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HOMETOWNLIFE - C1

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**SUNDAY**  
December 3, 2006

# CANTON Observer

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Jasmine Aleo, 2, wasn't too happy about meeting Santa Claus at the township's annual holiday event Wednesday, even with encouragement from her mom, Erin Aleo.

## Canton kicks off holidays with Santa, reindeer and tree lighting

BY TIFFANY L. PARKS  
STAFF WRITER

There was Old Saint Nick, an endless supply of candy canes and enough popcorn to make a movie theater jealous, as Summit on the Park was transformed into every kid's fantasy for the annual holiday tree lighting ceremony Wednesday night.

The Sourbecks of Canton were one of thousands of families that attended the festivities, which included a coloring contest, dance performances, a book fair and live reindeer.

"This is the way to start the holidays," said Susan Sourbeck, as she hugged her 4-year-old daughter, Kylie.

As Kylie's two pigtails breezed in the nighttime wind, her blue eyes widened as the township's Christmas tree

was lit for the first time.

"I like it," she said softly, adding that she wants earmuffs, a dog and laced tennis shoes for Christmas.

Canton Leisure Services Director Ann Conklin said it's amazing how much the annual celebration has evolved.

"It started off years ago in the fire hall with just the tree lighting and cookies," she said. "But now look at it."

During the event, the Summit's hallways were packed with strollers and giddy children. In one room, tiny hands quickly doled out paper crafts. In another, a group of kids sat quietly and watched a movie. Down the hall, babies posed for formal photographs in front of

PLEASE SEE **HOLIDAYS, A5**

## Intersection fixes will hinge on outside help

BY TIFFANY L. PARKS  
STAFF WRITER

Township plans to improve two Joy Road intersections could face the chopping block if Plymouth Township or Wayne County don't agree to help fund the projects.

"We can't spend money outside of Canton's borders so if they can't come up with any money, we'll move on to project B," said township trustee Karl Zarbo. "It's not an option to do half the job."

The two intersections - Joy at Canton Center and Joy at Haggerty - are among five that are slated to be revamped in 2007 through the township's Intersection Safety Improvement Program.

The reconstruction, which includes creating right-turn lanes and improving traffic signals, is expected to cost \$300,000 for the two Joy Road intersections.

Township Supervisor Tom Yack said although the improvements are needed they'll get scrapped without outside assistance.

"It has to be a multijurisdiction approach," he said, adding that the chances of Plymouth Township contributing are slim. "I wouldn't be a bit surprised if they said 'no' because their funds are not as flexible."

Richard Reaume, Plymouth Township supervisor, said Yack is probably right.

"I don't think we're looking to undertake any more road improvements," he

said, referencing the upcoming construction of the Sheldon Road underpass. "But we would highly encourage the county to leverage any money available."

Since its inception in 2004, the seven-person Intersection Audit Committee has provided Canton officials recommendations of what areas should be reconstructed. Six intersections, including Cherry Hill at Sheldon, have been improved and the three other projects on tap for next year are: Saltz at Canton Center, Palmer at Haggerty and Cherry Hill at Beck. The total costs will be about \$1.1 million.

The projects are funded through a .36-mill assessment that was formerly earmarked for the fire and police departments.

Zarbo, an IAC member, said redirecting millage dollars is a "fairly unusual practice" but believes it made sense in this situation.

"Traffic congestion is knit and tied together with public safety," he said. "They are the ones trying to get through these intersections at crazy times."

The IAC, which includes residents and government officials, will identify at least 20 more intersections that need to be improved over the next eight years.

"The (reconstruction) adds more of a challenge to your life but once it's complete you can really see the benefits," Yack said.

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## Task force finds drug use low in P-C schools

BY TIFFANY L. PARKS  
STAFF WRITER

The task force recently created to study alcohol, tobacco and drug use among students didn't discover any sweeping trends among Canton and Plymouth teens.

"The data is in line with what we expected but we're being proactive," said Canton Township Deputy Police Chief Laura Golles. "We don't think there's a problem but we're going to meet each year to see what the information means in the scope of 5,800 kids."

That sounds like a plan to high school parent Cindi Fry.

"My family's been lucky but we know it's out there," she said. "You don't want to be blind to what's happening so anything the schools can do to keep an eye out is great."

The task force was organized in October and has representatives from the school district, Canton's public safety department and the Growth Works Youth Assistance program.

The group recently studied data that said less than 10 high school students for every 1,000 was involved in a drug, alcohol or tobacco incident last year.

Those numbers dropped to one per 1,000 kids at the middle school level.

Golles said the task force will meet annually after the end of each school year.

"We're going to talk about what we know," she said. "We don't want there to be any question of what is or what isn't."

Fry, whose son is a high school senior, said the task force has more resources to study trends than parents.

"I think they're doing a good thing," she said.

Last academic year, there were 37 reports of drug possession, 31 cases of drug use, 20 incidents of alcohol abuse and 10 reports of tobacco possession at the high school level, according to the public safety department.

"Things have changed from when I was young so I'm glad their keeping an eye on this," said Denise Staffeld, who has a daughter at Plymouth Salem High School. "As a parent, you're always thinking about this so I'm glad (the task force) isn't closing their eyes to a potential huge problem."

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## Postal veteran puts stamp on long career

BY TONY BRUSCATO  
STAFF WRITER

To put the retirement of Gail Ryan into perspective, when she started working at the Carl Pursell Post Office on Penniman Avenue in downtown Plymouth stamps cost 10 cents, and you had to lick them to make them stick.

Always with a friendly smile, the Canton resident's last day behind the counter was Thursday, with all of her 30-plus years spent greeting customers at the Plymouth post office.

"I thought about retirement about a year ago," admitted Ryan. "My husband (Jim) plays golf with all his friends whenever he wants. I thought 'I want to do that.' The ability to do what I want, when I want."

However, in the next breath, Ryan



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton resident Gail Ryan, who can remember the 10-cent stamp, retired this week after 30 years working at the Carl Pursell Post Office in Plymouth.

admitted she'll miss the contact with her customers.

"I love my job, I love the public," said Ryan. "It's like a big family. You

hear a lot of sad stories and a lot of happy stories, and I feel like I'm part of their family."

Ralph C. Gregory of Westland makes the trek to the downtown post office almost daily to pick-up and drop-off mail for his daughter's Plymouth-based business.

"I've been talking and kidding with her for about three years," said Gregory. "She's a wonderful person to talk with, and she goes out of her way to be nice to you. I don't even live in Plymouth and I'm going to miss her."

Ryan said the post office has come a long way since the 10-cent stamp.

"When I first started counter work, we had fan scales, no cash registers and we had pencil and paper to write down purchases and hand-

PLEASE SEE **CAREER, A5**

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### Coming Thursday in Filter



**Hot Spots:** Turn to the next issue of Filter for your guide on the hottest nightlife of downtown Birmingham



### Chiefette fund-raiser

Tony's Coney will host a fund-raiser for the award-winning Canton Chiefettes pom pon squads on Tuesday, Dec. 7. A portion of the profits from that day will be donated to the Chiefettes to offset competition-related expenses. Tony's Coney is located at 41810 Ford Road, in front of the Bombay Company and PetSmart. For directions, call (734) 844-6545.

### Special Van Buren meeting

Van Buren Public Schools will hold a special board/town hall meeting at 7 p.m. on Dec. 4 at the Belleville High School Food Service Center to discuss North Middle School and South Middle School attendance boundaries. For more information, call (734) 697-9123.

### Canton Center/Geddes open

Construction to improve the intersection at Canton Center and Geddes roads is now complete. As part of the 2006 Intersection Audit Committee's Safety Improvement Project, three of the four intersection quadrants were widened to improve turning movements and to allow exclusive right turn lanes for northbound Canton Center Road and eastbound Geddes Road. Motorists are advised that the traffic speed along Geddes has been lowered to 35 mph until Detroit Edison can relocate three utility poles along the south side of the road. Relocation of the utility poles

is anticipated to take place by the end of December. Replacement of the pavement once the utility poles are removed along with sidewalk installation, and restoration of the ditches and surrounding areas will be done in the spring.

Installation of mast arms with illuminated street signs and pedestrian signals will take place next summer along with construction to widen the northwest corner upon acquisition of the right-of-way.

For more information regarding road projects going on in Canton please call the Public Works Division at (734) 394-5150 or visit [www.canton-mi.org](http://www.canton-mi.org).

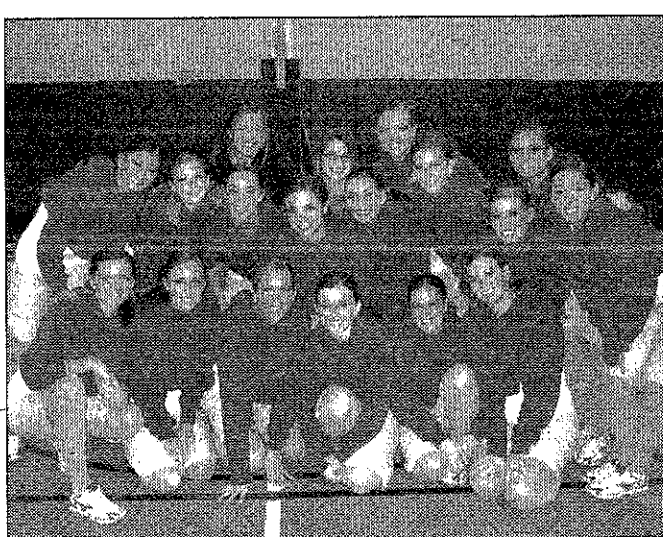
### Decorating for the holidays

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.

### Coping with grief

Heartland Hospice announces a new support group for widows and widowers. The Sharing & Caring Coffee Hour is held from 10-11 a.m. on the first and third



### Solid as a Rockette

The Salem High School Rockettes varsity dance team recently competed in the Universal Dance Association Great Lakes Invitational. The team placed first in the hip hop competition and second in jazz. In February, the girls will be competing at a national level event in Orlando, Fla. The day after the invitational, the team competed in the Mid-American Pom Pon Competition, placing first in jazz and second in hip hop. The varsity Rockettes are coached by Aileen Balatico and Laura Thorp.

Wednesdays of each month at Heartland Healthcare Center, 7025 N. Lilley in Canton. The focus of the group will be on the later stages of grief, with an emphasis on learning to live with the loss. The group is open to anyone grieving the loss of a spouse. There is no charge to attend. For additional information, contact Ann Christensen, Heartland Hospice Bereavement coordinator, toll free at (888) 973-1145.

### 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

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](http://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 favorites.

### 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 PCCS Middle School Strings, the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park Concert String Orchestra and the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park Symphony.

For more information, e-mail Mary Marben at [marbenm@pccs.k12.mi.us](mailto:marbenm@pccs.k12.mi.us) or call (734) 416-3297.

### Drop-off location

Showroom of Elegance, 6018 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.

### 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](http://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.

### Nutcracker performances

The Plymouth Symphony Orchestra joins with the Plymouth-Canton Ballet Company to present the classic fairy tale, Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker Ballet.

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

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

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# Cast to mark holidays in style at theater

BY KURT KUBAN  
STAFF WRITER

A cast of more than 140 singers, dancers and gymnasts will perform in the third annual Central City Christmas Spectacular Dec. 14-17 at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill.

The two-hour show is being directed by Tim Smola and his wife Tamara Nastev-Smola, who own the Central City Dance studio in Canton. The majority of performers are dancers at the studio, but Smola said they held auditions and have brought in others from around the metro Detroit area. Performers range in age from 6 years old to adults.

Smola is touting it as the largest holiday show around, and said this year's cast hopes to dazzle the audience with new sets, elaborate costumes, stage effects, and a glitzy new Broadway tap routine. He said it's a little different than your average holiday show, and is reminiscent to a Radio City Rockettes show.

"When I grew up dancing, I would perform the Nutcracker every year around the holidays," Smola said. "I always wished there was something that could incorporate other forms of dance like jazz and hip hop. So my wife and I decided to come up with a show that featured stronger elements than just ballet."

Similarly to the past two years, the show follows Santa as he travels around the world, delivering gifts to children. It ends when he stops at Central City Dance in Canton.

"He goes to Italy, the Middle East and other places, so you get a taste and performance from each place," Smola said. "We added a new scene this year where Santa takes his

head elf into a comedy club in the Bronx. It adds a bit of humor to the show."

While the storyline has remained largely unchanged, Smola said he and his wife changed the dance routines for this show. He said performers will have rehearsed for 12 weeks by the time the show takes place. They have been practicing 5-10 hours a week. Plymouth resident Katie Hopman, 15, says as the show has drawn nearer, the rehearsals have been more and more exciting. She says she can't wait until the performance to show her friends and family what she's been working on since the beginning of October.

"After being a part of the show last year, I knew that I wanted to audition again this year. Being a part of the Christmas Spectacular is a lot of fun and I look forward to practice each week," she said. "The friends that I have made from other dance studios are great and I love getting to know them better. The dances are energetic and a lot of fun."

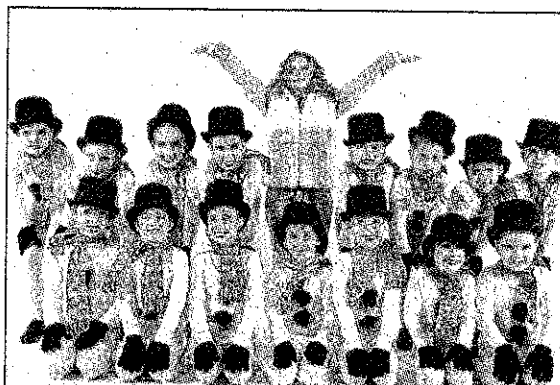
The show also features 13 singers, who perform many classic holiday songs, including "Silver Bells," "Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer," "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas," and "Jingle Bells."

In addition to the performers, there will be a large crew of more than 40 people working behind the scenes, who will be in charge of everything from lighting to making sure actors are in their right place and ready to go. One of those people is Dawn Shrader, who will be keeping track of more than 300 costumes.

"They are all numbered and assigned to the performers. Some of the performers have



The Central City Christmas Spectacular features dancers, singers, gymnasts, and Clark Smith as Santa.



More than 140 singers, dancers and gymnasts will perform in the Central City Christmas Spectacular Dec. 14-17 at the Village Theater.

only 2-3 minutes to change into their next costumes, so you can imagine the mess that can be left behind," she said.

Smola said the real goal of the show is to celebrate the holiday spirit, which he believes the performers convey to the audience.

"We want the audience to leave the auditorium with a sense of holiday cheer and happy childhood memories, and I think we accomplish this throughout the performance," he said.

The Central City Christmas Spectacular will run at 6 p.m.,

Dec. 14-17 at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill. There will also be matinee performances Dec. 16-17. Tickets are \$18 and may be purchased by contacting Central City Dance Center (8004 Sheldon Center Road in Canton) at (734) 459-0400, or Images Salon (15083 Sheldon Road in Plymouth) at (734) 455-6833.

Tickets are reserved seating and will not be sold the day of the show. For more ticket information visit [www.centralcitydance.com](http://www.centralcitydance.com).

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## Reporter joins Observer staff

Reporter Tiffany L. Parks has joined the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers* editorial staff. Her primary beat will be covering Canton Township for the *Canton Observer*.

Parks comes to the *Observer* after spending the last three years working for the *Flint Journal*, where she covered a number of communities, including Grand Blanc Township and Linden. She has also written for *The Detroit News* and the *Topeka Capital* in Kansas.

Parks, who lives in Pontiac with her husband, Alan, said she is excited about the opportunity to become part of the Canton community.

"Since coming on board, I've already found Canton to be an energetic and thriving community," Parks said. "I want to jump head first into the action and give our readers interesting stories about their neighbors."

According to *Canton Observer* Community Editor Kurt Kuban, Parks brings an enthusiasm to the job, which translates in her work. He believes she will be a good fit for Canton.

"Tiffany is a creative writer. The thing that struck me about her work is that her stories always have a creative hook, which pulls



Tiffany L. Parks

the reader in. It is obvious she takes a lot of pride in her work," he said. "I'm very happy to have her aboard. I think our readers will be pleasantly surprised."

While Parks recognizes the need to cover local government and the more well known people in the community, one of her passions is getting to know all the people who make a community unique. She is looking forward to that challenge in Canton.

"I consider it a blessing to have a career that I enjoy and I'm excited about covering this area," Parks said. "If you see me out and about, please don't hesitate to introduce yourself."

Parks grew up in Flint. In addition to her love of community journalism, she enjoys scrapbooking, doing home improvements, R & B oldies and shopping.

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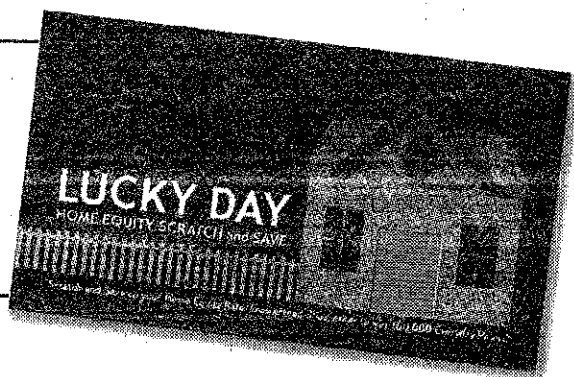
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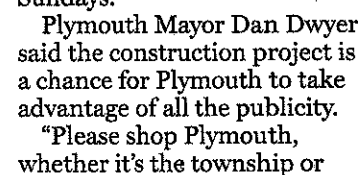
## Residents, businesses worry about project's financial impact

The project will shut down Sheldon Road from just north of Farmer Street to just south of M-14.

A. Near the beginning of the project, two temporary water main connections will be installed in anticipation of later closing and moving the water main. The temporary connections will be tested for three days to make sure they'll be adequate.

A big part of the project will be moving a water main. County engineers will be installing two temporary connections which will be tested for three days at the start of the project to make certain

Sincovec said every effort will be made to keep the big rigs that generally travel Sheldon from weaving through Plymouth neighborhoods on Junction, Farmer, Penniman and Ann Arbor Trail as their



"I'm for the project, but it's going to be a pain in the butt," Sinnott said. "It will cut off the flow of traffic from Plymouth and Canton and Northville, and take a long time to get to work, but it will be worth it in the long run because we are tired of getting stuck by those trains."

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

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FROM PAGE A1

"You get to know families, I've seen kids grow, and the business people who have come and gone," said Ryan. "I will miss them. They have made a difference in my life. Maybe I will be that one friendly person they'll remember, and encourage them to be friendly to window clerks and clerks in other businesses."

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FROM PAGE A1

Conklin said about 25 people helped pull the event together. "People really like spending time with their families and their neighbors," she said. "This represents what our community is all about and that's why it's successful."

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## DEATHS

**Billy Joe Young**  
Young, 72, of Cape Coral, Fla., died Nov. 23.

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

**sell alcohol**  
The Special Enforcement Unit has performed tobacco and alcohol compliance checks at local businesses for the past several years. The SEU utilizes a "zero tolerance" enforcement strategy when dealing with violations of tobacco and alcohol sales to minors. Establishments selling alcohol to a minor receive a misdemeanor citation: Alcohol violations are also reported to the State of Michigan Liquor Control Commission.

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Robin Fraser, left, and Heather Spillane visit with a few of the cast members of 'Christmas on the Farm,' an outdoor re-enactment of the first Christmas with live animals. This is the second year the two Canton women will be presenting the show at The Real Life Farm.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

## Real Life Farm play to provide help to Make-A-Wish Foundation

BY TIFFANY L. PARKS  
STAFF WRITER

Before 9-year-old Andrew Holmlund lost his battle with cancer, the Make-A-Wish Foundation fulfilled his dream of vacationing at Disney World.

"He had such an awesome time," said Robin Holmlund, Andrew's mother. "I can't even describe the joy he had on that trip."

Canton residents Heather Spillane and Robin Fraser are trying to pass along that feeling to other families with terminally ill children. That's why they're donating proceeds from the 2nd annual Christmas on the Farm play at the Real Life Farm on Geddes Road to the Arizona-based foundation.

"I can't imagine all the stuff Andrew had to go through, but he did it with a smile on his face," Spillane said. "He never got down and he just lived."

Andrew, who went on the Florida trip in 2005, died in March.

"We were able to go before he was in too much pain and he loved it," Holmlund said. "(The foundation) did so much for our family."

Spillane and Fraser, both 20, created the play a year ago and donated proceeds to Hurricane

Katrina survivors.

"We were able to raise \$3,000 for the hurricane victims and I'm hoping to make even more this year," Spillane said. "We're very excited because people asked us about it all year."

The 15-minute production tells the story of the first Christmas and features a dozen actors and several animals. Show times are at 7 p.m. Dec. 8; 6 p.m. Dec. 9 and 5 p.m. Dec. 10 at the Real Life Farm, 48700 Geddes Road in Canton.

Andrew, who was a camper at the farm, would be humbled the play is being done in his honor, said Holmlund, a Real Life Farm employee.

"Make-A-Wish is so worthy of this," she said. Real Life Farm owner Don Fraser said he's proud of his daughter and Spillane, both college students, for organizing the event.

"Out of all the things they could be doing with their idle time they're helping others," he said. "And this is really a first-class act."

A bake sale and raffle will also take place after the play.

Tickets are \$3 for children ages 10 and under and \$5 for adults. Grandparents and children under age 2 are free. For more information about the play, please call (734) 495-0822.

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

## Motive unknown in stabbing

BY DARRELL CLEM  
STAFF WRITER

A 67-year-old Westland woman appears to have been randomly stabbed while walking outdoors near her residence at Riverbend Apartments, near Warren and Merriman roads, police said.

The attack, which happened around 3 p.m. Sunday, was strangely similar to a stabbing that occurred eight weeks ago about three miles away, outside of Westgate Tower on Elmwood near Ford and Wildwood.

In a bizarre coincidence, police described both victims as 67-year-old women. Neither victim was robbed, and no motive was known.

The latest victim didn't get a good look at her assailant, who ran up behind her, stabbed her once in the upper back and fled on foot, police Lt. James Ridener confirmed.

The attack occurred on the

north side of Warren, east of Merriman, in the sprawling apartment complex.

"This lady was walking through Riverbend Apartments when this guy came up behind her, and she felt something in her back," Ridener said. "He ran off. She couldn't give a good description."

The woman realized she had been stabbed when she returned to her apartment and found she was bleeding, Ridener said. She was treated and released at Garden City Hospital.

Without a good description of the suspect, authorities couldn't say whether he may have been the same assailant involved in the stabbing outside of Westgate Tower.

"It looks very similar, but we can't say for sure," Ridener said.

The earlier attack occurred about 5:50 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 30, when a 67-year-old woman

was walking with her 5-year-old great-granddaughter near her high-rise senior apartment building, police Sgt. Jeff Trybinski said.

The woman was stabbed in the upper back by an assailant who approached her on foot and then fled. The little girl wasn't hurt.

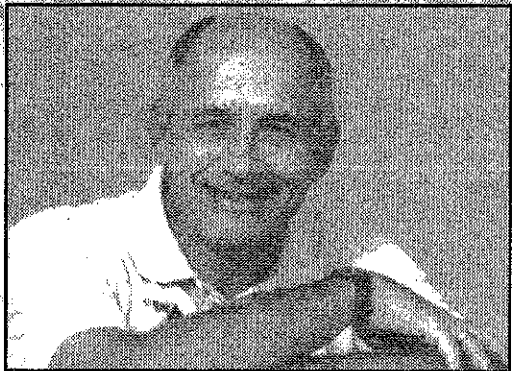
In that incident, the attacker was described as a black man, 30-35 years old, about 5-foot-8 with a medium build. He was wearing a dark-colored cap, a dark waist-length jacket, possibly a red T-shirt, and a dark-colored jacket.

Anyone who has information about one or both stabbings is urged to call the Westland Police Department at (734) 722-9600.

To make an anonymous call for a possible cash reward, call Crime Stoppers at (800) SPEAK-UP.

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### Savitskie says....



### Mortgage Tip #21:

**"Desperate times call for moderate measures."**

"As pressures from the struggling economy, sluggish housing market and declining job market create a confluence not unlike the 'perfect storm' here in Michigan, many people—and mortgage companies—have begun to feel and act a little desperate.

The best tip that I can offer in this situation, and perhaps the most materially useful tip I've offered so far, is to keep a cool head.

Some lenders, who I'll generously describe as opportunist but who might more accurately be termed predatory, have stepped up the pressure on would-be borrowers, promising them almost anything to get their business. After all, many mortgage companies are feeling the pressures of a slowed economy themselves, and they are becoming increasingly aggressive in their pitches and less ethical in their business practices.

No matter what kinds of financial pressures you might be feeling right now, slow down, take a deep breath and consider your options. Above all, don't do anything desperate."

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# Board to meet about Rouge recreation trail

BY KURT KUBAN  
STAFF WRITER

The Canton Township Board of Trustees will hold a study session at 7 p.m. on Tuesday to discuss a proposal to build a controversial recreation trail along the Lower Rouge River between Haggerty and Canton Center roads.

At roughly five miles long, the non-motorized recreation trail, if approved, would be built in conjunction with a sanitary relief sewer, which township officials say will prevent sewage from overflowing into the river and backing up in people's basements.

According to township engineer Bob Belair, the trail would be built with a \$440,000 grant from Wayne County. The trail, which would be built on county-owned land, is designed to

be used by bikers, hikers and joggers.

This will be the third public meeting the township will hold about the plan. At two prior meetings, many residents showed up to express concerns about the project, particularly those residents who live adjacent to the floodplain.

"There's definitely been some resistance," Belair said. "But these meetings have been good because they have given us an opportunity to share details of the project with people, and what we're trying to do. We're definitely not trying to hide anything."

Canton Township Supervisor Tom Yack said the study session will be the first time the full board will hear details about how the sewer project is linked to the trail proposal.

"The board is certainly

aware of the plan to provide additional sewer capacity. They aren't specifically aware of how the two projects work together," he said. "This meeting will give the experts with municipal services the opportunity to explain it."

According to Yack, despite the fact that some residents are opposing the plan, recent surveys suggest residents as a whole want more recreation trails in the township.

"I admit, I've never been a big supporter of recreation trails. But if I have one regret over my 20 years here, it is that we never had the vision to connect our parks and trails in the community. I'm a believer now," he said. "I just look at all the people who will benefit from this."

Yack said the meeting will work the way all study sessions

do. First, there will be a presentation of the project, which will be followed by questions from board members. Once those questions are answered, the board will take questions and comments from the public.

Yack said no action will be taken on the issue at the study session, but it is possible the issue will be voted on at the next regular board meeting, which is scheduled for Jan. 2.

The study session is open to the public and will begin at 7 p.m. at Canton's Administration Building located at 1150 Canton Center. For more information regarding the Dec. 5 study session please call Canton Municipal Services at (734) 394-5160.

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

## Car theft suspect to face charges in holdups

A 24-year-old Westland man, arrested by Canton police Wednesday on a car theft charge, will also face charges in several armed robberies including a Nov. 7 purse-snatching at gunpoint outside the Meijer store on Middlebelt.

In that incident, a woman was approached by a man wearing a ski mask, who pointed a gun, grabbed her purse and ran to a Ford Taurus for his getaway.

A Taurus had been reported at as many as a half-dozen robberies of parking lot attendants in Detroit and the holdup in Livonia - but often the car had different license plates on it, according to Lt. Greg Winn of the Livonia Police Department. He said police believe several

stolen license plate reports could be attributed to the suspect.

The arrest in Canton came in the parking lot of Basketball Planet, police reported, and followed the theft of a cell phone and set of keys from a backpack during the day Tuesday.

The suspect, who apparently had been playing basketball, apparently stole the car, but left behind a Taurus in the lot. Police kept watch and arrested the man when he returned at 1:30 a.m. the next morning to claim the vehicle.

In the car, they found a pellet gun and license plate stolen from Livonia two weeks after the Nov. 7 robbery.

By Dave Varga

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## The pain of fibromyalgia is no picnic.



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## SHOP CANTON

The Canton Chamber of Commerce, in conjunction with the Downtown Development Authority and Canton Leisure Services, will be promoting the Shop Canton Holiday Fest Marketing Initiative at Canton Corners Shopping Center (corner of Lilley and Ford Road) from noon-3 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 9. Santa will be on hand to visit with the little ones as well as accept donations of canned goods, new children's books and new clothing to help support Canton Goodfellows. Parents are invited to bring their cameras and take holiday pictures. Every person that visits Santa will receive a gift bag with coupons from area businesses for the parents and treats for the kids. After visiting Santa you can enjoy strolling carolers as well as specialty entertainment artists, window painting, face painting, coloring contest and many more fun activities for young and old. For more information about this event, including business sponsorship at the event, contact Dianne Cojeli at the Canton Chamber of Commerce at (734) 453-4040 or e-mail her at [dianne@cantorchamber.com](mailto:dianne@cantorchamber.com).

## Read Observer Sports

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## Wayne County health department comes to Westland to do free lead testing

BY DARRELL CLEM  
STAFF WRITER

Responding to concerns that elevated levels of lead in Central City Park may have posed a health threat, Wayne County officials will bring free blood testing to Westland.

County health department employees will provide testing 3-6 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 6, and 9 a.m. to noon Wednesday, Dec. 13, at the Bailey Recreation Center, said Assistant Wayne County Executive Alan Helmkamp.

The move came in response to requests from parents and city leaders after it was publicly revealed in early November that the park has elevated levels of lead, specifically in the western ball diamonds.

"We heard the requests of the people and the mayor and the City Council - loud and clear," Helmkamp said.

Some parents fear that children who played on the ball fields could have been exposed to potentially harmful levels of lead, although officials have called it unlikely.

City, county and state officials have indicated that children wouldn't likely have spent enough time in the park to encounter a serious health threat.

Nonetheless, Helmkamp said blood testing will be brought to the Bailey Center, located behind Westland City Hall on Ford Road east of Newburgh.

Helmkamp and Mayor Sandra Cicirelli announced the plan on Tuesday - 12 days after parents attended a public meeting and criticized officials for remaining silent about soil tests from as early as 1999.

"I am happy to be able to announce that the Wayne County Health Department has agreed to perform testing on Westland youth and adults at no cost," Cicirelli said Tuesday, calling the tests "fairly painless."

Children 6 months old to 18 years old will be tested by pricking the skin of a finger and taking a small blood sample, Helmkamp said. Blood will be drawn the usual way for people over 18, he said.

Walk-ins will be welcome,

but Helmkamp urged anyone who wants to lock in a specific time to call (734) 727-7056.

"If people are in the building and in line by closing time, they will be served," he said.

Adults involved with youth athletic groups, such as Little League baseball, are encouraged to talk with their teams and consider calling to reserve a block of time, Helmkamp said.

"They can call on behalf of a group," he said.

People who call for appointments will be given priority over walk-ins when their time slot comes up, Helmkamp said.

Meanwhile, officials early this week were awaiting the latest round of soil tests that will give them a better indication of how to proceed with cleaning up Central City Park. Any plan will require approval from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality.

For now, the park remains closed except for a paved walking path.

dclem@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2110

## Owner of illegal animal trap sought

BY SUE MASON  
STAFF WRITER

Westland Animal Control Officer Frank Raymore is hoping someone will provide information about the owner of an illegal line trap that was on the leg of cat found wandering around a landscaping business last Wednesday.

The cat, dubbed Faith by employees at the Michigan Humane Society's Berman Center for Animal Care in Westland, was found at Phillips Landscaping on Warren east of Middlebelt. Employees at the business called Raymore, saying the animal had wandered in during the night and was "wandering around with a piece of iron on its leg."

"They didn't even know it was a trap," he said. Raymore believes Faith got caught in the trap in Hines Park, an area where he has found at least six similar traps in the past three years. This is the first time he's come upon one with an animal, especially a live one, in the trap. In the past, he's discovered animals parts, like a raccoon leg, left after the animal gnawed it off to escape from the trap.

"Absolutely, there's someone trapping down

there," he said. "It's county property and hard to patrol. I've pulled traps out of there, but never found anyone setting or checking the traps."

Berman Center Manager Marcy Sieggreen said Faith is lucky to have been found quickly. Her leg was badly swollen, but that had gone down enough Thursday afternoon to do X-rays. It was discovered that the leg was fractured. Surgery is planned to stabilize the leg.

"She's in pretty good shape, she's likely an indoor cat," said Sieggreen.

"She had a flea collar on, I'm positive she's someone's pet," added Raymore.

Raymore said the trap is "very, very old," possibly dating back to the 1950s. He added that while "the potential is always there" for people to get caught in the traps, they're usually set in secluded places in the park away from paths.

Raymore is investigating the incident in hopes of identifying the owner of the trap. That person could face up to 93 days in jail and a \$500 fine for animal cruelty as well as state violations.

"The DNR prohibits trapping without permit and license," Raymore said.

People with information should contact the Berman Center at (734) 721-7300.

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## Parade shows us something for which we can be thankful

Actually, I don't love a parade. That is, until I went to the Detroit Thanksgiving Day parade downtown. It was the first time in 25 years I had seen the parade in person. The last time I saw it, I was in it. I worked for Blue Cross at the time and I walked with our team, taking pictures for the company magazine.



Greg Kowalski

It was cold, gray and miserable, which is pretty much what I expected for a November day in Michigan. And that particular parade was dimly small and dreary.

This Thanksgiving Day parade could not have been more different. The weather was superb, chilly but not at all uncomfortable. But it wasn't the weather that warmed my heart as I sat alongside Woodward Avenue. It was the hundreds of thousands of people who sat next to me.

There were people everywhere. The sidewalks were crowded, the parking structure by Second City was filled with people at all levels overlooking the street. The whole area was jammed.

The parade itself was delightful. There was an assortment of creative floats and I was pleased to see the familiar maroon uniforms of the Seaholm Dance Team, which took part in the parade for the first time this year.

Looking down Woodward toward downtown, the floats, balloons, crowds and even the street itself drifted into a mist of fine haze and glowing sunlight that enveloped the cityscape. It was an almost surrealistic scene.

It is something I will never forget in what's left of my life. (I just had another birthday.)

That morning, all of downtown was brimming with life.

Much has been written about the need to revitalize downtown Detroit. In fact, much already has been done to accomplish that. New developments are going up all around the downtown area. In some cases, neighborhoods are changing from week to week as decayed buildings are torn down and new developments go up.

I've had occasion to spend a fair amount of time in the downtown area in the past year

for some projects I have been working on. Surely, there are a lot of rough edges there, but I have come to see that Detroit really isn't dying, as I once thought it was.

And so many people still do.

Living south of Eight Mile myself, I constantly encounter the perception that (1) I must be crazy to live there; (2) I am certainly going to be robbed and murdered; and (3) the town is filled with (horrors!) black people.

Yes, my friends, people have said exactly that to me. Well, not exactly. They generally don't say "black people."

I might be crazy, but I don't think that has anything to do with where I live. I'll take my chances on the robbery and murder part and I am glad to share my neighborhood with black people as well as anyone else who cares about their community.

What I saw at the Thanksgiving Day parade was something to be genuinely thankful for: All kinds of people of many sizes, ages, shapes and colors were having fun together.

They saw past the perception that so many of us have of Detroit.

A few weeks ago, we welcomed to our offices in Birmingham representatives of a new group called One D: Transforming Regional Detroit, a consortium of high-level organizations including New Detroit and Detroit Renaissance, among others, which has been formed to address the city's many problems from a regional perspective.

Following that meeting, I sent a rather long e-mail to one of the people in the group outlining a perspective of what they are facing from someone who deals with urban issues on a daily basis.

My point is that the answers to Detroit's problems can only be found on the streets of Detroit. Realistic resolutions will not be generated in corporate board rooms or news rooms in Birmingham.

But from what I saw from ground level on Woodward Thanksgiving Day, I would say One D has a fighting chance to accomplish something good.

Greg Kowalski is editor of the *Birmingham Eccentric*. He can be reached at (248) 901-2570 or by e-mail at gkowalski@hometownlife.com.

## Choose hope in the face of hardship to aid our great state

Jennifer Granholm will be the governor of the state of Michigan for four more years. The race was close. But in the end, Michigan voters blamed the failed economy on Washington and not on Lansing. If the Big Three are failing and Michigan's economy is the worst in the nation, it is part of a larger problem tied to the economy of the entire nation.



Rabbi Tamara Kolton

I, for one, am very relieved that Gov. Granholm was re-elected. But I am not naive. Gov. Granholm has a tremendous amount of work to do.

Recently, I had lunch with the governor. Along with about 20 other women, we gathered together to speak to her about what we felt were the top priority issues on the minds of women voters. In the last two weeks of what was turning out to be a close election, the governor was interested in hearing what was on the minds of women leaders in the community. I was honored and excited to speak and listen to key issues facing Michigan.

Gov. Granholm sat informally, poised on the hearth of a fireplace, listening to women speak. One woman spoke about the need to support women who head their households. These women must work and take care of their children often with little or no support. Another discussed the need to increase elder care. Yet another brought up the concern of trans-fat poisoning our children's food. The issues swarmed the room. Gov. Granholm assured us that they were all on her agenda. From health care to environmental care, she would tend to them all.

It was almost my turn to address her. What did I want to say? What would be my unique contribution to this conversation? I wanted my words to have impact. I did indeed have many concerns. I was concerned about poverty and the many families that will be facing hunger this year. I was concerned about drug use and child molestation, both of which Michigan rates amongst the highest in the nation. I was there as a rabbi. I decided to talk about healing.

As Jews, we believe that we are born into a broken world and that it is our responsibility to heal the world. We call this Tikkun Olam. Certainly Michigan is in a state of brokenness. It used to be that the country saw the city of Detroit as broken, but now the nation sees the entire state of Michigan as broken. Michigan now has a national reputation of a wounded animal. The problem is that no one wants to go near, let alone relocate their family near, a wounded animal.

The most important thing that we need to do as a state is to begin to behave as a healthy and strong animal. We are not victims. We are a

strong and beautiful state. Above all, we have this incredible natural resource of fresh water and we can be givers. What we need is one big idea to create a momentum of healing, to give the giant boulder the first big shove in the right direction. Let us pair with a country in the world that needs water. Let us donate money and expertise to nurture a village in need of a water project. In many places in the world, girls under the age of 13 spend most of the day fetching fresh water for their families. They walk long distances with the greatest threat to them being not heat or disease, but rape.

Michigan can rebuild its image and help these villages at the same time. Let us be "The Fresh Water State Bringing Water to the World." I know it is not in our state budget. Maybe a donor would step forward? It is a great project for a great philanthropist or cooperative who cares deeply about our state and the state of our world.

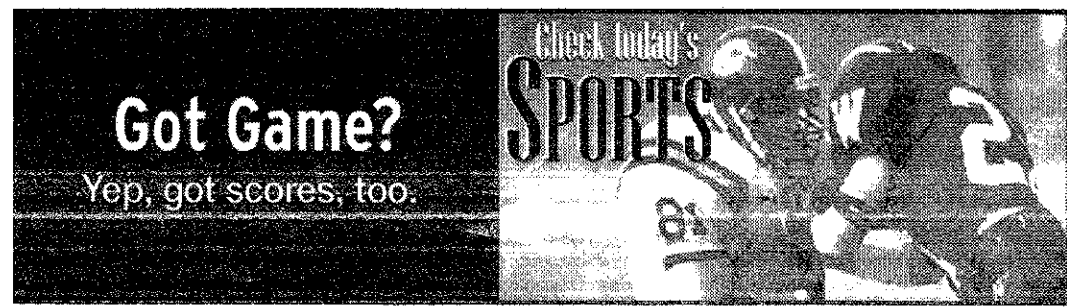
Let us behave as a strong and healthy animal. Not the broken one. Not the victim. Not the wounded animal. But the beautiful and great state of Michigan.

In Judaism, we believe that no matter how bad you have it, you have to give Tzedaka. Even if you take Tzedaka, you have to give Tzedaka. Through the process of giving back, you affirm your dignity.

Jennifer Granholm has another four years. Let us stand behind her and our great state of Michigan. We are not victims. We are not wounded animals. We are living in a beautiful state with many opportunities.

Optimism is a choice. Choosing to affirm hope does not mean that you are naive or Pollyanna. It can mean that you are a realist. No one wants to board a sinking ship. If everyone in the nation believes that Michigan is going down, no one will climb aboard. We need a major image overhaul. We are not dying in hard times out here in the Midwest. We are living through hard times. There is light at the end of the tunnel. It is the light of good leadership, human ingenuity and citizens who choose hope.

Rabbi Tamara Kolton is the rabbi at The Birmingham Temple, located in Farmington Hills.



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# Governor calls new tax plan a win-win for state

BY ALEX LUNDBERG  
STAFF WRITER

Because voters wanted to revamp the way the state taxes business, the governor's office has announced a new plan which will change the dynamics of the tax structure while providing the same level of funding for state programs.

The Michigan Business Tax is Gov. Jennifer Granholm's replacement for the Single Business Tax set to sunset in the autumn of 2007.

The MBT, if approved, will

generate revenue by a tax gross receipts, assets which will be taxed at 0.125 percent and business income which will be taxed at 1.85 percent. Gov. Granholm said the new tax fills the bill.

The bill also changes the apportionment formula. Under the Granholm proposal, the MBT will be based 100 percent on a firm's percentage of Michigan sales, compared to the SBT which is based 92.5 percent on sales and 3.75 percent on payroll and property. The governor's office estimates

that Michigan businesses will receive a \$150 million tax cut.

Industrial and commercial businesses will receive a 46 percent personal property tax cut.

The new tax would eliminate the tax on payroll, benefits and health care.

Businesses with less than \$350,000 in gross receipts are not subject to taxation. The MBT would be phased in for businesses earning between \$350,000 and \$750,000.

Technology companies would receive a \$125 million tax cut.

Some businesses will see tax increases. Taxes would increase for insurance companies, banks and investment firms. Insurers will pay a tax of 1.25 percent instead of the current 1.07 percent and credits would be eliminated.

"The Michigan Business Tax is win-win," she said in a press release. "It's a competitive, pro-growth tax that will benefit more than three-fourths of businesses while protecting



Gov. Jennifer Granholm delivers her State of the State address to the Legislature.

funding for critical programs."

The SBT was unpopular with business owners because it essentially created a kind of value added tax. The SBT was originally considered to be groundbreaking when first launched in the '70s but almost everyone agrees it had outlived its usefulness.

While Gov. Granholm and others in state government were amenable to seeing the tax changed, she was concerned that the revenues it generated, nearly \$2 billion,



Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson.

were replaced.

The SBT's annual revenues represented about 22 percent of the state's revenues, or the equivalent of everything the state spent on higher education or corrections.

Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson agitated for a repeal of the SBT in his 2006 State of the County Address and spearheaded a successful ballot initiative to get rid of it before its scheduled sunset in 2009. He said the tax represented a disincentive for businesses to locate or expand in Michigan.

Patterson didn't specify what should be done to replace the revenues. He did-

n't even specify that all of the revenues should be replaced in a new tax structure. He said less than the full amount, by several hundred million dollars, could be replaced and the rest of the funds could be raised by attracting new businesses to the state. He called the difference in funds "room to grow."

He said while parts of the Granholm proposal are good ideas, there's a poison pill in the mix.

"The asset tax would rival the SBT as a disincentive to do business in Michigan," Patterson said. "The financial sector in Oakland County is one of our fastest growing areas and this would kill that business. There's \$34 billion in assets that would be taxable."

Based on that, he said the new tax is dead on arrival if it retains the asset tax provisions. He said it would change.

"I think the legislation will take parts of the plan and some suggestion from some chambers of commerce and craft a better plan," Patterson said. "But it's not going to fly the way it is."

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## Schoolcraft College board acts to fill vacancy

The Schoolcraft College Trustee Kevin McNamara has resigned his position on the board effective Dec. 31. In January McNamara will become assume his position as on the Wayne County Commission.

The Schoolcraft College Board of Trustees is now taking applications to fill McNamara's position. The deadline for filing is 4 p.m., Monday, Dec. 11. Applications are available from the Office of the President, Room 190, Administration Center, at Schoolcraft College's campus in Livonia between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.

The Board will interview candidates Dec. 16, and the new board member will be seated at the board's Jan. 24, 2007, meeting. The term for this appointment covers the period of Jan. 1, 2007 through June 30, 2007.

The person chosen and any others who may be interested in being elected for a full six-year term on May 8, 2007, must file nominating petitions by 4 p.m., Feb. 13, 2007, with the Livonia City Clerk's Office. In order to be considered for appointment candidates must be willing to run for the office in the May 8 election.

To be considered a candidate for the position, an applicant must be a registered voter and a resident of the Schoolcraft College district, which includes Plymouth-Canton, Garden City, Livonia, Northville, Clarenceville and part of the Novi school districts. The seven-member board meets once a month, with members serving six-year terms.

Schoolcraft College is a public two-year college, offering classes at the Livonia campus on Haggerty Road between Six Mile and Seven Mile roads, at the Radcliff Center in Garden City and online.



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

*Daniel J. Loepp*

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

*Jeanne Carlson*

Jeanne Carlson  
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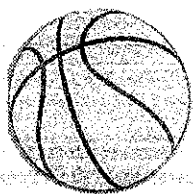
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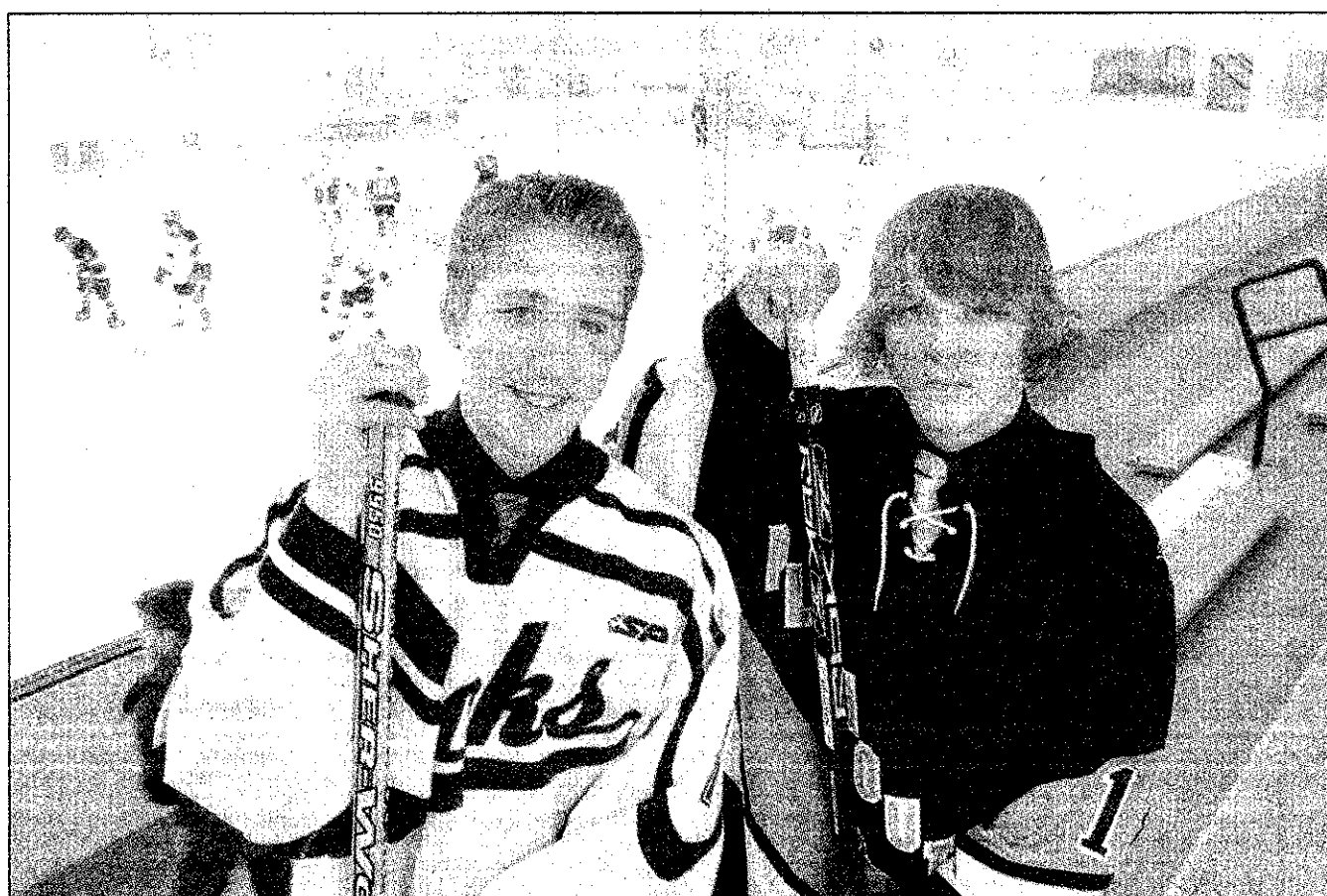


# SPORTS

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Brothers Ralph (left) and Noel-Charles Aspenwall got the rare opportunity to face each other Tuesday night in Plymouth's 3-1 hockey victory over Salem. Ralph is a senior goalie for the Rocks; Noel-Charles is a freshman forward for the Wildcats.

## Oh, brother!

Aspenwalls face off in rare sibling-vs.-sibling showdown

BY ED WRIGHT  
STAFF WRITER

Only one person stood between Plymouth freshman hockey player Noel-Charles Aspenwall and a dazzling, break-away goal during the Wildcats' game against Salem Tuesday night at the Plymouth Cultural Center.

That one person was Ralph Aspenwall, the Rocks' senior goalie who also happens to be Noel-Charles' older brother.

In a classic case of on-ice sibling rivalry that is rarely seen at any level of athletic competition, Ralph denied his little brother of a goal — and the good-natured in-house bragging rights that would have surely followed.

"I made a solid shot, but he made a good save on it," said Noel-Charles, recalling the break-away opportunity. "I had two other shots at a wide-open net that game, but I fanned on both of them."

"It was kind of weird playing against my brother, but it was fun, too."

Despite a 22-save night from Ralph Aspenwall, the Wildcats prevailed, 3-1, to improve to 3-0.

PLEASE SEE **BROTHERS, B2**

### FAMILY TIES

When Ralph and Noel-Charles Aspenwall played against one another Tuesday night, they were just the latest set of athletic brothers to face off in an official game. Here are a few siblings that have done likewise in professional sports:

- **NFL:** New York Giants running back Tiki Barber and his twin brother Rhonde, a cornerback for the Tampa Bay Buccaneers.
- **NHL:** Boston Bruins forward Phil Esposito and his younger brother Tony, a Chicago Blackhawks goaltender.
- **MLB:** Atlanta Braves Hall-of-Fame pitcher Phil Niekro and his younger brother Joe, a former Detroit Tigers and Houston Astros hurler; and
- **NBA:** San Antonio Spurs guard Brent Barry and his younger brothers Drew and Jon, a former Piston.

## Whalers double-up Saginaw

Chris Terry's tip-in of a Leo Jenner shot at 9:15 of the second period snapped a 2-2 tie and the Plymouth Whalers went on to defeat the Saginaw Spirit, 4-2, in an Ontario Hockey League game played Friday night at Compuware Sports Arena.

Plymouth, which has won seven of its last nine games, improved to 15-10-1-0, good for 31 points. The Whalers are eight points behind Saginaw, which remains in first place in the West with a record of 19-9-0-1 (39 points). Plymouth has beaten Saginaw in three of the four games played so far this season.

Besides Terry's sixth goal of the season, the Whalers received a pair of lamp-lighters from first star and Columbus Blue Jackets draft choice Jared Boll, who now has eight goals on the season, and a single goal from Chicago-drafted Evan Brophey, who now has nine goals this year.

Plymouth did well defensively, killing off all five Saginaw power plays while receiving excellent efforts from defensemen Zack Shepley (the game's third star), Brett Bellemore and Los Angeles-drafted Ryan McGinnis.

After the teams traded two goals apiece in the first period, Terry scored the game-winner when he capped good Plymouth pressure deep in the Saginaw zone.

Terry's linemates — John Armstrong and Joe McCann — worked well deep in the Saginaw zone to win battles for the puck.

Armstrong was stationed along the left boards in the Saginaw zone when he found Jenner in the high slot. Jenner's low shot was tipped by Terry at the right lip of the Saginaw crease past Spirit goaltender Ryan Daniels.

Plymouth outshot Saginaw, 41-27. Whalers goaltender Michal Neuvirth stopped 25 of 27 Saginaw shots for his eighth victory of the season and third against Saginaw. Daniels played well in goal for Saginaw, stopping 37-of-41 Plymouth shots.

The Whalers complete a busy weekend at 3 p.m. Sunday at Guelph.

## Sidelines

### 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:

- **U14-U17** — noon to 1:30 p.m.;
- **U9 and U10** — 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m.;
- **U11 and U12** — 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.; and
- **U13** — 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m.

For more information contact Brian Samulski at (734) 414-0425 or Fred Thomann at (734) 484-7746.

### MU duo recognized

Madonna University's junior infielder Darrel Quinn (Fowlerville) and senior forward Pat Griffin (Redford Catholic Central) were both named as recipients of the 2006 NAIA Honorable Mention All-American awards in men's soccer.

Quinn also earned mention as a member of the 2006 NAIA Daktronics Scholar-Athlete team.

Griffin led the Crusaders in total points, racking up 27 during the season with a team high 10 goals along with seven assists, while finishing second overall in the race for the conference scoring title.

Griffin tallied four game-winning goals, including the game winner against Siena Heights in the conference semifinals, while seeing action in 18 of MU's 19 contests this year.

Quinn anchored the Crusaders midfield during the season, playing in 18 of Madonna's 19 games. He scored three goals and added two assists for a total of eight points while helping Madonna to a Region VIII semifinal appearance.

### Iaquaniello signs

Plymouth resident and Dearborn Divine Child student Maria Iaquaniello has signed a letter-of-intent to play basketball at Western Michigan University beginning in the fall of 2007.

Iaquaniello averaged 14 points and six rebounds a game this past season for the Falcons.

### ALL ABOUT THE ROCKS

- **Head coach** — Bob Brodie (22nd year);
- **2005-06 record** — 6-15 (2nd place in WLAA Lakes Division);
- **Players lost to graduation** — Billy Leddy and Joe Halewicz;
- **Starting five** — Grant Stone (6-5 Jr. F); Kevin Burleigh (5-10 Sr. G); Jierah Dixon (5-8 Sr. G); J.P. Truesdell (6-3 Sr. C); and Dan Cassidy (6-2 Sr. F).
- **Coach Brodie's outlook** — "We're not real big, but we're quick and we have a lot of experience back," said Brodie. "This team also seems to have good chemistry. They played a lot together this past summer and they had a good pre-season."

## Quick, athletic Rocks look to reverse last year's 6-15 mark

BY ED WRIGHT  
STAFF WRITER

Like David many years before it, the Salem boys basketball team will be relying heavily on a "Stone" to take down some Goliath-like opponents this season.

Junior Grant Stone, the Rocks' leading scorer last season (12.0 points per game), won't carry a slingshot onto the court, but he's definitely equipped with a more accurate jump shot than David ever had. And based on his average of six rebounds per game last season, the 6-foot-5 swingman would do a nice job of boxing David out around the glass, too.

"Grant is a very versatile player," said Salem coach Bob Brodie, who is entering his

22nd year of leading the Rocks. "We can put him on the perimeter and he can post up inside, too. He's 6-5, but he plays bigger than that because of his jumping ability."

"Grant played a lot of AAU ball this past summer against some great competition, so that should help him this season. We just need him to get a little bit more assertive."

The Rocks are coming off a 6-15 season that saw them finish second behind Walled Lake Central in the Western Lakes Activities Association's Lakes Division. While Brodie will miss graduated starters Billy Leddy and Joe Halewicz, he can find solace in knowing that several players are returning who saw a healthy number of minutes during the

PLEASE SEE **ROCKS, B2**



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Sophomore forward Courtney Frazier goes up for a contested layup during a Salem basketball practice earlier this week. The Rocks are looking to improve on last season's 6-15 record.

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## ROCKS

FROM PAGE B1

2005-06 campaign.

"We're not real big, but we're quick and we have a lot of experience back," said Brodie. "This team also seems to have good chemistry. They played a lot together this past summer and they had a good preseason."

A quartet of seniors will join Stone in the starting line-up. Kevin Burleigh (5-10) will handle the point-guard duties while Jierah Dixon (5-8) will man the two-guard spot.

"Kevin is very quick and he does a nice job of quarterbacking our offense," said Brodie. "He worked hard on his jump since last season, so his shooting range has increased. He's also a lot stronger, which will help him defensively."

"Jierah has good quickness and he can shoot. He can handle the point, too, if need be."

Patrolling the baseline for the Rocks will be 6-2 small forward Dan Cassidy and 6-3 power forward J.P. Truesdell, both of whom logged big-time minutes last season.

"Dan is a great shooter and a smooth player inside," said Brodie. "He's extremely quick and he can play out on the perimeter if we need him to."

"J.P. is our defensive specialist inside. He's a rugged player who's strong on the glass. He has some good power moves inside, too."

Among those players who will see ample playing time coming off the bench will be 5-8 senior guard Mike Marek, 6-3 junior forward Ross Davis and 6-7 senior center Brian Baumgart.

"Mike is extremely quick and he's an excellent ball handler, so he'll be playing a lot at the point," said Brodie. "He's one of best defensive guards, too."

"Ross is a lot like Grant in that he's very versatile. He can post up the big guys, plus he has good range with his jump shot. He's an excellent passer as well."

"Brian will give us a big defensive presence inside."

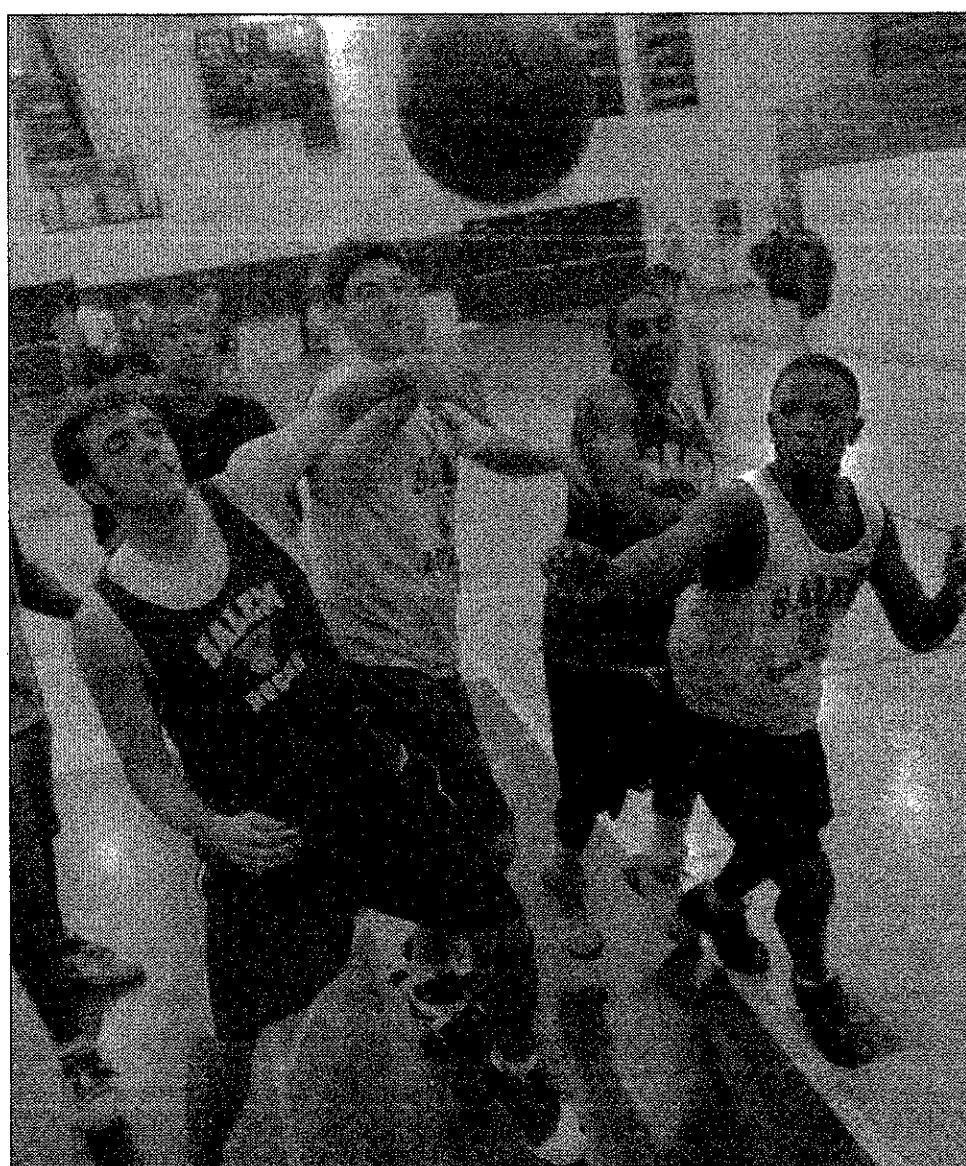
Others who will be counted on to make key contributions to the Rocks' fortunes this season are juniors Tyler Jeleniewski (5-10 guard), Kevin deBear (6-1 forward/guard) and Matt Dybas (6-4 forward); and sophomores Anthony Mullins (5-11 guard) and Courtney Frazier (6-6 forward).

Brodie predicted the WLAA will be as competitive as ever.

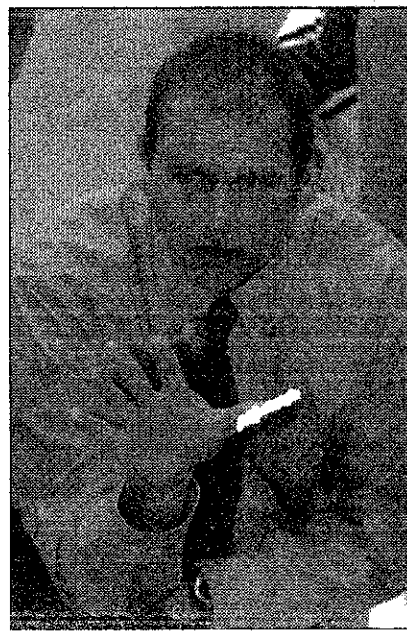
"This league seems to get tougher and tougher every year," said the veteran coach. "Northville went 20-0 last year and they have their best player — Alvin Storrs — back, so they'll be the favorite going in. But Canton will be tough and I think John Glenn will be much improved, too."

Salem opens its season Tuesday when it hosts Redford Union. Tip-off is set for 7 p.m.

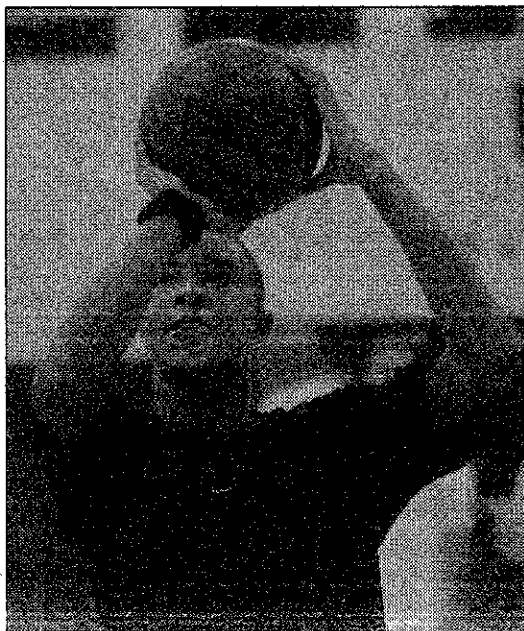
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J.P. Truesdell, Grant Stone, Matt Dybas, Kevin Burleigh and Anthony Mullins fight for a loose ball during a Salem basketball practice last week.



Salem Coach Bob Brodie returns for his 22nd season at the helm.



Junior Grant Stone is the Rocks' leading returning scorer (12.0 per game).

PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

# Chief icers edged in their 1st game with new coach

BY RYAN DOHERTY  
CORRESPONDENT

PREP HOCKEY

After dropping their season opener a week ago to Novi-Detroit Catholic Central 4-3, Livonia Churchill head coach Pete Mazzoni said he was worried that the long layoff between games might affect his team Friday night as the Chargers took on Canton at the Arctic Edge Arena.

And after a sluggish first period Mazzoni's team got their legs back to game speed just in time as they held on to beat Canton 2-1.

The game was the first for the Chiefs under the tutelage of new coach Dan Abraham, who replaced Mike Behen just two games into the campaign. (See Thursday's *Observer* for details on the coaching change.)

Churchill, 1-1 overall, also took to the ice without their captain, fourth-year defenseman Phil Wendecker, who sat out Friday's game with what he described as a pulled stomach muscle.

Wendecker, who played through the injury against the loss to CCC, said his physician told him to take a week off from hockey after a visit to his office on Monday.

"It's a big loss for us," Mazzoni said. "When you lose a guy who can carry the puck and also logs a lot of minutes you just hope some other players step up and our defensemen did that tonight."

Wendecker also quarterbacked the Charger power play. "We hope to have Phil back on Monday or Tuesday once he gets the clearance from his doctor," Mazzoni added.

Meanwhile, the Chargers outshot the Chiefs 11-4 in the first period.

Churchill's Kyle Burke opened the scoring at the 8:45 mark of as he took a nice pass out of the corner from teammate Kody Strong, and wristed a shot over the glove of Canton goalie Kevin Swanberg, giving the Chargers a 1-0 lead.

Senior Steve Greco also drew an assist on Burke's goal.

Not to be outdone, the Chiefs fired back 29 seconds later as sophomore Ryan Lash tapped a rolling puck past Charger goalie Scott Lewan.

Canton sophomore forward Mark Barath fired a shot towards Lewan from between the hash marks, and as Lewan leaned back to search for the puck, Lash stepped in to even

the score up at 1-all. Sophomore Ryan May got the assist.

Canton, winless in three starts, struggled at times Friday night clearing the puck out of their zone, and Abraham said his players are starting to adjust to his coaching philosophy.

"I'm happy at this point to be able to stay within one goal of a team like Churchill," he said. "With the caliber of players they have, they're a potential state champion team in my opinion."

The Chargers continued to pressure the Chiefs as the second period got underway, and Swanberg made by far his best save of the game at the midway point.

The junior netminder slid across the crease and kicked out his right leg to stop a point blank shot off the stick of Charger forward Matt Heinzelman.

"He (Swanberg) stood his ground real well and came out and challenged shots tonight," said Mazzoni.

Swanberg stopped 30 shots in his first start of the season.

"I feel confident that we have two goalies who will put us in a position to win some close games this season," Abraham said.

Swanberg didn't get much help from his teammates offensively either, as the Chiefs failed to register a single shot on goal in the middle period.

Churchill on the other hand peppered Swanberg with 14 shots in the second, but couldn't get one past him as the teams entered the final period 1-1.

With 7:03 left in the game Churchill's Dustin Wischmeyer found the loose puck after a scramble in front of Swanberg. The sophomore slid the go ahead goal under a sprawling Canton netminder to put the Chargers up for good, 2-1.

Tony Ross and Jason Proctor assisted on the goal.

"I really liked our effort in the second and third period," Mazzoni said, "but we just have to work on putting some more pucks in the net."

Canton, despite being outshot in the game 32-7, had an opportunity to tie the game up on a late power play, but were unable to capitalize.

The Chiefs squandered four man-advantages Friday night.

## BROTHERS

FROM PAGE B1

"Before the game, both of us told our teammates what our brother's weaknesses were," joked Ralph Aspenwall. "After the game, we met at center ice and told each other, 'good game' and talked a little bit. It was definitely different knowing my brother was out trying to score against me."

The brother-on-brother showdown was made possible two years ago when Noel-Charles decided to put his name back in the hat instead of automatically attending Salem like his brother.

"At the time, Ralph was playing AAA hockey, so I didn't think we'd ever get a chance to play together in high school," said Noel-Charles. "A lot of my friends drew Canton so I decided to re-draw, and I drew Plymouth."

"Before last season, Ralph decided to play high school hockey. It would have been cool to have been able to play on the same team, but it was too late for me to change back to Salem."

Not surprisingly, the game was agonizing to some degree for the players' parents, Valire and Ralph, who didn't want to show partiality to either of their sons.

**The brother-on-brother showdown was made possible two years ago when Noel-Charles decided to put his name back in the hat instead of automatically attending Salem like his brother.**

"We were hoping the game would end in a tie," admitted Valire. "My seat in the stands was right on the red line for all three periods and my husband sat right in front of me, so we didn't favor either team. It was hard because you want to see both of your sons do well."

"I was more nervous than I usually am for a game," said Ralph Aspenwall, the players' father. "But I was more proud, too, seeing them both out on the ice at the same time like that."

The Aspenwalls' parents will be sitting on the red line at least one more time this season.

"Salem and Plymouth play again on February 2 at Compuware, so we get to do it all over again," Valire Aspenwall said.

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2006-07 Prep Hoop Preview

# Return to Regional not out of question for talented Chiefs

BY ED WRIGHT  
STAFF WRITER

The last time we saw the Canton boys basketball team in action, Andre Bridges was leading the Chiefs to a near upset of state power Orchard Lake St. Mary's in a mid-March Division 1 Regional final showdown at Troy Athens High School.

Bridges has since graduated, but many of his tall, talented friends have returned in an effort to help lead coach Charlie Paye's squad back to the Regionals and beyond.

"We have 10 seniors back from last year's team, so we have a lot of veteran experience this year," said Paye, whose team peaked late to post an 18-7 mark in 2005-06. "Two of our returners — Steve (Paye) and Ryan (Waidmann) — are three-year varsity players, so we'll be looking to them for leadership.

"Our strengths are probably our size and our athleticism. We have a lot of players who can get up and down the court, too."

The Chiefs' starting front-court is as tall and talented as any other in the Western Lakes Activities Association, if not the entire metropolitan Detroit area. Led by the 6-5 Paye (9 points, 5.5 rebounds last year), the 6-7 Waidmann (11 and 6, respectively) and 6-4 junior Neil Sharma, most opponents will feel short-changed when they try to match up with the Redwood-like team.

"Steve is playing very relaxed so far," said Charlie Paye. "I think it helped him playing football this fall and getting away from basketball for a while. Steve and 'Waid' work together extremely well around the basket.

"Ryan's always been tough to stop around the basket, but he's improved his shot even more during the off-season. He can go out 10 feet from the basket now and knock it down consistently. He's quicker than a lot of players his size.

"Neil is a good shooter and he's gotten quicker since last year, which will help him defensively. He's a good rebounder who's not afraid to go back up with it."

The Chiefs' starting back-court will be manned by a pair of seniors:

iors: slick-dribbling, smooth-shooting point guard Josh Butler (5-11) and hustling, defensive-minded Eric Zech (6-0).

"Josh jumps and shoots extremely well, and he can distribute the ball," said Paye. "He's one of those kids who's in great shape, too, so he can play all 32 minutes if we need him to.

"Eric is a very good defensive player. He's one of those kids who never stops. He's improved his shot over the summer, too. Eric is one of our better passers and he runs the court well."

Leading the Chiefs' reserve unit is a trio of — what else? — seniors: Caleb Lerner (6-0 forward), Ryan Langdon (6-0 guard) and Eric Thornton, a 6-6 forward.

"Caleb isn't real tall, but he's strong and he has a quick release inside," said Paye. "Even though he's not as big as most of the guys who are guarding him, he doesn't get his shot blocked a lot.

"Ryan will be our first guard off the bench. He's very good defensively. He'll get after you.

"Eric is one of the few kids we have who can play above the rim. He's a great jumper, he can shoot the three and he runs the court well."

The next wave of Canton reserves consists of seniors Devy Jackson (6-0 forward), Pete Boucher (5-10 guard) and Nick Vukcevic (6-3 forward).

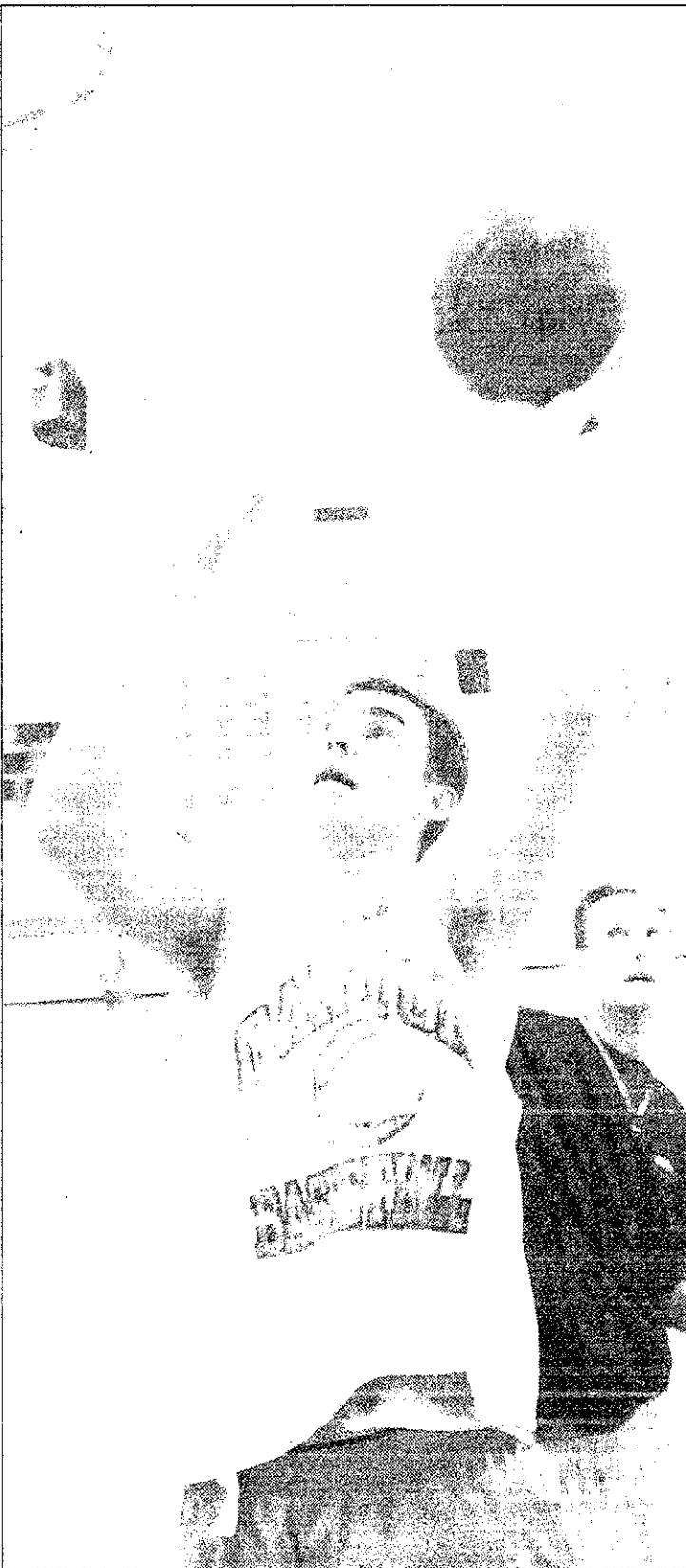
"They all played a lot this summer and they all played well," said Paye.

Also counted on to make contributions for the Chiefs will be a quartet of juniors: Chris Bailey (6-1 forward), Brody Coplai (5-11 guard), Ryan Seely (6-0 forward) and Will Tidwell (6-4 forward).

"Northville and Walled Lake Central will be tough again," Paye said, sizing up the race for the 2006-07 WLAA title. "John Glenn should be tough, too, with Dan Young taking over as the new coach.

"I like our team, too. It's a good group of guys and they get along and work hard."

Canton opens the 2006-07 campaign Tuesday at Monroe. The opening tip is set for 7 p.m.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton coach Charlie Paye (background) will be counting on senior center Ryan Waidmann to produce in the paint this season for the Chiefs, who advanced all the way to the Class A Regional final last season.



Junior Neil Sharma gives the Chiefs great ball-handling skills and a smooth outside shooting touch.

### ALL ABOUT THE CHIEFS

- Head coach — Charlie Paye (4th year);
- 2005-06 record — 18-7 (advanced to Regional final);
- Players lost to graduation — Andre Bridges, Rob Eppler and Andy Larsen;
- Starting five — Ryan Waidmann (6-7 Sr. C); Steve Paye (6-5 Sr. F); Neil Sharma (6-4 Jr. F); Josh Butler (5-11 Sr. G); and Eric Zech (6-0 Sr. G).
- Coach Paye's outlook — "We have 10 seniors back from last year's team, so we have a lot of veteran experience this year. Our strengths are probably our size and our athleticism. We have a lot of players who can get up and down the court, too."

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# Sanaldo earns MISL honors

The Major Indoor Soccer League announced on Tuesday that Detroit Ignition goalkeeper Sanaldo has been named the League's Goalkeeper of the Month for his performance during November.

Sanaldo becomes the first-ever player for the MISL expansion team to receive MISL Player of the Month honors. The 28-year old net-minder met the expectations set before him after being selected first overall in the 2006 MISL Expansion Draft held in June.

"I am very happy for Sanaldo as he has been doing an outstanding job for us in goal thus far this season," Ignition President Greg Bibb stated. "I think Sanaldo and Dahny Waltman give the Ignition the best goalkeeping tandem in the League. It is nice to see Sanaldo receiving the recognition he deserves for his strong November play."

Sanaldo (2-2) has started all



four of the first-year club's 2006-07 regular season games allowing just 17 goals over that period. This season, Sanaldo leads the League

with a 7.92 points against average, ranks second overall with a .712 save percentage, and is third in the MISL in total minutes played with 257:28. During the 2005-06 season, the goalkeeper assisted the Baltimore Blast to a successful League Championship run minding the net during the MISL Championship Series. Sanaldo was awarded MISL Player of the Week honors on November 13, the second weekly award of his career.

Offensive Player of the Month recognition went to Vicente Figueroa of the California Cougars who leads the League in scoring, with 16 points, and is tied for the lead in goals scored, with six. The

Defensive Player of the Month award went to Milwaukee Wave defender Troy Dusosky who scored 13 points and five goals over four games this season.

## MUST-SEE TV

The Detroit Ignition has announced that the club has reached an agreement to broadcast one additional home contest during 2006-07 season live on Comcast Local, a 24-hour regional sports network that provides exclusive sports programming to over 1.6 million viewers in four states, Ignition president Greg Bibb announced Thursday.

Comcast Local will provide viewers with the Sunday, Feb. 25, 2007 match-up against the Philadelphia KiXX. Kick-off is slated for 4:35 p.m. ET. The additional broadcast gives fans the opportunity to see the Ignition take on each of the Major Indoor Soccer League's member clubs through the season.

The Ignition broadcast team includes experienced play-by-play veteran Al Pawlowski and color-analyst Roger Faulkner, a name well-known to the soccer community in the state of Michigan.

"The addition of February 25 telecast strengthens our broadcast package and gives our fans an additional opportunity to see the team on Comcast Local," Bibb stated. "As a new property in a very competitive sports region, these broadcasts are vital to our continuing growth and expanding reach."

The Ignition broadcast schedule resumes this afternoon at 4:35 p.m. as Detroit takes on the California Cougars in a match-up between the MISL's two newest clubs.

The first 2,000 fans in attendance at Sunday's contest will receive Detroit Ignition water bottles courtesy of the Henry Ford Medical Group, the official team physicians of the Detroit Ignition.

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

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

## St. John's Golf Course named one of U.S. best

Readers of Golf Digest, a leading golf magazine, have ranked The Inn at St. John's in Plymouth as one of the "Best Places to Play" in the country.

The Golf Digest honor recognizes public courses in North America and the Caribbean Islands as a desirable location to participate in golf and is ranked by approximately 20,000 readers.

Judging criteria includes overall experience, standard of service, value, condition of playing areas and pace of play for 18 holes.

Golf Digest's "Best Places to Play" also serves as a guidebook for golfers seeking a quality experience.

"We are thrilled to be recognized by Golf Digest readers," said Paul Wegert, general manager of The Inn at St. John's. "Our course is the perfect location to enjoy a round of golf, hold a charity golf outing, or for entertaining

and unwinding as part of corporate events or a weekend stay."

The Inn at St. John's features a championship 27-hole, Par 72 course with plenty of challenging peaks and valleys. It provides a distinctive experience for golf enthusiasts of all skill levels. Additionally, The Inn at St. John's spacious grounds give the feeling of an exclusive club, enhancing the golfing experience.

For more than a half a century, the stately architecture of The Inn at St. John's has been a regional landmark.

Located in the heart of metropolitan Detroit, the 192-acre property features a seven-story luxury boutique hotel with 118 rooms including over 22 suites, along with Five Restaurant, a 70-seat casually elegant restaurant and martini lounge, serving a refreshing take on American classics.

For more information, visit www.theinnatstjohns.com.

# 'Cup' is headed to Compuware

After a successful visit to Compuware Sports Arena earlier this year, details for the Stanley Cup's return to the Compuware Sports Arena are starting to take shape.

The Stanley Cup will be back in Plymouth on Friday, Dec. 8. After a 4-5:30 p.m. visit and public viewing at one of the 18-Detroit Area Plymouth Whalers Customer Reward program partner Meijer stores (Meijer of Canton, 45001 Ford Road) the Cup will be on display at the Compuware Sports Arena from 7:15-11 p.m. in the Main NHL Arena.

Plymouth Whalers season

ticket holders and hockey fans of all ages will be able to view and enjoy the Stanley Cup while taking in the Plymouth Whalers vs. Sudbury Wolves game, which begins at 7:05 p.m.

"We're grateful that (Compuware CEO) Peter Karmanos has decided to bring the Cup back to Plymouth again this year," said Plymouth Whalers President, General Manager and Head Coach Mike Vellucci. "Hockey fans love to be with the Cup, so we're excited to give them the opportunity to see the Stanley Cup one more time this season."

son."

Like last July 17, the Compuware Sports Arena will provide a professional photographer for fans who want a picture with the Stanley Cup or folks can bring their own 35-millimeter cameras and snap a photo. The arena is requesting a \$10 donation for professional photographs with proceeds being donated to the Karmanos Cancer Institute.

Hockey fans who don't already have tickets to the Friday, Dec. 8 game can purchase tickets at any Ticketmaster location, the Compuware Sports Arena box-

office (Open 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Monday to Friday) or by calling (734) 453-8400 and charging by phone.

After hosting Sudbury and the Stanley Cup on Dec. 8, the Whalers host Barrie on Saturday, Dec. 9, at 7:05 p.m. The game features the Whalers' Annual Teddy Bear Toss. Fans attending the game are requested to bring a new Teddy Bear to the game and throw it on the ice the first time the Whalers score in the game. The new bruins will be picked up and donated to charity, courtesy of Plymouth United Way.

## PREP STATE RANKINGS

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers will publish copies of state rankings when space permits and on its Web site of www.hometownlife.com. Send copies to dstickratt@oe.hometownlife.com, or fax to (248) 651-9080.

### Girls Basketball

(By the Associated Press)  
**Class A** - 1. Detroit Martin Luther King; 2. Auburn Hills Avondale; 3. Lansing Waverly; 4. Grosse Pointe North; 5. Saginaw Arthur Hill; 6. Flushing; 7. Detroit Pershing; 8. Brighton; 9. Rochester; 10. Livonia Ladywood.  
**Others receiving votes** - Midland Dow, Belleville, Farmington Hills Mercy, Okemos, Plymouth Salem, Clarkston, East Lansing, Benton Harbor, Utica Ford, Plymouth Canton, Howell, North Farmington, Detroit Northwestern.  
**Class B** - 1. St. Clair; 2. Birmingham-Detroit Country Day; 3. Hudsonville Unity Christian; 4. DelWitt; 5. Detroit Renaissance; 6. Grand Rapids South Christian; 7. Midland Bullock Creek; 8. Portland; 9. Warren Woods-Tower; 10. Scottville Mason County Central.  
**Others receiving votes** - Ludington, Marshall,

Flint Powers Catholic, Ida, Mount Clemens, Wyoming Park, Corunna, Goodrich, Standish-Sterling, Grand Rapids West Catholic, Flint Northwestern Prep Academy 1.  
**Class C** - 1. Saginaw Nouvel Catholic; 2. Houghton; 3. Kent City; 4. Detroit Community; 5. Sandusky; 6. Morley-Stanwood; 7. Michigan Center; 8. Flint Hamady; 9. Allen Park Cabrini; 10. Marcellus.  
**Others receiving votes** - McBain, Pewamo-Westphalia, Memphis, New Lothrop, Southfield Christian, Muskegon Catholic Central, Olivet, Wyoming Kelloggville, Grandville Calvin Christian, Marietta.  
**Class D** - 1. Portland St. Patrick; 2. Chassell; 3. Muskegon Western Michigan Christian; 4. Pickford; 5. Beal City; 6. Auburn Hills Oakland Christian; 7. Frankfort; 8. Lansing Christian; 9. Climax-Scotts; 10. (tie) Crystal Falls Forest Park, Mount Pleasant Sacred Heart.  
**Others receiving votes** - St. Joseph Lake Michigan Catholic, Onaway, Felch-North Dickinson, Carney-Nadeau, Gaylord St. Mary Cathedral, Kingston, Wyoming Tri-Unity Christian, L'Anse, Marion, Byron Center Zion Christian, Engadine, Traverse City Christian, Rapid River.

### Boys Ice Hockey

(By the coaches association)  
**Division 1** - 1. Novi-Detroit Catholic Central; 2. Orchard Lake St. Mary's; 3. East Kentwood; 4. Brighton; 5. Marquette; 6. Livonia Stevenson; 7. South Lyon; 8. Howell; 9. Grosse Pointe North; 10. Traverse City West.  
**Division 2** - 1. Trenton; 2. Birmingham Brother Rice; 3. Warren DeLaSalle; 4. Grosse Pointe South; 5. Saline; 6. Davison; 7. Portage Central; 8. Muskegon Mona Shores; 9. Novi; 10. Traverse City Central.  
**Division 3** - 1. Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook-Kingswood; 2. Grosse Ile; 3. Flint Powers Catholic; 4. Big Rapids; 5. Chelsea; 6. Gaylord; 7. Grand Rapids Catholic Central; 8. East Grand Rapids; 9. Dearborn Divine Child; 10. Riverview.

### Boys Soccer

(Final Rankings, by MHSSCA)  
**Division 1** - 1. Traverse City West; 2. Livonia Stevenson; 3. East Kentwood; 4. Plymouth Salem; 5. Grosse Pointe South; 6. Northville; 7. Novi; 8. Warren DeLaSalle; 9. Utica Ford II; 10. Rochester Adams.  
**Honorable Mention** - Ann Arbor Pioneer,

Rochester Stony Creek, Clarkston, Dearborn.  
**Division 2** - 1. Dexter; 2. East Lansing; 3. Mason; 4. Hudsonville Unity Christian; 5. Dearborn Heights Crestwood; 6. Grand Rapids Christian; 7. Oxford; 8. Auburn Hills Avondale; 9. East Grand Rapids; 10. Bloomfield Hills Andover.  
**Honorable Mention** - Birmingham Seaholm, Lapeer East.  
**Division 3** - 1. Richmond; 2. Roscommon; 3. Birmingham-Detroit Country Day; 4. Bridgman; 5. Jackson Lumen Christi; 6. Macomb Lutheran North; 7. South Haven; 8. Grosse Ile; 9. Elk Rapids; 10. Cheboygan.  
**Honorable Mention** - Grand Rapids Forest Hills Eastern, Kalamazoo Hackett Catholic, Flint Powers Catholic.  
**Division 4** - 1. Allen Park Inter-City Baptist; 2. Muskegon Western Michigan Christian; 3. Auburn Hills Oakland Christian; 4. Southfield Christian; 5. Traverse City Christian; 6. Ann Arbor Greenhills; 7. Muskegon Catholic Central; 8. Westland Lutheran; 9. Royal Oak Shrine; 10. Adrian Lenawee Christian.  
**Honorable Mention** - Hudsonville Freedom Baptist, Burton Genesee Christian, Jackson Christian.

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**HOLIDAY**  
Recipes

Cookies....Pie....Stuffing....

We all have holiday recipes that are Family Favorites, recipes that are loved and cherished and passed down from generation to generation. This year The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers wants to put those recipes in print! Starting on Thursday, November 30th and running each Sunday through December 10th, we will print a page featuring these special recipes.

Send yours in today!

Send in your Family Favorite Recipe complete with cooking time and temperature (and maybe a bit of history or origin) to:  
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and maybe yours will be picked to print!

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REWARD - TOP DOLLAR PAID



# Plymouth resident excels in grueling race across Sahara

BY BRAD EMONS  
STAFF WRITER

It was Stage 5 of a 150-mile adventure race across the Western Sahara Desert when Plymouth's Jim Dawson, an experienced ultra and ironman competitor, began wondering if he had bit little more than he could chew.

"That was a slog - mentally and physically it was brutal," the 39-year-old Dawson said. "I haven't had to reach into my suffer bucket like that in a long time. I questioned for a moment what I was doing. It was very tough."

Dawson ultimately completed the 54-miler that day in 14 hours, 14 seconds and 39 seconds. Nearly five of those hours were spent orienteering in the darkness to Camp El Ris Village.

Minus six toenails, he got through all six stages in a total time of 33:44:00, seventh overall among 131 finishers and the first American.

Heck, Dawson not only finished. He raced it.

After a day off from the grueling fifth leg to replenish, clean up and recoup much needed electrolytes, Dawson duelled with his new-found friend, Rossa O'Donnell, 38, of Ireland.

"We helped each other where



Pictured above are Plymouth resident Jim Dawson (right) and fellow competitor Rossa O'Donnell.

the trail markings were confusing (on Stage 5)," Dawson said. "He's just a neat guy. We worked together with about three kilometers left."

The final day was a piece of cake compared to the previous five stages.

It was a scenic 13-kilometer finish through the downtown streets of Cairo and into the Sphinx in Giza where the Great Pyramids stood.

"I was battling Rossa for first in my age group," Dawson said. "He's a strong hill runner. He

eventually caught me. It was a great battle. We hammered it out at the end."

Dawson, who did a bulk of his training at the Livonia Family Y, finished the 8-mile leg in 1:10:04. O'Donnell earned seventh place overall in

33:40:42.

The winner, 29-year-old Jimmi Olsen of Denmark, covered the 150 miles in 26:55:004.

The first women to finish, Claire Louise Milson of Great Britain, took fifth overall in 32:00:58.

Following a post-race banquet for the runners and three days of recovery and sightseeing before flying home, Dawson reflected on his six days in the desert.

"Things fell into place," he said. "I did surprise myself. I didn't think I'd get caught up in it, but my game plan worked and I was able to race it instead of just trying to survive."

In the months of training leading up to the Racing the Planet Series event (Oct. 28-Nov. 4), Dawson could be seen wearing a backpack and running against a 15-degree grade on an indoor treadmill at the Livonia Y.

"There's a big learning curve to pack and what not to pack," Dawson said. "But I probably packed too heavy and that added to my time. The other runners were able to pack lighter. But you have to stay hydrated. You're camping out and preparing food. I learned one thing - I did not pack enough salty foods."

After a 7½-hour bus ride out of Cairo, the competitors started out of Camp Iceberg for the first stage, a 19.3-mile leg.

"We went by the Twin Rocks, beautiful formations, just immaculate," Dawson said. "There was plenty of sand - you'd sink three inches - and then run on hard rock formations. The terrain we were running on was black carbonized, you'd see coral sea shells, snail fossils imbedded, starfish, millions of them."

Temperatures started out in the mid-90s before quickly rising on that first day.

"It hit over 100 and 105 almost every day," Dawson said. "I came in 18th. It was my hardest (leg) because I got sick. I was dehydrated. My water intake was O.K., but I didn't get enough electrolytes. I wanted to go slow to acclimate myself, but I didn't think I'd feel that sick."

Day Two, a 19.8-miler, started in Camp Salt Pepper. Dawson moved up to 12th place by finishing in 4 hours, 20 minutes.

"It was the same type of terrain, smaller formations on salt flats, not quite as much elevation," he said.

On Day Three, Dawson moved into the top 10 on a 23.8-mile leg that finished at Camp Rolling Sands.

"It was one of my better runs," he said. "It was almost all sand. You got a good taste of the sand dunes. There were some brutal climbs."

Dawson also encountered an unexpected sand storm.

"It was like somebody flipped a switch," he said. "We spent a good half-day running in that. My head was covered. I wore goggles. Everything became crystalized. My gear was completely spotless."

But by Day Three, the race began to take its toll.

Dawson's girlfriend, Doreen Hoffman of Grosse Pointe Park, dropped out because of a toe and foot issue.

"Foot care, food and recovery management," Dawson said. "Your feet just get hammered. Some were forced out by toe and foot infections. You're basically self-supported out there, but they (Racing the Planet organizers) provide the hot water. You'd start at 8 a.m. and try and get done by one or two in the afternoon, then start your recovery."

On Day Four, Dawson embarked on a 24-mile leg from Camp White Tower.

"Mentally, as well as physically, it was pretty brutal," he said. "Very rocky. We got the heat of the day. It was very hard. It was around 48 degrees (Celsius). But I did pretty well that day. We ran through a small oasis, which was pretty neat. We ran through mummy tombs. Some of the people stopped and took pictures."

The next day, the 54-miler, was no sight-seeing trip, but the 5-foot-8, 155-pound Dawson got through it.

"I had no joint injuries," he said. "I lost about 12 pounds and dropped about 4-to-5 percent body fat. I spent three days after the race in a feeding frenzy, lots of burgers and pizza."

When Dawson finished each stage, he'd receive printouts of e-mails sent by friends and co-workers at Jacobson Industries in Livonia where he serves as a production manager.

"They'd have a generator at the campfire and it was nice to get that support from home," Dawson said. "Racing the Planet is just a top-notch organization. And the neat thing about it is that you meet people from all over the world. There were three competitors from the History Channel, who were doing a documentary. I was also part of a study with Johns Hopkins University."

So what's in store for Dawson in 2007?

"I got great satisfaction, I'd do it again," he said. "There's a new format, a race in the Gobi Desert, but I don't know right now if that's feasible. There's an Ironman (2-mile swim, 112-mile bike and 26.2-mile run) in Louisville (Ky.) in late August, which I definitely want to do."

When he arrived home, Dawson received quite a welcome from his co-workers.

"They had cake," he said. How appropriate.



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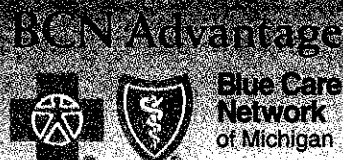
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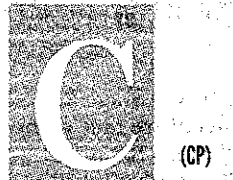
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## Pondering: I think I have enough

It's that time of year again, the lists are being made and the decorations are being hung and the festivities are being planned. Yes, the holidays are upon us.

With the holiday season beginning so does the shopping season begin, or should I say the "Break the Bank Season." My friends have already let it be known that they are most fond of the latest in modern technologies that are now on the market.

From I-pods to Blue Tooths and MP-3 players and even the new \$600 Play Station-3 we Americans seem to have a love affair with our gadgets and our toys. Now, I understand how important technology is. It can advance and improve our lives.



Bobbie Jones

I also know America is a consumer-driven society and our purchase power is great - capitalism is at the core of America's foundation.

However, how much is too much?

I can't count the number of times I have driven through a subdivision and looked in some of the opened garages and seen just how overflowed they are, so full to the brim that the family cars can't even fit in them.

When I hear my friends and co-workers talk about how their homes and garages are so cluttered and disorganized I am just thankful I learned a phrase a long time ago that has kept me sane and out of the clutches of clutter: "I think I have enough."

When I was in my 20s it wasn't the Christmas season that taught me the lesson of it's better to give than to receive. It was a television talk show host doing a show on "Rescuing your home from clutter." The one thing I took away from that show was a rule that goes like this: If one new item comes into the home two items go out.

In the attempt to conquer clutter this rule was just a first step, but it was a beginning. Like most women, in my

**Over the years, I had accumulated quite a bit of merchandise, some of which was barely used.**

early years I had a passion for the latest fashion and the beloved shoe. Over the years, I had accumulated quite a bit of merchandise, some of which was barely used.

Giving became my mission. During the course of two years I located organizations, groups and individuals that were in need of perfectly good items. Most of the time I would keep clothing slated for give-away in the trunk of my car just in case the giving spirit hit me and I found someone in need. After my given spree had ended I vowed to live a much simpler life.

Now, believe me I know just how hard it can be to part with our beloved stuff. It must be because I hear the cry from garages across America begging for relief. But, the thought of someone in need being helped by something you have to offer is a pretty compelling reason to truly make this a giving season.

If that doesn't do it for you go back to the rule, for every new item in, two items out. Just look at it as a way to load up on the latest in technology you really crave and with the two items that will be leaving you will now have the much-needed space to store your new purchase.

Yes, my friends still make fun of me because I don't own a flat-screen TV or an MP-3 player and, as silly as it may sound, I still watch movies on a VCR. Even when I saw everyone running around using I-pods as their music listening device of choice, a good old-fashioned Walkman tape player did it for me.

But with the funds I have saved over the years I have been able to do some pretty helpful and useful things for others. To me that makes all the teasing something I accept with gratitude. Maybe next year someone in need will be having a joyful holiday season because of you.

Bobbie Jones is a Belleville resident and a regular contributor to the *Observer*. She can be reached via e-mail at WORKHARD36@aol.com.

## Cheesy role Mice battle their way to star status

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN  
STAFF WRITER

Ian Smith reaches around to pull out his tail. The 8-year old boy is proud of playing a mouse in *The Nutcracker*. It's a minor part, but frequently leads to a starring role.

Smith is just one of dozens of children who dream of eventually trading in their furry gray costume to perform as Clara or the Mouse King in local productions by the Plymouth-Canton Ballet Co. and Plymouth Symphony Orchestra, Livonia Civic Ballet and Eric Johnston's Detroit Ballet based in Farmington Hills and Birmingham.



TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

PLEASE SEE **MICE**, C6

Rebekka and Samantha Zawisza (left front row), Evan St. Juliana, Ian Smith, and Danielle Butler, and Rori Kennedy (left back row), Haley Shawver, Shahanna Sarkisian, Giselle Ulep, Rebecca Falzon, and Valerie Lovson and are among the dozens of children playing mice in local productions of 'The Nutcracker.'



Stacy Ellison was one of the angels in last year's Christmas production at Detroit World Outreach in Redford.

## Broadway-bound Christmas pageants go glitzy to spread the message

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN  
STAFF WRITER

Flying angels, pyrotechnics, special lighting and sound effects are replacing traditional Christmas pageants with Broadway-style productions that require hundreds of church members to act, sing and work behind the scenes.

The true meaning of Christmas isn't forgotten, however. The simple story about the birth of the Christ child in a manger is being incorporated into contemporary dramas and musicals to attract audiences - and it seems to be working.

While seating is almost sold out for the Glory of Christmas at NorthRidge Church in Plymouth, there are still tickets available for A

Family Covenant, a new production with drama skits, music, dancing, a 150-voice choir, flying characters, big-screen video, special lighting effects, digital sounds and a kids dream scene at Detroit World Outreach, 23800 West Chicago, Redford. Tickets are \$5, children under age 3 free, groups of 10 or more are \$3.50 per person, and available by calling (313) 255-2222, Ext. 236. For details, visit [www.dwo.org](http://www.dwo.org).

"Expect to hear great music, a full choir and band, and experience a family sharing time," said Rev. Robb Stancer, the creative arts pastor who arranged the production, which has been in rehearsal for a couple of months. "It's a simple story about a husband and wife and a brand new

baby and their trying to give their son the very best first Christmas ever. Along the way they find out it's not just one day and see the story evolve into the nativity scene, and a scene just for the children, but we don't want to give that away."

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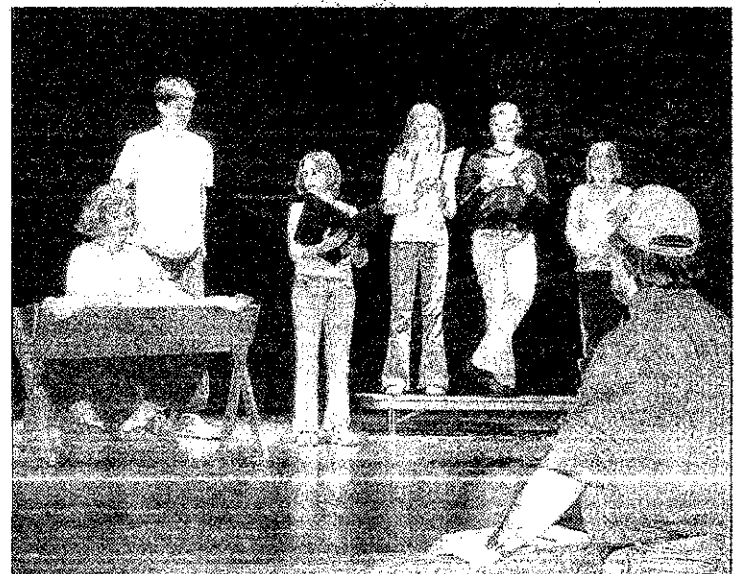
Diane Bert can't stop talking about The Best Christmas Pageant Ever, a funny, sentimental story about six unruly siblings about to ruin the annual production. The drama is part of the Traditions of Christmas activities hosted by First Presbyterian Church of Birmingham. The multi-event open house includes carols, stories, musical performances, model train lay-

outs, a life-size crèche, 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 the church, 1669 W. Maple, Birmingham. No tickets, donations or reservations necessary. Call (248) 644-2040.

Bert tells the story of The Christmas Miracle of Jonathan Toomey, a woodcarver who is changed after meeting a young boy and carving a nativity set for his mother, a widow. Bert, a retired elementary principal and psychologist, learned the art of storytelling from her mother.

"The play is tender and great fun

PLEASE SEE **PAGEANTS**, C7



The cast of 'The Best Christmas Pageant Ever' gives a contemporary twist to the story about the Christ child's birth in a manger.



Detroit World Outreach incorporates the birth of the Christ child into a contemporary story about a husband and wife and their new baby.



Scott Swartout and costumer Mary Fry prepare for a dress rehearsal of 'The Best Christmas Pageant Ever' at First Presbyterian Church of Birmingham.



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# AAUW gala celebrates progress made in women's rights

BY JULIE BROWN  
STAFF WRITER

On Nov. 28, 1881, a group of women college graduates met to explore what they could do to help other women. Their efforts grew into the American Association of University Women, which marked its 125th anniversary Tuesday.

"This is a celebration of our 125th anniversary of AAUW," said Elizabeth Treloar of Wyandotte, past president of the Wyandotte/Downriver branch and state communications director. "This is the exact day."

Two AAUW districts representing southeast Michigan met that evening at Schoolcraft College in Livonia, bringing donations for the Alternatives for Girls organization. State President Mickey Edell of Canton was there.

"I'm just so proud to be celebrating this day," said Edell, a speech-language pathologist for the Plymouth-Canton schools. She praised the founding mothers. "We are so thankful to them," and for the rights AAUW has gained for girls and women.

"Now with the passage of Proposal 2 we face greater challenges," Edell, a Plymouth-Canton branch member, said of the recent move against affirmative action. "We must

redouble our efforts. We've definitely made many gains."

Treloar, a retired fifth-grade teacher, cited women's growing enrollment at colleges and universities, and women presidents at the University of Michigan and Michigan State University. "I don't feel it's a man's world anymore," Treloar added.

Barbara Medwedeff of Livonia was there with her Livonia AAUW branch. "Our branch started in '71," Medwedeff said. It has grown to 145 members. "So we're very proud of that."

Livonia's branch marked its 35th anniversary the week before the 125th anniversary program. "A number of us went to the 100th anniversary, which was celebrated in Boston," said Medwedeff, a retired elementary school teacher.

She's pleased Democrats have gained elected offices recently, and noted that new career opportunities have opened in addition to teaching and nursing. "I do (think there have been advances), but I hope we don't go backwards with some of the issues," she said.

Livonia Mayor Jack Engbretson brought a proclamation for the 125th, and wasn't forced to attend by his wife. "I'm here on my own free will,"

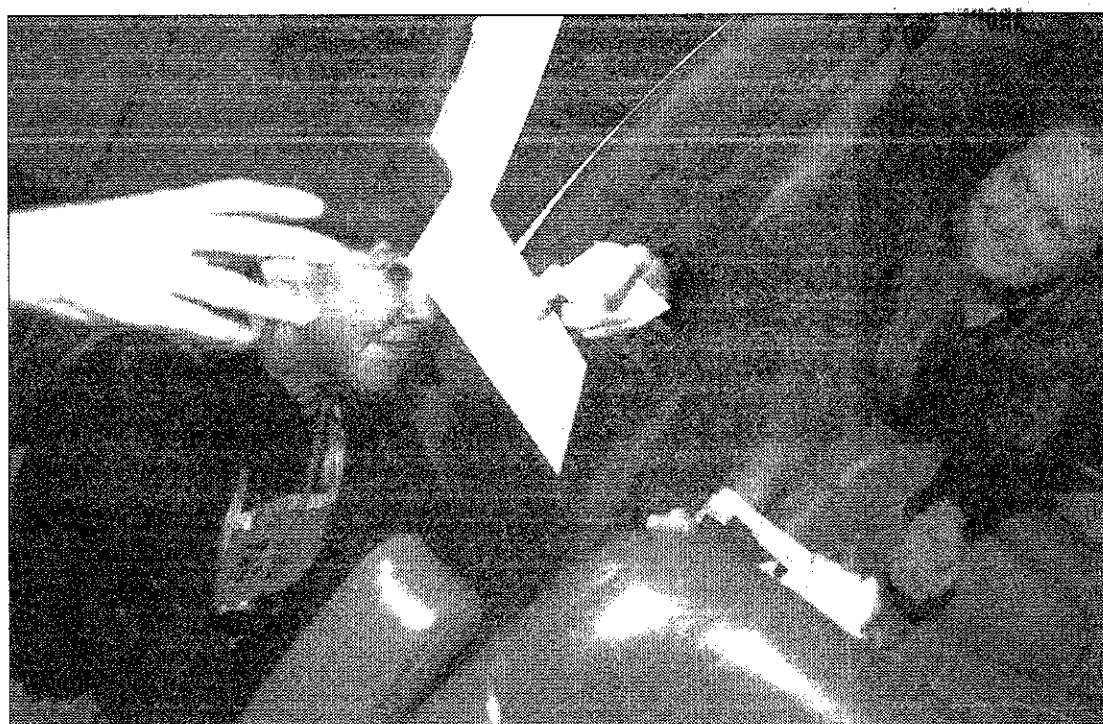
the mayor said prior to the program. "We certainly are very happy to support it."

He noted there were few women in his engineering classes at George Washington University. Engbretson worked with a woman who emphasized women's rights during the 1960s, the time Betty Friedan published her *The Feminine Mystique*. He's promoted women as city department heads because they're qualified.

Mary Fritz of Plymouth Township, also a Plymouth-Canton member, agreed women have moved into many other fields. "I've belonged to AAUW for over 50 years," said Fritz, who retired after many years as a Plymouth-Canton school administrator. Her branch was founded as Plymouth in 1952.

Fritz earned her Ph.D. from Wayne State University, and said AAUW was the impetus to keep her going. "I think women have a lot of determination," she said. "I'm just so happy to be here, I think it's wonderful."

Barb Temporelli of Farmington Hills belongs to AAUW's Farmington branch and is an adjunct professor of chemistry at Schoolcraft College. "Exciting," she said of Tuesday's program, which included birthday cakes with



Amanda Good, executive director for Alternatives for Girls, accepts donations from AAUW members as part of their 125th anniversary celebration at Schoolcraft College.

candles. "I think it's fantastic." Temporelli's been in AAUW about 25 years. "I think education is a lot more open to women these days," she said. "I think there are a lot more opportunities," including more women in science.

The speaker was Beverly Coleman Alexander, who has worked with at-risk girls in the Detroit Public Schools and with Alternatives for Girls. She's a minister and a graduate of the University of Michigan-Dearborn and Ashland Theological Seminary.

Alexander told the approximately 100 women they're the embodiment of all great women "whose visions we now see. Collectively, we are products of our American foremothers."

She spent more than 10 years with Alternatives for Girls, committed to betterment of impoverished girls and young women. "Your giving will go beyond Christmas," Alexander said. "I applaud you, my sisters, my AAUW sisters."

Alexander, now working on her doctorate, described her own life and how much an AAUW scholarship helped when she was at U-M. "You're enabling a girl or young woman to go on to school," she said.



PHOTOS BY TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Mary Mostaghim brings her donations to the Alternatives for Girls van as she and her fellow AAUW members take part in the organization's 125th anniversary celebration at Schoolcraft College.

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Share your Family Favorite Recipe with your Observer & Eccentric Family!

1 1/2 cups raisins  
2 cups sugar  
5 tablespoons margarine  
1 teaspoon baking soda  
1 teaspoon cloves  
1 cup walnuts

Place raisins, dates, sugar, water and margarine in sauce pan; simmer gently for 20 minutes. Cool. Sift flour, before measuring. Then sift flour, soda, salt and spices together. Stir into cooled mixture. Add nuts mixed and floured pans. Bake 1 hour or more till done in moderate oven at 325 degrees. Use 3 small pans or 2 loaf pans.

This delicious fruitcake is a surprise to all who think they don't like fruit cake! It has a spice cake flavor and no sour fruit. I have been making these fruitcakes for years to give family and friends. A homemade gift is a special touch and it sends an extra special holiday wish.

Submitted by: Susan Pinto

### Family Favorite Fruit Cake:

1 1/2 cups dates (chopped)  
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1 teaspoon salt  
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WEDDING

**Quiambao-Castro**  
Cassie-Marie Castro and Edmund Schaar Quiambao were married Aug. 12.  
The wedding and reception were held at Fox Hills Country Club of Plymouth. The wedding was officiated by Barnett Jones, the bride's brother-in-law.  
The bride is the daughter of Robin Jackson and John Castro. She has a degree in science.  
The groom's parents are Bill and Julie Skrent. He grandparents are John and Betty Schaar. He is completing a degree in business.  
The couple honeymooned on Mackinac Island.  
They will make their home in Canton.



How to submit announcements

Local engagement, wedding, anniversary and birth announcements run in the Sunday editions of the *Observer*.  
There is no charge to submit an announcement.  
To obtain a copy of our forms for engagements, weddings, anniversaries and births email Hugh Gallagher at hgallagher@hometownlife.com.  
Or send the following information to Hugh Gallagher, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia MI 48150:  
For engagement announcements, include:  
■ Names, addresses and cities for the bride, groom and both sets of parents  
■ Where bride and groom attended (or attend) high school and college and years graduated  
■ Where bride and groom are employed  
■ Wedding date  
■ Wedding location  
■ Daytime phone number and e-mail address in case we have any questions.  
For wedding announcements, include:  
■ All of the above, plus  
■ Clergy's name  
■ Names and cities of all attendants  
■ Reception location  
■ Honeymoon location  
■ City where couple will reside  
Please send photos in a vertical format. If you are e-mailing a photograph, please send it as a "jpeg."  
Photographs may be picked up after publication; or enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope. If you have questions regarding your announcement, call (734) 953-2149.

ENGAGEMENTS

**Witt-Simmerer**  
Larry and Karen Witt of Livonia announce the engagement of their daughter, Amanda Catherine Witt of Canton, to Robert Anthony Simmerer of Canton.  
The bride-to-be is a 2001 graduate of Stevenson High School in Livonia. She received an associate's degree from Schoolcraft College in 2003 and graduated with distinction from the University of Michigan-Dearborn with bachelor of arts degree in elementary education. She is employed as a substitute teacher for Dearborn and Livonia schools and works part time at Target.  
The prospective groom is the son of Bill and Susan Simmerer. He is a 2001 graduate of Plymouth Canton High School and received an associate's degree from Schoolcraft College in 2006. He will be attending the University of Michigan-Dearborn working toward an accounting degree. He is employed at Bex Inc.  
An October 2008 wedding is planned for St. Thomas a Becket Church in Canton followed by a reception at Crystal Gardens.



College in 2006. He will be attending the University of Michigan-Dearborn working toward an accounting degree. He is employed at Bex Inc. An October 2008 wedding is planned for St. Thomas a Becket Church in Canton followed by a reception at Crystal Gardens.

**Smith-Nafe**  
The Rev. Paul and Cathy Clough announce the engagement of their son, Jeffrey J. Nafe to Laura J. Smith, daughter of Ronald and Deborah Smith. Jeffrey is also the son of the late Dr. Don O. Nafe, Jr.  
The bride-to-be is a 1994 graduate of the Woodward Academy High School in Atlanta, Ga., and a 1999 graduate of the University of Alabama. She is employed as a key account manager with Twinlab in Atlanta.  
The prospective groom is a 1992 graduate of Plymouth Canton High School and a 1996 graduate of Central Michigan University. He is employed as an advanced web developer with Turner Broadcasting Systems CNN Division in Atlanta.



They plan a May 2007 wedding in Atlanta.

**Walsh-McNally**  
Christine Walsh and Sean McNally are engaged and planning an August 2007 wedding. Parents of the future bride are Martin and Anne Marie Walsh of Fenton. The future groom is the son of Patrick and Cyndi McNally of Belleville.  
The future bride is a 2003 graduate of Fenton High School. She will graduate from Central Michigan University in December of 2006 with a bachelor's degree in family studies, and will begin graduate school in the fall of 2007 for a master's degree in marriage and family therapy.  
The future groom is a 2003 graduate of Belleville High School. He will graduate from Central Michigan University in the summer of 2007 with a bachelor's degree in English, with a minor in advertising.



the summer of 2007 with a bachelor's degree in English, with a minor in advertising.

**Buhl-Washer**  
Robert and Karen Buhl, of Grosse Ile, announce the engagement of their daughter, Courtney Buhl, of Canton, to Timothy Washer, of Livonia, son of Robert and Deborah Washer, of Farmington Hills.  
The bride-to-be is a graduate of Grosse Ile High School and Purdue University and she is employed by Buhl Insurance Agency in Trenton. Timothy is a graduate of Farmington High School and Michigan State University and is employed by Travis Pointe Country Club in Ann Arbor.  
The couple will be married in March 2007 at Grosse Ile Presbyterian Church, with a reception to follow at The Dearborn Inn. They plan to honeymoon on Marco Island, Fla.



Dearborn Inn. They plan to honeymoon on Marco Island, Fla.

**McPhail-Benbow**  
Roy and Carol McPhail of Livonia announce the engagement of their daughter, Christy Lynn McPhail of Muncie, Ind., to Brent Leaman Benbow of Indianapolis, Ind.  
The bride-to-be is a 1989 graduate of Stevenson High School and a graduate of Western Michigan University. She is employed as an occupational therapist at Bell Memorial Hospital Pediatric Rehabilitation Center.  
The prospective groom is the son of Robert and Donna Benbow of Montpelier, Ind. He is a graduate of Purdue University and is a network engineer. He is a major in the Indiana Army National Guard.  
An April 2007 wedding is planned for Muncie, Ind.



engineer. He is a major in the Indiana Army National Guard. An April 2007 wedding is planned for Muncie, Ind.

Take a winter art class

The Visual Arts Association of Livonia is offering winter art classes and workshops. Classes are taught in all media by professional teachers and are open to beginners as well as advanced students.  
Day and evening classes are available. The classroom is located in Room 14 at the Dickinson Center, 18000 Newburgh, north of Six Mile, Livonia.  
For more information or to receive a free catalog, call (734) 838-1204.

available. The classroom is located in Room 14 at the Dickinson Center, 18000 Newburgh, north of Six Mile, Livonia.  
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RICKY SEAN ARQUETTE

Age 32, November 28, 2006, of Westland. Dearest son of Diane and the late Leo. Dear brother of Michael and Philip Graham. Nephew of Jean (Randall) Harris. Cousin of Randy Harris, and Debbie and Lori Arquette. Funeral Services were held on Friday, December 1, 2006, from the R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, Garden City. Please sign Ricky's online guestbook at www.rgrharris.com

JAMES D. DENEAU

Age 86, a resident of Franklin for 55 years, passed away on November 30, 2006. He was born on April 20, 1920 in Bay City, MI. Jim married Anna Mary Adams in The First United Methodist Church of Birmingham on March 16, 1951. He was President of the Den-Ross Company - Industrial Cutting Tools. He served in the U.S. Army with the Rangers as a Jungle Survival Instructor. He was distinguished with several citations including two bronze battle stars. After WWII, he continued serving in the Michigan National Guard. He was a resident of Franklin Community for 55 years, member of Masonic Lodge #3 F & AM Union of S.O., member of Scottish Rite, member of Huron River Hunting & Fishing Club for 54 years and senior member of D.A.C. for 40 years. He is survived by his wife, Anna Mary Deneau; daughter, Pamela A. Deneau; son, Ross J. (Pamela) Deneau; and grandson, Jason P. Deneau. Funeral service at The Wm. R. Hamilton Co., 820 E. Maple, Birmingham, 11:00 AM, Monday, December 4, 2006 with Reverend Robert H. Bough officiating. Visitation, Sunday, 2:00-4:00 PM and 6:00-8:00 PM. Interment will be in Franklin Cemetery.

COL. LEROY CLARK FELTON

Age 87, passed away November 27, 2006. He was born on March 15, 1919 to the late Lynn H. and Anna M. (Miller) Felton. Roy graduated from Plymouth HS in 1939 and received his teaching degree from Michigan State Normal School (Eastern Mich Univ.). He married Mary Jane Parmalee, the girl next door, on October 11, 1941. They made their home in Rochester for many years. Roy enlisted in the Air force on Apr. 6, 1942 and retired a Colonel on Mar. 15, 1979. Much of his service was based at Selfridge Air Field in Mt. Clemmons and as Squadron Commander in Pittsburgh, PA. He was an Industrial Arts Teacher at Rochester HS as well as a Charter Member of The Rochester Elks Club. In '79 Roy took early retirement and moved to Boynton Beach, FL. Mary preceded him in death in September of 2004. Roy remained active as he flew an airplane on both his 80th and 85th birthdays and jumped tandem out of a plane at 85. Roy loved spectating and playing golf, 3 hole's in one, the last at the age of 81. He enjoyed travel, dancing, family and working on and teaching the computer. Roy has three children: Ann, and husband Ray Huffman; Dennis (deceased) and his wife Rosemarie; and James. He is survived by his grandchildren, Patti and her husband John Imman; Matthew and his wife Amerine Arnold (daughter Raelyn); Brian and his wife Ginger Arnold (daughter Ansley). He is also survived by his brother George and wife Marion Felton, who reside in Tucson, AZ. Memorial service held at Aston Gardens in Parkland, FL. A military service and inurnment will be held in the spring at Arlington National Cemetery.

MARIAN VIRGINIA (TUCK) KOEBNICK

Marian was born December 16, 1918 and died November 28, 2006 of congestive heart failure at 87. Lived in Plymouth, graduated from Plymouth High School. Worked at NBD as a teller for 19 years before moving to Naples, FL in 1972. In Naples, she worked for Sears in sales (she was one of the best) until retiring at age 72. She built a cabin in Blue Ridge, GA where her sister and brother both had homes too. Marian and Earl were married for 49 years. Loving mother of Linda Lindeman, Douglas and Bill Coon. Proud grandmother of Ken, Michael, Jamie, Karen, Shelly, Tim, Carrie, Ken, Kevin, Russell and Amanda. Great grandmother of 13 and great-great-grandmother of three.

JOHN A. MCHUGH, SR.

December 1, 2006, age 78, of Wayne. Beloved husband of the late Helen. Dear father of Mike (Cindy) Wilson, Brenda (Charles) Butler and the late John Jr. Brother of three sisters and three brothers. Grandfather of five; great-grandfather of five. Instate Monday 10 a.m. until 11 a.m. Mass of the Resurrection at St. Mary Church, Wayne, with Fr. Jack Baker officiating. Visitation Sunday 12-9 p.m. at Uht Funeral Home, 35400 Glenwood, Westland. VFW service 7 p.m. Mr. McHugh was the area coordinator for Wayne/Westland Special Olympics Area 23 and memorials would be appreciated to them.  
Please visit and post a tribute at: www.uhtfuneralhome.com

FLORENCE H. PARISI

of Maumee, Ohio, formerly of Birmingham/Troy, Michigan passed away at 9:45 a.m., Wednesday, November 29, 2006 at Ridgewood Manor in Maumee. She was born on January 14 in Chicago to Arthur and Cornelia Tighe Hullcranz. Florence was the beloved wife of Clifford Parisi, who died on March 5, 1999 in Michigan. She was the loving mother of sons, Clifford M. Parisi of Maumee and Robert E. Redfern, Jr. of Ringwood, New Jersey and his wife, Wendy; grandmother of Ryan and Todd Redfern. Other survivors include her sister, Marie Moore of Columbia, Maryland and her brother, Stephen Hullcranz and his wife, Carolyn of Washington, Illinois. Florence had been a bookkeeper for many years at Greenstones Jewelry in Michigan prior to her retirement. She was a graduate of Elmhurst College and had earned a bachelors degree in business administration. A memorial service will be held at a later date. Burial of ashes will be in Riverside Cemetery in Norwalk, Connecticut. Mason-White Funeral Home in Washington, IL is in charge of arrangements. Memorials may be made to the donor's charity of choice.

MARGARET ELEANOR RENO RAINEY

Age 89, of Birmingham. Beloved Wife of the late Stewart D. Rainey. Dear Mother of Marjorie (William) Darooge of Ada, MI and David Jr. (Barbara) Rainey of Birmingham, MI. Grandmother of her cherished grandchildren: Eric (Sara), Bradley (Amy), Lindsay Darooge, and David and Ryan Rainey. Two great-grandchildren and one sister, Donna Landers. She was a registered nurse for years. Member of Sarah Hunter Guild of First Presbyterian Church of Birmingham. Member of St. Andrew Lutheran Church of Bloomfield Hills. Funeral service was held at the Wm. R. Hamilton Co., 820 E. Maple, Birmingham, Saturday, 1:00 PM. Visitation was held on Friday. Memorial Tributes may be made to a charity of your choice.

VERA L. TROST

Age 92, November 23, 2006, of Brooksville, Florida (formerly of Westland). beloved wife of the late Arthur Dear mother of Arthur Trost, Jr., Gale (Sonnie) Stowell, Gerald (Laurie) Stowell, Wendell (Dee) Stowell, Karen (Bill) Stacy, Kathleen (Edward) Myers, and the late Margie Edmonds. Also leaves 16 grandchildren, 31 great-grandchildren, 11 great-great-grandchildren, and three sisters. Visitation and services were held at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home of Plymouth.

KATHERINE O'BRIEN "Kay" WALTERS

November 22, 2006. Funeral Mass Nov. 27, Lourdes Campus, Waterford. www.DesmondFuneralHome.com

In Memory Of

In Memory of GAIL (KANNERS) WICKENS

Aug. 16, 1954 - Dec. 4, 2005  
Gail has been gone a year, but the wonderful memories we have of her remain, and are a testament to a life really well lived. She was a beautiful person both on the inside and out. Gail's wonderful sense of humor, kind and generous heart, and strong devotion to her daughters, family and friends were just a few of her fine qualities. After a tough, two-year battle, she was taken by leukemia (AML). Gail showed us the true meaning of courage and grace while facing this harsh disease. She had to leave much too soon, yet was extremely grateful for the 51 years she was given, saying, "I feel I've had more than my share of good fortune. I've done a lot and enjoyed it all, and I can check out without any big regrets." Gail was well loved by many who will always cherish her memory.

BILLY JOE YOUNG

of Venice, Florida died November 23, 2006 in Cape Coral, FL. He was born in Paducah, KY in 1932. He is survived by his wife Mollye, sons Ted and Billy Joe Jr., granddaughter Casey and sister Nancy LeSieur. Donations in Billy Joe's name can be made to: Metro Basketball Association, 411 N. Military, Dearborn, MI 48124 or Hope Hospice, 9470 Heathpark Circle, Ft. Meyers, FL 33908.

OBITUARY POLICY

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

Deadlines:

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

e-mail your obit to oeobits@hometownlife.com or fax to: Attn: Obits c/o Charolette Wilson 734-953-2232

For more information call: Charolette Wilson 734-953-2070 or Liz Keiser 734-953-2067 or toll free 866-818-7653 ask for Char or Liz

ANNIVERSARY



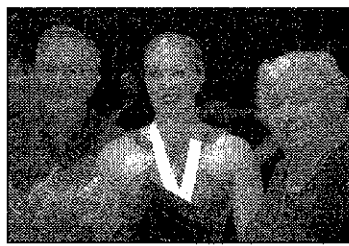
**Bakers' 50th anniversary**  
Walter and Joanne (Wood) Baker of Westland celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary Nov. 17.

The Bakers were married Nov. 17, 1956, at St. Mary's Mission Church in Sobeiski, Mich.

They have five children: Walter Baker Jr. of Clinton, Mich.; Pamela Baker of Commerce, Mich.; Janice Erismann of Westland; Brian Baker of Westland; and Jill Baker of Ypsilanti.

They have eight grandchildren and pictured with their granddaughter Kelsey Baker when she was named Wayne-Westland Junior Miss.

The couple enjoys traveling and spending winter in Florida and cruising.  
A surprise reception was held in Westland on Nov. 5.



REUNIONS

Send the information to Reunions, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48170. Please include the date of the reunion, one contact person, and a telephone number.

REUNIONS

**Livonia Churchill**  
Classes of 1971-2007  
Alumni Summer Bash 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, June 16, Nankin Mills Park, Ann Arbor Trail and Hines Drive. No fees but accepting donations. All proceeds over and above costs are being donated to the Western Wayne Skill Center. For more information, call Chris (Don) Nicholson at (734)658-5296 or Chris@ChurchillAlumni.com or Gayle Napolitano Nicholson at (734)728-0393 or Gayle@ChurchillAlumni.com.

**Livonia Franklin**  
Class of 1969  
A reunion is in the pre-planning stages for 2007. For more information, contact Kathy Nisun at (248) 363-5679 or e-mail: Kaynini@aol.com.

**St. Mary of Redford**  
High School class of 1956  
Grade School class of 1952  
Looking for graduates. Contact (734) 525-5888 or e-mail: kheenan@gjis.net.

**Roseville High School**  
Class of 1956  
A 50th reunion in fall of 2006. The reunion committee is searching for classmates. For information, call Shirley at (586) 677-2709; Alice at (586) 792-7757 or e-mail at alijune1939@scbglobal.net or thehermans2002@comcast.net.



## @ THE LIBRARY

The Plymouth District Library offers the following programs during December:

**CONSTRUCTION UPDATES**

The lower level is moving along as the new home of our Youth collections and programs. Check out the latest developments on the Library's renovation project by going to [plymouthlibrary.org](http://plymouthlibrary.org) and clicking on the Building Blog. Current project updates and photos will take you behind the scenes.

■ **CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP**, Monday, Dec. 4, 7 p.m. — Social worker Chris Goldberg of Adult Well-Being Services will answer a wide variety of concerns for individuals caring for ill or aging family members. No registration is required.

■ **WRITING MY LIFE STORY: A SENIOR WRITING GROUP**, Tuesday, Dec. 5, 1 p.m. and Tuesday, Dec. 19, 4 p.m. — Seniors can share and preserve their life stories with the guidance of Plymouth author, Jane Saylor. No previous writing experience nor advance registration is required. Attend either meeting or both.

■ **UNDERSTANDING AND IMPROVING YOUR CREDIT SCORE**, Tuesday, Dec. 5, 7 p.m. — Credit specialists of Community Financial will help explain how credit scores are determined, how to establish and improve credit scores and how to decipher a credit report in this one hour program. Register for this free program through the Reader's Advisory Desk, (734) 453-0750, Ext. 4, or on-line at [plymouthlibrary.org](http://plymouthlibrary.org).

■ **\$\$\$ and SENSE**, Wednesday, Dec. 6, 1 p.m. — Join with others who are interested in learning and sharing information on personal finance and investing at this discussion group at the Library. The group provides a forum to study and share personal investment information, learn investment terminology, review different investment tools, and study individual stocks, mutual funds, annuities, etc. Each month, mem-

bers follow and report on a mock portfolio they set up on the Internet. This is not a stock club, no monies are involved; members plan, moderate, and participate in each meeting. New members are welcome at any meeting. Meetings are usually held on the first Wednesday of the month in a library meeting room. For more information on current discussion topics, please contact Linda Pride, (734) 453-0750, Ext. 206, or [lpride@plymouthlibrary.org](mailto:lpride@plymouthlibrary.org).

■ **LOW VISION SUPPORT GROUP**, Thursday, Dec. 7, 1-3 p.m. — This group is for individuals for whom glasses are no longer sufficient. It is facilitated by a professional and is intended to be social as well as informative. Guest speakers cover a variety of topics — caregivers or friends are invited to attend. No advance registration is required — for more information contact Ellen Stross at (734) 453-0750, Ext. 232.

■ **MEDICARE D PRESCRIPTION DRUG PROGRAM**, Thursdays, Dec. 7, 14, 21 and 28, 1:30-3 p.m. — CVS Pharmacy will join the Library staff in helping seniors gain a better understanding of the Medicare Prescription Drug Program. Attendees are invited to bring a list of their specific prescription needs and will have the opportunity to compare pricing in the different programs available. Register for this free program by calling the Reader's Advisory Desk, (734) 453-0750, Ext. 4, or on-line at [plymouthlibrary.org](http://plymouthlibrary.org).

■ **World War II Perspectives, LONG LANCE TORPEDO, LONG RANGE GUNNERY AND ASSYMETRIC WARFARE**, Thursday, Dec. 7, 6:30 p.m. — Local history teachers are back to share their knowledge and interests in World War II. Kicking off this program series is Raymond Schepansky, Military History Teacher at Plymouth High School. He will discuss this topic as it related to pre-war strategy between Japan and the United States. This program is sponsored by the Friends of the Plymouth District Library. Register for this free program at the

Reader's Advisory Desk, (734) 453-0750, Ext. 4 or on-line at [plymouthlibrary.org](http://plymouthlibrary.org).

■ **YOUR POETRY GROUP**, Sunday, Dec. 10, 1:30-3:30 p.m. — Round table readings of poems, your own or by others, are held on the second Sunday of the month. Reader's discretion of language is asked in the works read. For more information, contact Don Hewlett, (313) 272-3548, or [donhewlett@aol.com](mailto:donhewlett@aol.com).

■ **STARS, MOONS & PLANETS** — There will be no Stars, Moons and Planets discussion in December — plan now to join local stargazer Mike Best when this group reconvenes Jan. 15 at 7 p.m. For more information contact (734) 459-BEST or [starmikebest@comcast.net](mailto:starmikebest@comcast.net).

■ **CONTEMPORARY BOOKS DISCUSSION**, Wednesday, Dec. 20, 7:30 p.m. — Members of this book discussion group are invited to read *Snow Flower and the Secret Fan: a Novel* by Lisa See. Copies of this book are available at the circulation desk. New members are welcome at any time. For further information, please call Sue Patterson at the library, (734) 453-0750, or e-mail [spatterson@plymouthlibrary.org](mailto:spatterson@plymouthlibrary.org).

■ **LIBRARY GARDEN GROUP** — There will be no Garden Group meeting in December. Start thinking about your 2007 garden at the next meeting to be held on Thursday, Jan. 18 at 7 p.m.

■ **GREAT BOOKS** — Great Books takes a holiday break — there will be no meeting in December. The next meeting will be held on Monday, Jan. 8, at 7 p.m. The discussion group is open to anyone who is curious and willing to work with others in developing an understanding and appreciation of great literature. For further information, contact group facilitator Karen Berrie at (734) 453-2454. To learn more about The Great Books Foundation, see the Internet Web site: <http://www.greatbooks.org/>

■ **NEEDLECRAFTERS MEETING** — There will be no Needlecrafters Meeting in December. Kick off the new year with a new project when

the group meets again Jan. 22 at 7 p.m. Knitters, quilters, needlepointers are all invited to attend this informal group gathering. Lessons are not provided, but ideas exchanged among attendees. No registration required.

■ **BROWN BAG BOOK DISCUSSION**, Wednesday, Dec. 27, noon — This month's discussion invites members to read *The Prize Winner of Defiance, Ohio* by Terry Ryan. Copies of this book are available at the circulation desk. Bring a lunch; beverages are provided. For more information about Brown Bag Books, ask at the Reader's Advisory Desk, call Linda Pride at the Library, (734) 453-0750, or e-mail [lpride@plymouthlibrary.org](mailto:lpride@plymouthlibrary.org).

■ **DODGER BLUE ...** and baseball really is funny, Thursday, Dec. 28, 7 p.m. —

The library kicks off this special baseball series, "Hot Stove League: Professors of Baseball share their love of America's pastime" with Detroit and former major league outfielder, Tom Paciorek. An Emmy Award-winning broadcaster, Paciorek will share vivid stories of his 40-year baseball career with the Los Angeles Dodgers, the Atlanta Braves, the Seattle Mariners, the Chicago White Sox and the Texas Rangers. Register for this free program by calling the Reader's Advisory Desk at (734) 453-0750, Ext. 4, or on-line at [plymouthlibrary.org](http://plymouthlibrary.org). This program is made possible with the generous support of the Friends of the Plymouth District Library.

■ **HOMEBOUND BOOK DELIVERY** — Joining the Plymouth Community Council on Aging, the Plymouth

District Library will deliver library books and audio books to homebound residents of the City of Plymouth and Plymouth Township. Call (734) 453-0750, Ext. 240 to enroll or go to [plymouthlibrary.org](http://plymouthlibrary.org) and complete the homebound delivery service registration.

**Youth Programs**

■ **LAP SIT STORYTIME**, Monday, Dec. 11, 10 & 11 a.m.; Saturday, Dec. 16, 10 a.m. — This 15-minute program is designed for the very young — babies ages 6-24 months and their caregivers. No older siblings please. Registration is required — call Reader's Advisory Desk at (734) 453-0750, Ext. 4.

■ **BABY PLAY** — There will be no Baby Play sessions in December. This fun program will resume in January.

**CITY OF PLYMOUTH**  
**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROPOSED USES OF 2007 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDS**

Pursuant to Federal guidelines, the City of Plymouth is announcing its objectives and possible uses for developing projects using Year 2007 Federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding.

**OBJECTIVES:**

- To provide benefits to senior citizens.
- To provide benefits directly to persons of low/moderate income and/or areas in which at least 51% of the residents are of low/moderate income.
- To maintain a high level of performance in the management of all CDBG funded programs while offsetting administrative costs to the General Fund.

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

1. Bricks & Mortar Projects	\$46,150
2. Public Services	\$12,350
3. Grant Administration	\$6,500
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$65,000</b>

**PUBLIC HEARING:**  
Citizens are invited to comment on the proposed projects listed above, and to suggest other projects. All projects must meet one of the Federal CDBG objectives. A public hearing for the purpose of receiving comments on the proposed uses of 2007 CDBG funds, and additional suggestions for use of said funds, will be held at the Plymouth City Commission Meeting on Monday, December 4, 2006 at 7:00 pm in the Commission Chambers at Plymouth City Hall, 201 S. Main St., Plymouth, MI 48170.

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

Publish: December 3, 2006

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**STUDENTS 2 FOR TUESDAY**

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SHOWTIMES VALID 12/1 - 12/7

★ **THE NATIVITY STORY** (PG)  
12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:10, 9:20  
FRI/SAT LS 11:30

★ **VAN WILDER 2: THE RISE OF TAJ** (R)  
12:55, 3:05, 5:15, 7:25, 9:35  
FRI/SAT LS 11:45

★ **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)  
11:05, 1:15, 4:25, 7:35, 9:45

★ **HAPPY FEET** (PG) 11:40, 2:00, 4:20, 6:40, 9:00  
FRI/SAT LS 11:20

★ **CASINO ROYALE** (PG-13)  
12:40, 3:35, 6:30, 9:25

★ **SANTA CLAUSE 3: THE ESCAPE CLAUSE** (G) 11:10, 1:15, 3:20, 5:25, 7:30, 9:35  
FRI/SAT LS 11:40

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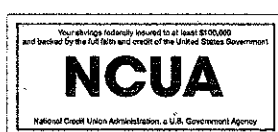
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\*\*The balloon payment for this payment example would be approximately \$18,904.83.

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## MICE

FROM PAGE C1

### PLYMOUTH-CANTON BALLET

Smith has been preparing for bigger parts for about five years by playing one of the mice who defends the villainous Mouse King in the ballet about Clara and her nutcracker doll. Smith isn't just any mouse however. He's a junior Mouse King in training with the Plymouth-Canton company. Dressed in gray satin, Smith jumps into the air to show off the cat step he'll perform Dec. 9-10. Artistic director Dawn Greene said it's the one step a child has to know when they audition for the role.

"It's fun," Smith said. "I learn a lot of new steps and this year I'm getting swung around. You have to be able to do cartwheels and back bends."

Valerie Lovson hopes one day to graduate from being a mouse just like her sister, Olivia now 9 years old. Valerie is only 8 and can't wait to dance larger roles.

"I like the battle scene and fighting the dolls," said Valerien, a third-grade student at Hulsing Elementary in Canton. "I love being in *The Nutcracker*, but would like to be Clara once."

Like Lovson, Rebecca Falzon, 9, has danced as a mouse for two years and enjoys the role.

"The battle scene is a lot of acting and I really enjoy acting," said Rebecca, an Isbister Elementary student in Plymouth. "It's special because a lot of people come together and do this play to have fun."

*The Nutcracker* has become a Falzon family tradition. Rebecca's sister Rachel is a doll and a green flower. Dawn Greene tries to give children a

part in every scene to keep them from becoming bored. Her grandson Ian Smith is a bundle of energy off and on stage.

"It's something they share," said Laura Falzon, the mother of Rebecca and Rachel. "They share an opportunity to perform together."

Kim Shawver is especially excited that daughters Haley, 7, and Lauren, 10, have the opportunity to dance with guest artists Erik Sanborn and Laura Goodman of the Twin Cities Metropolitan Ballet. This is Haley's first year as a mouse with the Plymouth-Canton Ballet. Haley is a second-grade student at All Saints Catholic School and takes classes at Joanne's Dance Extension in Canton.

"It's a big commitment, but they have the opportunity to work with other teachers, meet other dancers," Kim Shawver said. "Over the years, they've made friends and they're part of a big production with the orchestra."

### LIVONIA CIVIC BALLET

Samantha and Rebekka Zawisza of Livonia enjoy running around in tails together in the Livonia Civic Ballet performances Dec. 9-10. Older sister Amanda is one of the Chinese dancers as well as a soldier and a boy.

"They love performing," said Lisa Zawisza, mother of Samantha, 4, and Rebekka, 6. "They have a great time."

Evan St. Juliana is the youngest mouse in the Livonia Civic Ballet production and isn't talking about the experience. The shy boy is the son of Arnell St. Juliana, the company's assistant artistic director.

"We have the boy mice in black so you can tell he's a boy," said Arnell St. Juliana, who's

**Samantha and Rebekka Zawisza of Livonia enjoy running around in tails together in the Livonia Civic Ballet performances Dec. 9-10. Older sister Amanda is one of the Chinese dancers as well as a soldier and a boy.**

excited about spotlighting Addison O'Day and Raphaela Finkenauer in the lead roles of Nutcracker and Sugar Plum Fairy. Finkenauer received her early dance training at the Cologne Ballet Academy in Germany and currently teaches ballet at Bunny Sanford's School of Dance in Livonia, as does O'Day. A former member of the Alabama Ballet, O'Day is presently pursuing an academic career at Wayne State University, as is Finkenauer.

Rori Kennedy doesn't quite know what to expect in her first year as a mouse, but says she's excited. The 6-year-old is a student at Farrand Elementary in Plymouth Township.

### ERIC JOHNSTON'S DETROIT BALLET

Giselle Ulep is just as thrilled as Kennedy, even though she's been playing the role of a mouse with Eric Johnston's Detroit Ballet for four years.

"There's nothing like the feeling of being onstage," said Giselle Ulep of Beverly Hills.

Chris and Pamela Sarkisian plan to see all of daughter Shahanna's performances with the Detroit Ballet. The 8-year-old plays a mouse when not attending Harlan Elementary in Birmingham.

"The great thing is that Eric is very good with all the girls," Chris Sarkisian said. "He's very serious, keeps them until they get it right. He doesn't accept I

can't. He asks them to say they'll at least try."

Johnston works as hard as his students. He believes in featuring dancers only from his schools — Betty Johnston Dance Studio in Farmington Hills and the Birmingham Dance Academy. This year his 20 mice range in age from 5 to 8.

"That's how we break them in," Johnston said. "The mice is where I like to incorporate modern dance into formal ballet. I want them to improvise and be cute mice, mean mice, do a whole range of actions so they have plenty of work to do."

Plymouth-Canton Ballet Co. and Plymouth Symphony Orchestra performances take place at 11 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 9, and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 10, at Salem High School Auditorium, 46181 Joy, Canton. Reserved tickets are \$20, \$10 for children up to age 12. Call (734) 451-2112, send e-mail to [info@plymouthsymphony.org](mailto:info@plymouthsymphony.org), or visit the Web site at [www.plymouthsymphony.org](http://www.plymouthsymphony.org).

Judge Ron Lowe introduces each performance with a reading of *'Twas the Night Before Christmas*. A Sugar Plum Tea follows the 11 a.m. Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday performances. Tickets for the tea are \$5.

Livonia Civic Ballet presents the holiday classic at 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 9, and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 10, at Clarenceville High School, 20155 Middlebelt, south of Eight Mile, Livonia. Tickets are \$12, \$10 students and senior citizens, \$8 under age 12. Call (734) 427-9103.

Eric Johnston's Detroit Ballet performances run 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 7, and 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 10, at Groves High School, 13 Mile and Evergreen, Birmingham. There is no charge. Call (248) 854-5864 for details.

[ichomin@hometownlife.com](mailto:ichomin@hometownlife.com) | (734) 953-2145

## ANNIVERSARY



### Holstines' 50th anniversary

Richard and Patricia (Usiondek) Holstine, who resided in Livonia and the area for more than 20 years and now reside on Elk Lake in Williamsburg, will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on Dec. 16 by renewing their wedding vows at Our Lady of the Lake Church in Houghton Lake with immediate family and a few friends.

Following the ceremony they will dine together and then return to Windemere Lodge to continue the celebration.

The Holstines were married Jan. 19, 1957, at Detroit's St. Rita's Church by the Rev. Arthur Steslicki. While in Livonia Patricia was part of the St. Colette's Church guitar group and other organizations. Richard was a member of the Father Daniel Lord Knights of Columbus and also the golf league.

Their children are: Kathleen (Mike) Stacey of Livonia; James (Sharen) Holstine of Traverse City; Thomas (Peggy) of Marshall; Jefferey (Lisa) of




Macelona; and Terrence (Danielle) of Hot Springs, Ark. They have 16 grandchildren and one great-grandson with another due in 2007.

Richard retired from his management consulting business in 1989; Patricia retired from her owner/operator business in 2002.

The Holstines enjoy traveling, the wildlife around Elk Lakes and spending time with family and many friends.

Visit  
[www.hometownlife.com](http://www.hometownlife.com)  
for news updates



## Baby's First Christmas!

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Place your baby's photo in the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers for Christmas. This special page of "cuties" will run in our papers on December 24.

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Send picture and info to:  
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\* Must be Prepaid. Photos may be mailed or e-mailed but must be received by 12/15/06. No photos will be returned.



John Smith  
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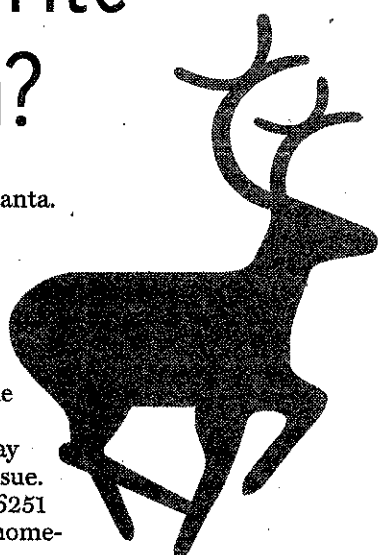
# What's your favorite holiday tradition?

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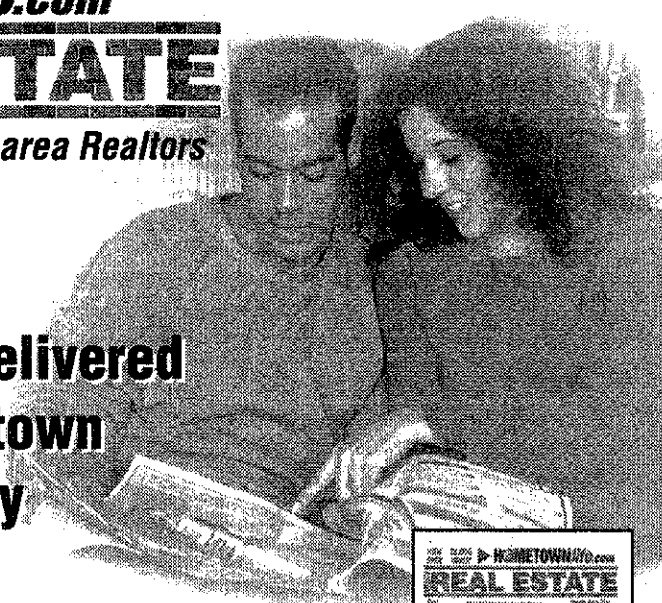
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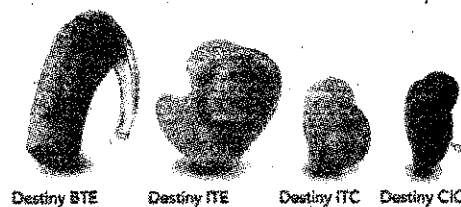


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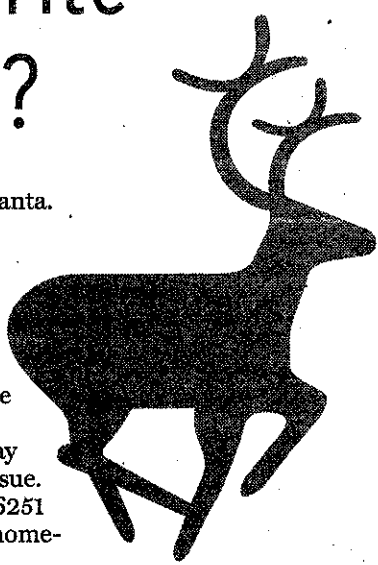
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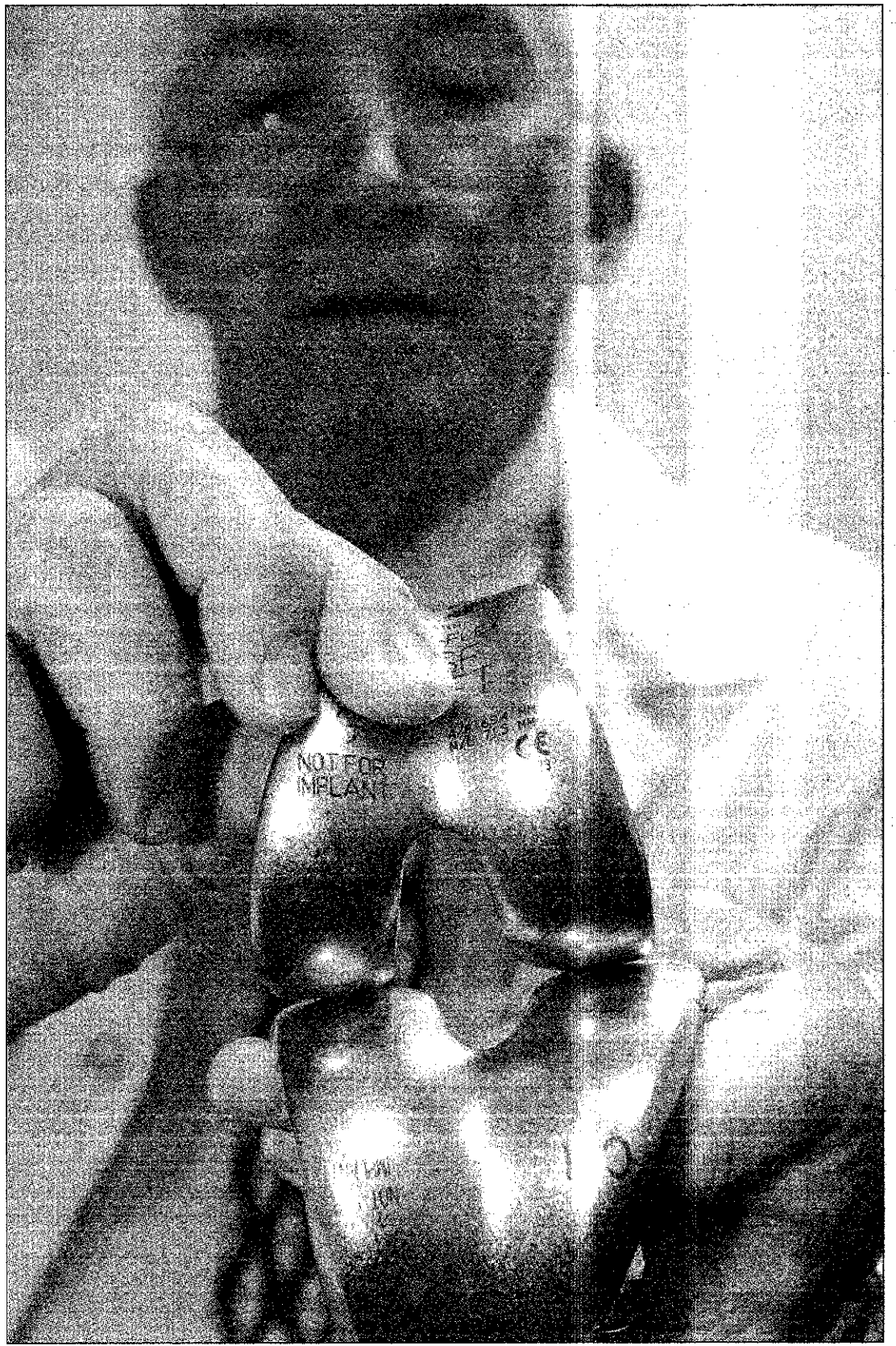
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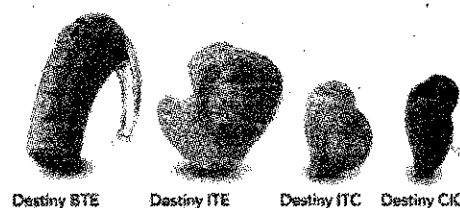


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## Some video games are an exercise

Dan from Livonia e-mails that he is upset his son doesn't want to do anything but play video games and worries he's not getting enough exercise.

Dan, you do have reason to worry. The child obesity rate in America is rising at an alarming rate! Too much time watching TV, playing video games, sitting at the computer, and poor nutrition are all partially to blame. But, if you have a hard time pulling your children away from video games, I have a tip for you – a new study discovered certain games can actually be good forms of exercise.



**Peter's Principles**

Peter Nielsen

Researchers found when children played certain martial art games, they saw an increase in their heart and breathing rates.

So, look for games that force your child to get up and move, such as "Dance-Dance Revolution." Just remember, these games aren't a substitute for outside activity like running, riding a bike, or playing sports. Try to limit the indoor game time and, whenever possible, send your kids outside to play!

Brian from Ferndale e-mails asking how he can fit in exercise when his day is already too full.

It's simple Brian – you won't believe how much exercise time is actually in your day. Here are three things you can do to help you get 30-60 minutes of exercise each day.

No. 1 – Walk! When you go out to the supermarket, post office, or even out to eat, park far away because all of those extra steps really add up!

No. 2 – Make the most of your down time. Do leg lifts while talking on the phone or put a stationary bike in front of the television. Or, jog in place while waiting for that pot of water to boil for dinner.

No. 3 – Do a little bit of housework. Vacuuming, sweeping, and raking all work your arm and leg muscles. Just 10 minutes of each can burn almost 200 calories and you just added a half hour of exercise to your day (not to mention your house looks great!)

Before you know it, you'll be able to find all kinds of ways to fit exercise into every day and you'll feel great too!

If you have a health or fitness question you would like answered in the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers*, e-mail Peter through his Web site [www.peternielsen.com](http://www.peternielsen.com).

**KNOW THE SCORE**  
check out the numbers in today's **SPORTS** section



TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Judith Harris, who has had two knee replacement surgeries, talks with Dr. John Swienkowski about her newfound mobility.

## CORRECT

FROM PAGE C8

their children. I just replaced a second hip in a 24-year old man with inflammatory arthritis."

Harris is now able to pick up her grandchildren and go to the playground which she was unable to do before the August surgery. The 64-year-old Redford woman went from taking pain killers and limping to rising at 3:30 a.m. to ride a stationary bike then walking a mile to the coffee shop near her home every morning. The constant pain caused by degenerative arthritis and the wear and tear of lifting 60 to 80 pounds at a time in the stock room at Sears for 30 years, for the most part is gone unless Harris overdoes it. Total knee replacement involves removing the damaged portion of the bone and resurfacing the knee with metal and plastic implants. Harris's first surgery required a longer recovery period than the second minimally invasive procedure thanks to a smaller incision.

"I had a hard time getting out of a chair, laying down I couldn't stand up," said Harris who has 16 grandchildren under the age of 11. "I had stiffness after the first knee was replaced but not this time. The first surgery took six months of recovery and therapy. The second I was finished in about three months."

In the last 35 years joint replacement surgery has made tremendous advances. Swienkowski remembers watching that first knee replacement surgery in Ohio where the surgeon wasn't even sure whether the joint was in backwards. He had to rely on a mimeographed sheet of directions.

"It's gone from making free-hand cuts to (using) instrumentation to do something precisely and repetitively and get the same results," said Swienkowski. "Materials have changed as well. We now have polyethylene plastics to withstand wear. I'd be surprised if the new knees don't last 20 years."

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

## Still time to get a flu shot

With more than 77 million doses of flu vaccine already delivered nationwide, now is the perfect time to call your physician to schedule a flu shot, according to the Michigan State Medical Society (MSMS).

"Since the flu season does not usually peak until February or later, now is an ideal time to get a flu shot," said MSMS president Paul Farr, a Grand Rapids gastroen-

terologist.

Farr points out that most people who do get the flu have a complete recovery, but it does take a week or more of misery. The flu also keeps people from work, school and leisure activities. With more people vaccinated, it will help control the spread of flu to others.

"Getting a flu shot is not only a great way to protect yourself, but your whole family," said Farr.

## Arthritis Today

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



### ARTHRITIS & CANCER

A relationship exists between cancer & arthritis. Rheumatoid arthritis is the condition most associated with an excess of lymphomas.

This association occurs because lymphocytes are the cells producing the cytokines that drive rheumatoid arthritis. The continued over stimulation of T and B cell lymphocytes leads to an increase in their numbers. In turn this excess raises the probability that lymphocytes will escape the surveillance that normally causes early death of cells otherwise destined to become cancer cells.

Studies in different countries and focusing on groups varied in their education, eating habits, racial backgrounds, and work have shown no difference in the amount of excess lymphomas associated with rheumatoid arthritis, but that excess always exists.

Where controversy arises is in determining if a further rise in the incidence of lymphoma occurs from the medications used to treat rheumatoid arthritis. Since rheumatoid arthritis itself increases lymphoma, a statistician has a difficult task of finding if anti-rheumatoid drugs increase the risk even more. So far evidence indicates that medication such as methotrexate does not increase that risk. The data on the anti-TNF medications (Enbrel, Remicade, and Humira) is not so clear cut. Therefore, until physicians accumulate more information, they must keep close watch on the blood counts of patients taking these drugs.

Experience shows that few gains come without a need to exercise caution in their use.

[www.drjjweiss.yourmd.com](http://www.drjjweiss.yourmd.com)

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## Canton's Newest Dermatologist!

Welcome Ali A. Berry, M.D. to the Hamzavi Dermatology Family. Hamzavi Dermatology has added a new location in Canton, on Haggerty just south of Ford Road (inside the Haggerty Professional Plaza).

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Ali A. Berry, M.D.

## MEDICAL DATEBOOK

### DECEMBER

#### Super moms

Super Heroes...Super Moms, an all day program for women who find that being a mom is becoming increasingly difficult 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 5, topics include medication safety, proper nutrition for families, physical fitness, dealing with teens and being part of the sandwich generation, at the Jewish Community Center, 6600 W. Maples, West Bloomfield. There is a \$5 charge for lunch. Pre-registration required for the program presented by Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital. Call (248) 937-4000 or online at [www.hvsh.org](http://www.hvsh.org).

#### Building a legacy

St. Mary Mercy Hospital sponsors a workshop that teaches you how to build a legacy of the past for your family, called Remember When? 11 a.m. to noon Tuesday, Dec. 5, at the Northville Senior Center, 303 W. Main Street, Northville. The speaker is Bonnie Hilberer, Vermeulen Funeral Home. Adults attending will receive a personal copy of the book, *Just a Few Memories to Share*. Presentation is free, but registration required. Call (248) 349-4140.

#### Teen drug workshop

"Teens Using Drugs: What To Know and What To Do" series provides helpful information to families and others concerned about a young person who may be harmfully involved with alcohol or other drug use. The free workshops are presented by Ronald Harrison, SW, in the St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Education Center, Classroom EC4, 5305 Elliott Drive, Ypsilanti. Parents, other family members, teens, and people who work with teens are welcome. Free literature about alcohol/other drugs and teens is provided. Part One: What To Know will be presented 7:30-9 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 5, and Jan. 2, and provides information on understanding and recognizing teen substance abuse problems. Part One and Two are repeated every first Tuesday of each month from October to June.

Part Two What To Do is scheduled 7:30-9 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 12 and Jan. 9, and provides information on what should and should not be done when a teen substance abuse problem is suspected or identified, and will include a recovering teen speaker. For more information, call (734) 973-7892, send e-mail [tojessa@med.umich.edu](mailto:tojessa@med.umich.edu) or visit [www.teensusingdrugs.org](http://www.teensusingdrugs.org).

#### Stroke screenings

Appointments begin at 9 a.m. Dec. 5, at St. John Neumann Parish, 44800 Warren, Canton. Cost is \$109-\$129. Call (800) 697-9721. Pre-registration required.

#### Karmanos lecture

Cancer and the Family: A Parent's Guide to

Talking with Their Children 6-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 6, at Crittenton Hospital, 1101 W. University Drive, Rochester. To register or for details, call (800) KARMANOS (527-6266).

#### Substance abuse therapy

Group for ages 18-25 who are sincere about recovery and have completed or are currently in a treatment program, or participating in AA or NA, at Birmingham Maple Clinic, 950 E. Maple, Birmingham. Meets 8-9:30 p.m. Thursdays. Intake evaluation required. For details, call David Garvelink at (248) 646-6659 or (248) 320-6700.

#### Caregivers support

St. Mary Mercy Hospital and the Alzheimer's Association have collaborated to offer an Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group 3-4:30 p.m. on the first Thursday of each month in Classroom 1 at St. Mary Mercy Hospital, 36475 Five Mile at Levan, Livonia. Alzheimer's disease is the most common form of dementia, which causes memory loss and a decline in mental function over time. The support group offers information, discussion and support to family members, friends, and caregivers who care for someone with Alzheimer's or other forms of dementia. There is no fee. No registration required. For more information, contact Audra Frye, Alzheimer's Association, at (248) 426-7055.

#### Blood drive

Huron-Valley Sinai Hospital in conjunction with American Red Cross of Oakland County is recruiting donors for its Holiday Blood Drive 6:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday, Dec. 11, in the Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital Conference Center, 1 William Carls Drive, Commerce. Blood donors must be at least 17 years of age, weigh more than 110 pounds and be in good general health. Donation process takes a little more than an hour. Walk-ins welcome but appointments encouraged. Call (248) 937-3314 or visit [www.givelife.org](http://www.givelife.org) and sponsor code "huronvsh."

#### Hats for the Homeless

The Broe Therapy Choir presents a concert and delivers hats for the homeless 1-2:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 13, at The Detroit Rescue Mission. In the spirit of the season the a capella choir (comprised of people recovering from traumatic brain injury, mental illness and substance abuse) is asking for donations of winter hats and gloves, and can goods. Call to arrange drop offs or pick-ups at Broe Rehabilitation Services in Farmington Hills. The concert and program is free and open to the public. For more information, call (248) 474-2763, Ext. 22, or visit [www.broechoir.com](http://www.broechoir.com).

#### Know your nutrition

Presentation takes place 7-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 13, in the St. Mary Mercy Hospital Auditorium, 36475 Five Mile at Levan, Livonia. Please use Main Entrance on Five Mile. This is a St. Mary Mercy Hospital Diabetes Support Group presentation. A new topic is presented on the second Wednesday of each month for adults with diabetes and family members. There is no charge, pre-registration not required. For more information, call (734) 655-8961. The speakers are St. Mary Mercy Hospital dietitians Katie Dooley and Judy Swancutt.

#### Adolescent support group

For teens who are dealing with someone with an alcohol problem, meets the first and third Sundays of the month at 10 a.m., at Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital, 1 William Carls Drive, Commerce. For details, call (248) 706-1020.

#### Educational seminar

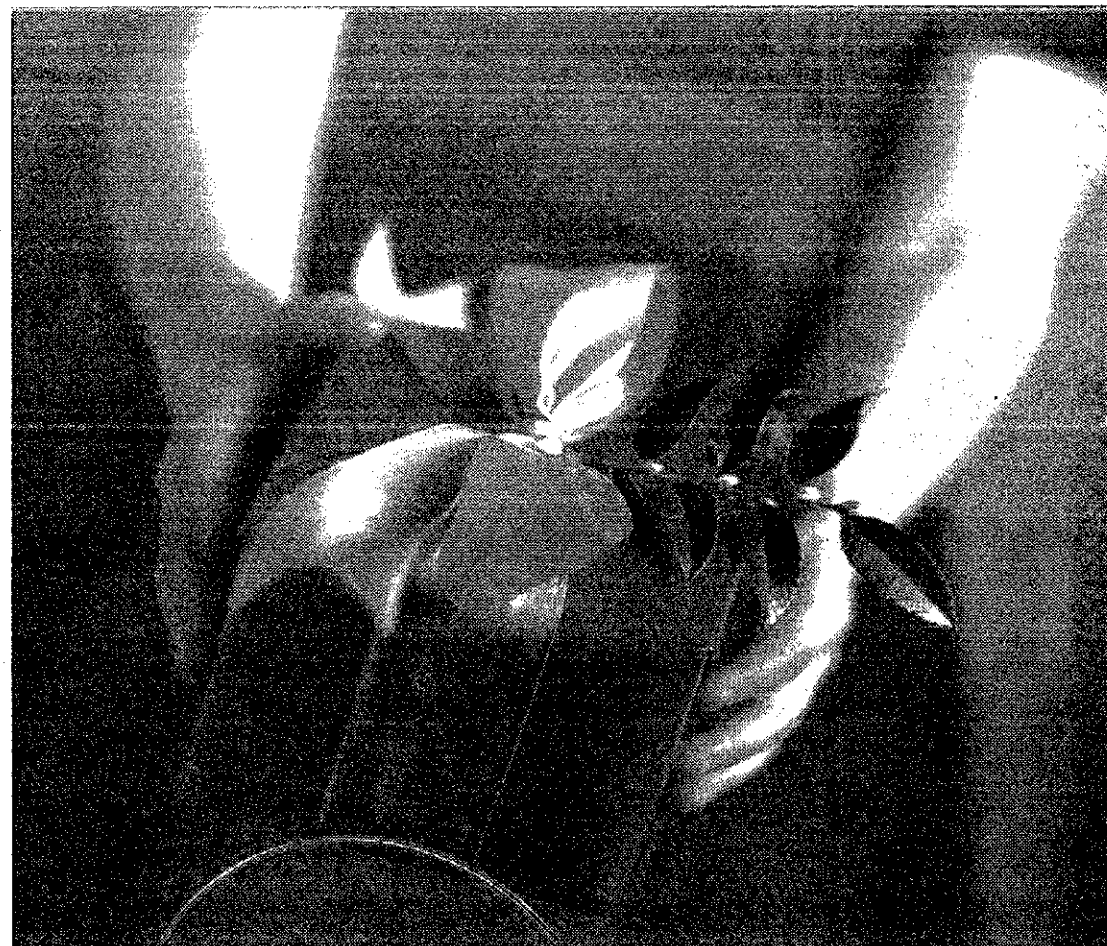
The date for a seminar on bariatric surgery (gastric bypass), performed laproscopically, at St. Mary Mercy Hospital, Livonia, has been changed to 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 14, in the auditorium, 36475 Five Mile at Levan. Speaker is surgeon Tallal Zeni, M.D., and Paula Magid, director, Bariatric Program. To register, call (734) 655-2692 or toll free at (877) Why-Weight (949-9344).

#### Blankets for AIDS

Higher Ground, an HIV-AIDS support group based in Royal Oak, is sponsoring the fourth Blankets for AIDS Drive to help adults and children living with HIV-AIDS in southeastern Michigan. To participate purchase a new blanket and drop it into the bin at Affirmations on Nine Mile in Ferndale, Paramount Bank on Woodward in Ferndale, or St. John's Episcopal Church at Eleven Mile and Woodward, Royal Oak, by Dec. 31. For more information, call (586) 427-1259 or send e-mail to [higher-ground2003@aol.com](mailto:higher-ground2003@aol.com).

#### Exercise classes

For men and women with Jeanie Weaver, personal fitness trainer and certified physical education teacher and group exercise instructor, classes continue through December at Metropolitan School Gym, 15585 N. Haggerty, north of Five Mile, Plymouth. An exercise therapy class geared for seniors wanting to improve balance, strength, stamina, and bone density 8:45-9:45 a.m. Mondays and Thursdays. Core strength and performance class runs 5:30-6:30 p.m. Mondays and Thursdays and includes jump rope, weights, bands and full body weight training loads to increase strength, dynamic flexibility and core strength. Intensity is intermediate to advanced. Cost for both sessions is \$6 drop in fee. For information, call (248) 446-9176 or send e-mail to [jeanieweaver@charter.net](mailto:jeanieweaver@charter.net).



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# Artist continues to find good reasons for living

For the last decade, Olive Salley has wondered why she's lived so long. Now she knows. Although the 100-year-old Livonia woman is no longer able to paint due to failing eyesight, her art remains valuable.

Thanks to the vision of activities director David Alvarez, the Livonia Woods Nursing and Rehabilitation Center is selling copies of Salley's paintings to raise money to build a chapel and bird aviary for residents.

Salley moved into the center at age 98, when it became difficult to care for herself. She's grateful for the kindness of the staff and quickly consented to the fund-raiser. On Friday, Dec. 8, she'll not only celebrate her 100th birthday, but a reason for living.

"God asked me to stay to build a chapel," Salley said. "They don't have a nice chapel. If anybody wants to buy the pictures, it will help a lot. I hope they can get some money."

For years, her children



Linda Chomin

Joseph Salley and Laura Nash, grandson Bob (Susie) Nash and two great-grandchildren Lindsey and Logan kept her going, as did the painting. Olive Salley has been creating works of art since she was old enough to hold a brush. One of the paintings, "Bubble Boy," was created when she was only 14. Since then, she's captured hundreds of forest scenes, flower gardens and landscapes in color. That wasn't always easy, as Salley raised her young children alone after the death of her husband. Somehow, she managed to study art at St. Mary's Academy in Windsor for four years.

"I think she's wonderful," said daughter Laura Nash of Livonia. "She has a beautiful outlook on life, very positive,



'The Pump' is among the artist's creations.

very sensible. She's very caring, just a great gal."

Alvarez took on the project shortly after coming to work as activities director, not only because of Salley's painting, but his fondness for the generous artist. Salley can't praise Alvarez enough. She's grateful for the sing-alongs and line dancers he's scheduled for residents to enjoy.

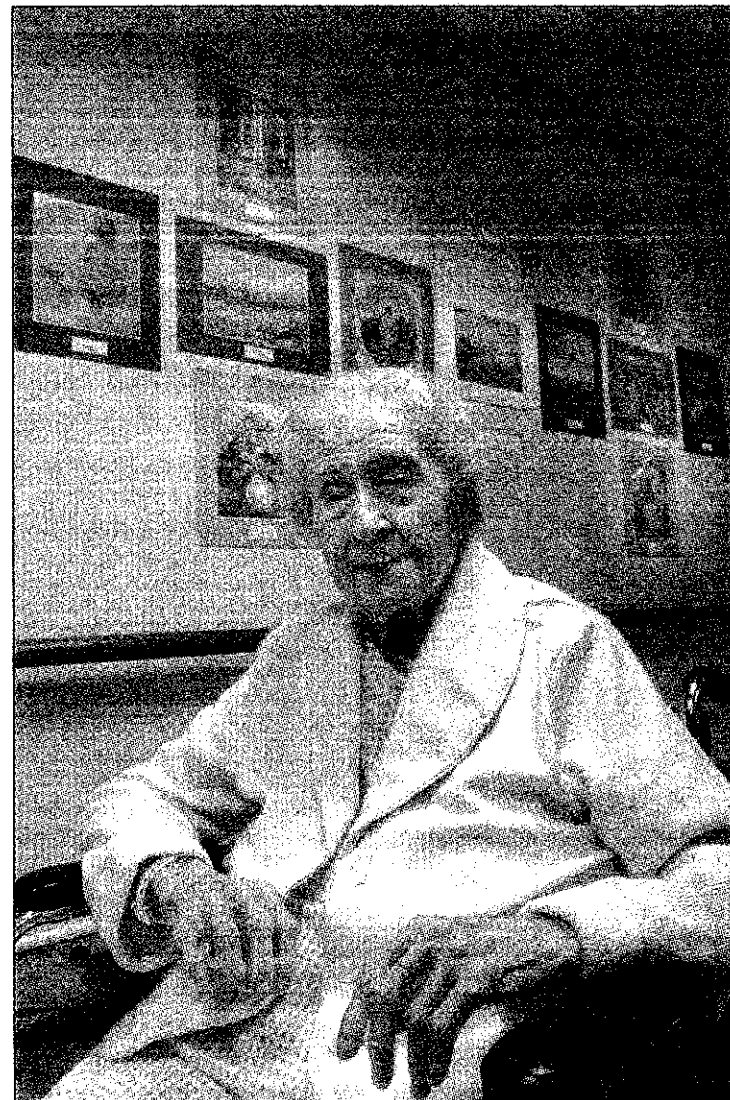
"On my second day of work, I came into this room and said this is a museum," David Alvarez said as he nodded to the paintings hung on Salley's walls. "All during the digital reproduction, she's telling me and directing me what to do. We're very interested in making this a success."

Alvarez has set the price for

digital copies of the paintings at \$25 each. The chapel is estimated to cost \$500,000, the bird aviary about \$5,000. For information about purchasing a copy of Salley's paintings, call (734) 421-6564, Ext. 208.

To promote the fund-raiser, the nursing center is showing an exhibit of the copies in the lobby through next year. A Life in Color takes viewers for a drive along Lake Michigan, stopping along the way to view an abandoned rowboat as well as a birch tree. A still life of flowers and the painting of the bubble-haired boy from the 1920s evoke feelings of days gone by.

Life has changed drastically since Salley was a girl. She doesn't have to ring the opera-



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Olive Salley can't hold a brush or see well enough to paint, but her artist's spirit endures at age 100.

tor anymore to make a phone call. Gone are the oil lamps, in

favor of electricity. But she's most grateful for her family and friends like Wanda Ferguson, who delivered Meals on Wheels to Salley for several years. Ferguson is thankful to have Salley for a friend as well.

"She's given me three paintings. I was glad to have them," said Wanda Ferguson of Livonia. "The one of the thistles means a lot because thistles are the national flower of Scotland."

Linda Ann Chomin is the health and community life reporter for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. To contact her, call (734) 953-2145 or send e-mail to lchomin@hometownlife.com.



Olive Salley painted 'Bubble Boy' in the 1920s.

## Celebrate season safe, sober

Taste test non-alcoholic holiday beverages and vote for your favorite at a party and mocktail mixer presented by Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) and SEMCA 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday, Dec. 8, at Westland Shopping Center at Wayne and Warren roads.

Take home the recipes to serve at your holiday party. Featured guests include Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano and Wayne County Sheriff Warren Evans.

For more information, visit [www.semcaprevention.org](http://www.semcaprevention.org). SEMCA is one of 15 coordinating agencies created by the state to administer block grant and substance abuse services to insure that individuals in the region have easy access to treatment.

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BY JULIE BROWN  
STAFF WRITER

Those who run local non-profit organizations depend heavily on volunteers. Volunteering is also a great way to boost your resume, especially if you're short on work experience.

"It's excellent experience especially if someone is trying to get into a particular area they haven't worked before," said Suzanne Wiggins, executive director of the Paint Creek Center for the Arts in Rochester.

That center relies on nearly 400 volunteers to stage its annual Art & Apples festival, held the weekend after Labor Day. "It's our primary fundraiser for the year," said Wiggins of the event, which also supports a number of other community nonprofits.

"It really shows how well the community wants to support us in that event," she said.

Some other volunteers assist administratively in the office; the board is a volunteer one and volunteers assist with other events as well.

"We heavily depend on volunteers to help us get our events taken care of," said Wiggins, who urges prospective volunteers not to be hesitant about offering their time and talents.

"The personal reasons are obvious, the good feelings you have," agreed Jerry Trumpka, operations associate for the Plymouth Community United Way. Companies view volunteering as good community involvement, Trumpka has found.

"They certainly would like employees who show they're willing to do that kind of thing," he said.

The Plymouth Community United Way enjoys good community support, with over 200 volunteering for the recent Make a Difference Day. Those included Scouts, church groups, service club members and business people who wanted to show community support.

Trumpka finds that in light of Enron and other business scandals businesses like to be seen in a positive light. "They do want to support the community. A lot of it has to be the image, too."

He agreed that volunteering can definitely enhance a resume. If you volunteer in data input, for example, you then have work experience in that field. That's true for sales as well.

"It can definitely be good on your resume, to show you've handled these kinds of positions," Trumpka, who used to work for Midas in Plymouth,

started with PCUW as a volunteer and moved on to the staff when the position opened up.

"It just happened to work out that way," he said.

Capt. Matt O'Neil, who with his wife leads the Wayne-Westland Corps of the Salvation Army, also sees the benefits of volunteering. His corps has groups from Lincoln Behavioral (closed head injury) and Goodwill come through who are trying to get back on their feet.

They assist in the food pantry and clean up the chapel, he said. Those who don't have special needs also assist at the Wayne-Westland Corps.

Wayne Memorial High Upward Bound students do community service work at the Salvation Army, and John Glenn High students do a food drive each year.

"It's not only great for us," O'Neil said of the volunteering, which is good for young people as well.

"We get quite a few. We don't get enough, but we get a lot," O'Neil said of Wayne-Westland volunteers.

Information on volunteering now is available online through the Salvation Army at www.ringbells.org. Volunteer bell-ringers are among those needed throughout the metro area this holiday season.

## VOLUNTEERING

enhances resume, feelings of self-worth

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Interested applicants may submit their resume and salary requirements (referencing Job Code CS) by:

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Human Resources Department  
36251 Schoolcraft Road  
Livonia, Michigan 48150  
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Needed for Canton self storage facility. Leading exp. helpful. Excellent communication & computer skills req. Please fax resume to 734-459-5755

**ASSISTANT TEACHERS**  
For Schoolhouse Montessori Academy. Part time. Preschool exp. required. Fax resume 734-416-1881 or call 734-416-1849.

Help Wanted-General 6000

**ATTENTION ARE YOU**  
• HONEST?  
• DEPENDABLE?  
• HARD WORKING?  
Call today, start work this week. Local co. looking to fill all positions. Excellent starting pay. \$400-\$600/wk. per co. program. 734-641-4700

**ATTN: Undercover Lingerie & Bedroom Magic Hiring Sales Agents & Managers.** Flex time \$15-\$50/hour 248-349-6225.

**AUTO BODY TECHNICIAN**

Metro Ford Dealer seeks experienced state/licensed I-CAR Certified Technician. Full-time with benefits. Call: 734-453-1100 or Fax resume: 734-453-2653

**AUTO BODY TECHNICIANS**

CRESTWOOD DODGE (734) 421-5700

**AUTO TECHNICIANS**

CRESTWOOD DODGE (734) 421-5700

**Automotive Light Service Tech**

Apply: Novi Motive, 21530 Novi Rd., between 8 & 9 Mile Rds. 248-349-0290

**AUTOMOTIVE**

Gordon Chevrolet has an immediate opening for a SERVICE ADVISOR.

Apply in person: 31850 Ford Rd., Garden City, MI or call Rick (734) 458-5270

**Automotive Mechanic**

Busy repair facility seeking certified and experienced tech. Top pay plus benefits.. Novi-Motive

21530 Novi Rd. Between 8 & 9 Mile (248) 349-0290

**AUTOMOTIVE**

We have work!! Gordon Chevrolet has immediate opening for:

**SERVICE TECHNICIANS**

Apply in person 31850 Ford Rd., Garden City, MI or call Rick (734) 458-5270

**AVON REPS NEEDED**

Free training. 1-800-553-9124

Help Wanted-General 6000

**Banking**

**COMMERCIAL LOAN DOCUMENTATION SPECIALIST**

Oakland Commerce Bank in Farmington Hills is seeking a team-oriented, flexible, hard-working individual for a full time position, entailing a variety of loan documentation & operations responsibilities. Bank commercial loan documentation experience required. Computer skills (MS Excel) a must. LaserPro software exp. a plus. Accounting skills preferred. Ability to prioritize, work unsupervised, and meet deadlines required.

Apply online at: www.capitolbankcorp.com or Email resume to: lreserv@capitolbankcorp.com.

**NO PHONE CALLS ACCEPTED.**

E.O.E.

**BOOKKEEPER** - Part time, experienced (3+ yrs) needed for growing co. in Plymouth. Quickbooks software knowledge preferred. Mail resume with salary requirements to: Attn Sandy, 41800 W. 11 Mile Rd., Suite 101, Novi, MI 48375

**BOWLING CENTER** - Looking for full and/or part time ave. shift manager. Please apply in person Ford Lanes, 23100 Van Born Rd., Dearborn Hgts.

**C/STORE MANAGER**

Plymouth area. Exp. req. Fax resume to S. Ray at 313-292-1738

**CALL CENTER**

Appliance parts company in Canton will train for full or part time afternoon shifts. Fax resume to 734-495-3842

Or Email to: employment@repairclinics.com

**CAREGIVERS**

The holidays are fast approaching!! Earn extra cash!! Now hiring for all shifts. (734) 838-0671

**CARPET CLEANING TECH**

Exp. only. Must have good driving record. Part time. \$10/hr. 734-788-2230

**CARPET CLEANING TECH**

Exp'd. With aspirations of management. Willing to pay for quality exp. 800-372-6427

**CAULKERS**

Experienced Only (248)347-6508

**CERTIFIED**

Carpet Installers, Electricians & Plumbers

Hard Wood Installers, Kitchen & Bath Installers

Apply in person at 12000 Globe St., Livonia.

**CHEERLEADING COACHING POSITIONS**

Youth activities organization is looking for responsible energetic individuals with cheerleading exp. Must enjoy working with children and have excellent communication skills. Part-time evenings. Call: 1-800-940-7468 x204

**CHILD CARE**

**INFANT HEAD TEACHER**

Learn While You Earn! The Learning Tree offers employees an Education reimbursement program, on-site training along with .... 401K Retirement Plan .... Paid Vacation/Holidays, and Personal Days .... Bonus Program Call 734-525-6369 or apply in person.

**CHILDRENS DAY CARE HELP**

Child care exp. necessary. Mon-Fri. Fulltime or part time for Home Day Care. Located in Bloomfield Hills. Call 248-258-0768

Help Wanted-General 6000

**CLEANING AUTHORITY**

Of Plymouth seeking house cleaners. No nights or weekends. Earn \$350+ per week. Car required. 734-455-4570

**CNC Lathe/ Mill Operator**

We offer an excellent benefit package, competitive wages, air-conditioned facility, steady overtime, and an opportunity for advancement. 5 yrs. minimum exp. must be able to program, and set-up.

Apply in person, mail, or fax resume to:

**MOELLER**

43938 Plymouth Oaks Blvd Plymouth, MI 48170 Fax: (734) 416-2200

E.O.E.

**CNC MILL OPERATOR**

Mold Work Heidenhain, Mitsubishi, Fanuc

**BENEFITS START IMMEDIATELY!**

Apply: 13050 Inkster Rd. Redford, S. of 96.

**COLLECTOR Experienced**

TCF Bank is looking for an experienced collector to work in our Consumer Lending Collections department. In this role, you will collect past due real estate loans and resolve customer issues to ensure obligations are met. The ideal candidate will have 1-3 yrs. prior collection experience and exceptional customer service skills.

TCF is a Wayzata, Minnesota-based national financial holding company with \$13.4 billion in assets. TCF Bank Michigan has more than \$2.4 billion in assets. TCF has more than 450 banking offices in Minnesota, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Colorado, and Indiana.

For immediate consideration, apply online at www.tcfexpress.com, or fax resume to 734-930-6199

**TCE BANK**

We value a diverse workforce & promote a drug free environment.

**Construction Supervisor**

in Redford-Michigan Salary: \$62K-\$65K/year 5 years Exp., chauffeur's lic, good organizational skills, long hrs. Monitor schedule performance. Ensure clean & safe project sites at all times. deliver materials, heavy lifting. Job Applicants must include AUB# and ETA Cases# in their resumes. Fax or mail your resumes to: Attention: AUB# 35819181 ETA Case# 05117-78112 TR 02 CRW

700 North Pearl St. Suite 510 Dallas, TX 75201 FAX: 214-237-9116

**CONTROLLER**

PreBesto Homes seeks a Controller with manufacturing experience. CPA or CMA & 5 yrs. exp. Email resume: dcooper@prebestohomes.com

**COUNTER PERSON**

Auto repair facility, part time, 3 days per week. Wed., Thurs., Fri., 7:30-5:30. Computer exp. Microsoft Word and Excel. Knowledge of suspension/brakes a plus. Call Bruce 313-532-8590

Help Wanted-General 6000

**CONTROLLER OF MORTGAGE COMPANY**

Headquartered in Southfield, MI this is one of the nation's most diverse wholesale mortgage lenders. We are a rapidly expanding organization, which presents a tremendous opportunity for both your financial and professional career growth! We are looking for a motivated individual to help bring us to the next level!

We need a Controller to oversee all accounting and finance related functions including month-end financial reporting, analysis, job costing, ad hoc reporting, and financial systems management. We are seeking an individual who is adept in administering all corporate accounting functions including: reconciliation and recording of mortgage loans held for resale and corresponding warehouse funding lines, accounts receivable, fixed assets, accounts payable accrued expenses, loan servicing and investor accounting functions. This position manages a small staff and 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 understanding of workflow management under restrictive time constraints is pivotal in this function. Previous experience in the mortgage industry and with loan documentation is a major plus. Strong knowledge of loan servicing regulatory requirements a plus. Excellent analytical, organizational, problem solving, & process improvement skills.

In addition to a stable working environment that fosters growth, we offer a very competitive compensation package as well as full benefits including: Health, Dental, Disability, and Paid Vacations/Sick Leave.

If you meet the requirements and are interested in exploring this opportunity, please email or send cover letter, resume, and any additional credentials to:

**Pamela Groosbeck MVB Mortgage Corp.**

24400 Northwestern Suite 200 Southfield MI 48075 pgroosbeck@mvp-mortgage.com

**CREDIT MANAGER**

Distribution company seeks a professional with 7-10 yrs collection, accounting and accounts receivable exp. Must be PC literate and have excellent communications, management & organizational skills. BA degree preferred. Benefits, profit sharing & 401K.

Call HR Manager 734-762-2410 or fax resume to 734-421-0993

**CUSTOMER SERVICE CLERK**

for growing Livonia Co. Must have high energy, exceptional interpersonal, organizational & computer skills. MS Excel and Word. Duties - phone, contractor maintenance, some project mgmt. \$10 per hr. Benefits after 1 yr. Fax resumes to: 866-697-7517

For the best auto classifications check out the Observer & Eccentric Newspaper. "It's all about RESULTS!"

Help Wanted-General 6000

**Delivery Driver/Service Tech**

Medical Equipment Co. has FT position avail for delivery driver/service tech. Responsibilities include delivery & service repair of medical equipment throughout the Detroit Metro area. Customer service skills req'd. Exp in electrical repair a plus. Fax to 734-451-0404

**DENTAL ASSISTANT:** Fun & friendly Westland dental office needs a full-time Assistant. Exp. necessary Mon. - Thurs. Call 734-729-2566

**DINING ROOM SUPERVISOR**

A luxury senior apartment community in Canton is seeking a Dining Room Supervisor for an immediate, part-time position. Responsibilities include: supervising wait staff and management of all dining room meals and functions. E.O.E. Please fax resume to 734-981-2829. No phone calls please.

**DIRECT CARE STAFF**

Needed for group homes. MUST BE trained with valid driver's license. Afternoons Call 734-722-7880 between 10 & 3

**DIRECT CARE STAFF**

Work in a children's respite home in Westland. High School diploma/GED. Call Misty: 734-721-9072

**DIRECT CARE WORKER**

Canton Group Home. Staff for afternoon/midnight shift. Highly independent residents. Competitive wages/benefits. (734) 397-5955

**Direct Care-- Immediate manager position** in Taylor home supporting 4 adults with developmental disabilities; qualifying candidates must have C.S. Inc. Part I training certificate; current management position in field or recently held position; call Evelyn or Mary 734-728-4201

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

**DIRECT CARE-ALL SHIFTS IMMEDIATE INTERVIEWS**

• Openings available on Mornings & Afternoons for Direct Care Workers/ Nursing Assistants at our soon to be opened Neuro Rehab Facility in Farmington Hills.

• Openings available on All Shifts for Direct Care Workers at our residential group homes in the Ypsilanti/Ann Arbor area

\$9 - \$10/hr to start plus benefits and excellent advancement opportunities. Desire to work with people, proof of a valid driver's license and excellent driving record a must. No exp. necessary, training is provided. Apply in person for an immediate interview:

**Monday, Dec. 4 9am - 6pm at: Rainbow Rehabilitation Centers**

32715 Grand River Ave. Farmington, MI 48336 (between Farmington & Orchard Lake Rds.)

If available for immediate interview, submit an application 9am-5pm Mon-Fri at our Farmington office above, or our Ypsilanti office at 5570 Whittaker Rd., Ypsilanti, MI 48197 (at exit 183). Call for directions: 734-482-1512 ext.500. Drug-free workplace EOE

**DRIVER - CDL**

Team player w/positive attitude for local delivery and back-up warehouse. \$10-\$12/hr plus benefits. Fax resume 248-474-9888

**DRIVER/Part-Time** - For auto parts warehouse in Farmington Hills. Good driving record a must. Call 248-471-7222 x1

**DRIVER/SALES**

5 NEW ROUTE REPS Company vehicle. Paid training. \$300-\$500 (1st Wk). \$600-\$1500 after training. Must have valid drivers license. Exp. with manual transmission. No CDL okay. Call Now: 734-466-9826

Help Wanted-General 6000

**Answer the call.**

If you've got the drive, we've got the opportunity

**SEASONAL DRIVERS**

You will be employed and paid by a staffing agency while on temporary assignment to FedEx Home Delivery. It's extra cash and a chance to work with an industry leader. You will be supplied with a truck and everything you need to pick up and deliver our customer's packages.

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

• 21 years or older  
• Clean driving record  
• Drug screen, background checks and physical required  
• Customer Service skills  
• Driving/delivery exp. is recommended  
• No equipment necessary

Also looking for **DRIVER HELPERS**

Apply in person, Tues-Wed & Fri-Sat, 9am-5pm at one of our locations:

**28350 Plymouth Rd. Livonia, MI 48150**

**6300 Center St Sterling Heights, MI 48312**

FedEx Home Delivery is committed to equal opportunity/affirmative action (M/F/D/V), and to diversify its workforce. Visit us at fedex.com

**DRIVERS**

**Immediate Openings**

Detroit based fulltime non CDL & CDL with ability to drive 24 foot straight trucks delivering expedited freight. Some occasional overnights and weekends. Ability to cross in and out of Canada. Good driving record a must! Able to base DOT drug test & pass and obtain a DOT physical. Prefer response by email to: **CourierHR@aol.com** or Fax 414-81-7398 or Mail to: **Courier Express 172 South 21st St. Pittsburg PA 15203**

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**POLICY**

All advertising published in the Observer and Eccentric Newspapers is subject to the conditions stated in the applicable rate card. (Copies are available from the advertising department, Observer and Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150 (734) 591-0900.) The Observer and Eccentric Newspapers reserves the right not to accept an advertiser's order. Observer and Eccentric Newspapers sales representatives have no authority to bind this newspaper and only publication of an advertisement shall constitute final acceptance of the advertiser's order. When more than one insertion of the same advertisement is ordered, no credit will be given unless notice of typographical or other errors is given in time for correction before the second insertion. Not responsible for omissions. Publisher's Notice: All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 which states that it is illegal to advertise "any preference limitation, or discrimination." This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal housing opportunity basis. (FR Doc. 724983-3-172) Classified ads may be placed according to the deadlines. Advertisers are responsible for reading their ads the first time it appears and reporting any errors immediately. The Observer and Eccentric Newspapers will not issue credit for errors in ads after the FIRST INCORRECT INSERTION. Equal Housing Opportunity Statement: We are pledged to the letter and spirit of U.S. policy for the achievement of equal housing opportunity throughout the nation. We encourage and support an affirmative ad-vertising and marketing pro-gram in which there are no barriers to obtain housing because of race, color, religion or national origin. Equal Housing Opportunity slogan: "Equal Housing Opportunity". Table III - Illustration of Publisher's Notice.

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**Send it all with Observer & Eccentric 1-800-579-SELL**

## CONTROLLER OF MORTGAGE COMPANY

Headquartered in Southfield, MI this is one of the nation's most diverse wholesale mortgage lenders. We are a rapidly expanding organization, which presents a tremendous opportunity for both your financial and professional career growth! We are looking for a motivated individual to help bring us to the next level!

We need a Controller to oversee all accounting and finance related functions including month-end financial reporting, analysis, job costing, ad hoc reporting, and financial systems management. We are seeking an individual who is adept in administering all corporate accounting functions including: reconciliation and recording of mortgage loans held for resale and corresponding warehouse funding lines, accounts receivable, fixed assets, accounts payable accrued expenses, loan servicing and investor accounting functions. This position manages a small staff and 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 understanding of workflow management under restrictive time constraints is pivotal in this function. Previous experience in the mortgage industry and with loan documentation is a major plus. Strong knowledge of loan servicing regulatory requirements a plus. Excellent analytical, organizational, problem solving, and process improvement skills.

In addition to a stable working environment that fosters growth, we offer a very competitive compensation package as well as full benefits (including: Health, Dental, Disability, and Paid Vacations/Sick Leave).

If you meet the requirements and are interested in exploring this opportunity, please email or send cover letter, resume, and any additional credentials to:

**Pamela Groosbeck**

MVB Mortgage Corp.

24400 Northwestern, Suite 200 • Southfield MI 48075

pgroosbeck@mvp-mortgage.com

**Bob has a new job, but he can never get to work on time.**

**We have someone who will. Heck, we even have Bob's next job.**

Go to CareerBuilder.com or call us at 800-579-7355 to place your next Help Wanted ad. Web plus print.

Discover the value.

THE Observer & Eccentric NEWSPAPERS

careerbuilder.com™

A better employee is out there.

## THE BLADE toledoblade.com

### ELECTRICIAN

The Blade, the Pulitzer-prize winning newspaper serving northwestern Ohio and southeastern Michigan, has an immediate opening for an Electrician in its Maintenance Department.

Position responsibilities include maintaining high technology newspaper equipment at multiple Company facilities.

The successful candidate will have the following skills:

- Maintain a Journeyman Electrician's card;
- Strong electronics background;
- Mechanical aptitude for testing and troubleshooting systems;
- Experience with PLC5, relay logic, reading circuit schematics and ladder diagrams;
- Computer literacy;
- A valid driver's license.

Apply in confidence to the Human Resources Department, The Blade, 541 N. Superior St., Toledo, OH 43660. Resumes may be faxed to 419-724-6080 or e-mailed to HR@toledoblade.com. No phone calls please.

Equal Opportunity Employer





# careerbuilder.com™

Observer & Eccentric  
HOMETOWNLife.com

## Help Wanted-General 5000

**Drivers**  
**Looking for the best part time job?**  
Need your own transportation. Make an average of \$50 per day, Part time. Great for student, homemaker and retiree, or just for extra money. We are hiring now, so call us today. We are a restaurant delivery service. 734-427-4850 call after 2pm Mon-Fri

## ELECTRICIAN

Minimum 1 yr. experience. Commercial/Industrial/New Construction (248)437-5500

## FINANCIAL ANALYST

TCF Bank is looking for a Financial Analyst to work at our new headquarters in Livonia. In this role, you will perform lending analysis and credit quality reporting. A bachelor's degree in finance or accounting is required, and prior financial institution experience is helpful.

TCF is a Wayzata, Minnesota-based national financial holding company with \$13.4 billion in assets. TCF Bank Michigan has more than \$2.4 billion in assets. TCF has more than 450 banking offices in Minnesota, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Colorado, and Indiana.

For immediate consideration, apply online at [www.tcfexpress.com](http://www.tcfexpress.com) or fax resume to 734.930.6199



We value a diverse workforce & promote a drug free environment.

## GATEHOUSE ATTENDANT

For Detroit area. Must have reliable transportation, and prior exp. 248-851-0114

## GENERAL LABORER

Full time, Vacation, Health, Dental, 401K, profit sharing. Apply at: Nu-Core, 2424 Beech Daily, Dearborn.

## GIS ANALYST

City of Troy (EOE) Bachelor degree-GIS, Geography, Engineering, Computer Science, Urban Planning or Surveying and 2yrs GIS work exp. \$45,425-\$56,779. Application deadline 12/27/06 4PM. Applications at: Human Resources, 500 W. Big Beaver Rd. Troy or [www.troy.mi.gov](http://www.troy.mi.gov)

## GOVERNMENT JOBS

Earn \$12-\$48 per hour Full medical/dental benefits 1-800-322-9333 Ext. 2429

## HAIR STYLIST

Very busy hair salon needs hair dressers & barbers. Call Kim 734-453-1717

## HAIR STYLISTS

Eclipse Hair, Nails & Spa 4187 Old Canton Center Canton. (734) 397-0013

## HR / Health & Safety Administrator

Needed for busy Livonia auto mfg/supplier. Will be conducting & coordinating safety / sexual harassment training for large volume of employees as well as add'l duties. Bachelor's degree & 3-5+ yrs exp req'd. Excellent computer skills with Word, Excel & PowerPoint. 45K+ DOE Email resume to: [roxanne27@wskills.com](mailto:roxanne27@wskills.com) or fax (810) 227-1344. EOE.

Human Resources

## Compensation Analyst

Manufacturing company located in Washtenaw County, Michigan is seeking a Compensation Analyst. This individual will be responsible for the administration of compensation and other HR activities required in the HR system as well as creating and maintaining various compensation data reports. In addition, this individual will participate in compensation surveys, analyze external market data and assist in administering various compensation programs such as the merit increase program/process and the annual incentive compensation program.

Qualifications: Bachelor's degree or equivalent experience; minimum 2-3 years of related experience with solid understanding of various compensation programs; experience/understanding of HR systems and associated compensation functionality within those systems; proficiency in Microsoft Office including Excel, Word and PowerPoint; working knowledge of applicable employment and compensation laws; flexibility and ability to work on multiple project assignments; attention to detail, strong organizational, administration, project management and communication skills.

We offer competitive pay/benefits and a great working environment. Qualified candidates please send your resume to: [compensation@hotmail.com](mailto:compensation@hotmail.com) EOE

## ID GRINDER

Machine tool company. Day shift. Good pay & benefits. Apply in person: 11865 Globe St., Livonia, MI 48150

## Is the stuff in your house piling up?

Call Classifications today! 1-800-579-7355

## Help Wanted-General 5000

## IN-HOME CAREGIVERS

Needed to care for children and young adults with disabilities in their family homes in Westland, Canton, & Belleville areas. \$7.75 per hour, plus benefits if full-time. Must have minimum of GED/HS Diploma, valid drivers license, and insured vehicle. CPR, First Aid, or CLS/MORC training a plus. Immediate Openings. Please apply to:

Life Center, Inc., 15419 Middlebelt Road Livonia, MI 48154 Fax: 734-261-4659

## INSPECTOR SUPERVISOR

City of Troy (EOE) HS grad/GED & 4yrs exp supervising code inspection/enforcement program. Prefer computer exp. \$54,044-\$67,555 Application deadline 12/20/06 4PM. Applications at: Human Resources, 500 W. Big Beaver Rd., Troy or [www.troy.mi.gov](http://www.troy.mi.gov)

## INVENTORY COMPANY

Looking for inventory takers. \$8.50 per hr. Paid training. 800-306-7714

## JANITOR PART-TIME

General cleaning in treatment facility in Canton. Days, weekends. Send resume to Hegira Programs, Inc. 8623 N. Wayne Rd., Suite 200, Westland, MI 48185.

## Putting Together the Dream Team

Kleen-Tech has expanded into Detroit & has immediate openings for top-of-the-line Mgmt. & Admin. personnel to staff a large Class A Janitorial contract. Please see our full ad in [www.careerbuilder.com](http://www.careerbuilder.com) & look for Kleen-Tech.

## JANITORIAL & FLOOR CARE

Several locations. Full & part time. All shifts. 734-425-0161

## JOIN OUR TEAM

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul is accepting employment applications, for our Thrift Store and Donation Center, located at 6613 Wayne Rd. Westland MI (located in the Westland Plaza). Energetic, smiling faces can apply for the following positions: Assistant Manager, Store Associate and Driver. Any inquiries, call the HR Department at 313.393.2931 Fax: 313.393.3015 Email: [twsems@svpdpd.org](mailto:twsems@svpdpd.org)

## LABORERS NEEDED

Local galvanizing co. is in need of laborers in our production area. We offer competitive wages and benefits. Apply at 12600 Arnold St., Redford.

## LEASING CONSULTANT

Large property mgt. co. is seeking a leasing consultant for a mid sized apt. community in Farmington. Candidate must possess a demonstrated ability to close the sale. We offer a great wage/benefit package, commission & 401(k). Fax resume to: (248) 569-1508

## LIBRARY PAGE

City of Troy (EOE) Part-time, year-round @ Troy Public Library. Organizes & shelves books. \$7.00/hr to start. Application deadline 12/21/06 4PM. Applications at: Human Resources, 500 W. Big Beaver Rd., Troy or [www.troy.mi.gov](http://www.troy.mi.gov)

## LIVONIA HOUSING COMMISSION

The Livonia Housing Commission is seeking to employ a highly motivated individual for the following position within its Community Development Office.

## HOUSING SPECIALIST

The Housing Commission-Community Development Office operates programs that are HUD funded and that assist low income families with homeowner rehabilitation. The Housing Commission requires that the person filling this position have strong written, oral communication, analytical skills and desires experience with general construction programs. Further, the successful applicant must be willing to receive relevant Stat of Michigan certifications for working with Lead-Based Paint. Application may be obtained from the Livonia Housing Commission, 33780 Lyndon Livonia, MI 48154 Attn: James M. Inglis, Housing Director 734-421-6450 x102

## It's all here!

Look in your Observer & Eccentric CLASSIFIEDS

## ...It's all about results!

To Place An Ad Call: 800-579-SELL

Fax: 734-953-2232 [www.hometownlife.com](http://www.hometownlife.com)

## NATURE CENTER COORDINATOR

City of Troy (EOE) Part-time \$9.85/hr. HS grad/GED Computer & clerical exp req'd. Must be able to work weekends. Applications at: Human Resources, 500 W. Big Beaver Rd., Troy or [www.troy.mi.gov](http://www.troy.mi.gov)

## Public Safety Dispatcher/Clerk

Northville Township is accepting applications for full-time Dispatcher/Clerk. Essential functions include communicating with the public concerning crimes, medical emergencies and fires. Dispatching police, fire, and EMS. Starting wage of \$16.30 hr with benefits. Qualifications include:

- U.S. Citizen or resident alien with the right to work in the U.S.
- 18 years of age
- High School diploma or equivalent
- Computer skills
- 2-3 years dispatch experience

Candidates must successfully complete a testing process, background investigation, psychological, and physical. Applications are available and returned completed to: Charter Township of Northville, Human Resource Department, 44405 Six Mile Road, Northville, MI 48168 by Friday, December 29, 2006 - 02 p.m. An application is also available at our website at [www.twp.northville.mi.us](http://www.twp.northville.mi.us) Resumes will not be accepted without a completed application. Equal Opportunity Employer.

## REAL ESTATE AGENT

Licensed to work approximately 20 hrs/wk. Doing administrative work, showing houses, etc. Must be available weekends. Fast paced, high production office with opportunity for more hrs. If desired. Email confidential resume, cover letter & references to: [realass05@comcast.net](mailto:realass05@comcast.net)

## REGIONAL BANK BRANCH MGR

A comm. bank is looking for an exp. Regional Mgr. Prior exp. Plus strong customer service, sales, mgmt. and training skills. req. Email resume to [oresume@hometownlife.com](mailto:oresume@hometownlife.com) or Fax: 734-522-9380

## SALES CONSULTANT

High end-couture bridal and evening attire seeking a sales consultant with solid experience. Position requires organization and poise with clientele and must be a persuasive communicator with strong deal closing abilities. Please send resume to [lanotte@msn.com](mailto:lanotte@msn.com) or fax: 248-723-4010

## SALES PERSON

T-Shirt cart at Laurel Park. \$7+ p/hr. Flexible hours. Seasonal. 1-800-583-6116 ext 13

## SERVICE COORDINATOR ASSESSMENT

Are you looking for a rewarding career where you can make a difference? WSC is hiring an Assessment Coordinator; duties include intake, case mgmt, and vocational counseling & assessment services. Requirements: strong verbal skills and report writing aptitude, MA degree in rehabilitation or human services & working towards or possess a CRC. Submit resume & salary req. to: [karac@wskills.com](mailto:karac@wskills.com) or fax: 810-227-1344 [www.wskills.com](http://www.wskills.com) EOE

## SERVICE PLUMBER

Top pay. Full benefits. Service exp. necessary. Ask for Jim. 248-556-1680

## SIDEWALK LABORERS

Snow Removal company needs sidewalk laborers. Must have valid drivers license. Up to \$15 per hour. Call for more information 248-676-0700

## SIGN INSTALLER

Lamar Advertising is looking for reliable workers. Must have a valid driver's license, not afraid of heights & must be willing to work outdoors year round. You must be able to pass pre-employment physical & drug test. Apply in person: Lamar Advertising 6405 N. Dix Rd. Westland, MI 48185 Located btwn Ford & Warren Rds.

## When seeking out the best deal check out the Observer & Eccentric Classifieds!

1-800-579-7355

## Help Wanted-General 5000

## PRESCHOOL TEACHER-PT

Needed for Canton licensed home daycare. 2-5. Daycare exp preferred. 734-455-4988

## BUSCH'S Fresh Food Ideas

## PRODUCE MANAGERS

Busch's is seeking knowledgeable and creative produce managers. Our managers ensure that our high guest service, superior facilities, and product quality standards are met.

Qualified candidates will have 2-3 years prior produce management experience, knowledge of computer applications, outstanding communication skills, and excellent guest engagement skills.

Growing company, excellent benefits, shift premiums, and more

For more info and to apply online, go to [www.buschs.com](http://www.buschs.com)

Apply at any of our stores, or e-mail resumes to [jobs@buschs.com](mailto:jobs@buschs.com)

## LOOKING FOR A CAREER (not a job.) a Career?

Change your life- Real Estate Sales Agent. Feel good about yourself, personally and financially.

CALL ED BOWLIN AT 734-591-5940, EXT. 107

## Machinists

Ocean living, warm all year! Skilled CNC machinists needed for a large manufacturer of chainsaws, in Virginia Beach, VA. Relocation costs paid. Exc pay and benefits! Fax or email resume to: [juliev@vskills.com](mailto:juliev@vskills.com) or Fax 810-227-1344. EOE

## MAINTENANCE

Person needed for Farmington apt. community. Must have exp. in carpentry, plumbing, electrical & HVAC. Position requires on-call responsibilities. A criminal and driving check will be run prior to employment. Apt. available after 30 days. Includes benefits and advancement opportunity. Call Patti at: 248-476-8080.

## MAINTENANCE TECH

Needed. Experience preferred. Apartment community, must have experience in HVAC, plumbing, electrical & prep. Must be available for on-call work. Please fax resume to Attn: Arden (734) 729-4021

## MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN

With apartment experience. Westland area. Fax resume 248-924-3315 or call 734-451-5210

## MANAGER

for quick tube. Exp. required. Plymouth area. Fax resume to S. Ray 313-292-1738

## MANICURIST NEEDED

For busy hair salon to service existing clients. No rent or percentage taken. All your own business. Call Kathy at 248-642-2882 or fax resume 248-642-7667

## MARKETING EVENT PLANNER

Fast-paced and deadline-driven Events Dept seeks highly-organized, personable and enthusiastic individual who is detail oriented and with exceptional computer skills, editing, proofreading, verbal and written comm. Multi-task position serves as liaison with suppliers, customers and other departments. Candidate will assist in the development of marketing mat. for mtgs and conventions, and will coordinate other meetings. Prior event or project mgmt required. Travel 20 days/year; O/T during peak seasons. Send resume and salary req. to:

Director, Human Resources - MEP P.O. Box 9060 Farmington Hills, MI 48333-9060 FAX: 248 848 3771 [barb.cheyne@concrete.org](mailto:barb.cheyne@concrete.org)

## MECHANIC NEEDED NIGHT SHIFT

to maintain 40 trucks with gravel train. EXPERIENCE is a must. Benefit package avail. 248-486-6593

## Mortgage Lending Managers

Do you have at least two years of mortgage lending experience, exceptional sales skills, and the desire to advance your career? If so, we're looking for you!

TCF is hiring experienced lenders to meet and exceed consumer loan production goals as Branch Lending Managers at new branches in Taylor, Dearborn Heights, and Allen Park.

TCF is a Wayzata, Minnesota-based national financial holding company with \$13.4 billion in assets. TCF Bank Michigan has more than \$2.4 billion in assets. TCF has more than 450 banking offices in Minnesota, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Colorado, and Indiana.

Apply at [www.tcfexpress.com](http://www.tcfexpress.com) or fax resume to 734.930.6199

## NATURE CENTER COORDINATOR

City of Troy (EOE) Part-time \$9.85/hr. HS grad/GED Computer & clerical exp req'd. Must be able to work weekends. Applications at: Human Resources, 500 W. Big Beaver Rd., Troy or [www.troy.mi.gov](http://www.troy.mi.gov)

## Public Safety Dispatcher/Clerk

Northville Township is accepting applications for full-time Dispatcher/Clerk. Essential functions include communicating with the public concerning crimes, medical emergencies and fires. Dispatching police, fire, and EMS. Starting wage of \$16.30 hr with benefits. Qualifications include:

- U.S. Citizen or resident alien with the right to work in the U.S.
- 18 years of age
- High School diploma or equivalent
- Computer skills
- 2-3 years dispatch experience

Candidates must successfully complete a testing process, background investigation, psychological, and physical. Applications are available and returned completed to: Charter Township of Northville, Human Resource Department, 44405 Six Mile Road, Northville, MI 48168 by Friday, December 29, 2006 - 02 p.m. An application is also available at our website at [www.twp.northville.mi.us](http://www.twp.northville.mi.us) Resumes will not be accepted without a completed application. Equal Opportunity Employer.

## REAL ESTATE AGENT

Licensed to work approximately 20 hrs/wk. Doing administrative work, showing houses, etc. Must be available weekends. Fast paced, high production office with opportunity for more hrs. If desired. Email confidential resume, cover letter & references to: [realass05@comcast.net](mailto:realass05@comcast.net)

## REGIONAL BANK BRANCH MGR

A comm. bank is looking for an exp. Regional Mgr. Prior exp. Plus strong customer service, sales, mgmt. and training skills. req. Email resume to [oresume@hometownlife.com](mailto:oresume@hometownlife.com) or Fax: 734-522-9380

## SALES CONSULTANT

High end-couture bridal and evening attire seeking a sales consultant with solid experience. Position requires organization and poise with clientele and must be a persuasive communicator with strong deal closing abilities. Please send resume to [lanotte@msn.com](mailto:lanotte@msn.com) or fax: 248-723-4010

## SALES PERSON

T-Shirt cart at Laurel Park. \$7+ p/hr. Flexible hours. Seasonal. 1-800-583-6116 ext 13

## SERVICE COORDINATOR ASSESSMENT

Are you looking for a rewarding career where you can make a difference? WSC is hiring an Assessment Coordinator; duties include intake, case mgmt, and vocational counseling & assessment services. Requirements: strong verbal skills and report writing aptitude, MA degree in rehabilitation or human services & working towards or possess a CRC. Submit resume & salary req. to: [karac@wskills.com](mailto:karac@wskills.com) or fax: 810-227-1344 [www.wskills.com](http://www.wskills.com) EOE

## SERVICE PLUMBER

Top pay. Full benefits. Service exp. necessary. Ask for Jim. 248-556-1680

## SIDEWALK LABORERS

Snow Removal company needs sidewalk laborers. Must have valid drivers license. Up to \$15 per hour. Call for more information 248-676-0700

## SIGN INSTALLER

Lamar Advertising is looking for reliable workers. Must have a valid driver's license, not afraid of heights & must be willing to work outdoors year round. You must be able to pass pre-employment physical & drug test. Apply in person: Lamar Advertising 6405 N. Dix Rd. Westland, MI 48185 Located btwn Ford & Warren Rds.

## When seeking out the best deal check out the Observer & Eccentric Classifieds!

1-800-579-7355

## Help Wanted-General 5000

## SNOW REMOVAL

D & B Landscaping, Inc. is seeking qualified on call personnel. Scope of work operating loaders, trucks, & deicing equipment for lots & walks on commercial sites in Wayne County. 734-524-1030

## SNOW PLOW DRIVERS

Shovelers & Sub-Contractors. Full/part time. Exc. wages w/overtime. Unique landscaping call. 734-389-2400

## SNOW PLOWING

Plow Drivers \$15-\$25/hr. Sidewalks \$10-\$18/hr. 4 Wheeler w/plow \$30-\$45/hr. Subs with Plow \$55-\$70/hr. (313) 562-9051 or fax 313-562-9084 or website: [greenerside.com](http://greenerside.com)

## STAFF ACCOUNTANT

(For service business in Farmington Hills) SEE OUR AD ON CAREER MARKET PLACE on the front of the Employment Section. American Laser Centers

## TAX PREPARER

Plymouth CPA Firm seeks experienced Tax Preparer. Fax Resume to 734-455-1655 or Email to [fantma@comcast.net](mailto:fantma@comcast.net)

## TEACHERS/TUTORS NEEDED

Premium \$ paid for Math & Science. Fax resume to 248-344-2208 or email [clubz17@comcast.net](mailto:clubz17@comcast.net)

## TELEMARKETERS NEEDED IMMEDIATELY

Open 7 days! Flexible scheduling! Email resume to [asteele@strategicclenders.com](mailto:asteele@strategicclenders.com) or Call Amy at 734-521-0198

## TILE TECHNICIAN

Virginia Tile Co. in Farmington Hills has a full-time 30-40 hour position. We are looking for an energetic detail oriented individual to work in a creative atmosphere. This position entails construction and physical work. The individual will be responsible for entering orders in our computer system; answering customer questions and assisting in the sales effort. This is an entry-level position. To qualify you must be available to work evenings and weekends. College students/home-makers welcome. Apply in person at the Gardner-White Furniture in Canton. 39453 Ford Road (next to Home Depot). 734-944-3190 [www.gardner-white.com](http://www.gardner-white.com)

## GIRL/BOY FRIDAY

Needed immediately. Multi tasker, adaptable, detail oriented. Knowledge of all office equipment. Able to work independently. 3 years exp. Fax resume 248-426-7773

## LEGAL SECRETARY-PT

Word Perfect. General practice, probate exp. Livonia area. Fax resume: 734-762-0707



# Sunday

## PUZZLE CORNER

Challenging fun for ALL ages

### CROSSWORD PUZZLER

#### ACROSS

- 1 "High —"
- 5 Green veggie
- 9 Pause fillers
- 12 Tony's cousin
- 13 Meadow browsers
- 14 Fair-hiring letters
- 15 — amandine
- 16 Browes, these days
- 18 Prime years
- 20 Juneau's st.
- 21 A Gershwin
- 22 "So long" (type)
- 26 Age, as cheese
- 29 Truckers' radios
- 30 Philosopher — tzu
- 31 Computer owner
- 32 Float along
- 33 Like a neat lawn
- 34 Southern st.

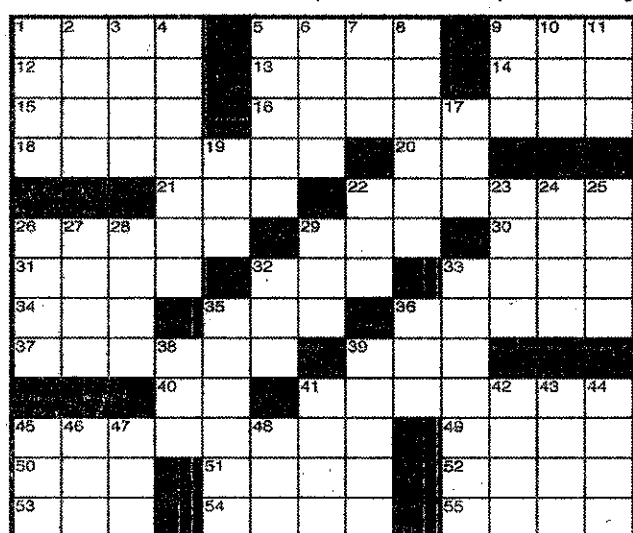
#### DOWN

- 35 Underwater shocker
- 36 Chickens
- 37 Feigning
- 38 Voight of films
- 40 Commercial
- 41 TV receptors
- 45 50-50 proposition (2 wds.)
- 49 MOMA artist
- 50 Python or wrap
- 51 Court summons
- 52 Relieve
- 53 Diner sandwich
- 54 Perm follow-ups
- 55 Hazard
- 1 Grab a snack
- 2 Wind instrument
- 3 Too smooth
- 4 Poorer
- 5 Safari country
- 6 Totally amazes
- 7 Hire out
- 8 Attempts
- 9 Always, to Byron
- 10 Ump's cousin

#### Answer to Previous Puzzle

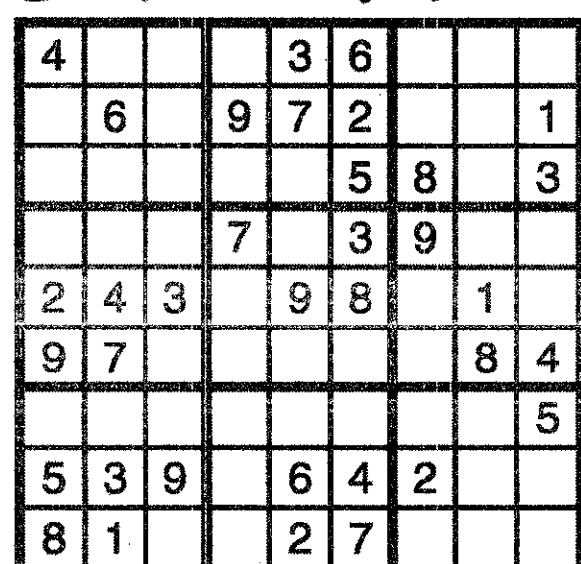
FIG CRAFT HUD  
LOO RELAX MHO  
UNO AJAR LOFT  
NOTES FA  
SF SEC BARBIE  
ALE STRANDING  
LASS LOC SLUG  
VISIGOTHS ERE  
OREGON EMU ED  
MP PLUTO  
AIDA TROT VON  
IVE EVERT ALI  
LYE SASSY LEX

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- 11 Call for help letters
- 17 Luau strummer
- 19 Prince's son
- 22 Consumer protection org.
- 23 Hit the horn
- 24 Ketch's cousin
- 25 Practically forever
- 26 Lion's mane
- 27 "La — Bonita" (Madonna song)
- 28 Mountain top
- 29 Army off.
- 32 Implore
- 33 Nickname
- 35 Provides funds
- 36 Gift-tag word
- 38 Olm or Fleming
- 39 Kids around
- 41 Mine opening
- 42 Asian mountains
- 43 What you pay at sales
- 44 Go in search of
- 45 Diminish
- 46 TV knob
- 47 Pack it away
- 48 Rapper Dr. —

## SUDOKU



#### Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Level: Beginner

#### Here's How It Works:

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

## SEEK AND FIND

FIND THESE WORDS IN THE PUZZLE BELOW.

FETTUCCINE  
LASAGNA  
LINGUINE

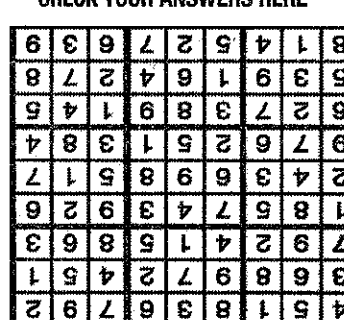
MANICOTTI  
RAVIOLI  
RIGATONI

SPAGHETTI  
TORTELLINI  
VERMICELLI

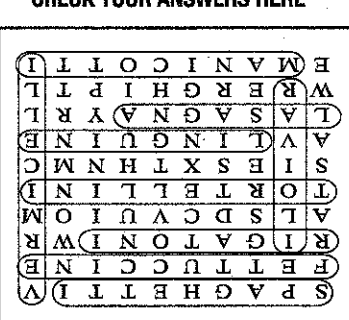
THE WORDS READ UP, DOWN AND ACROSS.

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

#### CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE



#### CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE



SUDOKU

SEEK AND FIND

# careerbuilder.com™

#### Help Wanted-Food/Beverage 5080

**COOK**  
PT, Nights & Weekends  
Apply at  
Starting Gate Saloon  
135 N. Center St., Northville

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Great People.  
Real Opportunities.  
**PRODUCTION COOK**  
Chartwells School Dining  
Service is seeking a  
Production Cook in the  
Detroit surrounding area.  
Duties include cooking and  
ordering. Culinary  
background and prior exp.  
required. Mandatory back-  
ground check.  
**FAX RESUME TO:**  
(248) 347-4296, EOE

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Exp. professional server with  
wine knowledge. Full or part  
time. Good work environment.  
**FIAMMA GRILLE**  
in Plymouth 734-416-9340  
Ask for Patrick or Gayle

#### WAITRESS & HOSTESSES

**OLGAS KITCHEN**  
NOW HIRING in West  
Bloomfield. Apply in person at  
6655 Orchard Lake Rd. or Call  
248-855-3630

#### Help Wanted-Health & Fitness 5100

**FITNESS TOGETHER** is looking  
for Qualified Personal  
Trainers for W. Bloomfield &  
Novi locations. E-mail resume  
to: boosadikot@  
fitnesstogogether.com

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#### A CAREER IN REAL ESTATE

ON-LINE CAREER  
SEMINARS  
Tuesday 7-8 pm  
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For a Webex  
Invitation  
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• GM vehicle discounts  
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• Company referral  
• Commission splits from  
50-100%  
• GM health insurance  
discount  
Jackie Scherbaty  
jscherbaty@gmackee.com  
(734) 564-6153

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Unique  
Restaurant  
Looking for  
Unique People...



Join the California Pizza  
Kitchen team at our  
Farmington Hills  
location for fun hourly  
opportunities!

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#### Servers

**CPK team**  
members enjoy:  
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• Great Pay  
• Excellent Training  
• Great Health Benefits

Apply in person:  
**Hunter's Square**  
in Farmington Hills  
Ph: (248) 737-5912  
www.cpk.com  
EOE

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at it's best!

Observer & Eccentric

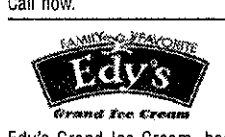
#### Help Wanted-Sales 5120

**A CAREER IN REAL ESTATE!**  
**All Real Estate COMPANIES ARE NOT THE SAME**  
If you are serious about  
entering the business  
and profession of Real  
Estate Sales, you owe it  
to yourself to invest-  
igate why we are #1 in  
the market place and  
best suited to insure  
your success. Call  
**LILLIAN SANDERSON**  
(734) 392-6000  
OR **ALISSA NEAD**  
(734) 459-6000  
**COLDWELL BANKER**  
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#### AUTO SALES NEW & USED

**CRESTWOOD DODGE**  
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Earn ONE THOUSAND DOL-  
LARS each day with tested,  
proven, easily duplicatable  
"Three Step Success System"  
that is creating MILLION-  
AIRES! 24 hour info line 800-  
887-1897. Change your life.  
Call now.



Edy's Grand Ice Cream, has  
built a successful business  
On the principles that one per-  
son can make a difference  
and that excellent people pro-  
duce excellent results!

#### Route Sales Representative

- All candidates must have a valid CDL B or higher
- Strong communication skills and customer relations skills
- Route sales /DSO and retail experience is preferred
- Must be able to lift up to 50lbs
- Must be able to work in sub zero climate conditions

#### COVER LETTER w/RESUME

E-MAILED OR SENT TO:  
Edy's Grand Ice Cream  
Attention: Tina Weber  
P.O. Box 7002  
Novi, Michigan 48375  
tnweber@edy.com

#### MUST RECEIVE ALL INQUIRIES BY

Friday December 8th.  
WE OFFER COMPREHENSIVE  
BENEFIT PACKAGE & SALARY.  
All Applicants will be  
required to pass a Drug  
Screen & Background Check.  
We are an EEO Employer



Established Construction  
Company Specializing in  
Insurance restoration is  
hiring Salespeople with  
the following requirements:  
extensive construction  
knowledge, above average  
computer skills. Xactimate  
exp. a plus. Salary, com-  
mission, benefits, compa-  
ny vehicle & phone.  
Please e-mail resumes to  
ajawad@comcast.net  
or fax to 248-414-6836

#### INSIDE SALES

For heavy duty truck parts.  
Exp. necessary, great hours.  
\$40-70k per yr. 734-786-3757.

#### REAL ESTATE SALES

An elite residential real  
estate firm seeks to add a  
limited number of full time  
professionals to its highly  
skilled team of sales con-  
sultants. If you would like  
to be considered, visit us at  
**www.WeirManual.com**  
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evaluator" and take our on-  
line interactive assessment.  
We will contact you with  
the results.

#### CLASSIFIEDS

THAT WORK FOR YOU!

1-800-579-SELL

#### Help Wanted-Sales 5120

**SALES & MARKETING DIRECTOR:**  
Modular home builder to over-  
see and train sales managers to  
meet sales goals and com-  
plete all marketing functions.  
B.A. in business/marketing 2+  
yrs experience, good knowl-  
edge of residential sales, con-  
struction & development,  
financial reporting, finance  
and mortgage experience.  
E-mail resume:  
dcooper@prebestohomes.com

#### SALES PROFESSIONAL

No exp. necessary. Must be  
mature, responsible & moti-  
vated. Top compensation.  
Good professional work envi-  
ronment. For used car lot in  
Garden City. Apply to  
Jim Daniel 734-427-1550 or  
Fax 734-427-7006

#### Senior Community Sales/Marketing

Luxury Senior Com-  
munity in the Canton  
area is seeking an EXPE-  
RIENCED Sales and  
Marketing Consultant to  
fill a full time position  
working with seniors.  
Candidates must have  
an affinity for working  
with senior population.  
Must be able to work  
some weekends and  
have good computer  
skills. We offer competi-  
tive wages and very gen-  
erous commissions.  
Please mail resume to:  
P.O. Box 255005  
West Bloomfield, MI.  
48225-3005  
Attn:Leasing-Senior

#### TELESALES PROFESSIONALS

Large Ad Agency is seeking a  
sales exec and a prospecting  
exec. Resume required, com-  
petitive salary + commission.  
Fax resume to 248-354-0069

#### Help Wanted-Part-Time 5200

#### AVON NEEDS

Representatives Now!  
Call 734-425-1947

#### Help Wanted-Domestic 5240

#### HANDICAPPED PROFESSIONAL

- needs driver-  
er twice a week, \$10 per hr.  
Livonia. 248-474-2921.

#### PERSON WANTED

to care for our 11 yr. old  
Schauzer in their home when  
we travel. 734-455-4581

#### Job Opportunities 5310

#### ANNOUNCEMENT\*\* 2006

POSTAL JOBS! \$14.80 to  
\$59.00 hour. PLUS full federal  
benefits. NOW HIRING! No  
experience required. Green  
Card OK. Call today!  
1-866-297-7126 ext 42.  
Closed Sundays

#### ASSEMBLE MAGNETS & CRAFTS FROM HOME!

Year-round work! Excellent pay! No  
experience! Top US company!  
Glue gun, painting, jewelry &  
more! Toll free  
1-866-398-1113 code 2.

#### CLEANERS (OFFICES-APTS- HOTELS)

Start today. Part-  
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exp. necessary. Day or night  
flex hrs. \$17.00 per call.  
1-900-835-9300

#### Cool Travel Job!!

One month  
paid training! \$500 sign on  
bonus, must be free to travel  
& start today. 1-888-297-4445

#### DATA ENTRY! Work from Anywhere.

Flexible hours.  
Personal computer required.  
Excellent career opportunity.  
Serious inquiries only. 1-800-  
344-3636 Ext 224

#### FREE CASH GRANTS! 2006!

\$700-\$800.00. Personal bills,  
school, business/housing.  
Approx. \$49 billion unclaimed  
2005! Almost anyone qual-  
ified! Live operators! List to:  
1-800-592-0362 ext. 238.

#### GOVERNMENT JOBS \$12-\$48/hr.

Full benefits/Paid  
Training. Work available in  
areas like Homeland Security,  
Law Enforcement, Wildlife and  
more!  
1-800-320-9353 x. 2002

#### Job Opportunities 5310

Help wanted earn extra  
income, assembling CD cases  
from home. Start immediately,  
no experience necessary. 1-  
800-341-6573 ext 1395.  
www.easywork-greatpay.com

#### MOVIE EXTRAS

Make up to  
\$250/day. All looks and ages.  
1-800-714-7341

#### Post office now hiring.

Average pay \$20/hour or  
\$57K annually including fed-  
eral benefits and OT. Paid  
training, vacations, P/T/FT. 1-  
800-584-1775 USWA  
Reference #P3801

#### SECRET SHOPPERS NEEDED

for store evaluations. Get paid  
to shop. Local stores, restau-  
rants & theaters. Training pro-  
vided, flexible hours. Email  
required.  
1-800-585-9024 ext 6600.

#### Position Wanted 5340

#### MATURE WOMAN SEEKS

FULL TIME CLERICAL Type  
48 wpm, 10-key 15,000. Over  
20 yrs. customer service.  
(734) 721-6747

#### NEED A PERSONAL ASSISTANT?

Shopping, errands, house sit-  
ting, cooking, baking, etc...  
Anne 734-626-0356

#### Childcare/Baby-Sitting Services 5370

**NANNY** Experienced caregiver  
seeks part-time nanny posi-  
tion. Will do light housework.  
248-552-0534

#### Childcare Needed 5380

#### BABYSITTER - Flexible part

time mature person needed in  
my Canton home. Reliable  
transportation a must. Call Jill  
734-927-4495.

#### CHILD CARE POSITION

For exp & honest caregiver.  
Min. 15+ hrs., afternoons/  
even. Commerce Area. Non  
smoker. Call 248-444-4494

#### NANNIES NEEDED

Downtown River area. \$400  
per week. Call 313-583-0353.

#### Education/Instruction 5600

#### BEGINNING PIANO

LESSONS 10 yrs exp., Call for  
times & days 734-454-7639  
or call: 734-277-6968.

#### Fight Poverty in Africa!

14-20 month program  
Teach English, Fundraising  
630-618-0000

#### www.icdmichigan.org

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#### DIVORCE

\$75.00  
CS&R 734-425-1074

#### Financial Services 5640

#### ACCESS LAWSUIT CASH

NOW!!! AS seen on TV, injury  
lawsuit dragging? Need \$500-  
\$500,000+ within 48hours? Low  
rates. APPLY NOW BY  
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www.cash-for-cases.com

#### Bad credit? Stop suffering!

Remove all negative accounts  
off your credit report!  
Everything from charge-offs,  
collections to bankruptcies,  
and repossessions. 150%  
GUARANTEED! Fast results!  
1-877-558-1400

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\$25,000+ \*2006\* NEVER  
REPAY! Personal, medical  
bills, business, school/house.  
Almost everyone qualified!  
Live operators. Avoid dead  
lines! Listings 1-800-785-  
9615 ext 239

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Advertise your business  
opportunity nationally to  
approximately 11 million  
households in North America's  
best suburbs by placing our  
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urban newspapers just like  
this one. Call the Suburban  
Classified Advertising Network  
at 888-486-2466  
www.suburban-news.org/scan

#### ALL CASH CANDY ROUTE.

Do you earn up to \$800/day?  
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Includes 30 machines and  
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million dollars is possible for  
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#### EARN \$1,000 WEEKLY! \$5

Processing customer returns  
from home! Earn \$15.00 per  
return guaranteed. Extremely  
easy. No experience needed.  
Everyone qualified! Amazing  
business opportunity.  
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#### ENVELOPES 100-\$6,000.

Receive \$5 for every envelope  
stuffed with our sales materi-  
al. Guaranteed! Free informa-  
tion: 24 hour recording 1-  
800-920-8981

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ing business. 4,300  
European dealers. New to  
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mites and harmful allergens.  
Big profits, small investment.  
Hygienitech 1-888-999-9030.  
www.hygienitech.com

#### NEW YEAR, NEW YOU! Start

the new year off right with a  
fresh, new opportunity to  
grow. What if you could work  
from home, be your own boss  
and set your own schedule  
where would today take you?  
Contact me at 207-748-3140,  
betty-desisto@hotmail.com or  
check out www.yourhealthy-  
choices.myarbonne.com and  
I'll introduce you to the  
Arbonne Opportunity and so  
much more!

#### TIMING IS EVERYTHING!!!

Market the #1 Super Health  
Food in America. F/T market-  
ing reps average comm.  
\$64,000 annually; P/T reps  
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Spring clean-ups, re-landscaping & new landscaping, grading, sodding, hydro-seeding, all types retaining walls installed, brick walks & patios. Drainage systems, lawn irrigation systems, low foundations built up. Weekly lawn maintenance. Comm/Res. 33 yrs. exp. Lic & Ins. Free Est. 248-489-5955, 313-868-1711

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# Market Place

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**6000-6980**  
**Announcements**  
LOOK HERE

**Announcements & Notices 6000**

The Annual Meeting of the Stockholders of the Wayne Musician's Tenor Association shall be held at 37137 Palmer Rd., Westland on Dec. 12, 2006 at 8pm for the election of directors & such other business as may properly come before said meeting.

**Health, Nutrition, Weight Loss 6420**

**PRESCRIPTIONS LESS THAN CANADA!** MONTH: Flomax \$27.00, Fosamax \$16.00, Plavix \$45.00, Singulair \$51.00, Norvasc \$26.00, Advair \$50.00, Evista \$32.00, Viagra \$2.75, Global Medicines 1-866-634-0720  
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**7000-7780**  
**Merchandise**

**Absolutely Free 7000**

**Christmas tree 9 foot artificial.** No lights. (734) 455-2445

**7015 - Party-Events 7015**

**THE LADIES OF GRACE**  
Cordially invite you to a Christmas Victorian Tea. Sat. Dec. 9th, 12noon-3pm. A traditional, Victorian Luncheon will be served & you will be blessed w/ devotion & reading to encourage & uplift you. Held at Grace Baptist Church, 28440 Lyndon, Livonia, MI 48154. Please RSVP no later than Dec 6th to Helen Andrews. 313-532-8374. Victorian dress requested, but not mandatory. A donation would be appreciated.

**Antiques/Collectibles 7020**

**DINING ROOM SET** English Barley Twist Dining Room Table and 4 Chairs. Oak. 42" x 42" with 2-1/2" self-storing leaves, chairs with cushions, & table pads. Very good condition. \$650 - 734-667-2966

**PINBALL MACHINE**  
HI-SPEED. THE GET AWAY. Mfg. by Williams, professionally restored. Used personally, exc. cond \$2000/best offer. Call: 734-383-3791

**SECRETARY 1930s:** Rocking horse; Small desk-Eastlake style; Hayward/Wakefield tables. 248-646-7266

**TRAIN COLLECTION FOR SALE** - Pre-war & Post-war accessories & sets. Call Alex for further info: 248-464-1712

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**Auction Sales 7060**

**MIDWEST MERCHANDISING**  
Huge Estate Tag Sale  
Thurs & Fri. Dec. 7th & 8th  
Doors open 9am until 5pm  
(Numbers at 8:00am)  
Estate is located in Detroit The Boston-Edison District  
For photos & location go to midwesttag.com, then click estates  
OR call 734-462-5938 after 5pm Dec. 6th for location

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5765 MUNGER ROAD  
YPSILANTI, MI  
Sat, Dec. 9th, @ 10 AM  
Estate of Ruthana and Charles Liskow  
Complete details with pics @ Braunanddheimer.com  
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AUCTION SERVICE  
David Helmer 734-368-1733

**Moving Sales 7130**

**CANTON** 250 S. Lotz, S/ Cherryhill. Fri & Sat 12/8 & 9, 9-5. Antiques, furniture, sewing machines, books, etc.

**NOVI ESTATE SALE** - Whole Home Filled! Dec. 7, 8, 9, 10 (9am-6pm). 26893 Roric, Novi, off Hagerty, between 12 Mile and Grand River.

**REDFORD** Sun, 12/3 12-5 & Thurs 12/7 12-8. 24476 Schoolcraft. Violin, power tools, 10sp Ross, r/c airplanes/model railroad, fishing & camping gear, chemical glassware, kitchenware, etc.

**Household Goods 7160**

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**BUNK BEDS** - dark wood. \$125; Deep Chest Freezer-big, moderate condition-\$125. 248-789-0515

**Household Goods 7180**

**DESK** Rolltop oak, lg size. New. \$450; CHEST of drawers, good cond. \$75. Round Oak Table-54", very old. exc. cond. \$475. 248-651-7674

**DINING ROOM** table w/2 leaves, 8 chairs & china cabinet. Classic Victorian. Cherry. \$1800. 248-651-7946

**DINING SET** - Brown mahogany ball & claw Chippendale table, 6 chairs, semi-antique. 44"x60" opens to 92", pads. Matching china. Pristine condition \$2800. 248-474-4667

**DINING TABLE** 84" oblong pedestal, walnut, 3 leaves, 6 chairs, lighted china cabinet. \$450/best. 734-340-5888

**FURNITURE** - Drexel Mahogany 3 pc. wall unit: 2 lighted curbs w/glass doors & 1 open shelf unit \$800; sofa & lamp tables \$125 each. All light wood & exc cond. Oval pedestal dining table w/6 chairs, pattern grain light wood, opens to 100"x44", Art Deco style \$900. Other misc. furniture & artwork. 248-477-6836

**FURNITURE** - Oak pedestal dining table (72" with leaves) & 6 chairs, \$500. Oak entertainment center with lights & mirrors (holds 32" TV) \$350. 734-729-6814, 734-765-3915

**HUTCH** - Mint cond! Hardrock maple, 2 door buffet & detachable cabinet with 2 shelves. \$100. 734-455-1811

**LEAVING STATE**  
Must sell will sacrifice our household of beautiful new furniture. Items include: cherry 10 piece kitchen dining set, cost over \$4400 will sacrifice for \$2250. Also have cherry 12 piece king size master queen set, cherry 12 piece queen size bedrm. set, two 3 piece cherry coffee table sets, two grandfather clocks, cherry sofa tables, 5 piece cherry pub set, 5 piece cherry game set, Mirrored pedestal plant stand. Gorgeous 11 piece cherry formal dining room set. Many decorative lamps, large executive cherry & burrol office desk, pictures, silk trees, mirrors, and etc. All less than 3 months old and in perfect condition. Must be sold as soon as possible.  
Please call 248-293-0744

**MISC.** Washer & dryer \$300, oak bunk bed \$200, cabinet TV stand. Anytime. (734) 326-7485

**MISC.** Double loft bed, white, almost new single/twin bunk bed & 10' Christmas tree. Call after 5pm 734-710-0734

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**POOL TABLE** 4 x 8 Brunswick reproduction "Madison". Leather pockets, beautiful wood and new felt \$2000. Grosse Pointe. 248-709-1224

**TUB, CLAW & BALL** Porcelain, 4.5 ft. long, 30" high. No chips, great condition. \$300/best offer. (313) 510-7900

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**APPLIANCES** - Kenmore fridge 18 cubic, 31"x63", \$150. Kenmore washer, heavy-duty, 90 series, \$100. Whirlpool dryer, 1 yr old, quiet dry, super capacity, \$200. 734-459-0406

**Bargain Buys 7200**

**MISC.** Cherry dining rm set (table, 2 leafs, 6 chairs, lighted china cabinet) \$500. Assort. household items & furniture. 313-588-0147

**MISC.** Home Gym w/weights. Good cond. \$100/best. Microwave (works) \$40/best. 734-421-3815

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**EXERCISE BIKE** Recumbent 1 yr old, \$75. Roadmaster treadmill \$75. Very good cond. 734-591-8162

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Auction Dates: Friday, December 8th at 6:30pm, Saturday, December 9th at 11:00am; Sunday, December 10th at Noon.  
Exhibition Dates: Friday, December 1st, Saturday, December 2nd, Tuesday, December 5th, Thursday, December 7th from 9:30am - 5:30pm; Wednesday, December 6th 9:30am - 8:30pm

**Do Mouchelles**  
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