

'A Galaxy of Stars': Observer All-Area teams for fall prep sports inside today

SPECIAL SECTION INSERTED IN TODAY'S OBSERVER

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#### SUNDAY December 17, 2006

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**Observer** 

Canton firefighters try to put out a blaze Wednesday at the Canton Crossing apartments that caused a million dollars in damages and displaced numerous families.

## Blaze rips through apartments in Canton

Ryan pact could add extra year

Your hometown newspaper

serving Canton for 32 years

School board could eye search for successor

BY TONY BRUSCATO STAFF WRITER

A contract extension is in the works for Plymouth-Canton Schools Supt. Jim Ryan that could keep him employed by the district until July 2008.

Discussions are under way on a contract that will keep

Ryan as superintendent for up to a year past his current pact, which expires in July 2007.

"We haven't come to finalization on that," said Barry Simescu, Board of Education president. "There are still some issues to be worked out. That process will take place down the road, but not right now." Simescu said the discus-

sions have been on hold as the board and Ryan work to pass the \$62.1 million bond issue that will be presented to voters Feb. 27. "The bond issue is taking

a lot of our time," Simescu

said. "If we can work out

details, (then a new con-



School Superintendent Dr. Jim Ryan, here welcoming back teachers at the beginning of

STAFF WRITER

Fire officials are still investigating the cause of a blaze Wednesday afternoon that damaged two residences at the Canton Crossing apartments.

No one was injured in the fire, which officials said started on a second-floor balcony. we still have a few more people to interview but at this point we believe it was an accident," said Canton Fire Chief Michael Rorabacher.

At the complex, located off of Joy Road near I-275, yellow tape surrounded the burned area of the building a day after the fire. At one end, windows have been shattered, a portion of the roof appears to by-side balconies are charred.

Rorabacher estimated the blaze caused \$750,000 in structural damage and \$250,000 in personal loss.

"Any fire is a tragedy but it's especially bad this close to the holidays," he said.

Bryan Peckinpaugh, American Red Cross spokesman, said the organization gave the fire vicpurchase food and clothing.

"Normally, we'd put them up in a hotel for at least one night but (apartment management) had already given them empty units," he said. "The Red Cross is there to help in the time of need and give people immediate assistance to get back on their feet."

PLEASE SEE FIRE, A3

Card party

the year, could get a contract extension that would keep him in Plymouth-Canton until the end of the 2007-08 year.

tract) is expected." Ryan, who was deputy superintendent under Kathleen Booher, was named interim superintendent in

PLEASE SEE RYAN, AG

## Cops nab woman with fake AmEx certificates

#### BY TONY BRUSCATO STAFF WRITER

A Canton Township woman who thought she would be making easy money for simply cashing checks for a man living abroad is instead facing prison time after being arrested for attempting to pass counterfeit certificates at a Plymouth bank.

According to Plymouth Police Chief Wayne Carroll, 33-year-old Jodi Anne Nelson was mailed 11 American Express certificates worth \$500 apiece by a man she met on the Internet.

"She claimed to have gotten the checks from a man named Kelvin, a Nigerian living in Britain, who said he couldn't cash the checks where he lives," Carroll said. "She was supposed to cash them and send 90 percent back to him, and she could keep 10 percent (\$550)."

Carroll said Nelson first attempted to cash the checks at the Chase Bank

branch on Ann Arbor Road, but couldn't because she didn't have a bank account.

"She went back the next day and opened an account, and attempted to cash the 11 checks," Carroll said. "The cashier couldn't get them to scan, and discovered American Express doesn't make \$500 gift checks."

Nelson has been charged with 11 counts of uttering and publishing, each with a maximum prison time of 14 years upon conviction. She is free on \$500 bond after being arraigned in 35th District Court by Magistrate Eric Colthurst.

Carroll said authorities also confiscated Nelson's computer and 1995 Saturn.

"This kind of crime is greed driven," Carroll said. ""If you're going to set your morals aside for greed, then you're going to pay the price."

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## Students send veterans holiday greetings

Daniel Corliss sat as his desk at Starkweather Education Center, glitter spilled all around him.

The 19-year-old Plymouth Township student was trying to be meticulous in designing a candy cane on a homemade Christmas card.

"I'm a stickler for details," Corliss said. "There's glitter everywhere. I'll probably sneeze the stuff."

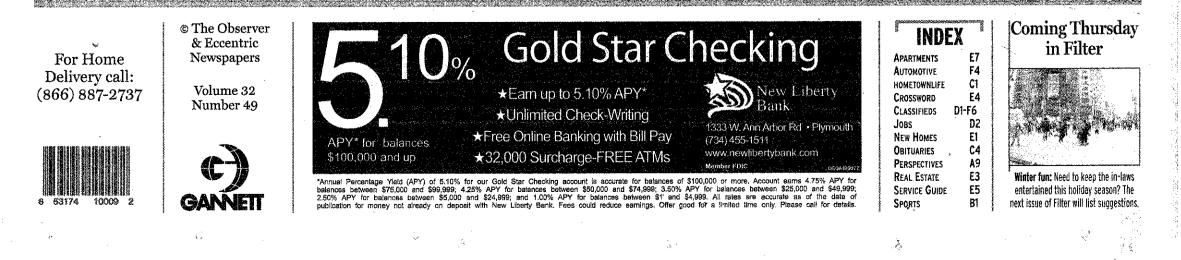
Corliss and fellow students from Kim Del Proposto's "Seminar" class weren't just coloring, cutting and pasting. They were learning how to give back to their community by making Christmas cards for veterans at the VA Hospital in Ann Arbor.

"When you're doing something



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHE

PLEASE SEE GREETINGS, A6 One of the cards Allison Kirby made for veterans at the VA Hospital had a Rudolph theme.



#### **AROUND CANTON**

#### Swing music

(C)

A2

The 19-piece Swing City Big Band will be playing the its brand of swing music from the big band era of the 1940s will perform at 8 p.m., Jan. 5 at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton. The event will feature door prizes, and open dance floor and cocktails. Tickets are \$12. For more information about tickets and the show, call (734) 394-5460, or visit www.cantonmi.org/villagetheater/index.as p. For more information about the band, visit www.swingcitybigband.org.

#### **Dueling pianos**

The show Dueling Pianos Michael and Amy -- LIVE from New York is scheduled for 8 p.m., Dec. 23 at the Village Theater.

Michael and Amy have created a distinct and energetic interactive music and comedy dueling pianos side. This dynamic duo has captured the best elements of the wildly popular dueling pianos entertainment concept, mixed in their own premium blend of family-friendly comedy, added their years of theatrical performance and production experience to create a enter-



tainment thrill ride. Come ready to be part of the show. Tickets are \$25 (groups of 15 or more pay only \$22 each)

There will be a martini and Tapas pre-concert event in the Biltmore Studio at 7 p.m. The cost of the event, which is open to persons aged 21 and older) is \$15 per person.

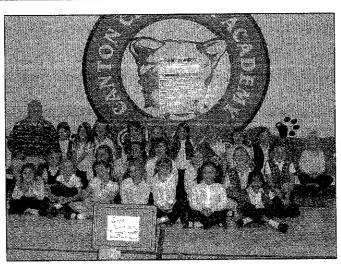
#### Tri-City Christmas musical

The children of Tri-City Christian Center will present the musical drama "The Perfect Neighborhood" at 7 p.m., Dec. 22 at Tri-City Christian Center, 3855 Sheldon Road in Canton. The children will perform carols, and take a musical journey through what appears to be a perfect neighborhood in this topsy-turvy modern production that explores the real meaning of Christmas.

Admission is free. For more information, contact Sandy Bazner at (734) 397-1777.

#### Head Start openings

Plymouth Canton Head Start, which is a free preschool program, is now enrolling children that are 3- and 4-yearolds. There are openings at all three locations, including on Sheldon Road at Michigan Avenue, the Full Gospel location on Palmer in Canton and one site in Plymouth. Children will be placed at the location



#### A visionary troop

Members of Brownie Troop 1385 (based out of Canton Charter Academy) surpassed all expectations by collecting 442 pair of used eye glasses, which they donated to the Canton Lions Club. Lions member Aldona Chew (back row) visited the troop to accept the glasses. The glasses are recycled and sent to third world countries, according to Lions member Charlie Mott. 'It took the girls about a week to collect the glasses. It usually takes us about three-four months to collect that many. It was quite an accomplishment,' Mott said.

that is closest to their home. To enroll a child or for more information, call (734) 326-6271. 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 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.

#### 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 or call (734) 416-7800.

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

#### Home Expo applications available

Applications to participate in Canton's 2007 Home Improvement Expo and Parade of Homes are now available on the township Web site at www.canton-mi.org. The Expo is scheduled to be held next year on March 3-4.

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.

#### Artists sought

The application deadline for the Plymouth Canton Symphony Society's Youth Artist Competition is Monday, Jan. 22. The competition is scheduled to take place on Sunday, Feb. 4 at Evola Music, 7170 N. Haggerty Road in Canton. The Plymouth Canton Symphony Society recognizes young orchestral talent from greater Plymouth-Canton and surrounding communities.

Since 1978, this competition has offered music scholarships to the youth in these areas.

The competition is composed of three divisions: Senior Instrumental (grades 10-12), Senior Piano (grades 10-12), and Junior Combined (grades 7-9). Applicants must be piano, band or orchestra students residing in one of the following school districts: Clarenceville, Livonia, Northville, Novi, Plymouth-Canton, Van Buren (Belleville) or Wayne-Westland, Members of the Celebration Youth Orchestra or students at Evola Music are also eligible.

The distribution of scholarship funds for the first place winners in each division is as follows: Senior Instrumental \$500; Senior Piano - \$500; and Junior Combined - \$250. If applicable, honorable mentions will also be acknowledged.

Applications, available through the Plymouth Canton Symphony Society, are due on or before Monday, Jan. 22. Past participants are encouraged to reapply; however, musicians are eligible to win only one First Prize Award in each division. Winners may have the opportunity to perform with the PSO and Orchestra Canton.

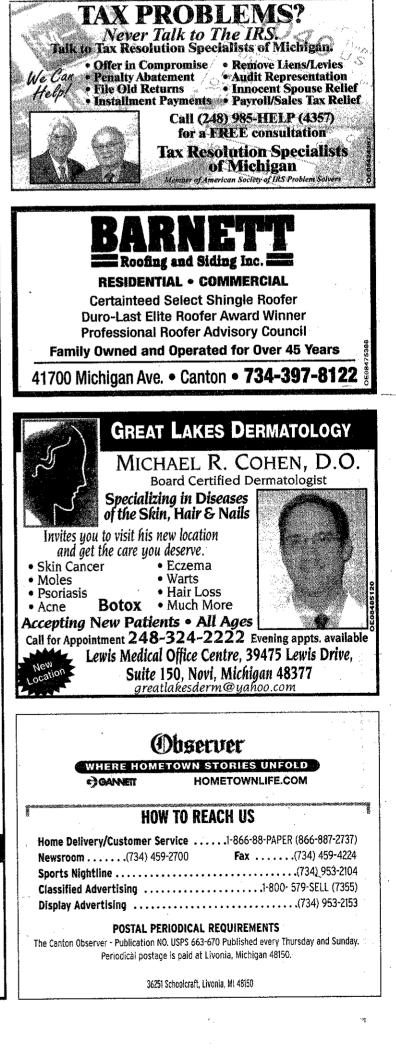
For an application and/or further information, please contact Ellen Elliott at (734) 451-2112, or by e-mail at ellen@plymouthsymphony.org . Applications are also available on the Plymouth Symphony Web site at www.plymouthsymphony.org.

#### Chamber luncheon

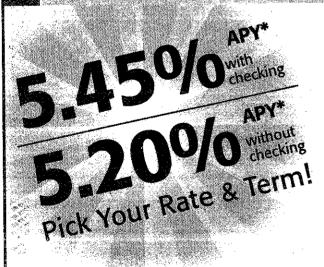
The Canton Chamber of Commerce will host its January networking luncheon 11 a.m., Jan. 10, at Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway, in Canton. The cost for lunch is \$20.

The January luncheon will begin at 11 a.m. with the "Who's Who & What Can I Do!" program. Following lunch, 35th District Court Judge Mike Gerou will swear in the 2007 Board of Directors.

To make your reservation, contact the chamber at (734) 453-4040.



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## Starting 'Anew'

### After 19 years, salon owner goes for a new look

#### **BY TIFFANY L. PARKS** STAFF WRITER

When Carol Beale signed up for her first cosmetology class, her only goal was not to make her three daughters bald.

"I was doing all these things to their hair so I just wanted to make sure I knew what I was doing," she said. "I went to beauty school just as a mom."

More than two decades later, her daughters have grown up and moved out and she's still styling hair.

Beale is the owner of Salon Anew, 43355 Joy Road in Canton.

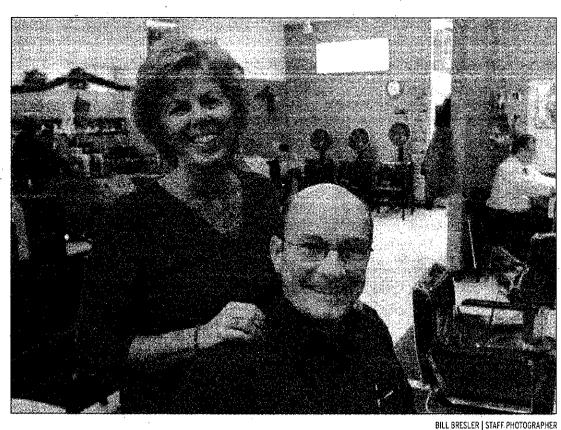
"I didn't set out to make a career of this but I love it," she said. "I love cutting, I love coloring - I just love everything."

Beale's 19-year-old business, formerly named City Looks Salon, recently severed ties with the City Looks franchise and was renamed.

"We've changed names but we're still the same," she said, adding that customers have taken to the salon's new identi-

Beale, who has dozens of regular clients, owns Salon Anew with her husband, Dennis, and employs 21 people.

"She works hard," Dennis Beale said. "There's a lot of



Carol and Dennis Beale ditched their 19-year franchise and opened Salon Anew on Joy Road.

behind the scenes work that has to be done, but she enjoys what she does."

Still the hairdresser of her daughters, Beale said she's thrilled five granddaughters have been added to the mix.

"One wants a trim, another wants side-swept bangs and another one wants highlights," she said jokingly. "My 3-yearold granddaughter just cut her bangs because she wants to look just like her grandma — I thought that was the cutest thing.

With a slew of loyal customers backing the business, Beale says she was excited

about the new name because the core of the salon remains the same.

"I love making people look great and feel great," she said. Longtime customer Susan Curd began frequenting the salon more than 15 years ago

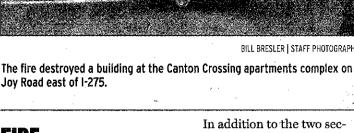
and said she often gives Beale "free reign" over her hair.

"She's a doll," Curd said, as Beale chimed in, "I think I've done a million different styles on you."

Mulling over her past 19 years in business, Beale said she doesn't plan on hanging up her shears anytime soon. "I'm not ready yet," she said,

shaking her head. "This is a fun, happy place to be." Salon Anew is located at

43355 Joy Road. For more information call (734) 451-8250.



FIRE FROM PAGE A1

When the fire department arrived at the scene, the building was already empty and firefighters were forced to retreat from the interior of the building because of the severity of the flames.

"We had 20 firefighters out there," Rorabacher said. "This one was difficult in that there was a lot of wind that afternoon."

In addition to the two second-story units that had flame damage, the ground-level apartments suffered water damage and the entire building has smoke damage.

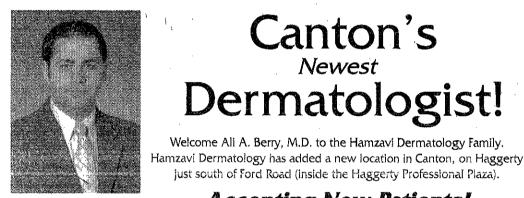
BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Florin Pop, a Canton Crossing resident who lives in a nearby building, said the fire had engulfed the complex in black smoke.

"Everyone is feeling really bad for (the people who lived there)," he said.

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# District's revenues, spending increase for '06-'07 budget

#### BY SUE MASON STAFF WRITER

The bottom line is better than expected, at least for now, in the Wayne-Westland Community Schools.

**A**4

(C)

According to budget amendment approved by the school board earlier this month, the district will take in an additional \$1.07 million, boosting revenues to \$117.1 million for the 2006-2007 budget year. Expenses also will be up an additional \$789,000, translating into a lower budget deficit.

According to Gary Martin, deputy superintendent for administrative and business services, the district had planned to use \$3.2 million of its fund equity to cover its revenue shortfall, but the figure is now \$2.9 million.

"We'll have a \$13.9 million end balance which is 11.5 percent of budget, slightly below what the auditors would like to see," said Gary Martin, deputy superintendent for administrative and business services in presenting the amendment to the school board.

A bulk of the added revenue is due to a larger than projected student enrollment, according to Linda Kempton, executive director of business and operations. School aid and local property taxes brought in an addition \$1.06 million with miscellaneous fees and tuition's accounting for an additional \$163,000.

However, money the district receives for its center-based special education programs was under projections by \$150,000.

"Schools of choice worked well for us, we got approximately 100 students," said Kempton.

On the expense side, the district is spending an additional \$789,000, bringing the total to \$120.9 million for the year. The biggest portion will go for the purchase of eight new school busses. Expenses also have increased for salaries and benefits for teaching staff and for supplies and services related to increased enrollment and an additional \$50,000 for utilities.

While the bottom line is looking slightly better for the district, there are rumors of a possible proration of state school aid, because of a shortfall in the state fund.

The district receives \$7,781 per student in state school aid. Superintendent Greg Baracy has said that a proration could all but erase the positive effect of schools of choice with possible amounts running in triple digits.

"We've heard a whole gamut of things from no proration to a \$200 cut," said Kempton. "We'll just have to wait until January to see what happens.'

smason@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2112

**POLICE BEAT** 

hanging in the school, he asked

After defending his com-

the boy asked the arresting

questioned the inquiry, the

ments as routine conversation,

police officer whether he liked

watermelon. When the officer

teen said he asks that of every-

one when he meets them. The

officer then told the teen they

had met several times before

and the question never arose. The teen didn't respond.

a deceased security officer

the man if they had been

romantically involved.



### Links West Red Hatters give back

Members of the Red Hat Society at Links West Pheasant Run in Canton embody the spirit of the society - 'fun after age 50.' But while having fun, the group has also remembered to give back to the larger global community. The Canton group has adopted a 10-year-old Central American child. The Red Hatters contribution provides an education for the fifth-grade student in Belize. The Links West Red Hatters are pictured here after a recent luncheon outing. The local group, which was founded by Shirley Barthold and Connie Slazinski, enjoys monthly day outings to theaters, restaurants, festivals, concerts and picnics. Founder of The Red Hat Society is 'Queen Mother' Sue Ellen Cooper of Fullerton, Calif. 'We believe silliness is the comedy relief of life and since we are all in it together, we might as well join red-gloved hands and go for the gusto together,' said Cooper. 'Underneath the frivolity, we share a bond of affection, forged by common life experiences and a genuine enthusiasm for wherever life takes us next.' To find out more about The Red Hat Society go to www.redhatsociety.com.

## Student at Salem arrested for making racist remarks

A 17-year-old Salem High School student was arrested for disorderly conduct Thursday after making racist comments to a school security officer.

During a police search of his backpack, the teen, who referred to the security officer as trash, was found to be in possession of prescription pills that didn't belong to him.

At least one witness heard the student ask the security officer whether he liked bananas, KFC and watermelon.

"All you guys like watermelon," he was reported as saying. Upon spotting a memorial of

# Savitskie søys....

After his arrest, the boy's mother posted a \$300 bond.

#### Student reports mysterious man

Police were called to Central Middle School Thursday after an 11-year-old boy told officials a man had been looking at him Tuesday and Wednesday mornings.

The boy described the man as having a medium build, red hair and a beard. He was seen driving a vehicle with a ladder on top.

School officials said the man apparently stared at the boy but didn't speak to him.

## Man nabbed for stealing Kool-Aid

One Canton resident apparently can't get enough of the Kool-Aid man.

Police arrested a 25-year-old man Wednesday outside of the Kroger on Canton Center for stealing 10 boxes of Kool-Aid.

After being approached by an officer in the parking lot, the man admitted he had messed up. The boxes had been stuffed inside his coat.

Each box was worth more than \$10. The store's management told police they want to prosecute.

#### Let's make a deal

In a game of let's-make-a-

deal, a Detroit man has lost to a Canton auto dealer.

The man, 47, went into the Michigan Avenue dealership to buy a car on Thursday and was told the sale wouldn't be complete unless he provided a copy of a valid driver's license.

After giving a \$1,000 down payment, the man drove away in a new car and later faxed over a temporary license.

The dealer was then alerted the man's license had been suspended and the car, along with the down payment, were returned to their original owners.

The man, who said he had no intention of frauding the car company, was given a citation and will go to court in January.

By Tiffany L. Parks Pro

#### PLANNING COMMISSION

The Canton Planning Commission will meet at 7 p.m., Monday, Dec. 18, 2006, at 7 p.m. on the first floor of Canton's Administration Building. Items on the agenda include: SITE PLANS

Goddard School - Consider site plan. Property is located west of Canton Center Road between Warren and Hanford roads.

Quadrants Industrial Research
 Centre - Consider developer instigated
 revisions to approved site plan.
 Canton Corners middle outlot Consider site plan approval. Property
 is located south of Ford Road and west
 of Lilley Road.

Crossroads Village - Consider site plan approval. Property is located at the northeast corner of Michigan Avenue and Beck Road. NEW BUSINESS

Hampton Inn Hotel & Suites - Refer review of proposed site plan to staff. Property is located north of Ford Road and east of Haggerty Road.

Mortgage Tip #21: "Fannie Mae rules are the Bible of residential lending." "Rules might be made to be broken, but not when it comes to conventional



mortgages. We all get our money from the same lenders. Fannie and Freddie. Most mortgage brokers and banks will ultimately 'sell' your loan to Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac, two governmentregulated companies that provide the bulk of the money for mortgages in our country. Without them, we wouldn't

have the efficient mortgage lending market that you see today. To dip into this pool, we have to follow their rules. Banks and other lenders are required to disclose, follow and audit the procedures set out under Fannic and Freddie.

So next time a mortgage lender starts quoting you the "absolute lowest rates and costs", make sure he swears on the Fannie Mac Bible."

Mark Savitskie knows what he's talking about.



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#### Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, December 17, 2006

## Shop Canton holiday event gives local businesses chance to shine

#### **BY KURT KUBAN** STAFF WRITER

www.hometownlife.com

Santa came to Canton a little early this year, hoping to greet visitors in town taking advantage of the holiday shopping opportunities along Ford Road.

Santa, who rode in on a fire truck, was just one of the highlights of the very first Shop Canton Holiday Fest, co-hosted by the Canton Chamber of Commerce, Canton Leisure Services and the Downtown Development Authority. The event, which also featured live entertainment and a coloring contest, took place last Saturday in the parking lot of the Canton Corners shopping center at Lilley and Ford.

The event was part of a larger marketing plan, Shop Canton, to promote holiday shopping in the township, and especially in the DDA district along Ford Road.

"We thought the event was really successful," said Dianne Cojei, president of the Canton Chamber of Commerce. "All the merchants we talked to told us that the event brought in a

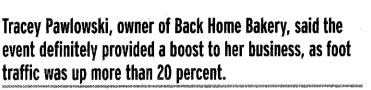


Caleb Bonno, 6, gets a snowman painted on his cheek by Kristina Pinckney at the Shop Canton event last weekend.

lot of customers."

Cojei credited much of the success to the merchants in the Canton Corners shopping center, who provided all sorts of treats and giveaways. The chamber also handed out bags filled with coupons for Canton stores.

Cojei said the reason they chose Canton Corners as the location for the event was due to the size of the parking lot and the fact that many of the stores are vacant, meaning there would be plenty of



open parking spaces. So, in a way, it was an opportunity to show off the businesses that are still in the center.

Tracey Pawlowski, owner of Back Home Bakery, said the event definitely provided a boost to her business, as foot traffic was up more than 20

percent. She said business has really been down the last two years, which she believes is a result of so many vacancies at Canton Corners. She said the Holiday Fest brought back memories of what business was like when she opened more than two years ago.

same kind of foot traffic in here as when we first opened two-and-a-half years ago when the shopping center was full. The lobby was full all day, which our regular customers really noticed." Cojei said the success of the event bodes well for the future.

"It's definitely going to be an annual event," she said.



Santa Claus has a conversation with Alex Schroeck.

### Families' generosity provides Burger students with carnival

#### BY SUE MASON STAFF WRITER

The theme from The Rifleman mixed with Christmas carols as Westward Ho! met Santa Claus at the **Burger Center for Students** with Autism last week.

The event was the annual Christmas Carnival, a daylong celebration provided by the families of Jack Russo and Larry Berman.

"It was a perfect, perfect day," said Colleen Polin who helped orchestrate the event. "It was great."

Hallways were decorated to fit the theme and with displays depicting aspects of the

American West from famous individuals, famous events and the food that was eaten to the native Americans pioneers met while on the trail.

Students sampled jerky, cowboy drop cookies and cornbread, ate beans and franks and washed it all down with a drink at the Sarsaparilla Saloon.

"The guys in the hall had the beans and franks and jerky, and you have to have something to drink, so we went with sarsaparilla," said bartender Todd Fukudo. "We did some research and found that root beer was the closest to sarsaparilla. It was informative for the kids and for me, too."

A popular watering hole, by lunchtime, Fukudo had emptied seven three-liter bottles of root beer.

There also was areas depicting the fur trade with pelts students could feel and then try to identify the animal tracks, railroad tracks set up in one hallway to depict the transcontinental railroad, a covered wagon by the school office made by Darrell Smith, and a buggy in the gymnasium belonging to the grandfather called Pa Glenn by students of a teacher at the school. According to Polin, President Abraham Lincoln rode in the carriage.

Students had their faces

painted and fed and petted the animals in the petting farm and rode ponies and horses. Chamberlain Animal Rides stayed well into the afternoon.

More than 700 people ate everything from beans and franks to fruit and chili, and Sheriff Joe Wilcox and his "deputies" manned the grills.

And the students also waited in line for one of the biggest attractions of the day - Detroit Tigers pitcher Nate Robertson - who has been at previous carnivals to sign autographs. "Nate called us, he just loves the kids," said Polin. "He asked,

back?' Of course.'



PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHE

Nick Bair, 13, of Canton holds up the pennant he made and the bubble gum, which Detroit Tigers pitcher Nate Robertson signed.

was playing The Rifleman starring Chuck Connors. Next to it was the jail where those ordered arrested by students and staff had to make bail.



Seth Brown, 8, of Canton tries on Captain Clark's coat of the Lewis and Clark Trail. Behind, Bud Clark brought several coats for the children.

The money raised is earmarked for phone cards for military personnel serving in Iraq and to buy a brick paver at the Plymouth Community Veterans Memorial Park.

A5 (C)



Lauren Hoffman, a student at Canton High School, decorates store windows in the painting competition.

"We did very well," Pawlowski said. "We had the

'Do you think they want me Down one hall, a television



## Everybody Matters. Helping People with Disabilities Beyond their financial assistance, the Plymouth Community United Way helps secure grant funds, clothing, food and dental care for the people we support. The board and staff of the PCUW consistently go over and above to help those in need. **Denise King Executive Director, Community Opportunity Center**

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When you give to Plymouth Community United Way, you invest in what matters helping people with disabilities.



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Thank you. Everybody Matters.

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## Board members give selves raises

The township board has approved salary increases for the supervisor, clerk, treasurer and trustees.

At Tuesday's board meeting, the trustees voted to hike supervisor Tom Yack's salary from \$119,779 to \$123,372. The salaries for the clerk and treasurer posts were bumped to \$100,708 from \$97,775.

Payment for being a trustee will rise from \$11,817 to \$12,172.

Despite approving the pay raise for Yack, trustee Todd LaJoy voted against the increases for the clerk, treasurer and township board. When the board had its

budget session in September, LaJoy said he voiced opposition to the salaries increases.

"We had a lot of conversation and even though it didn't go the way I would've liked (Tuesday) everyone was still open to my opinion," he said. "This is how I needed to vote."

By Tiffany L. Parks

## **BACK ON THE JOB A WEEK AFTER HERNIA SURGERY**

We feel so confident about our hernia repairs that we will correct any recurrence of the problem within five years of the procedure-at no cost to you.

### GREETINGS

#### FROM PAGE A1

(community service) because you're in trouble, there's no heart to it because you just want to get the job done and get in the hours," Corliss said. When you're doing it because you want to, there's a little more meaning behind it."

That lesson fits with what Del Proposto wants her firstsemester alternative high school students to learn.

"To look beyond yourself, that there are other people out there," Del Proposto said. "They can learn to give back to the community, not just take. There are things that don't cost a lot of money, that just come from your heart."

The five Seminar classes at Starkweather made 150 holiday cards, and planned to raise \$300 to purchase pre-packaged snacks for veterans.

"It's great to give back to people who can't be with their families at Christmas," said Brett Valliquette, 17, who is staying with a Plymouth family while playing for the Plymouth Whalers hockey team. "It shows we care.'

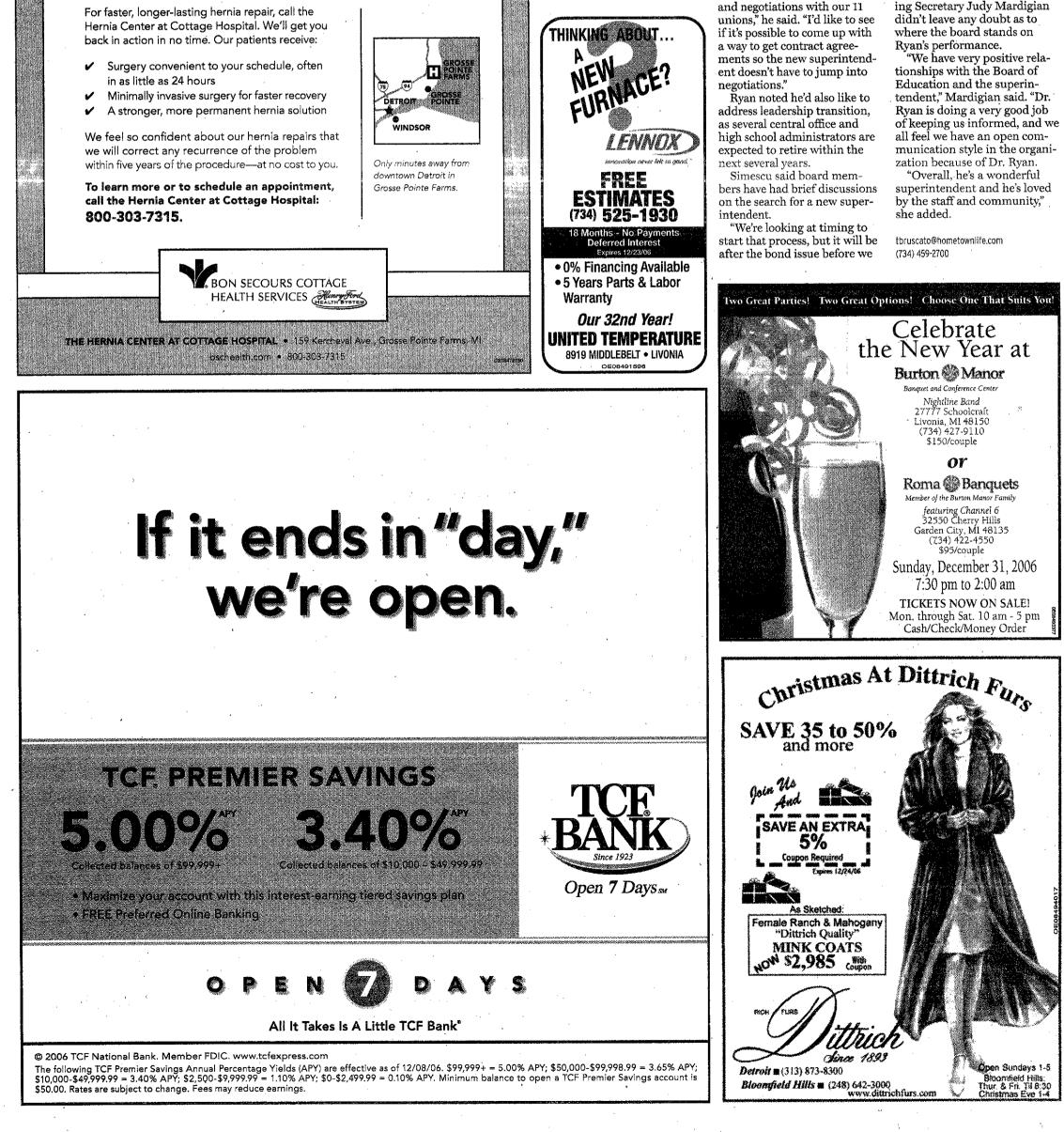
Beverly Leneski, chief of vol-

#### RYAN FROM PAGE A1

July 2002 when Booher resigned. The Board of Education then named Ryan the district's CEO that December.

Ryan, who earns \$161,135 annually, said the contract extension would help in the transition to a new superintendent.

"I really believe this contract extension has to be connected to the search for the next



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Teacher Kim Del Proposto and student Brittany Calhoun discuss one of the holiday cards.

untary and chaplain services for Veterans Affairs in Ann Arbor, said the 120 in-patient veterans - from World War II to the present - look forward to getting the cards and visitors during the holidays.

"It's so touching, and lets the veterans know people remember and honor them by taking the time," Leneski said.

Andrew Moore said, at first, he had reservations about the

superintendent," Ryan said. "A

"I want to see how I can sup-

smooth transition is very

trict.

important to this school dis-

port the board in selecting a

the board in getting to the

before retiring.

interview process," he added.

Ryan said there are some

other pieces of the educational

puzzle he would like to address

"The master plan, how to

deal with our structural deficit

search firm, how I can support

the search firm as it works with

card-making project. Then realized the meaning behind it.

"We have to appreciate our veterans and take care of them any way we can," said Moore, 17, of Plymouth Township. "If that's all it takes to make someone happy, then I'm happy to do it."

Anyone wishing to volunteer for the VA Hospital can call Beverly Leneski at (734) 761-7995.

get there," Simescu said. "We're hoping to have someone in place when he (Ryan) leaves. At least have the selection by then. That's our intent."

As part of the midyear review of his performance, the Board of Education evaluated Ryan in areas of curriculum and instruction, master plan, administrative services, development and leadership. While trustees don't grade Ryan as part of the midyear review, during the presentation at Tuesday's school board meeting Secretary Judy Mardigian



A7

(\*)

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On Time

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#### **Poster winners**

Canton Fire Inspector Nichole Hamilton presents awards to Brayden Morris (left), a third-grader at Walker-Winter Elementary, and Jared Cobb, a fifthgrader at Agape Christian Academy, for taking first place in the fire department's Fire Prevention Poster Contest. Morris won in the first to third grades category, and Cobb won in the fourth to sixth grades category. Plymouth Christian thirdgrader Kaitlyn Eby took second place and Hannah Badger, a third-grader at Canton Charter Academy, took third. Michael Dame, a fifth-grader at Tonda Elementary, and Stephanie MacDonald, a sixthgrader at Plymouth Christian Academy, took second and third in the older age group. The Fire Department in conjunction with Canton Chamber of Commerce sponsored the contest.

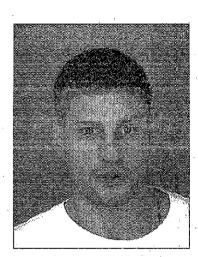
### Bloomfield man arrested in home invasion in Canton

The Canton Police Department arrested Jason Freddy Medawar, 28 of Bloomfield, for a residential break-in that occurred in Canton on Nov. 10. Medawar was arraigned in 35th District Court Friday on one count of home invasion, a 15-year felony.

Magistrate Eric Colthurst presided over the arraignment, issuing a \$25,000 cash bond,

and setting a preliminary examination date of Dec. 29 at 35th District Court in Plymouth.

Medawar's arrest occurred after a tip was called in to the Redford Police Department stating that a man had been posing as a contractor and breaking into homes during the day. Similar charges are expected to be filed in several local communities.



www.hometownlife.com

**Jason Freddy Medawar** 

#### PLYMOUTH TWP. POLICE DEPT. 734-354-3232 NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Notice is hereby given that on 12/22/06 at 10:00 a.m., at Mayflower Auto Transport, 1179 Starkweather, Plymouth, MI 48170, a public auction of the following:

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Publish: December 17, 2006

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#### A Wilma Jean Allmayer Allmayer, 78, of Farmington Hills, died Nov. 11. Frank O. Anderson II

Anderson, 82, of Lakewood, N.Y., died Dec. 12.

Susan M. Baker Baker, 60, formerly of Canton and Plymouth, died. Maurice L. Brown Jr.

Brown, 63, died Dec. 11. Ε **Cecilia Ellis (nee Reves)** Ellis, 84, died Dec. 13.

Dawn Renee Haugan Ernst 🐳

#### DEATHS

Ernst, 79, formerly of Birmingham, died Dec. 12. **Barbara Bowersox Frohardt** Frohardt, 85, formerly of Royal Oak, died Nov. 29.

н Walter V. Hawkins Hawkins, 78, of Saline, died Dec. 12. Esther L. Hibler Hibler, 89, of Plymouth, died Dec. 13.

Michael H. Ingersoll Sr. Ingersoll, 63, died Dec. 11.

L Robert F.C. Labadie

Labadie, 82, of Belleville, died Dec. 12.

#### Barbara L. MacNab MacNab, 93, of Birmingham, died Dec. 10.

Marilyn Margaret Pipp (nee Carrier) Pipp, 84, died Dec. 12.

Linda Denise Slage

Slage, 59, of Garden City, died Dec. 13. **Margaret Steinlauf** Steinlauf, 74, formerly of Livonia, died

Dec. 11. Т

Eric Peter Tremblay Tremblay, 17, of Bloomfield Hills, died Dec. 11.

#### Jane E. Van Dusen Van Dusen, 82, formerly of Birmingham, died Dec. 10.

Mary E. Waterson Waterson, 75, of Rochester, died Dec. 11.

Aurilla "Peggy" McCullough Williams Williams, 92, of Birmingham, died Dec. 11.

Complete paid obituaries can be found inside today's newspaper in Passages on page B3.

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Publish: December 17 and 28, 2006

#### CITY OF PLYMOUTH NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Notice is hereby given that the City of Plymouth, Michigan will accept sealed bids until 2:00p.m., Tuesday January 2, 2007. The bid opening will take place at 2:00p.m., Tuesday January 2, 2007 at Plymouth City Hall 201 S. Main Street, Plymouth Michigan for the following:

**Concert Production Services** City of Plymouth Downtown Development Authority c/o City Clerk Plymouth City Hall 201 S. Main Street Plymouth, Michigan 48170 Specifications and bid documents are available in the City Manager's Office, at City Hall, 201 S. Main Street, Plymouth,

48170 during normal business hours. You may also download a copy of the documentation from the City's web site at: http://www.ci.plymouth.mi.us.

The City of Plymouth reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, in whole or in part, and to waive any irregularities.

LINDA J. LANGMESSER, CMC City Clerk - City of Plymouth

#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, PS Orangeco, Inc. and/ or Shurgard TRS, Inc. will sell at public auction by competitive bidding. Sales are cash only. Removal within 24 hrs., for sale and storage unit in which rent and fees are past due. On the premises where said property has been stored and which are located at Public Storage, 36001 Warren Ave., Westland, MI 48185 (734) 729-7095, on 1/2/2007 at 10:30 am. Personal property described below in the matter of: 1268-Rutherford Renovations: Contractor supplies and tools 5160-Ibony Davis: lamp, microwave, couch 4078-Jennifer Andrew: Totes, refrigerator, boxes 3170-Joanna Hannum: Boxes, toys, baby crib 3110-James Craft: Curio, dresser, fan 3030-Don Fields: Snow blower, couch, freezer 3018-Mattie Card: TV, vacuum, chairs 1118-Cliff Gibson: Stereo, suitcase, clothing On the premises where said property has been stored and which are located at Public Storage, 41877 Joy Rd., Canton, MI 48187 (734) 254-0243 on 1/2/2007 at 11:00 AM Personal property described below in the matter of: 1016-Joshua Busa: Stereo, TV, couch

Publish, December 17 and 24, 2007

AB (C)



## It's a world of imagination, especially at Christmas time

ne of the best things about being a grandparent is that it lets you be a kid again.

My 3-year-old grandson has the right idea. He hauls around a small cardboard box that he's transformed into a rocket



www.hometownlife.com

ship.

Yeah, that's right, all it takes is a little imagination. Boxes become rocket ships, kitchen chairs become a train, a puppet magically turns into a person, a bicycle becomes a super

Hugh Gallagher

"All it takes is a little imagination," he says.

fast out-of-control motorcycle. We are now deep into the

frantic time of the Christmas season. Parents are making the annual assault on stores to find the latest hot toys for their children. Some manufacturers seem to be deliberately keeping supplies short to enhance the buzz.

The sad thing is that many of these hot toys are imagination killers rather than enhancers. They don't stimulate play, they overwhelm play, they crush imagination. The only real play involved was the play of the games' inventors.

My grandson goes exploring with Dora the Explorer and plays other games on the computer (I expect that in about a year he'll have far surpassed my competence on the computer). But the cardboard box, the role playing, the building sets, the puppet theater all seem to engage him more completely.

The best times are when we make believe together.

"OK, you be a pirate and we've got to escape because we're being chased by tyrannosaurus rex," he says.

Next thing you know we're running at top speed to avoid being stepped on by a dinosaur.

A Dumpster looms ahead and with the raised cover it looks just like ...

'Watch out, it's the dinosaur," he yells. I look with terror.

"No, it's OK, it's just a garbage can," he says, just in case I've gotten too afraid to keep playing

Climbing bars become a pirate's ship. A slide becomes an escape hatch. A closed door becomes a secret hideaway.

Of course, many of these adventures have been fed by books. But he embellishes greatly and casually tosses pirates in with dinosaurs and spacemen in with cowboys. It's all good.

He's not vet at the "I want this" for Christmas stage. He's just as happy with the cardboard box as he is with the remote control car or the video game. Happier.

If he's lucky, he'll keep that imagination and build upon it. Christmas won't be about the latest fad he wants, but about the special times he spends sharing his imagination with others.

Christmas is a many things to many people. It's a Christian holiday to mark the birth of Jesus. The holiday's emphasis on the infant child has placed children front and center for the holiday.

As the magi bestowed gifts upon the infant Jesus, we give gifts to our children.

It's a day for children, for imagination, for play. Christmas Eve is a time of wonder, worry and giddy anticipation. We teach the children to leave a snack for Santa, reinforcing how the importance of "thank yous."

And while visions of sugarplums have been replaced by visions of Game Boy, little children still hold on to visions of Santa Claus, elves and flying reindeer.

But mostly this is a holiday about family traditions and building on rich memories. It's a reminder of all those Christmases past, especially those when we were children.

With all the stress and madness of the world, all the hustle and change, it's a good thing sometimes to let go and get down to a child's eye view.

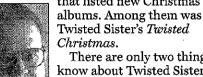
Christmas is the perfect holiday for seeing the world with fresh eyes and an open heart. All it takes is a little imagination.

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

## Have a Merry Christmas - whatever that means

ity poor Christmas. It has been twisted in so many ways that it's sometimes hard for a lifelong Catholic (in spirit, if not always practice) to remember what it's all about.

What prompted this reflection is an item I saw on the National Public Radio's Web site that listed new Christmas



Greg

Kowalski

There are only two things I know about Twisted Sister: One is that it is a heavy metal rock group and the other is that the group is led by Dee Snider, who made a truly outrageous horror film several years ago.

I am left to imagine what kind of spin Twisted Sister can give to Christmas music. I probably will never know because I don't plan to buy the album and I don't expect to receive it as a Christmas gift.

But it does bring up another facet of what has happened to Christmas as it has morphed into all kinds of things including being the subject of controversies and pointless political debates. Christmas began as a religious ceremony, of some kind or another.

It's pretty well known that Christmas and many of the trappings that we associate with it like the Christmas tree, mistletoe and holly, are derived from pagan times, when the December holiday was held to mark the winter solstice.

But even as a purely Christian event, Christmas has been subjected to all sorts of indignities over the centuries. For a long time, a Mass in church was the principal celebration of the day, although I'll bet that even a thousand years ago they were sipping mead and generally partying down, medieval-style, after they got home from church.

Once different forms of technology became available, the options to put a different spin on Christmas were quickly employed. One of the most famous, of course, is Charles

Dickens' 1843 classic A Christmas Carol, a product of the printing press.

This is one if the greatest, most popular books ever written. But really, what does it have to do with the true meaning of Christmas? Nothing. It's a ghost story with a theme of morality and the spirit of charity. Since then there has been a steady stream of Christmas books including one about a Grinch.

We also got our first view of Santa Claus in the 19th century when the image of the fat guy in a red suit appeared in the drawings of Thomas Nast.

Santa Claus is an elf, by the way. There were shepherds, and lambs and wise men present at the site where Jesus was born, but I don't think there were any elves.

With the advent of motion pictures about a hundred years ago, Christmas became a favorite subject and has remained so with dozens, maybe hundreds of Christmas movies, including several adaptations of A Christmas Carol and the one about the Grinch. Even John Wayne got into the act as the most mind-boggling Roman solder of all times in The Greatest Story Ever Told. Maybe the best Christmas movie ever made is A Christmas Story, Jean Shepherd's charming and nostal-. gic tale of a boy and his BB gun.

There were no BB guns in ancient Bethlehem.

You can take what you want from the story of Christmas, or you don't have to take anything at all. But when you look at all the ways Christmas has been transformed into so many different things it's amazing that it has any kind of coherent meaning.

Yet one thing is certain: Christmas generates an aura of good spirits for those who believe in it as either a religious or secular celebration. Whether you say Happy Holidays or Merry Christmas - enjoy.

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





- A9 (\*)

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filter every Thursday

#### COUNTY NEWS

## Patterson, Ficano tout efforts to diversify region's economy

#### BY ALEX LUNDBERG STAFF WRITER

A10 (\*)

The county executives from both sides of Eight Mile Road made the same claim Thursday morning: They are committed to doing whatever it takes to bring the jobs of the future to southeast Michigan.

Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson and Wayne County Executive Bob Ficano addressed editors, reporters and newspaper executives at the annual Observer & Eccentric Journalist of the Year breakfast at the Townsend Hotel in Birmingham.

And unlike their recent joint television appearance, the two spent most of the hour talking cordially on the issues that bind the two counties.

Ficano said there's been a lot of talk about economic problems in Michigan. He said the glass doesn't have to be halfempty — but people always talk like that.

"Many times the rest of the world envies what we have and don't use," he said. "Every generation faces crises and southeast Michigan has always stepped up to them. You should have heard my grandparents talk about the Depression."

Ĥe said the region's biggest asset was Detroit Metro Airport. Just as Detroit was built on the shores of an important waterway, the future of the region is dependent on air traffic, according to Ficano.

"The global economy can't be ignored, if we're going to compete our big assets are going to be Metro and Willow Run," he said. "I-94 from Ann Arbor to Detroit is the new gold coast. That's why Pfizer and Toyota have their R&D operations there — the proximity to U-of-M and other colleges."

Patterson touted Oakland County as the "engine that drives the Michigan economy" and said programs like Automation Alley and his own Emerging Sectors are proof the region is ready to contend on all fronts that matter.

"In 2003 we decided to look

into the future and find out what industries were coming to replace manufacturing," he said. "It's biotech, it's nanotechnology. We're gradually beginning to diversify our economic base. By the time we get all of those industries, it will have been a 20-year rollout."

While both executives agreed new technology and new industry were the keys to the future, they diverged on the topic of Detroit's Cobo Center. Ficano has announced a plan to renovate and expand the convention center, a plan Patterson has denounced as too expensive for his constituents.

"I disagree with how it's being funded, I'll always disagree with it," Patterson said. "There's \$120 million in deferred maintenance on the building and we're going to pay Detroit \$20 million? They

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should be paying us to get them off the hook."

Ficano said Cobo is the home of the North American International Auto Show and, therefore, the home of the region's number one brand. Given that the average NAIAS has more credentialed media than a Super Bowl, he said, the region has to step up to keep the show viable with a new center.

The price, according to Ficano, a continuation of a hotel/liquor tax, isn't so onerous.

"The tax isn't on property owners, it's on poured drinks," Ficano said.

"If it goes away, bars are not going to lower the price of those drinks."

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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHE

Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano (left) and Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson duked it out over, among other topics, the future of Detroit's Cobo Hall, while Observer Managing Editor Hugh Gallagher (center) refereed.



## **Disc Herniation?**

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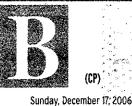
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Look for 'Galaxy of Stars' special All-Area section in today's Observer

SPURTS



The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

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

## Salem icers score in pairs to upend Chiefs

#### BY ED WRIGHT STAFF WRITER

Like an opportunistic boxer, Salem's hockey team used a pair of one-two punches to level rival Canton Friday night in a Western Lakes Activities Association crossover game played at the Plymouth Cultural Center.

The Rocks won 5-1 thanks to two bangbang scoring situations - one early in the

#### **PREP HOCKEY**

second period and the other late in the third. The victory improved the winners' record to 3-3-1 while the Chiefs slipped to 1-7.

Following a scoreless first period, Salem struck the first blow with 10:34 left in the second when Mike Haburne wristed the puck past Canton goalie Kevan Swanberg.

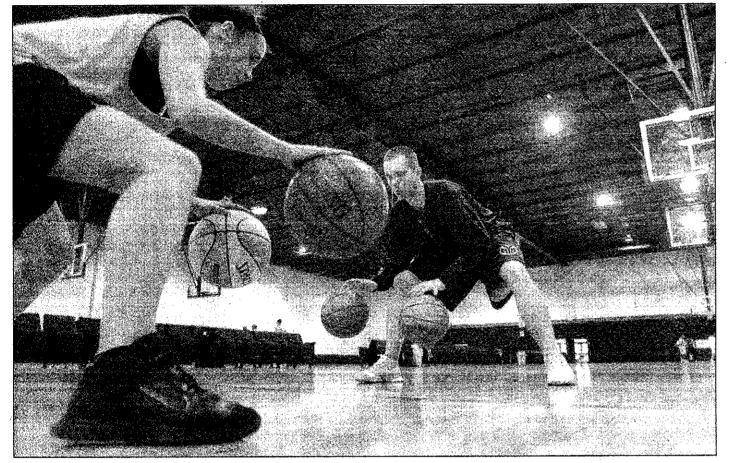
Twenty-one seconds later, Brad Nycek lit the lamp to make it 2-0.

Leading 3-1, the Rocks iced the game with just under six minutes to go when Nathan Werda and Aaron Markwell sandwiched together a pair of goals - also 21 seconds apart.

"It seemed like once we got a goal, everybody got enthused and worked harder to get another one," said Salem coach Fred Feiler, describing his team's winning combinations. "Overall, I thought we worked hard in the neutral zone tonight. We didn't play a very physical game in the first period, but we picked it up in the second. In the third period, we just had to protect a two-goal lead, which is hard to do sometimes."

Although disappointed with the loss, Canton interim coach Dan Abraham saw a lot of positive traits from his young and

PLEASE SEE HOCKEY, B2



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Basketball Planet co-owner Jamey Petree leads Ann Arbor's Lauren Ross through a series of dribbling drills Thursday night. The 47,000-square-foot Canton facility offers a wide range of basketball-related activities, including pick-up games, training and leagues.



## Wildcats earn big road win

#### BY ED WRIGHT STAFF WRITER

Plymouth coach Tom Van Wagoner found out a lot about his young basketball team Friday night.

So did Walled Lake Central. The most important thing Van Wagoner and the Vikings discovered is that the Wildcats are pretty darned good after they invaded Central's gym and earned an impressive 39-37 victory to improve their record to 1-1.

The Wildcats led by nine with two minutes to play and held on for dear life as their hosts mounted a tenacious rally that brought them to within two with possession of the ball in the closing seconds. However, a pair of three-point attempts missed the mark and the ball bounced harmlessly on the court as the final seconds ticked away.

"It was a great team effort tonight," said Van Wagoner. "Hopefully, this win will build some momentum and confidence for us because we have such a young team." Van Wagoner said his team's performance at the defensive end of the court keyed the win.

"Obviously, we did score a lot of points, but we packed it in on defense and



#### **Houle shines**

Plymouth resident Jason Houle turned in a spectacular effort at the state finals of the Punt, Pass & Kick competition, which was held Dec. 10 at Ford Field. Houle, who won localand regional rounds to advance to the finals, took first in the passing and punting events and placed third overall in; the 10- and 11-year-old age division.

The punting and kicking portions of the competition took place prior to last Sunday's Detroit Lions-Minnesota Vikings' game. The passing event unfolded at halftime of the game.

#### Sestito lauded

Plymouth Whalers left wing Tom Sestito was named the Ontario Hockey League's "Player of the Week" for the week ending Dec. 10. The 19-year-old winger from Rome, N.Y. scored six goals and notched seven points in three games over the seven? day period.

Sestito, a Columbus Blue Jacket draft choice, helped the Whalers to a 7-1 victory on the road in London on Dec. 7, netting a natural hat trick and an 🖁 assist. The next night, he recorded his secondstraight three-goal game as the Whalers: defeated Sudbury, 5-3, at home. The back-toback hat tricks give 斗 Sestito four on the sea-son. He currently leads Plymouth with 20 goals in 28 games. The Whalers are at 🚟 Brampton this afternoon before taking a break for the holidays. Their next home game is 🖓 🛣 Thursday, Dec. 28, at 2 p.m. against Windsor. That game will be "Kids" Day," and offer several activities for children in-Compuware Sports Arena before, during and after the contest.



Canton resident Will Vance, who

played college basketball at Sam

Piston guard Lindsay Hunter.

Houston State, co-owns Basketball

Canton's 'Basketball Planet' offers a slice of paradise for area's many basketball fanatics

#### BY ED WRIGHT STAFF WRITER

Basketball fans would take an instant liking to Will Vance's Canton office, the walls of which are decorated with Michael Jordan action photos.

But they'd absolutely love what's just outside his office door - 47,000 square Planet with Jamey Petree and Detroit feet of pure basketball bliss. Vance is the co-owner of Basketball

Planet and his desk is just a long jump shot away from four full-sized, hardwood basketball courts - one of which is NBA-sized - two half-courts for 3-on-3 and 4-on-4 games, and one mini-court for kids under the age of 7.

Unlike other fitness-related businesses in the area, Basketball Planet is all basketball, all the time - just the way Vance and co-

PLEASE SEE HOOP HEAVEN, B4

forced them to shoot outside," he said. "They moved the ball well and probably had seven or eight passes on every possession, but we kept them outside. They have some dangerous shooters, but they weren't hitting tonight."

Junior guard Brandon Roberts led the Wildcats with 12 points before fouling out early in the fourth quarter. Junior center Jake Hager was tough in the paint for the winners, tallying nine points and nine boards. Myron Puryear and Kulraj Sandhu both contributed seven points off the bench for Plymouth.

Senior forward Matt Golden led the 1-2 Vikings with 14.

"It was a good win against a good opponent," Van Wagoner concluded.

Shaw named top cross country coach

#### BY ED WRIGHT STAFF WRITER

From humble beginnings to one of the top units in the state — that's the path the Plymouth boys cross country program has traveled since its inception in the fall of 2002.

Coach Lee Shaw still remembers his team's inaugural practice when the coaches nearly outnumbered the runners.

"We had three male athletes come out that first year, so we've come a long way," said Shaw.

Indeed they have. Earlier this year, the Wildcats placed 12th at the Division 1 state meet - one week after placing second

at their D1 Regional. Among their other considerable accomplishments this season were a Western Lakes Activities Association title and a runner-up showing at the Wayne County meet.

The impressive list of achievements earned Shaw the Observer Coach of the Year honor.

"This group of athletes wanted to work," said Shaw, when asked what

made the 2006 Wildcats special. "I asked them what their goals were before the season started and they all set high goals. So I pushed them to reach their goals. I'm not one of those coaches who's going to keep saying, 'nice job' if they're not working hard."

Shaw is as accomplished as a runner as he is a coach. A native of Manchester, England, he moved to Michigan in his late-teens to run cross country at Eastern Michigan

PLEASE SEE SHAW, B2

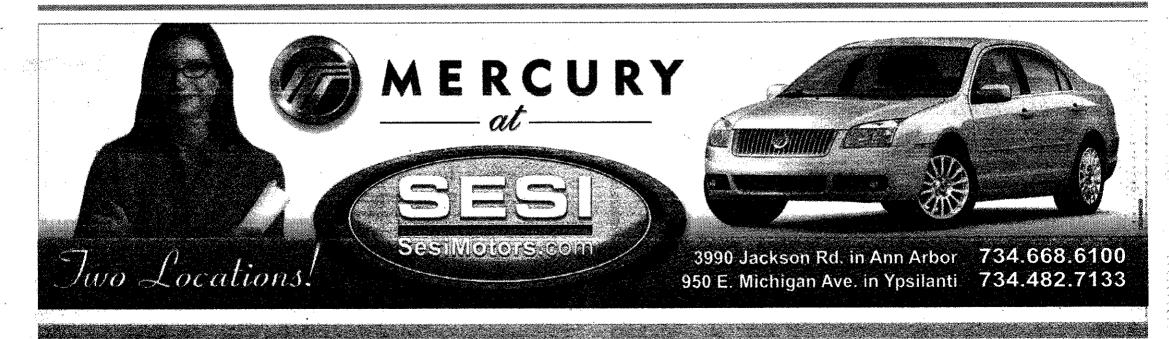


TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth's Lee Shaw was named Observerland's boys cross country coach of the year.

#### **Coaches needed**

Canton High School is looking to fill the follow: ing coaching vacancies: head girls track, assistant girls track and freshmen softball. Applicants are asked to send a letter of interest and resume to: Sue Heinzman, Athletic Director, 8415 Canton Center Road, Canton, MI 48187.



#### Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, December 17, 2006

## **Chiefs' last-second** rally falls just short

#### **BY ED WRIGHT** STAFF WRITER

**B2** (CP)

Canton's basketball team is going to have to wait until 2007 for its first victory of the young season.

The Chiefs fell to 0-3 Thursday night after dropping a hard-fought, 47-45, decision at South Lyon. The win evened the Lions' record at 2-2.

Canton nearly pulled off a semi-miraculous comeback in the closing seconds. Trailing 47-43 with seven ticks left, junior forward Neil Sharma was fouled on a three-point attempt. He made the first two free throws before missing the third intentionally. The rebound bounced out to Chief senior guard Josh Butler, whose desperation 18-footer barely missed the mark at the buzzer.

"I liked our energy level tonight," said Canton coach Charlie Paye. "We knew we'd have to play hard to match . them, and I thought we did. We were down seven in the fourth and managed to battle back.

"We had 19 turnovers. It's not as many as we had our first two games, but it's still way too many. We need to cut that down to 12 or 13, if not lower."

Sharma led the Chiefs with

The Plymouth

goals on the way to

Whalers scored

four power-play

a 5-1 victory at

Oshawa Friday

Chris Terry

and Tom Sestito

both netted a pair of

man-up lamp-lighters

one goal and four assists.

while Evan Brophey notched

Michael Neuvirth was sharp

in goal for the Whalers, record-

ing 37 saves, including 16 in

the second period. Mark

night.

Whalers crush Oshawa

110:1;1 A = 1:1=1

#### **PREP BASKETBALL**

17 points, 11 of which came in the final eight minutes. Senior center Ryan Waidmann also had a strong game, tallying 16. Jon Collins paced the Lions with 14 points.

South Lyon led 12-9 after one quarter before the Chiefs clawed back to forge a 20-20 halftime tie. The Lions led 29-28 with eight minutes to play.

Canton connected on 8-of-12 free throws (67 percent) while the hosts drained just 7-of-17 (41 percent).

The Chiefs are now idle until Jan. 5 when they travel to cross-campus rival Salem.

PCA 52. RUDOLF STEINER 32: On Friday, the 3-1 Eagles soared over Steiner (2-2) thanks to 15 points from junior guard Trevor Zinn and 14 from senior center Devyn Govan. Steiner was led by Spencer Subowski, who netted 10.

Plymouth Christian led 14-5 after one quarter and 28-7 at the half. The Eagles secured a 35-16 advantage with eight minutes to play.

Both teams struggled from the free throw line: PCA nailed 6-of-14 attempts while visiting Steiner managed to drain just 9-of-19.

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Packwood turned away 32

🚌 shots for the hosts.

a piece in the first

and second periods;

the 10-minute

mark of the third.

John Taveras netted

Oshawa's lone goal, a power-

through the second period.

game's three-star selections:

Plymouth monopolized the

play net-finder mid-way

and Neuvirth No. 3.

Terry and Sestito

Brophey's came at

both scored one goal

#### BOYS BASKETBALL Tuesday, Dec. 19 Salem at Woodhaven Christmas

Tournament, 5:30 p.m. Macomb Christian at PCA, 7 p.m. Ann Arbor Pioneer at Canton, 7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 20 Salem at Woodhaven Christmas Tournament, TBD Plymouth at Novi, 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 21 Zoe Christian at Canton Agape at G.C. United Christian, 7 p.m. PCA at Calvary Christian, 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 15 Plymouth at W.L. Central, 7 p.m. PREP HOCKEY Tuesday, Dec. 19 Livonia Stevenson at Plymouth at Compuware Sports Arena, 5:10 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 20 Salem at Livonia Franklin at Eddie Edgar Arena, 6 p.m. W.L. Northern at Canton at Arctic Edge, 6 p.m. Friday, Dec. 22 Dearborn United at Salem at Plymouth Cultural Center, 8:30 p.m. W.L. Central at Canton at Arctic Edge, 8 p.m. PREP WRESTLING Wednesday, Dec. 20 Salem at Canton Quad Meet, 5:30 p.m. BOYS SWIMMING Friday, Dec. 22 WLAA Conference Relays at Salem, 6:30 p.m. PREP VOLLEYBALL Thursday, Dec. 21 Canton Agape at Inter-City, 6 p.m PREP GYMNASTICS Monday, Dec. 18 Saline at Plymouth, 7 p.m. MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL Tuesday, Dec. 19 Spring Arbor at Madonna, 7 p.m Wednesday, Dec. 20 Schoolcraft at Alpena CC, 5 p.m. WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL Wednesday, Dec. 20 Schoolcraft at Alpena CC, 3 p.m. **ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE** Sunday, Dec. 17 Whaters at Brampton Battalion, 2 p.m.

THE WEEK AHEAD

MAJOR INDOOR SOCCER LEAGUE Sunday, Dec. 17 Det. Ignition at Chicago Storm, 7:35 p.m.

## Ignition, MSYSA unite to promote soccer

\*\*\*\*\*

The Detroit Ignition and the Michigan

State Youth MICHIGAN Soccer Association (MSYSA) have entered into a partnership to promote the sport of soccer while encouraging youth participation throughout the state of Michigan, Ignition president Greg Bibb announced today.

Through the agreement, the Ignition and the MSYSA will collaborate to establish an annual "MSYSA Night" where members, participants, and friends and family of those involved, will have the opportunity to attend a designated Ignition regular season contest at a special discounted

price. The inaugural MSYSA Night will take place on Friday, Jan. 5 as the Ignition take on the Chicago Storm at 7:35 p.m. ET at Compuware Sports Arena in Plymouth. The announcement will allow each organization to enhance their missions while furthering the soccer opportunities

provided for Michigan's vouth "MSYSA has been a tremendous resource and leader for soccer in the state of Michigan," stat-

ed Greg Zaskowski, Vice President of Ticket Sales for the Ignition. "We look for-

ward to the opportunity to continue and accelerate the development of our sport, and are very excited to officially kick-off our relationship at the Inaugural MSYSA Night."

"MSYSA is excited to begin a relationship with the Detroit Ignition," said MSYSA Executive Director Thomas D. Frisbie, Jr. "We feel that such a relationship can only help strengthen the soccer culture in the state of Michigan. We look forward to a mutually beneficial affiliation as we move forward."

Michigan State Youth Soccer Association (MSYSA) is a statewide, nonprofit, and educational youth soccer organization that represents over 90,000 players, 10,000

'MSYSA is excited to begin a relationship with the Detroit Ignition. We feel that such a relationship can only help strenathen the soccer culture in the state of Michigan. ...' Thomas D. Frisbie Jr. **MSYSA Executive Director** 

coaches, and 4,000 referees throughout the State. MSYSA consists of 70-plus leagues who register boys and girls ages 4 to 19 - at various competition levels.

The Ignition is a member club of the Major Indoor Soccer League, competing in the club's inaugural campaign for the 2006-07 season. Information regarding Ignition season, group and individual tickets can be obtained by calling the club at (888) 436-4625, by visiting the team's official Internet property, www.detroitignition.com, by calling TicketMaster at (248) 645-6666, or by using www.ticketmaster.com.

## Penguins too much for Liggett to handle

The Plymouth-Canton-Salem girls hockey team was hitting on all cylinders Tuesday night during its 9-1 victory over University of Liggett at the McCann Ice Arena in Grosse Pointe Woods.

The Penguins scored early and often to improve their ecord to 7-0-1 overall and 4-0-1 in the Michigan High School Girls Hockey League.

Katie Zimmerman led the PCS charge with three goals and an assist. Amy Coleman also played well, notching a pair of goals. Edra Burris, Brophey was No. 1, Terry No. 2 Kristin Callahan, Nikki Songer and Shauna Siebert also lit the

#### PREP HOCKEY

Junior Keely Kowalski regis-

tered four assists while her

between the pipes. The lone

came on a 5-on-3 advantage

CANTON 5, D.H. CRESTWOOD 4:

the season thanks to big nights

Lash scored a pair of goals,

Jubacki notched a goal and an

from Ryan Lash, Justin Ward

goal Kowalski surrendered

On Wednesday, the Chiefs

and Andrew Jubacki.

notched their first victory of

goal-tending twin sister,

Kristie, earned the win

for Liggett.

lamp for the winners.

assist, and Ward had a pair of helpers to spark Canton (1-5) to its first win under interim coach Dan Abraham.

"Each game we've played since I took over, we've been in a position to win the game," said Abraham, who was the first Canton boys hockey coach before stepping down three years ago. "We were right in the game against Churchill and Stevenson, which are both quality teams. Time just ran out on us.

"We really needed a game like this where we were able to close it out and get a win. These kids not only need to believe they can be right in

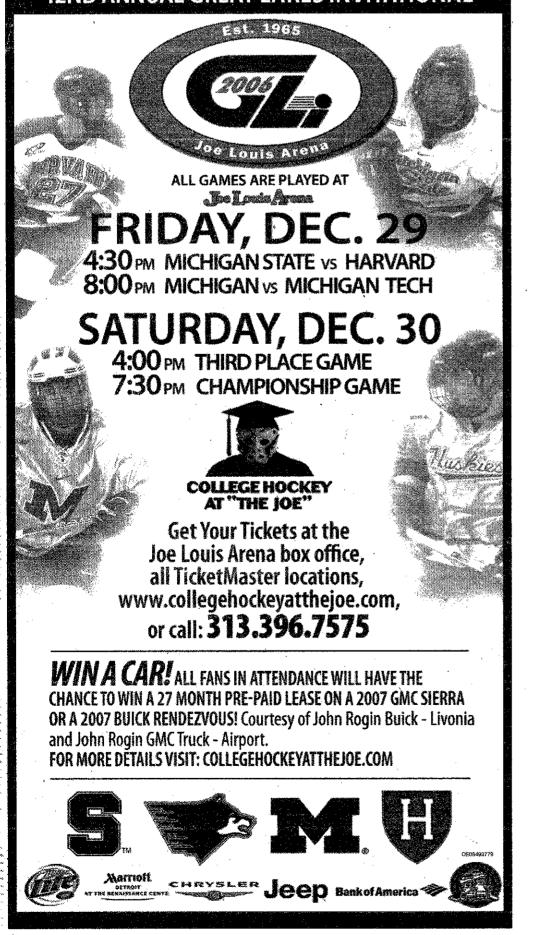
every game, but that they can win every game."

The game was tied at 2-all after one period thanks to a pair of net-finders from Lash. Jordan Emery then scored the eventual game-winner with 1:29 left in the second period off an assist from Ward. Emery's goal came on his first shift of the night after he replaced an injured teammate.

Canton put the game away thanks to third-period goals from Jubacki (unassisted) and Alex Lajoie, who was assisted by J.P. LaFontaine.

Zane Birchler played well in net for the Chiefs, turning back 20 shots.

42ND ANNUAL GREAT LAKES INVITATIONAL



#### **NUCKE** FROM PAGE B

scrappy team.

"For the first period and a half, we played back-and-forth with Salem," said Abraham, who took the reins of the team three weeks ago from Mike Behen, who abruptly resigned after just two games. "Any time you can play even with a skilled and experienced team like Salem it's a good thing.

"When they got the first two quick goals, I think we got down a little, but I wasn't unhappy with our effort. The kids continued to play hard every period and I see a lot of promise in that.

We seem to be getting better each game. We're moving the puck better, seeing the ice better and our team game is improving. We're not at the point where we're going to start dominating the league, but we're at a point where we can be in a position to win games in the third period."

Canton senior captain Brad Barath cut his team's deficit in half -2-1 — with 6:37 left in the second period when he secured the puck just outside the left face-off circle, spun 180 degrees then ripped the puck off Salem goalie Ralph Aspenwall's glove and into the back of the net. He was assisted by Clark Albers and Justin Ward. Steve Heisler put Salem up 3-1 with 56 seconds left in the second period when he flipped the puck over a sprawling

Swanberg after receiving a pass from Kris Brandt. Heisler, Markwell, Joel Cheesman, Haburne (two), Kyle Zink and Evan Haneline registered assists for the Rocks. Aspenwall was solid in net for Salem, netting 16 saves. Swanberg stopped 22 for the Chiefs.

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#### Juwn

FROM PAGE B1

University, where he earned three varsity letters.

Before taking the reins at Plymouth, he coached cross country and track at Livonia Ladywood and the University of Detroit Jesuit.

Shaw didn't hesitate when asked to name his brightest highlight from a sparkling season.

The state meet was it," he said. "If one more of our runners would have ran well, we would have finished in the top five.

The kids were kind of disappointed in their times this year, but it was a very wet fall, so everybody's times were up. I told them it's not the times that mattered as much as where they placed."

And for the up-and-coming Wildcats, that was a very high place indeed.

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Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, December 17, 2006



(\*) **B3** 

## With 8 regulars graduated, Wildcats will have new look

#### BY ED WRIGHT STAFF WRITER

The loss of eight talented seniors from last season's ultra-competitive team could turn into a good-news-bad-news situation for the Plymouth volleyball team. While the Wildcats will sorely miss the departed contributors, their void will create invaluable

opportunities for this year's talented roster of players. "This year's squad is one that I

would call a 'progressive team," said Plymouth coach Kelly McCausland, who has guided the

#### **PREP VOLLEYBALL PREVIEW**

Wildcats since the school opened five years ago. "We make progressions each and every minute we step onto the floor.

"We are young, and I feel they are still playing very timid. I would like them to become more aggressive, both offensively and defensively. I feel that we are going to become a very strong team once we lose this timid nature and build on a strong team chemistry."

Gone from last year's team are Sarah Haskins, Jeanine Moise, Brandi Swyhart, Janet Hanchett, Jackie Dorre, Lauren Stemberger, Lindsey Vogelsberg and Katie Hughes.

Among those expected to step up and help fill the void are captain Brittany Hengesh, a powerful front-row player; Courtney Buttermore,/captain Clare Baptist, Danielle Giudici and captain Chelsey Quinlan. Among the promising new-

comers are Rachel Heaton, a

CANTON 115 JOHN GLENN 60

Thursday at John Glenn 200-yard medley relay: 1. Canton (Matt

Carlson, Kevin Karlinski, Chris Marinica, Jon

Zhang, Mike Booker, Joe Spillane, Jordan Gorzalski), 2:04.68; 3. John Glenn, 2:06.25.

Templeton), 1:50.10; 2. Canton (Richard

200 freestyle: 1. Robert Blaesser (C),

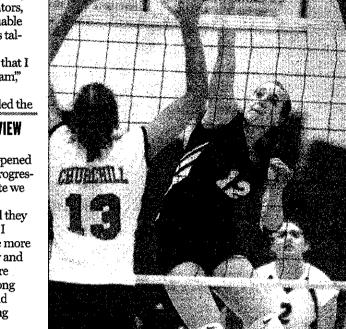
Jon Burgess (JG), 2:16.34. 200 IM: 1. Ross Schwarz (C), 2:17.59; 2.

50 freestyle: 1. Matt Espy (JG), 24.15; 2.

(C) 2:47.82

1:57.69; 2. Russell McBain (C), 2:09.40; 3.

Kevin Chappelle (JG), 2:42.61; 3. Ryan Boes



TOM HAWLEY I STAFE PHOTOGRAPHER

Brittany Hengesh will provide Plymouth's volleyball team with plenty of frontrow firepower this season.

**SPORTS BRIEFS** 

12-4

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transfer from Lenawee Christian; Kate Spangler, a junior setter; Megan Quinlan, a sophomore middle hitter; Mandy McManus, a sophomore middle hitter; and Katie Salo, a freshman setter.

The Wildcats opened the season last weekend by going 3-2 in the Madonna Invitational.

Among the standouts were Baptist (51 digs), Heaton (40 digs and 21 kills), Chelsey Quinlan (29 digs), Hengesh (27 kills and 13 solo blocks), Salo (30 set assists) and Buttermore (33 set assists).

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#### SWIM RESULTS

Chris McGinnis (C), 24.47; 3. Billy Lyons (JG), 25.89. 1-meter diving: 1. Chris McGinnis (C), 156.95; Z. Kyle Broderick (C), 54.40. 100 butterfly: 1. Matt Carlson (C), 58.04; 2.

Jon Templeton (C), 1:03.03; 3. Dan Fabrey (JG). 1:10.25. 100 freestyle: 1. Matt Espy (JG), 54.24; 2.

Chris Marinica (C), 54.40; 3. Billy Lyons (JG), 59.23.

500 freestyle: 1. Jordan Gorzalski (C). 5:47.33; 2. Russell McBain (C), 6:03.56; 3. Jon Burgess (JG), 6:24.24. 200 freestyle relay: 1. Canton (Matt Carison, Robert Blaesser, Ross Schwarz, Jon

Templeton), 1:37.34; 2. Canton (Chris Marinica, Chris McGinnis, Dennis Rose, Kevin Karlinski), 1:42.10; 3. John Glenn, 1:46.77. 100 backstroke: 1. Richard Zhang (C), 1:05.97; 2. Kevin Chappelle (JG), 1:10.25; 3. Robert Goodwin (C), 1:12.26. 100 breaststroke: 1. Matt Carlson (C), 1:05.78; 2. Mike Booker (C), 1:20.60; 3. Ryan Boes (C), 1:23.98. 400 freestyle relay: 1. John Glenn, 4:06.63; 2. John Glenn, 5:28.66; 3. Canton (Ross Schwarz, Robert Blaesser, Chris Marinica, Jon Templeton), 4:15.48. DUAL-MEET RECORDS: Canton, 1-0; John Glenn, 0-1.

#### **HOOP HEAVEN**

FROM PAGE B1

owner Jamey Petree planned it when they bought the massive warehouse on Haggerty Road over a year ago.

"We wanted to open a place that basketball players would walk into and go, 'Wow! This is what I'm talking about!'" said Vance, discussing the motivation for the business. "Jamey and I are both gym rats and we both played college basketball, so we know what players are looking for in a basketball facility. "Before we opened

Basketball Planet, we were both into basketball training we teach both individuals and groups. As our clientele grew, we found that it was hard to find the space for the training, so the idea of opening up our own place started to click. There are a lot of fitness places that offer basketball, but it's way down on their priority list. That's not the case here." It's obvious from the sec-

ond you walk in the front door at Basketball Planet which sport has a monopoly on the place. Visitors are greeted by slick action photos of NBA greats — and the rhythmic sounds of basketballs meeting hardwood.

The sight that unfolds before your eyes once you make a quick right turn past the front desks is enough to make Dick Vitale hyperventilate from excitement - wallto-wall hardwood as far as the eye can see.

On any given afternoon this past summer, several NBA players — from rebound king Ben Wallace to 3-pointshooting king Veshon Lenard - scrimmaged on the NBA court while toddlers squared off on the mini-court.

"We figured Canton was the perfect location for a place like this because it's close enough to draw players from Detroit and surrounding areas like Belleville and Ypsilanti, as well as the suburban players from Canton, Plymouth and all the other cities around here," said Petree. "We get a very diverse crowd in here which gives it a nice mix. We get everyone from pros to little kids."



BILL BRESLER | STAFE PHOTOGRAPHER

A youth travel team is pictured practicing at Basketball Planet Thursday night. The facility's six courts - four full-length and two half - can be rented on an hourly basis.

"Veshon Lenard comes in here to practice shooting threes because it's the only NBA-sized court around," added Vance. "We get a lot of Division 1 players in here, too. They love the place."

A few months ago, Vance and Petree welcomed a third owner on board — Detroit Piston guard Lindsay Hunter, whom Vance also trains during the off-season. Along with financial support, Hunter has lent his marquee name to the various leagues that will tip-off at the facility in mid-January. He'll also help oversee a series of summer basketball schools in the summer of 2007.

"Lindsay was here every day before the NBA season started, from morning 'til night," Vance said. "We practically had to kick him out of here some nights," Vance said, laughing.

Vance said the clinics and personalized instruction offered at Basketball Planet focus on more than just basketball.

"We stress to the kids how important school is, too," he said. "Jamey and I both made it to a high level, so we know the do's and don't's — both on the court and off."

While it's difficult making a new business work, the experience has been worthwhile for both Vance and Petree.

"As far as coming to work every day and working in this environment, it's been a

#### **HOOP-TOPIA**

What: Basketball Planet. a 47,000-square-foot indoor facility dedicated strictly to basketball:

Where: 7171 N. Haggerty in Canton (between Warren and Joy roads);

Who: The facility is owned by Will Vance, 39, 1 who played collegiately at Sam Houston State University; Jamey Petree, 30, who played at lowa Central University; and Lindsay Hunter, a veteran Detroit Pistons guard.

When it's open: Seven days a week (Monday to Friday, 11 a.m. to midnight; Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m. to midnight);

For more information: Call (734) 656-0091: or visit the Web site www.thebasketballplanet.com.

dream come true," said Petree. "It hasn't always been easy, and we've had to overcome a lot, but that's one of the life lessons we can pass on to the kids who come in here. We use basketball as a misreroom of life?

84 (CP)

#### CANTON REC OFFERINGS

Canton Leisure Services will be offering several fun-filled sports programs during the winter months. Among the offerings are:

The annual Snowball Coed Classic Softball Tournament will be held at the Canton Sports Center on Jan.13. This event is played in the snow with an oversized. Chicago-style softball. The cost of the double-elimination tourney is \$125 per team. Prizes will be awarded to the top teams.

The bi-annual "Family Bowling Night" will be held at Super Bowl Lanes in Canton on Friday, Jan. 26 from 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. The cost is \$40 per resident family and \$50 per non-resident family. The cost of the event includes twoand-a-half hours of bowling for up to six bowlers per lane; shoes; pop and pizza; and free give-aways.

A pair of cross-country ski days at Pheasant Run Golf Course will be offered on Jan. 28 and Feb. 17 from noon to 4 p.m. Participants may bring their own skis or rent them at

the course. The cost is \$10 per person and includes access to the trail that winds through the golf course; refreshments; and a free raffle. Pre-registration is required.

To register for the events, or for more information, call (734) 483-5600.

#### BASEBALL SIGN-UPS

Registration for the 2007 Canton Little League will be held Jan. 20 and Feb. 17, 2007, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. at St. Peter's Lutheran School, 1309 Penniman Ave. in Plymouth (a quarter-mile east of Sheldon).

The leagues offered will be: Minors (7-10 year-olds); Majors (11-12); and Juniors (13-14).

The league is open to all Plymouth and Canton residents.

Proof of residency and a birth certificate are necessary at the time of registration.

For more information, visit www.cantonlittleleague.org; or send an e-mail to info@cantonlittleleague.net.

#### **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 \$519 and the free agent fee is \$65. All indoor soccer leagues

include eight games and free agent fees include a free Tshirt. The team fee for flag foot-

ball 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.

The Pain Diabetic Neuropathy can be intense.

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You may be eligible to participate in a research study clinical of an investigational oral drug for hand, foot, and leg pain caused by diabetesrelated nerve damage if you:

- Are at least 18 years old
- Have been diagnosed with type 1 or type 2 diabetes with stable blood sugar levels for the last 4 weeks
- Have had painful diabetic peripheral neuropathy (nerve damage to the limbs) for the last the 6 months to 10 vears
- Have not had a stroke or heart attack within the last year

Study participation lasts about 6-11 weeks and requires 8 office visits. All study-related office visits. medical evaluations, and study medication will provided to qualified study be participants at no cost.

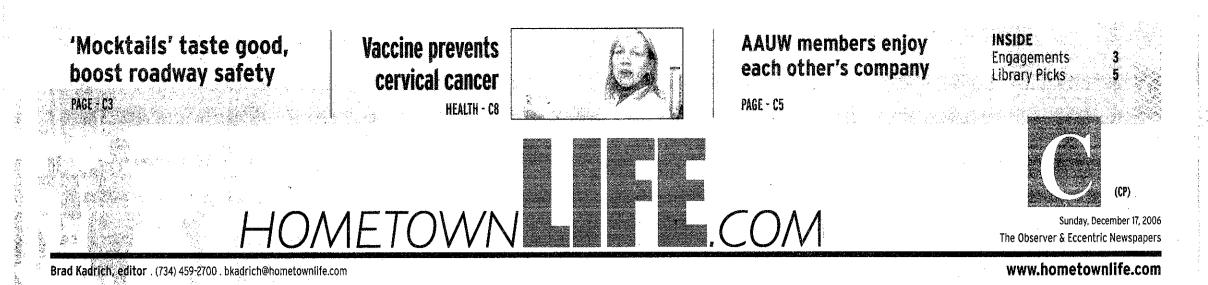
For more information, please visit www.DPNStudy.com or contact:

Michigan Head · Pain & Neurological Institute

> **3120** Professional Drive Ann Arbor, MI (734) 677-6000, option 4 www.mhni.com

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**Responsible**: Keep pets safe during holidays

hile you are busy making your plans for Hanukkah, Christmas and Kwanzaa, please don't forget to include your pets.

The holidays are time for giving but there are some things you should not share with your furry friends. Once you



know the hazards, a little precaution and prevention will make the holidays a happy time for every-

Dr. Vyvian Gorbea

holiday hazards include:

Some of the

more common

holiday turkey or chicken will leave a lot of tantalizing bones, but don't feed them to your pet. Beware of steak bone, too. Some small bones can lodge in the throat, stomach and the intestinal tract.

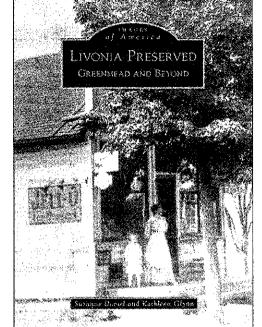
one.

Foods such as chocolate, raisins, grapes, coffee, onions, alcohol and macadamia nuts and even bread dough can be fatal if ingested in large quantities. Don't leave these foods on tables in reach of the dog or cat; be sure the trash cans lids are secure.

Holiday plants such as holly and mistletoe are extremely poisonous when eaten. The lovely poinsettia may not be truly poisonous, but its milky white sap and leaves can cause gastrointestinal distress.

📾 Holiday lights mean more cords for kitten and puppies to chew. Be sure you have the cords secure and out of the way.

Candles – Lit candles should



This new book documents the story of the Livonia Historical Village of Greenmead.

Livonia preserved

Holiday tours

light Historical

Village at

Greenmead

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN

STAFF WRITER

While Marian Renaud does-

Greenmead will ever be self sufficient, she's working on

reducing the amount of fund-

ing received from the city.

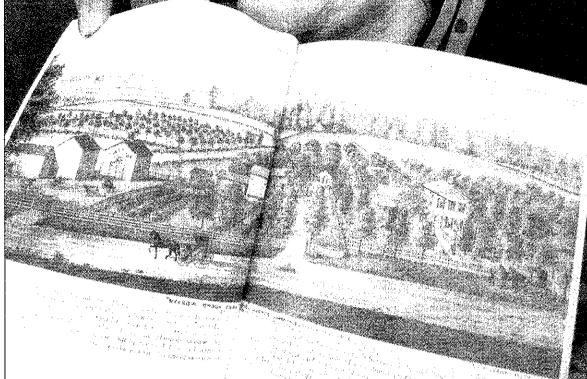
n't believe the Livonia

Historical Village of

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN STAFF WRITER

Suzanne Daniel recalls the day she climbed up on the roof of the A.J. Geer General Store to replace wood shingles on the historic building. The memory is one of many Daniel shares when talking about a new book she wrote with Kathleen Glynn on the Livonia Historical Village of Greenmead.

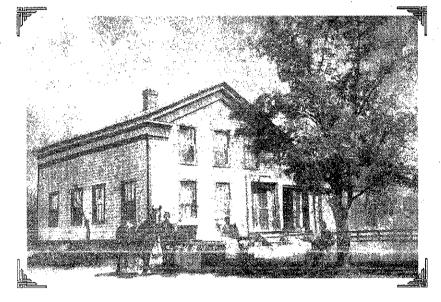
Hundreds of volunteers continue to restore and preserve the history of the small farming community once known as Livonia Township by laboring on the 20 buildings in which pioneers lived, shopped and attended church. The city of Livonia purchased the historic Greenmead site at the corner of Newburgh and Eight Mile in 1976.



TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Authors Suzanne Daniel and Kathleen Glynn hold open their book which includes this drawing from Samuel Durant's 1877 History of Oakland County.' The drawing is of the Meadow Brook Farm residence of Joshua and Hannah Simmons. The Greek Revival home was built in 1841 by Sergius Lyon of Farmington.

## Book documents Greenmead and beyond



This Greek Revival home was built in 1856 on Plymouth road, east of Levan, by George

🖪 Bones – The

never be left unattended. With an exuberant tail or a swat of a paw, candles and hot wax can quickly become disastrous.

Holiday tree: Make sure your tree is well-secured. If you have a tree-climbing cat or a large dog with a happy tail, anchor the top of the tree to the wall, using strong rope or cord. Also, check around the tree and boughs frequently. Ingested pine needles can puncture your pet's intestines if sharp enough.

🖬 With lots of holiday visitors, the doors are sure to be opening more than usual. Be sure your pets are wearing collars and ID tags and have been micro chipped in case of an escape.

Dr. Vyvian J. Gorbea owns Plymouth Veterinary Hospital, an accredited member of the American Animal Hospital Association (AAHA), an international association of more than 36,000 veterinary care providers who treat companion animals. AAHA hospital members are regularly inspected to ensure they meet AAHA's high standards of pet care. She can be reached at (734) 453-0485.

Along with holding weekly tours of the site, she's scheduled activities for the holidays.

On Sunday, Dec. 17, from 1-4 p.m., visitors can learn decorating tips from a century ago during tours of six buildings including the Simmons/Hill House where the theme this year is The Nutcracker Suite. At 3 p.m. Aria Degillio sings in Historic Newburg Church. Tickets are \$3, \$2 for students.

"Different people decorate every year," said Marian Renaud, program supervisor. "The concept is to create an old fashioned, time-correct Christmas."

Christmas Candlelight Tours recreate the atmosphere of holidays past from 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 26, and Wednesday, Dec. 27. The first group leaves at 6 p.m. followed by a group every 15 minutes until 8 p.m.

Tickets are \$5 adults, \$3 students, and includes hot cocoa

PLEASE SEE TOURS, C2

The 95-acre farm was the home of Joshua Simmons, the third person to buy land in the township in 1824.

Initially the city acquired the Society of Friends (Quaker) meeting house on Seven Mile west of Farmington road at the urging of the Livonia Historical Society and Livonia Historical Commission who recognized the need to save structures dating back to the city's early

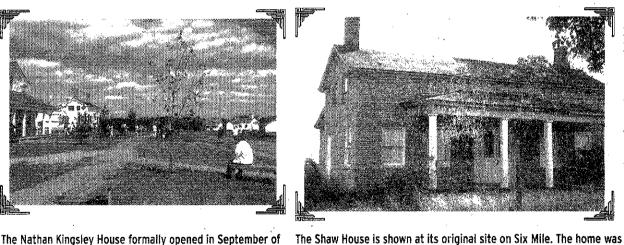
and Henrietta Ryder. They were the parents of Alfred and John Ryder, killed at Gettysburg during the Civil War. Today, the home is located in Westland.

years. In Livonia Preserved -Greenmead and Beyond Daniel and Glynn follow the moving of the buildings from the original Quaker Acres to the historic location soon to become the village and farm of Greenmead. The historical site is comprised of two sections - one

reflecting the 1850s, the other the early 1920s, about 25 years before Livonia became a city.

"I remember laying out the Ann Arbor Trail and Newburgh build-

PLEASE SEE BOOK, C2



The Shaw House is shown at its original site on Six Mile. The home was moved to Quaker Acres in 1973 when Interstate 275 was under construction. It was later moved to Greenmead.

## Gift of Life speaker urges others to consider organ donation

1986. Livonia Mayor Edward McNamara spoke at the

#### **BY JULIE BROWN** STAFF WRITER

Brian Hill of Plymouth got a little emotional Tuesday morning telling the story of daughter Andri's heart transplant.

Hill and his wife, Angela, have three children with Andri, 10, the eldest. She'd had a heart condition and a muscle disease that caused her to develop scoliosis. Doctors wanted to do surgery to correct her spinal problem.

"Her heart didn't respond too well to that procedure," Brian Hill told members and guests at Tuesday's Plymouth A.M. Rotary meeting at the Plymouth Cultural Center. Doctors began to talk of a

heart transplant for Andri. "That was not a good thing for us to hear" at the time. "It

really set us back." Andri's restrictive cardiomyopathy led doctors to that suggestion, and Andri's parents became concerned about her wheezing. The Hills communicated online with other families in similar circumstances, and decided to list their daughter Aug. 26, 2005.

Andri got the call last December to receive a new heart. She was out of the hospital after 13 days and is doing well. Another family they know wasn't blessed that way; the out-of-state teen the family had met online died in January, while awaiting a heart

transplant.

"Christmas and holidays, it's tough," Hill said. He volunteers for Gift of Life to encourage others to sign up for the organ, tissue and eye donor registry. Gift of Life can be reached online at giftoflifemichigan.org or by phone at (800) 482-4881.

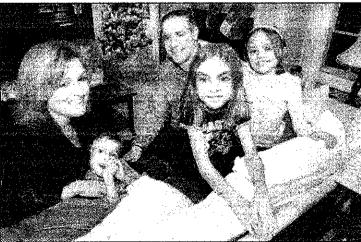
ceremony.

Hill, a real estate consultant, told Rotarians that some 94,000 Americans are awaiting transplants, and not all will be fortunate enough to receive one. The immune system is powerful in attacking the new organ and recipients must take suppressant drugs.

"It's not a cure-all." Still, he's talked to people who've had an extra two years who describe

all they did during that time. Hill told of Terry Gould, another heart transplant patient who resumed swimming after his surgery and won medals in the World Transplant Games in London, Ontario. Gould got to see a child of his get married. "He understands the gift of life and what it means," Hill said.

Some 50 percent of Americans don't wish to give their organs or tissue, something Hill's become more understanding of: "Some of it is faith. I know it's a personal decision and it's one that should not be made lightly." He urged those present to



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Andri Hill, center, surrounded by her family: dad Brian, mom Angela , sister Ally and brother Vincent. Andri received a new heart last year, and her dad PLEASE SEE ORGAN DONATION, C2 spoke at Plymouth A.M. Rotary Tuesday to encourage organ donation.

#### **HOMETOWNLIFE.COM**

### **ORGAN DONATION**

FROM PAGE C1

talk with their families who will make the ultimate decision about organ donation after a death. "They're going to remember your convictions and your passion."

Hill also urged those present to complete the Gift of Life registry online at giftoflifemichigan.org.

Arlene Funke of Redford is glad she chose to give organs of her late husband, Doug, after his July 2003 heart attack. It wasn't a tough decision for her. "Everything happened so

quickly when he died," she recalled. Arlene Funke ran after the doctor and nurse when she was told of her husband's death, to ask if any organs could be used for transplants.

"I sort of had this inspiration

that this was something Doug would have wanted," she said. Doug Funke's corneas were used, along with heart valves, bones and skin. Doug was a longtime Observer reporter and community volunteer.

"He would want to do whatever he could to help somebody else," she said. "It really wasn't an agonizing decision at all. He would have been pleased."

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

## Elizabeth I exhibit debuts with library show

Queen Elizabeth I ruled over England more than 400 years ago, but she'll begin a two month reign the Civic Center Public Library Art Gallery starting Monday, Dec. 18.

A major, museum-quality traveling exhibit features the monarch whose 45-year leadership made England a power and fostered a period of major cultural achievement, including poetry and the works of Shakespeare.

Called "Elizabeth I: Ruler and Legend," the exhibit features 6-foot panels showing artwork and an explanation of her significance in government, religion, the arts and exploration of the world. Livonia is one of only 40 libraries across the country and the only one in Michigan chosen to show the exhibit. "We are pleased to have

been selected as a site for this



TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

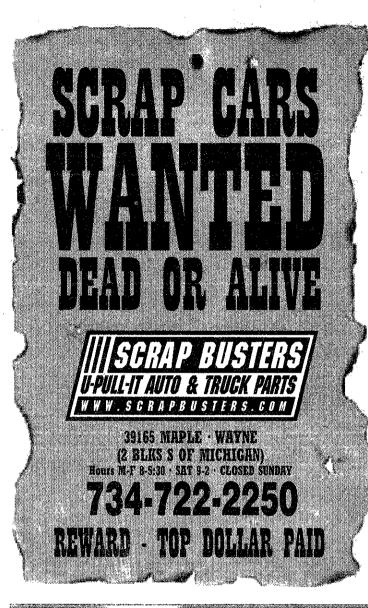
Adult services librarian Donna Winter talks about the exhibit, Elizabeth I: Ruler and Legend, on display in the second-floor gallery at Livonia's Civic Center Public Library.

The Grantland Street Players and Motor City Youth Theatre are holding auditions for Noah, The Musical, Friday-Saturday, Jan. 5-6, at the playhouse, 27555 Grantland, Livonia. Call

(313) 535-8962 for more information or to schedule an

Cast is wanted for 'Noah The Musical'

This new musical by Ian Gower and Rob Alderton con-



appointment.

tains all of the elements you

would expect to tell this story a large boat, animals two by two, a storm, dove, and a symbolic rainbow.

The cast includes Noah and Mrs. Noah, ages 40-60; a storyteller age 20 and up; Noah's three sons and three daughters-in-law, age 18 and up; various singing and dancing animals played by ages 8-17; Baasha and council of elders age 20 and up, and a chorus of singers and experienced dancers, all ages.

Audition times are 7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 5, for adults, and 10 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 6, for youth.

The production runs March 9-11, 16-18, and 23-25.

ings," said Suzanne Daniel,

who's worked on the project

since 1974. "We went down

and stopped traffic and meas-

ured to recreate the intersec-

Daniel and Glynn found

plenty of inspiration for the

print shop which has no tele-

phone or running water. In the

fall of 2005 they began organ-

izing and searching for photo-

graphs not only of buildings in

the village, but historic ceme-

teries such as Newburg where

Revolutionary War soldiers are

buried, and the city's lost and

remaining homes and build-

ings including Wilson Barn

and Henry Ford's Newburgh

book while working in the

BOOK

tion."

FROM PAGE C1

#### village industry plant site now as volunteers. Glynn earned a occupied by the Wayne County master's degree in historic Sheriff and their horses. The preservation from Eastern Livonia Historic Preservation Michigan University and co-Commission oversees all of the authored Michigan Historic city's historic districts and is **Cemeteries Preservation** responsible for seeing that U.S. Guide. She is a principal in a Secretary of Interior standards historic preservation consulting firm which has gathered for preservation are met. We had a lot of peace and documentation for several southern Michigan National

quiet," said Kathleen Glynn who's volunteered at Greenmead since the late 1980s and has served as president of the Livonia Historic Preservation Commission. In June of this year she and Daniel turned their manuscript over to Arcadia Publishing.

"It's a great way for small historical societies to tell a story with little capital if you're willing to do the work," said Glynn. "Even people who know about Greenmead enjoy the book which tells how it started, the restoration efforts, all of the people who gave their talent. Even the staff say they learned something from the book." "I think it's a good tool for volunteers," added Daniel. Glynn and Daniel have been involved with preserving the area's heritage for many years

exhibition," said Kathleen Monroe, city librarian. "Elizabeth I was a remarkable historical figure, and the Elizabethan Age is filled with many fascinating topics of interest to audiences of all ages."

The library is hosting a number of events to showcase the exhibit, starting with an opening night "Meet the Queen" evening from 7-9 p.m. Monday, Dec. 18, in the Civic Center Library atrium. Dancers, musicians from her court and desserts form the Elizabethan period will be featured.

Register and Historic District

Daniel earned a master of

elementary education from

Eastern Michigan University

where she later took historic

al years. She has a master

preservation courses for sever-

degree in library science from

Wayne State University. She is

currently documenting one-

"We have gardeners at

Greenmead who keep up the

grounds," said Glvnn. "Over a

30 year period, we've seen the

efforts of so many people from

having the foresight of creating

room school houses in

Michigan.

nominations.

Through January and February, the library will host a series of book discussions, historic presentations, concerts and even a "Tea with the Queen" event for children ages 6-12.

The show was organized by the Newberry in Chicago, in collaboration with the American Library Association. The National Endowment for the Humanities provided major grants, with support also from the Vance Family Fund, the University of Illinois at Chicago, plus Madonna University and the Livonia Arts Commission.

and Christmas walks to raise funds. Individual donations have added up as well.

"Once a girl scout gave five cents," said Daniel. "Every penny that has come toward this is important. Our next project is Hill House. We've only done necessary maintenance. We need to update the electrical.

"I hope the book helps people have a better understanding of what we have at Greenmead. Most people think Livonia is not old. We do have history. Let's take care of what we have left."

Livonia Preserved -Greenmead and Beyond (from the Images of America series by Arcadia Publishing) is available at the Greenmead gift shop, area bookstores, and businesses including Town Peddler on Plymouth Road, and Walgreens and Hallmark at Six Mile and Farmington. The cost is \$19.95. For infor-

C2 (CP)



a village to the moving of buildings to the site, the Questors redecorating."

In addition to the hundreds of volunteers who have labored over the years, the Friends of Greenmead has held garden

mation, visit the Web site at www.ci.livonia.mi.us and click on Greenmead, or call (248) 477-7375.

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

#### TOURS

FROM PAGE C

and cookies. For reservations, call (248) 477-7375. Proceeds benefit Historic Greenmead. Carols will be sung by the

Livonia Civic Chorus in the Meeting House and Aria Degillio in the church.

"They'll tour the Kingsley and Shaw houses, Newburg school and church, the Bungalow, and the A.J. Geer General Store," said Renaud. "Along the way they meet

costumed re-enactors. It's neat to go through the buildings after dark. I like the lights dim and the warm glow of the candle."

Volunteer Suzanne Daniel spends an entire day just setting up the candles in the buildings and walkways all the while keeping in mind that the historic structures could go up quickly in flames if one is misplaced.

"I do it for people to realize how low the light was," said Daniel. "This was the simple life," added Renaud. "The candle light walks are something to do after the holidays to extend the Christmas season. For some people it's sort of like a family tradition."

Greenmead is becoming a year round tradition for businesses and organizations

holding meetings and parties in Judge Blue's House which was renovated with events planning and fund-raising in mind. Couples regularly wed in Newburg Church and hold the reception afterwards in the Blue House which is really a cream structure built in the mid 1800s.

Proceeds from a Presidential Tea there on Saturday, Feb. 24, will go to the restoration and preservation of Greenmead. For reservations, details or to find out about holding an event, call (248) 477-7375.

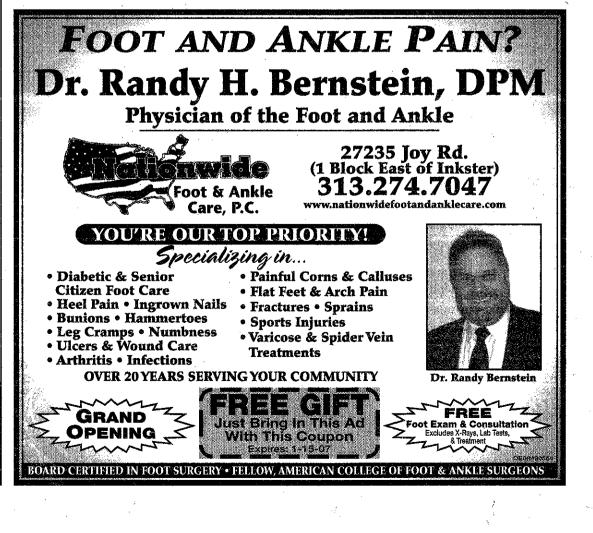
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## WHAT'S **IN YOUR KETTLE?**

WHEN YOU GIVE to a Red Kettle, it's not just coins and bills landing inside — you're putting JOY into that kettle, helping The Salvation Army provide Christmas toys to thousands of children this holiday season. Give now at 1-877-SAL-MICH.





#### HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

#### **ENGAGEMENTS**

#### Samsel-Androsian

Stan and Lynn Samsel of Livonia announce the engagement of their daughter, Andra, to Jeffrey Androsian, son of Bill and Sandy Androsian, of Brighton.

The bride-t-be is a 2002 graduate of Stevenson High School and will be receiving her bachelor's of business administration from the University of Michigan-Dearborn in April of 2007. She currently works for Busch's in Livonia.

The prospective groom is a 1997 graduate of Northville High School and obtained his bachelor's of business administration from the University of Michigan-Dearborn in 2002. He is currently pursuing his master's of business administration at Lawrence Tech. He

#### **Ouillette-Clayton**

Tonya Ouillette and Nic Clayton of Gladwin announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be is the daughter of Robert and Robin (Carter) Ouillette of Gladwin, formally of Garden City. She is also the granddaughter of Audrey and the late Ervin (Red) Ouillette, and Roy and Mary Lou Carter all of Garden City. She is a 2001 graduate of Clinton High School and 2003 graduate of Kirtland Community College where she is employed.

The groom-to-be is the son of Theodore and Teresa Clayton of Clinton. He is also a 2001 graduate of Clinton High School

#### **Roderick-Vineyard**

Thomas and Wendy Roderick of Westland announce the engagement of their daughter, Holly Antoinette Roderick of Westland, to Gary Anthony Vineyard of Westland.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of John Glenn High School and attended the University of Michigan-Dearborn. She is employed at Long Mechanical in Northville.

The prospective groom is the son of Gary and Debra Vineyard of Westland. He is a graduate of John Glenn High School. He is employed at Ford Motor Company, Livonia Transmission.

A July 2007 wedding is planned at the Inn at St. John's



works as an Account Manager for NYX, Inc. in Livonia. A July 2007 wedding is planned for Northville. They will make their home in Dearborn.



and is employed as a heavy equipment operator in Harrison. A June 2007 wedding is planned.



with a reception at Plymouth Manor.

### ics/camp.

## 'Mocktail' recipes help people stay safe on road

Wayne County Mothers Against Drunk Driving and the Southeast Michigan Community Alliance recently joined forces to urge drivers to stay safe this holiday season and all year. As part of that, a "Mocktail Mixer" contest was held to seek ideas for nonalcoholic drinks for holiday parties. Cecilia Nesbitt, Westland

Shopping Center employee and first-place winner, received a \$75 gift certificate to NML Laser Design, \$50 gift certificate to Sears, \$25 to J.C. Penney and an A&W meal card Here's her recipe:

#### MARDI GRAS PUNCH

1 (6-ounce) can of frozen orange juice concentrate (thawed) 1 (6-ounce) can of frozen lemonade concentrate (thawed) 1 quart chilled apple juice

#### **MDA VOLUNTEERS**

The Muscular Dystrophy Association is searching for summer camp volunteers who are looking for a rewarding and memorable experience. Volunteer counselors are needed to help young people with neuromuscular diseases enjoy fun-filled, weeklong MDA summer camps across the country. Volunteer counselors must be at least 16 years old and able to lift and care for a young person between the ages of 6 and 21. Each counselor becomes a companion to a camper with a neuromuscular disease. Counselors help their campers with daily activities such as eating, bathing and dressing, and in recreational activities such as arts and crafts, swimming and horseback riding.

"MDA summer camp is a week that young people with neuromuscular diseases look forward to all year long because it is a place where barriers simply do not exist," said MDA President and CEO Gerald Weinberg. At no charge to families, MDA's summer camp program serves more than 4,000 campers nationwide in some 90 weeklong sessions. Last year, some 5,000 volunteers helped make this all possible. It costs the association \$650 to send one child to camp. To obtain an application or learn more, contact your local MDA office, or call (800) 572-1717. Information can be found on the MDA summer camp pages of the Web site at www.mda.org/clin-

#### 2 quarts chilled ginger ale 1 quart raspberry, orange, lime and lemon sherbet

Stir concentrates and apple

juice in a large bowl. Stir in the ginger ale.

Scoop sherbet into balls and spoon into punch.

Tyronza Wiley, Detroit resident and second-place winner, received a \$50 gift certificate to NML Laser Design, \$25 gift certificate to J.C. Penney and an A&W meal card. Here's Wiley's recipe:

#### CRANBERRY - ALMOND PUNCH

1 can jellied cranberry sauce 2 1/4 cups of water 1/2 cup of lemon juice 3/4 cup of orange juice 1 teaspoon of almond extract 1 cup of ginger ale, chilled

Use a fork to crush the cranberry jelly, hand beat smooth with a whisk, then combine and stir in the water, lemon juice, orange juice and almond extract. Chill.

Stir in the ginger ale just prior to serving.

Garnish glasses with lemon slices and mint.

For best results, use a blender prior to adding the ginger ale.

Lisa Podina, Westland Shopping Center employee and third-place winner, received a \$25 gift certificate to NML Laser Design, \$25 gift certificate to J.C. Penney and an A&W meal card. Here's her recipe:

CHRISTMAS SUNSHINE PUNCH

Hassages

3 cups of apricot juice 1 can of pineapple juice 1 liter of ginger ale 2 quarts Ruby Red grapefruit juice

Mix all ingredients in a punch bowl with ice cubes to chill before serving.

LaVeida Hendricks, Inkster resident and fourth-place winner, received a \$20 gift certificate to KB Toys and an A&W meal card. Here's her recipe:

#### LAVEIDA'S PARTY MIXER

1 cup fresh orange juice 1 cup fresh grapefruit juice 1/2 cup fresh lime juice 1/2 cup cranberry juice 1/2 cup pomegranate molasses 1/2 cup club soda Slices of lemon

Combine, and serve over ice.



#### **CECILIA ELLIS** (Nee REYES)

Age 84. December 13, 2006. Beloved wife of the late Albert A., loving moth-er of Cynthia Andrews (John), Patricia Ellis Strowger (Richard), Albert J. and Sandra Langan (Matthew). Dear grandmother of Christen and Caitlin Andrews; Ryan and Bradley Strowger; Albert A. II and Andrew Ellis; Lauren and Erin Langan. Sister of Peter Reyes, Elizabeth Reyes, and Mary Lou Wholihan. Predeceased by her sister, Caroline, and her brothers Joseph, Albert, and Frederick. Survived by many loving nieces and nephews. Visitation Friday 2-4 and 6-9 at A.H. Peters Funeral Home, 20705 Mack Ave. at Vernier Rd., Grosse Pointe Woods. Rosary 7:00 pm. Funeral Mass Saturday, 11:00 am at Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church, 467 Fairford, Grosse Pointe Woods. Memorial contribuions may be made to Angela Hospice or The Hope Cancer Clinic.



Florence: brother, James: and son, Steven Dennis Bock. She loved her dog, Mickey and kitty, Smokey. Services were held Saturday at Harry J. Will Funeral Home and burial will be Monday at Knollwood Cemetery in Canton. **ROBERT F.C. LABADIE** 

and



Age 78, of Farmington Hills passed away on November 11, 2006. Beloved wife of Bruce, and loving mother of Linda (Ed), Larry, Mary (Mike), Karl (Mary), and Dale. Also and three great grandchildren. Born in Redford Township to the late William Walbridge of Livonia. She was a graduate of Redford Union Class of 1946. From 1964 to 1974 she was the general leader for the 4-H youth group, the Los Caballeros based out of Farmington. Wilma had traveled through all 50 states including driving to Alaska. Her travels also took her to Mexico, Australia, New Zeeland, and The Galapagos Islands.



## Don't leave your pets out in the cold, local Humane Society says

As temperatures drop, calls to the Michigan Humane Society Cruelty Hotline increase with reports of pets left outside with no shelter or other provisions. Sadly, when weather becomes severe, some calls arrive too late to save an animal left to fend for himself in brutal conditions.

The Michigan Humane Society recommends that pets live indoors all year long. However, if an animal must be outside, guardians should put proper provisions in place now before it becomes a life or death situation - and one for which they can be charged with animal cruelty law violations.

Misdemeanor animal cruelty charges can carry a sentence of up to 93 days in jail, up to a \$1,000 fine, community service and loss of pet ownership for a specified amount of time.

"Even though the temperatures are just beginning to drop, there have been several cold and wet days already that could be unbearable or lifethreatening for a dog left outside," said Debby MacDonald, senior cruelty investigator for the MHS. "We encourage animal guardians to bring their dogs inside all year, especially during extreme weather conditions, but those who remain outside must have adequate protection from the elements. Now is the time to make sure proper shelter, plenty of nutritious food and unfrozen water are available."

The following tips will help people care for pets responsibly during cold weather:

When temperatures plummet, pets should not be left

of up to 93 days in jail, up to a \$1,000 fine, community service and loss of pet ownership for a specified amount of time.

Misdemeanor animal cruelty charges can carry a sentence

outside for any length of time. Even large or long-haired breeds cannot withstand severe or inclement weather. Bring small or short-haired dogs in when temperatures reach 15-20 degrees Fahrenheit. Larger breeds and thick-coated dogs may remain outside, with adequate shelter, to about zero degrees. Precipitation and severe wind chills should also be taken into account.

Cats should be kept permanently indoors or at least brought into a warm, animalproofed garage during severe weather.

Roaming cats often seek . the warmth of car engines, so knock on the car hood or honk the horn before starting your car to give them a chance to escape.

Shelter is required by Michigan state law for dogs who must remain outdoors for any length of time. Adequate shelter means a well-built, insulated, slant-roofed dog house. The interior should be just large enough for the dog to stand and to lie down comfortably. It should be slightly elevated from the ground for air circulation. The door should face away from prevailing winds and have a protective flap to eliminate drafts. Clean, dry straw should always be provided for bedding rather than towels, rugs or blankets

that absorb moisture and may quickly freeze.

Several types of inadequate shelter often encountered by investigators include an unheated garage or shed, a dog house that is too large or lacks straw, or dogs simply tied out to a porch, fence or deck with no shelter at all.

Increase food and water 10-20 percent for dogs left outside during the winter. Check drinking water frequently, every few hours, to make sure it hasn't frozen.

If an animal is cold to the touch, or his paws and ears have turned bright red, he may be suffering from frostbite. Move the animal to a warmer area and contact your veterinarian immediately.

The Michigan Humane Society's four cruelty investigators and one field agent handle approximately 4,000 cases of animal cruelty each year in Detroit, Hamtramck and Highland Park. Suspected animal cruelty/neglect in these cities should be reported by calling the MHS Cruelty Hotline at (313) 872-3401. A confidential message can be left 24 hours a day. Elsewhere, the local animal control or police should be contacted.

The MHS operates shelters in Westland, Rochester Hills and Detroit.

Age 82, of Belleville, passed away on Tuesday, December 12, 2006 at the University of Michigan Hospital in Ann Arbor. Mr. Labadie owned and operated 2 dry cleaning establish-ments, Lacy's Cleaners in Westland and Detroit, retiring in 1990. Funeral services will be at 1 P.M. Monday, December 18, at the Love Funeral Home, Bancroft, Michigan with Pastor Wayne DeVerna officiating. Burial will be in Fuller Cemetery, Byron, Michigan. Visitation will be Sunday from 2-5 P.M. and 6-8 P.M. and Monday from 11 A.M. until service time at the funeral home. He was born on March 6, 1924, in Bellaire, Michigan, the son of Francis and Grace (Mortimer) Labadie. He graduated from Bellaire High School. On April 11, 1953 he married, Marie T. Wiggins. Mr. Labadie is survived by his wife, Marie and eight children; Robert Francis (Marilyn) Labadie, of Waterford, John Charles (Debbie) Labadie, of Westland, Michelle Marie (Ken) Deschepper of Byron, Madeline Elizabeth (Dale) Baker, of Salem, Ohio, Mary Renee (Michael) Wiggett of Ft. Collins, Colorado, Maureen Therese (Boni) Alesna of Warren, Margaret Ann Labadie of Burns, Wyoming, and James Joseph (Cyndi) Labadie of Greenville, South

Carolina; 22 grandchildren, three great-grandchildren and one sister: Madelyn Ricketts of Traverse City.



#### MARILYN MARGARET PIPP (nee CARRIER)

Age 84, Dec. 12, 2006. Beloved wife of 62 years to the late John C., cher-ished mother of Kathlyn (Terry) MacDonald, Julie (Jack) Tillotson, Janice Dahlhofer, John Jr., James, Mary (Jim) Correll, Michael (Monica) and the late Joseph. Proud grandmother of Joseph, Cheryl, Anthony, Carin, James, Brad, Michael, Thomas, Kathryn, Christian, Mark and Erin and great grandmother of Steven and Grant. God gave us an angel for 84 years. The beauty of her spirit touched all who knew her. She will live forever in our hearts. A Funeral Mass was held Saturday, December 16th, at our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church, Farmington. Memorial tributes suggested to the Arthritis Foundation (arthritis.org), Alzheimer's Assn. (alzheimers.org) or Covenant House (www.covenanthouse.com). Arrange-ments entrusted to the Heeney-Sundquist Funeral Home, downtown Farmington. heeney-sundquist.com

#### JANE E. VAN DUSEN

LINDA DENISE SLAGE

of Garden City. In loving memory

May 12, 1947-December 13, 2006.

Linda will be forever loved and

missed by the many hearts that she touched with her genuine smile and warm laughter. She died Wednesday

at Oakwood Annapolis Hospital after

battling cancer for more than a year.

She is survived by husband, Stephen;

Tasivich. She is preceded in death by

her grandfather, Stoyan; grandmother,

sisters, Donna and Gloria

sister Judy

Age 82, of West Simsbury, Ct., died on Sunday, December 10, 2006 at 8:30 pm at the Atlantic City Medical Center, Atlantic City, NJ. Jane is survived by her brothers Fred and George Erb, her children Fred, Steve, Cathy, Marjorie, and by her grandchildren Sean, Michelle, Brendan, Robin, Ashley, Nathan, Jesse, Paul, Linda, Steven, Heather and Anna. Predeceased is Jane's daughter Janie. Jane was born on October 31, 1924 in Detroit, MI. She graduated high school from Kingswood Birmingham, Michigan. She married Charles T. Van Dusen in 1944. Jane spent years as a dedicated wife, mother and home-maker. Later in life, Jane went on to receive a bachelor's degree from Goddard College, New Hampshire. As a long time and active member of The Threshold Foundation, Jane worked to make this planet a better place to live. Jane loved and loyally supported her family and friends throughout her life. Jane will be sorely missed by them all. A Service will be held on Saturday, December 16, 2006, 12:30 p.m. in Beach Haven, NJ at the Holy Innocence Episcopal Church. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made, on Jane's behalf to the charity of your choice.

MARY E. WATERSON

Age 75, died Monday, December 11, 2006 at Maplewood Manor. Mrs.

Waterson was born January 7, 1931 in

Shannon Mississippi the daughter of Olen and Etta Mosley. Mary's life was

centered around her church, Bethany

Tabernacle, where she participated in

many church functions including Bible

study. She had worked at Cunningham Drugs and Perry Drugs and Apex

Drugs and Elias Brothers in Rochester,

Michigan. Surviving are 'sons, Alvin

(Becky) Waterson, Roger Waterson; Grandchildren, Kathryn, Michael, James; sisters Virgina Vondran, Rachel

Ashmore; several nieces and nephews.

Mrs. Waterson was preceded in death by her son, Carl Richard Waterson, brothers William Mosley, Thomas

Mosley, and sister Bernice Ford.

Friends may visit the family from 2pm

to 5pm on Sunday, December 17 at the

Reigle Funeral Home Sunset Chapel.

The funeral service will be 1:00pm Monday, December 18 at the funeral

home. Pastor Dan Hutchinson and

Pastor Don Werden will officiate bur-

ial will follow at Sunset Hills Cemetery. Memorial contributions in

her name may be made to Bethany

Reigle Funeral Home Sunset Chapel 5501 W. Pierson Rd, Flushing MI 48433. 810-732-1448

Tabernacle Teaching Fund.

Age 83, died December 8, 2006. Long time resident of Livonia. Loving husband of

Irene, for 56 years. Together they traveled the world, visiting 6 continents, in search of the most spectacular waterfalls. Loved father of Richard Edward, (Edith) Mark Andrew, (Jean) James Allen, Daniel Norbert and Barbara Irene (Rory) Alderton. Loving Grandfather of Robert, Erica, Jessica, Sarah, and Kevin. Missed friend to Astrid. Devoted master of dog, Buffy. Originally from Alpena, where he was Captain of the Aplena High School football team, during the 1941 season. Veteran of WWII, serving with the US Army Corps of Engineering in Europe. Well respected Project Engineer for the Wayne County Road Commission for 35 years. Known to his co-workers as "Zeke". Passionate Bridge player, reaching the status of Life Master. Avid gardener, spending most of his free time in his gardens of vegetables, flowers, and fruit trees. Voracious reader of mystery novels late into the night. His warmth, integrity, honesty and sense of humor will be deeply missed. Services were held December 13th, 2006 at St. Genevieve Catholic Church, where he was a parishioner since 1964. Buried at St. Hedwig Cemetery, Dearborn Heights.



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.)

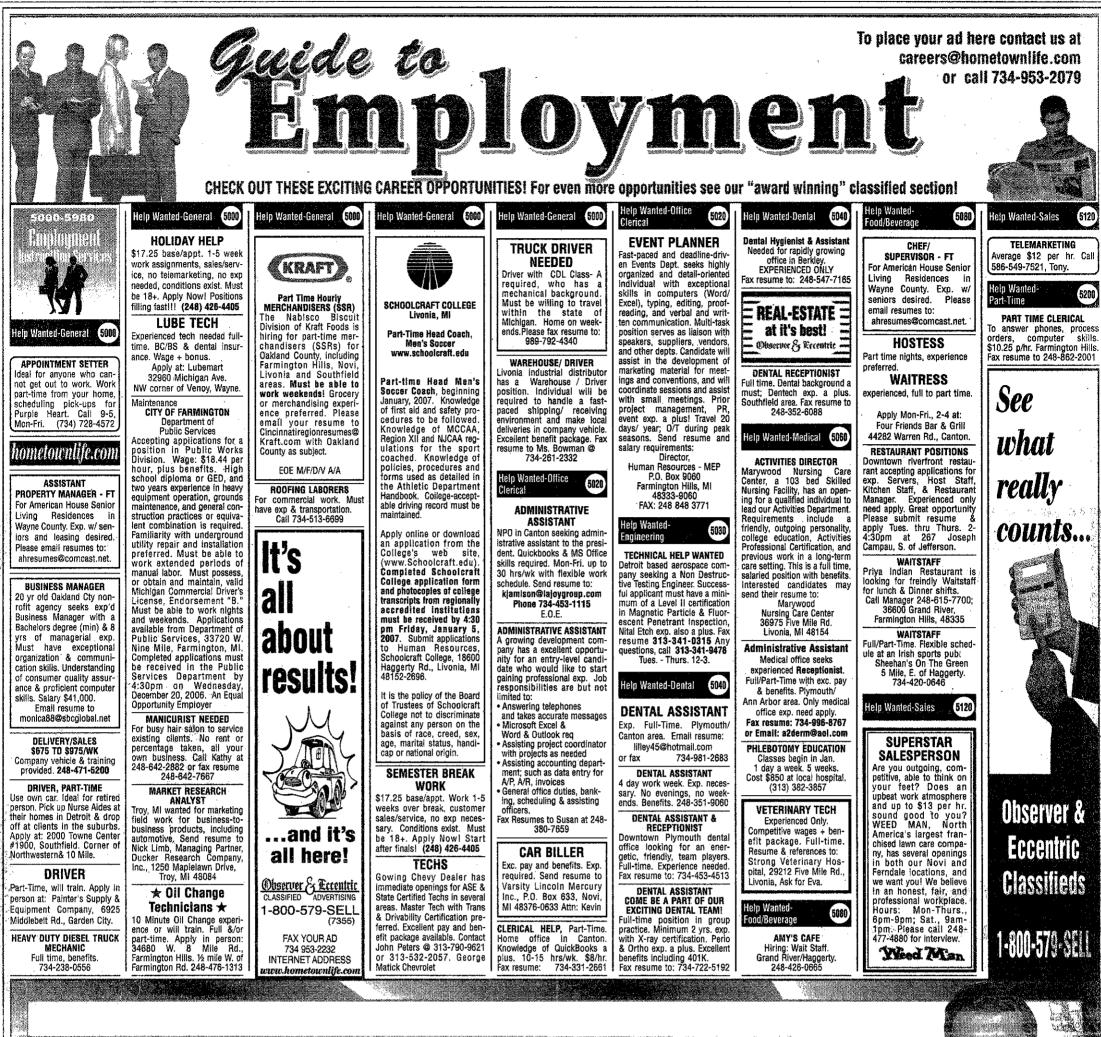
Deadlines: Friday 4:30 PM for Sunday Wednesday Noon for Thursday Obituaries received after these deadlines will be placed in the next available issue. e-mail your obit to oeobits@hometownlife.com or fax to: Attn: Obits c/o Charolette Wilson 734-953-2232 For more information call: Charolette Wilson 734-953-2070 or Liz Keiser 734-953-2067 or toll free 866-818-7653 ask for Char or Liz OE08428379

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Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, December 17, 2006

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THE Observer & Eccentric NEWSPAPERS

#### **HOMETOWNLIFE.COM**

## Feeling festive: Plymouth-Canton AAUW members meet for holiday merriment

BY JULIE BROWN STAFF WRITER

Sometimes, it's good to get together just for fun, especially during the December holidays. Members of the Plymouth-Canton branch, American Association of University Women, know that's true.

"We're here to celebrate together," said Becky Copenhaver of Canton, branch president, during the annual holiday gathering Wednesday at the Plymouth Historical Museum. "It's fun to get together for the holiday season."

The event, which draws some 40-50 women each December, includes bringing gifts for First Step, the local domestic violence and sexual assault center. AAUW members and guests contributed toys, clothing and other essentials.

Member Diana Wilcox made scarves and bought gloves for a silent auction, in addition to raffle baskets put together by board members. Money raised went to the association's Legal Advocacy Fund.

Food was served and the women enjoyed a tour of the museum's Santa Claus exhibit from the collection of Weldon Petz of West Bloomfield.

'We get to see people we haven't seen all year," said Copenhaver, a third-grade teacher at Hoover Elementary in Livonia. Member Diana Wilcox made scarves and bought gloves for a silent auction, in addition to raffle baskets put together by board members. Money raised went to the association's Legal Advocacy Fund.

Sanford Burr, interim museum director, gave background on the museum and its Lincoln collection from Petz. Petz has some 3,000 Santas, about one-fourth of which are on display at the museum.

"I know that people are very busy shopping and doing that kind of thing," said Burr, who encourages folks to stop by to see the Santas, including some from the J.L. Hudson's department store. "I think this is just a super exhibit. I love it. Every time I walk around I see something new."

The Santas will stay at the museum, 155 S. Main, into January, he added. For information, call the museum at (734) 455-8940.

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

#### FICTION

1. "Cross," James Patterson 2. "For One More Day," Mitch Albom 3. "Dear John," Nicholas Sparks 4. "Shape Shifter," Tony Hillerman 5. "Nature Girl," Carl Hiassen

NON-FICTION

1. "The Innocent Man,"

**LIBRARY PICKS** 

John Grisham 2. "The Audacity of Hope," Barack Obama 3. "Culture Warrior," Bill O'Reilly 4. "Marley & Me," John Grogan 5. "The God Delusion,"

**Richard Dawkins** PARENTS' CHOICE **NEW CHILDREN'S PICTURE BOOKS** 

1. "Heave Ho!" Heinz Janisch 2. "Sam is Never Scared," Thierry

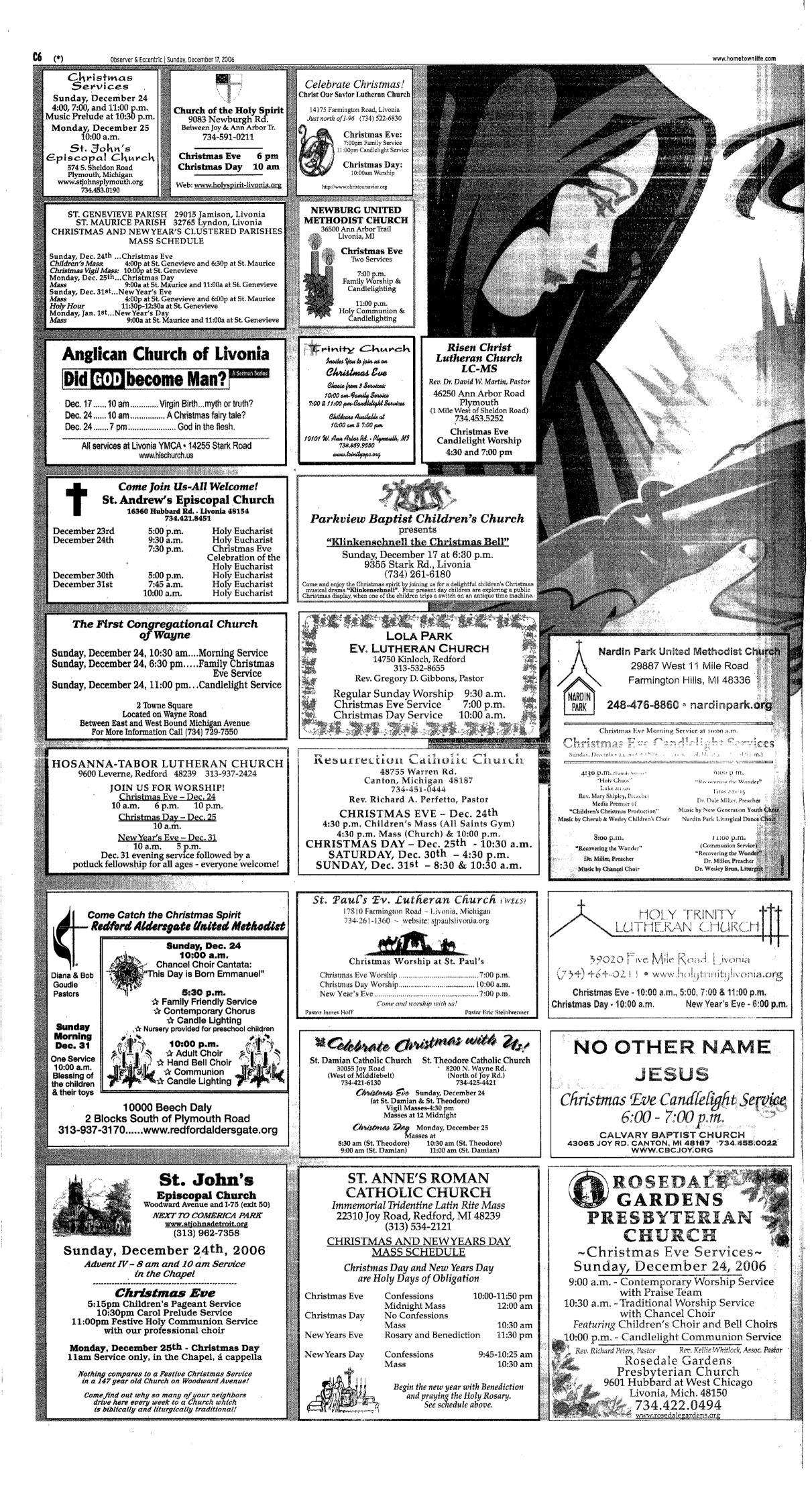
Robberscht 3. "The Red Chalk."

Iris Van der Heide

4. "Oops," Arthur

Geisert 5. "Moon Plane." Peter McCarthy







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Sunday, December 17, 2006

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

#### www.hometownlife.com

Hugh Gallagher, editor . (734) 953-2149 . hgallagher@hometownlife.com

## Advice for avoiding the holiday blues

Carol from Troy has the holiday blues. She is looking for tips to make her holiday season a little more merry.

Carol, here are some tips to make your holiday



season a little merrier. Winter blues and the weight gain that usually comes with it, can usually be kicked by increasing your physical activity. Researchers find that men and women participating in exercise tests did much better on mood tests than those not exercising. Women who were jogging twice a week were more selfconfident, self-accepting, and

Peter Nielsen

Principles

Weight training in the winter

half months 70-year-old men who engaged in weight training programs were three times less likely to be depressed than their sedentary counterparts. Proof positive that fitness club memberships can make great stocking stuffers!

#### Karen from Walled Lake writes to us saying that she likes to snack in the afternoon while at work. She is wondering if there is anything good that she can eat instead of chips?

Karen, I suggest that you try some pistachio nuts or sunflower seeds. They are a great afternoon snack and are good for you. In fact a recent study found that both pistachio nuts and sunflower seeds lower your cholesterol and are good for your heart.

Remember though, too much of a good thing can be bad. Nuts and seeds pack 150 to 200 calories per ounce so limit your snacking to only one or two ounces. Also, many nuts and seeds can be very salty so look for those marked unsalted. They are better for you!

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

'Cervical cancer is the second most common cancer among women worldwide.' Dr. Ann Rehm

## Improving the odds Vaccine is first to prevent cervical cancer

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN STAFF WRITER

Dr. Deirdre Wickham isn't taking a chance that her 14-year old daughter could develop cervical cancer. Wickham made sure she was vaccinated not long after Gardasil was approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration in June. The vaccine protects against diseases caused by the sexually transmitted infection known as human papillomavirus (HPV), specifically Types 6, 11, 16, and 18.

As many as 75 percent of women may contract a sexually transmitted HPV at some time during their life, increasing their risk for cervical cancer. Although the vaccine was approved for ages 9 to 26, local physicians are especially recommending vaccinations for females before they become sexually active.

"I just wished they would all get this vaccine," said Deirdre Wickham, a D.O. who specializes in obstetrics and gynecology at Botsford General Hospital. She offers the vaccine at her office in Farmington.

"It's the first time we've had a vaccination to protect against cancer." According to the Centers for Disease

Control and Prevention, 20 million Americans are currently infected with HPV and 6.2 million more are infected each year. Wickham suggests women receive an annual PAP smear as cervical cancer if not diagnosed and treated is fatal.

Dr. Ann Rehm says it's especially important for young girls to receive a new vaccine to prevent cervical cancer.

Dr. Ann Rehm plans to vaccinate her 9 and 12- year old daughters before they enter high school. Although Rehm preaches abstinence as the best way to avoid HPV, she realizes sexual activity rates are probably higher than parents want to admit. She recommends if a woman of any age is sexually active that she remain in a monogamous relationship. A condom may not prevent transmission of HPV as it can be acquired from other forms of sexuality activity besides intercourse including foreplay.

"Cervical cancer is the second most common cancer among women worldwide," said Rehm, an M.D. specializing in obstetrics and gynecology at Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak. Rehm vaccinates patients at her office in Birmingham.

"It's important that young girls receive this because you want to administer it before they're sexually active so the body's immune system will be protective. A younger girl's

immune system will develop a superior response compared to an older one whose response might not be as robust."

While 70 to 80 percent of the population have been exposed to HPV, Wickham says most subtypes don't have any clinical significance unless of course a woman is infected with types 16 or 18 which are responsible for 70 percent of cervical cancers. In 2006, the American Cancer Society is estimating there will be 10,000 new cases of cervical cancer and 4,100 deaths. Both physicians feel it's well worth the cost of vaccinating girls and young women even though Gardasil is not currently covered by all insurance companies. The vaccine is given in a series of three injections at \$160 each.

"I try to tell moms because you think your daughter is going to be a virgin, she's going to meet Mr. Right, she might not be infected with HPV, but maybe Mr. Right is," said Rehm.

Gardasil is available at Wickham's Farmington office by calling (248) 476-1540. Rehm offers it at her Birmingham office at (248) 647-5660.

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#### HEALTH

#### **MEDICAL DATEBOOK**

#### DECEMBER

#### Alateen 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.

#### 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 Woodwar 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 higherground2003@aol.com.

#### UPCOMING

#### 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, 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, 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 or visit www.teensusingdrugs.org.

#### Stop smoking program

Presented by Dr. Arthur Weaver 7:30-9 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 4, Monday-Friday, Jan. 8-12, and Monday, Jan. 15, at the Livonia Civic Center Library Auditorium, 32777 Five Mile, east of Farmington Road. No charge but donations accepted. For more information, call (734) 466-2540.

Emergency physicians urge caution during holidays For millions of homes, the holiday season would not be complete without decorations, twinkling lights, Christmas trees, and candles. Unfortunately, these festive signs of the holiday season also can lead to injuries and the American College of Emergency Physicians urges the public to keep safety in mind.

"The holiday season is a hectic time for all of us, filled with activities and errands, and many people pay less attention to safety and end up in the emergency department," said Dr. Brian Keaton, president of the American College of **Emergency Physicians.** More than 12,000 people are treated in the nation's emergency rooms each year due to falls, cuts, electrical shocks and burns from faulty holiday decorations or accidents that occur while putting decorations in

place, according to government statistics.

The holiday season also means parties where alcohol is served. More than one thousand people in December 2004 were killed in car crashes involving a car or motorcycle driver with an illegal blood alcohol content level of .08 or higher according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

ACEP offers the following safety tips to help the public avoid the most common injuries during the coming holiday season:

#### **OUTDOOR SAFETY**

Clear snow and leaves from pathways and sprinkle salt on patches of ice. Check children's shoes, socks and gloves periodically to make sure they are dry while playing outdoors in cold weather to avoid frostbite and hypothermia.

🛍 Find a safe place for children to sled. Make sure the area is free of fences, roadways, trees and other hazards. Choose a hill where children cannot reach fast, uncontrollable speeds.

#### TRAVEL SAFETY

Wear seat belts at all times. Place all children under age 12 in the back seat and secure all children in appropriate safety restraints for their ages and sizes. Never drink alcohol and

drive. If you do plan to drink alcohol, assign a designated driver.

Be aware of your surroundings, including changes in weather or traffic patterns.

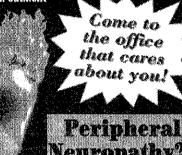
#### CANDLES AND FIREPLACES

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leave burning candles unattended.

Have chimneys and fireplaces professionally inspected yearly to ensure they are safe to use and the chimney is unobstructed.

#### DECORATIONS

Check decorative lights to make sure they are not broken and the wires are not bare or fraved.

Turn off all decorative lights before going to bed or leaving the house.

Avoid using sharp decorations and ornaments.

Keep Christmas trees away from fireplaces or other areas

where high heat is present. When buying an artificial tree, be sure the label indicates it is "fire resistant." When buying a live tree, check for freshness (green, full of needles, sticky trunk).

Fresh trees are less of a fire hazard and should be watered frequently.

Use the appropriate size ladder for any decorating job and have someone help you.

#### **GENERAL TIPS**

Have a first aid kit nearby. Know where the fire extinguisher is kept.

Keep emergency telephone numbers by your telephone.

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#### HOLIDAY CHEER AND ARTHRITIS

The holiday season features eating cakes, cookies, turkey, rich gravies and drinking wine beer, liqueurs, and scotch to excess and beyond. It is not likely your arthritis will make you suffer for enjoying such good times.

The condition you may experience is gout; a combination of rich food and alcohol puts you at risk for an acute attack. The reason is that alcohol inhibits the normal excretion by the kidneys of uric acid, the chemical that causes gout. If at the same time, you are eating large portions of beef, steak, turkey or chicken or reaching out for seven layer cakes and the like, you are creating large additions to your body stores of uric acid. The rise, particularly if sudden, in the blood concentration of uric acid can precipitate an acute attack of cout.

Other arthritic conditions are not so affected by holiday eating. Excess alcohol may cause a flare of both psoriasis and psoriatic arthritis. While the logic behind the observation is unclear, a combination of heavy drinking combined with smoking may set off other crystalline conditions such as pseudogout.

Holiday eating does not affect rheumatoid arthritis or osteoarthritis, except if you become drunk and fall on a knee, shoulder or hip. Then a slight hit may reap a big fracture.

The indulgence offered by the holidays is generally a good departure from the restrictions that arthritis imposed the other months of the year. In addition, the holiday offers a brief espite from the vigilance arthritis will demand for the rest of the winte

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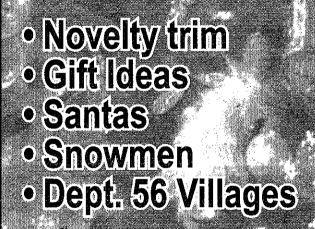
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## Holiday bonuses less frequent, but folks are happy to be working

#### BY JULIE BROWN STAFF WRITER

We all like to get Christmas bonuses, but in these tough times most metro Detroiters are just glad to be working.

Chevy Chase as the dad in National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation movie of a few years back banked on a bonus to finance a family swimming pool. Local folks aren't going to that extreme, relying instead on their regular paychecks and smaller December employer expressions of gratitude, such as company parties.

Debra Madonna of Plymouth Township works at the St. Mary Mercy Hospital Marian Women's Center in Livonia as a health educator. The hospital has given turkeys and small gifts to staffers in the past.

Madonna's not familiar with what given's now as a contingent employee, but she sees luncheons for holidays advertised annually. "I'm never there because I teach my class and go home."

She's grateful for her job at the Livonia health care facility. "They support me, the support I get from them. And I like what I do. I get to work with a lot of people."

Madonna likes the hospital's

community outreach efforts. "They still do a lot of offerings

for the community." She cited screenings for prostate and breast cancer, and free support groups such as one for new moms.

Ruth Martin, a Remerica Hometown One Realtor in Plymouth, lives in Livonia. "We never get bonuses. We get profit sharing sometimes but that's in the following year."

She and her colleagues usually get that money in May. She's fine with that. "We have a lovely Christmas dinner that's going to be at St. John's (in Plymouth Township) this year." Remerica's corporate office also has a dinner in area for Remerica offices across state, in addition to the local dinner at St. John's.

The Realtors have something to celebrate, based on what Martin's seeing in home sales.

"I'm finding that real estate is picking up. Houses are selling there are more buyers out there," she said.

She's excited about 2007. "It's always good to start over, start with a clean sheet," Martin said.

Joe Bauer, general manager of the Westland Red Lobster on Wayne Road, has had a tradition for about 16 years of a Saturday morning holiday breakfast for

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staff. "All the crew brings in their little kids," he said. Small gifts for the kids are given at the Red Lobster staff party.

"We've done it for years," Bauer said. "A lot of the kids are starting to grow a little older. But the tradition continues."

Bauer agreed it's important for good managers to show their appreciation of staffers who contribute to the organization's success.

Savvy managers know keeping good employees is vital, and workers have some good news for 2007, according to the Web site of the Society for Human Resource Management. According to new numbers from the Leading Indicator of National Employment (LINE) report, the modest employment growth of December 2005 will be repeated in December 2006. The findings are reported in the December report of the LINE index, a collaborative effort between the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM) and the Rutgers University School of Management and Labor Relations.

This LINE employment expectations report references the same December period as the report the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) will release on Jan. 5, 2007. To view the full report, visit www.shrm.org/LINE.



Holiday parties at local businesses and organizations aren't generally the lavish affairs they might have been in years gone by. Most firms are choosing to recognize hard work by their staffers in a more subdued but still festive way.





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F/T for Beaumont Royal Oak Cardiology group. Various office duties including secre-tarial, projects, etc. Know-ledge of EXCEL required. Good organizational skills a must. Competitive salary and benefits. Send resume to AHV/PYC BHC 3601 W. 13 Mile Rd. Royal Oak, MI 48073

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#### **ASSISTANT MANAGER** PART-TIME

Needed for Novi area self storage facility. 8 hrs on Saturdays. Strong customer service skills & work ethic required. Fax resume to:

Melanie at 248-349-3063 **ASSISTANT MANAGER** 

#### PART-TIME

Needed for Plymouth area storage facility. Saturdays 9am-5pm & 4 hrs. during the week. Strong customer service skills & work ethic required. Fax resume to:

Lisa at 734-451-3653



NW corner of Venoy, Wayne.

Human Resources - MEP P.O. Box 9060 Farmington Hills, MI 48333-9060

For forklift distributor's Novi branch location. Major duties include; scheduling, invoicing, tracking mechanics time and customer service issues. Requires strong organization-al, computer and customer service. Competitive pay and full benefit package available. Fax resume to 586-415-5201

jobs@bellforklift.com

SUPPORT STAFF Full-time position available. Must be able to work evening hours. Must have strong computer (Microsoft Office) and data entry skills, as well as extensive filing experience. Must enjoy working with peo-ple in person, and on the phone, and enjoy working in a multi-task environment. Resumes only to Sheryl Stoddard, Jewish Family Service, 6555 W. Maple Rd., West Bloomfield, MI 48322 or

Needed immediately. Multi tasker, adaptable, detail ori-ented. Knowledge of all office equipment. Able to work inde-pendently. 3 years exp. Fax resume 248-426-7773

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, December 17, 2006 (\*) D3



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## Tempe has lots of room for family on the grow

In the true southwestern style of stucco and tile, the Tempe (D6801) has 2,411 square feet of living area with an optional basement in the same amount available. There is a revival dormer with a quatrefoil window to accent the rooflines. Matching the style the lines of the revival dormer has been carried out in the courtyard and on the corners of the Tempe.

Entry into the Tempe brings a long living room and the dining room into full view. The dining area has a coffered tall ceiling, making it stand out without the use of walls. The living room also has 12-foot ceilings and French doors that open onto a covered courtyard. At the end of the covered courtyard is a fireplace. This could be enclosed at some point in the future if more room were needed.

The right side of the home has the three-car side entry garage in the front, with the kitchen and utility in the rear. The utility and a half bath are between the garage and the kitchen.

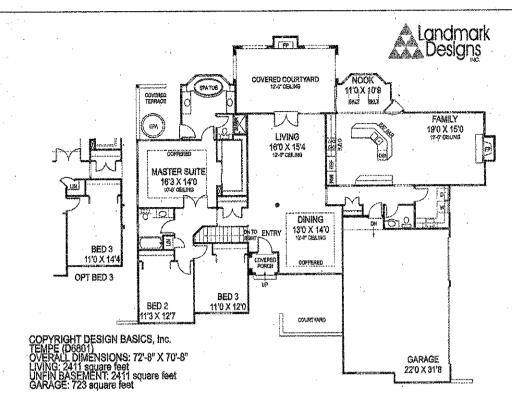
For more intimate family gatherings, the family room and the kitchen are fairly isolated from the balance of the home. There is a fireplace on the right side of the family room, but easily enjoyed by anyone in the kitchen or nook area. The kitchen has a unique shape with the main counter running down one wall, and the eating bar, sink, and dishwasher situated in an island. The nook sets in an angular set of windows with two skylights overhead. A door to the backyard opens adjacent to the nook.

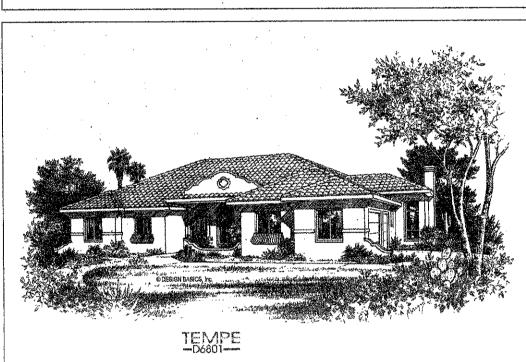
The walk-in closet is a room to get lost in with its spacious size. A full bath is located close to the other two bedrooms.

The entire left side of the Tempe is dedicated to bedrooms. The master suite is in the rear through French doors with a huge coffered vault in the main suite area. The master bath has an oversized shower, an enormous spa tub, with "his and her" sinks and door leading to private covered terrace containing a spa. The walk-in closet is a room to get lost in with its spacious size. A full bath is located close to the other two bedrooms.

The stairs to the basement are just inside the entry to the left. However, if a basement were not needed, the area would be converted into a corner linen closet and would elongate the third bedroom, making it larger.

For a study plan of the TEMPE (D6801), send \$15 to Landmark Designs, 33127 Saginaw Rd. E., Cottage Grove, OR 97424 or call (800) 562-1151. Be sure to specify plan name and number. Compact disks, with search functions are free of charge, to help you search our portfolio for you dream home (\$5 shipping and handling will apply). Or you may order or search online at www.ldiplans.com. Save 15 percent on construction plans using the code (input your code here) online, mailing, or calling (800) 562-1151





BRIEFS

#### **Career Seminar**

Keller Williams Realty will be hosting a Career Seminar 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 28, at the Plymouth office, located at 40600 Ann Arbor Road, Suite 100, Plymouth. Find out all you need to know about costs, compensation, training, and prelicense requirements. RSVP: (734) 459-4700

#### Mortgage Seminar

If your credit score is holding you back from buying a home, you've been turned down for a mortgage or loan, can't pay off those collection accounts or want to improve your score but don't know how, this free seminar may be for you. It is 2-4 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 6, at the Public Library of Westland, located at 6123 Central City Parkway, Westland. Call Diane Adamick at (734) 516-8043 to register.

#### Free workshop

A workshop for first-time homebuyers will be held 6-7:30 p.m. Monday, Jan. 22, at 28544 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills (just north of 12 Mile on the east side of the road). It is sponsored by Century 21 Today Inc.

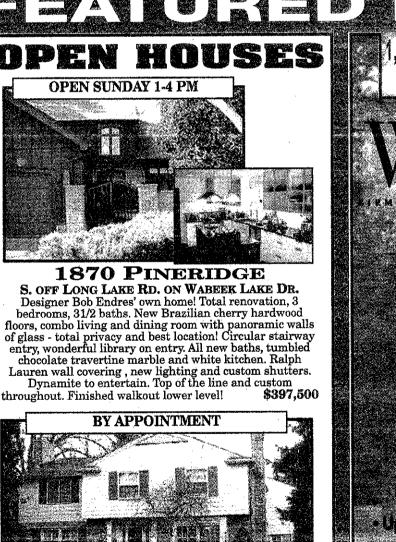
This free workshop will cover topics such as: how to effectively use the Internet for home searches; why to get preapproved; what paperwork will be required to buy a home; benefits of using a Realtor, and more. RSVP by calling (248) 855-2000, Ext. 219, or emailing

Mpopp@Century21Today.com.

#### BIA

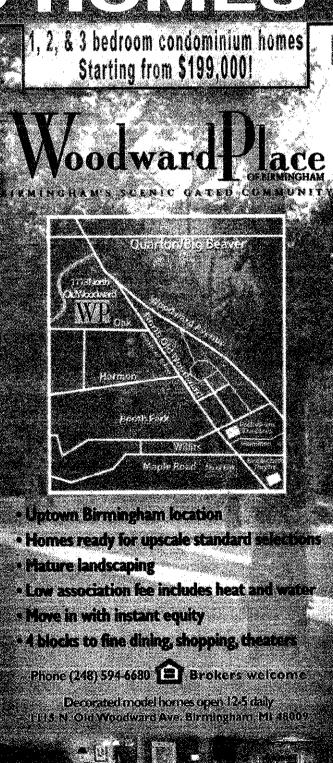
The Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan is offering an Executive Image Seminar on "Selling at the 2007 BIA Builders and Remodelors Trade Show" 9-11 a.m. Friday, Jan. 12, at BIA headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100 in Farmington Hills. Fees are \$45 for BIA or Apartment Association of Michigan members, \$65 for guests. To register, call (248) 862-1033.





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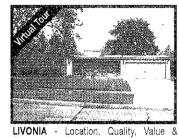


1989

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**HI LADIES** 

Sweet, genuine SBM, 38, 6', 320lbs , good-looking, warm smile, enjoys writing, reading, drawing, music and much more. Seeking real, fun, open-minded lady to share the good times. 2152105

SHARP SHARP Easygoing SBM, 39, enjoys movies, music, long drives, gourmet tea, live music, much more. Seeking spontaneous SWF, 37-50, for friendship good times, good talks and maybe more. 32152047

A GOOD CATCH SBM, 35, 5'8", 220lbs, dark complexion, shaved head, mustache, correctional officer, father, tooking for a toving, good-hearted, child-friendly lady with whom to share life and all it offers. **1**44595

WHAT R U WAITING 4? Very good-looking SBM, 42, 6'4", medi-um brown complexion, enjoys sports watching/playing, togetherness, nice dinners, good talks, romance and affection. Seeking special lady to share the good things in life. 2144729

ROMANTIC & ATTRACTIVE DWM, 60, 5'11", 190lbs, seeks nice-look-ing lady to help share each others heart, and lifes daily adventures. \$146279

LET'S BE FREE TOGETHER SBM, 6', 220lbs, physically fit, retired, well-educated. I would like to meet a singlè female 52-62, who is understanding, ioving and caring, for a LTR. 2869189 SINCERE AND LOVING

Retired, 70s, DWPM likes classy, edu-cated woman, 60-70, 5'3"+, likes family, church, gardening, conversation, winter sun areas. ISO romance leading to lov-ing committed LTR. 2459777

YOU INTERESTED IN ME? SBM, 50, 5'8'', medium-build, N/S, fun-loving personality, likes dancing, movies, dining out. Seeking passionate, sexy SF, 28-50, small-to-medium build, race open, kids ok, for friendship, possi-ble LTR. **1**946417

READ THIS AD! Handsome SBM, 29, seeks SW/ BF, 21-40, must be energetic, mature and kind-hearted, for dinner dates, outdoor activ-

ities, conversation, or watching a good movie. 2152773 HOPE TO HEAR FROM YOU Affectionate DWM, 64, brown hair, N/S, D/D-free, enjoys craft shows, flea mar-kets, movies, dining, camping, The Red Wings. ISO a special lady, 48-59, to share friendship, dates, possible LTR. **2**920969

HUGGABLE TEDDY BEAR SWM, 6', medium built, independent, N/S. seeks SF, 22-50, N/S, slim-average built, d/d-free, must be trust-worthy, honest and mature, for companionship, romance and more. 2148763

LET'S BE FRIENDS SBM, 5'10, 205lbs, N/S, enjoys riding bikes, walking in the park, rap music, sports and working-out. Seeking SW/ AF, 36-42, for companionship, romance and more. 2149349

IT COULD BE YOU SWM, 42, 5'11", 185lbs, looking for fun-loving, easygoing SF to enjoys talks, casual times and then who knows. Let's talk. **1**50204 IT COULD BE YOU

JUST A CALL AWAY SBM, 36, 6'1", medium build dark complexion, shaved head, almond shape eyes, down-to-earth. Looking to meet similar lady to share a little love and romance. 20151282

NEW TO AREA SWM, 36, 6'5", athletic build, dark blond/blue, enjoys sports, outdoors, music, movies, cooking and more. Seeking creative, fun lady with an open mind and heart to share friendship and fun. 140690

#### A SPECIAL GUY

DWM, 56, 5'10", handsome and secure, seeks honest S/DWF, w/sense of humor, who enjoys travel, candlelight and movies. Friendship, possible ing, and movie LTR. 2269646 HOPE TO HEAR FROM YOU SBM, 44, 5'9", 150lbs, father, enjoys gourmet cooking, beach walks, sun-shine, soft rock, much more. Seeking a loving, happy lady to share the special times in life. 2151943 TALL, DARK AND HANDSOME Sexy SBM, 6'1", 198/bs, enjoys soul food, R&B/rap music. Seeking attractive, mature SF, who is goal-oriented, D/Dfree, for friendship maybe more. No head games. \$\pi146128

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movies, sporting events, cuddling at home. Please be shapely, independent and know what you want in life. \$\pi 692418\$

LOVE COMFORT LAUGHTER SWM, 49, 5'9", 195lbs, is nuts about nature, enjoys the outdoors, fishing, etc. Seeks compatible SWF, to have and hold. **2**992943

TRUE GENTLEMAN

SBM, 52, 5'8", 185lbs, looking for a medi-um to full-figured SBF, 46-54. Someone who is worldly, nice, loves to laugh and just enjoying life to the fullest. 23912726 WORTH A CALL

SWM, 48, 6', 1751bs, NS, homeowner, hard-working, easygoing, honest, secure, enjoys motorcycling, hunting, the outdoors. Seeking honest, secure, attractive slim/fit woman, 25-50, N/S, D/D-free. **2956910** 

#### ARE UTHE ONE?

SM, 6'1", red/blue, independent, enjoys the outdoors and gardening. Seeks SF 18-65, for dinner dates, possibly LTR. **a**145379

#### DO YOU LIKE ROMANCE?

DWPM, 60ish, N/S, D/D-free, honest, car-ing, humorous and romantic, in search of SF 50-70, with same qualities, for conversation, friendship or romance. 2146036

CALL ME SHM, 23, 5'7", 190lbs, black/brown, looking to meet a cool, easygoing, real lady to get to know, share good times. 2147347 HEY LADIES

SM, 22, brown/green, 185ibs, student, employed, looking to meet a nice, fun-lov-ing SF for friendhsip, dates, talks, and then who knows? 2147388

CALL ME SOMETIME

Self-employed SM, 51, 5'11", 177lbs, blue eyes, loves enjoys motorcycles, the outdoors, travel, cooking, music from mod-ern rock to motown, and much more. ISO, affectionate, honest SF, slim-medium build. Friendship/LTR? \$\frac{16467}{1}\$

YOU COULD BE MINE SBM, 56, 5'11", 200lbs, N/S, seeks SF, 25-65, N/S, to go to the movies with, have dinner or good conversation, for friend-ship, romance or casual fun. 27148705

WAITING FOR YOU

SBM, 5'11", cute dimples, mustache, independent. Seeking honest, slender, attractive SBF, 18-20, for friendship, romance and more. 2149097

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

SEARCHING FOR LADY LOVE SM, 51, 5'11", 185lbs, enjoys the out-doors, boating, dining out, music, long walks, etc. Seeking honest, caring SF, who enjoys same activities, for companionship, friendship and romance. 20146012

#### NICE GUY

SWM, 66, 5'6", 150lbs, manufacturers' representative, Libra, N/S, works out, enjoys movies, restaurants, and summer festivals. Seeking SWF, 50-65, N/S. Shirley, please call back. 2708126

ECONOMICALLY VIABLE SWPM, 54, 5'11", 170lbs, trim, Aquarius, N/S, likes music, art, golf, landscapes, architecture seeks WPF, 44-60, attractive, fit, active, financially secure, intelligent, possible LTR. 2984220

HERE IS PRINCE CHARMING SPM, athletic fit, humorous, enjoys meeting new people, brunch, wine tasting and being romantic. Seeking intelli-gent, active, honest SF, for companionship, casual fun or LTR. 2145078

#### LET'S TALK

Laid-back SWM, 52, smoker, brown/ brown, likes riding Harley's, the country, seeks open, honest WF, 35-54, for possible LTR. 2124193

**LOOKING FOR LIFE PARTNER** Female, young 45, N/Kids, loves ani-mals, nature, gardening, old cars, new music, and quiet nights. Seeking a man, 40-50,with a positive attitude and good SOH. Friends first, possible LTR. **m**113552 JOIN ME

**21**12291

SOMEONE SPECIAL Fun-loving, attractive SWF, 70, 5'5", 135lbs, blonde, retired, N/S, seeks well-

MR. RIGHT, ARE YOU THERE?

FRIENDS FIRST share the good things in life. 2139719

own to earth, attractive SBF, 36, N/S, 5'7", professional, enjoys movies, dining out, shopping, traveling, seeks WM, 35-55, N/S, for friendship first, possibly more. **2**:123659

Assertive, feminine, active SBF, 33, out-going, classy, seeks same., someone not afraid to live life. No drama no games. Possible LTR. 2147376

groomed WM, 65-72, N/S, to share life, romance, and possible relationship. 2891247

#### LOVES BOATING SWF, 65, 5'6", Aries, N/S, loves dancing and dining out. Seeking WM, 60-71,

SWF, 56, 5', HWP, easygoing, depend-able, reliable, Taurus, N/S, social drinker, likes computers, nascar, casi-nos, sports, seeks WM, 46-56, for friendship, and more. T112612

WIWF, 68, 5'6", 145lbs, healthy, honest, happy, likes comedy films, country cooking. Looking for outdoorsy, active man affectionate and warm-hearted, to

**HI EVERYONE** 

ISO CHIVALHOUS WAN SBCF, 35, attractive, plus-sized, Cap-ricorn, single mom, marriage-minded, N/S, seeks man, 40-55, family-orient-ed, old-fashioned, possible romance. LOOKING FOR YOU Attractive SWF, Catholic, 59, N/S, 5' 6", good shape, seeks WM, 53-70, N/S, who enjoys golf, movies, theater, dining, long walks, church, and much more.

#### **T**124235 SEEKING SOMETHING NEW Down to earth, attractive SBF, 36, N/S,

ARE YOU THE ONE?

SBF, 56, BBW, loves jazz, concerts, movies, travel, walks, great conversa-

SEEKS SILVER FOX

Loving, lady, 77, seeks charming, heal-thy, happy gentleman, D/D-free, hum-orous with a kid disposition, years of wisdom and an interest in life. 2145778

SEARCHING FOR YOU

SBF, 36, attractive, trust-worthy, down to earth, likes walks, movies, dinners, park, music, seeks BM, 36-70, for friendship, possible romance. 2790369

**IVORY SEEKS EBONY** 

Honest, independent, separated WF 47.

Fonest, independent, separated wr, 47, 5'7", voluptuous, N/S, N/D, D/D-free, enjoys coffee shops, reading, walks, din-ing, movie nights, etc. ISO stable, secure, sociable, sweet SBM to share special

**UPSCALE** , GRASS ROOTS

Ebony woman, 43, emotionally avail-able, 5'5", H/W proportionate, seeks

strong, emotionally grounded, open and fun gentleman, to share deep romance. 2147056

MAYBE US?

SF, 42, blonde/blue, leggy, loves all types of music, dancing, movies, nature road

trips, dining and simple fun. ISO easygo-ing, loving guy to share talks, good times, friendship and more. 27132593

ONE GOOD WOMAN BBW, SWF, attractive, compassionate, down-to-sarth. Enjoys movies, comedies,

long walks, romantic evenings and more. Seeking employed SM, 38-55, to do and share things together. Must like pets.

ISO CHIVALROUS MAN

times. 2147676

Seeking commitment-minded, mature, loving man with similar interests for possible LTR. 2140023

N/S, with sense of humor, for friendship, possible romance. 2890004

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

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WOMEN SEEKING MEN FRIENDS FIRST

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

WHERE ARE YOU? Very attractive, sexy SBPF, 35, 5'2", medium build, enjoys dining out, jazz, plays. ISO SBM, 40-52, commitmentminded and sincere, for LTR. 2950732

U WON'T BE DISAPPOINTED Good-hearted SBF, 49, loves music, travel, togetherness. Looking for a sweet, sexy SBM, respectful and easygoing, to share nice dinners, good talks, romance and affection. 2152214

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

LET'S TALK SOMETIME SBCF, 38, 5'6", 120lbs, smoker, loves jazz. Seeking BF, 30-45, smoker, for dining out and movies. for friendship, possible romance. 2152399

••••••

SWF, 50, 5'6", slender, intelligence, creativity, passion for music and dancing. Seeks partner 38-50, who is attractive and fit, to share this interests and more. partner 38-50, who is attractive 2600106 LET'S TALK SOMETIME

FORMER MODEL

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

IS IT YOU? SWF, 56, tall, trim, seeks hard-working or retired, conservative SWM, 5'11"+, 58-65, with good values, educated, no tattoos. drugs, or games please. 27138981

SEARCHING FOR FRIENDS SF, 24, out-going, student. In search of a respectful SM, who knows how to treat a real woman, if this is you call me. 146309

#### TRY ME

SF, 20, 5'9", long black hair, tattoos, big brown eyes, dimples, sweet smile, curvy enjoys Italian food, friends, keeping active, Looking for a nice, honest guy to get to know. 2150312

**REFINED AND FULL OF LIFE** Very attractive blonde, fit, energetic and happy, professionally employed, very

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

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

work. 2976914 TRUE FRIENDSHIP WiAF, 62, 5', 100lbs, enjoys gardening, dogs, cats, cooking, dining out, travel. Seeking kind, caring, honest, SW/AM, 55-70, slim, with understanding of asian culture, for friendship first, maybe more later. 2139934

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

knows how to have fun, and knows how to treat a lady. Friendhsip first. 2142588

ALL OF ME SWF, 50, 510", big beautiful woman, 300+ pounds, easygoing, N/S, light drinker, enjoys nights out or in. ISO loving, happy, commitment-minded man to share a happy, lasting, loving relationship.

#### PETITE & SEXY ...

SBF, sensitive, affectionate, ioving, 51, looks 35, 5'1", 105lbs, NS. Seeking healthy SBM, 5'10"-6'1", to work out with. **19**12553

#### ARE YOU THE ONE?

SF, 25, 5'7", shoulder-length medium blonde hair, bright green eyes, outgoing, fun, loves fitness, outdoors, boating, cycling, camping, concerts, auto racing. Seeking active, fit, caring man who appreciates the same. 2953694 LOOKING 4 GENTLEMAN

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

#### POSSIBLE LTR

SWPF, 57, 577, attractive, slender, athlet-ic, Scorpio, N/S, enjoys sports, concerts, dining out, seeks WPM, 55-61, N/S, educated, healthy, humorous, possible LTR. 2993381

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

#### SEEKING A LADY? SBF, 56, 5'4", 110lbs, slim build, Sag-ittarius, smoker, honest, sincere, retired, enjoys movies, concerts, travel, park walks, seeks man, 45-70, similar, for friendship, possible romance. 27118410

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

COULD YOU BE THE ONE? Loving, youthful SBF, 57, trim, shapely, very attractive, energetic, happy, enjoys dining, travel, amusement parks, the outdoors, festivals, nature, family-friends, theater, more. Seeking like-minded gen-tieman to share these. 2121526 SEEKING FRIENDSHIP

SEENING FILENDSHIP SBF, young 60s; w/good morals, caring, nice-looking, 5'3", 156ibs, N/S, N/D, N/Drugs, clean, honest living, partly retired, enjoys art, card playing, casinos, and movies. Seeking honest man 50-60, man once 5712/125 race open. 2134425

I LISTEN WITH MY HEART Attractive DWF, late 40s, Cancer, N/S, eeks special, no games WM, 45+, N/S, for caring, quality committed relationship. Let's create sparks and watch them fly. \$639272

#### MEN SEEKING WOMEN

#### TALL, MUSCULAR SWM 47, 6'2", 205lbs, athletic, part time personal trainer, brown/blue, degreed, outgoing personality, enjoys outdoors, working out, new activities, seeking friendly SF, age/location open. 2531308

WAITING FOR LOVE SWM, 28, 5'11", brown/hazel, honest romantic, trust-worthy and mature, seeks SF, 18-40, with same qualities, for friendship, possible LTR. 2149422 HERE COME LOVE

SWM, 53, cheerful, loving, enjoys scenic rides, cooking, movie theaters and long walks. Seeking a loving, caring, honest SF, for companionship, romance and more. 2149642

LET'S GET TOGETHER SM, 5'8", professional body builder, N/S, N/D, enjoys bowling, playing billiard and be adventurous. In search of a mature, confident, vibrant woman, to fill the missing piece in my heart. 2150885

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

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

#### only. Redford Area. 2860305 FRIEND AND CONFIDANT

SWM, 74, active, educated, financiallysecure, seeking a nice woman. Join me for dining, dancing, and classical music. I'm a good listener, and would love to hear from you! \$\$139382

#### THAT'S ALL SWM, 66, tall, thin, Scorpio, N/S, seeks WF, 60-68, N/S, old-fashioned, slim, fit, humorous, possible romance. 2116761

SHARE GOOD TIMES SBM, 27, 6', 173lbs, N/D, N/kids, slim build, brown complexion, glasses, likes movies, long walks, Jesus, cooking, music, bowling, mexican food, shyness, seeks SB/HF, 25-28, N/S, for friendship, possible romance. 2980453

#### UNUSUAL REQUEST

Nice-looking, extremely busy, Grosse Pt. SWPM, 6'3", 228lbs, N/S, N/Drugs, ISO over 45 also extremely busy SWPF, pretty lady, for great friendship and spe-cial times. I know how to treat a lady and practice the golden rule. 2143494

#### WHY WAIT?

SM, 54, 5'8", 155lbs, outgoing, spontaneous, enjoys car shows, motorcycles, fishing, time with someone special. Looking for a good-hearted, active, happy lady to share talks, dates, friendship, more. 2147906







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Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, December 17, 2006 (\*)



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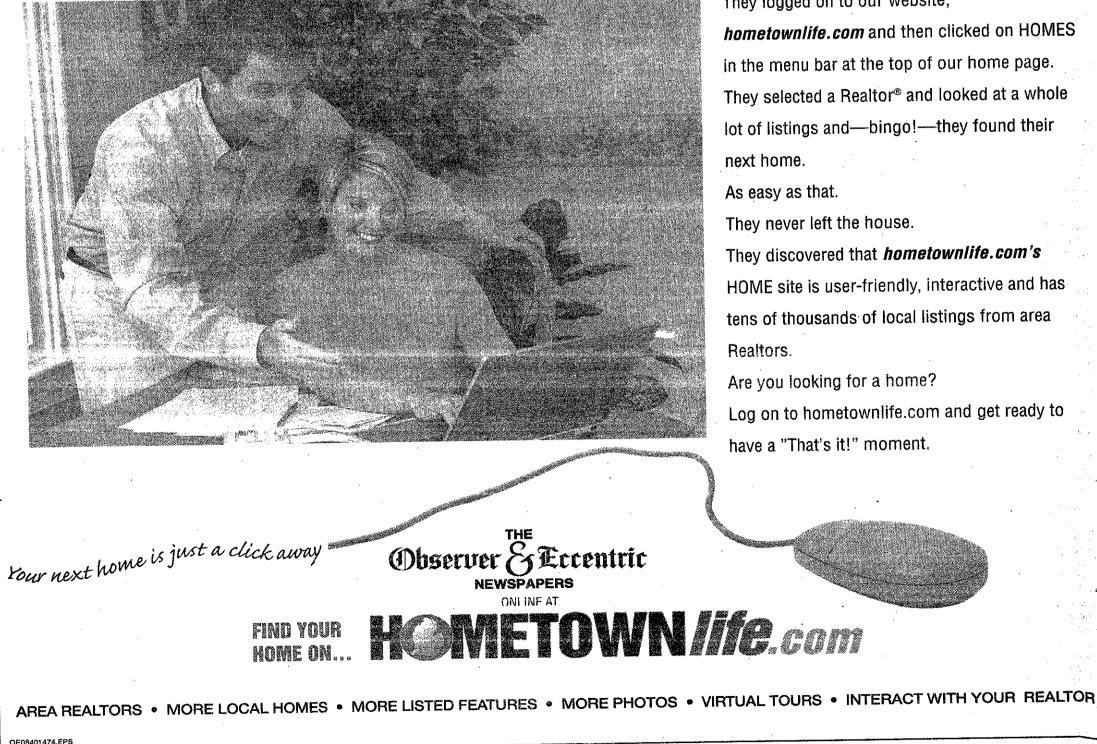
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## New car incentives push used car marketplace to record low

by J.L. Sims Independent ad features

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

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

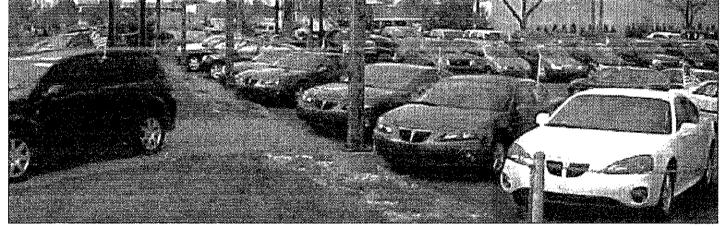
John Rogin Buick sold over 150 Buick LaCrosse & Pontiac Grand Prix's in the first 30 days of their sale.

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

John Rogin Buick-Livonia has long been known as Michigan's "bargain hunting" dealer. Currently, they're selling more 2006 Pontiac Grand Prixs than any other dealer in the nation. (Over 150 Pontiacs & Buicks were sold during the first 30 days of their sale.) Last year, they sold the most pre-owned 2005 Impalas and Pontiac Grand AMs in the nation from their single location. And the year before they set the sales record selling the most off-lease GMC Yukons and pick-ups.

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

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



Bargains abound in pre-owned 2006 program vehicles

truckload after truckload from across the country. In addition to filling their giant used car facility to the brim, John Rogin had to lease additional storage lots to accommodate their massive acquisition of vehicles. And they currently stock the largest inventory of 2006 program cars in Michigan. The purpose of 0% financing is

to clear out the remaining new 2006's. In another week or two, these vehicles will all be gone,

along with the incentives. In the meantime, the 2006 program vehicles are truly today's "sleeping" bargain... But they'll soon disappear as smart shoppers begin to "wake up" and recognize the <u>real</u> deals. John Rogin Bulck is located at 30500 Plymouth Road, between Middlebelt and Merriman in Livonia. Their used car superstore may be contacted directly at (734) 525-0900 Monday-Friday during normal business hours.



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

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

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

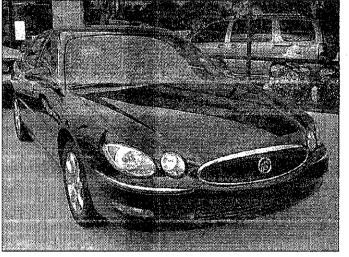
The Buick LaCrosse still retains all the traditional value you've come to expect from Buick. From its luxurious well-appointed interior to the clean, flowing exterior design, LaCrosse makes a stylish impression.

The standard features provide evidence that the Buick still remains just one step down from the Cadillac in GM's lineup. Dual (driver and passenger side) heat and air conditioning controls, sixposition tilt steering wheel, cruise control, power windows, locks, and seats, remote key fobs operating doors and trunk, rear window defroster, plus a stereo system that will blow you away.

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

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

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



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

It's no wonder that John Rogin Buick-Livonia considers the preowned 2006 LaCrosse to be the most car they've ever been able to offer for the money. And for the past several weeks, they've silently amassed hundreds of these wonderful units from throughout the country and brought them to Livonia. Best of all, today you can purchase a pre-owned 2006 LaCrosse from John Rogin for nearly half its original value of \$24,000 list price new. While they last.

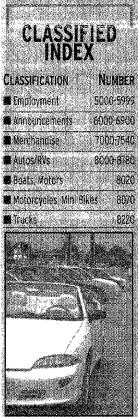
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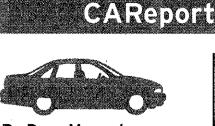
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#### **Bv Dave Menard Avanti News Features**

The Toyota Camry has never been the most exciting car to drive - or to write about, for that matter. Its styling was rather bland, its powertrain competent and good on gas, and its ride decent enough.

Advertising Feature

Observer & Eccentric

What it always has been, however, is good, decent family transportation and a hot seller for Toyota. It's the best-selling car in America four years running and eight out of the last nine years.

For 2007, Toyota's made some changes to the Camry line. It's got a new look outside, new wheels, better brakes and a new interior, and this year you can get a Hybrid Camry, in addition to the base CE, the LE, the SE and the top-of-theline XLE.

We'll focus on the SE, which comes with some nice standard features and a standard V6 engine (the base LE comes with a 4-cylinder engine).

We'll start with Camry's new look outside. While still not likely to make your pulse start racing, the new look is a welcome change. The wheelbase is longer, the track is wider and there are several new touches.

The Camry now has 16-inch wheels, an increase of 1 inch. The rear tail lamps have been redone; the front fascia is new and includes integrated fog lamps.

The Camry SE comes with dual exhaust with chrome tips and front and rear lower spoilers and rocker panels. The whole package looks less stodgy and more athletic than before

Inside, the Camry SE provides a comfortable interior and a good feature set. The optional power leather seats provide good support and can be heated. The steering wheel and shift knob are leather-wrapped. The gauges are larger than in previous Camrys and are clear and easy-to-read. A multi-function display gives you outside temperature, miles-to-empty, average speed and trip odometer. Air conditioning is standard, as are power windows and locks, cruise control, keyless entry, and rear window defogger. You can add an integrated garage door opener and a moonroof. There's a good amount of room in the Camry. Front-seat passengers will have no trouble getting comfortable, and even in the rear seating areas there's a good amount of room – particularly if the ones in back are kids.

The rear seat fixed seat with a center pass-through. Families have a lot of odds and ends and the Camry provides storage for them.

Two cupholders are in the center console next to the shift lever, plus there is a storage box in the center console (nice



2007 Toyota Camry LE. Vehicle class: Mid-size sedan. Power: V6 engine. Mileage: 22 city / 31 highway. Where built: Georgetown, Ky. Base price: \$20,500. Price as tested: \$21,736.

for setting my iPod while I drive) and a small storage bin in the dash, under the audio and climate control systems. There are map pockets in the doors and an auxiliary power outlet in the console.

The trunk is a good size; after all this is a grocery-shopping, trip-taking family sedan.

The Camry comes with a temporary-sized spare tire, so that helps in terms of trunk room, although if you've ever tried driving down the highway with less than a full-sized spare, you know what a pain that is.

The standard audio system is an AM/FM/six-disc CD system that uses six speakers and is rated at 160 watts of power. It's certainly adequate, but audiophiles might want to think about upgrading to the optional 440-watt system from JBL that includes eight speakers and Bluetooth capability. This, by the way, is the standard system on the upper-trim level XLE version of the Camry.

There is an audio jack to connect an MP3 player, and the radio is satellite-ready (for either XM or Sirius), although service is not included in the option cost.

The Camry SE powertrain is impressive. The standard 3.5liter DOHC V6 is rated at 268 horsepower and 248 lb.-ft. of torque. That's a lot for a family sedan; you'll have no trouble getting off the line, or passing and merging. You get this extra power without a big loss of mpg's compared to the 4-cylinder engine standard on the CE and LE (22/31 mpg vs. 24/33). The engine is mated with a 6-speed automatic transmission. It's certainly a good performer. The shift points are smooth and the transmission will "learn" your driving style to make it even smoother.

Another area Toyota has tinkered with on the Camry is its suspension. The front system consists of MacPherson struts with a stabilizer bar, while the rear system is dual-link with stabilizer bar.

The result is a ride that's not too harsh, with a nice amount of road feel.

The Camry handles pretty well too. It's got power-assisted rack-and-pinion steering and a 36.1-foot turning circle. Vehicle stability control and traction control, unfortunately, are only available as options, even on the upper trim level Camrys.

Being a family sedan, Toyota has given the Camry a full complement of safety features, including anti-lock brakes. With the larger wheels come larger brake discs, and they work well. The Camry comes with something Toyota calls Brake Assist, which senses an emergency stop and applies increased braking power when you touch the pedal. In addition to the standard front airbags, the Camry comes with seat-mounted side airbags, a driver's knee airbag, a child restraint system and a tire-pressure monitoring system. A word about the Camry Hybrid - although I haven't yet driven the Camry version, I have driven other Toyota hybrids, including the Prius, and I would expect the Camry to perform as well as the others. With the hybrid powertrain, you'll get 187 horsepower combined gas and electric, and you'll get close to 40 mpg. The hybrid version will cost you a few thousand dollars more at the dealer, though. The 2007 Toyota Camry SE starts at a little over \$24,000. Add the upgraded audio system, the moonroof, leather seats, color-keyed rear spoiler and the integrated garage door opener, all of which I recommend, and you will be closing in on \$30.000

It sounds a little pricey, but at that price you're getting a family sedan that incorporates some luxury features and gives you plenty of power with a pretty good ride. And that's a pretty nice package worth getting.

Dave Menard covers the auto beat for Avanti NewsFeatures. Write him at avanti1054@aol.com mail to: avanti1054@aol.com or autodave@bellsouth.net. mail to: autodave@bellsouth.net. @2006, Fracassa Communications.

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Automotive



(\*) Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, December 17, 2006

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