips, dining and simple fun. ISO easygoing, loving guy to share talks, good times, friendship and more. 2132593

GIVE ME A CALL SBF, 39, 5'3", average build, marriage-mind-ed, smoker, seeks WF, for friendship, maybe more. 2140881

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

WiAF, 62, 5', 100lbs, enjoys gardening, dogs, cats, cooking, dining out, travel. Seeking kind, caring, honest, SW/AM, 55-70, slim, with understanding of asian culture, for friendship first, maybe more later. **1**39934

HIEVERYONE SF, 18, seeks nice, easygoing guy who knows how to have fun, and knows how to treat a lady. Friendhsip first. 2142588

SWF, 38, full-figured 5'8", seeks SWF, 25-50, who loves animals, parks, books, movies and music, someone kind-hearted. good-humored and outgoing, for a real friendship first. 27136379 ed, goal-oriented, family-oriented man w/blg heart and open mind to share life and all it's little adventures. 139414

BIG GIRLS NEED LUV SBF, 31, marriage-minded, N/S, romantic, seeks man, 25-58, likes children, having fun, for friendship, maybe more. 2140252

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

COULD YOU BE THE ONE?

Loving, youthful SBF, 57, trim, shapely, very attractive, energetic, happy, enjoys dining, travel, amusement parks, the outdoors, festivals, nature, family-friends, theater, more. Seeking like-minded gentleman to share these. 2121526

PETITE & SEXY

SBF, sensitive, affectionate, loving, 51, looks 35, 5'1", 105lbs, NS. Seeking healthy SBM, 5'10"-6'1", to work out with. 2912553 LOVELY AND LOVING

Attractive 52-year-old, blonde/green, 5'5", nice figure, romantic, wanting to meet a very romantic, affectionate SM, 42-52, who will treat her like a queen. 25617628

LOCKING FOR YOU SF, 33, 5'4", 140lbs, mother, caramel com-plexion, brown eyes, enjoys music, chilling wifriends, home-cooking. Looking for an intelligent, down-to-earth, honest, child-friendly man to share talks, good times and maybe more. 22134568

AWAITING YOUR CALL Caring, considerate WIWF, 55, blonde/blue, wears glasses, enjoys reading, music, movies, travel, museums, animais, quiet evenings home. Seeking animal-friendly, good-hearted, affectionate guy to share special times. 27137067

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

REFINED AND FULL OF LIFE Very attractive blonde, fit, energetic and happy, professionally employed, very youth-ful 60s, 5'3", trim and shapely, enjoys din-tractional damping, thoother family ing, travet, dancing, theater, family and friends. Seeking honest, handsome, fit, 55+, college grad, N/S, with youthful pas-sion for life. Serious replies only **26**52360 MR. RIGHT, ARE YOU THERE?

SWF, 56, 5', HWP, easygoing, dependable, reliable, Taurus, N/S, social drinker, likes computers, nascar, casinos, sports, seeks WM, 46-56, for friendship, and more. 2112612

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 appre-ciates the same. \$\$\$53694 FAMILY-ORIENTED

Beautiful, shapely SBF, 34, 5'4", likes read-ing, long walks, working out, movies, plays, concerts, spontaneous trips, traveling, seeks patient, understanding BM, 34-46, N/S, with similar interests. 123905 LOOKING 4 GENTLEMAN

Attractive, professional, educated WF, 55, 5'2", slim, N/S. Interest include movies, concerts, comedy clubs, jazz, dancing, dining out, family ties. Seeking WM, 48-55, HWP, for lasting, loving LTR. 2797365

TAKE ME GOLFING Tidy SWF, 60, enjoys fine dining, traveling. Seeking golfer, best friend, confidante, 58-70, widower a plus. Honesty, trust, a must to make a relationship work. 2976914

LET'S ENJOY LIFE Female, 51, 138bs, seeks independent, respectful male, 45-52, D/D free, who likes outdoors, walks, movies, for LTR. **2**987475

THE FINER THINGS

SBM, 40, 5' 11", average build, likes sports, theater, movies, parks, seeks energetic. open-minded, sincere woman, 25-65, for friendship, possible romance. \$141614 JOIN ME

SWM, 38, looks younger, active, open-mind-ed, honest, respectful, health-conscious, goal-oriented. I enjoy cuddling, family time, sports, festivals, running, etc. ISO SWF, 35-42, for friendship, possible LTR. 27140569

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. **77**531308

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. **37912726** 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. 27118483

LIFE IS FUN SBM, 44, 5' 7", everage build, N/S, likes movies, seeks WF, N/S, fun-loving, for friendship, possible romance. 2137822

CALL ME SWM, 44, N/S, seeks attractive female, 29-40, with a sound mind, body, and spirit. Only forthcoming individuals are to reply. **T**137865

HOPE TO HEAR FROM YOU Affectionate DWM, 64, brown hair, N/S, D/D-free, enjoys craft shows, flea markets, movies, dining, camping, The Red Wings. ISO a special lady, 48-59, to share friend-ship, dates, possible LTR. 2920969 A NICE GUY SM, 24, black/blue, 5'7", 120lbs, looking for a nice, non-judgmental SF, loving and fun, to share the good times in life. Friendship first,

possibly more later on. 2127134 LET'S TALK

Laid-back SWM, 52, smoker, brown/brown, likes riding Harley's, the country, seeks open, honest WF, 35-54, for possible LTR. **3**124193

VANILLA SEEKING CHOCOLATE

Call me if you desire a nice shape, SWM, blue-eyed blonde, 50-year-old, 180lbs, desires SBF for friendship and definitely romance. 2672855

TAKE A CHANCE Attractive SWPM, 56, sensitive, easygoing, a good listener, good-humored and fun, enjoys travel, sports, music, good food. Seeking romance with shapely, like-minded SBF, someone to share/explore life with. **2761586**

LONELY ANN ARBOR MAN

Considerate, intelligent SBM, 51, tall, slim, dark complexion, Capricorn, looking for a sweet, loving woman respectful, faithful and ambitious, to share friendship, good times, possible romance and LTR. Race open. **2122608**

IVORY SEEKS EBONY

Italian male, 47, 5'6", 165lbs, fit seeks petite. pretty black female, with stender build, to share time with. Let's get to know each other. **5**142383

LET'S GET TOGETHER

SWM 22, 5'11", 255lbs, w/tiger eyes, outgo-ing, romantic, very active and athletic. Looking for outgoing, independent, and open-minded SF who prefer African-Americans/minorities, for dating and possibly more. 2142270



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WANTED KIND HEARTED WOMAN

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, November 19, 2006 (*)



ADVERTISEMENT

Used car prices take hard tumble New car incentives push used car marketplace to record low

by J.L. Sims Independent ad features

Livonia, MI - A Livonia dealer is selling 2006 vehicles for one-half of the original manufacturer's list price. And they're offering many other 2006 models far below normal market values. The low financing offered by GM, Ford, and Daimler-Chrysler mesmerized so many buyers that far fewer shoppers even bothered looking at pre-owned 2006 models.

How does 0% financing on a new model do in a heads-up comparison to a pre-owned 2006 model? In the instance of the Buick LaCrosse, financing \$21,960 plus tax vs. \$9995 plus tax, the payments on the new car at 0% interest would be \$392 monthly for 60 months, but only \$269 monthly at 3.9% for 60 months on the program model. With the prime at a record low, today's interest rates are very competitive. Many credit unions charge under 6% for auto loans ; if the applicant has a good credit rating. And when purchasing the used 2006, don't forget that you'll be saving about an additional \$1,000 in sales tax and licensing fees. (Taxes estimated at an average of 6%).

John Rogin Buick sold over 150 Buick LaCrosse & Pontiac Grand Prix's in the first 30 days of their sale.

A "program" car is a vehicle that has been leased by a premium rental company through a special "program" from the manufacturer. Strict maintenance is required, and all vehicles are carefully inspected upon return. In many cases, these program units receive better maintenance than vehicles owned by private owners.

John Rogin Buick-Livonia has long been known as Michigan's "bargain hunting" dealer. Currently, they're selling more

2006 Pontiac Grand Prixs than any other dealer in the nation. (Over 150 Pontiacs & Buicks were sold during the first 30 days of their sale.) Last year, they sold the most pre-owned 2005 Impalas and Pontiac Grand AMs in the nation from their single location. And the year before they set the sales record selling the most off-lease GMC Yukons and pick-ups.

Today's real bargain can be found at John Rogin in the preowned 2006 vehicles. The low financing on new 2006's has left the used models unnoticed and overlooked. So, with far fewer dealers purchasing these units, the prices have dropped to record lows.

So, once again, John Rogin has gone shopping for the vehicles with a huge cart. They have just made a multi-million dollar purchase of these units from General Motors, bringing in

Bargains abound in pre-owned 2006 program vehicles

truckload after truckload from across the country. In addition to filling their giant used car facility to the brim, John Rogin had to lease additional storage lots to accommodate their massive acquisition of vehicles. And they

currently stock the largest inventory of 2006 program cars in Michigan.

The purpose of 0% financing is to clear out the remaining new 2006's. In another week or two, these vehicles will all be gone, meantime, the 2006 program vehicles are truly today's "sleeping" bargain ... But they'll soon disappear as smart shoppers begin to "wake up" and recognize the real deals.

along with the incentives. In the

John Rogin Buick is located at 30500 Plymouth Road, between Middlebeit and Merriman in Livonia. Their used car superstore may be contacted directly at (734) 525-0900 Monday-Friday during normal business hours.



The 2001-2006 Buicks were the highest ranked Premium Midsize Car in J.D. Powers and Associates Initial Quality Study. This study was based on a total of over 64,900 consumer responses indicating owner reported problems during the first 90 days of ownership. Of those surveyed, Buick owners reported the fewest problems - An outstanding mark of excellence for superb workmanship and a prelude to the satisfaction yet to be experienced during the coming years.

Equipped with a powerful 175horsepower V-6 boasting 20mpg city and 29mpg highway fuel economy, the Buick LaCrosse will capture your heart from the moment you slip behind the wheel. There won't be any need

for a salesperson to explain how to operate "all the buttons," because this LaCrosse will greet you like an old friend, or a comfortable pair of slippers. The cabin is exceedingly driver friendly, with all controls neatly laid out before you like an elegant table setting. And everything just seems to "fit."

The Buick LaCrosse still retains all the traditional value you've come to expect from Buick. From its luxurious well-appointed interior to the clean, flowing exterior design, LaCrosse makes a stylish impression.

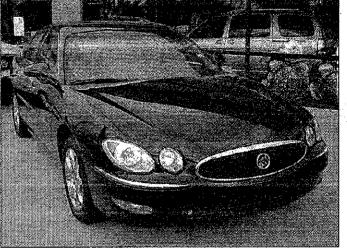
The standard features provide evidence that the Buick still remains just one step down from the Cadillac in GM's lineup. Dual (driver and passenger side) heat and air conditioning controls, six-

position tilt steering wheel, cruise control, power windows, locks, and seats, remote key fobs operating doors and trunk, rear window defroster, plus a stereo system that will blow you away.

Children aren't forgotten with the rear seat upper and lower latch system for compatible child safety seats and rear door child security locks.

Four-wheel independent suspension provides for solid handling and the ride of a magic carpet.

Best of all, the new LaCrosse requires just a little more maintenance than a rock garden. 100,000 miles between spark plug changes. 100,000 mile transmission service intervals under normal driving conditions. Wow.



See the 2006 Buick LaCrosse at John Rogin Buick in Livonia.

It's no wonder that John Rogin Buick-Livonia considers the preowned 2006 LaCrosse to be the most car they've ever been able to offer for the money. And for the past several weeks, they've silently amassed hundreds of these wonderful units from

throughout the country and brought them to Livonia. Best of all, today you can purchase a pre-owned 2006 LaCrosse from John Rogin for nearly half its original value of \$24,000 list price new. While they last.

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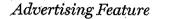
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America's Muscle Car Is A Favorite



Observer & Eccentric

omotive





By the Avanti NewsFeatures staff

The '07 Mustang GT hot rod is one hot car. While driving on a four-lane highway in a convertible, you feel like the center of attention. Since coming out with the fifth-generation body style in 2005, the Ford Mustang has reestablished its name as America's muscle car.

With a familiar roar that is exclusive to the brand, you can hear the Mustang purr from a distance away. There are many features that come together to make Mustang America's No. 1selling sports car and convertible.

The 2007 Mustang GT Convertible is equipped with a V-8, 300 horsepower engine that will take you from 0-60 in 4.9 seconds for around \$30,000. Switching lanes is a cinch in this vehicle because there is a ton of power readily available while only tapping the gas pedal lightly.

When you hear common term Mustang, you generally think of speed and that's what the manufacturers at Ford are taking to the next level. Even the standard '07 Mustang has been made affordable starting off under \$20,000 and is a quick, eye-catching car. The convertible adds about \$5,000 to the base price.

The convertible top comes standard automatic and triplelayered with a waterproofed outside, sound-deadened middle layer and an eye-candied inside layer. There are two latches to lock the top in place but opening it is as easy as holding a button down. When the top is down, it adds a different level to your driving experience. It's nice to be able to look all around the road in every direction from inside the car as you check your blind spots and enjoy a nice, smooth ride.

The interior is similar in the different types of 'stangs. There is a well-lit six gauge dash that you can personalize by changing the lighting color with eight different color options. There are two large, circular gauges that display your RPM and speed and four smaller circular gauges in the center for your fuel, oil, temperature and battery.

There are some digital features to the dash. There is a small area that displays your mileage, miles until empty, average miles per gallon and can switch your metrics to kilometers with the touch of a button.

The seats standard feature is a six-way power chair that makes it convenient to find the spot that is just right for maximum comfort ability as you drive your sports car. The Interior Upgrade package is a great addition including



The 2007 Mustang GT at the Moroso track in Palm Beach Gardens, Fla., where it was tested on a 2.25-mile course

the leather-wrapped steering wheel with satin aluminum spokes and sparkling tri-bar Pony emblem in the center. You will also get leather-trimmed seats that are very supportive with power lumbar and don't allow you to shift much as you drive or ride.

Some standard features are air conditioning, power locks and windows with driver and front passenger one-touch up and down, power sideview mirrors, cruise control, Tire Pressure Monitoring System and remote keyless entry.

To add style, there are many packages and accessories you can choose from. If you purchase the base model Mustang, you can add the Pony package that includes a Pony grille with integrated fog lamps, 17-inch aluminum wheels with tri-bar pony center caps, rear spoiler, lower body-side Mustang stripes on the exterior, floor mats with chrome badges and Pony fender badges.

If you choose a GT model, you can get the GT Appearance package that includes a sporty hood scoop, Pony emblem engine cover and bright rolled exhaust tips that alone gives a bystander the "wow" factor. If you are looking for more options to customize your car, ask about the GT California Special package where you can get awesome looking side scoops, mid-body strips that say GT/CS and other sporty features.

Ford Racing has stepped in and sells Mustang Performance Packs that were inspired by the Grand-Am Cup Series Champion Mustang FR500C. You can get the FR Drag pack that will increase your acceleration significantly. It comes with a cold-air intake and other components that will drop up to a half of second on a quarter-mile drag strip.

The FR Power Upgrade package will tack on an extra 20

rear-wheel horsepower and a slightly louder but nice-sounding exhaust enhancement. The FR Handling Pack will improve your handling while lowering the car 1.5 inches.

Even if you are not into the racing enhancements, from first-hand experience, the GT model handles great in all weather. The car is heavy enough where it doesn't slide much on ice or snow and handles great while driving 55 miles per hour through a flash-flood warning downpour on the expressway.

The back seat is very comforting with lots of leg room and body space. The front passenger can lean back comfortably without having to worry about lying in the back seat rider's lap. There is efficient trunk and interior space to accommodate a family of four or a single man or woman looking for a classic, every day sports car.

New for 2007, Mustang has brought back the Shelby name to the everyday household. The Shelby GT500 is the most powerful factory built Mustang in history giving off 500 horsepower. Every Shelby is created and inspected in Flat Rock, Mich., and then shipped off to Las Vegas, where the legendary Carroll Shelby Team and Ford's Special Vehicle team give each car the individual care and inspection it needs before it's sent off to the buyer.

Under the hood there is a V-8, 5.4-liter supercharged engine and it is quite a machine. Certain features become standard such as leather seats, anti-lock brakes and traction control while the Pony emblem on the front grille becomes a cobra. Not bad for a car with a base price of \$40,930 and can be topped off just shy of \$46,000.

Write the editors of Avanti NewsFeatures at avanti1054@aol.com. @2006, Fracassa Communications









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