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PINK PAGE - D



**THURSDAY** 

Observer of the contract of th November 30, 2006

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# Survey: Voters likely to support bond

www.hometownlife.com

STAFF WRITER

**Plymouth-Canton Community** Schools officials are confident they're on the right track to pass a \$62.1 million bond proposal Feb. 27, nine months after voters convincingly turned down a two-question \$120 million proposal in Mav.

In a survey of more than 300 randomly selected voters throughout the district, 54 percent indicated they would vote "yes" for the proposal, with another 4 percent leaning toward voting in favor of the bond issue. A total of 39 percent indicated they would vote "no" or are leaning toward rejecting the bond question.

The survey has a margin of error of plus or minus 5.7 percent.

It was the second survey conducted for the school board by EPIC/MRA in Lansing. The first, commissioned by the board in August, indicated the May proposals asked for too much money while including high school athletic improvements, a new pool, a new high school theater and a gym.

"The first survey gave us some direction at what to look at and include, and the second survey confirms we came up with a package that reflects what the citizens were telling us last time," said Barry Simescu, school board president. "We've still got a lot of work to do, but I'm cautiously optimistic."

seèm to favor a new middle school and building additions - gives impetus to the February bond proposal, which includes \$30.5 million for a new middle school in Canton Township to replace an aging Central Middle School; and another \$13.2 million to refurbish Central for alternative education (replacing Starkweather Education Center), community education and a curricu-

lum center. Another \$3.7 million will go toward six classrooms, as well as boys and girls restrooms, at Pioneer Middle School in Plymouth Township; \$3.6 million for construction of six additional classrooms at Field Elementary

classrooms at Salem High School; \$1.7 million for Canton High School cafeteria expansion and remodeling; \$1.6 million for additional cafeteria space and kitchen upgrades at West Middle School in Plymouth Township; and \$1.1 million for 13 new

The bond issue, if passed, also includes \$2.3 million to reimburse the general fund for the purchase of the middle school property on Cherry Hill Road, just west of Canton Center Road, in Canton.

Pollster Ed Sarpolus of EPIC/MRA said breaking the 50-percent approval barrier is significant, considering neither of the two previous

bond questions could get enough votes to pass.

"The bottom line is the board looked at their priorities and the public's priorities and melded them together," Sarpolus said. "The survey confirms this is what voters will likely support. Now they have to go out and educate the voters that these are real things the district needs."

Supt. Jim Ryan said they will start paring the information and how they will present it to the community beginning in January.

We'll be talking to PTOs, booster groups and community groups to get our message out," Ryan said. "We'll

PLEASE SEE BOND, A4

# A messy lesson

Cub Scout leader gets doused to teach Scouts about commitment

> BY TIFFANY L. PARKS STAFF WRITER

Tammy Croop eyed the Cub Scout through a pair of neon goggles and told him to "bring it on."

He did - dumping a bucket of sliced onions, vinegar, mashed potatoes and oatmeal on her head. As she cringed and wiped the smelly concoction from her face, another boy stepped up to dump his homemade masterpiece on

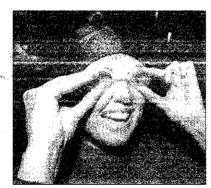
"OK, why did I do this?" she said, belting out a laugh.

As Cubmaster of Pack 858 Croop of Canton challenged her 31 boys to raise \$10,000 in popcorn sales. If they did, they'd get to dump whatever they chose on her.

On Tuesday, more than a dozen two-gallon buckets filled with mud, oatmeal, grass, pickles, leaves and beans were lined up in the parking lot of Canton's Showroom of Elegance waiting on Croop.

Some of the boys cried foul that their Cubmaster, who was dressed in a wetsuit, covered her blonde locks with a swimming cap.

"I have dye in there," she said jokingly. "I can't go to work with



Cub Scout leader Tammy Croop readies herself for the many buckets of slop that will be poured over her head.

green hair."

With the cubs chanting "Do it! Do it!" in the background, Croop kneeled on the ground and was doused with syrup, whipped cream, multi-colored feathers and

"It's so crazy we can do this and not get banned from the Scouts," said Shane Prevo, 8.

Matthew Croop, 8, didn't think twice about dumping baked beans on his mother's head.

PLEASE SEE MESSY, A4



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Scout Daniel Huang dumps the icky concoction in his bucket over Scout leader Tammy Croop's head.

# 'Inappropriate' Web use not a problem for local libraries

BY TONY BRUSCATO

Canton Public Library marketing and communications manager Laurie Golden said librarians have only experienced a limited number of complaints from patrons using computer stations about others using the Internet to view sexually explicit sites. However, she said there's no guarantee some aren't accessing Web sites that might be objection-

The pause for concern comes after Mount Clemens Public Library officials turned off Internet access for all of its patrons because too many have been viewing objectionable material.

Golden said 84 public area computers are filtered for file sharing, pornography, spyware, gaming and gambling sites. They are mostly located in areas designated for small children, those 7-12

PLEASE SEE LIBRARIES, A4



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

# Selling winner has perks

Raj Anghan, who owns the Shell gas station at Ford and Haggerty, gets a fat check from Michigan Lottery Commissioner Gary Peters, who visited the station Wednesday morning. Anghan received the \$50,000 for selling a winning \$75 million lottery ticket on Nov. 14. He said the money will definitely come in handy, especially during the holiday season. 'I'm going to spend some in the store. My employees are family, so they'll all get a bonus. And then I'm going to spend some on myself,' Anghan said with a smile. Anghan also said that business has picked up significantly since he sold the Mega Millions jackpot winner.

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# Former principal left a lasting impression



Cheryl Clason, who died of cancer Saturday, spent 30 years as a teacher and administrator in the Plymouth-Canton school district.

**BY TONY BRUSCATO** STAFF WRITER

Cheryl Clason had the gift of leaving a lasting impression on just about everyone she met during her 30 years as a teacher and administrator for Plymouth-Canton Community Schools.

Clason, 59, died Saturday after a nearly six-month battle with cancer, and is being remembered by those whose lives she touched along the way.

"She was a born leader," said Pat McDonald, who knew Clason since 1976, when both were at Hulsing Elementary. "People just liked Cheryl because she was charming

and fun, but she also had a way of motivating people and making it a fun place to work Clason started her Plymouth-

Canton career as a reading specialist at Isbister Elementary in 1974. Two years later, the transplant from Goshen, Ind., moved to Hulsing Elementary, where she made the surprising move into administration. "Hulsing needed an assistant

principal, and the staff talked Cheryl into applying," McDonald said. "She really stood behind her staff, and had a great way of working with parents, getting them to feel good about the school and help out."

McDonald said away from school, Clason displayed the same qualities as a trusted friend.

"Cheryl could light up a room, she was so charming and charismatic," said McDonald, who retired in 2004 with Clason. "You could talk to her about anything, she was a great listener. Cheryl always had something wise to say or would have a different slant that would help you think things out."

After stints as an assistant principal at Eriksson and Field elementary schools, and at Tanger Center, Clason became principal at Hulsing from 1986-91, Smith

PLEASE SEE PRINCIPAL, A4

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> Volume 32 Number 44





# **Coming Sunday** in Health



replacements designed especially for women.

# Decorating for the holidays

Looking for a way to make your old holiday decorations seem new again? Want to get a designer look for a bargain price? On Thursday, Dec. 7, at 7 p.m., the Canton Public Library will offer Learn to Remix Your Décor with program host Marlene Prater. She'll show you how to refresh your holiday decorating with items you have around the house for a whole new look for your holiday table or mantle.

The program is free but registration is required. Register starting Nov. 30 by calling (734) 397-0999.

# Meeting canceled

The Dec. 13 Council for Community Excellence meeting has been canceled. The next meeting will be held Wednesday, Jan. 10, 2007, at 6:30 in the lower level of the Canton Township Administration Building.

# Sounds of the Season

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, November 30, 2006

The Plymouth-Canton **Educational Park Choirs will** present their annual holiday concert "Sounds of the Season" 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 19, in the Salem High School Auditorium located at 46181 Joy in Canton.

Tickets (\$4 pre-sale and \$5 at the door) are currently on sale and may be purchased in the PCEP Choir Office (Room 1603 at Salem High School) during school hours. For more information visit the choir Web site at

www.pcepchoirs.org or call (734) 416-7800.

"Sounds of the Season" will feature more than 200 students who are members of the award-winning PCEP Choirs under the direction of Jennifer L. Kopp. Students are in grades 9-12 and attend either Plymouth, Canton or Salem High Schools. The PCEP Choirs will be performing a wide variety of Christmas and Hanukkah favorites including music from the film The Polar

# Orchestra concert

The Plymouth Canton Community Schools orchestras present their annual Orchestra Holiday Concert 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 6, in the Gloria Logan Auditorium at Salem High School, 46181 Joy in Canton

Tickets (\$3 for adults, \$2 for students, \$5 family pass) are available at the door, with all proceeds going to support the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Orchestras. The concert of holiday favorites will feature performances by the P-CCS Middle School Strings, the Plymouth-Canton **Educational Park Concert** String Orchestra and the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park Symphony.

For more information, email Mary Marben at marbenm@pccs.k12.mi.us or call (734) 416-3297.

# Orchestra Canton

Orchestra Canton, under Music Director and Conductor Nan Harrison Washburn, will present "Peter and the Wolf" and Other Holiday Favorites" on Sunday, Dec. 3, at 4 p.m. at the Village Theater at Cherry

Narrated by PCCS Supt. Jim Ryan, Sergei Prokofiev's cherished family classic "Peter and the Wolf" is an educational adventure that teaches children about musical instruments used in the symphony by transforming them into characters in the story. The concert will also include a "side by side" performance of Engelbert Humperdinck's Prelude to Hansel & Gretel with the Plymouth Canton Symphony Society's own youth orchestra, Celebration Sinfonia. The program is rounded out with Silvestri and

Dan and Carol Hiltz



# An author visits

Every year All Saints Catholic School in Canton celebrates National Children's Book Week by inviting a children's book author and/or illustrator to the school to meet with students. 'It's important for the children to understand that authors are real people,' said Karen Alberts, school librarian. This year Michigan author Rachel Longhurst, who penned the 2005 book 'Where My Story Begins,' visited All Saints on the morning of Nov. 16. She met with students in kindergarten through third grade in three different sessions. Golden Retriever Lucas is one of two dogs featured in this endearing true story, and he came too, which was a great surprise for the students. Longhurst, who cowrote the book with daughter Krystin Longhurst, read the book, and explained where the story idea came from. Early working editions of the book and large photos of the actual printing process were shown, helping students understand how a book goes from rough draft to final

Ballard's holiday favorite, The Polar Express Suite, and two beloved movements from The Nutcracker by Tchaikovsky.

The concert is being sponsored by the Partnership for the Arts and Humanities, and supported by the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the

Concert tickets may be purchased in person at the Summit on the Park, 4600 Summit Parkway, by phone by calling the Summit at (734) 394-5460 x 6 x 0. Tickets may also be purchased at the Village Theater box office one hour prior to the performance. For more information on Orchestra Canton's second season please visit www.orchestracanton.org.

Canton Center Road, is assisting the Canton Goodfellows as a drop-off point for non-perishable food this holiday season. Drop off your food anytime until Dec. 9 and you will be entered in a drawing to win some great prizes. No purchase is necessary. For more information, contact Linda Robin at (734) 207-1906.

Goodfellows throughout this

holiday season, including by dining at CeCe's Pizza from 4-8 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 7 (a portion of dining proceeds benefit the Goodfellows). Also the Goodfellows will hold their traditional newspaper sale at locations throughout the community on Dec. 2.

# Home Expo applications available

Applications to participate in Canton's 2007 Home Improvement Expo and Parade of Homes are now available on the township Web site at www.canton-mi.org. The Expo, scheduled to be held next year on March 3-4, is an opportunity for home improvement businesses and builders to promote their products by hosting a display booth or participating in the Parade of Homes.

All vendor applications must be sent to 1150 Canton Center Road, Canton, Michigan 48188 by Jan. 15, 2007. For questions regarding the 2007 Home Improvement Expo please call (734) 394-5200.

# Work on display

Canton poet and photographer Cheryl A. Martin's work appears in Izzy's Raw Art Gallery for The Sister's Sister Exhibit-Fourth Annual Women's Invitational through Dec. 16. Izzy's Raw Art Gallery is located at 2572 Michigan Avenue in Detroit. Her piece "Narragansett Gull" is included in her book of poetry, "Woman Reclining," and can be ordered

http://outskirtspress.com/wo manreclining. It is also available at two stores in Plymouth: The Book Cellar & Café and Michigan Made & More, both located on Ann Arbor Trail.

In addition to her gallery exhibits, Martin has upcoming creative writing and poetry classes through December in the community education program through Wayne-Westland Schools. Call (734) 419-2426 for further informa-

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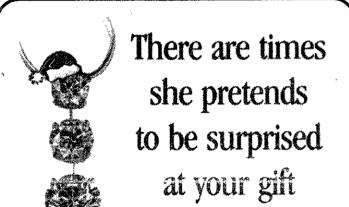
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Hands On

Hands On Center For Physical Therapy **OVERBEARING CHILDREN** 

Compared with children of normal weight, overweight children are more likely to suffer fractures, joint pain, and bone pain. In fact, overweight children are four and a half times more likely to experience some sort of skeletal fracture some sort of skeletal fracture than children who are not overweight. Overweight children were also found to be four times more likely to suffer from bone or muscle pain. Ironically, overweight individuals are generally more likely to have denser bones, likely to have denser bones, which places them at lower risk for fractures. However, this advantage is likely offset by the greater force that overweight individuals exert when falling and bracing themselves. Overweight children are

encouraged to engage in non-weight-bearing activity in an effort to avoid lower extremity joint overloading and discomfort.

Proper weight balance is essential for your overall health and physical condition. When you are referred to the HANDS ON CENTER FOR PHYSICAL THERAPY we can teach you how to improve your dief to balances that may be depriving you of good physical health. When you require the care of a physical therapist, call us at 455-8370 to schedule an appointment. We are located at 650 South Main Street in downtown Plymouth. We have patients are gladly accepted.

P.S. Overweight children should be prescribed an exercise program that encourages weight loss and discourages injury.







# CORRECTION.

The location of the Michigan Christmas Show, where Mary Denning will build a Gingerbread Village and conduct demonstrations, was omitted in some editions of the Nov. 23 Observer. The show will take place at the Rock Financial Showplace, 46100 Grand River, one mile west of Novi Road in Novi.

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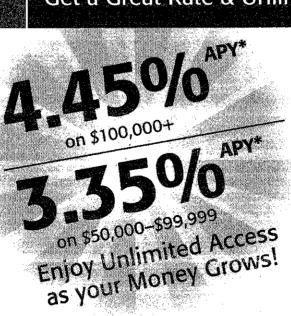


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# First book became 'Bear' of an adventure

# Local author, illustrator team on children's story

BY BRAD KADRICH STAFF WRITER

When Peggy Price Heiney would visit the lake house on northern Michigan's Little Traverse Lake, she would notice a teddy bear left behind by a child, and she would talk

Quizzical friends would often ask her about the conversations with the bear. Price Heiney, a Plymouth resident since 1957 and a retired kindergarten teacher from Bird Elementary School, put the answer in print, publishing her first work of fiction, Lonely Teddy.

"I would pick up this bear and talk to it and someone said, 'What is the bear telling you?" Price Heiney recalled. "The story just came out of my mouth."

Lonely Teddy, published by Ferne Press, an imprint of Nelson Publishing & Marketing of Northville, tells of the adventures of Teddy, a lonely Teddy Bear left behind by his owner and constant companion, a little girl named Elizabeth. Elizabeth leaves the bear after a visit to her grandfather's lake house and returns to her home in Seattle, Wash.

The bear misses Elizabeth and decides to strike out on an adventure of his own. After surviving a trip along Little Traverse Lake, Good Harbor Bay and the Sleeping Bear National Park, Teddy eventually is taken back to the lake house, where he decides to wait for Elizabeth.

The concept made the book quite appealing the folks at Ferne Press.

"I believe the concept for the story is very heart warming," publisher Marian Nelson said. "We worked very closely with the author and illustrator to achieve the feelings of the teddy bear. The illustrations make the story come alive. All ages will identify with this lovely story and say, 'Ahhhh' when they read it. Though it takes place in Michigan, it will



Megan Wellman of Canton, who owns a degree in fine arts from Eastern Michigan University, did the illustrations for 'Lonely Teddy.'

have a special place in any home."

Price Heiney was talking about her book venture during a visit to her ophthalmologist's office, a conversation overheard by technician Megan Wellman. Wellman, who grew up in Redford and now lives with her husband, Brent, and two Great Danes in Canton, asked the author if she needed help illustrating the book.

"I've always been looking for outlets for my art," Wellman said. "I ended up in ophthalmology by default ... it was hard for me to find anything to do in art, unless it was graphic design, which isn't my forté. I mentioned to her if she needed an illustrator, I'd be interested. I drew up a couple of bears for her, and it kind of evolved from there."

When Price Heiney saw Wellman's work, she fell in love with it, particularly her vision of Teddy.

# **BOOK TOUR**

Plymouth author Peggy Price Heiney will read/sign copies of her book, Lonely Teddy, at the following places:

- Book Cellar & Café, 3-5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 2, and 1-3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 3. Book Cellar is located on Ann Arbor Trail in downtown Plymouth.
- Bird Elementary School Breakfast with Santa, 8:30-11 a.m., Saturday, Dec. 2. Bird Elementary is located at 220 Sheldon in Plymouth.
- Plymouth District Library Story Hour, 7 p.m., Wednesday, Dec. 6. The library is located at 223 S. Main in Plymouth.
- p.m. Saturday, Dec. 9. Colonial Collection is located at 44465 Ann Arbor Road (at Sheldon).
- Michigan Made, 1-4 p.m.
  Sunday, Dec. 17. Michigan
  Made is located at 830 W. Ann
  Arbor Trail in downtown
  Plymouth.

"The bear's face got me," Price Heiney admitted. "She did a beautiful job."

A frequent visitor to the Leelanau Peninsula, Price Heiney actually took the bear to all the spots the bear visits in the book, snapping pictures to use as support material for Wellman. The finished product was exciting to see for the first-time artist.

"It was a process, which you really don't know what you're getting yourself into, with a lot of time that goes into what's in the author's mind and what you're seeing, and compromising and seeing the final product," Wellman said. "As a finished piece. it's amazing to see your work on the page with the printed words, and on the hardback cover. It's pretty cool."

According to Price Heiney, who holds a bachelor's degree



Peggy Price Heiney, a Plymouth resident who taught at Bird Elementary School for 30 years, recently published her first work of fiction, 'Lonely Teddy.'

in education from Michigan State University and a master's from Eastern Michigan University, those details and the book's faithful depiction of all things Michigan contribute to the value of the story for children who read

"It's informative of the area, particularly the Leelanau Peninsula, so it's very educational," said Price Heiney, who retired 12 years ago after teaching at Bird for 30 years. "The lesson the book tells is family unity.

(Teddy) has been up there with family, and he's waiting for family to come back."

The book ends with Teddy waiting for Elizabeth to return. Price Heiney, who still reads and dramatizes with children at the Plymouth District Library, said she considered actually bringing Elizabeth back at the end, but thought better of it.

"It's a matter of trust," Price Heiney said. "I decided to show that (Teddy) just trusts that she's coming back for him." After spending 30 years at Bird — "I think I taught every kid in town," Price Heiney said with a laugh — she now hears from former students who now have students in school, all ask-

ing about the book.

"Kids I taught who now have their own kids have been calling me wanting the book," said Price Heiney, who will donate a portion of the book's proceeds to the Plymouth Symphony Orchestra. "It's gone pretty well, and I'm very pleased by that."

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# LIBRARIES

years old and teens.

However, the 24 Internet lab computers - for adults - have

no filters. The Internet lab is restricted to people 18 and older, and each computer is located in a private kiosk," Golden said.

There are state laws requiring filters for people under 18. We try to encourage adults who are looking at things that might be offensive to use the computers in the back row, which affords them more privacy."

Golden also cautions against attempts to limit First Amendment rights.

"Legally, people are allowed to view what they want," she said. "It's no different than any other media. You may look at a book or photo or topic that, to me, is offensive, but to you is something you are interested

At the Plymouth District Library, Director Pat Thomas said filters keep children from accessing most objectionable

"We have filters for the computers the kids use, which is supposed to restrict that," Thomas said. "One reason all

the kids are on the lower floor, after our remodeling, is so they won't be in the same physical location as adults using the computers upstairs.

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, November 30, 2006

"As far as adults go, our Internet is set up so you can pretty much see what people are doing," she said. "Our policy - which people click on and agree to abide - says they can't access sites that are illegal or pornographic, and to keep in mind it's a public area that people of all ages and sensibilities are around.

However, despite the filters and self-regulation, there are times when patrons go places on the Internet that might be considered objectionable by

"Our filters are designed to catch the hard core material, but beyond that it's a personal responsibility," Thomas said. "At some point, you really can't totally control it,"

Both Thomas and Golden said they have had very few complaints concerning inappropriate use of the Internet computers, and - unlike Mount Clemens - don't consider it a problem.

tbruscato@hometownlife.com (734) 459-2700



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

verizonwireless

Scout Joey Roggenbuch has a bucket of green slime ready to go.



FROM PAGE A1

"I finally got to torture my mom," said Matthew, who also poured a small bag of flour and cinnamon on Croop. "This was a once in a lifetime chance."

The Cubmaster issued the challenge in September and the boys sold popcorn from the first week of October until the first week of November. They raised more than \$10,600. Catherine Buckalew, Boy Scouts of America district director, said the cubs will probably be among the top five highest sellers in their area.

(Croop) had the boys pretty

excited from the beginning," Buckalew said.

Parent Jerry Roggenbuch said his wife helped his 6-yearold son, Joey, log on to Nickelodeon's Web site to get

its green slime recipe. "These kids sold a lot of pop-corn and (Croop's challenge) was definitely inspiring," he

said. After all the buckets were empty, a shivering and filthy Croop told the boys to view the experience as a lesson on keep-

ing commitments.
"When you say you're going to do something, you do it," she said.

tlparks@hometownlife.com | (734) 459-2700

# PRINCIPAL

FROM PAGE A1

Elementary from 1991 to 2000 and opened Dodson in 2001, remaining there until retiring in 2004.

Connie Freeman was Clason's office secretary, beginning at Smith in 1993.

Cheryl always came to work with a positive attitude," Freeman said. "For as many years she worked, every day was a new day for her. She was very loving toward children, and had very good judgment in dealing with people.

"Cheryl was also a very empathetic person," added Freeman. "She always put herself in other people's shoes. If a staff member needed time off because of sick kids or a parent was ailing, it didn't matter what was going on in school. She was kind to them."

Even during her fight with cancer, Freeman said Clason remained steady.

"That remained her truest characteristic," Freeman said. "She didn't see it as a burden to fight and try to handle it. She remained positive, even during setbacks she had."

Clason died Saturday at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ann Arbor, with a half-dozen family members and close friends at her side. Clason loved sailing, and traveled

throughout the world. Her ashes will be taken to Honolulu and spread in the Pacific Ocean by her brother.

Tuesday, the first day back from the Thanksgiving break for Plymouth-Canton students, Dodson Principal Dan Carr spoke to students about

Clason's passing. "I went around to each classroom and personally shared the news with all the students," Carr said. "We tried to keep it intimate in that way, and were immediately able to have conversations with kids and answer questions.

Clason is survived by her parents, Henry and Mavis (Dahl) Clason of Goshen, Ind., and three brothers: Dr. Stephen Clason of Honolulu, Hawaii, Michael Clason of Houston, Texas, and Kevin Clason of Kokomo, Ind.

While Clason's funeral was held Wednesday in Goshen, the Dodson Elementary community will have a chance to remember Clason in a Remembrance Celebration 11 a.m. Saturday at Dodson.

"We're expecting a big turnout," Carr said. "The Plymouth and Canton communities will have a way to say a final goodbye and have an opportunity to share memories of Cheryl."

tbruscato@hometownlife.com (734) 459-2700

# BOND

FROM PAGE A1

focus on enrollment growth

and academic needs. Sarpolus said the latest survey indicates the public understands there is population growth in the Plymouth-Canton school district, but doesn't equate that to more children in classrooms.

"The community has to understand that as the community grows, they also have children who are going to school, and that transfers to the shortage of space in the school system," Sarpolus said. According to Frank

Ruggirello, the district's director of community relations, the latest survey cost the school district \$9,000. The August survey cost \$18,000. Ruggirello said the cost of the surveys are worth the knowl-

edge it gives the board. The board wants to be sure what the community is after," Ruggirello said. "It costs a lot of money to run an election the

community doesn't want." Ruggirello said the school district election in May, which included the school board and bond proposals, cost the district \$98,000.

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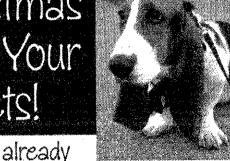
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ROSEVILLE

# Cable legislation pits AT&T against Michigan Municipal League

BY HUGH GALLAGHER STAFF WRITER

Michael Watza, a spokesman for the Michigan Municipal League and PROTEC, calls a state House bill to reform cable television franchising. "outrageous in its nature," a bill designed to implement AT&T's business plan that would cost local communities millions in franchising fees.

Michael Marker, a spokesman for AT&T, counters that the bill opens up competition that will result in lower cable costs, more technological innovation and actually increase the amount of money received by local communities.

House Bill 6456 sailed through the House Nov. 14 on a strong bipartisan vote of 80-21. The state Senate was expected to take up the bill beginning this week during the short lame-duck session before the Christmas break. Despite the House vote, the bill has strong opposition from the MML and the communities that it represents.

Initially, traditional cable providers such as Bright House and Comcast were opposed to changes in cable franchising legislation, but negotiations over the summer brought the cable companies and the telecommunications companies that want to move into providing video service, AT&T and Verizon, together in support of the House bill introduced by Rep. Mike Nofs, R-Battle Creek.

Watza said the interests of MML were "dismissed" at these meetings.

"The meeting was really between AT&T and the cable companies. Cable was swung enough to back the bill," he said. Marker said all parties were

involved in the talks. "Mike Nofs, Andy Dillon (D-Redford) and others interested

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in the issues went out of their way to have interested parties voice their concerns," Marker said. "They would have a dramatically different take. It was an open door discussion."

# **UNIFORM VIDEO SERVICE**

Under HB 6456, the state will provide a standardized form for "uniform video service local franchise agreements." The bill spells out the requirements for obtaining a franchise. Providers must still enter into franchise agreements with local communities. But Watza argues that the communities will only be able to rule on the "completeness" of an application and "rubberstamp" the agreement or, under the bill, the franchise will be granted.

"This is a local function, contracts are for locals to decide," Watza said.

MML has objections to several specifics in the bill. According to the bill, new entrants into the cable market are required to provide service to 25 percent of customers in the service territory within three years, 50 percent within six years and serve 30 percent of low-income households within five years.

"You serve everybody using our right of way, you have to serve everybody, have to make it available," Watza said.

He said typically cable companies were given three years to build out.

"The cable companies that compete in these municipalities don't have 100-percent availability in these communities. It's been that way for 10 years," Marker said. "Where has the Michigan Municipal League been on community build out? AT&T has done more on build out and you don't see build out requirements in other sectors of the economy."

Watza argues that the bill's

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# CABLE BILL OPPONENTS HOLD RALLY AT CAPITOL

Opponents to the House Bill 6456 held a rally at noon Tuesday at the Capitol Rotunda in Lansing.

Groups opposed to the legislation, which is now being considered in the state Senate, include Public, Educational and Government TV, Protec (the Michigan Coalition to Protect Public Rights of Way, the Michigan Municipal League, the National Association of Telecommunications Officers and

Advisors and Google. Google has raised concerns over "net neutrality." Google, which recently agreed to locate 1,000 employees in Ann Arbor, wants to guarantees that residents will have access to YouTube, the video internet service that it recently acquired. Net neutrality is the principle that major telecommunications

providers will not be able to exclude Web sites from the internet. The rally will end with the presentation of 18,000 signatures from Michigan residents in support of "net neutrality."

The bill's opponents are asking the Senate not to pass any legislation during the current lame-duck session, which ends in the middle of December. A new Legislature takes office in January.

provisions for customer service are inadequate. The bill requires providers to have a local or toll-free telephone number for customer service. The Michigan Public Service Commission would review disputes between the provider and customers.

"A cable provider has a contract with the city. A homeowner calls Comcast, but can

call a local cable operator office in the city and contracts will make providers provide service," Watza said.

# **FRANCHISE FEES**

A major issue between the two sides is whether local communities will lose money.

In a column in the Observer & Eccentric, Farmington Hills Mayor Vicki Barnett, president

of the MML, wrote that communities will lose more than \$55 million statewide due to lost franchise fees and in-kind services to municipalities and schools.

"Currently, these dollars are what the cable operators pay to use, or rent, these rights-ofways which you, as a resident, own," Barnett wrote, "This money which your local community uses to maintain the right-of-way and provide essential services including public safety."

She said the programming provided on public access television was paid for by these fees.

Marker said he didn't know how the MML substantiated its figure, but that a study by Robert Crandall and Robert Litan for Criterion Economics showed that Michigan communities would actually see an \$8.9 million to \$14.8 million increase in franchise fees. A study by Lawrence

Technological University says that Michigan consumers would save between \$269 million and \$673 million annually in cable fees because competition would force providers to lower their fees.

Marker said cable fees have been "out of whack" and escalating too quickly for consumers.

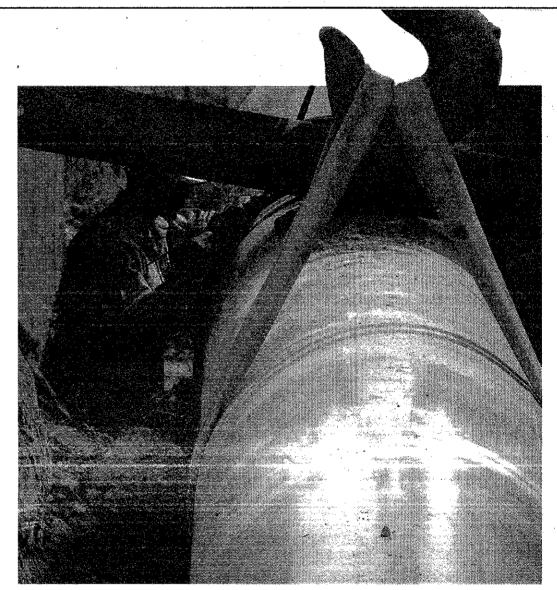
While AT&T has been advocating for a new video service bill in Michigan and other states, it has also been lobbying for a national video service bill through Congress that would put service licensing with the Federal Communications Commission.

But Marker said it was important that Michigan act quickly to take advantage of AT&T investments in new video technology.

"Economists have a theory of conducive markets," Marker said. "It you have onerous build out requirements for one state and more attractive opportunities in another state. the states with more attractive opportunities will have more investment."

He said he was "cautiously optimistic" about the Michigan Senate passing a similar bill.

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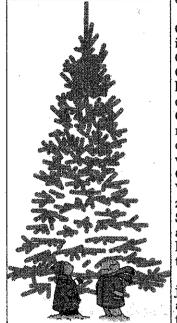
Thursday, November 30, 2006

# **OUR VIEWS**

# Plenty of ways for holiday help

As the holiday season approaches, news out of the auto industry, which supplies a lot of jobs in this area, is not good. Economic news in Michigan doesn't seem to be getting any better. As a result, Nancy Spencer, president of the Canton Goodfellows, says there is a growing number of local children who will go without a merry Christmas this year without the help of organizations like the

Goodfellows.



Every the year, Goodfellows have set the inspirational goal "No Canton child without a Christmas." This year they have targeted 555 Canton children to provide toys and Christmas cheer. Of course none of that is possible without the generosity of those who live and work in the community. Canton Volunteers with the organization will be out this Saturday conducting their annual paper sale and collecting donations to help them reach their goal.

But the Goodfellows are just one organization in the area trying to provide a better holiday season for those in need. The Plymouth

Salvation Army, which does wonderful work every year in both Plymouth and Canton, will have its volunteer bell ringers out in the community. And those are just a couple of for-instances.

What they all need, however, are donors to help fill the need. There are all kinds of ways to help, too many to mention all of them here, efforts ranging from large to small.

The Cheer Club is one way. The Observer Newspapers are partnering with the Salvation Army to provide toys, nonperishable foods and other household items for the Salvation Army's Adopt-a-Family program. The Salvation Army (headquartered just south of Ann Arbor Road on Main in Plymouth Township) is serving as the primary dropoff point, and it's doing yeoman's work in helping families.

If you want to help, just look around. There are countless businesses, individuals and organizations trying to make sure those who have a need get the help they deserve. Donation drives, food drives and Toys for Tots are all ways to help.

# Shop locally this holiday season

When shopping for gifts this holiday season, be sure to visit the locally owned stores in your hometown.

Not only will you find unique items not available at large chain stores, your purchases will benefit your com-

munity — and, ultimately, you.

A recent study by Civic Economics in the Chicago area found that for every \$100 consumers spent with a local firm, \$68 remained in the local economy. But for every \$100 they spent with a store belonging to a chain, just \$43 remained in the local economy.

The local firms spent a larger portion of their revenue on labor (28 percent compared to 23 percent), creating more local jobs and sometimes paying better wages and benefits than large chains.

They also purchased goods and services from other local businesses at more than twice the rate of chains, helping local accountants, computer consultants, insurance brokers, sign makers, contractors and an endless number of other local business people also make a living.

And the local firms contributed more to local charities and fund-raisers than their national counterparts, contributing to the well-being of the community.

The study supports what local chambers of commerce have known for a long time — and what makes common sense: successful local businesses help a community

thrive.

They offer consumers more choices, put money in the pockets of others who live and own businesses in the area

and care more about the people who live there.

A vibrant local downtown or business district also positively impacts property values in surrounding neighbor-

Of course, a locally owned store can't stay in business if

people don't shop there.

So this holiday season, make your local downtown or

business district one of your first stops.
You may find everything you need right there.



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



# **LETTERS**

# Veterans give thanks

Plymouth/Canton Chapter 528
Vietnam Veterans of America would like
to thank all of the people that attended
the CRUZIN 528 at the Plymouth VFW
Post 6695 in 2006. I know that all those
that brought their cars or just came to see
them had a good time from May until
September. CRUZIN 528 with Darell
Bazman and Bob Paul as co-chairmen
(with an excellent crew) raised more than
\$2,600.

That money was all put to good use as it went to the veterans at the VA Hospital in Ann Arbor in the form of personal needs items that the patients require and would otherwise have to pay for themselves. Darell went to Kohl's in Canton where the store manager, Lisa Grasso, worked with him and got the best deal on items from slacks to bathrobes. I was in charge of the personal care items that were obtained from Meijer of Canton.

More than 1,000 items were purchased. Items, which included toothpaste to seven-day pill holders, will make the patients' lives a little easier. Special thanks go to the store director Taryn Barnes, manager Jenny White, everyone in the pharmacy, and the cashier Coleen Bonior for helping me get it all together. Thanks to Tim for helping me load it in my truck. Also thanks to the wonderful person that donated to me when they heard about our project.

At this time of giving, it was meaningful to make our delivery on Monday, Nov. 20. When we got to the VA Hospital, besides myself, Darell Bazman, Mike Ramsey, Bob Paul, Vaughn Hull, and Dale Lubke were there to unload the vehicles. I would like to thank Beverly Leneski for being our contact at the hospital.

CRUZIN 528 will be in its fourth year in 2007 and we hope to see a lot of great vehicles. Starting in May till September, all are welcome to come just to take a look around.

Gary Kubik Canton

Chapter 528 VVA Plymouth /Canton

# Art is appreciated

I recently participated in the Canton Fine Arts Exhibition and it was a great experience. The venue was a wonderful space for art to be seen and enjoyed. The staff at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton was very helpful and made the experience so easy to flow through. This kind of commitment and support of the arts is so needed and appreciated. I want to thank the Canton community for giving all of us a chance to enjoy some of the pursuits of happiness.

Bill Dillon Wixom

# Speak for yourself

Regarding Terry Ahwal's "There can be no winners from war and occupation" that ran in Sunday Perspectives on Nov. 26, I feel for the personal tribulations you and your family have had to endure while in Palestine. I also feel that putting your opinions to productive use in resolving the issues you state is the only valid use of

your voice. Your opinion piece does neither.

To be a valid voice for the Palestinians, you need to be a voice for stopping the violence of Hamas and their unwillingness to negotiate a lasting peace with Israel. To rally against occupation without seeking to stop the rocket and suicide bomber attacks on Israel leaves Israel in a defensive position of "occupying" Palestine to stop the attacks. You conveniently ignore the reasons for Israel's actions in your piece like many who chose to ignore the actions of their own governments, cite heart-rendering stories and not be moved to self responsibility to take action to stop the violence from your own

With regards to your comparison of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict to Iraq, I think the Shiites, Chaldeans and Kurds would have definite issue with your opinion after having been bombed, shot, incarcerated, tortured and gassed for years by Saddam's Sunni "occupation" or dictatorship. You cite 650,000 killed in Iraq and then go on to write, "Regardless of whether they were killed by coalition military action or insurgents," leading the reader to believe the U.S. is at fault for the entire number of dead.

Where the Kurds in the north have taken control and put down the Sunni/Al Qaeda and yes, Hamas and Hezbollah-supported insurgency, the death toll is much lower. In the rest of Iraq, the continued attacks for religious reasons between the Sunnis and Shiites fueled by Al Qaeda and supported by Hamas and other Palestinian organizations, the terror continues and the death toll you state is the result. If the U.S. were to pull out now, the country would surely fall into anarchy fueled by your own people just as Palestine's Fauda (anarchy) internecine fighting has.

Before we can pull out of Iraq, the people of Iraq and its government as representative of the people of Iraq, need to take responsibility and control of their country just as Palestinians need to do. This can only be accomplished through tolerance of other religions and their right to exist just as you are permitted to enjoy here in the U.S.A. The insurgents are not "freedom fighters." They are terrorists against a free Iraq that will permit equality of all views - something Hamas, the Palestinian-elected representative of your people does not support and by your lack of clear inward-looking voice, neither do you. Interesting question, are not both Hamas and Hezbollah Shiite organiza-

Our soldiers have not "given up their voices" by enlisting. They are very clearly using their voices to support democracy by volunteering to fight for those rights you enjoy here for the Iraqi people. While you have a right to voice your opinion, you do not have a right to speak for our soldiers or for myself as part of this representative democracy, even if you are a citizen of the U.S.A. If you were, you would be voicing your opinion to change the position of the government of your former home, Palestine. You would also be using your voice to help Iraq resolve their internal religious strife you don't seem to be so concerned about. Violence will only stop

when people like yourself stand up and stop it. Do not use your voice of freedom against those who gave it to you.

As Winston Churchill put it: "In both our lands, it is the people who control the Government, not the Government the people."

Dave Dobias Canton

# **Support the Goodfellows**

I would like to ask everyone who lives, works and plays in Canton to make the spirit of Christmas come alive this year for ALL children and families in our community. The Goodfellows have accepted the challenge of making the lives of 555 children just a little happier this year. We have spent the past weekend celebrating our thankfulness for all the good things in our lives and now I ask you to help us fulfill the Goodfellow promise – "No Canton child without a Christmas."

These children are counting on EVERYONE in Canton to make the spirit come alive in their hearts and their homes. These are not children in faraway lands, or even in the nearby big city. These children live, play and are schooled, right here in our midst. They are Canton children, and it really does take a whole community to care for them.

On Saturday, Goodfellow volunteers will be out in all kinds of weather, collecting for our Christmas Project 2006.

However, if you don't find a paper seller, or don't have time to stop, please take a moment to send your donation to 1150 S. Canton Center Road 48188. If everyone gives from their heart, there will be 555 more smiling faces in Canton on Christmas day.

Whether you can afford to donate \$1 or \$100, you are the person who can fulfill that Goodfellow promise "No Canton Child without a Christmas." And don't forget – the children on our list are of every race, creed and national origin. A true melting pot, based on the diversity of the residents of our community. Children have no borders, they are only bound by the love and care that is shown to them. May God bless each of you who love and care for our children.

Nancy Spencer president, Canton Goodfellows

# **SHARE YOUR OPINIONS**

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

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# QUOTABLE

"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."

- Former Salem football coach Bob Cummings, discussing Tom Moshimer, the legendary Salem football coach

# **Governor: State now needs** bold action, not timid moves

An open letter to our governor:

ear Gov. Granholm, Congratulations on your re-election. You rolled up a remarkable winning margin — 533,409 votes — against a fantastically well-funded opponent. That establishes you as the most gifted political communicator in recent Michigan history.

With the House of Representatives now Democratic (led by Speaker-designate Rep. Andy Dillon, D-Redford, a smart and sensible guy) you are much better positioned with the Legislature than you were during your last term, when the Republicans ran things. Back then,

they were darned if they were doing to let you get anything done for fear you'd take credit for it during the campaign. This time around, I'd guess both the House and the Senate will be less partisan and more inclined to collaborate.

They'll need to. Michigan is facing its worst economic crisis since the Great Depression. The University of Michigan's economic forecasters have just issued a very gloomy prediction. They think our state will likely lose

another 24,200 jobs next year and 9:200 more in 2008. That will mean eight straight years of job losses.

Power

By the end of this year, according to those highly respected economists, Michigan will have lost a net total of 170,000 manufacturing jobs since 2001. True, we've

The state lost nearly 15 percent of its jobs back in the early 1980s, double today's loss, but then the employment outlook improved sharply as the auto industry surged. It won't this time around. General Motors, Ford and Chrysler should sell around 8.8 million vehicles this year, two million fewer than in 2001.

All this brings me to the decisions you face in your political and legislative agenda for the next four years.

You have two basic choices. You can be bold, setting out a far-reaching agenda for restructuring our economy and laying the foundation for our future prosperity in a rapidly globalizing world.

Or you can be cautious and non-confrontational, limiting your reforms to baby steps. Given that big-time but highly necessary changes are easier to make at times of crisis, I urge you to be bold.

Here's how I see some of the main issues.

Taxes: Sure, the \$1.9 billion hole in the general fund created by the repeal of the Single Business Tax will have to be filled. But you have a terrific opportunity to go further and force a hard look at the structure of our entire

Should the rate of the sales tax be reduced and the base broadened to include services? Should the personal property tax, which hurts capital-intensive industries like manufacturing, be reduced? Should the income tax be made progressive so richer people pay more? These things need to be looked at — hard.

Education: The Cherry Commission you appointed several years ago recommended we double the percentage of our high school graduates who go to college, but nobody discussed how to pay for it. You've said you want

to increase the merit college scholarship plan to \$4,000, and you can probably get that through the Legislature. But why not go a bold step further? The Kalamazoo

Promise pays full tuition to all graduates of the Kalamazoo public schools.

Why not look to see if there is a way that could be scaled up to create the Michigan Promise? A GI Bill for all Michigan citizens, whether kids leaving school or laid-off workers looking for serious retraining, would have a profound impact on our economy.

A profound impact, that is, for decades to come. Budget and spending: Tom Clay, the respected director of state affairs for the Citizens Research Council of Michigan, has just finished a new study of our budget situation. He points out that Michigan has faced a chronic structural billion-dollar-plus budget deficit for the past six years. Now all the relatively painless onetime accounting fixes to balance the budget have been used up.

So he concludes that — unless serious changes are made — the budget deficit will certainly balloon over the next decade, causing a "fiscal train wreck." Sure, you can probably cobble together a budget fix for the next fiscalyear. But wouldn't it make more sense to take a hard multi-year look at our financial affairs?

One small example: compared to our neighboring states, we imprison more people for longer periods of

If our incarceration rate were only average, we'd spend \$500 million less each year on prisons. Could adjusting sentencing guidelines fix this?

Public investments: Businesses in trouble take a hard-eyed look at investments to beat the competition. We should do so, too.

We ought to concentrate on our "enduring assets," those that can't be moved, those that help us compete worldwide. Instead of cutting back state support for universities (especially research-oriented ones), we should be investing in them.

Instead of paying lip service to the environment, we ought to invest in our "North Coast" resources such as the Great Lakes.

We shouldn't do this to please the "tree huggers." We should and must do it because the lakes and a healthy environment represent the future of economic development in our region.

William Shakespeare had it right in Julius Caesar: "There is a tide in the affairs of men,

Which, taken at the flood, leads on to fortune;

Omitted, all the voyage of their life

Is bound in shallows and in miseries."

What you achieved in the election is very, very rare: a mandate. Use it boldly, and you'll go down as a great governor. Waste it in timidity and caution, you'll be remembered, if at all, as not much more than average.

With every good wish,

Phil Power

Phil Power is president and founder of The Center for Michigan. These opinions and others expressed in his columns are his own and do not in any way represent official policy positions of The Center for Michigan. Power welcomes reader comment at ppower@hcnnet.com.

# Trip to Bronner's offers hope for racial issues

ballerina ornament at Bronner's Christmas Wonderland in Frankenmuth did much to restore my faith that some people are trying to overcome the great racial divide.

The ornament in question stood side-byside with many other ballerinas. She wore the same outfit, the same smile and the same toe shoes as the ballerinas to her right, but her skin was dark. It wasn't just dark in a

way that could represent people from many minorities, it was black. She wasn't the only one, either; there were several more ballerinas and plenty of other ornaments depicting people of color. There was a Hispanic nativity scene, a black Santa and tree topping angels with dark faces, too. Also available was an ornament that

Ruehlen

included a black family sitting around a Christmas tree. That wasn't the case last year, when I went

to Bronner's with my then-fiancée Robin. We had gone to buy decorations for our first Christmas tree and needed just about everything, including an ornament to honor Ndeye, 6, a little girl from Senegal, Africa. Robin and I sponsor her through the Christian Children's Fund.

We eventually found such an ornament in a section of the store dedicated to different cultures. The ornament we purchased was in the section labeled Africa.

At the time, I was stunned Bronner's didn't have more ornaments depicting people of color. After all, according to the U.S. Census, people of color represent 32 percent of our population. While most of the retail/marketing world is seemingly obsessed with cashing in by catering to minority consumers, mainstream ornament makers all but ignored them last year, if the shelves at Bronner's were any indication.

I contacted Bronner's for an explanation and was told the store tried to stock items to represent all ethnic backgrounds, but that enough products weren't readily available. The store carried some items earlier in the year, but supply was short and they were likely sold out by December, the Bronner's official said. Reader reaction to the first column was both heated and poignant.

"What about the Asian population?" a reader asked. "Many are Christians, yet how many Chinese angels do vou see? Chinese Santas? Even worse, what about the fact that the word Christmas is becoming politically

incorrect? Will Bronner's have to change its advertising to say it is the holiday store? It gets to be a little ridiculous."

Another reader called to thank me personally for that first column. She said it brought her back to the 1950s when she couldn't find a black doll for her daughter. It took years and a lot of tears, but the woman finally found such a doll and gave it to her daughter.

"I thought we would have come further by now," she said.

So did I, I thought, so did I. Robin and I recently returned to Bronner's. We didn't go to investigate the ornament situation, we went because we like the store and still had plenty of things to buy for our first tree celebrating Christmas as a married couple. We also wanted the tasty chicken the town is famous for and wouldn't leave until our bellies were full of broasted

Bronner's is the place to go to find fancy ornaments and that's what we were after. We wandered around the store for a couple of hours, looking for items to add to our small but swelling collection. Our honeymoon was in Hawaii, so we bought a Mele Kalikimaka ornament - the Hawaiian way to say Merry Christmas — and a handcarved sea turtle to remember the stoic creature we swam along side for five wondrous minutes in a lagoon off the north shore of

The store was packed with shoppers, but it was more than tolerable as most displayed the type of holiday happiness that typifies late-November shopping trips. Give them another three weeks and they'll be fighting over the last \$29 cashmere scarf at Macy's, but for now the legions were happy.

I have to admit I was starting to think more about the chicken at the Bavarian Inn at this point, but I was encouraged by what I saw on the shelves.

Perhaps it was because we went two weeks earlier in the shopping season, but Bronner's had a wide selection of ornaments including people of color this time around. We didn't buy a single one, but at least they were there.

While this country continues to struggle with issues of race — just ask former Seinfeld star Michael Richards, if you think it isn't true — a simple thing like the willingness to celebrate Christmas and diversity at the same time is a step in the right direction.

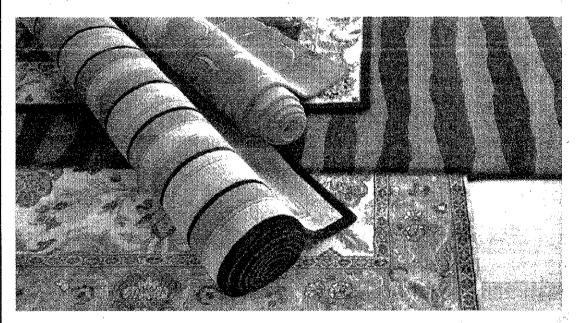
Larry Ruehlen is the editor of the West Bloomfield Eccentric. He can be reached by phone at (248) 901-2556 or by e-mail at Iruehlen@hometownlife.com.



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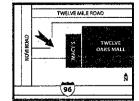


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# Judge prevents cuts to mental health agency

BY HUGH GALLAGHER STAFF WRITER

Wayne County Circuit Court Judge Cynthia D. Stephens granted a preliminary injunction Tuesday preventing the state Legislature from cutting \$3.5 million a month from the Wayne County Mental Health

Agency beginning Friday.
Wayne County Executive
Robert Ficano and a group of
mental health consumers filed
a lawsuit Nov. 16 seeking an
injunction to prevent the state
from imposing a monthly
penalty against the county for
not turning its Detroit-Wayne
County Community Health

Agency into an authority.

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, November 30, 2006

The lawsuit contends the penalty is unconstitutional and hurts services to the county's approximately 47,000 mental health clients.

In a bench ruling Tuesday, Stephens agreed the funding cut by Lansing posed an immediate harm to consumers.

Ficano said he was pleased with the decision.

"This brings tranquility to it. It was unfair to consumers and providers," he said Wednesday. "We're pleased that she saw it for what it was, a penalty for Wayne County that's not the same for the other 82 counties. The other counties have an

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option as to whether they have an authority or not. It was unfair to Wayne County."

He said there have been major improvements in the operations of the Mental Health Agency over the last three years that have been acknowledged by the Legislature.

The Detroit-Wayne County Community Health Agency is a division of the county's Department of Health and Human Services. For fiscal year 2006-07, the agency has an approximately \$540 million budget to serve those with mental illness, developmental disabilities, serious emotional disturbances and substance

use disorders through a countywide network of services and programs. The agency also provides crisis intervention, suicide prevention and homeless programs.

The agency is currently under the control of a 12-member Mental Health Board, six appointed by the county executive and six by the mayor of Detroit. Ficano has suggested a 13-member board with the county executive getting an extra appointment.

County Commissioner Phil Cavanagh of Redford said Wednesday the judge's decision was good news for the agency and mental health consumers.

"It would have been a terrible burden on the agency. The Legislature said they didn't want it to come out of services, but out of administration, but I didn't see how that could be done," Cavanagh said.



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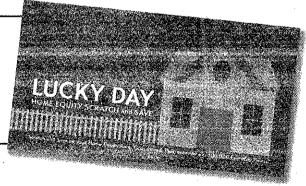
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# Observer & Eccentric names ad manager

Jeannie Parent has joined the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers as manager of retail sales for Wayne County and Farmington.

She replaces Frank Cibor, who is manager of classified sales for the OSE and Mirror Newspapers.

Before coming to the OSE, Parent was national account representative for the last three years at Greater Detroit Newspaper Network.

"I came to the Observer & Eccentric because I believe in the power of suburban newspapers and the importance of local news to our readers," said Parent. "I enjoy working with local advertisers to help come up with creative solutions to their marketing and advertising needs.

"I am fortunate to have a great seasoned team working with me at the *Observer* group and look forward to meeting many of the advertisers. I hope to become more involved in the local communities that we serve and gain more insight into the local business landscape."

Parent's advertising experience includes retail manager, national sales manager and business development manager for more than six years at *The Windsor Star*.



Parent

"Jeannie's experience in the pub" lishing business and in this market is a perfect fit for this position," said Marty

for the OSE/Mirror
Newspapers. "She brings
new ideas, a creative energy
and a passion to help local
businesses be successful."
She is a past member of
the Board of the

Carry, advertising director

Newspaper Special Section Network and on the Advisory Board of The American Press Institute in Reston, Va.

She holds an associate's degree in communications from the University of Windsor.

Parent is married. Her family includes husband, Ron, and four daughters ages 27 (twins), 24 and 13. Born and raised in Wayne County, she lives with her husband in Windsor, Ontario.

An avid long-distance runner, Parent has completed 10 marathons. She qualified for the Boston Marathon in 1996. She also enjoys golf and plays in a competitive mixed doubles curling league in Windsor.

# **Physician Organization Gain-Sharing Program**

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan is accepting applications for participation in a program in which BCBSM shares with selected groups of Michigan TRUST physicians who meet performance criteria, a portion of the savings in cost for patient care that are attributable, in part, to their collective efforts.

The program is designed to link and align economic incentives of BCBSM and physicians to specific clinical, quality and efficiency goals while maintaining or improving care and to share in the resultant costs savings through increased professional fees for selected services and/or in direct payments to the physician organization.

# Goals are to:

- Modify the delivery of services to improve quality, coordination, or cost-effectiveness
- Promote relationships with physicians that support improved
- Support the delivery of services in the most cost-effective
- location by the most appropriate provider type
  Ensure that the fees paid contribute to quality, affordability, and accessibility to health care in Michigan

# Physician groups must meet the following standards to apply for participation:

- A physician organization, preferably with 30 or more TRUST physicians that specializes in oncology or other areas which BCBSM identifies in the future\*.
- A partnership, association, corporation, individual practice association or other legal entity that has its own Tax ID and can receive and distribute income from the practice among members.
- \* BCBSM will be accepting applications from physician organizations that specialize in oncology. In the future, BCBSM may expand the gain-sharing program to include organizations with other specialties. Any expansion will be announced in BCBSM's provider publications or other communications.

# When determining participation in the program, BCBSM

- will consider, among other things:The number of BCBSM members served by the applicant
- Ability to provide performance reports to individual physicians within groups and initiate processes to improve performance
- Willingness to learn about and refer to BCBSM care management programs
- Commitment to assess and improve overall group prescribing performance according to established pharmacy performance measures
- Ability to coordinate and facilitate practice improvements
- and program administration on behalf of group physicians
   Physician groups in the BCBSM Physician Group Incentive

All organizations interested in applying must forward a non-binding letter of intent to BCBSM by **December 15, 2006** to:

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan
Attention: Sue Pearson — Mail Code B787
27300 West 11 Mile Road
Southfield, MI 48034

To receive an application or set of selection standards, please contact Sue Pearson by telephone at (248) 448-6789; fax at (248) 448-7966 or e-mail to spearson@bcbsm.com. Deadline for application is February 15, 2007.



# Mailing options can bring holiday cheer to U.S. troops

BY ALEX LUNDBERG STAFF WRITER

Serving overseas during the holidays is never easy. Even if the people are nice and everyone in the barracks is trying to make it homey, it's cold comfort when all someone wants is a simple slice of home.

In a warzone — where the people are not friendly and explicit displays of holiday cheer are forbidden by religious law — the distance feels all the more like the other side of the world. Feelings of isolation are more pronounced when the calendar reminds you of who you should be seeing on a particular day.

Although not every person has a family member or friend serving, many people want to extend a hand to those fighting in Iraq and elsewhere around the globe this holiday season. For them, and for the troops, there are a few good options open.

Mary Merritt of Romeo has been shuttling approximately 200 care packages to soldiers in the Middle East every month for the past three years. The most recent mailing, 614 packages, went out last month. She used to have a lot of company.

"There were a lot of people in the beginning, but it petered out," Merritt said. "When it was new everyone wanted to be involved but a lot of people don't have time now."

She, on the other hand, hasn't parked in her garage in three years. The spot that used to shelter the Chevy is packed full of stuff for the soldiers. It's not the kind of stuff that makes holiday shopping commercials, but it's the kind of stuff that makes a difference on the other side of the world.

"We call it the taste of home," Merritt said. "It's the kind of stuff you can pick up at 7-11 but you can't get there"

They send out coffee, hot chocolate, candy, soap, eyedrops, Band-Aids, potato



Mary Merritt and former Marine Corps. Commandant Gen. Michael Hagee. She said there used to be a lot of people sending care packages to soldiers abroad, but that number has dwindled as the war has gone on.

chips, beef jerky, cookies, books, paper and Christmas cards they can send back home.

Most of what the Merritts send to the Middle East is sent to the First Battalion, 24th Marine Division out of Selfridge and Lansing, but they do take requests.

"I get names from commanders who have heard about us requesting packages for people who aren't getting mail," Merritt said. "I got a call from a commander from Kuwait and we're sending those packages soon."

All of the things they're sending out were donated, from the coffee (Starbucks) to the candy (Walgreens) is donated — the rub is the postage. The last mailing cost almost \$5,000.

'We're lucky to get all the donations we do," she said. "100 percent of the donations go to postage."

Donations to the cause can be made, tax-deductible, to WMA Motor City, P.O. Box 590, Romeo, MI 48065.

# MILITARY CARE KIT

Two years ago, the USPS started offering a Military Care Kit, Mili-Kit, for people to send items to overseas postings. The kits are similar to
Aerogrammes in that they contain Priority Mail boxes, tape

send a package overseas.

The Mili-Kit is free. The cost to send it to any APO/FPO is \$8.10 each with no weight

and customs labels needed to

restriction.

The real restriction in this case is a new one. It used to be concerned people could send military personnel packages at random by addressing them to "Any soldier." That's not allowed anymore.

"The column 'Dear Abby' used to have an option like that," said USPS
Communications Specialist
Shannon LaBruyere. "After 911 the Department of Defense stopped accepting packages like that."

This is part of the rationale behind the Mili-Kit, making it easier to send something to service personnel. While by law they can't offer free postage, the USPS has created the mailing kits to make gifting as easy as possible. As of Nov.2, more than 150,000 Mili-Kits have been sent out since the beginning of the program in 2004.

In every case, people wanting to send anything to a particular service member who is

# **MAILING RULES**

Sending items by mail to APO/FPO addresses is similar to regular mail, but there are some differences. Once the Post Office delivers to the APO/FPO, the mail becomes the property of the Department of Defense and will be screened.

Remember: Items will be delivered to the desert, where temperatures regularly exceed 100 degrees. Battery powered items can activate during shipment, leave batteries wrapped separate-

In order to reach a particular APO/FPO in time for Christmas, the following windows of opportunity apply. Missing one (or all) of these windows doesn't mean a parcel will miss the date, but making the proper dates virtually ensures ontime arrival.

The deadlines are:

APO/FPO AE ZIPS 090-092 Dec. 19

Dec. 11 Dec. 4

Nov. 27 APO/FPO AE ZIP 093

Dec. 4 Nov. 27

APO/FPO AE ZIPS 094-098 Dec. 19

Dec. 11 Dec. 4

Nov. 27 APO/FPO AA ZIPs 340

Dec. 19 Dec. 11

Dec. 4

Nov. 27 APO/FPO AP ZIPs 962-966

Dec. 19 Dec. 11

Dec. 4

Nov. 27

reached through an APO (Air/Army Post Office) or FPO (Fleet Post Office) must go through the USPS (see sidebar). Private mail carriers like FedEx, UPS and DSL do not serve APO or FPO addresses.

The Mili-Kit can be obtained at any USPS office, online at www.usps.com or by calling (800) 610-8734.

# Broadway, holiday music featured as OCC hosts MOT

Oakland Community College's Performing Arts Series presents the Michigan Opera Theatre performing a selection of Broadway classics and holiday music, Friday, Dec. 1 at the Orchard Ridge Campus in Farmington Hills.

The program begins at 7:30 p.m. in the campus' Smith Theatre. Admission is \$15

is \$15.
The four-member group

is composed of soprano Maria Cimarelli, mezzo soprano Betsy Bronson, tenor Karl Schmidt and tenor-baritone Mark Vondrak, accompanied by pianist Margaret Kapasi. Surprise guest artists will also be featured.

In addition to familiar seasonal airs, the two-act program will highlight music from the classic and contemporary musical theater including selections from Phantom of the Opera, South Pacific and My Fair Lady.

For tickets or further information call (248) 341-2270.

The Orchard Richard Campus is located at 27055 Orchard Lake Road, just south of I-696. Ample free parking is available in nearby campus lots.







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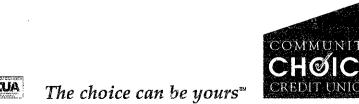


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# Adoption Associates makes connections, one family at a time

BY STACY JENKINS STAFF WRITER

Baby Yi Xiang (ee-shang) was left at the gates of an orphanage in China when she was one day old.

A red note was left by the birth mother, listing her date of birth and a "good wishes" message.

Now 21 months old, little Grace Yi Xiang Gdowik can be found toddling through her Farmington home, happy-golucky and the apple of her adoptive parents' eye.

"Just to see her grow — she's just thriving," said Beth Gdowik.

Beth and her husband Joe decided on international adoption for a number of reasons. They knew there is a need for adoptive parents in China and their hearts led them there, working with Adoption Associates, Inc., in Farmington

"There are one-and-a-half million girls in China who need to be adopted. It's hard to overlook that," said Joe Gdowik.

Their experience was so good, they're now doing paperwork to adopt another child from China.

"We definitely want to have a

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TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPH

Karen Jackson, of Adoption Associates Inc. in Farmington Hills, talks about international adoptions, which she specializes in. She keeps a bulletin board updated at the office.

sister for her," said Beth Gdowik, noting it will take about 13 months for the second adoption to be completed. "We want them to be somewhat close in age."

The Gdowiks, both in their 40s, are learning parenthood is a somewhat profound experience.

"It's just fantastic. You're pushed to limits you never thought you'd be," said Joe Gdowik. "There are moments of fantastic joy, then there are moments of pain and frustration."

Beth Gdowik said they're

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"Just to be able to be parents, to be a family and have a child to love," she said.

# **MAKING CONNECTIONS**

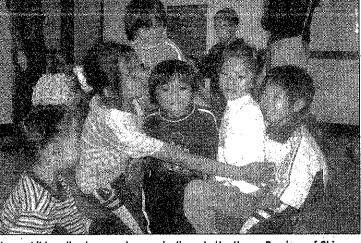
Making those connections is a specialization of Karen Jackson, international case work manager at Adoption Associates, Inc., a nonprofit, statewide adoption agency.

Jackson has been handling international adoptions for 32 years.

"My heart is really with international adoptions," she said. "There are just so many children in other countries who need families. It's heartwarming to match couples with children."

Jackson has worked with Korea, China and Latin America. Traveling abroad is considered a perk for Jackson.

"I love to travel," she said. She visited an orphanage in southeast China's Hunan Province in September and October. She worked with a



These children live in an orphanage in Jisou, in the Hunan Province of China.

team to remodel an orphanage so it could be divided into rooms with electrical, plumbing and furniture for the children to live.

"We try to give back to the country and to the orphanages," said Jackson. "We always want to help in some way with a children's orphanage project."

The agency spearheads a humanitarian project called Hearts Toward China. To learn more, visit online at www.adoptionassociates.com.

The fall trip to China was Jackson's second trek to that country.

"It was an awesome experience," she said. "We worked very hard at sanding, taping and painting and laying new floor (at the orphanage). And, we also were able to spend some time with the children who will be living on the floor that we completed. The government officials and orphanage personnel were all very gracious hosts and very appreciative of our help."

She works with the China Center of Adoption Affairs when pairing a child with adoptive parents.

"It's a very organized and orderly system," she said.

# THE PROCESS

International adoption sometimes seems too complicated and expensive, said Jackson, but she wants people to know it's not as daunting as it may seem. November is National Adoption Awareness Month, a perfect time for Jackson and Adoption Associates to spread the message.

"A common misconception is that adoption is too expensive and not for the ordinary family," said Jackson. "There are fees associated with adoption, but the cost is made more manageable through a tax credit of \$1,200 from the State of Michigan, as well as a \$10,630 federal tax credit for

qualified families."

The tax credit is based on income — couples can take the full amount if their household income is under \$150,000. The amount decreases as income approaches \$190,000.

"Many employers offer significant adoption reimbursements and our agency also partners with a local bank who offers interest-only loans for families waiting for their tax refund," said Jackson. "All of these things begin to make the cost of adoption less intimidating and allow a couple to concentrate on what is most important — building their family."

Family."
For detailed information on the adoption process,
Adoption Associates will host a free informational meeting from 7-9 p.m., Tuesday, Dec. 12 at Adoption Associates, located at 26105 Orchard Lake Road, at the corner of 11 Mile in Farmington Hills. Call (248) 474-0990 for information and to RSVP.

Jackson also assists families in education and preparation.

"We want to help them recognize that their family will change with adoption," said Jackson. "We do feel it is very important that the family be educated and well prepared to help their child grow in their community."

There are social issues to consider as well. Jackson noted the Farmington Hills area is very diverse, which helps.

"Families need to recognize that their family will receive some attention in public — it's usually positive, but not always," she said.

She offers some advice for couples who are considering adoption.

"Listen to your heart," she said. "Some families only consider domestic adoption, then they realize they can expand their thinking."

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# Westland marks holidays with 'mocktails,' music

As you make your list and check it twice, don't miss these local holiday shopping events:

# AT THE MALL

Westland Shopping Center

Westland will host extended holiday shopping hours through Christmas. Visit Santa and enjoy evening entertainment on select nights, including the Phil Gram All Stars, a 5-piece band that play classic holiday tunes 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 5; and the Plymouth Baptist Church Choir 8-8:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 7. Westland will host a Holiday Mocktail Mixer 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday, Dec. 8. MADD, SEMCA and local dignitaries will be presenting ideas and creative ways to make non alcoholic drinks for the hol-

Westland Shopping Center is located on the corner of Wayne and Warren Roads in the City of Westland. The shopping center features more than eighty retailers and unique restaurants, and is anchored by Macy's, J.C. Penney, Sears and Kohl's. Visit www.westlandcenter.com for a complete listing of events.

Salvation Army partners with Target

The Salvation Army and Target are kicking-off the holiday season with a multi-faceted partnership to raise money for charity. Customers can visit www.target.com and purchase a virtual ornament for the Angel Giving Tree. Donors can personalize the color, wing shape and wing pattern of their online ornament knowing their donation will provide new clothing, toys or food to families in need. Target will donate \$1 million to support the launch of this new online program, and invites guests to give to The Salvation Army as well. In addition, Target will support The Salvation Army by donating 100 percent of profits from the sales of a limited edition Harvey Lewis angel ornament accented with red Swarovski crystals. The ornaments (\$9.99) are available for purchase in Target stores nationwide and online at Target.com. For more information on The Salvation Army visit www.saivationarmyusa.org.

Shop with 'Happy Feet'

Great Lakes Crossing, Fairlane Town Center and Twelve Oaks will feature free "Happy Feet" exhibits that bring the new film to life. The exhibits include a 20-foot walk-through snow globe, where a cold Antarctic blast and falling snow welcome visitors to Mumble's home. Within the globe,



A snow globe helps bring to life the story of the hit movie 'Happy Feet' at Great Lakes Crossing, Fairlane Town Center and Twelve Oaks.

guests can interact with life-sized sculptures of characters from the film and enjoy toe-tappin' music from the movie soundtrack. The exhibit also showcases three-dimensional, penguin-filled "Happy Feet" scenes displayed in three, six-foot snow globes with buttons to launch interactive elements; a walk-through 28-foot holiday tree where visitors can learn about key characters and a "green screen" experience where children can pose for holiday pictures that make them look like they're dancing with Mumble and other characters featured in the film.

# **GLC Holiday Rewards**

Each day during the holiday season, Great Lakes Crossing will randomly present gifts to shoppers with a minimum \$50 value. Goodies include prize packs from AMC Theatre, Crabtree & Evelyn, Saks Off 5th, Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory, Sanrio, Hot Topic, Harry & David, Neiman's Last Call and more. Visitors also can experience "Happy Feet," a 20-foot walk-through snow globe promoting the hit movie. On select days, visitors to the Pistons Holiday Village can meet players, dancers and Hooper the Mascot. For a complete list of holiday activities, visit www.shopgreatlakescrossing.com.

# ON DOWNTOWN STREETS

Northville Nights Out Do your holiday shopping in downtown Northville, During Girls Night Out, 6-10 p.m. Dec. 14; and Guys Night Out, 6-10 p.m. Dec. 21 local merchants will stay open late and host special events to help shoppers wrap up the perfect gifts. For more information, call (248) 349-7640 or visit www.northville.org.

## **Breakfast With Santa**

Get geared up for the season by dining with St. Nick at E.G. Nicks Restaurant in Plymouth 8:30-10:30 a.m. Dec. 2 and Dec. 16. Tickets, \$12.95 for adults and \$7.95 for children, include tax and gratuity.Or, visit Santa in Plymouth at the Santa House on Main Street in front of Kellogg Park weekends through Saturday, Dec. 23. Festive photos are available for \$6. Santa has reserved 6-8 p.m. Dec. 23 for pictures with pets, and all proceeds benefit the Michigan Humane Society. Visit www.plymouthmi.org for more information.

# **IN-STORE PROMOTIONS**

**Christmas Stocking Stories** 

Like all good legends, the story of the Christmas stocking has many versions. There are plenty of debates about when we started hanging our stocking on the fire mantel, but in classic American style, all the legends combine with each of our own stories to equal a time tested tradition S.I. Home Designs is asking customers to

bring in their favorite version of how the Christmas stocking started to receive 25 percent off any stocking in the store, in hopes your new purchase will become part of your future holiday stories. The unique stockings at SJ Home Designs range from \$55-\$88. SJ Home Designs is located at 29791 Northwestern Highway, (Applegate Shopping Center), Southfield, Michigan, ask for Stephanie Bates at (248) 354-8490.

# Native West Jewelry Festival

Native West will celebrate it's 17th annual "Holiday Jewelry Festival" Nov. 30-Dec. 3 with a fabulous selection of unique Native American Jewelry from the Southwest, all made in the U.S.A. Plus, save 20 percent off jewelry and at least 30 percent on everything in the store, Nov. 30 to Dec. 6.

Freaky Fridays at Girly Daze

Inspired by the namesake book and movie, Girly Daze in Northville will host "Freaky Fridays" through the holidays. Moms shop during the day for 15 percent off every item, and teens shop after school for 15 percent off. Shop together on Fridays, and get 20 percent off. Girly Daze (formerly Girly Girl) opened just over a year ago, and carries affordable and fun items for girls who have everything, including Halloween favors, glam gifts, survival kits for brides and grads, pampering products and unique handbags, clothing and jewelry. Call owner Kelly Ragatzki at (248) 449-8890.

# **CHARITY SHOPPING BENEFITS**

Shrine Gift Shop

The Shrine Catholic Grade School Mothers' Club is presenting their 2nd Annual Holiday Gift Shop 6-9 p.m. Dec. 1 at the Shrine Catholic High School Gymnasium. Shop for jewelry, knits, art and licensed products (Southern Living, Tupperware, etc.) from Michigan vendors. Call (248) 545-1722.

## Salvation Army Celebration

The Salvation Army Metropolitan Detroit Advisory Board, together with the Women's Auxiliary of Metro Detroit present Christmas at the Royal Park, featuring a luncheon and exclusive shopping at the Holly Berry Boutique. Join Mistress of Ceremonies, WDIV-TV 4 anchor Rhonda Walker starting at 10 a.m. Friday, Dec. 1, for an opportunity to shop for unique holiday gifts from local artisans with proceeds benefiting children's programming at The Salvation Army. A program beginning at noon will include Christmas carols and Focus:HOPE co-founder Eleanor Josaitis will be recognized with one of the Salvation Army's highest honors, the "Others" award in acknowledgement of her outstanding service to the disadvantaged.

# GIFT WRAP GUIDANCE

Tie it up With a Bow

Finding the perfect gift is one thing. Making the package beautiful is another, Lisa Gleeson, Detroit's favorite Gift Wrap Artist and owner of Lisa's Gift Wrappers in Royal Oak, once 🕠 again makes it easy with the following hands-on classes, quest appearances. and special in-store offers for the hol-

HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.. Dec. 2. Stop by Lisa's Gift Wrappers, 28834 Woodward and get a free roll of wrapping paper and up to four packages wrapped at no charge (while supplies last).

THE ABCs OF GIFT WRAPPING, 6-8 p.m. Dec. 6. During this "Wrap It Up". session at the Clawson Public Library, Lisa's Gift Wrappers will share the latest wraps, decorative 🍧 ribbons, bags, tissue, and tie-ons. 📉 Learn to make a florist-type bow, get 🕾 ideas for gifts that don't fit in a box, and learn tips and tricks that make your gift presentation as important and as the gift.

CARS, TREES & TRADITIONS, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Dec. 9.

Join Lisa at the Walter P. Chrysler Museum for a lively look at the History of Holiday Wrapping. You'll be surprised to learn where some traditions originate, and get great tips for making boxes tantalizing and chic. Call (248) 944-0001.

MEN'S NIGHT, 7-9:30 p.m., Dec. 21. Enjoy adult refreshments and browse a selection of premium cigars and humidors while the 'elves' at Lisa's Gift Wrappers cover gifts with holiday magic. Men over 18 only, advance registration required. Call (248) 547-9094 for information on

any of these classes.

To submit an item for Malls and Main & Main Streets, email wvonbuskirk@hometownlife.com



Please take a moment and fill out this coupon with a donation to the Old Newsboys' Goodfellow Fund of Detroit. Every penny that's donated is spent to help needy metro Detroit schoolchildren. They will receive a much appreciated and needed gift box containing clothing, shoes, socks, underwear and even a small gift for the holidays.

# Help the Goodfellows

"No child goes without a Christmas."

Old Newsboys' Goodfellow Fund of Detroit Dept. 77132, PO Box 77000, Detroit, MI 48277-0132

Yes, I would like to make a donation of \$ to help ensure that

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# Canton to pay less for winter plowing

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, November 30, 2006

STAFF WRITER

When the snow starts flying, the township will plow and salt 17 miles of local roads for \$14,000 cheaper than last winter.

"It's a good surprise," said Municipal Services Director Tim Faas concerning the price drop from Wayne County.

Canton partially reimburses the county for winter maintenance of several stretches of well-traveled roads not under their jurisdic-

At Tuesday's Township Board meeting, this year's contract for \$45,860 was unanimously approved. The township spent more than \$60,000 for the service last winter.

This winter's savings marks another year of teeter-totter pricing the township has faced with the county in recent years.

In 2001-02, Canton's bill jumped to \$34,000. It was about \$30,000 the previous year and fell to \$26,000 the following year. In 2003-04, the township paid more than \$58,000 for the winter maintenance and it dropped to less than \$50,000 in 2004-05.

Some of the roads included in the agreement are Denton Road from Geddes to Cherry Hill, Lilley Road from Michigan to Ford, Saltz Road from Canton Center to Ridge, and Lotz Road from Michigan to Palmer.

In the 1960s, the county classified some roads as primary and others as secondary. It automatically plows and salts primary Faas said the classification is outdated and doesn't take

Canton's growth into consideration. "We just want the same level of service for these roads as our other roads," he said, adding that local governments are pushing for the classifications to change. "It's going to take years in the best case scenario."

tiparks@hometownlife.com | (734) 459-2700

# 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

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

The following vehicles have been deemed abandoned and will be sold at public auction December 5, 2006 at 10:00 AM. The auction will be held at Westland Car Care Towing, 6375 Hix Rd., Westland, MI 48185. The vehicles will be sold as is, starting bid is for towing

YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	BODY	VIN#
1995	LINCOLN	CONT	4-DR	1LNLM97V0SY735214
1990	CHEVY	PICK UP	P/U	1GCDC14Z2LZ187104
1992	DODGE	CARAVÁN	S/W	1B4GH54R2NX320462
1991	GEO	PRISM	2-DR	2C1MR2461M6789108
1991	OLDS	CUTLASS	4-DR	1G3AL54N9M6328597
1988	PONTIAC	BONNEVILLE	4-DR	1G2HX5438JW238651
1993	JEEP	CHEROKEE	S/W	1J4FJ68S5PL612195
1993	MERCURY	VILLAGER	S/W	4M2DV11W9PDJ61746
1996	CHEVY	GLAZER	S/W	1GNCT18W0TK101008
1997	DODGE	RAM	P/U	1B7HF13Z2VJ529629
** * * * *				

## 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 14, 2006 for the following:

# FURNITURE FOR THE MAINTENANCE BUILDING

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

TERRY G. BENNETT, CLERK



Publish: November 30, 2006

PLANNING COMMISSION NOTICE CITY OF PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN **WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2006** 7:00 PM (734) 453-1234

A regular meeting of the Planning Commission will be held in the Commission Chambers of the City Hall to consider the following:

1. SITE PLAN APPROVAL FOR:

SP 06-09 New Office Building 520 S. Main

Zoned: B-2, Central Business Applicant: The Shops of Main Street, LLC 2. PUBLIC HEARING FOR ZONING ORDINANCE

AMENDMENT FOR:

Downtown Parking

All interested persons are invited to attend.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Plymouth 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/hearing, to individuals with disabilities. Requests for auxiliary aids or services may be made by writing or calling the following:

Maureen Brodie, ADA Coordinator 201 S. Main Street Plymouth, MI 48170 (734) 453-1234, Ext. 206

Publish: November 30, 2006

# **@ THE LIBRARY**

# **@ THE CANTON PUBLIC** LIBRARY

Books make great gifts and the Friends of the Canton Public Library's Secondhand Prose Used Book store is a great place to shop. Some of the year's best titles can be found for just a fraction of the original price so you can stock up on presents for everyone on your list. Need some suggestions? Consult with a librarian for an appropriate title or look online at

www.cantonpl.org/resource/bstp/ for recommendations from library staff or to see some popular bestseller lists.

# **NOW @ YOUR LIBRARY**

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.

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

PowerPoint I: Dec. 5, at 9:30 a.m. Create interesting, effective presentations. Registration required.

Teen Tuesday: Dec. 5, at 3 p.m. Free-form fun, no registration required.

■ Internet II: Dec. 6, at 7 p.m. Search the Web, the library catalog and online databases. Registration

required.

MS Word I: Dec. 7, at 9:30 a.m. Get started with word processing. Registration required.

■ Holiday Cards: Dec. 7, Teens at 4 p.m., Tweens at 5 p.m. Make a personalized holiday card. Registration required.

Remix Your Holiday Décor: Dec. 7, at 7 p.m. Remix your holiday decorations for a fresh, new look. Registration required.

**NEW @ YOUR LIBRARY** 

Adult Books on CD

■ Dispatches from the Edge: A Memoir of War, Disasters and Survival by Anderson

Nature Girl by Carl Hiaasen

# Sound Recordings

■ Awake by Josh Groban ■ The Great Burrito Extortion Case by Bowling For

Love by the Beatles

The Canton Public Library is located at 1200 S. Canton Center. For more information about library programs and services, call (734) 397-0999 or visit www.cantonpi.org.

# Reward tops \$6,000 for information about murder

BY DARRELL CLEM STAFF WRITER

Fliers have been posted in the neighborhood where Westland jazz drummer Raymond Pankau lived before he was stabbed to death in the home where he once taught music lessons.

With rewards of \$6,000 being offered to bring his killer to justice, family, friends and Westland police are pleading for help in solving the case.

Pankau, known on stage as Ray Parker, was found murdered Oct. 15 in his home on John Hix Road north of Cherry Hill. Family members had

gone to the house after not hearing from the 77-year-old widower.

"He was a wonderful man. I can't believe anyone would kill him," said Georgine Jeziorowski of Wayne, whose late husband, Leo Favazza, played in a jazz band with Pankau.

"He was such a sweet person," she said, "and he was a very good drummer."

Pankau taught drum lessons to Jeziorowski's two children, Richard and Leo Favazza. Jeziorowski hadn't seen Pankau in a couple of years, but she recalled seeing him occasionally at places like the

grocery store or the Westland senior Friendship Center.

"He was such a wonderfully friendly person," she said. Pankau grew up on Detroit's

east side. He didn't go to college, but those who knew him said he had a natural talent for music. He knew such jazz artists as Chicago-born drummer Gene Krupa and Detroit's own jazz pianist Bess Bonnier.

Pankau played music most of his life, and former students recalled how he taught at places like Westland Music and out of his own home.

"He called his home Ray Parker's Drum Academy," former student Michael Socie of

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Canton said.

Socie, a pharmacist and Canton High School graduate, said he took drum lessons for years from Pankau.

"He helped me through marching band when I was in high school," Socie said. "He was the best. I still have every notebook and lesson book I got from him. He was the kindest, gentlest person you'd ever want to meet, and as a teacher he was patient.

"The lessons he taught me about music, I carry to this day," Socie said.

Socie was stunned when he saw a flier posted at a gas station asking for help in solving Pankau's death.

"When I saw that poster, my knees started shaking," he said. "Who could hurt someone like this? He was just a class-act guy who led such a rich life, and he didn't need to have his life ended this way."

Pankau's family has offered a \$5,000 reward in addition to a \$1,000 reward being offered by Crime Stoppers.

To help, call the Westland Police Department at (734) 722-9600 or, to give an anonymous tip, call Crime Stoppers at (800) 773-2587. dclem@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2110

# DEATHS

R. Paul Barber

Barber, 62, formerly of Farmington Hills, died Nov. 23.

James W. (Jim) Fowler Fowler, 79, of Waterford, died Nov. 26.

Andrea R. Johnson Johnson, 67, died Nov. 27.

Violet Edna Lumetta Lumetta, 83, of Yosilanti, died Nov. 24.

Melvin W. Rentschler

Rentschler, 89, died Nov. 25.

W. Herbert Schiebold Schiebold, 77, of Bloomfield Hills, died

Raiph C. Slade

Slade, 84, of Stuart, Fla., died Nov. 24.

Complete paid obituaries can be found inside today's newspaper in Passages on page A14.

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MOVIE

NAN WILDER 2: THE RISE OF TAJ (R)

FRI/SAT LS 11:45 O DECK THE HALLS (PG) 11:05, 1:10,

3:15, 5:20, 7:25, 9:30 FRI/SAT LS 11:35 DEJA VU (PG-13)

THE NATIVITY STORY (PG)





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\*Limited time offer ends December 15, 2006 and applies only to selected suites at Brighton Gardens of Northville. Certain restrictions may apply.

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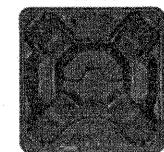




A Pool Shark Ate My Turkey!

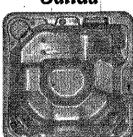
After Thanksgiving Spa & Billiards





93 in. X 93 in. x 41.25in. 6-8 Seats Total of 38 Jets 1 Niagara, 2 Waterfall 4 Volcano, 5 Cyclone 4 Shoulder, 26 Euro Jets

"Salida"



79.5" x 79.5" x 34.75" 2 Seats, 2 Lounges Total of 33 Jets, 1 Master Massage, 4 Poly Monster Jets, 1 Feature Jet(Waterfall), 8 Adj. Nozzle Cyclone Jets, 19 Euro Jets

# "Mediterranean"



91 in. X 91 in. x 37 in. 2 Seats, 2 Lounges Total of 33 Jets, 1 Master Massage,4 Poly Monster Jets, 1 Feature Jet(Waterfall), 8 Adj. Nozzle Cyclone Jets, 19 Euro Jets

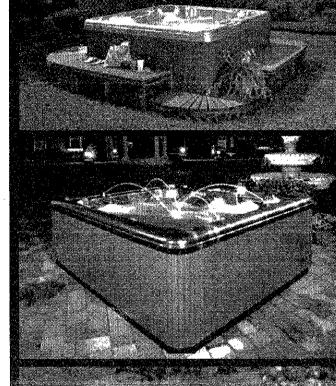






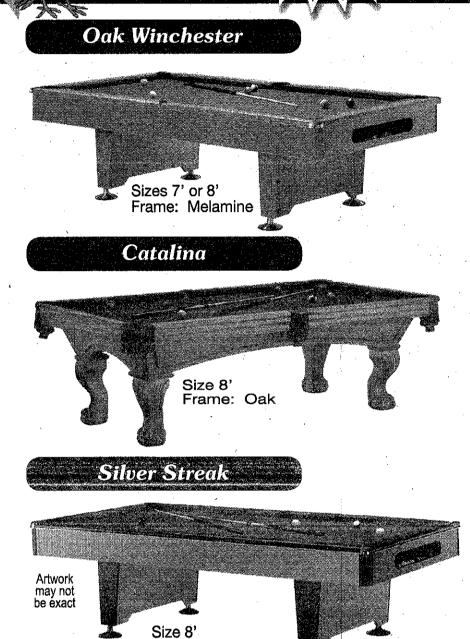








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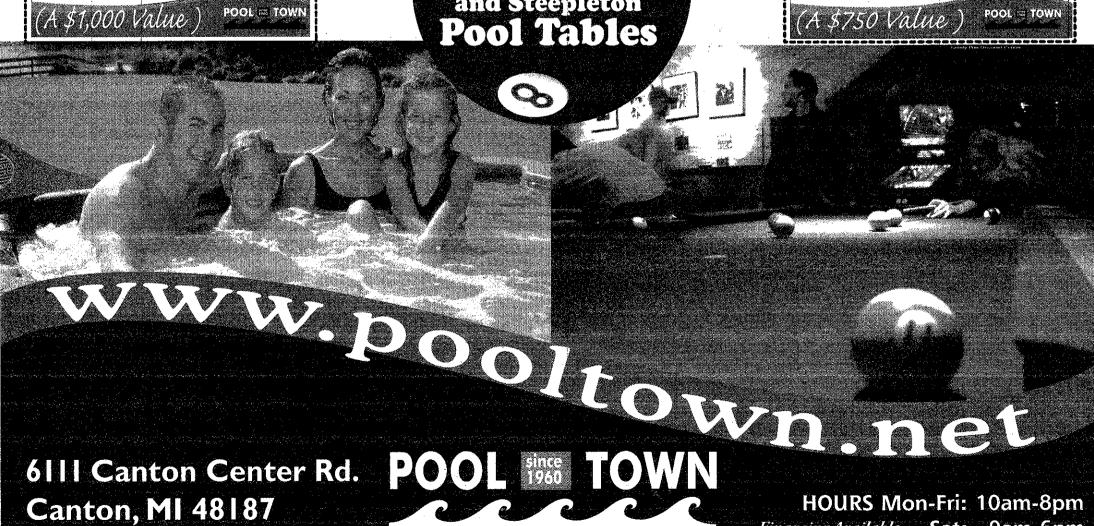
Sun: 10am-4pm



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Family Fun Discount Center

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, MJ 48150. The deadline for an announcement to appear in the Thursday edition is noon Monday.

# NOVEMBER

# **Glory of Christmas**

7:30 p.m. Thursday-Friday, Nov. 30-Dec. 1 and Dec. 7-8, and Sunday, Dec. 10; 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 2 and 9, and 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 3 and 10, at NorthRidge Church, 49555 North Territorial, Plymouth, Tickets are \$13.75 and \$15.75, and available by calling (800) 585-3737, Call (734) 414-7777 for information.

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-

# Hanukkah gift shoppe

Congregation Belt 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, candles, electric and traditional menorahs and many Judaic gift items. Congregation Beit Kodesh is located at 31840 W. Seven Mile, Livonia.

## 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.

# UPCOMING

## 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 baby-sitting 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.

# Drumming circle

7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 1, at Unity of Livonia, 28660 Five Mile, between Inkster and Middlebelt. Call (734) 421-1760.

# 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.

## One night in Bethiehem

of Jesus Christ hosted by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints; two evenings of musical events and a walking tour of old Bethlehem on Dec. 1-2. Visitors enjoy live holiday music while awaiting their tour. A special interfaith holiday concert will be held on Saturday evening at 5 p.m. Guides in costume escort visitors to different locations in and around Bethlehem on the night when Christ was born. Visitors experience the events surrounding the birth of Christ as told by the shepherds, wise men, the innkeeper, Mary, and Joseph. Life-like settings transport visitors to old Bethlehem; shepherds in the field with their sheep; the wise men with their gifts and camels waiting to see

An interfaith celebration of the birth

singing angels. Tours run continuously 6:30-8:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 1, and 6-8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 2, at Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 1610 Brewster Road, Rochester Hills. Call (248) 980-8715.

the newborn King; the innkeeper in

the fenced courtyard at the inn; and

Mary, Joseph and Jesus sitting in a

wooden manger, complete with

# 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.

## Josh White, Jr. concert

7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 2, at Unity of Livonia, 28660 Five Mile, between Inkster and Middlebelt. \$15 donation. Call (734) 421-1760.

# **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, Please join us as we begin the Advent season. 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 (734) 981-1333.

## 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.

# Advent festival of carols

3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 3, at St. John's Main Chapel, 44045 Five Mile, Plymouth, Traditional service of readings and carols, Msgr. John Zenc to preside, Schola Choir and soloist Stacy Mason provide the music. Free will offering. For details, call (734) 414-1104 or visit

## www.TheRetreatCenter.org. Celebrate Christmas season At Detroit First Church of the

Nazarene in Northville 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.

# 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 email to KopistianskyVickie@sbcglobal.net.

# Advent services

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church; 28000 New Market Road, Farmington Hills will hold Advent services Wednesday Dec. 6, 13, 20 at 7:15 p.m. Soup suppers will be held before each service at 5:45 p.m. On Dec. 17, the Sunday School will host their Christmas program at 10:45 a.m. Special services will be held on Christmas Eve at 10.a.m., family drama at 5 p.m. and traditional candlelight service at 7:30 p.m. Christmas Day service will be at 10 a.m. to ring in the King. More information available on Web-site at www.poplcms.org or by calling (248) 553-3380. Prince of Peace Lutheran Church is a community site for the American Red Cross blanket drive. New twin size

blankets are being collected for the

through Jan. 1, 2007. The Red Cross

would like to collect 7000 blankets.

Donations may be dropped off 9 a.m.

homeless. This campaign runs

## to 4 p.m. 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-

# 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 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. Be sure to bring your camera to capture the live nativity scene featuring real animals and actors. For more information, call (248) 374-5932.

# Bannages Obituaries, Memorials, Remembrances

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# ANDREA R. JOHNSON

Age 67. November 27, 2006. Beloved wife of Larry for 44 years. Loving mother of Tracy Marsh (Brian) and Scott Johnson (Jill). Cherished grandmother of Lexie, Joshua, Jared, Grant and Noah. Dear sister of Tracev Southworth (Bobbie) and Barbara Southworth. Funeral Friday 11 AM at THAYER-ROCK FUNERAL HOME, 33603 Grand River Ave., downtown Farmington, (1 blk. W. of Farmington Rd.). Visitation Thursday, 2-9 PM. Memorial contributions may be made to the Oley Foundation.

www.thayer-rock.com

# RALPH C. SLADE

Age 84 of Stuart, FL and of Seminole, FL, died Friday, November 24, 2006 at his daughter's residence in Seminole, FL. Born in Ironwood, MI, he was a purchasing agent for Ford Motor Company. He was a member of Stuart United Methodist Church in Stuart, FL where he had lived seasonally since 1970. He is survived by his wife Ruth, whom he was married to for 63 years; His daughters Pam Gustafson of Waterford MI, Peggy Slade of West Chester, OH; and Sandi Banks of Seminole, FL; his brothers Leonard Slade of Coral Springs, FL; and Clyde Slade of Stuart, FL. He is also survived by five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

# MARTHA E. SAYLER

Age 82. Dearly beloved wife of David for 61 years. Mother of Michael (Margaret) and Fredric (Jane) Sayler Grandmother of: Jennifer, David, Stephen, Bradford, Benjamin and Wesley. Also four great-grandchildren. Resided at Arden Courts. Member of First Baptist Church of Birmingham, member Order of Eastern Star, Alpha Omicron Pi Sorority, Indianapolis University Grad. Resident of Beverly Hills for 41 years. Active in church work and charities. She was also an employee of Birmingham Schools. Preceded in death by parents Fred and Edith Houlehan. Services and burial will be at Crawfordsville, Indiana. Arrangements by the Wm. R. Hamilton Co. of Birmingham. 248-644-6000

# NORMAN McCLURE

Age 87 of Rochester, formerly of Birmingham and Bloomfield November 28, 2006. Loving husband of the late Betty. Dear father of Mike (Dianne) and Marty (Anne) McClure. Grandfather of Mike (Kelly) McClure, Christine (Roger) Schwager, Matt McClure and Linda (Dave) Cohen. Great-grandfather of Colin, Riley Michael, Danielle and Audrey, Brothe of Glen McClure. Norman graduated with a master's degree from MSU in Metallurgy, he volunteered at St. Joseph Hospital, loved music, photography, gardening and golf. Funeral service Saturday, December 2, 2006 11:00 AM at the Potere-Modetz Funeral Home, 339 Walnut Blvd., Rochester. The family will receive friends Friday 5-8 PM. interment Mt. Vernon Cemetery. Memorials to Mercy Bellbrook for a future Norman McClure memorial. Online guest www.modetzfuneralhomes.com

**VIOLET EDNA LUMETTA** Age 83. Ypsilanti, MI, formerly of Belleville, MI. Mrs. Lumetta passed away Friday, November 24, 2006 at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, Ann Arbor. She was born Detroit, MI, daughter of he late Francis & Margaret (Mandelka) Conklin. Mrs. Lumetta was a lifelong resident of the Belleville area. She became a cosmetologist and loved to do hair. She was a wonderful housewife and mother and was always involved in the Girl Scouts. She enjoyed gardening, crocheting, oil painting and most crafts. Vi is survived by two daughters, Kathleen (Alvin) LaLonde of Ypsilanti, MI and Laura (Tom) Gale-Hager of South Bend, IN; four grandchildren, Lawrence (Kerry) Billings, Christopher (Dena) Gale Andrew Hager, and Kim Hager; four great-grandchildren, Jamie Billings, Michael Billings, Cortney Dembny and Mackinzie Billings; two brothers, William and Russell; sister, Betty, many sister-in-laws, Elizabeth many sister-in-laws, Elizabeth Bennett, Grace & Ron Trudel, and Joseph & Carol Lumetta; also many nieces & nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband Lorenzo "Larry" Lumetta on Lumetta on September 2, 2004; six brothers, George, LeRoy, Francis, Martin, Bob and Richard; and two sisters, Dorothy and Margaret. Funeral Services were held Monday, November 27, 2006 at St. Joseph Catholic Church, Whittaker, MI with Father Nicholas J. Ritter as Celebrant. Interment was in Cadillac Memorial Gardens, Westland Arrangements by DAVID C. BROWN FUNERAL HOME, Belleville.



# W. HERBERT SCHIEBOLD

Age 77, November 25, 2006. of Bloomfield Hills. Loving husband of Ruth for 53 years. Dear father of Eric (Kimberly), Paul, Cristopher (Susan) and Matthew (Patricia). Proud grand-father of Allan, Max, Mark, and Samantha. A memorial will be held at the Fox & Hounds Restaurant, 39560 Woodward Avenue, Bloomfield Hills, on Saturday, December 2, from 11am-3pm. In lieu of flowers, memorial tributes to American Heart Association or American Lung Association. A. J Desmond & Sons, 248-362-2500.

View obituary and share memories at www.DesmondFuneralHome.com





# MELVIN W. RENTSCHLER

Age 89, November 25, 2006. Husband of the late Katherine Rentschler. Loving father of Linda Kuehne (Stephen), Debbie Vradenburg (Stephen), (Donald), and Robert (Cheryl). Dear grandfather of Nicola, Jacob, Manuel and Kira. Retired from Ford after 32 years. Member of Moslem Shrine Temple Radio Club. Family will receive friends at A.J. Desmond & Sons (Vasu, Rodgers & Connell) 32515 Woodward (between 13 and 14 Mile), Thursday, 2-8pm. Masonic Service 7:30pm. Funeral Friday, 11am, Redeemer Lutheran Church, 1800 W. Maple Rd., Birmingham. Visitation begins at church at 10:30am. Burial will take place next to his wife at Oakwood Ĉemetery in Fenton, MI. In lieu of flowers, memorials to Shriners Hospital for Children, Office of Development, 2900 Rocky Point Dr. Tampa, FL 33607-1460

View obituary and share memories: www.DesmondFneralHome.com

# JAMES W. (JIM) FOWLER of Waterford; November 26

2006; age 79; born May 18 1927 in Ash Flat, Arkansas Son of the late Merle and Mable Fowler; step-son of the late Freda Fowler; loving husband of Deloris, recently celebrated their 57th Wedding Anniversary; beloved father of Mable (Dominic) Doot; dear brother of Lehman Fowler of Brinkley, AR Peggy Jean Kissinger of West Plains MO, Gilbert (Teri) Fowler of Ash Flat AR, Syble (Wilbur) Nicholson of Sherwood, AR, Keith (Carol) Fowler of Cherokee Village, AR, Freda Jean Godwin of Searcy, AR and the late Waymon Fowler; sister-in-law Claudia Fowler of Sears. MI: also survived by many dear nieces and nephews. James was an Army Veteran, serving in the post WWII occupation force in Berlin. He joined the City of Bloomfield Hills MI Police Dept. in 1953 as a patrol man, was a Sergeant for many years and the Chief of Police from 1969-1974 and retired as Deputy Director of Public Safety in 1982. James was a long time member of Bethany Baptist Church of Waterford, MI, the Fraternal Order of Police #132 and also enjoyed hunting, fishing, gardening and loved to share his bounty. A Celebration of James Life will be held Thursday, November 30, 2006, 11:00 a.m. at Bethany Baptist Church, 1375 Hiller Rd., Waterford. Rev. Dr. James E. Bolin, Jr. officiating. Interment to fol-low at Crescent Hills Cemetery. The family will receive friends at Donelson, Johns and Evans Funeral Home, Waterford, Wednesday 3-5 and 7-9 p.m. Memorial contributions to the American Heart Association, American Cancer Society or Bethany Baptist Church would be appreciated. Envelopes available at the funeral home and church.

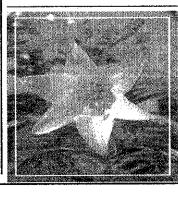


# MADELON BERNICE LAND HAYWARD

The wife of former Michigan State Representative and Royal Oak Mayor William Hayward, died Monday in Rochester Hills. She was 94. Madelon was the third of five children born to Evelyn (McGill) Land and Joseph Land. She attended Royal Oak High School, graduating in 1931. Being captain of the tennis team and often playing the lead actress in the school's plays kept her busy at ROHS. She met her husband, William Hayward, when he was employed by the Wayne Oakland Bank in Royal Oak. They were married Feb 12, 1938, at the Shrine of the Little Flower Church in Royal Oak. Madelon was an enthusiastic supporter of her husband's political career. Bill Hayward was elected to the Royal Oak City Commission in 1939 and served 22 years, including five terms as mayor. He is the longest serving mayor in the city's history. In 1959, Bill Hayward was elected to the Michigan House of Representatives as a Republican representing the cities of Royal Oak Clawson, Huntington Woods and Pleasant Ridge. He served in that position nine terms until he retired in 1976. He died in 1993. Madelon was the perfect politician's wife. On election nights, when friends and supporters would gather to celebrate, she created a tradition of serving hot roast beef

sandwiches and apple pie.

Madelon was the "Martha Stewart" of her day. Indeed, her talent for creativiv was superb, including needlework decoupage, copper sculpture, baking, decorating, knitting and gardening She and the family loved to travel. One such trip was a six-week camping adventure in 1954 to 10 national parks in the west in the family's new Ford station wagon. After retirement in 1976, Madelon and Bill enjoyed seasonal retirement in Florida, cruising on freighter ships to Asia. Australia, and Hawaii, and spending most Septembers in Montana where their son Bill, lives. Madelon took great joy in raising her family, three daughters and a son, in Royal Oak. She lived a full life that was comfortable without illness. "Grandma Madelon" died peacefully of heart failure. Madelon is survived by her daughters, Mary Helen Kaser, of Tucson, Arizona, Susan Siudara and her husband, Leonard (Bud) Siudara of Troy; a son, William Hayward and his wife, Rondi, of Florence, Montana. A third daughter, Nancy Jo Howard, of Farmington Hills, passed away in 2004. Madelon is also survived by her son-in-law, Raymond E. Howard; 13 grandchildren, Christine, Tom, Helen ue, Ann, Charles, Erin, Andrew, Christopher, Land, Peter, Sean, Emily and Erik; eight great-grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews Madelon was preceded in death by her sisters, Mary Louise Birdsey and Evelyn Patricia Land, and brothers, William and Clare Land. Madelon was a wonderful person, wife, mother, and friend. Madelon and Bill Hayward were original "Royal Oakers" who had a circle of many, many friends, all of whom have predeceased. She is among the last of an era of people, "the greatest generation", who helped shape the city as it is known today. Friends may visit the family Friday, December I, at Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Home, 705 W 11 Mile Road (4 blocks E of Woodward), Royal Oak, between 4:00 and 7:00 pm. There will be a short visitation Saturday, December 2, at 9:30 am at the National Shrine of the Little Flower, followed by a 10:00 am Memorial Mass in Madelon's honor. Memorial donations to the Michigan Humane Society or Monastery of The Blessed Sacrament, Farmington Hills.



in the name of Madelon Hayward, are

preferred in lieu of flowers.



# R. PAUL BARBER

Age 62 years old of Flat Rock, passed away Thursday, November 23, 2006 at Pardee Hospital after a short illness He was a native of Detroit, Michigan and son of the late Daisy & Bol Barber. Prior to moving to Flat Rock three and a half years ago, he had been a resident of Farmington Hills Michigan. He received his Masters in Music Education from the University of Michigan and had been a musieducator and Director of Fine Arts in the Farmington Public Schools for 37 years. While living in Flat Rock he served as Director of both the Hendersonville Community Band and Brevard Community Band. During his years in Michigan, Paul was the founder and conductor of Farmington Community Band and held officer sta tus in several organizations, including the Michigan Band & Orchestra Association, Farmington Arts Council and the University of Michigan School of Music Alumni Association. He per formed with several other local musical organizations and was also an avid traveler and photographer. He was a loving and devoted husband to his wife, Fern, and loving father to his children, Randy Barber, and his wife, Melissa of Farmington Hills, MI and Julie Anne Barber of San Diego, CA. In addition to his wife and children, he is survived by his brother, Dick Barber, his wife. Beth: mother-in-law. Jane Kinnamon of Flat Rock; sister-in law, Leah Nelson; and several nieces nephews, and cousins. A memorial service will be held at 3:00pm or December 10, 2006 at Harrison High School Auditorium. Inurnment will be at Oakland Hills Memorial Garden in Novi, MI. In lieu of flowers, the fami ly requests memorial be made to armington Community Band, PO Box 3091, Farmington Hills, MI 48333-3091, University of Michigan School of Music, E.V. Moore Building, 1100 Baits Dr., Ann Arbor MI 48109-2085 or MDA/ALS, P.O Box 78960, Phoenix, AZ 85062-8960 Thos. Shepherd & Son Funera Directors is in charge of arrangements. An online guest book is available at www.thosshepherd.com

# STANLEY RICHARD GARD

Beloved husband of Jacqueline Harris Gard. Father of Elizabeth (Dr. Alan) Foster and S. Richard (Palmer) Gard Jr. Grandfather of Jonathan, Alexandra and Brennan Foster, Jay Gard and Catherine Gard. Brother of Gordon Gard. Brother-in-law of Judith Harris (Michael Bressler) Solomon. Services were held Monday. Arrangements with The IRA Kaufman Chapel 248-569-0020. www.irakaufman.com

# **OBITUARY POLICY**

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

## Deadlines: Friday 4:30 PM for Sunday Wednesday Noon for Thursday Obituaries received after these deadlines will be placed in the next available issue.

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32765 Lyndon • Livonia • 734-522-1616 etween Merriman & Farmington Roads) MASS: Mon. 8:30 a, Fri. 8:30 a, Sat. 6 p, Sun 9a

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Observer & Eccentric

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Quick Reference Guide to Holiday Hours and Entertainment

DECEMBER 2006

ধ Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed			
	<b>k k</b>		The Co	Thu	Fri	Sat
6						2
3	4				10am-9pm	9am-10pm
		Phil Gram All Stars  6-8pm • East Court  5-piece band playing	6	Plymouth Baptist 7 Church Choir 8-8:30pm JC Penney Court	Holiday Mocktail Mixer 11:30am-1pm 8 East Court MADD, SEMCA and local dignitaries present creative	9
10am-9pm 10	Pill	10am-9pm	10am-9pm	I Singing classic bolidou tour	ways to make non-alcoholic drinks for the holiday season 9am-9pm	9am-10pm
		Phil Gram All Stars 6-8pm • East Court 5-plece band playing	3 D's & W 6-8pm • Throughout Mall	14	Our Lady of Good Council Choir Group 11-Noon JC Penney Court Singing classic holiday tunes	16
10am-9pm	9am-10pm	classic holiday tunes  9am-10pm	Barbershop quartet singing classic holiday tunes 9am-10pm		3 D's & W 6-8pm • Throughout Mall Barbershop quartet	
17	18	Phil Gram All Stars	3 D's & W	21	9am-10pm 22	8am-11pm
9am-9pm		6-8pm • East Court 5-piece band playing	6-8pm • Throughout Mall Barbershop quartet singing classic holiday tunes 8am-10pm	,	3 D's & W 6-8pm • Throughout Mali Barbershop quartet singing classic holiday tunes	23
24	25	26	27	8am-11pm	8am-11pm	8am-11pm
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7am-6pm	Closed for Christmas	8am-9pm	10am-9pm	10am-9pm	10am 0-	
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0am-6pm		JANU		Thu	Fri	Sat
Sun	Mon	Tue 2	Wed 3	4	5	6
	10am-60m	Normal Hours Resume				

# Happy Holidays to you and yours!

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Thursday, November 30, 2006

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

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

www.hometownlife.com

- Tom Moshimer: 1935-2006 -----

# Old-school coach taught players life-long lessons

BY ED WRIGHT STAFF WRITER

On Oct. 19, 1979, as his Plymouth Salem football players prepared to load the bus for their game at Belleville later that night, coach Tom Moshimer stepped out of his office and made an announcement that sent the Rocks' adrenaline into overdrive.

"Our schedule was kind of screwed up that year because we only had three home games and six away games," remembered Stan Snider, an All-Suburban Eight lineman that year. "So" coach comes out, gets everybody together and says, 'We're wearing our home blues (uniforms) tonight.' Well, as you can imagine, everybody just went crazy in the locker room. It really fired us up. We went over to Belleville and destroyed them.

"Coach really knew how to

push our buttons. He was a great motivator."

Moshimer, a Hall of Fame football coach who mentored hundreds of high school players during his 42-year career, passed away Nov. 21 at the age of 71.

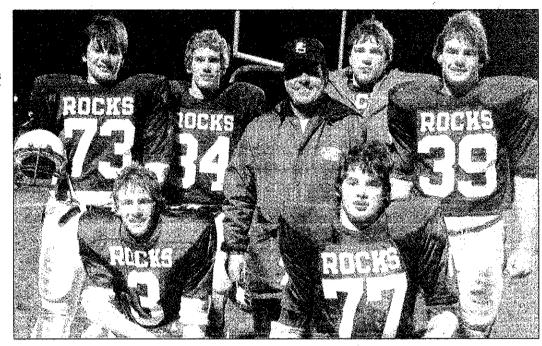
Before he died, the sometimes-gruff, always-respected leader passed along enough invaluable life lessons to fill a playbook to the hundreds of players who followed his commands from the bootcamp-like, early-August football camps he oversaw at Northwood Institute to the Salem sidelines he paced on autumn evenings from the early-70s to the day he retired in

"Coach Moshimer was a tough disciplinarian, but he taught his players what it took to be successful in football and in life," said Jim Anderson, who quarterbacked the Rocks' '79 team that went 7-2. "He taught me that if something is worth doing, it's worth doing well. He'd always tell us to give it 101 percent and to go after it. That's the way he coached and that's the way his teams played."

Moshimer, whose 219 victories earned him a spot in two halls of fame, was one of the mostknowledgeable high school coaches in the state - if not the country - when it came to the wishbone offense, a system that requires a high degree of precision. The legendary coach's first wishbone signal-caller was Steve Robb, the current head football coach at Milan High School.

"A lot of the good college teams - including Alabama and Oklahoma — were running the wishbone in the early 70s and coach Moshimer liked that offense," said Robb. "The first year he implemented it we'd run plays over and over and over so that the quarterback and full-

PLEASE SEE MOSHIMER, B2



Salem Hall of Fame football coach Tom Moshimer is pictured following a 1983 game with players (clockwise from lower left) Mike Galliers, Rusty Watson, Jeff Arnold, Chris Hymes, Scott Jurek and Dave Bunch. Eight of Moshimer's 219 wins came in '83.



A ball carrier tries to elude a pair of would-be tacklers during a Turkey Bowl game played last Friday at Central Middle School. Turkey Bowl games like the one pictured above were played throughout the Observerland area last weekend.



Pictured above are longtime Turkey Bowl participants (from left) Dave Richards, Matt Wiley and Cam Miller. The three have played in day-after-

# The Rose Bowl is grand, the Super Bowl is super, but for many people, nothing compares to the...

# 

STAFF WRITER

The color of the late-November sun was nearly as golden as the turkey that cooked in their oven as the Zemanskis converged on a four-acre park in their Canton subdivision last Thursday morning.

Later that afternoon, they'd be passing gravy, mashed potatoes and stuffing around the dinner table. But for approximately two hours on this picture-perfect day, the 13 family members would be passing something much more rich in tradition than anything they'd consume later that Thanksgiving afternoon — a football.

The Zemanski clan was just one of thousands of groups of family and friends across the country who were participating in an annual "Turkey Bowl" game, a timehonored sports ritual that is interwoven into many Americans' Thanksgiving holiday like the laces in a football.

"I played in my first Turkey Bowl over 30 years ago in Pennsylvania," said Mark Zemanski, the father of six of the Turkey Bowl participants. "My brothers and I kept it going and now our kids play in it, too. It's gotten to the point where I can't imagine Thanksgiving without a Turkey Bowl.

"The only thing we play for is bragging

rights for the next year, but if you know the Zemanskis, that means a lot," he said,

# SMORGASBORD OF RULES

Turkey Bowl rules are as diverse as the people who play in them. Some games feature no-holds-barred tackling; others two-hand touch or flag.

Some games are 4-on-4; others 11-on-

In a few games, the talent level is offthe-charts amazing. In most, it ranges from high-school-superstar good to I-

PLEASE SEE TURKEY BOWL, B2



The annual Turkey Bowl football game is a must-play event for members of the Zemanski family of Canton. This year's Thanksgiving Day event drew 13 players.



# **TURKEY BOWL**

FROM PAGE B1

play-once-a-year mediocre. "Our Turkey Bowl started in 1974 when a group of my buddies challenged members of the Canton football team to a game the Friday after Thanksgiving," reflected Cam Miller, now a prosecuting attorney in Plymouth. "My friends and I didn't play high school football, but we thought we could kick the football players' (rear-ends) in a pick-up

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, November 30, 2006

"I don't remember who won that first game in 1974, but I do know that the loser of the game challenged the winners to another game the week after Christmas. We called that one the 'Snow Bowl'. As the years went on, most of the players changed, but the game continued. It's reached the point now where we don't even have to make calls. We all know to meet at Central Middle School at noon on the Friday after Thanksgiving."

# KINDER, GENTLER GAME

Miller said that his group's rules have gradually drifted away from fullcontact tackle to the less-physical flag version — and for good reason.

"One year when we were playing tackle, we had five guys end up in the emergency room with everything from a broken nose to a broken kneecap," Miller said. "The injuries — and the fact that some of us didn't have great health benefits - convinced us to switch to flag football.

Like mailmen, Miller and his fellow Turkey Bowlers have toiled in weather that has ranged from this year's 50 degrees and sunny to miserably cold, windy and wet. "One year, the ground was so cold and hard that we moved the game from Central's field to the parking lot next to the field because the parking lot was softer and safer," Miller said, chuckling.

# **MEETING POINT**

For 27-year-old Gabe Burnstein and friends, their annual Turkey Bowl is as much a cross-country reunion as it is an athletic competition. The 1997 Salem graduate and several of his buddies from high school and college make the trek back to Central Middle School every year on the day after Thanksgiving despite great distances.

Burnstein, a seventh-grade teacher and screenwriter who resides in West Hollywood, California, travels the farthest, but he's not complaining.

"I wouldn't miss it for anything," said Burnstein. "It's the only time a lot of us see each other. In fact, at this year's Turkey Bowl, myself and another one of the players let everybody else know that our wives are expecting.

One of my friends comes up from Texas and another drives up the day before Thanksgiving from Kentucky. The trash-talking e-mails we send to each other usually start sometime in early September."

A unique twist to Burnstein's Turkey Bowl is that he gives the teams clever names. One year it was Stuffing vs. Mashed Potatoes; the next it was the Native Americans vs. the Pilgrims.

"This year we had enough players for a four-team tournament," he said, "so the team names were the Leftovers, the Wishbones, Team Butterball and the One-Armed McGillicutties. Don't ask me where that last one came from."

# FOOTBALL VS. BUTTERBALL

If it came down to it, what would Miller give up first — eating turkey on Thanksgiving or playing in the Turkey Bowl the day after?

"It's not even close," he said, with no hesitation. "I'd be just fine with ham or a steak on Thanksgiving as long as I can play football the next day."

There are 13 Zemanskis who would undoubtedly agree.

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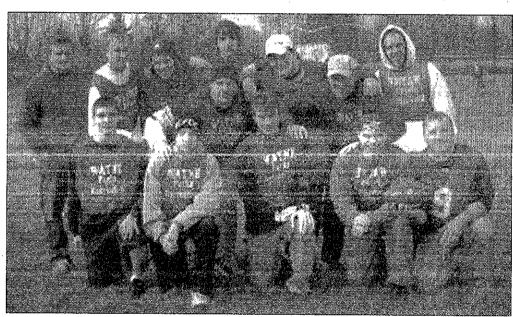


BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Cyndi Burnstein snaps a photo of the "Wishbones" during a break in a Turkey Bowl game last Friday at Central Middle School.



Several members of the First Baptist Church of Wayne posed for a group shot prior to their Turkey Bowl game



Several members of the First Baptist Church of Wayne posed for a group shot prior to their Turkey Bowl game last week.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

"Team Butterball" players (from left) Steve Slotkin, Jon Kobylarek, Tom O'Neil and Tyler Mohr discuss strategy between plays in Friday's Turkey Bowl at Central Middle School.

'One year when we were playing tackle, we had five guys end up in the emergency room with everything from a broken nose to a broken kneecap. The injuries and the fact that some of us didn't have great health benefits convinced us to switch to flag football." Cam Miller

than I gave to football." A former marine,

players.

"Whenever someone gave Mo an excuse after they missed 'If ifs and buts were candy and "Mo was a tough coach with an instilled a great work ethic into his players. One reason his teams were so successful was because he made sure they were so prepared."

"After every Thursday practice, I can remember him telling us, 'The hay is in the barn," said Craig Stack, the Rocks' leading rusher in 1979. "It meant we had done all we could to prepare for that week's game and now it was time to get after it."

# Deer hunting makes the heart rate rise

n the predawn light from about 150 yards away, I could make out the silhouette of four deer grazing in the middle of the bean field. As daylight filtered over the horizon and brightened up my view, I saw clearly that one of the

beasts was a magnificent 8point buck that of "wallhanger" proportions. My pulse raced as my

heart rate rose.

You just don't

see big bucks

like this one

Outdoor Insights

Bill Parker

every day, at least not in my neck of the woods. Shotgun season was still two days away here in southern Michigan so any chance of sneak-

ing a little closer for a shot was out of the question. They were 50 vards or more from the nearest field edge and well out of bow I tried rattling and grunting, two tested techniques that have

worked wonders in the past, but there was nothing that was going to pull that buck away from those does. I was content to watch them for another 20 minutes through my binoculars until they disappeared over the roll of the bean field and into the neighbor's property.

Firearms season is now well underway, and, unfortunately I haven't seen hide nor hair of that big buck since Nov. 13. But the thought that he's probably still out there tending does and wandering around the farm makes it easier to get out of bed each day to hunt when the alarm clock goes off at 4:30 a.m.

According to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, the 2006 firearms deer season got off to a very good start. Biologists report that, statewide, the harvest is up by as much as 20 percent over 2005.

While the DNR is attributing that increase to a healthy fawn crop this year as well as a light winter kill and reduced antlerless permits, weather also certainly played a part.

Last year, there was heavy rain throughout much of the state the first couple days of the season, which made a big impact in the harvest. Deer weren't moving and hunter pressure was light, hence the number of deer killed was

That doesn't seem to be the case this year.

Opening day greeted hunters

with weather ranging from sunny and 60 degrees to cloudy and 40, resulting in much more hunting pressure and a bigger harvest than in 2005.

"At this time, it appears that the deer harvest is slightly larger than the deer harvest of 2005," DNR big game specialist Rod Clute said in a release after the first week of the 16-day season. "Statewide, 20 percent more deer have been brought into DNR deer check stations than in 2005."

Light snow in some places of the Upper Peninsula resulted in great hunting during the opening week. Biologists say that hunters are reporting seeing more deer this year, and that the number of deer checked in the U.P. is up 35. percent over 2005. At the Mackinac Bridge highway check station the number of deer checked is up 22 percent

Biologists claim that hunters in the northern Lower Peninsula are also seeing more deer than they did in 2005, and that antler development on bucks is better. Hunters in the northern LP have checked in 20 percent more deer during the first week of he season than during the same period in 2005.

Down here in southern Michigan, there were no surprises during the early part of the season. Deer are plentiful and healthy, antler development is very good, and the success rate is good. Biologists estimate that the harvest is on par with that of last year, so far.

Firearms season ends on Nov. 30, but that doesn't mean deer hunting ends. Archery deer season resumes on Dec. 1 and runs through New Year's Day. Muzzleloader season runs Dec. 1-17 in southern Michigan (Zone 3); Dec 1-10 in the Upper Peninsula (Zone 1) and Dec. 8-17 in the northern Lower (Zone 2).

There is also a special antlerless only firearms deer season Dec. 18-Jan. 1 on private land only in Barry, Branch, Calhoun, Hillsdale, Ionia, Jackson, Kalamazoo, Kent, Lapeer, Lenawee, Oakland, Ottawa, St. Joseph, Sanilac, Tuscola, and Washtenaw counties.

Antlerless licenses are available in some counties. Check license availability on the DNR's Web site at www.michigan.gov/dnr.

(Bill Parker covers the outdoors for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. Hunters and anglers are urged to report their success. Questions and comments are also encouraged. Send information to: Bill Parker, c/o Outdoors, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009.)

# **SPORTS BRIEFS**

# **HVS WINTER PROGRAMS**

High Velocity Sports in Canton will be offering its "Winter 2" round of sports programs beginning Jan. 2 through Feb. 28.

The registration deadline for indoor soccer, flag football and dodge ball is Dec. 15. Leagues traditionally sell out during "Winter 2", so teams are encouraged to sign up early.

The team fee for indoor soccer (under-9 through over-30) is \$925 and the free agent fee (for players who need to sign up without a team) is \$95. The fee for U5-U8 is \$550 and the free agent fee is \$65. All indoor soccer leagues include eight games and free agent fees include a free T-

The team fee for flag football is \$925. Elementary, middle, high school and adult leagues will be

The team fee for dodge ball is \$400 for six games, plus an endof-the-season tournament. Teams consist of at least 10 play-

Instructional clinics for soccer, basketball and volleyball are also available. Check www.hvsports.com for information on drop-in soccer and basketball; or call (734) HV-SPORT.

# STANLEY CUP RETURNS

The Stanley Cup will make a return visit to the Compuware Sports Arena on Friday, Dec. 8. Plymouth Whaler fans and hockev fans of all ages will be able to see the Stanley Cup from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. in the arena, which will be hosting a Plymouth-Sudbury game and the Midwest Elite Hockey League Under-16 Showcase.

# **HOOP TRYOUTS**

Tryouts for the Salem/Plymouth/Canton basketball club will be held Saturday, Dec. 9, in the Canton High School gymnasium, which is located in the Canton North building. Following are the respective teams' tryouts times:

**W** U14-U17 — noon to 1:30

**20** U9 and U10 — 1:30 p.m. to

**III** Ull and Ul2 -- 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.; and **WU13** — 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m.

For more information contact Brian Samulski at (734) 414-0425 or Fred Thomann at (734) Tryouts for an AAU 15-and-

under girls basketball team will be held Sunday, Dec. 3, from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Basketball Planet, which is located at 7171 Haggerty Rd. in Canton. The tryout fee is \$24.

# **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.

FROM PAGE B1

back meshed just right. We ended up going 6-3 that year, which was pretty good considering we were implementing a new offense. "I learned a lot from Mo that

sion. Probably the most important thing I learned from him is to be fair to my players."
To Marc Tindall, who quarterbacked Salem's '83 squad to an 8-1 mark, Moshimer was

more than just a coach.

I still use today in my profes-

"I grew up without a father, so Mo was like a surrogate father to me," said Tindall. "I enjoyed every bit of attention he gave me — whether he was cursing me or complimenting me. I clung to every word he said and I used it for fuel to achieve all the lofty goals I had ahead of me.

"Mo was a father to his birth sons (Mike and Duncan) and to everyone who strapped on a Salem helmet. He was the father that we didn't want to

listen to when he was telling us what we did wrong, but whose acceptance we craved when we did something good. He's the father that we did not appreciate when he was there, but the one we miss greatly now that he's gone."

In 1974, after refereeing a middle school basketball game in Plymouth, Moshimer approached then 13-year-old Rich Hewlett and told the awestruck future Rock about some plans he had for his future.

"He came up to me and asked me what position I played in football," reflected Hewlett, who starred for the Rocks from 1976-78 before moving on to play four years at the University of Michigan. "After I told him I played fullback and linebacker, Mo said he was going to make me into a quarterback. I told him, 'I'll play anywhere you want me to

Thanks in large part to Moshimer's guidance, Hewlett went on to set just about every moved on to play for another legendary coach, Bo Schembechler, who passed away four days before Moshimer. "It was an extremely sad

Salem rushing record before he

week for me, losing both coach Mo and coach Bo, but at the same time I've realized how blessed I've been to have had the opportunity to play for two hall of fame coaches," said Hewlett. "As hard as it has been to lose two of my mentors in such a short period of time, I realize how blessed I was to not only play for Mo and Bo, but to become good friends with them after my playing days were over.

"Last Thursday, I visited Mo in the hospital and I shared with him what he meant to me and how he set in motion my opportunities at the University of Michigan and beyond. I told him how proud he should be of what he did for his players and for Salem. But he was so humble, he turned to me and said, 'Football gave me a lot more

Moshimer's practices were often laced with old-school phrases that hit home to his

an assignment, he'd tell them, nuts, we'd all have a merry Christmas," remembered Jeff Arnold, a member of Moshimer's 1983 contingent. old-school mentality, but he

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# Plymouth icers improve to 3-0 with win Tuesday

STAFF WRITER

Penalties may be slowing down Plymouth's hockey team, but they're definitely not stopping

The Wildcats improved to 3-0 Tuesday night with an impressive 3-1 victory over Salem in a game played at the Plymouth Cultural Center. The setback dropped the Rocks to 2-2.

"It seemed like we were short-handed for the entire second half of the game, but the kids came together, played as a team and overcame the penalties," said Plymouth coach Chuck Dubois. "Justin Desilets and Jason O'Guinn

played phenomenal tonight."

Desilets, a senior goal-tender, turned back 27 Salem shots while O'Guinn scored a pair of goals, the second of which was a short-hander that put the game on ice with five minutes to

Following a scoreless first period, Plymouth freshman Connor Dresser found the back of the net to put the visitors up 1-0. He was assisted by Joe Perkovich.

After O'Guinn's unassisted goal later in the period made it 2-0. Salem's David Russell beat Desilets to cut the Rocks' deficit to 2-1.

"The entire team played well tonight," said Dubois. "The referees are calling a lot of penalties because of the new rules and it's slowing down the flow of the game. But the kids need to learn what they're calling and they need to adjust accordingly."

This past weekend the Wildcats captured the championship of the Allen Park Thanksgiving Tournament when they ousted Woodhaven, 5-3, in the championship contest. Plymouth advanced to the final by edging Allen Park, 3-2, in overtime on Eriday night.

"The kids played well as a team," said Dubois. "Hopefully, they can keep it up all season."

Mark Olivier paced the Wildcats in the title game, scoring two goals. Rick Cigile, Noel Aspenwall and Nick Rosochacki lit the lamp

one time a piece for the winners.

Olivier notched the game-winner in OT against Allen Park. Perkovich and Luke Merandi also scored goals in the semi-final

Plymouth jumped out to a 2-2 lead before the host Jaguars stormed back to knot the game at 2-2 in the third period. Olivier's winner came

The Wildcats return to action this afternoon at 4 p.m. when they host Macomb Dakota at Compuware Sports Arena in Plymouth Township.

just two minutes into the extra session.

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# Salem hockey team feasts on Invite title

BY ED WRIGHT STAFF WRITER

"Turkey Time" was followed closely by "Trophy Time" for Salem's hockey team this past weekend.

On Saturday, the Rocks captured their first-ever Salem Thanksgiving Invitational title when they overcame a 2-0 deficit to edge defending champion Chippewa Valley, 4-3, at the Plymouth Cultural Center. Salem (2-1) advanced to the final contest by roughing up Canton, 7-2, in Friday's first-round game.

"In both games we had some

big short-handed goals, so our special teams really played well," said Salem coach Fred Feiler. "We killed off a lot of penalties and turned the tables on Canton's and Chippewa Valley's power plays.

The Rocks slipped into a 2-0 hole against the Big Reds when Tyler Beverin found the net twice in the first period. Salem knotted the game at 2-all thanks to a pair of Steve Heisler goals in the second period. Heisler's first goal was assisted by Mike Haburne and David Russell; his second was unassisted.

Salem grabbed a short-lived

3-2 lead with 6:39 left in the game when Haburne scored off assists from Heisler and Nick Gennety, but Chippewa Valley tied it up on Pat Greibe's netfinder less than a minute later.

Kris Brandt scored the game-winner for Salem with 5:34 to go off an assist from Aaron Markwell.

Salem senior goal-keeper Ralph Aspenwall stopped 37 shots — 16 in the first period.

"Ralph kept us in the game early on," said Feiler. "They had 18 shots in the first period, so it could have gotten out of hand.

"Winning the tournament should be a big confidence

booster for us, especially for the guys who played last year." Salem led 2-0 after one peri-

od and 4-1 after two in the semifinal victory over Canton. Markwell tallied a pair of goals for the Rocks while Brandt, Evan Meibers, Brad Nycek, Nathan Werda and Russell also lit the lamp.

Assists were recorded by Heisler, Werda, Joel Cheesman (two), Jason Sharrow and Haburne.

Brad Barath scored both Canton goals. He was assisted by Alex Lajoie on both.

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# Whalers romp over Peterborough, 6-1

Something Plymouth Whalers captain Steve Ward said earlier this season proved to prophetic in the Whalers' 6-1 victory Saturday night over the Peterborough Petes in an Ontario Hockey League game played at the

Compuware Sports Arena. "Hard work beats skill," Ward said. "With the skill level we have, we can win when we work hard.

Plymouth constantly beat Peterborough to the puck in the victory and won the battle of special teams, going 4-for-11 on the power play while

killing off all 10 Peterborough power plays.

Plymouth led 2-0 after one period and 3-1 after 40 min-

Ward led the Plymouth attack with a pair of powerplay goals and an assist and was named the game's first star. Ward's goals - one in the second period and one in the third - extended Plymouth's lead from 2-1 to 4-

Rookie A.J. Jenks (Wolverine Lake) scored twice and now has three on the season. James Neal

(team-leading 15) and Ryan McGinnis (first) added single goals. Evan Brophey contributed three assists.

The only blemish came in the second period when Peterborough captain Steve Downie scored a short handed goal at 7:41 of the second period to cut the Plymouth lead to 3-1.

But Plymouth scored three unanswered goals in the third period to pull away on goals by Ward (1:14), Neal (9:25) and Jenks (10:05).

Jeremy Smith (Brownstown)

Plymouth goaltender

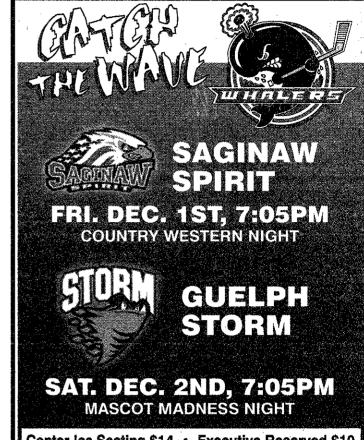
stopped 31 of 32 Peterborough shots in recording his seventh victory of the season. The Whalers are now 14-10-1-0. Peterborough is

Plymouth is off until Friday night when it hosts Saginaw at 7:05 p.m. at the

12-13-0-0.

Compuware Sports Arena. The Whalers will host Guelph Saturday at 7:05 p.m.

Tickets are available by calling the Compuware Sports Arena at (734) 453-8400 or by visiting Ticketmaster at www.ticketmaster.com.



Center Ice Seating \$14 • Executive Reserved \$10

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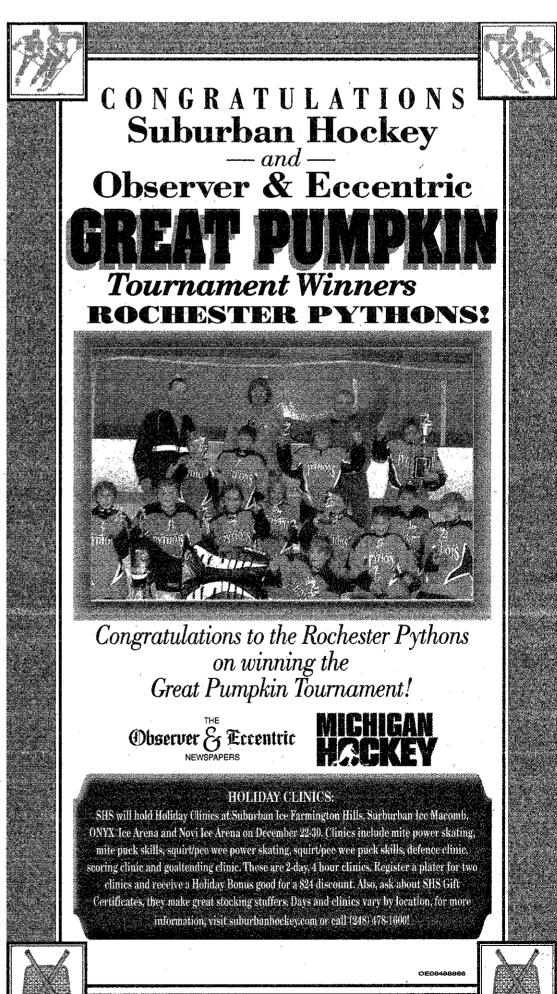




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# Brady, Patriots can't wait to face f

ast week, it was the one they got rid of. This week, it's the one they never bothered

Joey Harrington exorcised his demons at Ford Field on Thanksgiving. He can now continue his career Lions-free. Joey is officially Miami's quarterback and not just an ex-Lion. It was almost like a baptism. That's what happens when you spend four bad years in Detroit; you have to clean it from your system.

Tom Brady could care less. He has no ties to the Lions. Sure, he was the University of Michigan quarterback from 1997-99. His record was 20-5 as a starter in Ann Arbor. The California native was taken in the sixth round of the NFL Draft in 2000 by New England. Three Super Bowl championships have solidified his elite status in the pros.



Wilson

had Charlie Batch in his third year when Brady was available. There was sentiment to draft him anyhow when he kept slipping that Sunday in April. When the Lions had a pick in that sixth round, 181st overall, they selected Quinton Reese from Auburn. Ah yes, Quinton Reese, a defensive end. At last check, Quinton Reese was ... uh, well ... who knows where he is

Eighteen picks later, Brady was selected by the Patriots. Drew Bledsoe was entrenched as the Pats QB and John Friesz was the backup. Brady wasn't even No. 3. Michael Bishop had that honor. It wasn't even certain that Brady would make the team.

Brady did play against the Lions in the preseason, but Bishop and Friesz were still running ahead of the former Wolverine. Long story short, Brady made the team and worked his way to Bledsoe's understudy. In 2001, when Bledsoe got injured, Brady came in and led Bill Belichick's team to the first of their three Super Bowl titles.

A star was born. His 10-1 record in the postseason is unparalleled. He has led New England on a 21-game win streak and has numerous NFL records. All this after completing just one pass his rookie year of 2000. All this after the Lions decided to pass on him. It was the worst pass the Lions have made in

'Tom is the epitome of having that special moxie. He is the next closest thing to a coach," Weis, now the head coach at Notre Dame. His college coach, Lloyd Carr said about him: "Tom's a bright guy, he has a good arm and his teammates look up to him; he has the

right stuff."

Brady has become a media star. He has hosted Saturday Night Live and been on the cover of magazines. His two Super Bowl MVP trophies rank him with the likes of Joe Montana, John Elway and Bart Starr. He is a guy who once sat with First Lady Laura Bush at the 2004 State of the Union address given by her husband. One tabloid even intimated he was the "perfect" man.

Oh, by the way, he is also a heckuva quarterback. Brady has started every game for New England since replacing Bledsoe. All he does is 3 keep winning, like last Sunday against the Bears. He beat the Lions the only time he



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# ree-falling Lions in Foxborough

ayed them back in 2002. This time, the game

in Foxborough.

New England comes in 8-3 and heading for other playoff spot. The Lions are 2-9 and ing nowhere fast ... again. They are only 5-40 1 the road in the Matt Millen era. Considering ey were 5-3 on the road in the season before illen got here, that's downright embarrassing. Ironically, that was 2000. It was Brady's okie season and Batch battled through busted bs to dominate the Patriots that Thanksgiving ay, 34-9. At the time, it looked like the Lions ad made out just fine. Batch was their guy and rady was sitting on the bench in New ingland. No one could have imagined that a ear later, Brady would be a Super Bowl MVP. Batch is now the backup in Pittsburgh. Brady still wreaking havoc on NFL defenses weekly. Ie harbors no Joey-like grudge on the Lions.

To him, Detroit is just another nuisance on the way to possibly a fourth Super Bowl.

"I don't think there is a lot of carryover from year to year," Brady has been quoted as saying. "I don't think anyone cares what you did the year before.

True, New England missed out on being at Ford Field last February for Super Bowl XL. It did, however, win the previous two championships. Most Sundays, it seems the Patriots don't even notice who they are playing. They just do their own thing and, most of the time, they come out victorious. It's a terrific position to be in. Brady and Belichick are most responsible for that tremendous success.

If anyone harbors anything against the Lions this week, it's Belichick. He was an assistant special teams coach with the Lions under Rick Forzano and Tommy Hudspeth in 1976-77. He

was dumped before the 1978 season. That was 30 years ago, so it's possible he couldn't give a hoot about it now. In fact, it's highly probable he even forgot he worked here.

The Lions need wins. Only someone with a lot of money to lose would bet that Detroit rolls out of Gillette Stadium with a 'W' this Sunday. Brady and the Pats shut out Green Bay at Lambeau Field two weeks ago 35-0 and the Pack beat the Lions earlier this year in Detroit. This one has disaster written all over it.

"If I lose, I'm embarrassed," Lions coach Rod Marinelli said after the Turkey Day loss last Thursday. "I want to win everything I do."

Problem is, he has won only twice in 11 games. He has five left, starting with this one against the Patriots. The Lions would have to play a flawless football game to beat that team in New England. Even then, they would have to contend with the machine Belichick has assembled outside Boston. It has been almost robotic in its consistency.

Brady is going to wake up Sunday looking to put just another notch in his winning belt. His former teammate and fellow Michigan Wolverine, Ty Law, probably sums him up best: "Tom Brady is the greatest winner in football right now."

To think, the Lions could have had him. All they had to do was make that pick in the sixth round or even earlier of the 2000 NFL Draft. Such is life. Goodnight Quinton Reese ... wherever you are.

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



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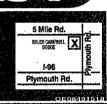
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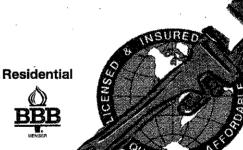
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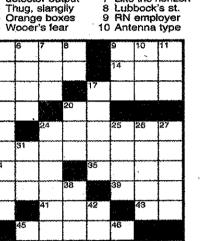
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- Sticky sweet 4 Vessel 9 Paul Newman
- Old card game Take it easy

- Electrical unit 15 Numero
- 16 Cracked 17 Art studio,
- maybe
- 18 Jots down 20 Fourth on the musical scale
- W. Coast metropolis
- 23 Jiffy 24 Bestselling doll
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- 39 Previous to 40 Mount Hood locale
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- 43 Mag exec 44 Cop on base 45 Planet in question
- 47 Slave girl of opera
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- contraction Turn inside out
- 56 Foreman foe 57 Caustic solution 58 Not polite 59 Caesar's law

# DOWN

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# **Answer to Previous Puzzle**



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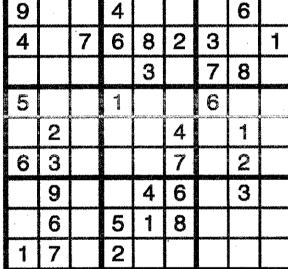
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17 Cooking fats 19 UNIX, e.g. 20 Stadium filler

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- 45 Co. honcho 46 Plum shape 47 Catch cold 48 Leafy climber
- 49 Actress Wallace-Stone 50 Water-power
- org. 52 Bullring yell 55 Plural ending



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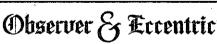
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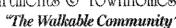
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# Girls hockey clinic

The Livonia Hockey Association is staging a girls "learn to play" hockey clinic from 7-8 p.m. Sundays, Jan. 7 through Feb. 25, at Eddie Edgar Arena (Rink 1).

The clinic is free to all Livonia female residents under the age of 12 (minimum age requirement is

The clinic will feature skating, basic hockey skills and team play. Parent hockey information sessions will also be staged during the skates. Full hockey equipment is required. Reservations are required and spots are limited.

For more information, call the LHA office at (734) 422-5172; or e-mail ljyarnell@livoniahockey.org.

# **AAU** girls hoops

Tryouts for the Livonia Lightning AAU girls basketball teams will be from 5-7 p.m. (under-10 through under-14) and 7-9 p.m. (under-13 and under-15), Saturday, Dec. 3, at the Basketball Planet, located at 7171 N. Haggerty Road, Canton.

The tryout fee is \$24 (includes cost of an AAU card). A parent/guardian must be present.

For more information, call Kathleen Newton at (734) 634-1006.

Tryouts for Livonia's newest AAU girls basketball team, the 16-and-under

Michigan Impact, will be from 3-5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 10 at the Livonia Community Recreation Center, located at Five Mile and Hubbard roads.

For more information, call Moreno Taylor at (734) 427-1623.

# Youth travel bowling

The Western Wayne Youth Traveling Classic is seeking bowlers, both individual and teams.

The WWYTC is a nonprofit organization which awards college scholarships. The travel league utilizes 9-10 different houses each season.

For more information, call (734) 459-5380 or visit www.wwytc.com.

# Livonia Y hoops

The Livonia Family YMCA will stage a series of winter basketball leagues including Youth (Jan. 6-Feb. 17) and High School (Jan. 14-Feb. 25).

Registration is ongoing and prices vary depending on membership and age.

For more information, call the YMCA at (734) 261-2161.

# Women's hoop league

Registration for the City of Westland Parks and Recreation winter women's basketball league for returning teams will be through Thursday, Nov. 30 with open registration running through Friday, Dec. 15.

Game times are 7 p.m., 8 p.m. and 9 p.m. Monday's and Wednesdays, starting Jan. 8

and Jan. 11 with high school rules applying (20-minute halves). There are a maximum of six teams in each division.

The fee is \$450 per team (includes \$100 forfeit fee) with each team paying \$25 per game for officials. Teams may sign an unlimited amount of nonresident players.

Nonresident fees are \$10 per player and are capped at \$100

per team.
A managers meeting has been tentatively scheduled for 6 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 20, at the Bailey Center, located at 36651 Ford Road, Westland.

For more information, stop in at the Bailey Center, or call (734) 722-7620.

# WYAA volleyball

Openings remain for ages 9-11 and 12-14 for the Westland Youth Athletic Association girls volleyball.

Registration is from 7-9 p.m. Wednesdays and 10 a.m. until noon Saturdays at the WYAA's Lange Compound, located on 6050 Farmington Road, in Westland.

The registration cost is \$125 in exchange for \$125 worth of raffle tickets (25 at \$5 apiece).

For more information, call Mark Rodriguez at (734) 276-1979.

# Westland AAU hoops

For more information about tryouts for the City of Westland 14–and-under (eighth grade) AAU basketball team, call (313) 657-3200.

# Drop-in hockey

Adult drop-in hockey will be from 11:30 a.m. to 12:50 p.m. Wednesdays and 9:30-11 p.m. Fridays at Edgar Ice Arena, 33841 Lyndon, in Livonia.

Participants must be ages 18and-up with proper identification and full equipment required. The cost is \$8 per skater (goalies skate free). It is limited to 24 skaters and four goalies per session. No body checking is allow. All players must obtain and sign a waiver.

To confirm scheduled days and times, call (734) 427-1280 or (734) 422-5172.

# Coaches wanted

- Westland John Glenn High School is seeking a varsity girls track coach for the 2006-07 sea-
- For more information, call Glenn athletic administrator Brian Swinehart at (734) 419-2311; or e-mail
- swinehartb@wwcs.k12.mi.us.

  Livonia Ladywood High
  School has several coaching
  vacancies for the 2007 spring
  season including: a girls varsity
  and JV softball coach; girls JV
  soccer coach; girls sprint coach
  and girls jump coach for track
  and field.

Please fax a resume to athletic director Sal Malek at (734) 591-2386.

Livonia Stevenson is seeking a boys varsity golf coach.

Call Stevenson athletic director Lori Hyman at (734) 744-2894 if interested.

# Northville Runners

Runners of all levels are invited to join the Northville (Redford) Road Runners, which meets at 6:30 p.m. each Tuesday and Thursday at Northville's Hillside Recreation Center, located off Center Street just south of Eight Mile; also at 9 a.m. Saturdays at the Eight Mile Road entrance to Maybury State Park.

Varying distances are run, ranging from 4-to-6 miles.

For more information, send an e-mail to Bo@sprauer.com or call Gary Haf at (248) 231-6114.

# Spring training

Allen Park Cabrini High School will stage its six-week Spring Training 2007 baseball program for grades 1-12 from Jan. 21 through March 4.

Bob Bracci, head coach at Cabrini, will direct the program in conjunction with Midwest Baseball Academy.

Sessions are offered in advanced hitting and pitching at a cost of \$98 for six week. Space is limited and registration is underway.

For more information, visit www.baseballacademy.net; or call toll free at 866-MBA-HITS.

# Maloney camps

Rich Maloney's University of Michigan baseball camps will be Wednesday through Saturday, Dec. 27-30.

To obtain a brochure, visit www.mgoblue.com.

For more information, call (734) 647-4550; or e-mail hjn@umich.edu.

# Senior golfers wanted

The Michigan Publinx Seniors Golf Association is looking for 25-30 additional players to complete the roster for its Thursday and Saturday tournaments. Amateur players age 50 and older are welcome.

For minimal cost, players can compete in as many as nine tournaments that are flighted by handicap (includes green fees, cart, skins and prizes) at courses such as Northville Hills, Reddeman Farms, Coyote, Fieldstone, Sanctuary Lake, Dunham Hills, Timber Trace, Sandy Creek and Stonebridge.

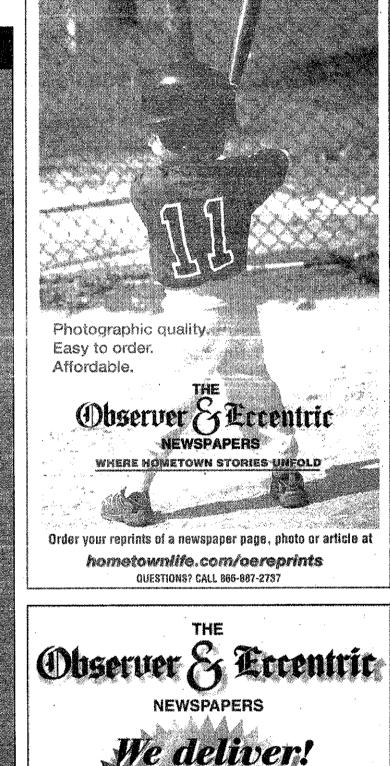
See the Web site at www.mpsga.org or call the MPSGA hotline at (734) 207-PUTT for complete information on the 12 sponsored events for 2006, including the State Senior Amateur Tournament in August at Eagle Eye.

The Michigan Publinx Seniors Golf Association is a nonprofit, volunteer-administered organization. It has sponsored golf tournaments for more than 30 years.

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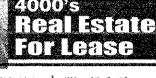
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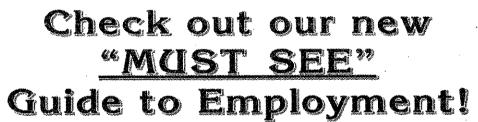
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# MYSTERY EVALUATORS -- FRIENDS OR FOES?



WORKWISE

being observed on the job by real people? Mildred L. There's a lot of talk about

Are vou

surveillance

technology but little about the old-fashioned, in-person mystery evaluator, whom retailers used to call a secret shopper. They operate in all kinds of businesses today.

Mike Mallett is CEO of Corporate Research International Inc., in Findlay, Ohio, which has clients with international operations in retail, banking and hospitality, including a convenience store with approximately 12,000 locations. He relies upon 350,000 people, largely mystery shoppers, worldwide. His shoppers make regular visits, whether weekly or monthly. "We train them to look for what that company is looking for," he says. "They send evaluations through the Internet. We edit each one and release it to the location." If one region scores higher than another, trainers can tailor their efforts using geographical data, store size and overall trends.

Craig Lawrence, director of Operations at United Risk Partners L.L.C., in Elk Grove Village, Ill., goes a step further in using private investigators for what he calls "customer service checks," because his clients want data on a number of issues, such as compliance with policies and procedures, theft and transaction errors. "We design programs to measure the results of the investigation in comparison with client expectations for the organization," he explains.

While this might seem to be an interesting occupation, consider that it operates in an environment of conflict. Lawrence says that the relationship with employees is "naturally an adversarial relationship, because mystery evaluators are the eyes and ears of management when management isn't around." He points out that employees think that if they follow a company's rules, they're doing their job, and consider the function of mystery evaluators to be spying.

Is mystery shopping legal and ethical? Mallett maintains that telephone evaluators may not listen to recorded calls in some ("oneparty") states unless one party knows about the recording. Employees don't need to know "if it's not a recorded shop." He also mentions that the use of shoppers on location may remain confidential. However, based upon his experience with about 250 companies, he states that customer service improves as soon as a company announces a mystery shopping program. When employees know that there will be a bonus or even a lesser form of recognition, they're more likely to feel positive about the process. These incentives are important, because higher scores indicate improved sales. His contracts extend from one to five years. Lawrence maintains that some companies are open about mystery evaluators. because the openness enhances customer service, but that they're used extensively because of the lack of legal precedent.

'FOUNDATION OF FAIRNESS' If you get the word that you're being mystery shopped or mystery guested on an airplane -- and you weren't notified at any time in the employment process -- there are several



Irwin Rudick, coaching.

things you can do. Bruce Pounder, who teaches ethics seminars at Leveraged Logic in Asheville, N.C., advises you to go to your manager to make certain you have "the (written) standards of performance with which you'll be evaluated. This is one element of an ethical relationship that the employer should be initiating and it begins to establish the foundation of fairness." Mallett agrees, stating, "Absolutely know what you're being graded upon. Know what the important items are -what the company is looking for you on so you know company objectives and can meet them." It can mean the difference between a simple "hi" when you greet a customer and "a nice

conversation."

Pounder comments that mystery evaluations tend to find fault, leading to punishment for not meeting standards and make excellent performers think they're in a no-win situation, because they will be caught at least once not performing up to par. However, programs that use bonuses and other incentives -- and carry through with them -can contribute to true partnerships with employees.

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

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reports directly to the CFO. Requirements: Bachelor's Degree in Accounting, Finance, or Economics or equivalent work experience in a financial arena (at least 3-5 yrs). A solid under-standing of workflow management under restrictive time constraints is pivotal in this function. Previous experience in the mortgage umentation is a major plus Strong knowledge of loan servicing regulatory requi-rements a plus. Excellent analytical, organizational, problem solving, & process improvement skills.

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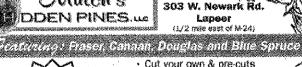
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# Toyota delivers sophistication in its 2007 Tundra pickup truck

Advertising Feature

# **CAReport**



By Tenisha Mercer Avanti NewsFeatures



Observer & Eccentric

ALL COMMON TO THE STATE OF THE

If there's one area of the automotive world that Detroit automakers have kept a tight grip on, it's the full-size pickup truck market. General Motors Corp., Ford Motor Co. and Chrysler have been the kings of the pickup, for years rolling out one best-seller after another with little competition from imports.

So imagine the auto industry's surprise when Toyota announced earlier this year that it was going head-tohead with Detroit automakers by building a bigger, badder, heavy-duty pickup truck, the 2007 Tundra.

And Toyota launched the redesigned Tundra in no other place than the heart of sacred truck country, bluecollar Texas. Sounds like a serious challenge. Built a buzz about the Tundra for nearly a year. Launch the company's "single most important product" in the automakers' home turf. Keep under tight wraps some of the Tundra's features, including the price, until the official press launch in January at the Detroit Auto Show.

Sounds like a recipe for a best-seller.

Detroit manufacturers must be quaking in their boots or believe Toyota has gone completely crazy: Toyota's got a lot riding on the table. Should it fail, the Tundra will be the laughing stock of the pickup truck world. Succeed and the truck just might become a huge moneymaker.

Can the Tundra really compete with juggernauts like the Ford F-150, Dodge Ram and Chevrolet Silverado? If I were Ford, GM and Chrysler, I'd be worried. The Tundra performs as well or better than much of its competition. That's the good news.

The bad news is that Toyota has delayed selling the Tundra from January until sometime in February, when it has larger, 5.7-liter, V-8 engines available.

A little history before I get started. This isn't Toyota's first Tundra. It launched Tundra in 1999, but it was widely regarded as a light-duty pickup truck, a vehicle that no real construction workers would ever use to tote their gear.

The revamped Tundra is completely different. It's



2007 Toyota Tundra. Vehicle class: Heavy-duty pickup truck. Power: 4.0-liter V-6, 4.7-liter V8 and 5.7-liter V-8 engine options. Manufactured: Princeton, Ind., and San Antonio, Texas. Base price: To be announced.

almost as if Toyota took all the criticism of its earlier trucks and poured it into the Tundra. The Tundra is bigger, badder and more powerful than anything truck Toyota has ever produced. I don't usually pay a whole lot of attention to auto executives' ruminations about their products; it's what they're paid to do.

But look at how Toyota's executives describe the Tundra: "big, bad motha of a truck." Another calls it the "biggest, boldest, bad-ass truck in history." Those sound like fighting words to me. And Toyota is aiming straight at Detroit's jugular.

Let's start with what's under the hood. The Tundra packs the power with three engines: A 4.0-liter V-6, 4.7-liter V-8 and a new, 5.7-liter V-8 with variable valve timing. A new six-speed automatic transmission is also available.

There are also three cab configurations: A base model, mid-level SR5 and top-of-the-line Limited model. There are more than 30 different models to choose from -- double the previous models.

The Tundra's redesign has been extended to the body as well. It starts with a thicker body. A bold front grille, strong bumper, large headlights and fender flares top the improvements.

But ask any pickup drivers worth their salt and they'll all tell you it's all about payload. How much freight can the truck haul? In the Tundra's case, it's a lot; Toyota will only say that it's more than 10,000

pounds.

The cargo bed is bigger, too, with a choice of three lengths, including an 8-footer. There's 50 inches between the wheel wells and the cargo bed is 22.5 inches deep, about the same as the Ford F-150. A trailer hitch is built into the frame.

Toyota left nothing untouched. The new Tundra is larger, with an expanded wheelbase, and a chassis that is 30 percent stronger. It's 10 inches longer, 5 inches higher in height and 4 inches wider than before. It adds up to a roomier truck that gives front passengers 4 more inches of shoulder room and 6 extra inches of hip room for rear passengers.

Even the tailgate has been redesigned. Open and close it with two fingers. Larger hinges on the tailgate have also been added to reduce jostling when driving with the gate down.

This truck is for sophisticated drivers. It's got Bluetooth hookups, 10-way power adjustable driver's seat, a JBL audio system and a wide-screen backup camera built into the tailgate. There's a lot of storage space, with a center console big enough to hold a laptop and a glove box big enough to hold a Thermos.

The same features and technology that Toyota brings to its best-selling sedans is now available in truck form. What took you so long, Toyota? It's about time. Write Tenisha Mercer at avanti1054@aol.com. @2006, Fracassa Communications.

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SECRETARY 1930s; Rocking horse; Small desk-Eastlak Hayward/Wakefield 248-646-7266

Arts & Crafts

William Grace Arts & Crafts Show

7040

7060

Sat., Dec. 2, 9:30-4:30

29040 Shiawassee **Farmington Hills** (off Middlebelt &

**Auction Sales** 

**AUCTION: REAL ESTATE &** PERSONAL PROPERTY Estate of David Sawyer. Dec. 9, 2006. Real Estate at 1pm. Personal Property at 10am. 2139 Metzner Rd. Walled Lake/Commerce Township.

(517) 202-6792 **PUBLIC AUCTION** Undercover Self Storage 13995 North Haggerty Rd Plymouth, Ml. 734-354-9855

Units to be auctioned A-40, B-8, B-19, D-1,E-15, F-4, F-60, G-5, G-23

Louchelles

Sunday, December 10th at Noon.

Exhibition Dates: Friday, December 1st; Saturday,

December 2nd; Tuesday, December 5th; Thursday, December 7th from 9:30am - 5:30pm;

For Open House & more info

Auction Dates: Friday, December 8th at 6:30pm. Saturday, December 9th at 11:00am:

FEATURING

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Classified Dept.

36251 Schoolcraft

Livonia, MI 48150

or email to:

oeads@hometownlife.com

Observer & Accentric

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7020 luction Sales

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7100 Estate Sales

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Fri Dec. 1 & Sat. Dec. 2 rr. 9-4, Sat., 10-4 (SI. #s OK) 24705 RIVERWOOD FRANKLIN take Franklin Park Dr., N. off 3 Mile Road, just W. of elegraph to Riverwood).

CONTENTS: Lg. antique signed bronze \* White console plane \* os bronze lamps \* 2 lg. signed & # o = fre serigraphs \* 2 lg. signed & # o = fre serigraphs \* 2 lg. signed & # o = fre serigraphs \* 5 mmons. Nesshit Forman Colly & other signed lifthe s \* actique lamps \* 4 morn size old woot hugs \* Antique fxaures, clock glassware, brass, mirrors & painting \* Nikon F-3 s lens \* Antique cabnel \* Cocklai table \* 2 etegeres \* 2 lg. Indoor wicker chairs & otherans \* Pedestals \* of wicker chairs \* Ord hook and \* Pedestals \* of wicker chairs \* Hugh Ooght wicker headboard \* Pearson tables \* Lucito land \* 2 desks \* Silverware \* Crib \* Pertume botiles \* Towels, sheets & bedding \* pr of side chairs \* Surround system \* Loaded kitchen, bsmt & garage \* Fine deporative household items \* Lg. pots \* Set of new show tires \* Women's clething & more!

Wed., Dec. 13th, 10:10am I GIVE THE BEST DEALSH!





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Christmas!

A perfect addition to

baby's scrapbook!

Place your baby's photo

on December 24.

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Born 9/12 /2006

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John & Sue

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7335 Deep Run Bloomfield

A REAL GOOD **ESTATE SALE** Everything Like New At

100 Estate Sales

N. off 14 Mile Rd., E of Telegraph \*Glen Oaks" Fri., Dec. 1 - Sat., Dec. 2 10am - 5pm FEATURING

Elegant marble dining

table and 6 outstanding Lucite chairs. Unusual Lucite bar & 2 Lucite stools. Confemporary curio, leather sofa and loveseat. Great wall unit for entertainment and display. Glass top end tables, very Traditional bdrm sets, bdrm set w/ marble tops. Large screen TV, stereo equipment, lots of crystal stemware, lots of interesting accessories, many odds & ends. Computer desk, rugs, wrought iron patio furniture, Pub Table w/ 4 chairs, Apt.-style washer and dryer. Lots of mens clothing - shirts 15-1/2, suits 36-38 short, shoes 7-1/2, and

this sale.

DELIVERY AVAILABLE Sale Conducted By RE-SELL-IT Estate Sales 248-478-SELL

much, much, more. Great Christmas gifts in

**ANOTHER** ESTATE SALE BY IRIS Fri.-Sat., Dec. 1-2 10-4PM 3690 QUAIL HOLLOW

**NORTH WABEEK** off Long Lake btw. ddlebelt & Franklin. take Wabeek Lake Dr West to address).
"Magnificent Wabeek Home"

 Louis XVI black lacquered chairs w/plexiglass base table, custom buffet • several custom sofas • several borm sets mirrored wall unit . several Echo tables & chests
• French desk • fots of Ig. framed art • lg. area rugs huge plants . designer clothes & jewelry • Havi-land & Noritake sets of dishes• much more! IRIS KAUFMAN

248-626-6335 JAMES ADELSON Appraisers & Liquidators for 45 Yrs in Metro Area.

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590 HILLDALE, DETROIT (Retween 6 & 7 Mile F Woodward, across the Palmer Park Golf om the Palmer

Course) Continuous Residency for over 40 Years! Antique & traditional fur-niture. Fancy French sofa & chairs, onyx & marble tables, 1920s Louis XVI carved sideboard & dining table, beautiful mahogany bedroom furniture, antique tables & bric-a-brac ladies clothes plus much more! See you there!

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100 Estate Sales 7100

ANOTHER GREAT SALE ANTIQUES ON MAIN

248-705-9665 FRI - SAT, DEC 1 & 2, 10 to 4 13337 SHERWOOD, **HUNTINGTON WOODS** 

E off Coolidge 2 Blocks S of Lincoln Rd Many antiques, cut crystal, Limoges, Royal Cop. & B&G plates, Dansk, furs, UofM memorabilia, records, CD's, books, Christmas, primitives & old tools, etc.

For a complete list of contents, visit aomestatesales.com

DETROIT - ESTATE SALE SHERWOOD FOREST 18480 Mendota (7 Mile & Wyoming). Fri., 8-3pm, Sat., 9-3pm. Complete Household Sale. Furniture, piano, genera household, vintage clothing bedroom set, LOADED!

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GREENTREES **ESTATE SALES** 10am-4pm 17880 Buckingham, Beverly Hills, E off Southfield, S of 14 Mile.

Mahogany corner cupboard, sofa, chairs, queen brass bed chests, tables, lamps, baker's

Stemware, cut glass, silverplate, pewter, brass, framed prints, Christmas decor, ladies clothes plus sizes, lots of mis-

See estatesales net for photos PLYMOUTH ESTATE SALE NEXT WEEK. Large Roseville Pottery collection and TONS of antiques!!! Action Estate Sales. actionestate.com More to come!

WEST BLOOMFIELD Fri -Sun., 10-5. Middlebelt & Walnut Lake. Beautiful and High Quality Estate. 5323 Fairway Lane. Furniture, Fairway Lane. Furniture, glassware, and very ornate items. 586-489-0925.

www.actionestate.com

Garage Sales

ROYAL OAK: EVENT PLAN-NER'S Garage Sale! Great Christmas gifts! Fri., Sat., Dec. 1-2, 10am-5pm, 407 E 4th St., E of Main, S of 11.

WEST BLOOMFIELD 4157 Strathdate Lane, N. of Lone Pine btwn Orchard Lake & Middlebelt Rd. Nov. 30, Dec. 1-2, 9-5pm. Designer clothes, purses, shoes, accessories. Chanel, Gucci, Jil, Ralph etc. Collectibles, frogs, salt/pep-per, antiques, Ann Gish, screen, jewelry, make-up, per-fumes. Cash only. No Pre-sale.

Moving Sales



Christmas

Your pets already

Mr. Bigglesworth

What fun you are to have around the house!

We hope we bring you as

much fun as you bring us.

Ron & Liz

Livonia, Mi

DEARBORN HEIGHTS 5920 Highview. Fort & Gulley Rd. Nov.29th-Dec. 2nd. 9-dusk. Tools, kitchen tems, antiques & much more!

OFFICE FURNITURE SALE computer corner stations, 2 mahogany executive desks wa credenzas, reception desk, 6 mahogany desks 5 arched matogary desks, 5 atcheu glass office partitions, office chairs, warehouse shelving. Cash only sales. SATURDAY ONLY, 9am-3pm, Lover's Lane, 37816 Ford Rd., Westland.

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Now let them see it in print! Place your pet's photo on

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SALE
30 to 50% off retail prices on

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Household Goods

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Call us Today! 800-579-7355 Observer & Eccentric

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BED - 1 SET, 3 PIECE KING PILLOW TOP MATTRESS

New in bag, only \$195. Deliverable, 734-891-8481 Bedroom set (Queen) Solid, dark wood. \$195/neg. Misc furniture. Best offer. Mus Must sell! 248-345-6749

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DINING SET Like new contemporary, cream formica, 6 chairs, hutch w/lights, 3

glass shelves. \$1500 248-477-5416 DINING SET Thomasville, 42" round w/2 leaves, pads, oak

6 Windsor bow back chairs excellent condition. 248-545-1986 DINING TABLE 84" oblong

pedestal, walnut, 3 leaves, 6 chairs, lighted china cabinet FURNITURE - Oak pedestal dining table (72" with leaves) & 6 chairs, \$500. Oak enter-

\$450/best. 734-340-5888 tainment center with lights & mirrors, (holds 32" TV) \$350. 734-729-6814, 734-765-3915 Household Goods

7160)

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Must sell will sacrifice our houseful of beautiful near new furniture. Items include, chery 10 piece kitchen dining set, cost over \$4400 will sacrifice for \$2250. Also have cherry 12 piece king size master bdrm. ste., cherry ten piece queen size bdrm. ste., two 3 piece cherry coffee table sets, two grandfather clocks, cher-ry sofa tables, 5 piece cherry pub set. 5 piece cherry game set, Mirrored pedestal plant stand. Gorgeous 11 piece cherry formal dining room ste. Many decorative lamps, large executive cherry & Burrel office desk, pictures, silk trees, mirrors, and etc. All less than 3 months old and in perfect condition. Must be

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7200 Bargain Buys



CHAIRS Matching china cabinet, buffet, & end table. Must go! \$500 248-891-4443 MISC- Cherry dining rm set (table, 2 leafs, 6 chairs, lighted

313-588-0147 MISC- Home Gym w/weights. Microwave (works) \$40/best

household items & furniture

cabinet) \$500. Assort.

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TREADMILL (Spirit Eagle) yrs old, excellent condit \$100. 248-478-0441

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8210..... Utility Trailers 8220....Trucks For Sale 8240 .... Mini-Vans

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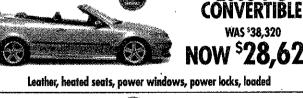
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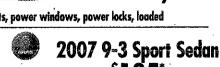


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# Used car prices take hard tumble New car incentives push used car marketplace to record low

by J.L. Sims Independent ad features

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

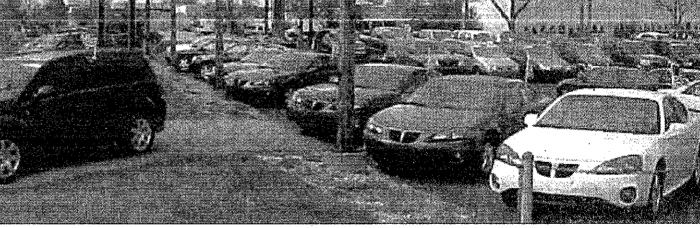
acquisition of vehicles. And they

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.



Bargains abound in pre-owned 2006 program vehicles

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

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

position tilt steering wheel, cruise 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 Children aren't forgotten with

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

laid out before you like an

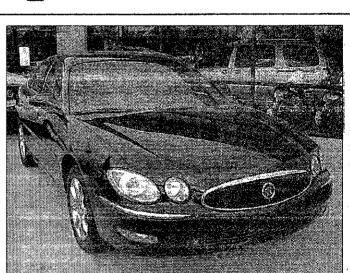
elegant table setting. And

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, sixcontrol, power windows, locks, and seats, remote key fobs operating doors and trunk, rear window defroster, plus a stereo system that will blow you away.

the rear seat upper and lower latch system for compatible child safety seats and rear door child security locks.

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

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



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

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

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

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The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers www.hometownlife.com

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

# Labor of love



A turret, a wraparound porch and pastel colors inside and outside are some of the



PHOTOS BY JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

This year's Holly Walk will include the home of Bob Bloomingdale and Dana McCuen, shown here in the turret room. Every room in the Rochester Hills residence has interest and appeal, both in



A Christmas tree stands in the entryway. The area features oval leaded glass inserts in the double front doors, ceramic tiles that are heated, painted faux stones and a corbel of

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# Couple makes dream house come true

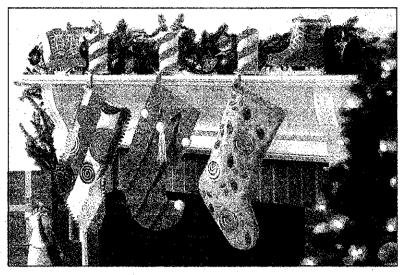
STAFF WRITER

Before they were married, Bob Bloomingdale asked Dana McCuen about a picture that was hanging in her home. She told him, "'That's the house I always wanted to have," Bloomingdale said.

Why not have it? Bloomingdale - a builder with his own Rochester Hills company, Bloomingdale Construction - and McCuen - who has a background in interior design - collaborated on transforming a 1,500-square-foot house into the home she wanted.

Visitors on the 2006 Holly Walk will be able to see the charming and romantic results.

PLEASE SEE DREAM, D3



Stores like TJ Maxx offer holiday whimsy this year with graphic, colorful stockings

Go for the unexpected centerpiece. David C. McKnight, owner of Emerald City Designs in Farmington Hills, said making an original eyecatcher can double as a family project.

# Go bold, bright white with decor this holiday

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA

Move beyond red and green. That's the message this holiday season; home decorating doesn't have to be predictable or expen-

"What we really want to be traditional during the holidays is the food," said Amy Cafazzo, style expert for Marshalls. "You can definitely mix it up when it comes to decor."

When preparing for holiday celebrations, she starts with the table. Update a holiday look with shiny new table linens. For those who can't resist buying a new set of plates, Cafazzo suggested purchasing half the number of place settings, in silver or gold, and alternating them for an interesting table.

Go for the unexpected centerpiece. David C. McKnight, owner of Emerald City Designs in Farmington Hills, said making an original eyecatcher can double as a family project.

He suggested heading outdoors to gather pine cones and cut 6-inch to 8inch long trimmings from spruce or evergreen trees in the yard. The elements can be arranged on a plate or charger surrounding a 6inch pillar candle. "When complete, it looks like a fresh designed centerpiece," he said.

Cafazzo suggested filling vases with candles or Christmas ornaments. Try decorating the table with garland rather than a tradi-



Think outside of the green-and-red gift box when decorating your holiday table. Winter whites and icy silver-and-blue accents update the look this

tional runner, she said. Or, hang stockings on the back of each chair to designate place settings for a party. "The number one thing is make sure there is enough room for everyone to eat comfortably," she said.

Choose a look that's whimsical or one that's more elegant, noted Sonya Cosentini, decorating expert for T.J. Maxx. For a fresh twist on candy cane colors, she goes for bold geometric patterns and ice skate ornaments.

Holidays can also exude understated elegance that complements the home's

decor. Cosentini suggested draping a Christmas treewith beads and larger ornaments in bold colors.

"Try mixing silver and white, gold and cobalt, black and silver, as well as harvest color combinations

Thanksgiving is

behind us and we

have dispensed with

the 32 different ways

to prepare leftover

decorations from

like rust, brown and gold," she said. "It's a refreshing update from the tried and true traditional hues."

McKnight noted that the biggest impact with color is using a lot of the same in one place. "Textures of the same color will look fabu-He suggested stringing a

tree with clear lights and adorning it with white ornaments and white silk floral poinsettias. Another trend, he said,

is decorating more than just one tree. Any room might be evergreen-ready.

"Remember, the kitchen is always a great gathering place," said McKnight. "If you do not have room for a tree, then add decor to any hanging lights, chandeliers or wall sconces."

scasola@hometownlife.com (248) 901-2567

# Take advantage of Google's amazing free services



Savvy

of the highlights. Rick Broida

GMAIL An extra e-mail account can really come in handy, and to me there's no better choice than Gmail

(gmail.google.com). This Web-based mail service comes with virus protection, spam filtering and a whopping 2.7 gigabytes (GB) of storage space meaning you can archive lots of

messages. Although I can access my messages from any Web browser. I like that Gmail also lets me retrieve them via Outlook Express, which I

use for my primary mail accounts. But Gmail's greatest advantage is the way it lets you search your mail, Google-style. If you haven't signed up for a free account yet, what are you waiting for?

**GOOGLE READER** 

If you frequent news sites, blogs and other Web sites that are updated regularly, you can save tons of time by using a "feed reader" - a

into one place for easy browsing. Try Google Reader, a browserbased feed reader that lets you "subscribe" to any site that offers Really Simple Syndication (RSS) — which

tool that aggregates all these sites

I use it to keep up with Download Squad, Lifehacker, Parent Hacks and other great blogs. Instead of bopping around from one site to another, I just head to Google Reader and scan the latest posts.

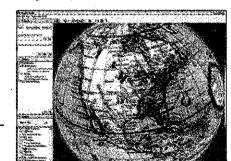
I even use it to track free stuff offered on Craigslist (I'm trying to nab a free piano).

# **GOOGLE EARTH**

If your computer has a reasonably fast processor and video card, install Google Earth (earth.google.com) and gather the family round the screen.

This impossibly cool "virtual globe" lets you zoom into any place on Earth — right down to street level - and then "fly" to any other

Even cooler are the map overlays you can apply. My current favorite: Rumsey Historical Maps, which show you the world as mapmakers



The mesmerizing Google Earth program lets you overlay custom maps like this historical one from the Rumsey collection.

envisioned it hundreds of years ago. Seriously, this thing rocks. Hard to believe anything this cool and fun could also be - gasp - educational.

# **GOOGLE CALENDAR**

I've covered this before, but it merits another mention. Google Calendar (google.com/calendar) lets you create a calendar that lives on

What's the value in that? You can access it from any Internet-connected PC; you can share it with friends, family and even co-workers; you can easily invite others to events on your calendar; and you can have event reminders automatically sent

PLEASE SEE BROIDA, D2

# OFF THE AIR WITH DICK PURTAN & PURTAN'S PEOPLE

# 'Tis the season to deck those halls



Dick Purtan

turkey, we can focus on more important things: Finding where we put all the Christmas

last year. Smart people organize themselves. They go out and buy brightly decorated Rubbermaid tubs and fill them to the brim with all their stuff. Then, they clearly label each tub with the

precise contents. That way, once Thanksgiving has passed all they have to do is go to the proper storage location (smart people have a place for this stuff, too) and unpack. Then - before you know it - they have everything ready to

hang, trim and otherwise adorn. I need to clarify something at this point. By the term "smart people" I, of course, mean women.

Christmas is a wonderful time of year - full of good cheer and all that. But, Christmas is also about the decorations, and in most families the

category of decorations is without question a woman's responsibility. Before you e-mail me calling me all sorts of politically incorrect names,

you need to know that I am not - in the least - being chauvinistic. The reason decorations - specifically Christmas decorations - are "women's work" is because most women WANT to decorate. They have a passion for it. They really care

about it. (I think it has something to

do with the nesting impulse, but don't quote me on that one.) When was the last time you were in the Holiday Shoppe and heard a man say: "Marge, aren't those reindeer salt and pepper shakers just darling?" Even though cute little reindeer condiment dispensers are

undoubtedly "darling," a man would

never say that out loud. Which brings us back to this time of year. The time when most men become what nature intended us to be: grunt laborers. 'Tis the season for us to lug the boxes from the basement, haul down the wreaths from the attic and climb the ladders to hang the lights. And we LOVE doing

PLEASE SEE PURTAN, D2

FROM PAGE DI

to your inbox or cell phone. Google also lets you import a growing number of freely available "public calendars" everything from U.S. holidays to DVD release dates to the 2007 Detroit Tigers schedule.

# **GOOGLE DOCS & SPREADSHEETS**

It may sound crazy at first, but Web-based word processing and spreadsheets make a lot of sense.

With Google Docs & Spreadsheets (docs.google.com), you get almost all the functionality of Microsoft Word and Excel, but all your documents live

online (unless you save them

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, November 30, 2006

That means you can access your documents from any computer: share and collabopublish them to your blog or another Web site. Awesome.

All these are just the tip of the iceberg. Find more Google gems at the company's prod-

(http://tinyurl.com/brkyp).

Rick Broida writes about computers rick.broida@gmail.com.

Why? Because most men secretly like Christmas decorating. They enjoy the sense of warmth it conveys. They really like seeing the Santa toilet paper holder in the bathroom and the Christmas doilies everywhere.

They just don't want to have to think about it. They don't want to have to plan for it. Most of us want to be told where to put it (I leave that punch line up to you).

Let's face it. If left up to men, Christmas decorations would consist of mistletoe in every doorway and a few lights thrown on the bushes.

Men would take the path of least resistance because they are thinking about the end of the season cleanup, not the inseason celebration.

to your PC, of course).

rate on them with others; and

and technology for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. Broida, of Commerce Township, is the coauthor of numerous books, including How to Do Everything with Your Palm Powered Device, Sixth Edition. He welcomes questions sent to

## (Speaking of which, now that it is almost December, it may be time to take down your

Halloween decorations.

(Look, I enjoy watching carved pumpkins turn into science projects as much as the next guy. But, you can tell by the drooping look on their sad little jack-o'-lantern faces that they have shuffled off this mortal coil and are ready for their final pulpy reward.)

If you need any more evidence that Christmas decorating is a more female-leaning endeavor, you need look no further than outdoor lights.

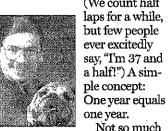
If men were making those decisions, the lights would be up all year long so the only thing we'd need to do is flip a

Just kidding, honey ... Dick Purtan & Purtan's People are on your radio every morning from 5-10. Check 'em out on The Motor City's

# It's important to know your pet's age

f someone were to tell you that Aunt Margaret is 67 years old, then ask you, "How old is Aunt Margaret?", you would assume that either they were an idiot, or that they think you're an idiot.

Every lap of the sun buys us another number onto our age. (We count half



About **Animals** 

Dr. Brad Davis

where daily I am asked how old an animal is in "human years." I try to point out that a

with critters,

Not so much

7-year-old dog is indeed 7 years old, but people really want to know the relative age to people. There are a couple of problems

with figuring that out. First, there's no universally embraced formula that everyone agrees with. I remember growing up, it was seven years for the first year, then five years every year after that.

That would be fine, except dogs begin to reach sexual maturity at about 6 months old, and humans don't reach puberty at 3-

Other systems can make an older animal seem much older.

I once saw a Siamese cat that the owner assured me, when he calculated the age, was 186 in human years. That's very cute, and the cat was very old, but if we are going to have equivalent ages, we have to at least stay reasonable.

# **GOOD FORMULA**

The best, most reasonable system I ever heard, counts the first year of life as 25 years. That makes the onset of puberty just about right, and makes the animal a young adult at 1 year. That

Then add five years for every year thereafter. A 7-year-old dog would be about 55, an age for both humans and animals when more attention needs be paid to

Remember, the system delivers a rough estimate of age, not a cold, hard figure. Also, some will debate this formula, as they have their own formula.

Perfectly fair and valid points, but as I always say, there is no right or wrong in medicine. It

just so happens that I'm right. The second problem with finding the human age of a dog or cat would be the variables that affect each individual animal.

Larger dogs age faster. You can generally assume the bigger the dog, the shorter the life span. Chihuahuas can live to push 20, but a Great Dane is old at 6. Siamese cats can seem to live forever, with ages that become almost legendary - 22, 25, even

(Many times when an animal is much older than we would think, it is an error on the part of the owner, or what I call the Law of Exponential Aging. As animals age, people tend to add a few years to what they are.

(For example, a 12-year-old dog tends to be 14 in discussions with the owner. I believe this might be where the extra years people around 30 or 40 fib about end up hiding.)

Still, you can figure a system for the different breeds and species that will give you a general idea of the relative age to humans.

# IMPORTANT

Great, but what good does it do you?

It can help you to anticipate the medical future of your ani-

I have a saying I use all the time when talking with someone who has an older animal with a problem. If I fell off my porch, my neighbors would laugh at me. If

my grandpa fell off his porch, his neighbors would help.

The same problem means much more when you are older.

Knowing your animal's age can make a difference in how we react to the same problem.

If I see a young dog coughing, I'm more inclined to be concerned about infection, or maybe swallowing something. In an older animal, my concerns turn to heart disease, lung disease, cancer and a multitude of other possibilities.

It's just like when you're young you think of heartburn when you have some pain in your chest, and when you're older you react more strongly.

When you see your older animal having trouble, you should get things checked out as soon as possible.

Of course, trouble has many levels. There's "Uh oh, I need someone to help me eat all these cookies" trouble, then there's "Uh oh, my daughter just got engaged to Dennis Rodman" trouble.

Your comfort level figures heavily into this decision. If your cat sneezes in an unusual way, and it worries you, get it checked out. Be good to your pet and to yourself.

Of course, having nothing be wrong doesn't mean that you shouldn't check things out.

As with humans, checking blood in older animals can find problems before they become visible, and can help nip them in the

Any senior who goes to the doctor knows about pre-emptive blood diagnostic tests.

I remember once visiting my grandmother, and making like I didn't recognize her. When she was sufficiently cranky with me, I appeared shocked, and told her I hadn't recognized her without a Band-Aid on her arm from a blood draw.

That blood work, while not a lot of fun for Grandma, helped

keep her going a very long time, by allowing doctors to closely

monitor her health. It's something vets should do a lot more, and in the future some-

thing they likely will do more. Most of the time, however, we will still be waiting for a problem to happen before we start looking

Signs to watch for in both dogs and cats would be changes in personality, such as a sudden disinterest in food, or a sudden crav-

ing for huge amounts of food. Being depressed or just dull can also be a sign, as can the very common problems of vomiting

or diarrhea. While usually a good thing, weight loss can be scary when

you're older.

If you notice your pet taking off pounds, and the bones stick out more than they used to, this can often mean there's a pretty big disease causing problems internally, with the muscle mass being eliminated as a result.

The biggest of red flags would likely be drinking more and urinating more, or

Polyuria/Polydypsia. This can be a sign of a number of things, most of them not very good, including renal failure, diabetes, Cushing's Disease, and on and on. Increased thirst should never be ignored. Call your vet to try to catch a disease before it gets too bad. That's why you check blood on the senior (7 or older) dog or cat before there are signs.

It gives your vet a better chance of treating the problem with greater success, and can buy your older animal more time, and, even better, more happy

Of course, you have to remember, in dog years I'm only 4. And a half.

Dr. Brad Davis is medical director for the VCA of Garden City, 2085 Inkster Road, Garden City 48135. Mail guestions or comments there. He also hosts the nationally syndicated radio show Animal Talk. Visit www.Animaltalkradio.com, and write to Brad@animaltalkradio.com.

## Extended service contracts are important were getting very rich by chargaware. Let's look at the current these contracts are a big rip-off. I



**Appliance Doctor** 

Joe Gagnon

fringing off the hook the last few days because of a television show that aired recentiv on the subject of extended serv-

ice contracts. The general consensus of these callers is the opinion that

also noticed the most recent arti-Ge by Consumer Reports also indicates a similar viewpoint.

All of this prompts me to give you an education from the eyes of a service technician. Please keep in mind that my opinions are based on facts of today, not of the year 1994. Back then I wrote my first book, First Aid. In that book I tagged appliance service contracts as too expensive, and not worthwhile buying.

The retailers, manufacturers, third-party warranty providers

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Audrey Bruell, M.D.

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Benjamin Schwimmer, M.D.

Announces the relocation of his practice

ing exorbitant prices on yearly contracts. To sum it up, the American consumer was getting the shaft, big time.

In those days of 1994 and previous years, the major home appliances built had a ton of quality incorporated into the product. Their expected life span was twice what it is today.

Service parts costs were a fraction of what is going on today in the industry, and the cost of a major appliance didn't cause sticker shock, as many of you are

8 Mile

Pembroke Ave.

period in time and point out some very important factors of why I believe strongly in buying extended service contracts.

The prices charged are a whole lot less, which doesn't mean you shouldn't shop around and also look at what components of a product aren't covered by the contract.

The cost of a product can be so expensive today, and then when you do get service rendered down the road, the cost can exceed what you paid for the product

If you doubt this, listen to the radio show and hear the stories related by homeowners who are beside themselves. They can't get help from the manufacturers at all. As for the quality of products made today, I think they stink. I've been in this business long enough to know the difference between quality and junk, and we are a far cry from where we

used to be. I get totally sickened by what some of the appliance dealers and service technicians tell me is going on. Such a long list of product failures and repairs on components, which cause hard feelings between the buyer and local retailers. These are the fault of the company that built the prod-

uct and it just seems to get worse. This next paragraph is directed toward the television station that aired the story and to Consumer Reports magazine:

How dare you call yourself ethical journalists by producing such a tainted picture of what millions of Americans will trust to be truthful? It is apparent that you didn't do your homework, and your report gets a failing grade.

I wonder what readers of this column would think of me if I advised them to stop buying insurance on their homes,

There are many reasons to buy an extended service contract, and one of the best routes to go is through your utility provider. Shop around and be aware of the coverage you get on your major appliance. Stay tuned.

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

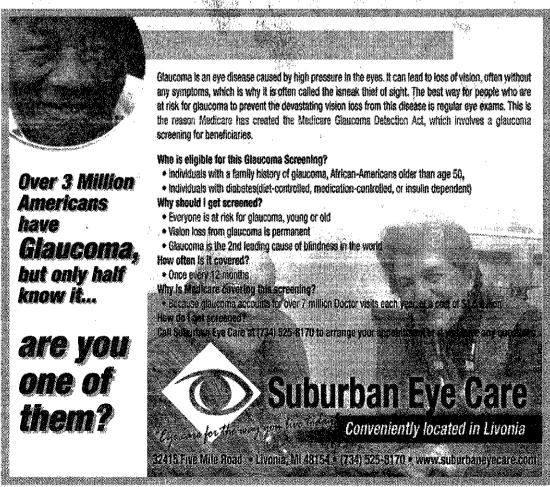


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# California wine has metro **Detroit area connection**

f you're a classic car buff in addition to a wine aficionado, you may know the name Arturo Keller.

Keller is an automotive parts manufacturer from Mexico, a member of the Car Collector Hall of Fame and participant at Meadow Brook Concours d'Elegance for the last 10 years. His longtime passion for classic cars has now been translated to California wine production. You might even say that the "parade of elegance" now seeks expression in Keller Estate wines!

Keller takes the same care with his wines as with his restored classic cars.

Here's proof: He located a cool region in California's Sonoma Coast appellation for establishing a vineyard. The site is at the confluence of two maritime influences, the Petaluma Gap and the Petaluma River. There, fog converges on the vineyard from the Pacific Ocean via the Gap and up the river from San Pablo Bay, creating the perfect climate to grow chardonnay, pinot gris, pinot

noir and syrah. By hiring winemaker Michael McNeill with experience at Chalone Vineyard, the Santa Cruz Mountains, California's Central Coast and Oregon, Keller illustrates that design is as important in creating wines as in classic autos. To help guide the wine design he also attracted Ted Lemon, a Burgundytrained wine consultant and proprietor of Littorai wines and also winemaker at Howell Mountain Vineyards.

# **CAR RACING LEADS TO WINE**

Keller was originally attracted to northern California for its vintage car racing. He has constructed a miniature race track on the winery property and a showroom to exhibit his car collection. He also constructed a 10,000-square-foot gravity-flow winery that rivals the race track and vintage car showroom. Here he produces 11,000 cases of wine annually.

It's obvious from tasting his



Wine

Ray and Eleanor Heald

wines that Keller does everything first-class. We were impressed by his wines and suggest the following as what to

2005 Keller Estate Pinot Gris, Sonoma Coast "La Cruz Vinevard" \$20 is creamy and rich, in the style of an Alsace Pinot Gris, with a broad palate presence and long dry finish. Floral aromas and white peach flavors complement an attractive mineral note in the wine that pairs it well to seafood or grilled fish.

**2005** Keller Estate Chardonnay, Sonoma Coast, "Oro de Plata" \$22. Oro de Plato, translated gold from silver, is one of two chardonnays made from the same vineyard. This one was fermented and aged in stainless steel tanks, then three months in 4-year-old neutral oak barrels, making it an essentially unoaked style. It boasts floral aromas with mineral notes and lime zest in a bright, fresh chardonnay that provides the true taste of the grape.

2004 Keller Estate Chardonnay, Sonoma Coast, "La Cruz Vineyard" \$29 is the barrel-fermented version of the above wine. It provides a complex melange of apple, pear and clove with toasty oak aromas, followed by flavors that include mineral, butterscotch and roasted nuts.

**3** 2004 Keller Estate Pinot Noir, Sonoma Coast, "La Cruz Vineyard" \$34 is marked by aromas of cherries and raspberries that are mirrored on the palate and highlighted by notes of vanilla and balanced oak.

2004 Keller Estate Syrah, Sonoma Coast, "La Cruz Vineyard" \$36 is produced in limited quantity and therefore

# **WINE PICKS**

Currently, Sauvignon Blanc is the best value in white wines. Freshness and flavors match it with sushi, salads, oysters, grilled vegetables, fish, grilled chicken, crab, Asian cuisine and pasta in a light cream sauce.

# PICKS OF THE PACK

2005 Flora Springs Soliloguy \$25. Pricier than many but it's inviting aromas and overall flavor balance are phenomenal and worth the price.

2005 Joseph Phelps \$30 estate grown fruit in a delicate style with loads of finesse from fermentation and lees aging in French oak cooperage. Truly worth the price.

2005 Dry Creek Sonoma County Fumé Blanc \$14 packs the biggest flavor bang for the buck.

# **EXCELLENT**

2005 Sauvignon Republic Cellars Russian River Valley \$18 2005 Kim Crawford Marlborough, NZ \$17

2005 The Crossings Marlborough, NZ \$16

2005 Ferrari-Carano Fume Blanc \$16

2005 Kenwood Sonoma County Reserve \$15

2005 Rodney Strong Charlotte's Home Vineyard \$14 2006 Simonsig Sauvignon Blanc (South Africa) \$13

# **VERY GOOD**

2004 Handley Dry Creek Valley \$15

2005 Ledgewood Creek Suisun Valley \$12 2005 Glazebrook Marlborough, NZ \$14

2005 Benziger \$13

2005 Beckmen Estate \$14

2005 Wattle Creek \$17

2005 Dancing Bull \$12 2005 Fairview \$13

2004 Markham Napa Valley \$16

2005 Brassfield Estate High Valley \$15

2005 Brassfield Estate High Valley Serenity \$15 - slightly offdry, styled for spicy foods

# **WALLET FRIENDLY**

2005 Trinchero Family Santa Barbara County \$10

2006 MAN Vintners \$10

2006 Veramonte Sauvignon Blanc Reserva \$10 2005 Redwood Creek \$8

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

available directly from the winery (www.kellerestate.com). It has rich, long and full flavors of black fruits, leather, pepper and chocolate in a very elegant renEleanor and Ray Heald are contributing editors for the internationally respected Quarterly Review of Wines and Troy residents who write about wine, spirits, and restaurants for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. Contact them by e-mail at focusonwine@aol.com.

# DREAM

FROM PAGE D1

The family's Rochester Hills residence is featured on the tour, which benefits the Rochester Hills Public Library (see related item).

"We've had fun with it," McCuen said.

The house was built in 1940. It's now about 3,000 square feet in size, a one-of-a-kind home with a Victorian exterior, a wraparound porch, a child-sized house in the yard used for changing for the pool, pastel colors inside and outside, and a crowning feature: an intriguing and enchanting tur-

ret about 22 feet high. Rooms are dressed in such soft colors as mauve and green. A daughter's room has its own private porch.

The house was bought in 1996. Renovation and new building began in April 1997; work was finished that December.

Bloomingdale remodeled and built the newer portions. McCuen did the painting, including ceiling medallions and faux features. Many original elements were

saved (such as the chimney), adjusted (including the front door, which was moved from one side to another) or replicated (interior archways, for example).

Additions were built on the existing foundation. Wooden floors were refinished. The kitchen was updated and gained

Visitors "always want to know 'What is that room?'" McCuen said about the turret room. Among the features in this bright, comfortable area are a large, leaded glass chandelier and a window seat.

But every room has interest and appeal, both in design and

The house contains antiques, family collections and mementos from the couple's travels around the world. Materials Unlimited of Ypsilanti and Pier One are two of the sources for other accessories.

The custom stained glass by Robert Kane of Sunsmith Stained Glassworks includes a depiction of the terrace in Norway where Bloomingdale and McCuen wed.

At the front entrance, the double wooden doors have oval lead-

# 15TH ANKUAL HOLLY **Walk**

What: A holiday home tour of six unusual and interesting residences in Rochester, Rochester Hills and Oakland Township. The event, sponsored by the Friends of the Rochester Hills Public Library, benefits the library.

When: Noon to 5 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 10. Admission: Tickets are \$20 and must be bought in advance, through tour day. They are available at the Friends Library Store at the Rochester Hills Public Library, the Rochester Hills Museum at Van Hoosen Farm, Bordine Nursery and Sharon's Hallmark (Rochester Hills Plaza and University Square locations). Shuttle service will be available. Tickets include a coupon for \$5 off one adult admis-

sion to the Meadow Brook Hall Holiday Walk Monday-Friday, Dec. 11-21. Information: Visit

www.rhpl.org/Friends.html. Call the Friends at (248) 650-7176.

ed glass inserts. The floor is covered with ceramic tiles that are heated, and the ceiling is painted faux tin. The entryway also features castle-like decor, such as a colorful corbel of angels and painted faux stones.

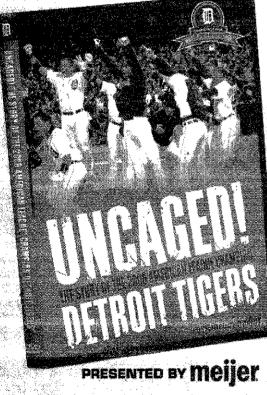
In the living room is a fireplace that has a porcelain insert and a surround of paneled wood. The elegant frame above the mantel was made from scrap lumber.

An example of the tropical decor throughout the house are the wood and bead window treatments at niches in the room. In the niches are hanging lamps that illuminate from the side.

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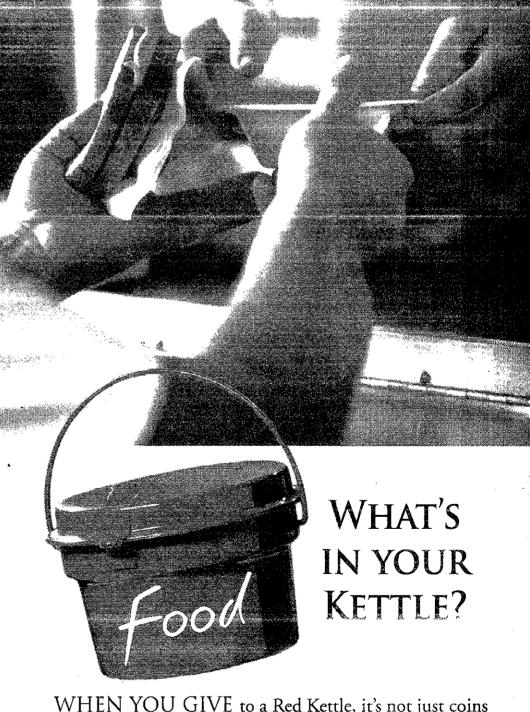


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at Mosaic

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lady

# Shop Smart Holiday Tips for the Financially Hip

**By Wensdy Von Buskirk** 

arolina Di Cesare spent many years in retail before becoming a financial servrices professional at New York Life. She has seen firsthand the pitfalls of holiday shopping sprees. As part of her "Financial Tips for the Financially Hip," Di Cesare shares tips on staying debt-free this season.

What are the financial dangers associated with the holidays?

There are so many financial dangers! The first is not going shopping with a plan and a budget in mind. And then what happens is people overspend out of their means. They need to avoid stores they know are out of their budget. It's too tempting.

Do many shoppers go into debt?

It can happen to a lot of people. They wind up with a lingering credit card bill wondering 'how can we pay this off?' There are probably fees on the card, and the biggest downfall of credit cards is most of the time the money is spent on material things like shoes and clothes, that don't provide any kind of return. It's not like an education loan, investing in career and mobility.

Should you apply for credit cards to save money? Don't apply for any new credit cards. Every single store will offer you a fantastic rate for a new card. This is not the time. The reality is shoppers will go to several stores in the mall, open several credit card accounts thinking Til get 10 percent off here, 15 percent of there. Come January, they'll have several new balances to pay and they'll be overwhelmed. In the hustle and bustle it's easy to lose sight of the money you're spending.

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and PINK tests prove

while providing plenty

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and your nails will grow so strong

you'll have trouble clipping them.

much and it will flake off. Just right,

with Basari, which



Carolina Di Cesare

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How do you keep the budget down but still give fabulous gifts?

cadicesare@ft.newyorklife.com

There's a difference between being hip and being financially hip. One can be hip and give lavish gifts but on the financial side they are swamped and overwhelmed. People have to think creatively. My background is as a dancer and artist. Often we were on small budgets, and that is when you have the best ideas. To be financially hip and fabulously hip is to be unique. The more you can tailor gifts to the individual you're giving them to, the less costly they become. The holidays are about meaning, not about the cost.

Local product creates long, strong nails

By Wensdy Von Buskirk

If you want a beautiful set of nails this winter,

you've got to work at it. One of your best bets is

uct made right here in Metro Detroit.

classes griping about their nails.

issues?'

Basari Nail Strengthener, a super-effective prod-

Mark Yezbick, of West Bloomfield, was study-

become a dentist, when he noticed women in his

"They complained their nails broke a lot and

manicure." Yezbick said. "I thought, why

So Yezbick switched careers, set out to find a

Now, more than five years later, Yezbick's com-

formula, and Basari Nail Strengthener was born.

pany has grown to include a small selection of

top-of-the-line nail, hand and foot care products.

the polish chipped off a couple days after a

not create a product that addresses those

ing to be a dental hygienist with ambitions to

What do you prescribe for the 'one for them, two for me' holiday shopping syndrome?

Years and years ago I used to work in retail and I saw this all the time. What I would say is hold off on the purchases for yourself. Number one, you have to give for the holiday season, you don't have to give gifts to yourself. Number two, everything that you buy is going to go on sale in January. It's a very slow month for retailers and they have to cut costs. You're really going to get good deals and get twice what you would have gotten. Most people are back to the mall anyway for returns and that's a great time to scope out the sales.

Speaking of online, are there pitfalls to Internet

The financially hip love the Internet. That's how a lot of them communicate and shop, and it's even easier to overspend online because it doesn't seem real. You put in a couple numbers, click, and something's sent to your home.

It's harder to track spending. Also you're paying shipping costs.

Obviously there's going to be shipping offers and enticing offers. For some people it's convenient, but again it's making sure you're looking at a budget and shopping and tracking. Print out that receipt and keep it in a file — or if you're tech savvy, create a database.

What if you wake up with a financial holiday

January is a good time of the year to get into financial shape. Talk to an advisor. Every case is individual and you can see what the options are. Most financial professionals give advice free of charge. January is a good time to review the year behind and make plans for the year ahead.

(58), a quick dry formula (510) and na

foot treatments (\$24-\$74) to the line.

and Miami.

and salon owners.

Breakie apprenation

Basari products have made their way into the

hands of celebs like Queen Latifah, Tara Reid,

Patti LaBelle and Shannon Alexander, and are

sold at salons throughout Michigan, Las Vegas

"Through industry contacts you meet people

who know people and word gets out. Most of our

said. "People who are open minded to new things,

if they try Basari and they're consistent with use,

they always get the results they're looking for. We

Look for Basari at local salons including Aura

Salon Spa in Farmington Hills, Matthew Thomas

Salon in Northville, Gina Agosta in Novi, the Ritz

Carlton in Dearborn and 6 Salon in Royal Oak.

hear it time and time again through nail techs

marketing is done word of mouth, which has

been interesting to sit back and watch," Yezbick

in list

Face It!

bigger brows

jewel it!

Barbara Boz

for Style Naturale

are back!

Don't overpluck ---

Northville Fashion Walk Shop local for holiday goodies and discover Northville's growing Fashion District as downtown merchants host the next First Fridays Fashion Walk, 6-9 p.m. Dec. 1. Participating merchants include the new Belli Couture, Urban Blues, Pendleton, Open & Clothed, Lorla's, Orin Jewelers, Fine Threads, Van Dam's Boutique, Girly Daze, Rock on Main and Dueto. The events are staged in conjunction with First Fridays Art Walks, so galleries are

**Fashion Incubator Grand Opening** Come and find what all the buzz is fans at 7:30 p.m. on Dec. I with a soiree featuring hors d'oeuvres, a DJ, charity garment auction and a "great surprise." The DFI is a new Michael Delon Wilson of Michel Delon, to bring together a community of designers and help them reach their business goals. Donations and a portion of sales that evening will benefit AIDS research and programs. The DFI is located at 4737 Grand River Ave.,

**Fanclub Fashion Awards** 

But Enough About Me:

A Jersey Girl'sUnlikely Adventures Among the Absurdly Famous

Read it!

TiVo It!

The Victoria Secret Fashion Show Dec. 5 on CBS

Casino Royale

See It!

DVD It! Superman Returns

Do It! Adopt a family for the holidays

open late too.

about! The Detroit Fashion Incubator will welcome fashion designers and non-profit organization founded by-Detroit. Call (313) 281-8001 or visit www.detroitfashionincubator.com.

Are you Detroit's next top model or fashion designer? Enter the Fanclub Fashion Awards and you could win

\$1,000, a photo spread in PINK and more! Log onto www.hometownlife.com/or/ www.fanclubarts.com to print out applications, rules and design sketch forms. Fashion designers are required to submit sketches and models are required to submit photos or comp cards by noon, Dec. 2 at Shapes Boutique, 319 Main Street, Royal Oak, Models also will be required to compete on the runway at a FAFFA Preview Party 6 p.m. Dec. 3 at Playground Photographic Studios. Finalists will appear on the catwalk at ARTrageous, 7:30 p.m. Feb. 10 at MOCAD, where one winner in each category will be announced. Call (734) 953-2019.

**Vital Car Maintenance** 

Don't be afraid to break a nail! Gals should know how to perform routine maintenance on their vehicle. Get a . lesson on "Car Care Basics." 6-7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 4 at the Costick Center, 28600 11 Mile Rd., Farmington Hills, during the latest installment of the city's "Vital Woman Workshops." Bill Van Dike of the DPW will teach how to check and change your vehicle's vital fluids, assess and adjust tire pressure, charge a battery, winterize and more.

**Dance Education** 

In a continuing effort to offer highquality dance programming, The Detroit Opera House is staging a Sunday Dance Workshop Series for teachers. The six-workshop series will be facilitated by industry professionals and spotlight a variety of topics. Teachers participating in four or more workshops can earn 1.1 SB-CEU credits. All workshops will be held in the new Ford Center for Arts and Learning at the Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway, Detroit, and cost \$45 apiece. To register, call (313) 237-3251.

"Menopause The Musical" Wraps After entertaining more than 250,000 metro Detroiters through more than 1,000 performances, 140 weeks, and 50,000 "hot flashes," the longest-running show in Detroit history has announced its last performance at the Gem & Century Theatre Sunday, Dec. 17. Tickets to all the shows before curtain call (\$39.50) are available at (313) 963-9800 or www.ticketmaster.com. For information, visit www.gemtheatre.com.





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> als 5kin Care Makeup Basketswrapped or Customized just for you! Manday for Your Complimentary Consultation

Abdominoplasty
Liposuction

We are also offering great specials on Restylane Injections for the first two weeks of December.

At the Celestial Institute of Plastic Surgery injections are physician administered.

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