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THURSDAY

November 23, 2006

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Observer

Bloody fingerprints on flashlight led police to suspect in murder

RY KURT KURAN STAFF WRITER

With a number of police officers crowding the 35th District Court on Monday, Wayne County assistant prosecutor Eaton Curtis described how investigators were able to use four bloody fingerprints on a Maglite flashlight to connect Andre Marcel Adams to the April murder of Robert Lee Armstrong of Canton.

Prosecutors believe Adams

used the flashlight to murder Armstrong, 46, during the early morning hours of April 16 at Armstrong's home in the College Park mobile home park on Mott Road. According to the autopsy report, Armstrong died from "at least three blunt force blows to the head."

The prosecution team led by Curtis was able to show enough probable cause at Adams' preliminary examination Monday for District Court Judge Ron Lowe to order a trial. Adams, a 33-year-old Ypsilanti resident, has been charged with open murder and, if convicted, faces the possibility of spending the rest of his life in prison. He is scheduled to be arraigned Dec. 4 in Wayne County Circuit Court.

Curtis called several witnesses during the examination, including a number of specialists from the Michigan State Police forensics laboratory in Northville. They described a

bloody crime scene in Armstrong's bedroom, where he was found dead. Detective Sgt. Mary

Dempsey Knox, an MSP fingerprint expert, testified that she was able to lift four useable fingerprints from the bloody flashlight, which featured the name of NASCAR driver Dale Earnhardt. She said that she entered the prints into the state's Automated Fingerprint

PLEASE SEE SUSPECT, AG



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Andre Adams, charged with murdering Robert Lee Armstrong of Canton, talks with his attorney, Charlotte Steffen-Ramirez, during his preliminary examination Monday at 35th District Court.



Volunteer Lauren Blackley helps Lauren Bottrell with the top crust for her pie which was donated to First Step for Thanksgiving dinner.



District eyes election changes Closing schools would have to be negotiated with teachers

STAFF WRITER

Plymouth-Canton Schools Superintendent Jim Ryan said he received several telephone calls on Election Day -Tuesday, Nov. 7 - from parents who had concerns about school building safety as voters were allowed to come and go during the school day to cast ballots.

Second-graders give thanks by baking pies for shelter

As Thanksgiving approached, Joan Blackley decided to teach her second grade class at **Canton's Hulsing Elementary** that the annual holiday is about more than just eating turkey.

So on Tuesday, the students in Blackley's class made 38 apple pies from scratch, which they donated to the local First Step shelter for battered women, so they could be enjoyed today as part of their Thanksgiving meal.

'In our class we have a unit in which we celebrate the community. This was our way of giving

thanks to our Canton and Plymouth communities," Blackley said. "First Step is a shelter in our community, and we think it's a nice shelter."

According to Blackley, the project wouldn't have been possible without the help of many parents, who helped get donations from local businesses, including Plymouth Orchards, which donated apples, and Baker's Square, which donated boxes. Many of the parents also donated items such as flour and other ingredients.

Blackley said the project,

BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHE

Second grader Noah Fleming shows off his peeled apple, which is ready for slicina.

which she plans to do annually, was a great learning experience for the students, who also did all the measuring and cutting

for the pies. "They are just beautiful pies," she said.

By Kurt Kuban

Legendary Salem coach succumbs to cancer

BY ED WRIGHT STAFF WRITER

When Tom Moshimer visited spring football practices at the University of Alabama in the early 1970s, he was more than a casual observer in legendary coach Paul "Bear" Bryant's coaches' meet-

ings. "There were times when one of Bear's assistants would ask him a

question about the wishbone offense, and Bear would say, 'Ask Mo, he knows as much about it as I do," said Bob Cummings, a former player and longtime protégé of Moshimer.

Moshimer, a Vince Lombardi-like coaching legend in this area for more than four decades, died early Tuesday morning at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ann Arbor after battling lung cancer for close to three years. The longtime Salem coach, educator and mentor was 71. Moshimer's first coaching stint came as a

graduate assistant under Duffy Daugherty at Michigan State University, his alma mater. After one year at MSU, Daugherty helped Moshimer land the head coaching job at Dundee,

PLEASE SEE COACH, A5



Tom Moshimer, here with his Salem Rocks in an undated file photo, lost a three-year battle with cancer Tuesday morning.

"I think we did a good job of making safety an issue," Ryan said. "We took some maintenance people off the shift that day and put them in the buildings, and we hired extra paraprofessionals. Everybody was safe.'

One parent, who asked not to be identified, said she was aware there were extra school personnel on hand on Election Day, but as far as she was concerned the measures taken by the district weren't enough. "They should move more polls to churches or activity halls and get them out of the schools, or not have school that day," said the parent. "It's a shame we have to worry about it, but with today's society we have to. Today's world presents so many unsafe situations, and we have to alleviate any problems before anything happens."

While the solution appears as simple as just closing schools for the day, or a half day, the issue has to be negotiated with the Plymouth-Canton Education Association, which represents about 1,100 teachers.

"We obviously have to negotiate a calendar with the PCEA on that," Ryan said. "We have a calendar for the next year, and I think we'll discuss a good solution that addresses the election. I think the Education Association is sensitive that in '08 there's a presidential election."

PCEA President Chuck Portelli said he "could see where there's a security issue," but said the fact remains it's tough to squeeze another day off into the current school calendar. Portelli blames, in part, the state Legislature, which passed a law requiring Michigan school districts to start classes after Labor Day. For Plymouth-Canton, that meant squeezing in 3.5 days which previously were class days in Plymouth-Canton before the holiday.

"They put restraints at the bargaining table and created a nightmare," Portelli said. "I had teachers e-mailing me, asking why we were having classes that day. But, adding three and a half days of instruction after Labor Day back into the calendar limited our choices of what we could do.

"We (the district and PCEA) talked about a half day for kids and a half day for professional development for teachers, but we couldn't reach an agreement," he said.

Portelli also noted that in a survey of his membership, teachers were reluctant to change the current calendar, for many of the same reasons parents give. "We got a clear indication of what our membership wanted ... two weeks off at Christmas, one week off for Easter and a week off in February," Portelli said.

Portelli said that along with negotiating time off for major elections, he would also like to negotiate Martin Luther King Day, in which students are off but teachers have a full day of professional development.



Nutcracker performances

In the long-standing Holiday tradition, the Plymouth Symphony Orchestra joins with the Plymouth-Canton Ballet Company to present the classic fairy tale, Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker Ballet.

Performances will be presented Saturday, Dec. 9 (at 11 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.), and Sunday, Dec. 10 (at 2 p.m.) at Salem High School Auditorium, 46181 Joy Road in Canton. Admission is \$20 for adults and \$10 for children.

Judge Ron Lowe of the 35th District Court will introduce each performance with a reading of "Twas the Night Before Christmas." Following the 11 a.m. (Saturday) and 2 p.m. (Sunday) performances the Plymouth Symphony League will host the Sugar Plum Tea in the cafeteria. Tea tickets are available for \$5. For tickets, season subscriptions, or more information, contact the symphony office at (734) 451-2112, by e-mail at info@plymouthsymphony.org or go to the symphony's Web site, www.plymouthsymphony.org.

Shop Canton

logue on race."

The Canton Chamber of Commerce, in conjunction with the Downtown Development Authority and Canton Leisure Services, will be promoting the Shop Canton Holiday Fest Marketing Initiative at Canton Corners Shopping Center (corner of Lilley and Ford Road) from noon-3 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 9.

Santa will be on hand to visit with the little ones as well as accept donations of canned goods, new children's books and new clothing to help support Canton Goodfellows. Parents are invited to bring their cameras and take holiday pictures. Every person that visits Santa will receive a gift bag with coupons from area businesses for the parents and treats for the kids. After visiting Santa you can enjoy strolling carolers as well as specialty entertainment artists, window painting, face painting, coloring contest and many more fun activities for young and old. For more information about this event, including business sponsorship at the event, contact Dianne Cojei at the Canton Chamber of Commerce at (734) 453-4040 or e-mail her at diannec@cantonchamber.com.

Stage auditions

Local theater group Spotlight Players is holding auditions for "Stepping Out" December 11-12 at the Village Theater, which is located at 50400 Cherry Hill Road (at corner of Cherry Hill and Ridge Roads - use stage door at rear). Registration begins at 6:30 p.m. Bring a non-returnable photo and resume. For more information, visit www.spotlightplayers.net on the Web or call (734) 480-4945.

'Jesus in Islam'

The Muslim Community of Western Suburbs (MCWS) is hosting a lecture titled "Jesus in Islam" at 7 p.m. on Dec. 14 at the Canton Public Library (1200 S. Canton Center Road). The speaker, Harry Bassel, will discuss Jesus, and how he is viewed from an Islamic perspective. Our non-Muslim friends and neighbors are cordially invited. Admission is free and refreshment will be served. For more information call (734) 467-7704 or e-mail info@mcws.org.

MDOT public meeting

The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will be holding a public meeting to seek input on its five-year Wayne County Road and Bridge Program 6-8 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 29 at the Taylor Transportation Service Center, located at 25185 Goddard Road in Taylor. At the meeting, listening ses-

sions on the five-year program recently passed by the State Transportation Commission



Friend of the Earth

Rhiannon Scott, a 6-year-old first-grader at Canton Charter Academy, recently won the school's Friend of the Earth competition by recycling the most Meijer shopping bags. Students were asked to roll Meijer shopping bags into logs of 40 bags each. The school has an agreement with Enviro-Bag Co. of South Carolina to receive one dollar for each pound of plastic recycled. Enviro-Bag takes the logs and recycles them into can liners, which are then sold at Meijer stores. Rhiannon rolled 25 loas in less than two weeks, and was recognized at a school-wide assembly, at which she received a certificate for her accomplishments.

will be provided for members of the public, local elected officials and agencies. Afterwards MDOT will take comments and questions and copies of the draft plan will be available.

For more information on the MDOT public meeting please call (313) 375-2400.

Holiday concert

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.

www.hometownlife.com

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 purchased by contacting Mary Jane Swanson at United Home Health Services at (734) 981-8820. Sponsorships are also available.Donations may be sent to 2200 Canton Center Road, Suite 250, Canton 48187, or made through the Web site at www.uhhs.org.

Chamber luncheon

The Canton Chamber of Commerce will host its annual holiday luncheon at 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 6, at Summit on the Park.

The PCEP Madrigal Singers will be performing.

The chamber is requesting that each attendee bring an unwrapped toy or gift for the Goodfellows. Reservations are necessary by Friday, Dec. 1, and can be made by calling the chamber office at (734) 453-4040. The cost is \$20.

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CORRECTIONS

The headline for Hugh Gallagher's column on Sunday, Nov.

A headline in the Sunday, Nov. 19, issue above a story about

19, should have read "Support for Proposal 2 opens door for dia-

the funeral Mass for a Canton man killed in Iraq should have

referred to Sgt. Bryan Burgess as a Marine.



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LOCAL NEWS

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, November 23, 2006

'Frogs didn't have guns'

Area man inspired by Caccamo, pays tribute to veterans through song

BY STACY JENKINS STAFF WRITER

Doug Brzak still gets emotional when he talks about his older brother, Ron, and his best buddy John.

The boys grew up together in the rural town of St. Johns, near Lansing. As kids, Ron and John would "play Army" in the woods, wearing fatigues and hunting frogs on long, summer days.

Their innocent play would later become an irony.

Decades later, Doug Brzak wrote a song about Ron and John, who joined the U.S. military, fought in Vietnam and died just weeks apart in the spring and summer of 1967.

Brzak's song is entitled, Frogs Didn't Have Guns and is featured on his patriotic CD, Red, White and You.

"They ran through fields, used trees as shields and threw clumps of dirt; jumped over logs, hunted down frogs and nobody got hurt.

They'd laugh and play, then call it day when they ran out of sun.

But, clumps of dirt didn't hurt and frogs didn't have guns." (from Frogs Didn't Have Guns.)

Ronald James Fitch, who is Brzak's stepbrother, was killed in April 1967 and John Sickles died in June 1967 in Vietnam. Recently, Brzak was contacted by a vet named James Arabie, from Louisiana, who had heard the song and the story behind it.

"I received a letter from this guy who was sent out to rescue my brother," said Brzak, with tears in his eyes.

Particularly on this past Veterans Day weekend, Brzak

SPORTS



TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHEF

Doug Brzak of Farmington Hills talks about the stories behind the songs on his 'Red, White, and You' CD. Brzak is a teacher at Harrison High School.

wants to remind people of the sacrifice members of the military have made and continue to make in the name of freedom.

"It's so easy for us to go about our business here," said Brzak. "This CD is written for the every-day person who drops everything and goes (into the military).

Brzak has a friend, Todd Caccamo of Canton Township, who is currently serving in Iraq.

Caccamo is a township trustee who re-enlisted in the Marines. His unit was called to active duty about a month ago.

"This is to let them know that they have support and that someone cares," said Brzak. "Todd is an American

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and he has friends who have not come back home."

Other songs on Brzak's CD are based on true stories, including This Mama's Son, which is about his friend who had two sons serve in the military.

"Both of her sons served in Iraq and both returned safely," he said.

Red, White and You is the first CD written by Brzak. He's not a musician, but he writes the songs and pitches them to demo artists in Nashville. He has three songs currently being pitched. He said Randy Travis recently heard Brzak's song, Thanks to Him, I Can.

The songs - all of which are country songs - on the CD are performed by singers Rachel Williams of Belleville and

Gridiron, Court, Pool, Arena, Greens, Diamond

We're there!

Michael Barrineau of Nashville.

The CD can be purchased on the Web at www.theredwhiteandyou.com or dougbrzak.com. Proceeds are shared with military support groups such as Marine Moms. Brzak's other brother, Gary, also served in the military. Brzak enlisted as a young

man, but was injured in boot camp. When he's not writing

songs, he teaches kids with cognitive impairments at Harrison High School. He's been in the Farmington school district for 20 years. He has two adult daughters and a grandson, Travis, who is 2.

sjenkins@hometownlife.com (734) 953-2131

Patterson earns 'Legislator' honors

State Sen. Bruce Patterson. R-Canton, has been named "Legislator of the Year" by the Michigan Psychological Association. The association presented Patterson the honor at its annual fall convention, citing Patterson for "his principled and unflagging support of mental health parity legislation.

Parity legislation would end differences in insurance payments for mental and physical disorders, association officials said in making the award. Although 39 other states have passed legislation that would end discrimination against people with mental and emotional disorders, the Michigan legislature has not done so, although bills have been introduced in the last six legislative sessions.

"Despite strong opposition, Sen. Patterson has been a champion of the rights of people with mental and emotional disorders, even risking his reelection," officials said.

The Michigan Psychological Association Legislator of the Year Award lauded "his persistence and courage and honored Sen. Patterson today for "doing the right thing" and fighting for equality in insurance, a major step in ending the stigma surrounding mental illness."

Senator Patterson said, "I am very honored by this award," Patterson said.

"It is from a wonderful association of gifted and dedicated professionals. I am totally committed to the cause of enhanced health care."

It was the second such honor for Patterson in recent days. The Michigan Court Officers, Deputy Sheriffs and Process Servers Association also picked Patterson as the MCODSA 2006 Legislator of the Year.

The decision was based on "the Senator's commitment and dedication to the Citizens of Michigan. Senator Patterson constantly demonstrates his



Dr. Judith Kovach presented state Sen. Bruce Patterson, R-Canton, with the Michigan Psychological Association Legislator of the Year Award.

ability to serve Michigan resident dents. He is not afraid to ask the hard questions when serving in his role as the Chair of a set the Technology and Energy Committee or as the vice-chair of the Health Policy committee and the Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs committee and also as a member of the Judiciary committee."

Stewart speaks

State Rep. John C. Stewart, R-Plymouth Township, House **Appropriations Subcommittee** on Higher Education chair, 😬 spoke recently before the Ohio House of Representatives. Stewart rec ognized the academic excellence of the University of Michigan and the Ohio State University,

"I am honored to speak before the Ohio House of Representatives on the subject of restructuring their tax system to support business and create jobs and to fund higher education because it is the essence of recovery for our economy," said Stewart.

Stewart's father, Bob Stewart, was the starting fullback for the Ohio Wesleyan football team in the first football game on Oct. 1, 1927, in the "Big House" against the University of Michigan.





November 15th - December 31st, 2006

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LOCAL NEWS

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Clothing bank help

As part of their ongoing dedication to public service efforts, Pioneer Middle School Cadette Girl Scout Troop 501 held a clothing drive in their neighborhood last month, and donated the clothing, shoes and outerwear to the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Clothing Bank. The Scouts decided to hold the drive while working on the Fachion Design Interest Project. They presented the items to Julie Jasinski, a representative from the clothing bank, on Oct. 22. Pictured are (from left) Alicia, Stacey, Jamie, Emily and Jasinski. Sue Emens is leader for the troop.





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grade reading buddies. The idea is to have them

Thanksgiving dinner," said kindergarten teacher Anne McKolay who has been holding the feast for at least seven years. "When the Pilgrims had their feast it was with the community there."

The kindergartners dressed as pilgrims with paper hats, bonnets and large white collars. while their reading buddies, with names like Tiger Lily, Strong Wind and Fire Starter wore brown paper bag vests and feathered headdresses.

It didn't matter that the older



Schweitzer Elementary kindergartner Jamie Downing (left) said 'I love it all,' as she and her reading buddy Amber Ritter (right) enjoy their 'traditional' Thanksgiving feast.

The '1st' Thanksgiving

Kindergartners share traditional feast with their reading buddies

> BY SUE MASON STAFF WRITER

It was as close as you could get to the first Thanksgiving dinner - dried meat and fruit, muffins and soup. But there were a few 21st cen-

tury items on the plates of kindergartners who gathered Monday to celebrate the holiday with their second- and third-

experience a more traditional



Third-graders Jack DeJack (left) and Reshard Kanady, dressed as native Indians, dance with the kindergartners, dressed as pilgrims, at their Thanksgiving celebration.

Youngsters were encouraged to try what was on their plate,

especially the dried beef. "It's real soft, but it's real salty," said McKolay, explaining that "the Pilgrims didn't have refrigerators, they had to dry their food. That's how they had to preserve things."

Reaction to the thinly sliced meat was mixed.

While 8-year-old Kylie Strong said the meat smelled "like cat food," Courtney Walsh, 8, found it "salty," but good tasting.

the beef.

"I didn't expect to have this much food because the Pilgrims didn't have anything," she said. "They had to plant seeds in the ground for food."

"The Indians planted food and gave it to the Pilgrims to help out," added Jamie's reading buddy, Amber Ritter, known as Little Dolphin for the feast. While the contents of the

meal were somewhat of a surprise for the kindergartners, it was nothing new for their read-



ovember 23, 2006 - (C)

Sheldon underpass moves closer to construction

BY TONY BRUSCATO STAFF WRITER

The Sheldon Road underpass moved a step closer to a construction start date as the Wayne County Board of Commissioners approved \$14.4 million in contracts for the project last week.

"All of our Sheldon Road underpass contracts sailed through the board unanimously," said Alan Helmkamp, assistant Wayne County executive. "We are in the process of getting the signed and approved contracts to the parties."

Helmkamp said he expects Sheldon Road at the CSX Railroad crossing south of M-14 to be closed sometime next month to begin a project that will shut down the road for 22 months.

Plymouth, Plymouth Township and Wayne County will hold a town meeting 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 29, at the Plymouth Cultural Center to bring residents up to speed about the closing of Sheldon

ar- Road. "We'll be discussing the ts detour routes, what the sig

detour routes, what the signage is going to be to keep vehicles out of residential areas, county contact information and water issues," said Mayor Dan Dwyer. "If Farmer Street becomes a thoroughfare, that will impact residents who live on or near Farmer. Bird Elementary and West Middle School will also have increased traffic near them.

"We want to give residents an opportunity to share their concerns and for government to hear them and plan accordingly," Dwyer said. "It's all about how we all work to

make it happen well." The water issues revolve around the first phase of the project, as a temporary water main will be installed while construction workers relocate the main water line, which is expected to take until April. A test of the temporary main will be done first, as city officials want to make certain residents won't experience low pressure or water shut offs as a result of the relocation.

Some downtown business owners see the closing of Sheldon Road as an opportunity, as increased traffic is expected to flow through the city as motorists attempt to find their way around the project.

"Plymouth is definitely going to get a lot of media attention, and we see that as a positive opportunity to remind people we are here," said Colleen Cannon, owner of TranquiliTea in downtown Plymouth.

. A5

"Ann Arbor Road is going to get more traffic, and they will notice the shops along that route. And, there will be more traffic downtown, also.

"It's only one road that's blocked, and it will be an inconvenience," she said. "But, they can still get here from other routes."

tbruscato@hometownlife.com (734) 459-2700

COACH FROM PAGE A1

where he coached for eight years before he accepted a similar position at the old Plymouth High School, which later became Salem.

Throughout his 42-year high school coaching career, Moshimer compiled a 219-146-0 record, which puts him 24th on the all-time victories list.

His most memorable season of many came in 1974 when the Rocks went 9-0 and were the "mythical" Class A state champions after compiling the highest playoffs point total (115.0) in a "test" year before a playoffs format was instituted in 1975.

Moshimer was inducted into the Michigan High School Coaches Association Hall of Fame in 1985 and the Michigan High School Coaches Hall of Fame in 1994. In 1989, he received the "Jim Crowley Award," which is the highest honor members of the Football Coaches Association present to a peer each year.

He retired from coaching following the 2000 season and was replaced by Cummings.

"My dad (Paul) coached with Tom when I was young, so I practically grew up with the Moshimer family," said Cummings. "I was good friends with Tom's son, Mike, and I can remember spending the night over their house on Friday nights. On Saturday mornings, we'd wake up and Tom would make breakfast for us, then he'd watch the game films from the game the night before. He could watch game films for 10 straight hours and wouldn't get tired of it. He loved football and he loved coaching.



"He was just a great leader who got the most out of everybody he coached. He was a former Marine and that's the way he coached. When he yelled, you ran."

"Tom was a hard coach, but he was a fair coach," remembered Jim Jarvey, who served as one of Moshimer's assistants for 25 years before they both hung up their whistles in 2000. "He loved the game and he cared deeply about his players. He'd always give them a second chance, both on and off the field.

"He knew the wishbone offense as well as anybody because he studied it like nobody else and attended clinics throughout the country. Even after he retired, he'd go over and watch film with Bobby Cummings and offer his advice on things."

Cummings said Moshimer was friends with longtime University of Michigan coach Bo Schembechler, who died Friday.

"Tom took Bo's death hard because they were good friends and because Tom was having a tough week himself," said Cummings. "Tom always told me about how he sat 10 rows behind the Michigan bench when Michigan beat Ohio State in 1969."

Moshimer is survived by his wife, Nancy; sons Duncan (Cheryl) and Mike; stepson Jim (Nicki) and stepdaughter Kelly (Phil); and four grandchildren: Ryan, Sarah, Zach and Patrick.

Visitation for Moshimer will be held 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday at McCabe Funeral Home, 851 N. Canton Center Road in Canton. Funeral services will be held Saturday beginning at 10 a.m. at St. Thomas A' Becket, which is located at 555 S. Lilley in Canton.

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Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, November 23, 2006



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LOCAL NEWS

SUSPECT

FROM PAGE A1

Identification Systems (AFIS) computer program, and found they were a match with Adams, who has a long history of criminal activity and violence, including convictions for felonious assault and felony firearms.

Adams was arrested Oct. 4 in Nevada by North Las Vegas police officers.

Perhaps the most compelling testimony was given by Armstrong's next-door neighbor, Gary Metzger, who awoke to Armstrong's two children knocking at his door. Armstrong's 10-year-old daughter found him dead.

"They were screaming and crying, saying their daddy had a hole in his head and that he wouldn't wake up," said Metzger, who told his wife to call 9-1-1, before going over to Armstrong's house with the two children. "When I walked into the bedroom, I could see he had a quarter-inch hole in the back of his head."

Defense attorney Charlotte Steffen-Ramirez said the fingerprint evidence shouldn't have been enough to order a trial, because the AFIS system isn't necessarily reliable. She said the AFIS card with Adams' name on it could have been the result of an error. We don't know who put



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

www.hometownlife.com

The victim's neighbor, Gary Metzger, describes finding the victim laying on a bed in the victim's home. Judge Ron Lowe listens to his testimony in the background.

together the card, or who put the name on the card. That is the only evidence that links my client to this murder," she said. "There are no witnesses that say my client hit the victim with the flashlight. There are no witnesses that can say my client was even in the house." Judge Lowe disagreed with her assessment, however.

"We have evidence that says a flashlight was used and your client's fingerprints were all over it," Lowe told Steffen-Ramirez. "That's probable cause and enough evidence

THE CANTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

guides for some of the most

Getting ready for the busy holiday season? Put your library card, the smartest card in your wallet, to work for you. Get books on decorating and cooking. How-to guides on party planning and gifts. Movies and music to put you in the holiday spirit. Even buying

popular (and expensive) gifts. Start your search at the Canton Public Library Web site, www.cantonpl.org. The library will close at 6

p.m., Nov. 22 and remain closed Nov. 23 for Thanksgiving. The Internet

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON NOTICE OF SETTING PUBLIC HEARING

CONSIDERATION OF TRANSFER OF CLASS C LIQUOR LICENSE TO GADEREN LLC. AT 8465 N. LILLEY RD, CANTON, MICHIGAN

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Act 184 of the Public Acts of 1943 of the State of Michigan, as amended, and pursuant to Liquor License Ordinance Chapter 6, Article II of the Charter Township of Canton that the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, December 12, 2006, in the Township Administration Building Board Room, 1150 South Canton Center Road, Canton, Michigan at 7:00 p.m. for the following purpose:

To hear and take testimony to consider and recommend an action to the Michigan Liquor License Commission of the request of Gaderen LLC/DBA Ginger Restaurant for transfer from 14850 Dix- Toledo Rd., Southgate Mi. and issuance of a Class C Liquor License to be located at 8465 N. Lilley Rd, in Canton, Michigan.

that your client committed the offense as far as I'm concerned."

Lowe ordered Adams remanded with no bond.

Among those in the courtroom Monday were several of Armstrong's family members, including his brother, Howard Armstrong of Garden City, who said this has been a long ordeal.

"This has been very difficult for us," he said.

kkuban@hometownlife.com (734) 459-2700

Branch is open at www.cantonpl.org.

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Beginner's Internet Training: Nov. 25, at 2 p.m. Also Nov. 28 at 5 p.m. Stay safe on the Internet. For second and third graders. Registration required.

Advanced Internet Training: Nov. 25, at 3 p.m. Also Nov. 28 at 7 p.m. Research homework projects, use search features. For fourth and fifth graders. Registration required.

Internet I: Nov. 29, at 7 p.m. Instruction on the basics of Internet Explorer. Registration required.

📾 Yahoo! E-mail: Nov. 30, at 9:30 a.m. Learn to open a Yahoo! e-mail account, send and open mail and attachments. Registration required.

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All interested citizens are encouraged to attend and will be offered an opportunity at said hearing to voice any comments they may have regarding this request. Written comments may also be submitted to the Township Clerk's Office at 1150 South Canton Center Road, Canton MI 48188 prior to the hearing date.

> Terry G. Bennett Clerk

NOTICE OF ADOPTION CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH ORDINANCE NO. 99.006

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH BY AMENDING THE ZONING MAP.

THE TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH ORDAINS:

Publish: November 23, 2006

The Zoning Ordinance No. 99 of the Plymouth Charter Part I. Township, is hereby amended by amending the Zoning Map, by changing those areas indicated on the Amended Zoning Map No. 010, attached hereto, and made part of this Ordinance.



ORDINANCE NO. 99.006 AMENDED ZONING MAP NO. 010 Charter Township of Plymouth, Wayne, Michigan

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: For parcel descriptions, see tax records based on Tax ID No. R-78-0046-99-0002-707.

- CONFLICTING PROVISIONS REPEALED. Any Part II. Ordinance or parts of Ordinance in conflict herewith, are hereby repealed.
- Part III. EFFECTIVE DATE. The provisions of this Ordinance are hereby declared to take effect on December 14, 2006.

ADOPTION. The Ordinance was adopted by the Part IV. Township Board of the Charter Township of Plymouth by authority of Act 110 of Public Acts of Michigan, 2006, as amended, at a meeting duly called and held on November 14, 2006, and ordered to be given publication in the manner prescribed by law. The Ordinance may be purchased or inspected at the Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty Road, Community Development Department during regular business hours.

Adopted by the Board of Trustees on: November 14, 2006 Effective Date: December 14. 2006

Publish: November 23, 2006



🖬 Children's Movie: Dec. 2. at 1 p.m. Little Mermaid (Rated G) Registration required.

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DVDs

OE08489745

- # 12 Days of Christmas Eve
- The Christmas Shoes
- 🖬 Holiday Inn
- Adult Fiction
- The Christmas Pig: A Fable by Kinky Friedman
- $\blacksquare A Live Coal in the Sea by$
- Madeleine L'Engle Adult Non-Fiction
- A Passion for Parties by Carolyne Roehm

Holiday Cooking With America's Top Chefs published by Meredith Corp.

OXFORD

BARGAIN PRIC DAILY 4:00-6:00

GIVE EVERYONE MOVIE

GIFT CARDS

12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 9:30 BORAT (R) 11:45, 1:40, 3:35, 5:30, 7:25, 9:20 FRI/SAT LS 11:20 STRANGER THAN FIGTION (PG-13)

12:00, 2:25, 4:50, 7:15, 9:46 SANTA CLAUSE 3: THE ESCAPE CLAUSE

COUPON

20oz.DRINK

(G) 11:05, 1:10, 3:10, 5:10, 7:1 FRI/SAT LS 11:25

O DECK THE HALLS (PG) 11:00, 1:05, 3:10, 5:15, 7:20, 9:25

BI/SAT LS 11:30

O DEJA VU (PG-13)

C HAPPY FEET (PG) 11:30, 1:35, 4:15, 7:00, 9:40 **C** HAPPY FEET (PG) 11:30, 2:00, 4:20, 6:45, 9:05 FRI/SAT LS 11:30 **C** CASINO ROYALE (PG-13) 10:00, 9:00, 9:00, 9:00

OE0848905

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Charter Township of Canton Board Proceedings November 14, 2006

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton was held Tuesday, November 14, 2006, at 1150 Canton Center S. Supervisor Yack called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. <u>Roll Call</u> Members Present: Bennett, Kirchgatter, McLaughlin, Yack, Zarbo Members Absent: Caccamo (on Military leave), LaJoy Staff Present: Director Durack, Director Eva, Executive Director Santomauro, Director Conklin, Director Faas Adoption of Agenda Motion by Bennett, supported by Zarbo to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried by all members present. Approval of Minutes Motion by Bennett, supported by Zarbo to approve the Board Study Minutes of October 17, 2006. Motion carried by all members present. Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to approve the Board Minutes of October 24, 2006. Motion carried by all members present. Payment of Bills Motion by Kirchgatter, supported by Bennett to approve payment of the bills as presented. Motion carried by all members

present. Expenditure Recap for November 14, 2006					
General Fund	- 101		\$1,162,360.67		
Fire Fund	206		105,967.32		
Police Fund	207		147,404.12		
Summit Operating	208		48,396,44		
Street Lighting	219		18,121.04		
Cable TV Fund	230		6,132.12		
Twp Improvement	246		200,254.60		
E-911 Utility	261		18,614.39		
Auto Forfeiture(wwa)	267		3,168.19		
Federal Grants Fund	274		21.049.72		
Auto Theft Grant	289		15,537.24		
Downtown Dev Authority	7 294		61,626,94		
Cap Proj-Summit Const	402		50,327.46		
Cap Proj-Road Paving	403		63,602.48		
Golf Fund	584		25,566.24		
Water & Sewer Fund	592		3,149,122.75		
Trust & Agency Fund	701		5,442.00		
Construction Escrows	702		16.087.81		
Post Employ. Benefits	736		51,303.65		
Total - All Funds			5,170,085.18		
PRESENTATION	DESENTATION	OF	T TERT PERMIT & NUM		

<u>PRESENTATION:</u> PRESENTATION OF LIEUTENANT BADGE. Trustee McLaughlin presented Lieutenant badges to Sgt. Scott Hilden and Sgt. Mark Schultz and congratulated them on their promotions to Lieutenants. DAN DURACK RETIREMENT PRESENTATION. Supervisor Yack commended Mr. Durack for his contributions and 27 years faithful servant to the Canton Community for 27 years. <u>PUBLIC HEARING:</u> HOLD THE PUBLIC HEARING OF NECESSITY AND CONSIDER ADOPTING THE CONFIRMING RESOLUTION NO. 3 FOR THE COPPER CREEK CONDOMINIUM SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT 2006-01. (MSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by Zarbo to open the public hearing at 7:15 p.m. of Necessity and Consider Adopting the Confirming Resolution No. 3 for the Copper Creek Condominium Special Assessment District 2006-01. Motion carried by all members present. Clerk Bennett stated two (2) letters were received: Ms. Nomura not in favor of this proposed SAD and Mr. and Mrs. Shaun Farley and Cathleen Handyside in favor of this proposed SAD. Ronald Estes, 7145 Copper Creek Circle, spoke in opposition of the proposed SAD for Copper Creek Condo's. Judy Bailey, President of Copper Creek Condo Association, Ron Burner, and Thomas Farmer, 7121 Copper Creek, spoke in favor of the proposed SAD for Copper Creek Condo's. Motion by Zarbo, supported by Kirchgatter to close the public hearing at 7:30 p.m. of Necessity and Consider Adopting the Confirming Resolution No. 3 for the Copper Creek Condominium Special Assessment District 2006-01. Motion carried by all members present. Motion by Bennett, supported by Zarbo to adopt the resolution confirming resolution No. 3 for the Copper Creek Condominium Special Assessment District 2006-01. Motion carried by all members present. RESOLUTION NO. 3 Copper Creek Condominiums Paving SAD No. 2006-1 Charter Township of Canton County of Wayne, State of Michigan Minutes of a Regular Board meeting of the Township Board of the Charter Township of Canton, County of Wayne, State of Michigan (the "Township"), held on the 14th day of November, 2006; in the Township at 7 o'clock p.m., Eastern Standard Time. PRESENT: Bennett, Kirchgatter, McLaughlin, Yack, Zarbo ABSENT: Caccamo (on Military leave), LaJoy The following preamble and resolution were offered by Clerk Bennett and supported by Trustee Zarbo : WHEREAS, this Township Board, pursuant to Act 188, Public Acts of Michigan, 1954, as amended, and after notice to all of the record owners of land in the proposed special assessment district, tentatively declared its intention to undertake certain public improvements in the Township, as more particularly described in Exhibit A hereto; and WHEREAS the Township Board has caused to be prepared by a registered engineer plans showing the public improvements and the location thereof and an estimate of the cost thereof; and WHEREAS, after due and legal notice, the Township Board has met on November 14th 2006, at 7 o'clock p.m., Eastern Standard Time, and heard all persons interest therein at said first (1) hearing with respect to the proposed public improvements and the special assessment district; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: 1. The Township Board hereby determines that the public improvements described in Exhibit A (attached) hereto and made a part hereof are necessary for the health, safety and welfare of the Township and that said public improvements shall be made and completed pursuant to aforesaid Act 188. 2. The Township Board hereby approves the plans and estimate of cost for the public improvements in the total sum of \$ 400,000 as prepared and presented by the Township engineer. Of the aforesaid total cost of the project, the sum of \$ 400,000 will be spread against the hereinafter named special assessment district pursuant to the aforesaid Act 188. 3. The Township Board finally determines that said special assessment district shall consist of all of the lots and parcels of land described in Exhibit B (attached) hereto and that the existence of said special assessment district shall be maintained until all special assessments payable on the roll hereinafter described, and any bonds issued in anticipation of such special assessments, have been paid. 4. The Supervisor is hereby directed to make a special assessment roll in which shall be described all the parcels of land to be assessed as above set forth, with the names of the owners thereof, if known, and the total amount to be assessed against each parcel of land, which amount shall be such relative portion of the whole sum to be levied against all parcels of land in the assessment district as the benefit to such parcel of land bears to the total benefit of all parcels of land in the special assessment district. 5. When the Supervisor shall have completed the special assessment roll, the Supervisor shall affix thereto a certificate stating that said roll was made pursuant to a resolution of the Township Board of the Township adopted on the date of adoption of this resolution, and that in making the assessment roll the Supervisor has, according to the Supervisor's best judgment, conformed in all respects to the directions contained in said resolution and the statues of the State of Michigan, and the Supervisor shall then report the special assessment roll, with the certificate attached thereto, to the Township Board. 6. All resolutions and parts of resolutions insofar as they conflict with the provisions of this resolution be and they hereby are rescinded. AYES: Bennett, Kirchgatter, McLaughlin, Yack, Zarbo NAYS: None RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED. <u>CONSENT CALENDAR</u>: Item 1. RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF POLICE AND FIRE RETIREMENTS. (SUPERVISOR) Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to adopt the resolution in recognition of Police and Fire Retirements. Motion carried by all members present. Item 2. ESTABLISH BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING DATES FOR 2007. (CLERK) Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to establish the Canton Township Board of Trustees meeting schedule for the year 2007 as follows: first, second, third, fourth and fifth Tuesday of each month of the 2007 calendar year, with the exception of: February 27, 2007, and May 8, 2007, Election dates. In addition, the following meetings held Tuesday, December 25, 2007 and Tuesday January 1, 2008 will be cancelled upon approval of the relative bargaining unit's contract. The Board of Trustees Regular Meetings. will be held, at 7:00 p.m. at the Charter Township of Canton Administration Building, Board of Trustees meeting room, 1150 Canton Center South, First Floor, Canton, Michigan. Motion carried by all members present. Item 3. SET PUBLIC HEARING **REQUEST FOR CLASS C LIQUOR LICENSE TRANSFER TO** GADEREN LLC, DBA GINGER RESTAURANT AT 8465 LILLEY ROAD, CANTON TOWNSHIP, CANTON, MI 48187, WAYNE COUNTY. (CLERK) Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to set the Public Hearing date for December 12, 2006 to consider the transfer of a Class C liquor license currently held in escrow at 14850 Dix-Toledo Road, Southgate, MI, to Gaderen LLC/ DBA Ginger Restaurant, located at 8465 N. Lilley Road, Canton Township, Canton, MI 48187, Wayne County. Motion carried by all members present. Item 4. BUDGET AMENDMENT - SPECIAL INVESTIGATION FUNDS 266, 267 AND 289. (FBD) Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve the following budget amendment for the Special Investigative Funds 266, 267 and 289 to correct line item budget: Fund 267 - Special Investigative Fund Increase Revenues: Fund balance appropriation 267-000-699-0000 \$32,284.00 Increase Appropriations Equipment 267-333-977-0000 \$20,000.00 Transfer to State Projects Fund 267-333-965-2890 12,284.00 = \$32,284.00 This budget amendment increases the 2006 Special Investigative Fund budget from \$100,307 to \$132,591. Fund 289 - State Projects Fund Increase Revenues: **Contribution from Forfeiture Fund**

Increase Appropriations Wage reimbursement - Sworn 289-333-714-0000 \$ 3,393.00 Overtime reimbursement - Sworn 289-333-718-0000 (5, 196.00)Fringe benefit reimbursement - Sworn 289-333-725-0000 14,087.00 \$12,284.00This budget amendment increases the 2006 State Projects Fund budget from \$314,943 to \$327,227. Fund 266 - WWN Forfaiture Fund

r unu 200 – w win Forieiture	runa		
Increase Revenues:			
Fund balance appropriation	266-000-699-0000	\$17,500.0)0
Increase Appropriations			
Salary – Clerical	266-333-715-0000	\$7,500.0)0
Fringe Benefits	266-333-725-0000	500.0	
Training	266-333-951-0000	2,000.0	00
Improvements & Equipment	266-333-977-0000	7,500.0	ю

\$17,500.00 This budget amendment increases the 2006 WWN Forfeiture Fund budget from \$361,000 to \$378,500. Motion carried by all members present.

Item 5. APPROVE APPOINTMENTS TO THE CULTURAL COMMISSION. (CLS) Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve the re-appointments of Sharon Dillenbeck, Darian Moore, Herb Scott, Timothy Smola and Donald Soenen to the Commission for Culture, Arts & Heritage for three (3) year terms. (Terms expiring 12/31/09). I further move to appoint Tim Schoenherr to the Commission for Culture, Arts & Heritage for a three (3) year term. (Term expiring 12/31/09). Motion carried by all members present. Item 6. CONSIDER GENERAL FUND BUDGET AMENDMENT-ENGINEERING SERVICES. (MSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve the following budget in the General Fund to increase the Engineering Services Division budget: Increase (Decrease) Appropriations: **Overtime-Engineering Services**

#101-447-708-0000	\$ 9
Contracted Services-Engineering Services	Ψ.
101-447-818-0000	(9

Total \$0 This budget amendment does not change the Engineering Services Division budget total or the General Fund budget total. Motion carried by all members present. Item 7. CONSIDER ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY DEDICATION ALONG CANTON CENTER ROAD ON A PART OF VACATED PROCTOR ROAD (HERITAGE PARK). (MSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve the dedication of a 60-foot road right-of-way on Canton Center Road on a part of vacated Proctor Road (Heritage Park) parcel for Tax Number 71-081-99-0001-702, and authorize the Township Supervisor and Clerk to sign the attached quit claim deed. Motion carried by all members present.

Item 8. CONSIDER GENERAL FUND BUDGET AMENDMENT BUILDING AND INSPECTION SERVICES CONTRACTED

SERVICES. (MSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve the following budget amendment in the General Fund to transfer funds from Building and Inspection Services Overtime Account to Building and Inspection Services Contracted Services Account:

FROM: Overtime

#101-371-708-0000 \$5,000.00

TO: Contracted Services #101-371-818-0000 \$5.000.00 This budget amendment does not change the Building and Inspection Services budget total or the General Fund budget total. Motion carried by all members present. Item 9. APPROVE MERS RESOLUTION TO PPURCHASE SERVICE CREDIT. (FBD) Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve the recommendation the township amortizes the purchase of MERS service credit over 30 years, and approve the following MERS Resolution granting the authorization to purchase the additional credited service for Director Durack. WHEREAS provided by the MERS Plan Document, the above additional credited service is granted this member by resolution adopted by Charter Township of Canton at it meeting November 14, 2006. It is understood that calculation of the actuarial cost is based on the assumptions approved by the Retirement Board on the date the calculation was prepared. Actual, future events and experience may result in changes different than those assumed, and liability different than that estimated. Motion carried by all members present. Item 10. CONSIDER BUDGET AMENDMENT - GENERAL FUND -STAFF REDUCTIONS. (FBD) Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve the following General Fund budget amendment to reduce revenues for decreased building activities and related cost reductions in General Fund accounts: Decrease Revenues: 000)

Building Permits	#101-000-477-0000	\$(1,000,0
Electrical Permits	101-000-478-0000	(220,0
Mechanical Permits	101-000-479-0000	(140.0
Plumbing Permits	101-000-480-0000	(280,0
Contractual Inspections	101-000-483-0000	(23,0
Fund Balance Appropriation	101-000-699-0000	496.
Total		\$(1,166,7
Decrease Appropriations:		+ (-,
		•

Salaries-Administrative Services #101-175-705-0000

amended (the "Code") so as to enable the Bonds to be sold at lower rates of interest; AND WHEREAS, in order for Bonds to be qualified tax exempt obligations the total amount of Bonds including premium and reoffering premiums must not exceed \$10,000,000; AND WHEREAS, subsequent to the sale and award of the Bonds to First Trust Portfolios, L.P. as manager of the underwriting syndicate it was determined that the reoffering premium when taken with the original bid premium and the revised par amount of the Bonds caused the total amount of the Bonds to exceed \$10,000,000; AND WHEREAS, it is therefore necessary to amend the Resolution to reduce the par amount of the Bonds and the resolution awarding the Bonds to First Trust Portfolios, L.P. to provide for an adjusted premium in order to allow the Bonds to be qualified tax exempt obligations. NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS: 1. Limited Tax General Obligation Bonds, Series 2006 shall be in the par amount of \$9,860,000 maturing on June 1st of the following years and in the following amounts:

2007 and 2008	500,000	2009
2010	700,000	2011
2012	875,000	2013
2014 and 2015	1,100,000	2016
2017 and 2018	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	
	2010 2012 2014 and 2015	2010 700,000 2012 875,000 2014 and 2015 1,100,000

2. The purchasing syndicate's premium shall be \$90,157 of which the sum of \$40,000 shall be deposited in the Limited Tax General Obligation Bonds Construction Fund established by the Resolution and the remaining amount of premium shall be deposited in the Debt Retirement Fund established by the Resolution. 3. All resolutions and parts of resolutions insofar as they conflict with the provisions of this resolution be and the same hereby are rescinded. AYES: Bennett, Kirchgatter, McLaughlin, Yack, Zarbo NAYS: None RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED. Item 2. CONSIDER OSMER REZONING. (MSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to adopt the resolution for rezoning request of Karen Mueller (Osmer Property). Motion carried by all members present. RESOLUTION OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON Rezoning Request of Karen Mueller (Osmer Property) 9,500 WHEREAS, the petitioner has requested approximately 3.25 acres located on the south side of Hanford Road between beck and Ridge Roads be rezoned from R-1, Single-Family Residential District to R-2, Single-Family Residential District; and, WHEREAS, the requested 9,500) rezoning is not in conformity with the Future Land Use Map of the Comprehensive Plan per the above analysis; and WHEREAS, the Canton Township Planning Commission recommended DENIAL of the request; NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton, Michigan does hereby DENY the request of the petitioner to rezone property identified by property tax EDP No. 032-99-0007-001 to R-2, Single-Family Residential District. Item 3. CONSIDER SITE PLAN FOR CANTON CORNERS EAST OUTLET. (MSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to adopt the resolution for the site plan for Canton Corners East Outlot. Motion carried by all members present. RESOLUTION OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON Site Plan for Canton Corners East Outlot WHEREAS, the Project Sponsor, Mr. James Pappas, has requested site plan approval for the Canton Corners East Outlot to be located on Ford and Lilley Roads, identified as tax EDP #054-99-0001-013; and, WHEREAS, the Planning Commission reviewed the site plan and made a recommendation to approve the request to grant site plan approval conditioned upon resolution of the DDA wall location conflict. NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton, Michigan does hereby approve the request of the petitioner, Mr. James Pappas, to approve the site plan for the proposed Canton Corners East Outlot conditioned upon removal of the existing wall segments and replacement with the DDA garden walls as applicable and subject to any and all state and local development regulations and further subject to any conditions recommended by the Planning Commission and staff, as described in the analysis and recommendation attached hereto and made a part hereof. Item 4. CONSIDER AWARD OF BID FOR PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF WORKSTATION PANELS IN BUILDING & INSPECTION SERVICES. (MSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to award the contract to ISCG in the amount of \$4,999.00 for purchase and installation of workstation panels in Building & Inspection Services to be paid out of account #101-371-977-0000 and to waive the September 30th deadline for 2006 capital outlay purchasing. Motion carried by all members present. Item 5. APPROVE PART TIME/SEASONAL/TEMPORARY WAGE SCALE. (ACSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by Zarbo to approve the attached Part-Time/ Seasonal/Temporary Wage Scale, which will include the addition of a classification and new part-time position of Specialist (Level One) to become effective 11/01/2007. Motion carried by all members present. Item 6. AWARD BID FOR LEGAL PUBLICATIONS. (CLERK) Motion by Bennett, supported by * to award the bid for the Charter 000Ì Township of Canton's legal publications to the Observer and 000) Eccentric Newspaper at \$ 4.00 per column inch and classified (000)advertisement will be \$29.20 per column inch Wayne and Oakland 000) Counties or \$14.30 per column inch for Wayne County alone. I move .244to designate the Canton Observer as the legal newspaper of The 756) Charter Township of Canton. (Account #101-200-900-0000, Printing and Publishing). The contract will run from December 1, 2006 to November 30, 2008. Motion carried by all members present. Item 7. APPROVAL TO PURCHASE WEBSITE CONTENT MANAGEMENT SOFTWARE. (FBD) Motion by Bennett. \$(51.275) (**FBD**) Motion Bennett. supported by Kirchgatter to approve the purchase of the Ektron CMS400.net content management upgrade for \$8045 which includes the first year maintenance agreement. I further move to approve the following budget amendment to appropriate funds in the Cable TV Fund for this purchase: Increase Revenues: Appropriation from Fund Balance #230-000-699-0000 \$ 8,045 **Increase Appropriations:** Software Purchases #230-250-755-0000 \$ 8.045 This budget amendment increases the Cable TV Fund budget from \$1,129,411 to \$1,137,456. Motion carried by all members present. Item 8. APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF CABLE TV STUDIO TELEPROMPTER EQUIPMENT (FBD) Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve the low price quote of \$3,450 (account 230-250-977-0000 Cable TV Capital Outlay) from Roscor Corporation for the purchase of a teleprompter and further to waive the Township's purchasing policy requirement that capital funds must be expended by September 30, 2006. I also move that funds be expended from unexpended funds remaining in Cable TV Capital Outlay project line item "Dockable Digital Recorder." Motion carried members present. Item. 9. BUDGET AMENDMENT by all WATER & SEWER FUND - YCUA SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT EXPANSION PROJECT. (FBD) Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to approve the following Water & Sewer Fund budget amendment for an additional contribution (from the 2006 budget) to the Western Townships Utilities Authority for Canton Township's share of the Ypsilanti Community Utilities Authority sewage treatment plant expansion project: Increase Revenues: Appropriation from Fund Balance

289-000-676-2670 \$12,284.00

 Fringe Benefits-Administrat; 	ive Services		1
C	101-175-720-0000	(17.946)	
Salaries-Municipal Services	Dept	(=)] = = 0 /	í
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Fringe Benefits-Municipal System	vc Dept	(, ,	f
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t -	101-371-705-0000	(310,859)	
Fringe Benefits-Building Ser	vices Division]
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Fringe Benefits-Engineering			3
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Fringe Benefits-Planning Svo		•	- (
	101-853-720-0000	(7,051)	\mathbf{t}
Contribution to Community I			r
Part and the second	101-959-965-2460	(550,000)	e
Total		\$(1 166 756)	6

This budget amendment decreases the Administrative & Community Services Department budget from \$274,371 to 205,150, the Municipal Services Department budget from \$377,105 to \$332,791, the Building Services Division budget from \$1,886,725 to \$1,464,127, the Engineering Services Division budget from \$1,314,363 to \$1,257,967, the Planning Services Division budget from \$662,680 to \$638,003, the Transfers Out Department budget from \$4,730,052 to \$4,180,052, and the General Fund budget from \$29,532,425 to \$28,365,669. Motion carried by all members present. Item 11. CONSIDER AMENDMENT BUDGET TRANSFER OF COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST POSITION FROM THE FINANCE AND BUDGET DEPARTMENT BUDGET TO THE SUPERVISOR'S OFFICE BUDGET. (SUPERVISOR) Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve the following General Fund budget amendment for the transfer of the Communications Specialist position from the Finance & Budget Department to the Supervisor's Office: Increase (Decrease) Appropriations: Salaries-Finance & Budget Departmen

outputtos i munico de Duugot	nehar únem	
-	#101-223-705-0000	(27.018)
Fringe Benefits-Finance & l	Budget Dept	
	101-223-720-0000	(10.807)
Salaries-Supervisor's Office	101-171-705-0000	27.018
Fringe Benefits- Supervisor	's Office	
	101-171-720-0000	10,807

Total

\$ 0 This budget amendment decreases the Finance & Budget Department budget from \$1,027,836 to \$990,011 and increases the Supervisor's Office budget from \$338,880 to \$376,705 and does not change the General Fund budget total. Motion carried by all members present. GENERAL CALENDAR: Item 1. AMEND THE BOND AUTHORIZING RESOLUTIONS FOR THE DDA AND RECREATION BOND ISSUES. (FBD) Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve the Resolutions to Amend the Bond Authorizing Resolution for the Recreation Capital Improvement project and Downtown Development Authority Capital Improvement project. Motion carried by all members present. RESOLUTION REGARDING LIMITED TAX GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS HARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON County of Wayne, State of Michigan Minutes of a regular meeting of the Township Board of the Charter Township of Canton, County of Wayne, Michigan (the Township" or "Issuer"), held on the 14th day of November, 2006, at 7:00 o'clock p.m., Eastern Standard Time. PRESENT: Bennett, Kirchgatter, McLaughlin, Yack, Zarbo ABSENT: Caccamo (on Military leave), LaJoy The following preamble and resolution were offered by Clerk Bennett, supported by Treasurer Kirchgatter: WHEREAS, by resolution duly adopted September 26, 2006, (the "Resolution") this Board authorized the issuance of not to exceed \$10,000,000 Limited Tax General Obligation Bonds, Series 2006 (the "Bonds"), the proceeds of which are to be utilized to pay the costs of certain capital improvements; AND WHEREAS, it was determined to be reasonable and necessary to reduce the par amount of the Bonds to \$9,900,000 in order to offer the Bonds as qualified tax exempt obligations pursuant to Section 265(b)(3)(B) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as

#592-000-699-0000 **Increase Appropriations:**

\$260,000

WTUA Capital Charges #592-441-969-0000 \$260.000 This budget amendment increases the Water & Sewer Fund budget from \$30,908,240 to \$31,168,240. Motion carried by all members present.

Item 10. GENERAL FUND BUDGET AMENDMENT ASSESSOR'S OFFICE - ASSESSMENT APPEAL LEGAL & APPRAISAL FEES. (FBD) Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to approve the following General Fund budget amendment to increase the budget (from 2006 budget) for legal services for assessment appeals at the Michigan Tax Tribunal: Increase Revenues:

Appropriation from Fund Balance #101-000-699-000 \$ 34,500 **Increase** Appropriations:

Legal Fees-Assessor's Office #101-209-808-0000

\$ 34,500 This budget amendment increases the Assessor's Office budget from \$660,195 to \$694,695, and the General Fund budget from \$28,365,669 to \$28,400,169. Motion carried by all members present. Item 11. APPROVE INCREASE OF B & R JANITORIAL BLANKET PURCHASE ORDER FOR JANITORIAL SUPPLIES. (FBD) Motion by Bennett, supported by Zarbo to approve an increase of \$5,300 (Operating Supplies Account # 101-200-740-0000, 2006 budget, increasing PO 57376 from \$19,500 to \$24,800) for open purchase order 57376 with B&R Janitorial Supplies, thereby increasing the purchase order from \$19,500 to \$24,800. Motion carried by all members present.

Item 12. APPROVE FUNDING FOR CUSTOMER SERVICE TRAINING. (CLS) Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to approve an expenditure of \$5,000.00 (Human Resources Account #101-220-950-0000 Training Academy, 2006 Budget) to pay for the customer service training, Exceptional People: Exceptional Service, scheduled for December 2006. Motion carried by all members present.

Item 13. FELLOWS CREEK GOLF CLUB IMPROVEMENT. (CLS) Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to award the following projects for Fellows Creek Golf Club with all expenses charged to Account #469-900-975-2110, Buildings-Golf Course:

Ceiling Tile Replacement to Rule and Associates, Inc, 32255 Northwestern Hwy. Farmington Hills MI 48334 in the amount of \$13,906.

Continued on Page A14

CUUNIY

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U-M-Dearborn lauded for prison program

The American Association of University Women's Legal Advocacy Fund granted the University of Michigan, Dearborn the 2006 Progress in Equity Award for its efforts to educate women in a local prison.

The university's College Level Courses at the Scott Correctional Facility for Women offers universitycertified courses in women's studies, composition, sociology, African American studies, and other subjects to women at the prison. Courses are taught by university professors on a volunteer basis.

"We are honored to recognize this innovative program," said AAUW Educational Foundation President Barbara O'Connor. "We continue to be impressed by the important work it does to advance women's educational opportunities in a critically underserved population."

The program's effects are two-fold – giving female prisoners hope to overcome life's obstacles, and compelling the community to challenge conventional stereotypes about women in prison. The program will receive \$5,000 from AAUW.

"Women who receive a college education or begin the degree process while in prison fare better when they rejoin society than those who do not," said Program Director and University of Michigan at Dearborn Professor Lisa Lempert. "College builds a context for transformation and responsibility that the women take with them as they leave the facility."

The Progress in Equity Award recognizes a college or university program that promotes equity for women with a cash reward. Since 1987, the AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund has recognized more than 38 programs throughout the country for progressive and innovative advancements on behalf of women.

"When the Michigan legislature made it illegal to use tax dollars for inmate college tuition, this enterprising group of volunteers stepped in to fill a critical need and give a second chance to women in prison," said Lisa Maatz, interim director of the AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund.

The University of Hawaii, Honolulu received an honorable mention for its Bridge of Hope program, which provides on-campus student employment and support programs for welfare recipients.

An awards presentation was held Nov. 16 at the University of Michigan, Dearborn campus to honor the Scott Prison project.



BY HUGH GALLAGHER He said he

STAFF WRITER

U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter, R-Livonia, was elected by his colleagues to serve as chairman of the Republican House Policy Committee during Republican Conference Leadership elections Friday.

The position is the fourth highest leadership position in the Republican House Caucus.

McCotter defeated U.S. Rep. Darryl Issa of California, 132-63, for the spot. The policy committee has been part of the Republican leadership since the late 1940s. The committee helps shape Republican policy positions in general and on specific key issues.

"Especially coming from our area you could tell they were ideologically adrift and the corruption was more a symptom of lacking a principled agenda to push," McCotter said Monday about the scandals involving GOP House members and the subsequent loss of the House majority to the Democrats.

Without that agenda, he said, some members of the Republican party were tempted to succumb to the temptations offered to members of Congress.



tter 10 or 12 years during the GOP's domi-

nance of the House. "We came in as true believers," McCotter said. He was

first elected in 2002. He said his first task will be structural, promoting more interaction between party members on issues they can unite behind.

"You have to talk to each other, you have to put forward the conclusions you reach," he said.

He compared himself to a conductor bringing the members together. He said two issues are at the

forefront, health care and the war in Iraq. "No doubt (health care) will

be a contentious issue between the two parties, between universal coverage and universal access," he said. He said he would push for

universal access through private insurance rather than a government program.

Disc Herniation?

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Suburban Detroit - A new free report has recently been released that reveals an amazing new medical breakthrough

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pain. Even with multiple herniated discs. Find out how space travel solved astronauts back pain and how this

accidental discovery has let to the most promising back

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toll-free 24 hr. recorded message for all the details. If phone

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McCotter elected chair of Policy Committee

"It's important to remember that this is not to be the final word on the subject," he said. He said it will be important

for Republicans to clearly articulate their differences.

McCotter also said he wants to find a way to work with the Democratic majority.

"The key for my party is that they not only offer loyal opposition but also loyal cooperation and not oppose just to oppose," he said.

McCotter said he learned a valuable lesson when he was a minority member of the Wayne County Commission. He said then County Executive Ed McNamara always demanded that the Republicans on the commission offer a better alternative. McCotter joked that the alternatives were always dismissed but he learned the importance of presenting another option.

A9

(*)

McCotter said he had expected John Boehner of Ohio to be elected minority leader, as he has only been the majority leader for eight months. He said Speaker of the House Dennis Hastert "took a hit" for the party by stepping aside from the leadership election and allowing the party to move forward with a new slate of leaders.

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Thursday, November 23, 2006

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

OUR VIEWS MDOT call on bridge

Work was a good one Sometimes you have to speak up and make your feel-

ings known. Canton retailers in the Ford Road-Canton Center Road area were unhappy about the planned replacement project of the bridge carrying Ford over Fellows Creek. The work, which was delayed, was going to take place during the holiday season.

Last week, Michigan Department of Transportation officials announced the work would be put off until next summer. Last week, Michigan Department of Transportation officials announced the work would be put off until next summer.

Rob Morosi, MDOT spokesman for the area, said retailer concerns were a factor. "That was a big part of it, absolutely," he said Nov. 13 as the decision was announced. "We had heard the concerns of the retailers."

Dianne Cojei, president of the Canton Chamber of Commerce, heard from area retailers who are pleased their businesses will be more accessible during the allimportant holiday season. She spoke to the nearby Kohl's manager, among those happy about the MDOT decision.

"Retailers do most of their business during this holiday season," Cojei said.

State government comes in for its share of criticism and sometimes justifiably so, but it's important to recognize and applaud sound decisions as well. We applaud MDOT for its call and for being responsive to local concerns.

Traditions make Thanksgiving everyone's favorite holiday

Thanksgiving is everyone's favorite holiday. It hasn't been diminished by commercialism or robbed of its true meaning, as have the three-day summer holidays.

Thanksgiving remains a day for family, friends, good food and a sincere sense of gratitude for the blessings of life in this great country.

In southeast Michigan, Thanksgiving has long been



both a public and a private holiday. The city is host to one of the largest, most colorful and high- spirited parades in the country. It's a parade of magical floats and balloons designed by children, local high school bands and a legion of volunteer builders. float marchers and clowns. For generations, the little children of this area have always marked the beginning of Christmas magic with the arrival of Santa's sleigh down Woodward at the Thanksgiving Day Parade.

Coleman out of line

The day after elections, I was amazed at the arrogance of Mary Sue Coleman, the University of Michigan president, on television telling the taxpayers of Michigan how she and her lawyers are going to fight the installation of Prop. 2. Who pays for this? The citizens who

just voted in the proposal? I thought U-M was a state university supported by the citizen taxpayers of Michigan who passed a proposal by a wide margin to eliminate entrance discrimination.

Who is this person telling the Michigan taxpayers that she is going to do what she wants, didn't we hire her and pay her salary? She's not the CEO of a private company but the president of a great state university.

The citizens of Michigan do not want

the prevailing theory, e.g. in the above mentioned article.

Science is strongly rooted in seeking causes and observing effects. The original cause of the universe also must have a cause. Ironically, the godless view of the universe requires that at its origin the universe has no cause. To suggest that this original cause is outside of nature is quickly labeled as "not science." In contrast the view that the original cause of the universe is somehow itself uncaused is strangely considered more scientific.

When it comes to studying the origin of life, it is not possible to completely separate faith and science. From an academic standpoint it is a dangerous situation when challenges to an idea or theory are dismissed out of hand as "not science." If it is truly science that we seek, we would relentlessly present and pursue the challenges to the theory of evolution. Focusing only on the strengths of evolution with a religious zeal is not science. So, to the Board of Education and to our dedicated teachers: Yes, please do teach the theory of evolution to my children, but teach it with scientific integrity - teach the strengths and the weaknesses. Teach my children to understand that our knowledge has boundaries where proof ends and speculation begins. Teach them that sometimes even scientists have an agenda. Above all teach them to fearlessly seek the truth, wherever it leads. **Mark Plencner** www.hometownlife.com



LETTERS

There is something rotten going oin our country.

Paul L. Gruhala Wetand

Is evolution fact?

How unfortunate. Our Michigan Board of Education recently ruled ndo include the theory of intelligent desitas a theory in science curriculum. As expected, the MEA will continue to f low its closed-mind agenda, electing: teach only the theory of evolution the ignoring the definition of science: A ^{id} of study seeking to better understand natural phenomena through the used observations and experiments.

If science is to equip students to ber

Since 1934, the Detroit Lions have also been part of Thanksgiving. In that first Thanksgiving confrontation, the Lions lost to the Chicago Bears 19-16. But through good years and bad, the Lions have made their place into millions of homes for the holiday.

But as important as these public traditions are, it is the special family traditions that matter most: the special recipes that make their way to the holiday table whether anyone really enjoys them or not; the college students who return to the family hearth for the first time since leaving for campus and then head out to meet with friends, making the night before Thanksgiving the most lucrative for taverns; the ritual moments at every dinner — the moment for grace, the carving of the turkey, the choosing between the pumpkin and the apple pie; and, best of all, the flood of memories of all those past gatherings of family and friends. Even the inevitable family squabbles have their place in our Thanksgiving memories.

We have much to remember and much for which to be grateful.

Keep hope alive and have a happy Thanksgiving!



the University of Michigan to be the "left coast" university of the Midwest. If Mary Sue Coleman wants to foster these kind of attitudes at the U-M, maybe it's time for her to go back where she came from.

Richard Giles

Canton

Faith in evolution

Any question about human origin takes us to the intersection of faith and science. At this intersection many would look both ways for the presence or absence of God. Currently, science has not proven that God exists, nor has it proven his absence. A belief one way or the other in such an unproven reality is called faith. In this sense, the atheist also has faith, i.e. a belief in something unproven.

Regarding the origins of life, there are three popular approaches to explaining our origin: pure creationism, intelligent design and evolution. Ironically, a believer in God can be open to all three of these theories. An atheist, however, can only be open to evolution and has a vested interest in proving evolution to be true.

If evolution is not true, the atheist has a problem of divine proportions. For this reason, it is inaccurate to portray the atheist as somehow uniquely objective when it comes to the study of human origin, and the theist as somehow stuck in his biases.

Only the theist can possibly be open to all three notions of our origin.

Because of this, it is not sufficient to remove religion from science as suggested in your article, "Locals: Separate science, religion." It is necessary to remove the underlying faith in evolution from the science of evolution. Evolution is still a scientific theory; it is not yet an unshakable fact.

Yet, at museums, zoos, in the media, *i* and in schools it is generally spoken of as an uncontested fact, and this is scientifically inaccurate. Many books are available about scientific challenges to evolution. These challenges seem to be dismissed as "not science" by promoters of Plymouth

Supreme Court is wrong

I'm a student of a philosopher who says the only way someone can help save the wetlands without stepping over anyone else's rights is to get government to enforce our unalienable right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness as stated in our Declaration of Independence and reaffirmed in our Constitution's Ninth Amendment. And I believe that because it makes sense.

Fat chance though, last year our Supreme Court said we don't even have an unalienable right to our own property in the Kelo vs. New London trial in Connecticut. It's really worse out here than people realize.

If those so-called brilliant, supposedly honest and maybe innocent Supreme Court judges (but I don't see how) made a mistake by not recognizing that our right to property is a corollary of our right to life, i.e. Declaration of Independence, and reaffirmed in 9th Amendment, which means our right to property follows naturally from our right to our own life in a free country. Do you think they do not even believe we have a right to our own life? Because, if we can't manage our own property (everything we own), what are we - slaves? Why did they not tell the state in the Kelo vs. New London that all Americans have a unalienable right to their own property as guaranteed by the Ninth Amendment as any honest person would say - and that's that.

QUOTABLE

'I just felt like I was going to win that day, I really did.'

- Loretta Brown of Detroit, Mega Millions lottery winner, who bought her winning ticket at the Shell station at Ford ar different Haggerty in Canton

understand phenomena, then I argu^[] theories need to be presented. The e^[] tion theory is just that, only a theory^[] be accepted universally in the scient[‡] community, hypotheses must be re-c¹ ed successfully, and unless I have mi^[] something, we have yet been able to ^pate something from nothing, let alon evolve to human.

A Michigan teacher, Linda Brandt/as quoted as saying "intelligent design jot science." "In science" she went on to " "we test hypotheses to verify or dispne." She said "we can't test God, this is be'd on faith." I respectfully ask Ms. Brandif it doesn't also require faith to consid a single cell amoeba being created from nothing and evolving to a human bes?

The theory of evolution itself contr dicts the 1st and 2nd laws of thermotnamics which states, respectively: Something cannot be created from nthing and second, if no energy enters α leaves the system, the potential energ of the state will always be less than that f the initial state. Teaching atheistic eviution in Russia has led to chaos and cafusion. If we don't begin again to teach creationism (also known as intelliged design) as a viable scientific theory inour schools, we are bound for the same caos and confusion.

Cindy Watts Plynouth

SHARE YOUR OPINIONS

We welcome your letters to the editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We ask that your letters be400 words or less. We may edit for clarity, space and content.

Mail:

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OTHER OPINIONS

Funeral was about a Marine's honor, and a mother's love

As hundreds of people filed past the coffin of Sgt. Bryan Burgess on Saturday at St. Bernardine of Siena Catholic Church in Westland, representatives of a couple of different support groups waited nervously for his mother, Evelyn, to arrive.

They were there to make presentations honoring her son, who died Nov. 9 when a sniper's bullet caught him in the cheek, killing him instantly while on patrol with the 1st Battalion of the 24th Marines in Fallujah. They were there to offer support to Evelyn Burgess, whom they'd never met.

But it was Evelyn Burgess, a Westland mother there to bury her son, who did most



of the supporting, stoically accepting the embraces of these groups, most of whom were moved to tears. Evelyn suffered them gladly, a grateful smile adorning her face, the tired face of a mother who'd just lost her only child. Summoning the strength

maybe only a mother can

to the coffin. She caressed

have, she then made her way

Brad Kadrich

Bryan's face, held his hand for just a moment, let him know one last time she loved him. And then she let him go.

There was no outward bitterness, no anger at the senseless loss - emotions to which she certainly is entitled. But you got the sense watching her, and listening to his friends and fellow Marines talking about him, that that's not what Burgess, a Westland native who went to Franklin High School, would have wanted.

"He loved being a Marine ... I'm very proud of him," she said.

Loved it so much he went to Iraq when it wasn't really necessary. He'd served around the world, taking part in Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2003 and spending time training against terrorists in Africa and with soldiers from other countries in South America.

But when his unit — the largest Michigan contingent to serve in Iraq – was going back, Burgess, 35, wanted to make sure the younger guys had guidance.

"He wanted to go to Iraq to make sure the younger guys, who didn't have the experience, were OK," said Sgt. Bradley Compton, 26, a Marine Reserve veteran who had deployed with Burgess before. "He worked really well with the younger Marines, and they had an enormous amount of respect for him. He had outstanding leadership ability."

When I was a youngster, my mother used to tell me, "Mommies know everything." Burgess' mom knew something was wrong

when three Marines showed up at her doorstep. When you've got a son deployed overseas in a war, that's the last sight you want to see.

"He had only been in Iraq for six weeks and I was afraid for him ... he was on my mind 24 hours a day," Evelyn Burgess said. "But he wanted to serve his country and be with his fellow Marines. I knew something was wrong; I knew he was gone."

Mommies know everything.

There were rumors that the group associated with Fred Phelps, the leader of the Westboro Baptist Church in Topeka, Kan., that has been protesting at soldiers' funerals, espousing anti-gay views, planned to show up Saturday. One of Phelps' beliefs is that the war in Iraq is going so badly as a way of God punishing the United States for being tolerant of gays. Ironically, as despicable as such a protest would have been, it's entirely possible Burgess, who died serving a country that wholeheartedly embraces the concept of freedom of speech, would have said, "Let them have their say."

Thankfully, we'll never know, because the group didn't show up, allowing the day to be solely about honor, about a soldier who died doing a job that wasn't his, because that's how he was, by all accounts.

It was a trait the Rev. Sal Briffa, pastor of St. Bernardine, extolled during Saturday's Mass, when he talked about Burgess' penchant for helping others, from fellow Marines to next-door neighbors to total strangers in a culture thousands of miles removed from his own.

"We know Bryan's death is not meaningless," Briffa said. "Bryan offered his very life to bring peace and freedom to millions of people in Iraq."

Saturday was about honor, from the Marine procession that stopped in front of Evelyn Burgess' Westland home and rendered her a salute, to a mother who gave her only son in service to his country.

And when it was over, after tears had been shed and Taps and Amazing Grace had been played and the 21-gun salute had been rendered, this was about a mother who let her son go, secure in and comforted by the knowledge he'd died his way - serving his country, with honor.

Mommies know everything.

Brad Kadrich is community editor of the Plymouth Observer who spent 15 years in the U.S. Air Force. He can be reached via e-mail at bkadrich@hometownlife.com or by phone at (734) 459-2700. Staff writer Tony Bruscato contributed to this report.

'One D' sounds terrific, but can it deliver on its mission?

** arlier this past week, several editors of this newspaper sat down with the driving forces *behind a new regional alliance whose professed mission is to transform southeast Michigan into one cohesive, thriving metropolis.

The new group — One D: Transforming Regional Detroit — combines the leadership of six civic organizations that individually have solid track records of community service.

The theory behind the joining of New Detroit, United Way of Southeast Michigan, the Detroit Regional Chamber, Detroit Renaissance, the Detroit Metro Convention and Visitors Bureau, and the Cultural Alliance of Southeast Michigan is simple: one, unified voice for the region will be

> much more effective than six voices straining to be heard over one another.

As impressive as the collection of organizations is, so is the list of six areas the new group plans to target for improvement: economic prosperity, educational preparedness, regional transit, race relations, quality of life and regional cooperation.

Much about the effort remains in the conceptual stage. Specific

strategies are being developed from earlier studies conducted by the groups, with the goal of presenting a blueprint for action at the Detroit Regional Chamber's annual policy conference on Mackinac Island next spring.

At our meeting, United Way President and CEO Michael Brennan explained the groups decided to form the alliance now because the region - and, indeed, the entire state - is at a crossroads. Mounting job losses, a fractured political climate and continuing race relations issues can only be. solved on a regional basis.

Brennan called One D a unique alliance in the country, one that needs to focus both the private and public sectors on working together as a region to solve these historical problems.

"We can't go it alone any longer," he said. "We have to develop a greater regional capacity."

For his part, chamber President and CEO Dick Blouse acknowledged the issues the new group plans to tackle are as old as the organizations themselves.

'The chamber has been pushing for regional transit since 1967, so we know about being patient," he said.

But that's not to say the group does not expect meaningful results at each stage of its evolution. Brennan explained part of the blueprint to be unveiled at the Mackinac conference will include a report card that the group will use to grade itself on its relative success.

New Detroit's Shirley Stancato said the alliance already has had one positive effect in that it has

strengthened each of the individual organizations. "We all have similar goals, we rely on the same

(C) A11

business leaders for support, and share many board members," she said. "By working together, we can reduce duplication, focus our efforts and provide more coordinated services."

And maybe that experience is a precursor to the real impact the alliance could have on southeast Michigan. If the six organizations can prove to their civic and business support base that they can work together for the betterment of the area, then the needed support of the corporate community and ultimately the state's political leaders will have to respond to its message.

I applaud the group for its effort, and hope it can do some good. God knows the problems it is tackling individually have proven to be insurmountable, let alone attacking all six at once.

But as Blouse pointed out, the key issues are so intertwined they have to be dealt with as a group. And it is easier for a focused, unified force to move a mountain than a bunch of little forces acting alone.

Two huge hurdles One D will need to overcome are finding the necessary resources to get its message out and implement its blueprint, and getting the state's political leaders to join the effort. Neither will be easy, but this collaboration may represent the best chance yet.

Blouse said the group already has met with most of the key foundations in the state and once the organization proves itself it will be much easier to attract the necessary grants to implement the strategies.

And since the boards of directors of the six organizations are filled with the area's corporate movers and shakers, it is logical to assume that private sector backing - both in dollars and influence - will be there as well.

The remaining piece in the puzzle, getting political leaders to work together on behalf of the region, won't be so easy. We just witnessed one of the dirtiest election campaigns in history which featured plenty of race baiting and pitting Detroit against the rest of the state.

Serious mistrust between city and suburban politicians is readily evident in continuing squabbles over how to improve public transit, the operation of the Detroit Water Department and financing for a new convention center.

But if the forces behind One D can rally the private sector and gain public support for their endeavors, they may be able to use that clout to change the political climate as well. And that would go a long way toward solving the problemsthey are targeting.

Joe Bauman is managing editor of the Eccentric Newspapers. He welcomes feedback at (248) 901-2563 or email him at jbauman@hometownlife.com.



Bauman

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With \$974 customer cash due at signing. Includes acquisition fee; security deposit waived.** Excludes tax, title and license fee. Cash due is after \$2,500 RCL cash back, \$1,000 bonus cash and \$1,000 RCL renewal cash.



Eligible Ford Employees can Lease a 2007 Ford Freestye SEL

(Septer



With \$1,913 customer cash due at signing. 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.

SIRIUS Satellite Radio is now available as a factory-installed option on the 2007 Ford Five Hundred. Get more than 125 music, sports, news and talk channels at your fingertips





For as low as

Chrome Package Includes:

An all new Chrome-Mesh Grille... And 18 inch Chrome-Clad Wheels...

Eligible Ford Employees can Lease a 2007 Five Hundred SEL Chrome Edition



A month(1) with a 24 month low mileage Red Carpet Renewal Lease.

With \$2,259 customer cash due at signing.

Includes acquisition fee; security deposit waived.** Excludes tax, title and license fee. Cash due is after \$495 Chrome Package bonus cash and \$500 RCL renewal cash.



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(1) Not all buyers will qualify for Ford Credit Red Carpet Lease. Payments may vary: All payment examples are for Current Ford Employees and eligible family member Lessees. Residency restrictions apply. For special lease terms, RCI Cash, and bonus cash, take new retail delivery from dealer stock by 11/30/06. Supplies are limited, not all dealers will have all featured models. See dealer for qualifications and complete details. Customers must finance through Ford Credit. Not all buyers qualify for Ford Credit limited term financing innited term financing or cash back, available on selected 2007 models only. See dealer for qualifications and complete details. Take new relail drivery from dealer stock by 11/30/06. Supplies are limited term financing or cash back, available on selected 2007 models only. See dealer for qualifications and complete details. Take new relail drivery from dealer stock by 11/30/06. Supplies are limited term financing or cash back, available on selected 2007 models only. See dealer for qualifications and complete details. Take new relail drivery from dealer stock by 11/30/06. Supplies are limited term financing to customers terminating their Ford Division Red Carpet Lease and re-lease for 24 months by 1/2/2007.

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EDUCATION

(*) A13

Area educators visit China on bridge-building mission

Knowledge is power!

Most of us have heard this statement sometime in our life. Yet, it could not be more true as we enter the 21st-century "knowledge" economy where technology has knocked down walls and political boundaries like no other time in human history.

It was this quest for knowledge that led 18 metro-area educators and business officials to accept an invitation to visit China from Hanban, the executive body of the Chinese language Council

International, a non-governmental and non-profit organization affiliated with the National Ministry of Education of the People's Republic of China.

The goal of Hanban is "making the Chinese language and culture teaching available to the world to contribute to the formation of a world of cultural diversity and harmony."

Our delegation's goal is to continue to find ways to build bridges with Chinese educators and to secure English-speaking Chinese teachers who will come to Michigan to teach Chinese language, history and culture to our students to help prepare them for the transformational, disruptive, technological-driven global economy they will face.

As educators and business leaders, the participants of this education delegation to China believe that if Michigan wants to survive and thrive in the flattened world economy it is critical to find ways to build bridges and not dig moats with our Chinese colleagues. It was toward this end that we embarked last month on a 10day, three-city tour of China (Beijing, Tianjin, and Xian) as the guests of the Office of Chinese Language Council International

(www.english.hanban.edu.cn). This was my ninth trip to China since 1989. A great elementary teacher opened my eves to China many years ago and I have been fascinated ever since. I co-led this delegation along with Lily Yen, COO of the Center for Management Training and Development and her husband Dr. Louis Yen. This is our second delegation in the past two years and we will continue to seek to build language, cultural and economic bridges between China and the state of Michigan.



assistant superintendents and a representative from the Detroit Regional Chamber of Commerce.

If you concur with the statement that "knowledge is power," ask yourself how much you know about China? Did you know that China is home to 1.3 billion people, with more than 100 cities that have a population of more than 1 million people?

I wrote this while sitting in my hotel room in Beijing, the capital of the People's Republic of China, which is a city with more than 12 million people. To put that number in perspective, there are 10 million people living in the entire state of Michigan. Imagine everyone in Michigan jammed into Wayne County, plus 2 million people, and you can perhaps begin to comprehend the sheer magnitude of the humanity I could see as dawn broke in this capital city. There is so much building going on in China that the joke is that the nation's bird is the "building

crane!"

Did you know that more people know or are studying English in China than there are people in the United States? Did you know that more than 300 million people, the same number of U.S. citizens, have risen from poverty in China during the last quarter of a century?

Mandarin Chinese is the most widely spoken language in the world and yet it is not offered as a language in most schools across this county. The national governments both here and in China are attempting to catch up with the reality that China has awaken and will be a superpower economically and in other ways in the 21st century.

TEACHING MANDARIN

The Novi school district has broken out of the pack and taken the lead in offering Mandarin Chinese at the high school level this year. John Lawrence, principal of Novi High School, said, "the world is shrinking, and it is critical that we prepare our children and students to thrive in a global economy. Knowing the Chinese culture and language is another tool that will better prepare our kids to compete in the 21st century knowledge economy."



A delegation of educators from the United States met with Chinese educators and visited Chinese schools.

Peter Dion, superintendent of Novi School District added, "currently 23 percent of our school population is Asian (Chinese, Korean, Japanese and Indian). We are proud that the Novi School board is forward-thinking and always striving to provide a worldclass education to our children. Offering Mandarin Chinese is just another example of our progressive school district." Mary Blackmon, president

of the Wayne Regional Educational Service Agency that provides educational support services to the 34 school districts in Wayne County said: "Clearly China is on the rise economically. Educationally it is our responsibility as leaders to prepare our students to be competitive in an ever-changing world."

"Meeting and hearing Chinese students from kindergarten to high school speak English was astonishing and demonstrates that we have our work to do to make sure our students are prepared to prosper," Blackmon said. Northville Public Schools sent two board members — Karen Paciorek and Marilyn Price — on the trip. Both see tremendous potential in educational exchanges with China.

"Wow would be an understatement!" Paciorek said. "I was impressed by the quality of the preschool and kindergarten programs I saw and it is amazing to see such young

PLEASE SEE CHINA, A20



AREA DELEGATION

Our delegation consisted of two former state board of education members, two local school board members, an Intermediate school board member, an Oakland County Circuit Court judge, principals from public and private schools, a superintendent, two

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Today, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and Blue Care Network together provide more than 4.7 million people with the security and peace of mind that come from knowing they will have access to quality health care, wherever and whenever they need it.

We are proud of our partnerships with the state of Michigan to expand health coverage to lower-income children and ensure seniors are fully covered under Medicare. We are dedicated financial supporters of free community clinics across Michigan, providing access for the uninsured. We are partners with the Michigan Health & Hospital Association's acclaimed Keystone Center, working to improve quality through evidence-based medicine.

At Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and Blue Care Network, we dedicate ourselves every day to honoring our nonprofit heritage and commitment to Michigan. We also commit ourselves to providing affordable health benefit solutions that meet the needs of our customers, information and assistance to meet the needs of our members and innovations to improve service and reduce cost.

As we welcome Jeanne Carlson as the new President and CEO of Blue Care Network, we look forward with excitement to playing a more prominent role in your community. As we go forward, you have our commitment that we will approach our business with the integrity you demand, the service you expect and the commitment we all share to improving health care for everyone.

and Joepp

Daniel J. Loepp President & CEO Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan

anne Carbon

Jeanne Carlson President & CEO Blue Care Network

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

AROUND TOWN

Olivet scholarship

(C)

A14

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 email admissions@olivetcollege.edu Student development conference Wayne State University's James S. Measell Public Relations Student Society of America chapter and Eastern Michigan University's Eleanor Wright PRSSA chapter have partnered to hold the 10th-annual student development conference. The conference will be held at the Four Points Sheraton in Ann Arbor Dec. 9, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The conference will be followed by an informal social held in the hotel's Street Side Bar and Grill. The event is open to all students who wish to network and learn from professionals in the many areas of public relations. The conference is open to

Continued from Page A8

And further to waive the Township's purchasing policy requirement that capital funds must be expended by September 30, 2006. Woodwork Restoration to J and N Contracting, LLC, 7442 Derby St. Canton, MI 48187, in the amount of \$5,300. Restroom Remodel to Evangelista Corporation, 40028 Grand River, Suite 400 Novi, MI 48375 in the amount of \$42,600. I further move to approve the following budget amendment in the Capital Projects Golf Course Fund to increase the line items for additional 2006 project items: Increase (Decrease) Appropriations: Site Improvements-Golf Course

Buildings-Golf Course	#469-900-971-2110	\$ 75,000
Transfer to Fund Balance	#469-900-975-2110	94,000
Transfer to Fully Datalice	#469-900-999-0000	(169,000)

Total This budget amendment does not increase or decrease the 2006 budget for the Capital Projects Golf Course Fund. Motion carried by all members present. Item 14. INCREASE PURCHASE ORDER FOR FUEL. (CLS) Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve the increase of \$6,000 to P.O. #58799, Oakland Fuel, 3943 Airport Rd., Waterford, MI 48239, to cover miscellaneous fuel purchases through the end of 2006. Funds are available in account #101-270-740-0000 Operating Supplies. Motion carried by all members present. Item 15. MÉRIT COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION FOR NON-UNION EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION. CLASSIFIED 2007(ACSD)

Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to approve the recommendation of the Merit Commission to increase the salaries of the non-union classified employees by 3.0% across-the-board and to increase the salary grade ranges for the non-union classified employees by 3.0%. These increases shall be effective 1/ 1/2007. Motion carried by all members present. OTHER: Supervisor Yack' stated there will be no study session on November 21, 2006. There will be a regular Board meeting on November 28, 2006 and a study session on December 5, 2006.

Trustee McLaughlin wished to commend Clerk Bennett and her staff for the exceptional job they did on the November 7, 2006 General Election. ADJOURN: Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to adjourn at 9:15 p.m. Motion carried by all members present.

THOMAS J. YACK, Supervisor TERRY G. BENNETT, Clerk -

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Copies of the complete text of the Board Minutes are available at the office of the Charter Township of Canton, 1150 S. Canton Center Rd, Canton, MI 48188, during regular business hours and can also be accessed through our web site www.canton-mi.org after Board Approval.

Publish: November 23, 2006

all students in all majors. To attend the conference, contact Michael Munie, Conference Coordinator at mmunie@emich.edu or you can register at the door the day of the event. Registration is \$35 for PRSSA members, \$40 for nonmembers if done before December 1st. After December 1st, registration is \$40 for PRSSA members, \$45 for nonmembers. Included in the registration fee is a light breakfast and lunch. Career development scholarship

The Wayne Business and Professional Women's Club is now accepting applications for a "Career Development Scholarship" to recognize and support women entering or re-entering the work force or seeking to advance their careers. Candidates seeking application forms should send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to: Wayne Business and Professional Women's Club, Career Development Scholarship Committee, 34030 Fountain Blvd., Westland, MI 48185. Completed applications are due postmarked by Jan. 31. For more information, call Amy Allen, (734) 522-1603.

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 23, 2006

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS MEETING **THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2006** 6:00 P.M.

PLEASE NOTE that the Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a Meeting on Thursday, December 7, 2006, commencing at 6:00 p.m., to consider a request for one variance from Jan Signs, Inc. for property located at 46750 Port Street, Plymouth Township and also one variance from Johnson Sign Co., Inc. for property located at 47771 Halyard Drive, Plymouth Township. Mary K. Weaver is requesting one variance for property located at 44678 Charnwood Drive, Plymouth Township. The meeting will be held at Plymouth ownship Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty Road in the Town Hall Meeting Room.

Purpose of Meeting: Request variances from Zoning Ordinance No. 99, for two Signs, and one Side Yard Setback. For further information contact Plymouth Township Building Department 734-354 - 3208

Publish: November 23, 2006

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 Web site at www.thehenryford.org.

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

OE08489564

OFFICIAL

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 Music Committee, at (313) 366-0677 or KopistianskyVickie@sbcglobal.net. **Genealogical Society**

The November meeting of the Livingston County Genealogical Society has been cancelled due to work at the LDS Church. The next meeting takes place Dec. 7 at the First United Methodist 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)

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON **INVITATION TO BID**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Charter Township of Canton, 1150 Canton Center S, Canton, Michigan will accept sealed bids at the Office of the Clerk up to 3:00 p.m. Monday, December 7, 2006 for the following:

PURCHASE OF FIRE APPARATUS - LADDER TRUCK

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

Publish: November 23, 2006

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 experience 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.

www.hometownlife.com

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. For additional information, contact Bonnie at (734) 646-2237.

CLUBS

Rotary A.M.

The Plymouth Rotary Club of Plymouth A.M. meets at 7 a.m. every Tuesday at the Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer. New members are always welcome. Contact Mark Hammar, president, Rotary Club of Plymouth A.M., by calling (734) 455-6620.

Plymouth Newcomers

Plymouth Newcomers & Neighbors playgroups for children ages 0-5 meet several times during the week at member homes and occasional special events. Come meet new parents while your kids meet their own new friends! For details, contact Janet Keller at (734) 451-1840 or robertplus-

janet@aol.com.

TERRY G. BENNETT, CLERK

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- no interest, no payments until Jan. 2008 No interest, no payments on all mattress sets \$399 or more when you use a qualifying card, pay in full by Jan. 2008 and account is kept in good standing. See important Deferred interest Details Offer ends 11/26/06.
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IMPORTANT DEFERRED INTEREST DETAILS: FINANCE CHARGES accrue on the promotional purchase from date of sale and all accrued FINANCE CHARGES for the entire promotional period will be added to your account if the purchase is not paid in full by the end of the promotional period or if you default under your card agreement. Making minimum monthly payments will not pay off the promotional offer in time to avoid FINANCE CHARGES. Available for qualifying purchases when you use The Great Indoors MasterCard® or a Sears card (Sears Commercial One®) excluded). Subject to credit approval. May not be combined with any other credit rate offers. Promotional offers greater than 14 months require minimum monthly payments as disclosed in the offer. Sears card APRs up to 26.49%, but if your account has a variable APR, the APR is up to 32.24% as of 10/26/06 and may vary. Minimum monthly FINANCE CHARGE up to \$1. See card agreement for details including when the default rate applies. The Great Indoors MasterCard and Sears cards are issued by Citibank, (South Dakota), N.A.

All mail-in rebates exclude sales tax. Offers end 11/26/06 unless otherwise stated. ©2006 Sears Holdings Corporation

Posturepedic

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, November 23, 2006

www.hometownlife.com



JUST ANNOUNCED: **\$500** LOCAL AREA BONUS CASH THROUGH NOVEMBER 30 ONLY!



2007 BUICK LACROSSE® CX SPECIAL EDITION with Chrome Enhancement Package

GM employees who are current Buick owners/lessees: Low Mileage Lease for Qualified Lessees

\$189/month for 27 months

\$1,029 due at signing after all offers*

No security deposit required.

Mileage charge of \$.25/mile over 22,500 miles. Tax, title, license and dealer fees extra.



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ONE-YEAR STANDARD ONSTAR® TURN-BY-TURN VOICE-GUIDED NAVIGATION⁺

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- FOR THE DEALER NEAREST YOU, VISIT METRODETROITBUICKDEALERS.COM!

*Payments are for a 2007 Buick LaCrosse CX Special Edition with Chrome Enhancement Package with an MSRP of \$23,360, 27 monthly payments total \$5,078, a 2007 Buick Rendezvous CX with an MSRP of \$25,795, 27 monthly payments total \$4,813, and a 2007 Buick Lucerne CX with an MSRP of \$25,990, 27 monthly payments total \$6,967. Option to purchase at lease end for an amount to be determined at lease signing. GMAC must approve lease. Lessee pays for excess wear. Not available with other offers. Must show proof of current Buick ownership or lease. Limit one Loyalty Offer per eligible transaction. Residency restrictions apply. Take delivery by 11/30/06. **2007 models. Whichever comes first. See dealer for limited warranty details.

[†]Turn-by-Turn not available in certain markets. See your Buick dealer for details. Call 1-888-466-7827 for system limitations and details. ^{††}Tax, title and license are extra. Take delivery by 1/2/07. See dealer for details.

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Luceme. LaCrosse & Rendezvous	Safety (Live): None	···- ,
	Blood Size: None	Account Coordinator: Randy
McGraphics	<i>Trim Size:</i> 11.5 in x 21 in	Production: K. Kaminski
	Line Screen: 85	Publication(s) & Insertion Date(s):
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Area agencies stretch dollars to provide food, aid to needy

BY SHARON DARGAY STAFF WRITER

A dollar can make a difference in a needy person's life.

"One dollar to Gleaners gets 16 meals. We leverage the dollars. Because of the scope of the operation and logistics we can get a dollar to stretch much farther," said Gerry Brisson, vice president of development for Gleaners, southeastern Michigan's food bank.

"We do a lot of work with canned food drives and things of that nature, where people collect a barrel or two of food. It's not as efficient as cash, but it gets people involved. For some people a can of food is all they can donate. But because a dollar gives 16 meals, it's the easiest thing to do."

Cash - it's on all relief agencies' wish lists as the holiday season kicks into high gear starting Thanksgiving Day.

It's the most economical way to meet increasing demands which agencies experience at the holidays and have begun to see even earlier this year because of the state's poor economy.

"Money gives us the flexibility to address needs in terms of hunger and homelessness and utility costs. It helps throughout the year," said Don Czaplicki, divisional social services director for the Salvation Army in southeastern Michigan.

The corps kicked off its annual kettle campaign Friday, Nov. 17, at Campus Martius in Detroit. On Thanksgiving Day, it will serve breakWant to help? See where you can donate, page A17.

fast at Masonic Temple to the homeless. The corps also will distribute food boxes and toys to needy families at Christmas.

"I encourage people, if they see a red kettle, please donate," Czaplicki said. "The economy has been stalled and it's hard because we have lots of people who need assistance and it's getting harder to give because they are losing jobs or are concerned about losing their jobs."

FROM FOOD BANK TO PANTRY

Brisson said Gleaners' Livingston County center has distributed 20 percent more food over the past few months in response to summer layoffs. Gleaners distributes food at low cost and in some cases for free through five centers to 400 local partners including soup kitchens, food pantries - 70 percent are faith-based - shelters and crisis centers.

"There's a lag time between layoffs and the increase in demand. Even though people live paycheck to paycheck, they find a way to scrape by for a while, but unemployment isn't near what they need to survive. That's when we see a spike in demand, Brisson said.

"When you see who is served by emergency food services, so few are bums on the street. They're people you'd be surprised need help. They're your neighbors."

At Lighthouse Emergency Services in Clarkston, Connie Stapleton, manager, has seen former donors become Lighthouse recipients over the past few years.

The agency serves 10 north Oakland communities and is allied with Lighthouse Emergency Services in Pontiac, which serves communities north of 14 Mile, between M-23 and Dequindre.

"We've had real estate agents coming in, builders coming in, contractors coming in. We have people who had good jobs and lost them. Or people trying to sell their house, they can't and the house goes into foreclosure," said Stapleton.

"The face of our clients changed over the past year. It's been dismal. Our donors are coming in for assistance."

And that means donations are down.

Meanwhile, demands have increased. Stapleton said even those earning middle-class wages tend to cut back on little luxuries - dinners out, professional hair service - when times are tight. That, in turn, affects people in the service industry who depend on tips to make ends meet and who end up turning to agencies like Lighthouse to survive.

GIVE CASH

"What we need most is money. That will help us pay utility bills or help someone get to work if the plate on their car is expired. Or purchase food at the food bank," Stapleton said.

Lighthouse Clarkston gave food to

approximately 400 people in September 2005. This year, it fed 894 people.

Lighthouse Pontiac helped 900 families and 2,867 individuals in 2005. Those numbers jumped to 1,172 households and 3,595 individuals this year.

Christine Burk, spokeswoman for Lighthouse Pontiac's holiday program, said the agency needs another 150 donors to "adopt" a family and buy Christmas gifts for its members.

"As we reach out to the community for help, people are responding if they can. People seem to recognize the need and they are rallying around their neighbors," she said.

Susan Vidican, director of Rochester Area Neighborhood House, said canned food drives at local schools have begun to replenish her agency's pantry shelves that had been empty since August.

'We had to purchase food," she said. "I think one thing all agencies are doing is we recognize that our resources are limited, so we're doing a lot of partnering to make the dollars go farther."

WORKING TOGETHER

The Farmington Area Goodfellows group, for example, partners with Farmington Schools, which conducted a canned food drive this month. The Goodfellows will include the donations in its holiday distribution on Dec. 16.

We do a lot of work with Toys for Tots. We partner with stores that we use gift certificates through," said Lisa Ellis, a Goodfellows board member. "We work with senior citizens in Farmington.

"There is greater demand this year. More families and seniors are in need. But our community mailing has been successful for us," she said, referring to a community-wide appeal mailed to residents earlier this month.

"People have been very generous. I see every donor card that comes in. We have a lot of people who give \$5 or \$10 and it all adds up.'

The Rev. Vincent Reves, pastoral director of Capuchin Soup Kitchen in Detroit, said the organization's two dining rooms in Detroit are serving "a few more people" than it has in the past.

"We do our best to make donations stretch," he said. An average meal which might include chicken, sweet potato, salad, barley taboulee, cookies and a beverage - costs the Capuchins \$1.17

"We've been around since 1929 and we've never gone two days without serving. We've never run out of food. We've been blessed. The people of this area are generous," he said. The nonprofit ministry distributes more than three million pounds of food in its pantry packs each year, in addition to serving hot meals and running various programs on Detroit's east side.

"I've never seen such generous people as those in Detroit. Not a day goes by that I don't remember them all in prayer."

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Advertisement Finally, a card college students an Gift Cards taking local mall by storm. www.findyourgo.com buying the wrong gift,

By Drew Reed Taurman Today

It's true. Some college and any trouble with credit card spending the for the holidays you can give the new rd that can't go over the limit. Once dubbed the lastminute gift optime. Twelve Oaks Mall Gift Cards are supping lists nationwide. "If what they want for you're you're a twelve Oak erest term short on Card is one of your best option 10 mall manager.

Hailed as the king of options, fwelve Oaks Mall Gift Cards allow the receiver to choose whatever they want from almost any store in the mall. Perfect for any occasion, a Twolve Oaks Mall Gift Card allows users to choose exactly what they need (or want) from hundreds of first-class retail stores.

Admittedly, Twelve Oaks Mall Gift Cards are not always the best gift option. For instance, if you've recently had a spat with your significant other and you show up on Christmas morn armed with a Twelve Oaks Mall Gift Card, you might be in a bit of trouble. In that particular case, it might

be better to reference the corresponding for Gifts Under \$25. And don't forget the Twelve Oaks Holiday Gift Guides for gift ideas with a tad more "tree presence." Thereare Gift Guides for nearly every type of per-🖬 🚺 👘 İs year. From Holiday Gift son or Se Month, Dads, Kids and Teens Guid

GAR Guides at a Glance Gift Ideas for Moms, Dads, Kids and Teens; Stocking Stuffers: Grent in a r \$25; and Once-in-a differente Gift Ideas · FREE to all mail shoppers Conveniently located at. multin in locations throughout Two was Mall URCE: www.line

to Stocking Stuffer Holiday Gift Guides and the ever-popular Holiday Gift Guide

Gift Guide for Unforgettable Gifts, loaded with exciting gifts they'll tell their grandkids about. "There's a Holiday Gift Guide for everyone," said another mall spokesperson, and all of the Holiday Gift Guides can be referenced, in detail, online at www. findyourgo.com. The mall was scoured top to bottom, store by store, to find the best gifts for every person on your list, then categorized and compiled in pocket-sized brochures for easy reference as you shop. "I used a Holiday Gift Guide for every

on my list and polished off allping in a matter of hours. It said one shopper as she left the Friday afternoon.

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COMPACT

IN THEATERS NOVEMBURRE 17

WARNER BROS. PICTURES

Visit the Snow Globes in Center Court till December 24. Only at Twelve Oaks Mall.



PG www.happyfeetmovie.com

HOW TO HELP

DONATIONS NEEDED

I Gleaners Community Food Bank is the third largest in the nation. It distributes free and low-cost food to soup kitchens, shelters, food pantries, crisis centers and other relief agencies, totaling 400 partners. It accepts nonperishable foods through donation drives or individual donations, cash and volunteer help at its five distribution centers, which are located in Detroit, Howell, Pontiac, Warren and Taylor. Visit www.gcfb.convio.net to donate online, arrange for a food drive or to volunteer. By mail: 2131 Beaufait, Detroit, MI 48207. Or call (866) GLEANER. Look for donation appeals at local grocery stores that allow shoppers to add a gift to Gleaners to their shopping bill. "We don't want to hot all the money. Help anyone you know doing food distribution, because times are tough," says Gerry Brisson, vice president of development. To find a food pantry nearest you, visit www.pantrynet.org.

It is alvation Army, eastern Michigan division, aided 480,000 people in the tri-county area through its annual holiday kettle program last year. Proceeds bought more than two million meals for the needy, as well as Christmas gifts for children, food baskets, personal care items and year-round aid. The Salvation Army hopes to raise \$7 million through kettles this year. Visit www.salvationarmyemich.org to find out about volunteering as a bell ringer or to participate in the mini-kettle program, which allows individuals to collect donations at home or work, private parties and other gatherings. Other ways to donate:

Donate a child's coat or cash to the Salvation Army's Coats for Kids at the Detroit Lions-Miami Dolphins game at Ford Field on Thanksgiving Day. Or call (866) 985-COAT. Buy a toy for the Salvation Army's annual holiday toy shop. Call the eastern Michigan division in Southfield at (248) 443-5500 to find a corps near you.

Donate used goods to a Salvation Army store. For pickup and store information, call (313) 965-7760.

Donate money online or send a check to the

Salvation Army, Eastern Michigan Division, 16130 Northland Drive, Southfield, MI 48075.

Farmington Area Goodfellows helps people year-round, but will distribute toys and food for the holidays on Dec. 16. To donate cash or items, call the Goodfellows office at (248) 871-2848 before Nov. 27 and (248) 473-1360 afterward. Or visit www.farmingtonareagoodfellows.org.

COTS, (Coalition on Temporary Shelter) is headquartered at 26 Peterboro, Detroit, but runs housing programs at various locations, offering emergency shelter, transitional housing and permanent, supportive housing. Check its Web site at www.COTSdetroit.org for an updated list of needs, including linens, clothing, children's items, gift certificates and toiletries. Or call Robyn Smith at (313) 831-3777.

Redford Interfaith Relief, located in Pearson Education Center, 19990 Beech Daly, serves senior citizens, the disabled, the working poor and families in a crisis, within the Redford area. The organization needs cash, personal care items, canned goods and volunteers. Call (313) 387-9802 or visit on the Web at www.redfordinterfaithrelief.org.

Capuchin Soup Kitchen has two dining rooms in Detroit, maintains a pantry, clothing and household distribution center, offers substance abuse treatment as well as children's programs. Send donations to the Capuchin Soup Kitchen, 1820 Mt. Elliott, Detroit, MI 48207. Donate on the Web at www.cskdetroit.org or call the development office at (313) 579-2100, Ext. 1875.

The THAW fund gives emergency energy assistance to low-income families, individuals and senior citizens throughout Michigan who are in danger of losing heat or electricity. Donation appeals are enclosed with some gas an electric bills. Or send a check to THAW at 1212 Griswold, 10th floor, Detroit, MI 48226. Or contribute by phone at (800) 866-THAW or online at www.thawfund.org.





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DOUGLAS STEVENS

Frankfort. Age November 14, 73, died 2006 at

Nunson Medical Center in Traverse City. He was born August 26, 1933 the son of Richard and Ann Stevens in Highland Park, Michigan. Doug married Norma Eustice on February 10,1998. 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 life-time 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 two grandsons, Jacob and ſwp.; Danial; stepson, Jeffrey Butler of Frankfort; brother, Godfrey (Delores) Stevens; and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents and an infant sister. A celebration of Doug's life will be Saturday, November 25th at 3PM at he Benzonia Chapel of McElduff-Jowett Funeral Home, 7223 South St., Benzonia, MI, 49616, with Rev. Bob Larimer officiating. The family will receive friends from 1PM until the time of the service. Burial will be in Blaine Twp. Cemetery. Memorial con-tributions 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.



GARY ALAN MILZ Age 58. Born May 26, 1948 went to be with the Lord peacefully on November 18, 2006, with his family by his

ide. Preceded in death by his parents Clarence and Marjorie and sister Gail. Survived by his wife of 28 years, Diane; seven children, Eric (Debra) Mellissa (Jay) Gajewskie, Renee (John) Thompson, Mathew, Stephen, Christopher, Jacob; ten grandchildren, Amelia, Levi, Ioshua. Taylor. Cennedy, Zackery, Ashton, Sawyer, and lackie: brother-in-law Joey and David, Memorial service will be held at the Einst Joe (Brenda) Limontte; two nephews will be held at the First Baptist Church of Wayne, 36125 Glenwood Rd, at 11:00am November 24th.



JACK VITO MIGLIORE

pril 30, 1922-November 20, 2006 Jack Vito Migliore, a resident of Sterling Hts. and former longtime resident of East Pointe, died Monday morning in William Beaumont Hospital of Royal Oak at the age of 84 years. Jack was born in Detroit on April 30, 1922 a son of the late Sebastian and Rosa (Giordano) Migliore. He Owned and operated Jacks Produce Market on Wheels. Jack was a charter member of Detroit Produce Venders Association. He did not retire until age 81 as he lived for and loved his work. As a hard worker, it was important that he provided for his family and he loved what he did for those many years. Jack also enjoyed all gambling of any kind and enjoyed playing cards. He will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved him. Jack is survived by his loving wife, Magdelina; his devoted daugh ters, Marianne Stevens and her dear friend Lawrence Thompson and Rose (David) Edgeworth; his grandchildren, Jackie (nee Stevens)(Steve)Cansler, Nykol & Brooke Edgeworth; his great grandchildren, Eric & Trever Stevens and Alex & Alyssa Cansler and his sister, Rose (Joseph) Ferri & brothers, Sam (Lena) and Augustine (Josephine). He was preceded in death by sister, Phyllis and brother, James. Visitation will be held at the Faulmann & Walsh Golden Rule Funeral Home, 32814 Utica Rd., Fraser, Wednesday 1pm till 9pm and Friday 10:30am till time of Mass at 11am from St. Anastasia Catholic Church 4571 John R., Troy. Share memories with the family at faulmannwalsh.com

LAMAR M. RUSSOM

Age 90, November 19, 2006. Beloved husband of Ethel. Dear father of Carol (Manuel) Yacoub, Thomas (Jo) and Ronald (Debra). Dearest brother of Frances McPherson. Also survived by eight grandchildren. Funeral service Wednesday 1:30 p.m. from R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, 15451 Farmington Rd., Livonia. Visitation Tuesday 2-9 p.m. Memorials suggest-ed to American Lung Association.

PETER CHARLES ZEMNICKAS

Age 89, of Beverly Hills, died

RUTHANN JOHNSON

Beloved wife, mother & grandmother passed away on Monday, Nov. 20, 2006. She is survived by her husband, Richard, of Bloomfield Twp. She is also survived by her children Alan (Pat) Johnson of Holly, MI, Susan Johnson of Bloomfield Twp., Carol (Fiance Terry Burke) Bernardi of Johnson of Muskegon, MI, Judy Johnson of Las Vegas, NV and Melinda (Robert) Smith of Beverly Hills, MI. She is also survived by her eleven grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren and a host of other family and friends. She loved gardening and was a member of the Troy Garden Club. She was a member of Birmingham Sr. Women's Club and a member of St. Thomas More Church She loved music and spending time with her family and many grandchil-dren. Family will be receiving friends Wednesday, Nov. 22, from 5-8PM with Scripture Service at 7PM, at A.J Desmond Funeral Home, 32515 Woodward. Funeral Mass will be Friday, Nov. 24 at 10AM at St. Thomas More Church, 4580 Adams Rd., Troy.

TOM MOSHIMER

Age 71, November 21, 2006. Beloved husband of Nancy. Loving Father of Duncan (Cheryl) Mike, Jim (Nicki) Kelly (Phil). Dear Grandfather of Ryan, Sarah, Zach and Patrick. He was a high school teacher and football coach for 42 yrs., (8 yrs. in Dundee, MI and 34 yrs. at Plymouth Salem). He retired in 2000. Visitation on Friday, November 25th, 10am-9pm at McCabe Funeral Home, 851 N. Canton Center Rd., Canton, MI Service Saturday 48187 on November 26th, 10am at St. Thomas a'Beckett of Canton.





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

NOVEMBER

Thanksgiving service 10 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 23, at Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church, '40000 Six Mile, Northville. For information, call (248) 374-7400. The church's traditional celebration features the Chancel Choir, Orchestra, Teen Choir and Children's Choir. Special presentation of the Battle Hymn of the Republic. Childcare provided to age 4.

Unity of Livonia

VegMichigan Thanksgiving Potluck Celebration features traditional and festive fare that is free of meat, dairy and other animal products noon to 6 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 23, Unity of Livonia, 28660 Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Inkster. Vegetarians, vegans and anyone trying to eat less meat are welcome to attend this celebration of the season's abundance. In addition to the feast, the day features gratitude readings by children, origami demonstration, children's coloring contest, a planist and other entertainment. Attendees are encouraged to bring their own instruments and talents and join in the celebration. Admission to the event is a vegan (no animal products) dish sized for 8, or first-time attendees may bring \$10 in lieu of a dish though food is preferred to ensure a day-long feast. VegMichigan, formerly Veggies in Motion, promotes awareness of the

health, ecological and ethical benefits of a plant-based lifestyle. The group hosts the local Great American Meatout each spring and sponsors numerous educational classes, lectures, potlucks, dinner club and social outings plus a monthly e-newsletter. For details, visit www.vegmichigan.org or call (toll free) (877) 778-3464. Lighthouse cafe

7-10 p.m. Friday, Nov. 24, at Ward Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile. Northville. Tickets are \$5 at the door. Call (248) 374-5920. Anniversary kick off

Garden City Presbyterian Church celebrates its 175th anniversary in February 2007. To kick off the observance, the church will have marchers and floats in the Santaland Parade on Saturday, Nov. 25. Everyone is welcome to join in the celebration in 2007. For information, call (734) 421-

Church fund-raiser

7620.

Cherry Hill United Methodist Church, 321.5. Ridge Road in Canton, is baving a Fund-raiser 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 25. Several vendors will be selling their products. What a great time to shop for Christmas gifts or birthday presents for your loved ones. No charge. Refreshments and Bake Sale are avail-

RELIGION CALENDAR

Christmas luncheon

Fellowship luncheon 12:15 p.m. Friday, Dec. 1, at Farmington First United Methodist Church, 33112 Grand River, second block east of Farmington Road at Warner. Cost is \$7, reservations required. Call Betty Haines by Tuesday, Nov. 28 for reservations and if babvsitting is needed. Program includes the Cass Ambassadors Choir, installation of Church Women United officers, and Right Family Christmas game (bring wrapped new \$5 gift to exchange during the game). Bring canned and boxed foods for local food bank.

Christmas Hope tour

The Nov. 28 concert, which was to be presented at Faith Lutheran Church in Troy, has been canceled by the promoter.

Worship service

All are welcome to attend 11 a.m. worship service Sundays, at Good Shepherd Reformed Church, 6500 N. Wayne at Hunter, Westland. Join us at 7 p.m. Tuesdays in November and December as Pastor Louise Monacelli introduces The Jesus Experience a series of videos offering insight into the people and situations God used to expand the church around the world. For more information, call (734) 721-0800.

St. Nicklaus Breakfast

9:30 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 2, at Church of the Savior, 38100 Five Mile. There will be a pancake breakfast, craft table and a program by St. Nicklaus himself telling about the origins of Santa Claus. Free will offering. RSVP to (734) 464-0527 by Nov. 29. All ages welcome.

Bridging the holidays

A program designed to help families work through the holidays and special occasions without their loved on, includes a small memorial 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 29, at St. Cletus Catholic Church, 26256 Ryan, Warren.

Winter memorial 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 2, at Best Western Hotel, 16999 South Laurel Park Drive, Livonia. Come to honor and celebrate the lives of your loved one. All programs are nondenominational. No charge. RSVP requested by Nov. 27, at (800) 770-9859. Refreshments provided. Grief and the holidays

Workshop focuses on facing the holidays after the death of a loved one 7-8:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 30, at Ward Presbyterian Church, 4000 Six Mile, Northville. Registration at the door, no fee. For information, call (248) 374-5920.

Hanukkah gift shoppe

Congregation Beit Kodesh Sisterhood Hanukkah/Judaic gift shop opens from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Sundays through Dec. 10. Selection includes holiday gift wrap, chocolate coins, dreidels, capdles, electric and tradi tional menorahs and many Judaic gift items. Congregation Beit Kodesh is located at 31840 W. Seven Mile, Livonia.

(734) 981-1333. Christmas concert

Presented by the Friends of the Opera of Michigan and features Karin White, soprano, and Quinto Milito, baritone, accompanied by planist Jeanne Muraski 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 3, at St. Aidan Catholic Church, 17500 Farmington Road, Livonia. No charge. Donations are welcome. For information, call (313) 582-0997.

Christmas music

Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols, 7 p.m. Dec. 3, at Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile, Northville. For details, call (248) 374-7400. Through Scripture and beautiful music, this quiet and reflective candlelight service will help prepare your heart for Christmas. Childcare provided to age 4. No charge.

Choral concert

Concert of Advent and Christmas music including part I of Handel's Messiah Featuring Kirk in the Hills Chancel Choir and the Detroit Chamber Winds and Strings 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 3, at Kirk in the Hills, 1340 West Long Lake Road, Bloomfield Hills. Tickets are \$18, \$15 seniors, \$12 students, and available by calling (248) 626, 2515, Ext. 109, or at the door.

Vespers and Nativity concert Sponsored by the Council of Orthodox Christian Churches of Metropolitan Detroit (COCC) 6:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 3, at St. Clement Ohridski Macedonian-Bulgarian Orthodox Church, 19600 Ford Road, Dearborn,

The evening begins 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 more information, call (313) 366-0677 or send e-mail to KopistianskyVickie@sbcglobal.net.

Traditions of Christmas

Multi-event open house with carols, stories, musical performances, model train layouts, cookie decorating, crafts, displays, film, and The Best Christmas Pageant Ever 3-8 p.m. Thursday-Friday, Dec. 7-8, and noon to 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 9, at First Presbyterian Church, 1669 West Maple, Birmingham. A gift to the community. No tickets, donations or reservations necessary. Call (248) 644-2040.

Men of Grace A special night of worship featuring

Christmas songs, spirituals, hymns, traditional and contemporary, original music, and arrangements performed by Men of Grace from Grace Centers of Hope (Pontiac) 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 8, at Risen Christ Lutheran Church, 46250 Ann Arbor Road, one block east of Beck, Plymouth. Free will offering will be taken to benefit seminary study Scott Eberlein. Call (734) 453-5252. Crosstalk A lively discussion for singles on a topic of current interest 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 8, at Ward Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile, Northville, Learn how the Bible approaches modern day events. Free childcare provided. For details, call (248) 374-5920. **Cookie walk Holy Transfiguration Orthodox** Church's 13th Annual Cookie Walk takes place Saturday, Dec. 9, at 36075 W. Seven Mile, 3/4 mile east of Newburgh on south side of street, Livonia. Doors open at 8 a.m., sale starts at 9 a.m. and lasts until we are sold out. Pierogi, stuffed cabbage, bread, nut and poppyseed rolls, and over 50 different varieties of ethnic (kiefle, kolachy, rugela, koulourakia, biscotti, linzer) and traditional cookies

GEORGE A. CLIFFORD

Age 77, of Redford, November 20, 2006. George is survived by Iris, his beloved wife of 48 years; children Linda (Ed) Landess, Julie Gentry, Joanne (Rob) Hendricks, and David. Mr. Clifford is also survived by eight grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. Funeral service Saturday, November 25, 11:30am, at the Heeney- Sundquist Funeral Home, 23720 Farmington Rd., between 9 and 10 Mile Roads, just north of Grand River, downtown Farmington, 248-474-5200, Visitation Friday, 2-8pm. Memorial tributes suggested to American Cancer Society, or cancer.org

heeneysundquist.com

HAROLD VERNON COLLINS

Age 65, of Westland, died November 20, 2006, at Garden City Hospital. He had been seriously ill for three weeks. Born June 13, 1941, in Paintsville Kentucky, the son of Conard and Glady Mae (Wells) Collins. He was married to Judy Perry in August of 963. For more than 20 years, he was employed by Clark Oil and managed several service stations, in the Downriver area. He enjoyed coin collecting and playing his guitar and banjo. For the past twelve years, he made his home with Lisa Dukes. He is survived by two sons, Jeffrey of Monroe, and Timothy of Ypsilanti; three brothers, Christopher Columbus Betty) of Taylor, Jesse (Jewel) of Van ear, KY, and Colvert (Peggy) of ireenup, KY; a sister, Verdie Mollette of Milan; and four grandchildren. Friends may call Friday, November 24, at the UHT Funeral Home, Westland, 34-721-8555. Funeral service will be held at 2pm, Saturday, November 25. Mr. Collins' nephew, Doug Mollette, will officiate. Graveside services will be held Monday, November 27, at 2pm at Highland Memorial Park in Staffordsville, KY, Friends may attend graveside service from 11-12pm. In ieu of flowers, those desiring may make donations to the family.

Bridge Medical Complex in Flint. He was born July 16, 1917, son of Peter and Anastasia Zemnickas. He was predeceased by Donna, his beloved wife of 65 years. Peter was an active member of St. Regis Catholic Church. Through the years his interests took him in many directions. He was a member of the Birmingham Senior Men's Club and the Michigan Chapter of the Rolls-Royce Club. For many years, he did volunteer work at Henry Ford Health Systems of West Bloomfield where he was known as "Angel Man". Father of Robert (Carol) Zemnickas of Mt. Pleasant SC: Gordon Zemnickas of Howell and adopted daughter, Ann Zemnickas of Farmington Hills. Grandfather of Karen (Chris) Ochs of Fairborn, OH; Kevin Zemnickas of Mt. Pleasant, SC: Mark Zemnickas of Beverly Hills; and Christine of West Bloomfield. Great Grandfather of Shane and Sarah Ochs and Tyler and Michael. Funeral Mass was Tuesday, November 21, 2006, at St. Regis Catholic Church, Bloomfield Hills. Burial, Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, 25800 W. 10 Bloomfield Hills. Mile, Southfield. Memorial contributions can be made to the Parkinson Disease Foundation and/or Avalon

Hospice. Share your memories at www.sawyerfuller.com

JEAN ANN (MCMICHAEL) RUHL

Age 67, of Farmington Hills, MI passed away on November 20, 2006. Jean was the beloved wife of the late Dr. George Ruhl and is survived by her brother, Russell McMichael; her three children, Melody Alfather, Ed and Greg; grandchildren, Miles, Devin, Joshua and Jordan. A celebration of her life will be held at Prince of Peace Catholic Church in West Bloomfield The church is located at 4300 Walnut Lake Road, West Bloomfield, MI 48323, phone (248) 681-9424, on Saturday, November 25 at 10:30am. In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts in Jean's name to Angela Hospice in Livonia, MI are greatly appreciated.





PIERRE LOUIS DePORRE

Age 74, of Bloomfield Hills, died November 20, 2006. Devoted hus band of Virginia (Teppert) – 49 years. Caring father of Pierre (Deborah) DePorre, Louise (James) Westcott Julianne (Efrin) Padilla, Mary (Craig) Sturza, Paul (Janie) DePorre. Loving brother to Juliette (the late Casmir Zaranek, the late Denise DePorre, the late Jules (Carolyn) DePorre, James (Janet) DePorre. Brother-in-law to the late John Teppert, Sally Teppert Proud grandpa of 14. Beloved by all who knew him, including countless nieces and nephews. Family will receive friends at A. J. Desmond & Sons Funeral Home, 2600 Crooks Rd., (btwn. Maple & Big Beaver), Friday 1-9 PM, with Scripture Service Friday 7 PM. Funeral Mass Saturday 10 AM at St. Thomas More Church, 4580 Adams Road, Troy. Prayers a the funeral home Saturday 9:15 AM followed by procession to church Memorial Tributes to the Companior Animal Fund, CVM Development Michigan State University, F-130 Veterinary Medical Center, East Lansing, MI 48824. Pierre was a great man devoted to caring for all o God's creatures - great and small View obituary and share memories at www.DesmondFuneralHome.com

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

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 oeobits@hometownlife.com or fax to: Attn: Obits c/o Charolette Wilson 734-953-2232 For more information call:

> 734-953-2070 or Liz Keiser

or toll free 866-818-7653 ask for Char or Liz

able. For more information, call (734)

495-0035. Messiah

4 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 26, at the historic Cathedral of the Most Blessed Sacrament, 9844 Woodbridge at Trowbridge, Detroit. The concert is performed by the Archdiocesan Chorus and orchestra. Tickets are \$10 in advance, \$15 at door. Call (313) 865-6300, Ext. 227, or visit www.aod.online and click on calendar.

Celebrate Christmas season At Detroit First Church of the Nazarene in Northville 6 p.m. Sunday,

Nov. 26. a Red Sweater Night starts the Advent season with Christmas music, fellowship and refreshments (nursery available for children from newborns to 36-months; 10:50 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 3 the Children's Choir presents A Christmas Carol based on the traditional Christmas Carol storyline; 10:50 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 10 Baby's First Christmas invites families to include their baby in the morning worship service, call (248) 348-7600 by Dec. 3, children's programs will be available for birth to elementary age; 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 15, and 10:50 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 17 the Sanctuary Choir, instrumentalists and drama team present Journey to the Manager, a musical drama, the nursery is available for children birth to age three for both dates, and 10:50 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 24 Christmas Eve service includes communion and ends with a traditional candlelight service, nursery available for children birth to 36-months, at the church, 21260 Haggerty, For information, call (248) 348-7600.

Toy train show

11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 26, at St. Albert the Great School, 4855 Parker, Dearborn Heights, Admission is \$3 per person, \$6 per family. The kitchen will be open with food and refreshments. For information, call (313) 277-2419.

Blood drive Red Cross blood drive 2-8 p.m. Monday, Nov. 27, at St. John's Episcopal Church, 574 South Sheldon, Plymouth. Call Carolyn Libeau at (734) 455-5395 to make an appointment of just drop in.

UPCOMING

Concert

Performance by Andy Chrisman, one of the founding members of the group 4HIM, 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 1, pre-concert dinner for singles only at 6 p.m. in Parlor C317, at Ward Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile, Northville. Cost is \$10 for dinner and concert (must be purchased in advance), and \$5 for concert. For information, call (248) 374-5920.

Irish Christmas Craft Bazaar

10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 2, and noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 3, at AOH Hall, 24242 Grand River, one block west of Telegraph, Detroit. For information, call (313) 565-3317. **Classic senior singles**

Get-a-way to Olde World Canterbury Village, Lake Orion, departs at 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 2 from Ward Presbyterian Church Parking Lot 7, 40000 Six Mile. Northville. Tickets are \$20 and includes transportation and lunch. For details, call (248) 374-5920. Monthly dance

Presented by Bethany Suburban West, a Catholic organization providing peer support for the divorced and separated of all faiths, 8 p.m. to midnight, Saturday, Dec. 2, at Don Hubert VFW Hall, 27345 Schoolcraft (eastbound I-96 service drive), east of Inkster, Redford. All separated, divorced and singles welcome. Cost is \$10, includes refreshments. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. For details, call (734) 261-5716. **Covenant Players**

7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 2, and Sunday, Dec. 3 during 10:30 a.m. service, at New Beginnings United Methodist Church, 16175 Delaware at Puritan, Redford. For information, call (313) 255-6330.

Crafters wanted

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

Featuring more than 85 crafters 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 2, at St. Thomas a'Becket Catholic Church, 555 S. Lilley at Cherry Hill, Canton. Admission is \$2, under age 12 free. Bake sale and lunch available. Call

and candy will be for sale. Christmas cookie walk

10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 9, at St. Michael's Orthodox Church, 26355 W. Chicago, between Beech Daly and Inkster, Redford. Cookies are sold by # the pound.

Live Nativity

During open House noon to 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 9, at Ward Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile, Northville. Please join us for cookies, juice and coffee in Knox Hall as the Live Nativity is displayed. Call (248) 374-5932.

Christmas play

Journey to Bethlehem returns for a sixth year, a walk-through play of the birth of Jesus 4 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 5 p.m., 5:30 p.m., 6 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 9, and 2 p.m., 2:30 p.m., 3 p.m., 3:30 p.m., 4 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 10, at Unity of Livonia, 28660 Five Mile, between Inkster and Middlebelt. Call (734) 421-1760.

Christmas music

Christmas Jazz Vespers Service 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 10, at Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile, Northville. For information, call (248) 374-7400. Jazz in the Spirit, from First Presbyterian Church in Birminghám, will present a musical, poetic and prayer filled worship experience. Child care provided to age 4. No charge.

Charolette Wilson 734-953-2067



A Reconciling in Christ Congregation CHURCH



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

COUNTY NEWS

CHINA

FROM PAGE A13

children speak both English and Chinese. Clearly the Chinese value education and see the connection between a solid education and a strong economic future."

Price, vice president of the Northville Board of Education, added, "We can be proud of the quality of the education we offer, but the Chinese are obviously driven to learn and improve. As educators, we need to understand that our children will be competing against the children of the world, and staying even is falling behind."

EYE-OPENING TRIP

Our days began at 7 a.m. and often ended the day with lavish banquets with our Chinese hosts. The food was good, different (when is the last time you ate jellyfish, sea urchin or chicken feet?), and plentiful.

The trip also included time for shopping and touring. We took in the awe-inspiring Great Wall of China, Tiananmen Square, Forbidden City, a pagoda, the Temple of Heaven and the Terra Cotta Warriors, not to mention the eye-popping education you can take in with a walk around the block or simply using a Chinese squat toilet.

Ask yourself why, if China has the fastest-growing economy and is likely to surpass the U.S. as the largest economy in – the world over the next two decades, its language, culture, history and language are not taught in more of our schools today?

The Chinese government attaches great importance to the promotion of Chinese language throughout the world. In order to enhance mutual understanding and friendship between the Chinese people and peoples of the world, the Chinese government has embarked on "efforts to promote economic and trade cooperation as well as scientific, technological and cultural exchanges between the Chinese and other counties."

China's achievements since Deng Xiaoping have opened the country to the world and are remarkable and universally acknowledged, particularly when put in a historical perspective. Deng Xiaoping is credited with providing the political support to help remake China into the giant it is today.

Yet, while Deng set the stage, it is through the hard work and focus of the Chinese people and academic, professional, economic, cultural and scientific exchanges that China has flourished. Some Americans still harbor ill feelings toward the "communist" government that brought the horrors of the Cultural Revolution and massacre in Tiananmen Square in 1989. Yet it is my firm belief that it is through the open exchange of ideas and interaction between Chinese and western people at multiple levels that freedom and democracy will find fertile ground to flourish

With this exchange group, we have planted seeds that will take root in both Chinese and Michigan soil that will provide a bounty of knowledge to benefit our children for centuries to come.

China is a giant that has awakened. Its educational and economic systems are on steroids and they are moving aggressively to catch up with the West. Their goal is not simply to be the cheap factory for the world, but to be the innovators, creators and entrepreneurs of the world. They know that their future is inextricably tied to the quality of the educational system.

"We all know what a tremendous impact China's manufacturing sector is having on our economy. This was a great opportunity to get a firsthand look at their education system which will ultimately have an even greater impact on the American and world economy," said Gregory Handel Sr., director of Workforce Development for the Detroit Regional Chamber of Commerce.

KNOWLEDGE COMPETITION

Michigan will never be able to compete with China on cheap labor. However, we can and should compete with China by making our children the best-educated students in the world. Michigan will succeed when we are exporting knowledge, creativity and innovation on the world stage. We cannot do that by timking our past success is a predictor of future success. It is only through hard work, innovation and seeking new knowledge that we can truly prepare our children for the future.

Former state school board member and current Oakland County Circuit Court Judge Michael David Warren Jr. sums it up best when he says: "China is clearly undergoing a fundamental economic and related cultural transformation. They undoubtedly are attempting to become a new superpower.

"Unlike the other threats we currently face, we can confront this one best by engagement and building bridges. They appear to be anxious to learn from and about Americans. and to become cooperative partners. By such engagement, we can foster in China the way of life we cherish here -- freedom, representative democracy, and justice. The opposite approach — building walls will only exacerbate our differences and degrade our influence."

There are naysayers that fear the rise of China. I believe it is important that we engage China and the rest of Asia on a economic, cultural, scientific and educational level in ways that will benefit Michigan and America.

The person who says it cannot be done should not interrupt the persons doing it. — Chinese proverb

Go online at www.hometownlife.com to read Watkins full report. Look for the second installment of the China experience next week on these same pages and online.

Tom Watkins is a business and education consultant and the former state superintendent of schools. Read his internationally recognized (eport. (now translated into Chinese) the New Education (R)evolution at www.nacol.org.

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Division 1 State Girls Swimming Meet



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Pictured above are members of Cantón's medal-winning relay teams that shined at this past weekend's Division 1 state meet at Oakland University. Standing (from the left) are Maggie Carlson, Maddy McDuff, Monica Blaesser and Laura Landis. Seated (from the left) are Allison Schmitt and Alyssa Johnson.

'With about 50 yards to go I heard the crowd get



Canton's Allison Schmitt displays the four medals she won at Saturday's Division 1 state swimming-and-diving meet.



Schmitt leads Chiefs' medal parade with a pair of firsts

BY ED WRIGHT STAFF WRITER

High school swimmers like Allison Schmitt come along about as often as Halley's Comet, Detroit Lions cham-pionships and \$75 million lottery tickets.

And they stay about three years longer than their competitors wish they would.

On Saturday at the Division 1 state meet at Oakland University in Rochester Hills, Schmitt, a junior at Canton, turned in one of the finest performances ever by a local swimmer when she took gold in both the 200- and 500-yard freestyle events at the state's premier meet.

Schmitt's time of 4:50.79 in the 500 free was a Division 1 record while her 1.47 54 in the 200 set the State mark by 11 hundredths of a second.

SEVENTH HEAVEN

Altogether, Canton finished with 82 points, which placed it in a seventh-place tie with Milford. Ann Arbor Pioneer captured the title for the seventh straight year with 359.50 points. Rounding out the top six were Holland (221), Farmington Hills Mercy (159.5), Monroe (146), Livonia Stevenson (104) and Jenison (97). Schmitt said her final kick in the

500 was fueled by the crowd, which sensed All-American was on the verge of entering the record books.

With about 50 yards to go I heard the crowd get louder and I thought, 'Are they cheering for me?'" said Schmitt. "After that, I didn't want to s the record by a tenth of a second. I've never heard a crowd cheer for me like that." Schmitt's goals heading into the meet were more modest than setting Division 1 records. "I just wanted to swim my best times," she said. "I knew the 200 free would be a close race, so I worked hard toward winning that one. The girls who finished second and third



Turkey trot

Canton Leisure Services will be hosting its 4th Annual Thanksgiving Day 5K Fun Run & Walk on Thursday at Pheasant Run Golf **Course.** Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. in the clubhouse. The kids' race will commence at 9:15 a.m. with the 5K run/walk immediately following.

The entry fee on the day of the race is \$22 for adults and \$10 for kids 12 and under.

For more information, contact Michael Murray at (734) 536-1609. Proceeds from the event will be donated to the **Epilepsy Foundation of** Michigan.

MU's Guerin shines

Guard Natalie Young scored 23 points and pulled down 12 rebounds Saturday as undefeated Bethel College (Ind.) toppled Madonna University women's basketball team, 88-62, in the WHAC-MCC Challenge hosted by Aquinas College at Mol Arena in Grand Rapids.

Bethel (7-0) also got 22 points from guard Abby Noll, who hit 6-of-13 snots from three-point range. Nora Didrick added 14 points and six assists. Forward Hannah Richards contributed 13 points and six rebounds, while Andrea Selent came off the bench to grab nine rebounds. Madonna (2-6), without leading scorer Martina Franklin, dropped its third straight. The Crusaders, who trailed 45-24 at half, were led by Salem High's Alvssa Guerin, who scored 21, points and grabbed nine rebounds.

louder and I thought, "Are they cheering for me?" After that, I didn't want to miss the record by a tenth of a second. I've never heard a crowd cheer for me like that.'

Allison Schmitt. Canton swimmer



Allison Schmitt

school record.

She also teamed with Laura Landis, Monica Blaesser and Alyssa Johnson to lead the Chiefs' 400 freestyle relay contingent to an All-State caliber seventh-place finish (3:40.32); and she anchored the ninth-place 200 freestyle relay foursome (1:40.95), which also included Landis, Blaesser and freshman Maggie Carlson. The 200 freestyle relay team missed making the All-

PLEASE SEE MEDALS, B2

Beasley's big night can't save Ignition

The Detroit Ignition (2-2) registered its first-ever home loss Sunday afternoon, 12-10, against the visiting Philadelphia KiXX (1-2) in front of 3,566 at Compuware Sports Arena in Plymouth.

Midfielder Tony Donatelli registered the game-winning goal for the Blast, a two-pointer 8:56 into the first overtime period. Detroit goalkeeper Sanaldo (2-2) suffered the loss, stopping 13 of the 19 shots that he faced.

The KiXX took the lead early with a two-point goal - the only score of the opening frame of play - off the foot of midfielder Andy Guastaferro at 4:33, to give Philadelphia a 2-0 advantage.

Detroit responded late in the second quarter with a two-point goal from forward Jamar Beasley off a pass from Carlos Farias at 11:35, evening the score at 2-2. KiXX midfielder Ptah Myers

put his team back in control with a two-point goal at 14:36 to give Philadelphia a 4-2 edge at the half.

The Ignition struck first in the third frame of play with another two-point goal from Beasley off a pass from Carlos Farias at 11:37, tying the game at 4-4. D'Ambra responded with a two-point goal of his own to put Philadelphia back in control, 6-4, at the 10:13 mark.



Detroit Ignition forward Jamar Beasley netted four points in the team's 12-10 overtime loss to the Philadelphia KiXX on Sunday at the Compuware Sports Arena.

PCS icers blank AA

The Plymouth-Canton-Salem girls hockey team is picking up where it left off last season.

The Penguins, who advanced to the state final in March before getting knocked by Grosse Pointe South, improved to 2-0 Saturday night following a 2-0 white-washing of Ann Arbor.

Kristie Kowalski was spectacular in net for the winners, knocking away 25 shots.

The Penguins had to overcome several short-handed situations to pull out the "W," according to firstyear head coach Eric Mink.

"The refs were calling a tight game because of the new rules – we had 12 penalties – so we were a man down for close to half the game," said Mink. "At one point Ann Arbor had a two-man advantage for a minute and a half, but Katie Zimmerman did a great job of killing the penalty."

The Penguins scored first late in the second period on a short-handed goal from Zimmerman that was assisted by Kristin Callahan. Adrienne Cercone added a power-play insurance net-finder with 3:35 left.

Rebecca Rufli added 16 points.

Bethel shot 33-of-70 from the floor (47 percent) and had 24 total assists to MU's nine.

Swartz lauded

Canton resident Josiah Swartz, a graduate of Westland John Glenn and current player at Hillsdale College, was recently named to the 2nd Team All-Great Lakes Intercollegiate **Athletics Conference** squad. Swartz was also named Hillsdale's top offensive lineman at the team's banquet.



L.P. DIVISION 1 STATE FINALS

(Nov. 17-18 at Oakland University)

159.5; 4. Monroe, 146; 5. Livonia Stevenson,104;

6. Jenison, 97; 7. (tie) Milford, 82; 7. Plymouth

Canton, 82: 9. Rockford, 79.5; 10. Midland Dow,

Heritage, 63; 13. Troy, 61; 14. Northville, 57; 15.

Lake Orion, 54; 16. Grand Haven, 51; 17. South

Lyon, 48.5; 18. (tie) Grosse Pointe North, 48;

Pinckney, 48; 20. (tie) Rochester Adams, 33

Grand Rapids Forest Hills Northern-Eastern

Unified, 29; 24. Clarkston, 26; 25. Ann Arbor

West Bloomfield, 20; 29. Holt, 18; 30. (tie) Holland West Ottawa, 17; Utica Ford II, 17; 32.

Huron, 25; 26. Novi, 22; 27. Troy Athens, 20; 27.

Temperance-Bedford, 16; 33. (tie) Utica,15; East

Kentwood, 15; 35. Wailed Lake Western, 13; 36.

Traverse City West, 12; 36. Portage Central, 12;

38. Hudsonville, 11: 38. Westland John Glenn, 11:

40. Zeeland, 10; 41. Grandville, 8; 42. Dearborn,

Southwestern Academy, 3; 45. (tie) Rocheste

Stoney Creek, 1; 45. Hartland, 1. 200 FREESTYLE – 1. Allison Schmitt (Plymouth

OBSERVERLAND GIRLS

SWIM BESTS

(as of Nov. 20)

200-YARD MEDLEY RELAY

Livonia Stevenson 1:50.27

Salem 1:53.85

Westland John Glenn 1:54.65

Canton 1:59.8

Livonia Ladywood 2:00.91 200 FREESTYLE

Allison Schmitt (Canton) 1:47.54

Jill Peterson (John Glenn) 1:59.90

Stephanie Buckley (Stevenson) 2:00.47

Brynn Marecki (Stevenson) 2:00.66

Laura Timson (Stevenson) 2:01.41 Monica Blaesser (Canton) 2:01.54

Whitney Aumiller (Salem) 2:01.90

Katie Gorman (Salem) 2:03.06

Ashley Gordon (Stevenson) 2:04.42 Samantha Reid (Churchill) 2:04.66

200 INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY

Brynn Marecki (Stevenson) 2:07.08

Allison Schmitt (Canton) 2:08.01

Laura Timson (Stevenson) 2:11.32

Ashley Gordon (Stevenson) 2:15.01

Jill Peterson (John Glenn) 2:17.00

Ashley Sells (John Glenn) 2:17.62

Maggie Carlson (Canton) 2:17.81

Whitney Aumiller (Salem) 2:19.89

Monica Blaesser (Canton) 2:21.16

Sijia Hao (Plymouth) 2:21.76 50 FREESTYLE

Allison Schmitt (Canton) 23.76

Jill Peterson (John Gienn) 25.40

Brynn Marecki (Stevenson) 25.51

Blake Holtz (Stevenson) 25.70

Laura Timson (Stevenson) 25.95

Ally Stencel (Salem) 26.09

Mandy Nameth (Ladywood) 26.26

Jordan Burgess (John Glenn) 26.54

Canton) 1:47.54; 2. Liz Koselka (Ann Arbor

6; 43. Utica Eisenhower, 5.5; 44. Flint

Brighton, 33; 22. Grosse Pointe South, 32; 23.

68.5; 11. Kalamazoo Central, 64; 12. Saginaw

TEAM SCORES - 1. Ann Arbor Pioneer, 359.5;

2. Holland, 221; 3. Farmington Hills Mercy,

FROM PAGE B1 (Ann Arbor Pioneer's Liz Koselka and Kristyne Cole) are friends of mine, so we all hugged and congratulated each other afterwards."

Schmitt was second in both the 500 and 200 following Friday's preliminary heats. Even though Cole's preliminary time in the 500 was seven seconds faster than hers, Schmitt wasn't worried.

"I didn't give it everything I had in the prelims, so I was still confident I could win on Saturday," she said. "I knew that all the hard work I've put in would pay off in the end."

COULDN'T DO IT ALONE

Schmitt said a key part of her success is due to her dedicated support team.

⁴T have great coaches who push me to do better and who have taught me the right technique," she said. "I also give a lot of credit to my family and friends for cheering for me and to my family for taking me to all my practices and meets over the years."

While her teammates will take a much-deserved poststate meet break, Schmitt will continue to train in preparation for the Dec. 2 U.S Open that will be held in Indianapolis. In January, she'll join her National Junior team teammates for an international meet in Hawaii.

Next summer, Schmitt will compete for the U.S. Pan-American team in Dallas.

The Canton relay teams' impressive showing was a fitting finish to a fine season for Johnson, Landis, Carlson, Blaesser and McDuff.

"Everything about it was exciting," said Johnson, a senior. "We had a lot of people cheering for us — our teammates, parents and even a former teammate."

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

GIRLS SWIMMING D-1 RESULTS

Pioneer) 1:47.79; 3. Kristyne Cole (Ann Arbor Pioneer) 1:49.63; 4. Kerry Sodonis (Troy) 1:54.48; 5. Andrea Brown (Saginaw Heritage) 1:54.55; 6. Megan Craig (Farmington Hills Mercy) 1:53.48; 7. Sarah Lawless (Holland) 1:57.25; 8. Erica Shepard, (Jenison) 1:58.28; 9. Mary Keeley (Rockford) 1:56.84; 10. Kerry Abel (Novi) 1:56.93; 11. Virginia Page (Farmington Hills Mercy) 1:57.29; 12. Julie Anne Stears (Zeeland Unified) 1:57.39; 13. Abbey Green (Dearborn) 1:57.10; 14. Catherine Leix (Flint Southwestern) 1:58.16; 15. Brooke Balogh (Monroe) 1:58.57; 16. Katie Everett (Ann Arbor Huron) 2:00.52.

500 FREESTYLE – 1. Allison Schmitt (Plymouth Canton) 4:50.79 (breaks Division I record of 4:50.87 set by Ava Ohlgren in 2005); 2. Kristyne Cole (Ann Arbor Pioneer) 4:53.89; 3. Megan Craig (Farmington Hills Mercy) 5:04:37; 4. Lauren Shanley (Ann Arbor Pioneer) 5:04:37; 5. Brooke Balogh (Monroe) 5:11.23; 6. Laura Timson (Livonia Stevenson) 5:13.27; 7. Julianna Schmidt (Grosse Pointe North) 5:15.28; 8. Candace Savonen (Monroe) 5:21.35; 9. Rachel Johnson (Milford) 5:09.41; 10. Kelli Dewey (Grand Haven) 5:13.66; 11. Kelsey Trabue (South Lyon) 5:15.17; 12. Julie Anne Stears (Zeeland) 5:15.60; 13. Annelies Real (Holland West

GIRLS SWIM BESTS

Anna Polkowski (Stevenson) 26.56 Monica Blaesser (Canton) 26.71 1-METER DIVING

Katie Koetting (Salem) 231.334 Cheisea Selden (Canton) 217.05 Carla McNamara (Stevenson) 207.40 Emily Quint (Franklin) 204.65 Katina St. Pierre (Churchill) 173.40 Amanda Keedle (Stevenson) 172.57 Kallea Stancer (Canton) 167.50 Meghan Powers (Franklin) 162.10 Catherine Musatics (Churchill) 155.85 Mallory Hudak (Canton) 152.55 100 BUTTERFLY Allison Schmitt (Canton) 57.13 Ashley Sells (John Gienn) 1:00.01 Anna Polkowski (Stevenson) 1:02.07

Megan Holycross (Stevenson) 1:02.55 Katie Kress (Stevenson) 1:04.64 Samantha Reid (Churchill) 1:05.44 Katie Gorman (Salem) 1:05.45 Monica Blaesser (Canton) 1:05.52 Sijia Hao (Plymouth) 1:06.10 100 FREESTYLE

Allison Schmitt (Canton) 52.01 Brynn Marecki (Stevenson) 53.10 Jill Peterson (John Glenn) 54.89 Laura Timson (Stevenson) 56.37 Katie Gorman (Salem) 55.77 Whitney Aumiller (Salem) 57.31 Ally Stencel (Salem) 57.31 Ally Stencel (Salem) 57.35 Alyssa Liakos (Plymouth) 57.89 Jordan Burgess (John Glenn) 58.02 500 FREESTYLE Allison Schmitt (Canton) 4:50.79 Laura Timson (Stevenson) 5:12.82 Brynn Marecki (Stevenson) 5:17.14 Jill Peterson (John Glenn) 5:21.13 Stephanie Buckley (Stevenson) 5:22.07 Ottawa) 5:17.71; 14. Gillian Staudt (Farmington Hills Mercy) 5:19.63; 15. Abbey Green (Dearborn) 5:21.40; 16. Emily Michaels (Rochester Stoney Creek) 5:22.20. **200 FREESTYLE RELAY** – 1. Ann Arbor Pioneer (Liz Koselka, Carlye Ellis, Carleigh Schwartz, Kristyne Cole) 1:36.31; 2. Holland, 1:38.69; 3. Jenison, 1:39.82; 4. Farmington Hills Mercy, 1:39.90; 5. Northville, 1:40.04; 6. Rockford, 1:40.13; 7. Kalamazoo Central, 1:40.18; 8. Grosse Pointe. North, 1:40.84; **9. Canton, 1:40.95**; 10. South Lyon, 1:40.98; 11. Lake Orion, 1:41.46; 12. Saginaw Heritage, 1:41.60; 13. Grandville, 1:41.72; 14. Rochester Adams, 1:41.95; 15. Pinckney, 1:42.76; 16. Livonia Stevenson, 1:42 99

400 FREESTYLE RELAY – 1. Ann Arbor Pioneer (Liz Koselka, Carleigh Schwartz, Ashley Cohagen, Kristyne Cole) 3:27.35; 2. Holland, 3:29.95; 3. Monroe, 3:35.61; 4. Jenison, 3:37.14; 5. Farmington Hills Mercy, 3:38.72; 6. Rockford, 3:38.94; 7. Plymouth Canton, 3:40.32; 8. Milford, 3:43.61; 9. Livonia Stevenson, 3:39.00; 10. Troy, 3:39.20; 11. Northville, 3:41.39; 12. Ann Arbor Huron, 3:41.91; 13. Lake Orion, 3:42.94; 14. Rochester Adams, 3:43.89; 15. Midland Dow, 3:43.95; 16. Grand Haven, 3:45.97.

Monica Blaesser (Canton) 5:24.33 Amanda Timson (Churchill) 5:26.52 Ashley Gordon (Salem) 5:30.77 Whitney Aumiller (Salem) 5:33.23 Emily Bair (Salem) 5:34.26 **200 FREESTYLE RELAY** Canton 1:40.95 Livonia Stevenson 1:42.35 Salem 1:45.37 Plymoeth 1:45.66 Livonia Churchill 1:47.52 **100 BACKSTROKE** Allison Schmitt (Canton) 1:00.91 Whitney Aumiller (Salem) 1:02.06 Alvssa Johnson (Canton) 1:02.47 Ashley Gordon (Stevenson) 1:02.81 Laura Timson (Stevenson) 1:04.07 Megan Holycross (Stevenson) 1:04.85 Ashley Sells (John Glenn) 1:04.25 Anna Polkowski (Stevenson) 1:05.42 Jordan Haymour (Franklin) 1:06.22 Jordan Burgess (John Glenn) 1:06.50 **100 BREASTSTROKE** Brynn Marecki (Stevenson) 1:05.04 Jill Peterson (John Glenn) 1:08.26 Laura Timson (Stevenson) 1:10.01 Sijia Hao (Plymouth) 1:12.78 Mandy Nameth (Ladywood) 1:13.30 Allison Schmitt (Canton) 1:13.78 Maggie Carlson (Canton) 1:13.94 Ellen Paczynski (Plymouth) 1:14.26 Amanda Foulds (Churchill) 1:15.16 anie Buckley (Stevenson) 1:15.89 **400 FREESTYLE RELAY** Livonia Stevenson 3:39.0 Canton 3:40.32 Salem 3:48.64 Westland John Glenn 3:51.30 Plymouth 3:55.56



(EDITOR'S NOTE:

Following is the first in a series of sports performance trainingrelated columns written by former Detroit Tigers trainer



Taft

tion you would like to ask Taft, send it in an email to ewright@hometownlife.com.)

formance

training ques-

Question: Which do you recommend as a pre-exercise or pre-competition warm-up routine - static stretching or an active dynamic warm-up? Answer: It's important to understand the differences between the two. Static stretching takes a joint to its greatest range of motion and holds that position for a period . of time (usually 10 to 30 seconds). An active dynamic warm-up features progressive, continuous movement using a combination of calisthenics (jumping jacks, squat thrust, arm circles) and body weight exercises (squatting and lunging), coupled with various

sport-specific movements (sprinting, high knees, backpedaling and shuffling).

www.hometownlife.com

Traditionally, static stretching has been the staple of every warm-up routine from professional athletes to pick-up basketball games. Recently, studies have indicated an adverse effect on performance when preceded by this type of warm up. Activities requiring power output, balance and reaction time were diminished following static stretching.

Strength and conditioning professionals are now advocating an active dynamic warmup as the best way to prepare athletes. This warm-up will raise the heart rate, increasing core temperatures and stimulating blood flow to the muscles and tendons. Movements will take the joints through a greater range of motion, increasing flexibility while enhancing free, coordinated movement.

Also, because of the nature of the movements, fast-twitch (rapid force production) muscle fibers are stimulated, allowing them to be easily recruited later during the speed, agility, strength and power tasks that follow. All of this will enhance performance.

Therefore, it is recommended that your choice of pre-exercise or competition warm-up be active dynamic.

MU spikers win title

Next stop – Columbia, Missouri.

That's where the Madonna University women's volleyball team will be heading after sweeping Cornerstone in three games, 30-25, 30-25, 30-21, to win their third straight NAIA Region VIII Tournament title Saturday evening at Indiana Wesleyan University's Luckey Arena in Marion.

The seventh-ranked Crusaders (38-2) defeated Cornerstone for the fourth time this season and second time in a week.

Madonna won the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference tournament title game over Cornerstone, 3-1, last Saturday Indiana Tech (27-9) in a semifinal match earlier in the day.

The Crusaders split the first two games, 30-16, 16-30, before closing out the match with games of 30-17 and 30-25.

The Crusaders will be heading to their fifth straight NAIA National Tournament, which will be played Nov. 29-Dec. 2 at Columbia College.

Whitney Fuelling, Tihomirova, and Inman each recorded 15 kills, while Grinvalds had 43 assists. Junior Libero Jacqui Gatt (Livonia Churchill) and Fuelling

(Livonia Churchill) and Fuelling each had nine digs.

MU coach Jerry Abraham and the Crusaders will now await the seedings for the upcoming



B2 (CP)

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(Nov. 11) to earn the top seed in the region tournament.

Sophomore Lubovj Tihomirova (Riga, Latvia) continued her dominance over the Golden Eagles with 19 kills in the championship game to lead MU. Senior middle hitter Caryn Inman (Oxford) added 18 kills for the Crusaders.

Freshman setter Inta Grinvalds (Portage Central) guided the Crusaders to a .371 hitting percentage with a game high 50 assists. Leading hitters for Cornerstone (39-9) included Shari VanEngen (13 kills), Holly Cousins (11 kills) and Emily Hollemans (10 kills).

Marcie Blacquiere added 34 assists, while Julie Brusie led in digs with 17. Madonna advanced to the region championship after picking up a 3-1 win against national tournament, which will be released early next week. Following the regional championship game, several Crusaders were honored by regional officials. Inman earned regional Player of the Year honors just a

cials. Inman earned regional Player of the Year honors just a week after being named WHAC Player of the Year. She was joined on the All-Region first-team by Tihomirova and Gatt.

Grinvalds earned another Freshman of the Year award.

Lady Ocelots 7th

The Schoolcraft College women's volleyball team earned a seventh-place finish in the National Junior College Athletic Association Division II Tournament in Scottsdale CC (Ariz.) with a 30–18, 24-30, 31-29, 30-27 victory over Southwestern Illinois CC.



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LOCAL SPORTS

Whalers are in good hands with Brownstown's Smith

New York Rangers scout Rich Brown recently came to the Compuware Sports Arena. As he settled into the Scouts/Media Room, Brown asked: "Is Jeremy Smith starting in goal tonight for the Whalers?

www.hometownlife.com

Brown's question is one that a lot of NHL scouts ask when they come to watch the Plymouth Whalers this season.

That doesn't mean the scouts don't like Plymouth's other goaltender, Michal Neuvirth. It's just that Neuvirth - a second-round draft choice of the Washington Capitals – has already been taken by an NHL team.

Not so with Smith, a Brownstown native in his NHL draft year who is moving up the radar of the NHL scouts with a bullet.

Through the middle of the November, Smith ranks second in the Ontario Hockey

League with a 2.68 goals against average and .920 save percentage and leads the league with three shutouts.

He's stopped seven of the eight shots he's faced in shootouts this year, second in the league behind Neuvirth, who has gone three for three.

Smith's shutout streak this year of 151:37 – including consecutive shutouts of Windsor on Oct. 19 and Toronto on Oct. 27 - ranks him fourth on the Whalers' all-time list.

Suddenly, a potential question mark for the Whalers has turned into a position of strength.

The conventional wisdom around the OHL is that teams employ a veteran, experienced goaltender and pair him with a younger goaltender. Not so with the Whalers.

With the graduation of Justin Peters last season and the trade of Justin Garay to Erie earlier this year, Smith

and Neuvirth came into the season with five games played between the two combined.

Their so-called inexperience has not prevented Smith and Neuvirth from playing well.

Through the Whalers' first 20 games, Smith has been selected the First Star in four starts and a Second star in one. Neuvirth has two First Stars, a second and a third. "They may be rookies, but

Jeremy was around our program last year and Michal has some great international experience," Plymouth President, General Manager and Head Coach Mike Vellucci said. "I think both of them have played really well to date and hopefully, they'll continue."

Smith — a fourth round pick of the Whalers in 2005 played the bulk of last season with the Compuware Midget Majors, but practiced and dressed for the Whalers when Garay was hurt. It was



tough for him to sit and watch, but the experience proved to be valuable.

"Smith learned a lot from last year," Vellucci said. "I think practicing with us every day last year helped him improve - not just his skills, but his off-ice workouts. Watching Justin Peters who is probably one of the hardest workers I've every

coached — showed Jeremy what it takes to take his game to the next level."

"Last year was a long year for me, but I learned a lot from (Justin) Peters," Smith said. "He works hard, he's made it to the next level and that's where I want to go." Peters resembles Dominik

Hasek in intensity when it comes to working and being

Plymouth Whalers goal-keeper Jeremy Smith is enjoying a ... solid season between the pipes, for the Ontario Hockey League WALT DMOCH team.

scored upon.

"Petey battles very hard," Smith said. "That taught me something - even when shooters score goals on you in practice, it shouldn't rattle you. He showed me you have to come to the rink every day $\delta \zeta$ to work hard, whether it's practice or a game."

Smith and Neuvirth compliment each other.

Future Red Wing haunts Whalers, 5-2

Detroit Red Wing draft pick Cory Emmerton tallied two goals and an assist, while captain Chris Stewart scored the game-winning goal and added an assist as the Kingston Frontenacs defeated the Plymouth Whalers, 5-2, in an Ontario Hockey League game played Saturday night before 3,563 at the Compuware Sports Arena.

Plymouth is now 12-10-0-0, which is good enough for third place in the OHL West Division. Kingston, which won all three games on a road trip through Windsor, Sarnia and Plymouth last weekend, improved to 10-10-2-1.

Dan Collins scored both Whaler goals and now has nine on the season. Nathan Moon and Mathew Kang scored the

scored on his own rebound on a power play at 11:41 of the first period and Kang scored a shorthanded goal at 17:44 of the period to give Kingston a 2-1 lead after 20 minutes of play.

Stewart scored the eventual game-winner for Kingston on a shorthanded effort at 10:54 of the second period when he took Emmerton's pass from the left wing in the Plymouth zone, cut in front of Plymouth goaltender Jeremy Smith, and scored on a severe angle shot from the right wing for his 13th goal of the season. Collins came back for

Plymouth to cut the Kingston lead to 3-2 at 16:55 of the period when he took Chris Terry's pass from the left point and beat Guy with a back-hand



other Kingston goals.

Collins scored at 5:45 of the first period to give Plymouth its only lead of the game when he tipped Tom Sestito's shot from the right wing past Kingston goaltender Jason Guy. But the Frontenacs tied the game at 1-1 when Moon

shot from between the hashmarks in the Kingston zone.

But Emmerton scored the only two goals of the third period at 3:21 and 17:26 respectively as Kingston pulled away for the victory. Kingston outshot Plymouth.

32-24.

SPORTS BRIEFS

POM CLINIC

The Plymouth High School Saberette's pom squad will be hosting a kid's clinic on Saturday, Dec. 2, from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Plymouth High School gymnasium for girls in kindergarten through 8th grade.

The cost for the clinic is \$35, which includes a pom T-shirt, pom pons and a snack.

Registration will be held Tuesday, Nov. 14 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the Plymouth High School athletic wing.

All participants will be invited to perform in the Saberette Variety Show on Feb. 16-17 and at halftime of a Plymouth basketball game. For more information, call (734) 459-6460.

BASEBALL TRAINING

Dennie Taft, former Detroit Tigers' strength and conditioning coach, is teaming with High Velocity Sports to offer an 8- or 12-week performance training camp specific to baseball players.

One-hour sessions (2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.) will feature drills and exercises designed to develop speed, agility, quickness, core strength and power — the same ones used to prepare area professional baseball players Nate Robertson, Charlie Haeger, Anthony Tomey and Bobby Malek.

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 community in a first-class fashion. We are also enthusiastic about the impact that a west-side location will have on our existing facilities in Shelby Township and Detroit."

HVS is offering 5-on-5 and 4on-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. Visit www.hvsports.com; or call (734) HV-SPORT.



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LOCAL SPORTS

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Trophy time

On Nov. 12, the Plymouth-Canton Steelers freshmen football team was recently crowned champion of the Western Suburban Junior Football League's Super Bowl. Pictured (front row from left) are Brandon Rhodes (manager), Danny Lanava (water boy), Jack Pardington, Christian Mayberry, A.J. Convertino, Philip Avramoski, Thomas Jones, Kadeem Hemphil, Jalen Hemphil, Dakota Lynn, (second row from left) Bradley Deeg, Tyler Whipple, Matthew McKoy, Jacob Mallad, Matt Ramey, Andy Gregor, Trenton Shelby, Nick Farmer, Nick Poet, Devin Cameron, Nick Lanava, Adam McKee, (third row from left) Anthony Colaluca, Gregory Williams, Kevin Justice, Owen Ash, Mitchell Gross, Lucas Callahan, Justin Sydlowski, (fourth row from left) Mark Mazzuca (asst. coach), Angelo Lanava (asst. coach), Paul Hult (asst. coach), Marty Rhodes (asst. coach), Vic Whipple (asst. unit director) and Rob Rodrigues (head coach).



Hurricane warning

The Michigan Hurricanes Midget A travel hockey team won the Motown Cup Oct. 27-29 in Southgate. The Hurricanes defeated the Humberview (Ont.) Huskies, 2-1, in the championship game and went 4-0 overall. The Hurricanes outscored their foes, 17-3, overall. Adam Powers was named MVP for the Hurricanes. The team consists of Trevor McCarty, Derek Henderson, Neil Smith, Patrick Riedy, Bryan Davison, Jake Porter, Ronnie Pluszczynski, Adam Weigand, Drew Sieber, Justin Bennett, Phillip Mitchell, Nick Pelon, Sam Ott, Adam Yarber, Rick Lorenz, Jonathon Simons, Travis Satkowiak, Matt Wasko and Adam Powers. The team is coached by Lee McCarty, Rick Lorenz, Mike Kreager and Joe Satkowiak.



Red alert

The Canton Soccer Club 97 Red girls team successfully defended its 2005 Halloween Classic Tournament title last month when it went 4-0-1 in the U10 event held in Indianapolis. The team also captured the U10 girls Division 1 title in the Western Suburban Soccer League. Pictured (front row from left) are Ashley Bearden (Canton), Jillian Aguirre (Canton), Carly Kowalski (Canton), Paige Slominski (Canton), Lindsay Yankasky (Garden City), Alyssa Bradley (Canton), (top row from left) Haley Diedrick (Canton), Alexandra Wilbanks (Ypsilanti), Katie Stevens (Canton), Cecilia Kieliszewski (Canton) and Lauren Yurko (Canton).

Short-handed Ocelots whip Express, 94-80

BY TIM SMITH STAFF WRITER

Down to just six players due to an injury, Schoolcraft College's men's basketball made the most of every offensive possession Saturday afternoon.

Nine treys in the first half alone propelled the host Ocelots to a 44-28 halftime lead against Owens Community College (Ohio).

Then, five second-half triples by freshman guard Josh Samarco were enough for Schoolcraft (3-1) to withstand a second-half rally by the Express and earn a 94-80 victory.

Schoolcraft got the win without leading scorer Korey Spates, the Purdue University transfer who sustained a cut to his face during practice Friday. Sparking the Ocelots to the

non-conference win were Samarco and another freshman guard Kenvawn Patterson.

Patterson connected on four

treys in the first half and finished with 28 points, while Samarco's blazing streak after intermission kept Owens (1-3) from pulling any closer than

seven. Samarco finished with 25 points. "Both those guys (Patterson, Samarco) are outstanding shooters, great freshmen, Brown said. "We expect them to do that, and I think they'll do that all season long for us."

After dominating during the first half, particularly in a 19-8 run that wiped out Owens only lead of the contest, Schoolcraft found itself up against a more energized, urgent Express to open the second half.

Led by freshman forward Gabe Gibbs (12 points), who scored three quick to-the-hole buckets, Owens chipped the Ocelots' lead to 51-42 with just over 15 minutes to play.

Briefly, Brown worried about letting another victory slip away

On Wednesday. Schoolcraft gave up 10 late points to lose to Grand Rapids Community

College, 90-86.

"We had a chance to win the game (on Wednesday) and fell apart at the end," he said. "We really spent some time making sure we didn't get into that same situation again today."

Enter hot-shooting Samarco, who canned three triples, including two within a 10-second span, rebuilding the lead to 67-44 with 12:25 remaining.

Another key play during that stretch was a steal and layup by freshman guard Jerome Hutchins (19 points), who tacked on a free throw to make it a three-point play.

Hutchins came through again with about two minutes to go. Patterson in-bounded the ball near mid-court to a streaking Hutchins, and the Detroit Redford product flew through the lane for another layup and foul shot.

That opened up an 87-77 margin for the Ocelots, who always seemed to maintain a comfortable margin despite the lack of manpower in the game.

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ODAY

here are they? Certainly there must have been some Joey Harrington supporters with the Lions If the sector with the Lions. If they are out there, they aren't exactly taking this week to speak up in defense of the former Lions guarterback. He is back in town with his new team, the Dolphins, and it's like he's a stranger.

Harrington started the bulk of his four years in Detroit. He played for two head coaches, survived a heart scare and battled booing from Lions fans on a weekly basis. Outside of a few women who thought he was "cute," Joey Harrington's time here was nothing short of a football disaster.

"People are going to hype up going back to Detroit this week," Harrington said to reporters following Miami's win Sunday over Minnesota. "I'm going back as part of the Dolphins and that's something I'm proud of."

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Mark

Wilson

Joey just helped Nick Saban win his third straight game. Harrington never had a threegame win streak with the Lions. He has tried to downplay his return to Ford Field, but it hasn't been easy. He knows Lions boobirds will be out in full voice on this Thanksgiving.

"I know that stadium pretty well. I know what section the boos come from," Harrington added.

News flash, Joey. Don't be surprised when the entire stadium starts hooting on you. By the time Harrington left here after the 2005 season, it was pretty universal. Very few believed he had the moxie to be a great NFL quarterback. He was picked third overall in the 2002 draft and failure

just wasn't the game plan.

"What makes me happiest is to know that I'm part of a team that appreciates what I bring to the

ing out of the University of Oregon. He was "Joey Heisman," even hyped up on a billboard in New York City his senior year with the Ducks. Of course, he didn't win the award for best college football player, but the billboard was nice.

This game has been circled on the schedule ever since Harrington signed with Saban to play behind Daunte Culpepper. When Culpepper went down, Joey stepped in and struggled. Lately, he has found a groove and the Dolphins are winning again.

"Joey did a good job of managing the game," +>2 Saban said after the win over the Vikes. "He made a lot of good throws out there."

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Anyone who remembers Saban at Michigan State will know those comments are high praise. d Nick tosses out compliments like Scrooge gives with out money. Harrington has been far from perfect. He has more interceptions than touchdowns and his quarterback rating of 65.7 is actually below .nl his career number. Miami is winning and that makes everything all right for the moment. ·ot

"I'm really starting to feel good playing with .VI these guys," Harrington said. . oi

Of course, Joey heads back into the Lions' den with his former team reeling. It has lost two in any row and stands at 2-8 following the disaster in the desert. His replacement, Jon Kitna, is strug-off gling to find a consistent groove. It seems that 132

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unt Lions on Thanksgiving Day

Kitna just can't stay away from a big turnover that ends up killing drives.

"We're not going to hang our heads about anything," Kitna said Sunday after the 17-10 loss to the Cardinals. "There are six games left to go in the season and we're still building this thing from the ground up."

'The ground has been an issue. Kevin Jones left the field in Arizona with an ankle injury. Arlen Harris did the best he could and even scored a touchdown, but he is not a premier back in the NFL. Without K.J., things get even dicier heading into this Thanksgiving matchup with Miami.

"Anytime you lose one of your best players, it's going to affect you," Kitna said.

"It's all of us, together. It's a team. Everybody has to be on every detail," coach Rod Marinelli said. Once again, he refused to use injury as an excuse for anything.

The short turnaround before the Turkey Day game will be a new experience for Marinelli. He will coach for the first time on the holiday. In his 11 years as an assistant in Tampa, the Bucs never played the Lions or Cowboys on Thanksgiving. The last thing he would do is offer up the short week as a hindrance.

"There's no room for frustration," Marinelli said. "You go back to work. We don't sit, pout, cry and worry about things you can't control."

They also have to get past the myth that "the Lions always win on Thanksgiving." It just isn't true. In fact, they have lost four of the last five Turkey Day tilts. The Lions' overall record in the history of Thanksgiving games is a mediocre 33-31-5. The series began in 1934 with a Lions loss to the Chicago Bears.

Miami has never been a Turkey Day opponent.

While the Lions seem to be far out of any playoff picture, the Dolphins feel they have something going now. It was at this time last year that Saban got his team to win six in a row to finish the season. If the Dolphins do that again, they will end up 10-6 and who knows what's possible?

Of course, the Dolphins should try to avoid rushing for minus-3 yards again. They had minus-3 on the books and still beat Minnesota. The last time a team won a game in the NFL with that poor a rushing effort was 1961, when the Eagles knocked off the Redskins with minus-12 yards on the ground.

"They shut down one half of our offense," Harrington said to reporters. "We threw well enough to win and got great help defensively."

Ford Field will be the anti-Joey stadium. While Lions fans aren't too crazy about how their home team has looked with eight losses, they will take out their frustrations on old No. 3. At least Harrington has fond memories of playing on Turkey Day, if nothing else.

"I just like playing on Thanksgiving. I was privileged to do it for four years there and I am going back to do it again," he said.

It's the day we eat, watch football and give thanks. We live in a country where we can enjoy the fruits of our labors. Have some food and check out the Lions.

Just save room for a little booing. Joey's ready difference of the same state of the

Mark Wilson is host of the Lions pregame and postgame in the shows on WKRK-FM (97.1). He's a former Associated Press and Michigan Association of Broadcasters Michigan Sportscaster of the Year. He lives in West Bloomfield.



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ADVERTISEMENT

Used car prices take nara tumple 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

vehicles are carefully inspected

upon return. In many cases,

these program units receive

better maintenance than vehicles owned by private

John Rogin Buick-Livonia has long been known as Michigan's

"bargain hunting" dealer.

Currently, they're selling more

owners.

first 30 days of their sale.

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,

along with the incentives. In the 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.

John Rogin Buick is located at 30500 Plymouth Road, between Middlebelt 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 A "program" car is a vehicle the fewest problems - An that has been leased by a outstanding mark of excellence premium rental company for superb workmanship and a through a special "program" prelude to the satisfaction yet to from the manufacturer. Strict maintenance is required, and all 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, sixposition 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 majntenance 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. © J.L. Sims - 2006

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PHENOMENON OF THE UNTOUCHABLE EMPLOYEE



One man is so overbearing and controlling that confronting him is virtually impossible. Getting to him through others may not even

work. One woman is so fragile that co-workers dance around her, never giving her the feedback that would help her at work. In fact, they may lie to keep her from knowing that she s made a mistake. A third may be a change agent, offending others who don t want to lose control.

Workplace expert Joseph Grenny, president of the research and training company VitalSmarts in Provo, Utah, defines an untouchable employee as one who behaves badly or performs poorly in a workplace where no one deals effectively with the problems. He searched a database of 70,000 people, with 60.4 percent 45 years old or older and 53 percent earning more than \$80,000 per year. In this mature, successful group, he finds that 93 percent of workers (out of 872 respondents) know this subject well. The most frequent offenders include those who foment conflict (57 percent) and either undermine teams or bully others (52 percent). Fifty-one percent cite people who underperform. More than 50 percent also maintain that the problem has transpired longer than four years. REAL CASES

One of our co-workers said that the overbearing man survives by killing others, and puts everyone down around them, Randy, an employee states. He talks big, never completes a thing, takes credit for others work, and passes the work on to me and my co-worker. He doesn t follow through. Anything that he finds lacking, he builds up to make him look better and the other person look worse. He s constantly taking over the other sales guy s leads. People go to his boss and find that he and the creep are an inseparable duo, lunching together and taking trips together. Even if they re not having an affair, the attachment is in the way.

Don t ask me why I work here, the aggrieved employee says under his breath. Recovering his thoughts, he adds, I make good money and have good hours. In his next sentence, he confides that he s in the process of moving on. So, too, is the fragile woman, who finds herself at odds with customers, the ones that assure her paycheck, and people on her internal team. The change agent may well endure lack of popularity as part of his price to achieve effectiveness. REMEDY

At what point does a workplace become uninhabitable for the untouchable and/or coworkers? Randy gave it the old college try by meeting with the boss of Mr. Untouchable. We found out just where we stood in my boss s eyes, he laments. Randy and the co-worker were called too emotional, but there was some improvement -- for a month. Then it was back to business as usual, with vendors reporting that the obnoxious non-worker makes inappropriate remarks to them and to customers. The untouchable woman decided to leave her company, and, basically, check out of life in general --until a friend pulled her back. The change agent may remain inspired and stubborn.

Very few survey respondents consider themselves adept at solving these types of problems —only 2.6 percent of 875. A solid group of 29.3 percent feels moderately successful, while 40.2 percent consider themselves slightly successful. How can you determine whether it s worth the effort to try to



Many people know, but not those who should be doing something about it.
 Many people know-including those who should be doing something about it.
 Many people know-including those who should be doing something about it.
 Everyone knows-including those who should be doing something about it.
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 Everyone knows-including those who should be doing something about it.
 Everyone knows-including those who should be doing something about it. It's even widely discussed, but no one follows through with any action.

deal with it? Step away from your resentment, Grenny responds. Ask yourself what you really want, such as:

— Is this really going to damage the quality of my work life?

- What do I want for the organization and its customers? and

- Is the situation really having important consequences?

What should the person who finds herself unapproachable do to determine whether she s the problem or the workplace is? People always have their reasons, Grenny states somewhat unsympathetically. The issue isn t always theirs; their behavior isn t always objectionable. It s easy to go into defense mode, but you don t realize the consequences of it. Ask yourself if what you really want . . . (is to continue to be) sidelined, badmouthed, frozen out or lack influence. In other words, is the fragility worth the trouble?

What if you are the change agent? The untouchable person may be an agent of change, a bull in the china shop, brutally honest, tending to offend, he continues. Their effectiveness is being undermined through this behavior. You can be an agent of change and not be offensive, abrasive and not provoke resistance. A lot of it is in the way you go about speaking up and speaking the truth that others won t talk about.

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

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5020	5860Childcare Services-	individuals to work PART-TIME	to: 313-794-2091	RESTORATION TECHS &	Assistant, Networking,	vated person. People skills,		240-324-2444	
2 Office Clerical 5030Helo Wanted-	Licensed Care Children Clehr Citiking	FANI-TIME.	FLORAL	CLEANING PEOPLE	Veterinary Assisting ELEMENTARY	billing, insurance processing	LASER HAIR REMOVAL TECHNICIAN	RN, LPN, or	
Engineering	5370Childcare/Baby Sitting Services	Hiring for our	Like Flowers??	For a growing 24 hr. emer-	Art, Computers, Music, Phy-	preferred. (734) 422-1332	For dermatology practice.	Medical Assistant	
: 5035Helo Wanted-Technical	5289Childcare Needed	branch locations.	I am looking for energetic	gency restoration co. Good wages, Full-time, Benefits after	sical Education, and Japanese.	DENTAL RECEPTIONIST	Ann Arbor/Plymouth area.	With Experience, needed	
5040 Heip Wanted-Bental	5409	Cash handling & product sales. Goal oriented sales	people to be	6 months. Must be reliable &	Fax Resume to:	Must be computer & dental	Exp. with Light Sheer	for GROWING dermatology	
5050	5428Nursing Care & Homes	exp. required. Intense 6	Design Assistants	have good driving record.	734-762-8534	office experienced. Part time for friendly Garden City prac-	Laser Exc. pay. Email	practice in Ann Arbor/	
5080Hein Wanted-	5506Surtimer Campo	week paid training manda-	& Bouquet Help	Sunglo Restoration Service, 27189 W. Warren, Dearborn	Help Wanted-Office	tice. Call Kathie 586-914-6961	resume: a2derm@aol.com	Plymouth area. Full-Time, T exc. pay & benefits. Email	
Food/Beverage	5600Education/instruction	tory. Class begins Monday, January 8th. Must be avail-	for the Holiday Season.	Hts. 1-800-574-2000 E.O.E.	Clerical 5020	DENTIST	or fax: 734-996-8767	or Fax Resume to:	
5100Heip Wanted-	5610Divorce Services	able to work	Apply in person at: TFI Enterprises Inc.		OTOTION.	Must be Experienced.	M.P. or M.L.T.	a2derm@aoi.com	
Health & Filness	5920 Business & Professional	Mon-Fri. 9:15am-6:30pm.	24001 Telegraph Rd.	Retail High end custom furniture	RECEPTIONIST	Call: 313-861-5759	Full & Part-Time Night shift.	(734) 996-8767	
5110Help Wanted-Professional	Services	Saturday 9:15am-2:30pm.	Southfield, MI 48034	store is seeking a full time	Full time Receptionist needed	or Fax resume: 313-861-5794	Detroit Bio Med Lab 23955		
5120Help Wanted-Sales	5649Financial Services	Hiring for incoming call	MonFri. 8:00-3:00	Sales Associate. Retail	for Southfield based law firm. Fax resume to 248-354-6308.	FRONT DESK - Full time, Exp.	Freeway Park Dr. Farmington Hills (10 Mile Grand River	Help Wanted-	
5200Help Wanted-Part-Time	5660Secretarial Services	center. located in Dearborn.		and/or design exp. preferred. Please fax resume to:	Fax resume to 246-354-6506.	only. Must know Dentech	area) 248-471-4116	Food/Beverage	
5240Heip Wanted-Domestic	5680Resumes-Typing	Mon-Fri. 8-6, Sat. 9:30-2.	GOVERNMENT JOBS Earn \$12-\$48 per hour	248-644-5120 or email to	RECEPTIONIST	Windows. Fax 734-942-5955 or call 734-942-0560	MEDICAL ASSISTANT	BAR & WAIT STAFF	
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Acura scores with revamped TL luxury car

Advertising Feature





By Tenisha Mercer Avanti NewsFeatures

It s hard to make perfection better, but that s exactly what Acura has done with the 2007 TL. Revised styling, a spiffed up interior and an improved navigation system make the revamped T a must-have in the midsize luxury segment.

How much do I like the Acura TL? Let me count the

ways. The Acura TL does what some luxury cars don t: it combines high performance, luxury and technology in one package. Slide into the Acura TL, available in TL and TL Type-S models, and immediately you ll notice the premium features that speak of sophistication and style. From the brushed, aluminum like pedals, cutting edge

design to the map pockets and seat storage bins that fold in and out, the Acura TL is what luxury and style should be all about. Acura s rivals might want to take a few notes

It all starts with the power underneath the hood, and

It all starts with the power underneath the hold, and in this case, there s plenty of it. Let s start with the Type-S model. Reintroduced after a three-year hiatus, the Type-S makes a splashy return with significant upgrades. Retuned suspension and four-piston Brembo front brakes give the TL a tight ride, while a 3.5-liter V-6 engine with 286 horsepower allows for added power. For

the first time, the Type-S is also available with a fivespeed automatic with paddle shifters or a six-speed manual transmission.

manual transmission. The TL is nothing to laugh at, thanks to a 3.2-liter, V-6 engine that cranks out 258 horsepower. Mated to a new, five-speed Sequential SportShift automatic transmission, the TL is lightning fast with minimal effort. I was so happy with the Acura TL test model that it cost me a \$150 speeding ticket; I just couldn't help coasting down the freeway at 85 mph and, honestly, I didn't making L was going that fast until the con pulled

didn t realize I was going that fast, until the cop pulled us over. (The cop didn t buy the excuse).

Here's what got me in trouble: Nudge the pedal ever so slightly and the TL takes off smoothly with ease, with no struggling to reach high speeds. The TL breathlessly sped up and down gravel roads, highways and concrete. The TL was light and aerodynamic, maneuvering

around sharp curves with ease because of a double wishbone front and multi-link rear suspension system that gives drivers ultimate control without sacrificing comfort.



2007 Acura TL Vehicle class: Midsize luxury vehicle. Power: 3.2-liter and 3.5-liter V-6 engines. Where built: Marysville, Ohio. Price range: \$33,625-\$38,325.

New this year are stiffer front and rear anti-roll bars, firmer springs and a revised bumper. New transmission mounts and bushings made driving the TL even more comfortable. We rolled over speed bumps easily, gliding over pockmarks in the road.

There's very little noise in the cabin, thanks to several technologies Acura deployed in the TL. It starts with a strong, super-strength steel frame that cuts sound and floor panels that decrease vibration. Noise is even further reduced in the Type-S with cabin mounted microphones and an audio system that erases lower noise levels.

Even the doors in the Acura TL are designed to reduce noise: A rigid door sash quiets noise made from the door latch. I couldn t believe my ears when I slammed the door shut only to hear a muffled-like closing. Talk about innovation.

The super-strength steel that makes up the subframe of the TL also helps with another common annoyance parking lot dents and dings. The TL s high-strength steel doors have greater resistance to dents and dings than conventional steel.

What's really cool about the TL are the accessories. Back-up sensors, decklid spoilers (not available on the Type-S) and front and side spoilers are just a few of the add-ons that make the TL a custom car.

Eighteen-inch aluminum wheels and tires and front, side and rear underbody spoilers are also available as part of custom dealer-installed packages.

You can t deny the TLs style quotient, and its got a large dose of it. Satin trim laces a new, larger grille, while black chrome trim accents the Type-S. The roof trim is a glossy black, with TL and Type-S etched on the aluminum step garnishes.

The design is bold and powerful, with an aggressive

front fascia and larger grille with a larger A mark and honeycomb mesh. The bumper has been redesigned with a satin chrome crossbar and horizontal trim. Taillight

a satin enrolle crossbar and norizonta trim. familit clusters were redesigned, along with a new TL logo. The Type-S was redone as well, with new front and rear fascias, black chrome trim, wider side sills and quad tailpipes. Also new are LED single blinkers on the side mirrors and fog lights on the bumper.

There are even more goodies inside, with perforated leather-trimmed sport seats, eight-way power driver s seats with lumbar support and aluminum and wood-like console and door trim on the TL. The Type-S comes with aluminum and carbon-like console and door trim.

There s a new, three-spoke steering wheel and new gauges outfitted in a brushed metal-like finish and blue-lighting on the TL and red lighting on the Type-S. Both models come with a 225-watt Acura/ELS Surround system with eight-speakers and a six-disc system that plays mp3 and WMA files.

For technophiles, the TL is built with Bluetooth technology, including a HandsFree link allows drives to link Bluetooth-enabled cellphones by voice. And Acura s Navigation System stores cell phone address book to its memory, while a display screen shows mobile phone information, maintenance needs and driver settings. Models with a navigation system also get a new rearview camera

The TL gives competitors such as the Audi A4, BMW 3-series, Cadillac CTS, Infiniti G 35 and Mercedes-Benz C Class uphill competition at a lower price tag.

Write Tenisha Mercer at avanti1054@aol.com <mailto:avanti1054@aol.com> . @2006, Fracassa Communications.

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