

Detroit Auto show begins Saturday
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Rick Bloom's Money Matters
PAGE-A8



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Officials approve trail along Rouge

BY TIFFANY L. PARKS
STAFF WRITER

Months after neighboring residents first voiced concerns about the project, the Canton Township Board of Trustees has committed to installing a recreational trail and pedestrian bridges along the Lower Rouge River.

Board members voted unanimously Tuesday to approve an Interagency Agreement (IAA) with Wayne County and a budget amendment for the trail.

The project, which is expected to begin construction soon, raised the ire of some residents worried about privacy, crime and the loss of natural beauty along the river's wooded corridor, which is owned by the county.

The nonmotorized trail will be about three miles long from Canton Center Road east to the International Transmission Corporation (ITC) Corridor, which is east of Morton Taylor.

Township Clerk Terry Bennett and Supervisor Tom Yack lauded the project, and noted that residents expressed a desire for trails through a community-wide survey.

"This is a good first step," Yack said, adding that the trail will be expanded in the future.

Calling similar trails in other communities "fabulous," Bennett said the township has addressed privacy concerns by creating a large buffer between the trail and nearby homes.

Still, Connie Chucky, who lives near to the river, has her doubts. From the start you could tell (township officials) were going full-steam ahead. They had already made their decision and the informational meetings were just a part of the process, said Chucky, who lives north of Michigan Avenue and east of Lilley in the Canton Hills subdivision.

Like many of her neighbors, Chucky has reservations about the project. "I'm not anti trail, but this will really devastate that wooded area," she said.

They don't have to have a 10 foot wide paved trail, a natural path would be so much more preferable."

The project will include a trail head at the ITC Corridor and Morton Taylor for parking and trail access. The work is being funded by a \$440,000 trail grant IAA with Wayne County.

After applying in 2005, the township was awarded the 50/50 grant last year. The county will pick up \$220,000 of the tab and Canton will pay the other half through recreation funds and in-kind services, including work done to the trail.

tlparks@hometownlife.com | (734) 459 2700



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Ken Voyles, editor and publisher of the DAC News looks at a bust of Charles A. Hughes, who founded the publication in 1916.

Exclusive company

Local man leads magazine to historic milestone

BY KURT KUBAN
STAFF WRITER

When Ken Voyles showed up at the Detroit Athletic Club seven years ago to interview for the editor position of the prestigious club's magazine, he was not sure what to expect. But it didn't take long for him to figure out what a special place he was about to become part of.

Located in downtown Detroit next to Comerica Park, the DAC is steeped in history and is one of the most prestigious private clubs in the metro area. DAC members have included a virtual who's who of the Detroit area since the club was founded in the early 1900s.

"When I drove up to the place, I was definitely intimidated," said Voyles, a Canton resident.

Voyles was hired to run the DAC News, the club's official magazine, which is celebrating

'When I was in high school, my dream was to work for a magazine, and now I run one. And it's a great magazine.'

Ken Voyles
DAC News

an important milestone of its own this month — its 90th anniversary. According to Voyles, 47, it is the oldest continuously published magazine in the state of Michigan.

The history of the magazine, which is published 11 times a year, has its beginnings with the same man who helped set up the club itself — Charlie Hughes, a prominent Detroitier and advertising pioneer. Shortly after helping found the DAC, Hughes decided the club needed its own publication to

help cement its reputation. Voyles said Hughes, who served as publisher and editor for 37 years, set out to produce one of the best magazines not only in Detroit, but in the entire nation. The very first issue of the DAC News came off the presses in January 1916.

More than 900 issues later, Voyles has done his best to maintain the standard that Hughes set so many years ago. Voyles recently helped put the finishing touches on the publication's 90th anniversary issue, which includes many stories and tidbits about the histories of both the club and the magazine. The issue also features stories about Detroit's great media tradition, including a newspaper history that spans three centuries.

Voyles, who grew up in Livonia and is a 1976 graduate

PLEASE SEE DAC, A5

'100 Days' celebrates more healthy lifestyle

BY TIFFANY L. PARKS
STAFF WRITER

Canton will kick off its fifth annual 100 Days to Health program Jan. 20 with an early morning celebration. The township program, which is designed to promote healthy lifestyle changes, is expected to draw 1,000 participants.

Sharon Kapanowski of Canton is gearing up her husband and two sons to participate for the third time.

"There's a fabulous breakfast and tons of things to do during the 100 days," she said. "And I really like that it gets my family involved with a routine."

Amy Lockmondy of Canton Leisure Services said the event has returned bigger and better each year.

"It's never the same," she said, adding that grocery store tours are coming back by popular demand. "We shake it up and keep people excited."

Last year, more than 900 people participated.

"It always creeps up a little bit more each year so we're hoping for 1,000 people," Lockmondy said.

The program offers a series of cooking, aerobic and educational classes, free access to Summit on the Park every Thursday during the 100 days, prizes and discounts on a variety of Leisure Services events.

The cost for Canton residents is \$10 for adults and \$5 for kids age 4 and up. Those living outside the township will pay \$20 for adults and \$5 for kids age 4 and up. Children under age 3 are free.

Lockmondy said community members appreciate that the program is laid-back and offers family-friendly calendar items like bowling and skating.

"It's blossomed into these awesome events," she said. "People truly get their money's worth."

Kapanowski agreed. "They offer way more than we can get to," she said, adding that she's looking forward to heading out to a grocery store with the group. "I don't understand why more people don't get involved."

Describing the Jan. 20 kickoff as "Canton's largest aerobics class," Lockmondy said about 400 people are expected to come out for the 8 a.m. event.

"We have a healthy breakfast, we exercise and we have health screenings," she said.

People can register for the 100 days program during the kickoff, which ends at 11 a.m.

"Our repeaters are constantly bringing us new faces," Lockmondy said.

"Word-of-mouth about the 100 days has been great."

The program, which ends April 28, is sponsored by Oakwood Healthcare System and the Canton Community Foundation.

For more information, call (734) 394-5496.

tlparks@hometownlife.com | (734) 459 2700

Local watering hole opens six months after destructive fire

BY TIFFANY L. PARKS
STAFF WRITER

The two red, white and blue flags whipping back and forth outside of the Crow's Nest aren't Old Glory but Domenic Tassielli is just as proud to display them.

The flags, bearing the word 'Open' in black letters, signal the return of the Canton Center Road bar and grill which had been closed since a fire earlier this year on Memorial Day.

"We opened the doors (Dec. 15) at 4:30 p.m. and by

5 p.m. we had a full house," said Tassielli, owner and Canton resident. "I didn't know what to expect so that was fantastic."

The fire started when a driver ran into the rear of the building and hit a gas line. According to earlier reports, the driver was given a breathalyzer test and wasn't drunk. No one was injured.

With a dozen high-definition plasma televisions offering crystal-clear images throughout the bar, Tassielli said the bulk of items had to be replaced since smoke

damage affected the entire building.

"The smoke can be just as bad as fire, but I've decided to look at the accident in a positive light," he said, adding that the extended closure allowed him to make long-awaited updates to the 4,000-square-foot building. "We put some windows in and tore down an (overhang) above the bar. So far, people have been happy."

Canton resident Chris Hromek said he's thrilled the bar is flowing again at his local watering hole.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Domenic Tassielli recently reopened the Crow's Nest, which had been closed due to a fire six months ago.

"I couldn't wait," he said. Hromek, who's frequented the bar once a week for years, said his father is also a regular customer. "He always sits at the same

chair at the bar," he said. In addition to welcoming back regular customers, about two-thirds of Tassielli's

PLEASE SEE BAR, A5

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Coming Sunday in Health



New study says transfusions may increase risk of infection for heart surgery patients

Home Expo applications available

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

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

PUPS auditions

The Plymouth Community Arts Council's Plymouth Uptown Players are holding auditions for children who could be the next Brando or Streep.

Auditions for PUPS' next performance season take place 6:30-8 p.m. today (Thursday, Jan 11). PUPS offers school-aged children an opportunity for theater, rehearsal and performance experiences.

The PCAC is located at 774 N. Sheldon. Any questions

should be directed to Kate Shortal at the PCAC, (734) 416-4278 or kshortal@plymoutharts.com.

Exhibitors needed

The Plymouth-Canton Music Boosters is hosting its annual Spring Arts and Crafts Ensemble on Saturday, March 10. Exhibitors who hand-craft their own items are invited to submit an application to exhibit at the third annual event to be held at Canton High School. The juried art event is produced each year by the PCMB to assist the music programs at the Plymouth-Canton Education Park.

Artists and crafters who are interested in applying for consideration to exhibit should visit www.pcmbo.net/artercraft to download an application and submit with photos by Jan 31. Only 100 exhibitors will be permitted to exhibit at the event. Last year, more than 1,500 attendees visited the event.

"The annual Spring Arts & Crafts Ensemble is one of the biggest fund-raisers of the year," said Mark Stamper, president of the 2007 Plymouth-Canton Music Boosters. "The money raised helps the band students with participation fees, cost of uniforms, props, instruction, and various events

throughout the year. This event is quickly building a reputation for being one of the best run spring arts and craft events in the area."

Poetry comes to Canton High

Students from Canton High School and 10 other Michigan high schools will be participating in the Michigan Humanities Council's Poetry Out Loud program this year.

The Poetry Out Loud program, a Michigan Humanities Council partnership program with the National Endowment for the Arts, The Poetry Foundation, Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs, and the Library of Michigan, encourages high school students to learn about great poetry through memorization, performance, and competition. During the next three months, Language Arts/English teachers from the schools selected to participate will earmark two or three weeks of class time to prepare students for the school competition, advancing to a state competition on March 10. Michigan's champion will compete at the National Finals, to take place April 30 - May 1, in Washington, D.C.

Poetry Out Loud builds on the resurgence of poetry as an oral art form as seen in the slam poetry movement and the immense popularity of rap music among youth. Through this program, students master public speaking skills, build self-confidence, and learn



New lawmaker takes oath

State Rep. Marc Corriveau (D-Northville), accompanied by his wife Wendy and their children Luc and Eve, Wednesday was sworn in for his first term in the Michigan House of Representatives during a ceremony at the State Capitol. Wednesday marked the first day of the 94th Legislature, in which Democrats control the House of Representatives for the first time since 1998. Corriveau represents the 20th House District, which includes the townships of Plymouth and Northville, the cities of Plymouth and Wayne, part of Canton Township and the city of Northville south of Eight Mile Road.

Other Michigan participants include students from Alba Public Schools, Beacon Day Treatment Program in Inkster, Beaverton High School, Bullock Creek High School in Midland, Dansville High School, Holt Senior High School, Houghton High School, Ionia High School, Owosso Christian School, and Sexton High School in Lansing.

For more information on the Michigan Humanities Council, visit <http://www.michiganhumanities.org>. To see information and photos from last

year's state contest championship, visit <http://www.michiganhumanities.org/poetry>.

Tree vouchers available

Vouchers for Canton's 2007 Tree Planting Partnership Program are now available. The vouchers can be used to plant new trees or replace dead trees on any lot or parcel between the sidewalk and the curb line of the street.

Applications for tree program vouchers can be picked up in person at the Planning Services counter or downloaded off the township's Web site at www.canton-mi.org.

under "publications and forms." All applications are processed on a first come, first served basis.

Once Planning Services receives an application, an approved voucher will be sent to the applicant in the mail. Applicants will also receive a list of approved tree species and planting specifications. Trees must be purchased after the issuance of the voucher to be eligible for reimbursement. Vouchers are valid from the date of issuance until Nov 15 (planting season) and must be returned to Planning Services no later than Nov 30 for reimbursement. Do not submit the voucher until the tree is planted.

For more information on this program, contact Canton's Planning Services Division at (734) 394-5170.

Musical auditions

Auditions for the musical "The Canton Folies: A Night of Rock and Roll" (a co-production of Canton Township and Destination Theatre) will be held Jan. 16-17 at 7 p.m. at the Cherry Hill Village Theater, located at Cherry Hill and Ridge Roads in Canton. Please enter through the stage door at the rear of building. The audition schedule is as follows: Registration, 7-7:30 p.m.; vocal auditions, 7:30-8:30 p.m. (prepare 16 bars of an upbeat song); movement portion, 8:30-9:15 p.m.; MC auditions, 9:15-10 p.m. (if you are auditioning for MC you may also come to the vocal and movement portion of the audition).

The musical will feature rock and roll hits from the 1950s through 1970s. Rock & Roll hits of the 50's through 70's. Come prepared to sing, play or dance - whatever best showcases your talent. Prepare a song that you'd like to perform in the show, or just give producers a taste for your talent and they'll help you find the right number for the show. Groups and individuals welcome.

Performance dates are March 16-17 and 23-24 at the Village Theater. For more information contact Patrick Persons at personsp@yahoo.com or visit www.destinationtheatre.org.



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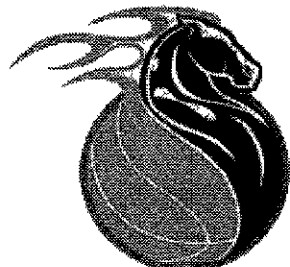
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Sitting pretty

Johnson Controls uses auto show to unveil seat

BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER

Automotive supplier Johnson Controls, with operations in Plymouth Township, opened the 2007 North American International Auto Show on Sunday by introducing the Slim Seat, a thin-looking front seat constructed of tubular steel, with an ultra-thin back designed to deliver additional knee

room for second-row occupants. Johnson Controls vice president and president of Automotive Experience, Beda Bolzenius, also unveiled a new floor console that increases storage volume, as well as the Mobile Device Gateway, which enables drivers and passengers to use Bluetooth-enabled cell phones as hands free devices linked to the vehicle's audio system, and play other devices such as MP3 players, utilize personal navigation devices and handle climate-control settings.

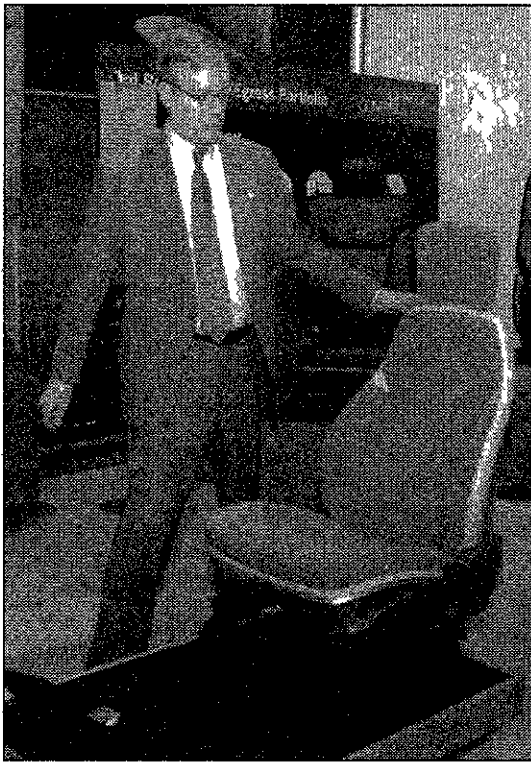
David Kingston, executive director of product and business planning at Johnson Controls' Plymouth Township facility, said the operation in western Wayne County has been vital to the development of the new technologies introduced at the auto show by JCI.

Plymouth is our North American seating headquarters,' said Kingston, who resides in Beverly Hills. "Innovation is a key aspect, and a lot of what you see here came from the Plymouth facility. It starts with concept with the industrial designers and developed by the engineering team. We also have program managers and product managers involved in a lot of these products."

Kingston said Johnson Controls also has an equally large center in Europe and a smaller center in China.

In September, JCI reduced its work force by 250 people at its Plymouth Township and Holland, Mich., facilities in response to production cutbacks by automakers. However, Bolzenius suggested Johnson Controls is turning the corner.

"We continue to deal with ever-increasing costs for raw materials, manufacturing over-



JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

David S. Kingston, executive director of Complete Seat Production & Business Development at Johnson Controls Inc. shows off what is called a "Slim Seat." Johnson Controls has a display of their products at this year's International Auto Show.

capacities, declining car production volume, high health care costs and financially troubled suppliers, and the list goes on, Bolzenius said. "We are not immune to these challenges, but we are successfully managing them."

"Despite the challenges and focus on them, we do see growth opportunities in the industry as well, especially in other regions of the world, including eastern Europe and China."

And in what may be good news for JCI in North America and Plymouth Township, Bolzenius said Johnson Controls will remain a player in the North American automotive interior business.

"While others are exiting, we remain committed to it and committed to growing the business in North America and throughout the world," Bolzenius said. "From Plymouth Township to Shanghai, China, Johnson Controls employees are committed to creating innovative, best-in-class market-winning solutions that make it better for the people who manufacture vehicles, for those who buy them and for the global automotive industry."

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Target, shopping complex coming to Michigan Avenue

Ford Road is a step closer to getting more commercial competition from the township's southern corridor.

Site plans for a 34-acre Michigan Avenue shopping center, Crossroads Village, were approved Tuesday by the township board.

With room for about a dozen

stores, the development is slated to be anchored by a Target. Construction on the project is expected to begin soon and the Target is scheduled to open in July 2008.

Township Supervisor Tom Yack shrugged off the notion the development could adversely impact Ford Road

businesses, including the Target located between Sheldon and Morton Taylor roads.

"If you look at other communities, commerce is not located on just one street," he said. "I think this is a terrific project."

Tiffany L. Parks

@ THE CANTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

The annual library-sponsored tribute to Martin Luther King, Jr. is 7 p.m., Jan. 15 at the Cherry Hill Village Theater. The event features keynote speaker Dr. Isaiah McKinnon and performances by choirs Vision and Achievement from the Detroit School of the Performing Arts. The event is free but a ticket is required. Call the library for more information at (734) 397-0999.

The Canton Public Library is partnering with Canton Township Leisure Services for the 100 Days to Health Stop by the library to research health topics, check out an exercise DVD, cook book or fitness guide. Make the library a healthy habit this year!

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■ Lunch and a Book Jan. 11, at noon. *The Bean Trees* by Barbara Kingsolver. Bring your

lunch and join us for discussion. No registration required.

■ Author Visit Kimberley Crouch Jan. 11, at 7 p.m. Canton author shares thoughts from her book *Mother to Son: Words of Wisdom, Inspiration and Hope for Today's Young African-American Men*. Register by calling (734) 397-0999.

■ Internet I Jan. 12, at 10 a.m. Instruction on the basics of Internet Explorer and the library's Web site. Registration required.

■ Excel II Jan. 13, at 9:30 a.m. Learn more ways to work with Excel to include graphics, charts and data. Registration required.

■ Open Mic Jan. 13, at 2 p.m. Drop in and enjoy featured performer Jeff Jabolinski, singer/songwriter and share your own contributions.

■ Contemporary Book Discussion Jan. 15, at 7 p.m. *Bad Blood* by Lorna Sage. No registration required.

■ MLK Celebration Jan. 15, at 7 p.m. Cherry Hill Village Theater. Get your free tickets at the library or the Summit on

the Park or theater box office.

■ MS Word I Jan. 16, at 9:30 a.m. Basic word processing skills are taught. Registration required.

■ MS Word Graphics I January 19, 9:30 a.m. You'll learn to create text boxes, columns, use color and graphics. Registration required.

■ Tween Book and Pizza Club Jan. 20, at noon. *Al Capone Does My Shirts* by Gemma Choldenko.

■ Papermaking Jan. 20, Teens at 2 p.m., Tweens at 3 p.m. Learn to handmake paper for unusual cards, letters and scrapbooks. Registration required.

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The bean is the thing

Coffee Lounge celebrates a year of serving the freshest brew

BY KURT KUBAN
STAFF WRITER

When Todd and Andrea Eby decided they wanted to open their own business in Canton, it didn't take long to figure out what kind of business it would be. Both coffee lovers, the two decided Canton was really in need of a place that offered a great cup of Joe. And the Coffee Lounge was born.

"When we moved out to Canton, there wasn't any specialty coffee places here. So it kind of made sense," said Andrea Eby, who is also a speech therapist at Salem High School.

The couple, who have two small children, opened the business a year ago, and will be celebrating its first anniversary on Sunday with special drink prices.

Todd Eby, who is also a sergeant with the Detroit Police Department, says the Coffee Lounge's customer base has grown slowly over the last year. He believes the reason has to do with their insistence on serving the freshest coffee at a reasonable price. In fact, he says the beans they use are the very best on the market, and come from only five countries,

COFFEE LOUNGE

- Location: 45610 Cherry Hill Road
- Phone number: (734) 844-8225
- Hours: Monday-Friday from 6:30 a.m. - 9 p.m.; Saturday from 7:30 a.m. - 9 p.m.; Sunday from 8 a.m. - 7 p.m.
- Menu: Espresso bar features drinks including coffee latte, coffee mocha and cappuccino. There are also a number of frozen drinks and coffee alternatives, as well as desserts and other freshly baked selections.

including Columbia and Brazil.

Once the beans are shipped, he says it takes only seven days before they are ground up at the Coffee Lounge and used to make their lattes, mochas, and cappuccinos. That freshness, according to Todd Eby, is not only critical to making the best cup of coffee possible, but also to winning over customers,

who could easily go to larger chains.

"First impressions are critical for us," Todd Eby said.

According to the Ebys, their coffee is brewed European style, and all the coffee drinks begin with an espresso base. They make a true cappuccino with an espresso shot, half steamed milk and half foam. They also say the Coffee Lounge offers the largest selection of sugar-free syrups in the area, as well as whole, skim and soy milk selections. And their frozen and iced drinks are made with a specially brewed coffee to suppress the bitter taste that can occur when making a cold coffee drink.

The Coffee Lounge, located on Cherry Hill just west of Canton Center, also offers a number of desserts, including some straight from Italy.

Todd Eby says customers will find most of the amenities they would find at the more famous chains like Starbucks, including wireless Internet access. And for those without a laptop, there is also a computer available for use. He said the biggest difference between the Coffee Lounge and the larger chains is the price, which he



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Owner Todd Eby prepares a frozen raspberry fat-free, carb-free latte, one of the specialties at the Coffee Lounge.

says is about a buck cheaper on most drinks at the Coffee Lounge.

Eby said the true coffee lover and he is one -- will appreciate what they have to offer.

"We believe we have mastered the espresso," he said. "We really believe in what we're doing."

The Coffee Lounge will celebrate its anniversary Sunday, Jan. 14, with \$1 lattes and mochas from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. There will also be live music at noon. As a continued celebration during the week following (Jan. 15-20) there will be daily \$1 drink specials.



Owners Todd and Andrea Eby of Canton discuss the Coffee Lounge's first anniversary, which they will celebrate Jan. 14 with \$1 mocha's and latte's.

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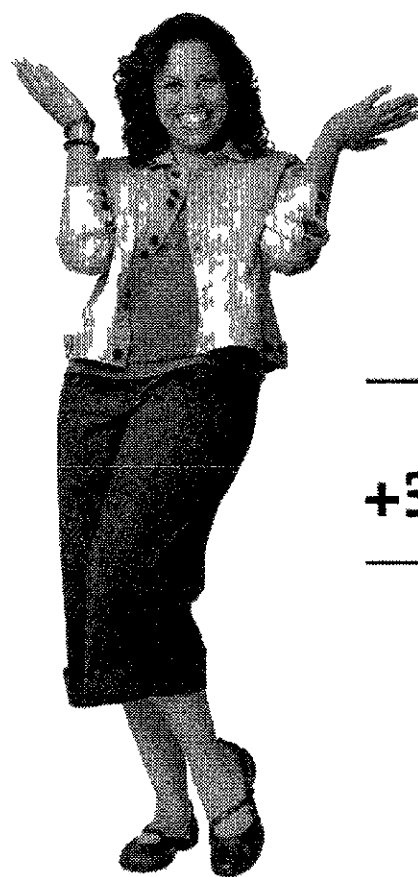
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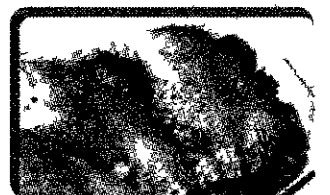
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DAC

FROM PAGE A1

of Stevenson High School, definitely sees the *DAC News* as a part of the city's great publishing history. Over the years, its list of contributors has been impressive. Author James Thurber published his first piece in the glossy magazine. Other writers that have graced the pages of the *DAC News* with their work include Dorothy Parker, Robert Benchley, Edgar Guest and Ring Lardner.

Voyles said the job has really been a dream come true for him. "When I was in high school, my dream was to work for a magazine,

and now I run one. And it's a great magazine. Not many people have heard of it, but it's just great. We're definitely not just some club newsletter," Voyles said. "It has covered all the famous things that have happened in Detroit and at the club itself."

Voyles takes that heritage very seriously, and does his best to maintain it.

"I think Charlie Hughes would be proud of what we've done. There is a great heritage here and we do all what we can to maintain it," said Voyles, who is married and has two children attending Plymouth-Canton Schools.

Voyles has been a journalist for most of his career. He spent 22 years in the newspaper business,

starting out with the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers*. However, he spent most of his newspaper days working for the *Community Crier* in Plymouth under the tutelage of publisher Ed Wendover, who Voyles said he learned much from. He said community journalism was a rewarding experience and really trained him to become the journalist he is today.

Community journalism teaches you all the basics of reporting. I would encourage any reporter to do it," he said.

Those are lessons that have come in handy at the *DAC News*, which Voyles said isn't all that much different than working for a community newspaper. He said the first role of the magazine is to

cover the DAC community, such as publishing features about club members, both past and present.

It's just the DAC community happens to be a little more prestigious than your typical community. That's something Voyles is reminded of every time he walks into the building, which is loaded with historical artifacts and artwork that would make many museum curators jealous.

The *DAC News* is very much like a community newspaper. This club is a community," he said of the 4,500-member club. Our audience just happens to be the most connected, civic-minded group of people in the area."

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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Ken Voyles is an admirer of the many works of art at the Detroit Athletic Club. Like the sculpture 'Victory Overseas' - a 1927 work by sculptor Paul Manship.

BAR

FROM PAGE A1

employees returned. "Ninety percent of them had been with me for six years or more but six months is a long time to go (without a paycheck)," he said. "So, I would've understood if they didn't come back."

Tasselli has owned the Crow's Nest for seven years and said he never thought about relocating.

I've gotten to know a lot of people in the neighborhood so I can't imagine leaving," he said.

Westland resident Jeff Rates said he used to pop into the bar every now and then and is impressed with its updates.

"I'll be coming in more," he said. "There are good people here."

Despite missing out a potential cash cow with the 2006 World Series in October, Tasselli said he'll continue to view the fire as a 'hidden blessing' and is relieved no one was hurt in the accident.

"So many people have told us they're happy we're reopened," he said. "It's made us all feel pretty good."

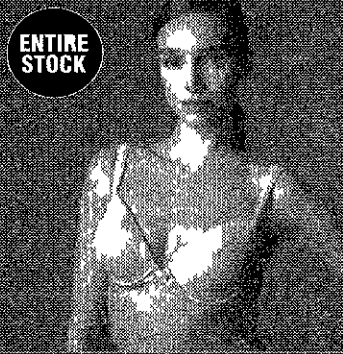
The Crow's Nest is located at 6166 N. Canton Center Rd. Its hours of operation are from 11 a.m. to 2 a.m. Monday-Friday and from noon to 2 a.m. Saturday and Sunday. For more information, call (734) 459-4020.

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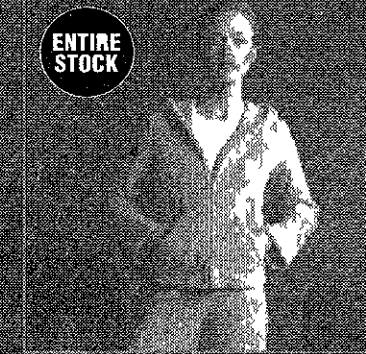
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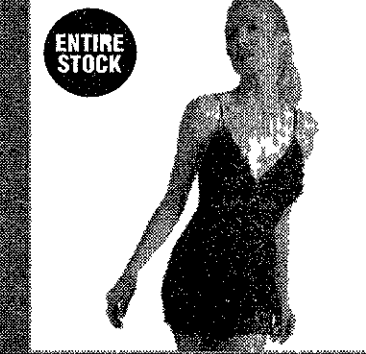
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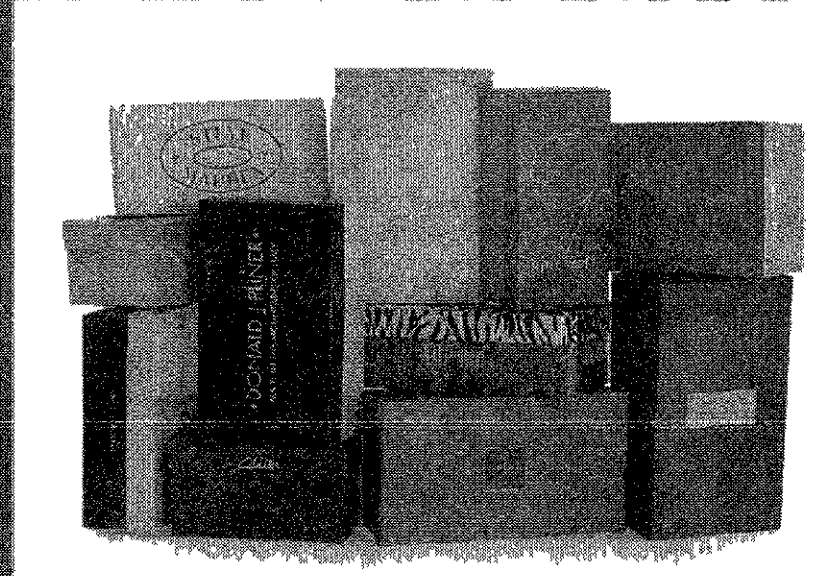
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OUR VIEWS

Celebrating MLK right thing to do

Canton has come a long way since the days it did not recognize the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday. In recent years, the community has rectified the situation, not only recognizing the national holiday, but also hosting a number of events celebrating it.

The communitywide activities beginning today and running through Monday, when former Detroit Police Chief Isaiah "Ike" McKinnon visits the Village Theater, are intended to teach tolerance and acceptance of people of other ethnicities. That is especially important in Canton, which is probably the most diverse community in western Wayne County.

According to the U.S. Census, Canton has a large and growing population of minorities, especially Asian residents, who now make up nearly 15 percent of the community. Canton's African-American population is also on the rise, increasing 84 percent since 2000, and making up just under 8 percent of the total population.

Considering this diversity, Dr. King's message of peace and tolerance for all people seems all the more pertinent.

Voters should be informed on bond

Now that the holiday break is over, voters in the Plymouth-Canton school district can expect to see an avalanche of briefings, talks, town hall meetings and other venues where district officials will begin to explain the nuances of the \$63 million bond proposal they'll ask voters to approve next month.

Here's our simple advice to voters: Find one of those briefings and get as much information as you can.

Here are the basic details:

Nearly half of the proposed money — \$30.5 million — will go toward a new middle school in Canton Township to replace an aging Central Middle School. Another \$13.2 million is earmarked to refurbish Central for alternative education — replacing Starkweather Education Center — community education and a curriculum center. The rest will go toward classrooms, rest rooms, cafeteria refurbishing and new buses. The bond issue also includes \$2.3 million to reimburse the general fund for the purchase of the middle school property in Canton.

Survey results show voters turned down two bond questions last May in part because they didn't believe the school district had made a case for "need" vs. "want." With the Feb. 27 election nearing, Supt. Jim Ryan will soon be at a homeowners association meeting near you, explaining the new proposal.

Get there, get the information and ask your questions. It's the best way to make your vote count.

Ficano's Cobo plan is valuable 1st step

It's that special time of the year when Detroit spreads its peacock feathers to proclaim itself the Motor City again. Cobo Center will play host Jan. 13-21 to the North American International Auto Show.

The auto show is meant to be our premier event, but it is quickly being overshadowed by auto shows in Los Angeles, Paris, Chicago and Tokyo. Certainly the increased competition from foreign automakers contributes to the show's loss of luster. But another major factor is the inadequate and aging Cobo facility.

Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano has proposed a \$968 million plan that would add 270,000 square feet of exhibition, demolish Cobo Arena and reorganize the center's layout. He proposes funding the project by a 35-year extension of the hotel-liquor taxes. He also proposes that management of the center be transferred from the city of Detroit to a regional governing board.

Ficano's proposal recognizes the importance of Cobo Center to the future of Detroit and its metro area. The auto show is the largest annual exhibition at Cobo, but a renovated center will help spur the ongoing renovation of downtown Detroit from Wayne State University to the riverfront. A new Cobo Center will attract other major conventions and exhibitions, which will in turn contribute to Detroit's revival.

Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson has said he supports efforts to renovate Cobo, but has concerns about the proposed 35-year extension of the hotel tax, originally approved in 1985 to pay for bonds to expand Cobo Center. He's said that a short-term five- or seven-year extension would be more acceptable. He also raises legitimate questions about whether "stakeholders" in funding the proposal should be expanded from Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties to include the state of Michigan, Washtenaw, Livingston, St. Clair and Monroe counties and the Detroit auto companies.

The success of downtown Detroit and its ability to continue as a vibrant urban center is important to everyone in this region and a world-class exhibition center downtown is vital to that success.



LETTERS

Celebrate Canton's diversity

To the Canton community: Our community is continually growing and changing to include all groups of people. This growth and change presents all of us with the challenge and opportunity to learn acceptance. This year's communitywide Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. activities give us the chance for open dialogue and continued exposure to the idea of peace and tolerance. We invite everyone in the Canton community to participate in these entertaining and thought-provoking events at The Village Theater at Cherry Hill and Canton Public Library. For a complete listing of the activities, please check our Web site — www.canton-mi.org.

Tom Yack
Canton Township supervisor

Impeach Bush

Mr. Bush should be impeached, as well as Cheney for an illegal war, war against humanity, every one of his lies to us, the American people, and for turning his back on what Hurricane Katrina had done to New Orleans. He should be impeached for his crimes of stealing two elections, for making it so difficult for the public to vote. Ethnic cleansing in New Orleans. I could go on and on. He should be impeached and Cheney, too. Neither of them will ever do the right thing such as resign, but they need to go.

Joseph McGlinchey
Canton

Look for 'press conference'

A replay of an informative and fast-paced Mock Press Conference with Canton's local leaders is on the local cable channel for the next few weeks and we wanted the community to be aware of it.

The Canton Newcomers, a social, civic and charitable organization, celebrating 35 years of service whose motto is "where neighbors become friends," hosts a monthly meeting the first Wednesday of each month and more than 20 interest group activities including Book Club, Bunko, Euchre, Ladies Day and Night Out, Playgroups, Scrapbooking, Walking and many more. One of our recent meetings was a question and answer session with Plymouth Canton Schools Supt. Jim Ryan, Library Director Jean Tabor, Leisure Services Director Ann Conklin, Executive Director of Public Safety and Operations John Santomauro and Canton Township Supervisor Tom Yack.

Questions about budget issues, opportunities to provide feedback/input into Leisure Services, how we remain the safe community we are and what role technology continues to play in improving services are just a few of the topics discussed.

If you were unable to attend this public press conference, we hope you will consider viewing it on Channel 10 (Wide Open West) or Channel 12 (Comcast) at a few minutes after the hours of 5 a.m., 11 a.m. or 5 p.m.

To learn more about the Canton Newcomers, including requesting a complimentary copy of our newsletter, please visit our Web site at cantonnewcomers.org or call (734) 981-1715. Please plan to attend our 35th Birthday Bash at 7:15 p.m. Feb. 7 at the Sunflower Clubhouse on Hanford (west of Canton Center) for a "white elephant" birthday gift exchange, time capsule creation, refreshments and door prizes. We

will be sure to give you a warm welcome. On behalf of the Canton Newcomers,
Lauren Poulos
welcoming committee, Canton Newcomers

Ford one of the best

In your editorial ("Nation owes debt to our own Gerald Ford," *Observer*, Jan. 4) you said President Gerald R. Ford has been described as honest, honorable, straightforward, warm and noble. Yes, since World War II he certainly was one of our better presidents, alongside Eisenhower, Kennedy, Nixon and Carter. As you said, he put the good of the country ahead of his own interests — an attribute most desirable in politicians which seems badly lacking in most Pardoning President Nixon in order to put that controversy behind and get the country moving was certainly a right decision.

The Nixon crime seems minuscule in comparison, possibly an outcome of likely schemed provocation by his adversaries that trapped him. Ford was not elected but appointed to the presidency. If history repeats itself, Nancy Pelosi, the Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, next in line to that office, could become our president in case Bush and Cheney resign or be impeached. She seems to be honest, honorable, straightforward, warm and noble.

Like Ford, she most likely would put the good of this country ahead of her own personal interests, back on the right track. She most likely would extricate us, without undue delay, from the unconstitutional and obviously highly detrimental to this country war in the Middle East.

Joseph Wira
Plymouth

Barbarity reigns

The barbarism continues to flow from the Middle East, and Saddam's execution highlights just how far these animals have to go. I can't join in with the celebration across the Detroit area as Arabs rejoice in the death of one of their own.

The gallows should not have been the final chapter in this man's life. Instead, life in a prison of this man would have sent a humane message that this area of the world is ready for change. I personally rebuke all capital punishment in the name of any spiritual entity for the salvation of mankind.

The act of brutally executing Saddam Hussein paints a dark reality as to what is really happening in this hell on earth. I believe the Middle East will explode into a deeper nightmare that will haunt all who have bloodied their hands with this so-called democratic movement.

The constant video feed that is becoming available showing footage of this man's execution sickens me and I hope all who value life. It angers me to see anyone celebrating another person's death in such a manner.

These people who feel that they must seek revenge will only be disposed of in a like manner. Killing begets killing.

Stop the killing and put order back into the lives of all American families that have sent their loved ones to fight in a war that has no merit. Today, I am not a proud American. I feel ashamed that I am an unwilling player in this draconian debacle and a war that cannot be seen by any sane person as the right thing to continue.

Ron Austin
Franklin

Definitions of evil

More than 60 years ago, Christopher Dawson wrote in *The Judgment of the Nations*, "as soon as men decide that all means are permitted to fight evil, then their good becomes indistinguishable from the evil that they set out to destroy." President Bush has argued that the provisions of Common Article 3 of the Geneva Conventions, which prohibit "outrages upon personal dignity" require reinterpretation in the fight against terrorism. In requesting legislation to that effect, he has asked, "What does that mean, outrages upon human (sic) dignity?" and wants Congress to provide new rules for the interrogation and prosecution of terrorist suspects.

Article 3, Part I General Provisions of the Geneva Conventions states, "To this end the following acts shall remain prohibited at any time and in any place whatsoever: (a) violence to life and person, in particular murder of all kinds, mutilation, cruel treatment and torture, (b) taking of hostages, (c) outrages upon personal dignity, in particular, humiliating and degrading treatment."

Since the revision of the Geneva Conventions in 1949, "humiliation" and "degradation" have been words easily defined and not difficult to understand. The president, nonetheless, feels "the war on terror" justifies new definitions for the guidelines which govern our country's treatment of prisoners than those which have governed civilized nations for 57 years.

This issue caused sufficient embarrassment to the president's party that a congressional compromise was a certainty. The damage, however, has been done. We, as a nation, are further down the slippery slope of the deterioration of our international image as a country of laws and decency. We have already seen the baseless invasion of Iraq redefined and justified as "the war on terror" and the opposition to it characterized as unpatriotic.

The president's latest initiative to justify our prisoner interrogation policies is yet another of this administration's foreign policy disasters. How long can we stand by as our good becomes indistinguishable from the evil that (we) set out to destroy? The world is watching and the world is judging.

Lawrence J. Gage
Farmington Hills

SHARE YOUR OPINIONS

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

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CANTON Observer
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Richard Agman — Publisher Emeritus

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

QUOTABLE

"Even though Canton doesn't have a huge African-American population, we are a diverse community and when there's any level of diversity, there has to be an understanding of differences."

— Laurie Golden, spokesperson for the Canton Public Library, discussing the events planned for the King holiday

It's hoped Ford's legacy will help inspire today's leaders

Back in 1975, along with some other Michigan folks, I was invited to visit Jerry Ford at the White House. Those were the days when some of us in the media were still getting used to calling the regular guy wed known as Jerry "President Ford." Even "Gerald Ford" seemed a bit formal and strange. I had known Ford — slightly — when I had run the Washington office of another Michigan congressman in the mid-1960s. And by the time the '70s rolled around, I was the publisher of a bunch of newspapers.

Why was I invited? I always figured Jerald terHorst, *The Detroit News* political writer who was for a brief time Ford's press secretary, put me on the guest list. And I likely stayed on because, well, it's always prudent to be nice to newspaper publishers from your home state.

As we talked back and forth, I reflected that Ford as president was exactly as I had known him as a member of Congress. Sohd Direct Straightforward. He was much brighter than the comedians made him out to be. He had perfected the masterful art of fiddling with his pipe to give him time to reflect on a question. I've met a fair number of presidents over the years, but Ford's down-home demeanor in the White House was the least pompous of them all.

Ford's reputation as president has steadily grown since the days when he sent his ratings plunging and made a lot of folks very angry when he granted a full pardon to former President Nixon, one month into his administration.

But what was castigated as a cynical political deal back then has come to be regarded in the fullness of time as a vital step in ending the long national nightmare of Watergate.

Make no mistake about it — Ford was a staunch conservative Republican partisan. But he was a man who saw opponents as adversaries, not enemies. Richard Norton Smith, former head of the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum in Grand Rapids, put it this way: "In contrast to today, certainly President Ford never confused compromise with surrender, or moderation with weakness. And while he had adversaries, he was convinced that he never had an enemy."

That quality — one of sane moderation, and the profound lack of this essential quality in today's political environment — is, I am convinced, what lay behind the extraordinary outpouring of respect and affection that accompanied his death and funeral last week in Grand Rapids.

The ability to disagree respectfully is a quality that was once the core of our political system. And it's a quality that has been very sadly largely lost in the scorched-earth partisanship of today.

Few know this better than former congressman and state senator Joe Schwarz, a moderate Republican from Battle Creek.

"The outpouring of affection for Jerry Ford comes from the fact that the three-quarters of Americans who do not identify themselves as hard left or hard right are weary of the hyper-partisanship that has been the order of the day in Washington and in Michigan," he said.

Jerry Ford could take an idea and dispassionately evaluate it — whether it came from a Republican, Democratic or independent — to see whether it worked. He didn't care about the ideology. He only cared about whether it worked," he added.

Last summer, Schwarz, a man with impressive military, professional and intellectual credentials, was defeated in the Republican primary by a hard right former preacher. That, he noted, is a graphic example of the sea change that has happened in Michigan politics since 1980.

Today's Republicans hold everyone to a set of rigid litmus tests, Schwarz noted. What if someone concludes that they are in favor of any of these things?

"Affirmative action in university admissions. Embryonic stem cell research. Tolerance for gay couples? What if a Republican is skeptical that abortion is always wrong?"

Then, the former congressman, Navy officer and CIA agent said, forget it. "The Republican Party has concluded that each of these issues is an absolute disqualification in running for office, not trigger points for reasonable discussion."

He added, "It's going to hurt the party if it has any hope of breaking out of the hard-right trap it's in."

I agree. Last November's elections clearly represented something more than discontent with an unpopular Republican president and a failing war. The turnout among moderates and independents was enormous, a rejection of the kind of harsh partisanship that has infested our politics and, maybe, a yearning for something more sensible, for common ground.

And I think the ground may be shifting.

Over the past couple of weeks, I've talked with a fair number of political leaders in Lansing. The change in climate is remarkable. Gov. Jennifer Granholm is thinking hard about working with the Legislature to resolve the states current budget crisis, recognizing she can't do it alone. New Speaker of the House Andy Dillon (D-Redford) wants to discuss policy, not how to screw the opposition. And new Senate Majority Leader Mike Bishop (R-Rochester) is excited about trying to find ways for "legislators who want to do the right thing actually to do it."

Hopefully, the healing quality President Ford represented during his life can inspire and nourish our politics after his death.

His memory — and we here today — deserves no less.

Phil Power is president and founder of The Center for Michigan, a moderate think and do tank based in Ann Arbor. The opinions expressed here are his own and do not represent official policy positions of The Center for Michigan. Power welcomes reader comments at ppower@hcnet.com



Phil Power

Seeing Ford in person made long-ago Ann Arbor day shine

The year was 1977 and I was soon to graduate from Birmingham Groves High School. A friend and I made the trek to Ann Arbor to check out dorms at the University of Michigan, where we'd be freshmen that fall.

The day yielded an unexpected surprise: President Gerald Ford, who'd just left the White House for Jimmy Carter's new presidency, made an appearance on campus.

I was excited to see the Michigan native. Some in the Ann Arbor crowd booed the former president, still controversial for his pardon of Richard Nixon in the wake of the Watergate scandal. I didn't boo, but was excited to see the first president I'd seen in my young lifetime.

Years later, coming home from church, my husband and I happened across a campaign train in Plymouth holding President George Bush the elder, wife Barbara and John and Michelle Engler, then Michigan's governor and first lady. By that time, it wasn't quite as exciting to see a president, but there was still something about seeing the most powerful person in the world.

Gerald Ford's obituary, which I wrote the week between Christmas and New Year's after his Dec. 26 death, didn't allow a lot of time for introspection due to our deadlines. I was able to track down former Congressman Bill Broomfield, a longtime colleague of Ford's, who spoke highly of the former president.

"He was a very decent and honorable man," said Broomfield, who would make headlines himself a few days later when he

collapsed during a Ford service in the nation's capital.

"He was just a great person," Broomfield added. "Everybody liked him."

Ford had moved to California with wife Betty after leaving the White House, but never forgot his Michigan roots. He often returned to the University of Michigan to speak, including while I was an undergraduate, and I remember hearing of other sightings of him on campus.

Broomfield said Nixon should also be recognized in our nation's history, particularly for his contributions in foreign policy such as his groundbreaking trip to China. That point's probably more debatable than the issue of the basic decency and honesty of Gerald Ford.

Ford is our only Michigan president to date (I believe our neighbors in Ohio have quite a few more), but that doesn't diminish his legacy.

He served at a critical time in our nation's history and did so capably. His post-White House years weren't quite the Habitat for Humanity effort that Jimmy Carter's known for, but Ford never forgot his humble roots and decent ways.

Witness the long lines of people who wished to honor Ford at his museum in Grand Rapids and you realize how much Ford, the man and the president, meant to people here. We may not have another Michigan man or woman ascend to the presidency in the near future, but we can all take pride in the fact that one of our own did his job when it had to be done.

Julie Brown is assistant presentation editor for the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers*. She can be reached at (734) 953-2111 or jcbrown@hometownlife.com



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January is the time to get your financial house in order



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

With the New Year, we all feel refreshed and make resolutions to ourselves to do things better this year than we did last year.

One of the New Year's resolutions we all make is that this will be the year to get and keep our financial house in order. To me, this is one of the most important resolutions because if you did keep your financial house in order, it certainly would make life easier.

I recognize being involved with your personal financial affairs may seem burdensome, however, it is the only hobby I know of that can actually make you money as opposed to costing you money. In addition, being actively involved with your financial affairs is not that difficult.

There are a few steps that everyone needs to follow this time of year that can help achieve your financial goal. The first step along the way is to do a family balance sheet. A family balance sheet is a relatively straight-forward document. It is nothing more than a listing of all your assets and liabilities.

By doing a family balance sheet, it allows you to determine your net worth (assets less liabilities) and it also allows you to see exactly what you have. Particularly, from a standpoint of liabilities, knowing what your liabilities are including their terms and conditions such as interest rates and how interest is calculated, will allow you to develop a strategy to better eliminate your debt.

One advantage of doing a family balance sheet is that it allows you to look at your progress from a financial standpoint on a year-to-year basis. In preparing a family balance sheet, one issue that always comes up is how do you value items such as your home and collectibles? To me, you have to be realistic as to those values. After all, if you are overvaluing your home, you are only fooling yourself. The reality is that the way you

value an asset is what the item could sell for. For your house, it is what other homes in your area are selling for. Using the Internet can help you get a realistic value of your home. Another important document to prepare that helps with your finances is a cash-flow statement. A cash-flow statement is a listing of what money has come in and where that money goes. It is amazing to me how many people have no idea as to where they spend their money. You should have an understanding of what comes in and what goes out. By having a handle on in-flows and out-flows, it allows you to make adjustments and be in better position to be more efficient with your money.

Particularly, in today's busy world, it is not unusual for husband and wife never to have an idea how each other spends money. By doing a cash-flow statement, it will allow everyone to know where money is going so that adjustments can be made where necessary. I recognize that it is sometimes difficult to do a cash-flow statement, particularly for the whole year, however, even if you do it over the last month or last quarter, it will go a long way in helping you be in better contact with your money.

The reason why this is such a great time of year to get your financial house in order is not just because it is the New Year and we all feel rejuvenated, it is also because it is easy to get most of the information you need to prepare a family balance sheet and a cash-flow statement. Over the next few weeks, you are going to receive a variety of statements from your financial institutions, and this is the bulk of the information that you need to complete the aforementioned documents. Therefore, this is the perfect time of year to make good on your resolution of getting and keeping your financial house in order. After all, when you get your financial house in order, you are the beneficiary. People who control their finances, as opposed to letting their finances control them, find that they end up having more money in their pocket, exactly where it belongs. Good luck!

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Schoolcraft College board election scheduled for May 8

Three incumbents are seeking to retain their seats on the seven-member Schoolcraft College Board of Trustees. An election is scheduled for Tuesday, May 8.

Local residents who wish to run for one of the three seats have until Feb. 13 to file with the Livonia City Clerk's office. Mary Breen and Brian D. Broderick are candidates for re-election. Joan A. Gebhardt, appointed by the board in December to fill the last six months of a vacated term, will run for election to a new term.

The board holds regularly scheduled monthly meetings as well as special meetings as necessary. There is no compensation for these elected positions.

To be included on the ballot, candidates must submit an affidavit of identity. They also must submit an official nominating petition or, in lieu of the petition, pay a \$100 non-refundable nomination fee.

Candidates who choose to submit a petition must secure a minimum of 40, but not more than 100, signatures of individuals who are registered voters and residents of the Schoolcraft district. The signatures must be recorded on an official nominating petition which may be obtained from the Livonia City Clerk's office or the Schoolcraft College President's Office.

The affidavit of identity, as well as the official nominating petition or filing fee payment, must be received at the office of the Livonia City Clerk, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, Michigan 48154, by 4 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 13.

Car of the Year

Saturn dealer not surprised by Aura's selection

BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER

When the Saturn Aura was announced Sunday as North American Car of the Year at the start of the 2007 North American International Auto Show, one person who was not surprised was Ron MacEachern.

The reason the Aura is the same vehicle that helped make MacEachern's Saturn of Troy the top-selling Saturn dealership in the U.S. last year.

"We're the number one Saturn dealer in the country, primarily due to Aura sales," MacEachern said. "Even before they announced the Car of the Year, we'd been delivering a ton of them. We delivered 170 last month alone."

General Motors walked away with top honors as the Aura won Car of the Year and the Chevrolet Silverado was named Truck of the Year. Voting for the two awards was done by 49 writers and broadcasters in the U.S. and Canada who devote their professional time to reviewing new vehicles.

This is a great day for General Motors, Jill Lajdzak, general manager of Saturn, said after accepting the award.

"You've seen us come into the marketplace 16 years ago, limited production portfolio, and we led the industry in a terrific customer experience that remains today," Lajdzak said.

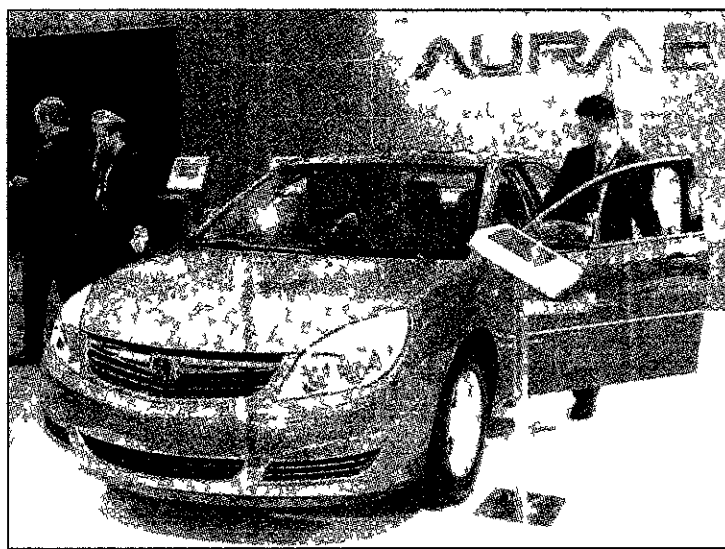
The mid-size Aura beat out two other finalists, the Toyota Camry and the Honda Fit.

MacEachern said winning the top award should boost Saturn sales even more.

"There's a certain status that goes with driving the Car of the Year, especially if you've already purchased one," MacEachern said.

"The Aura gives Saturn an opportunity to compete on a fair playing field, and it's the first time in history that we can compete with the Toyota Camry and the Honda Accord."

"I think people have come to expect Honda and Toyota to compete for Car of the Year, he



JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Saturn Aura was named car of the year at the North American International Auto Show.

AT A GLANCE

What: North American International Auto Show
Where: Cobo Conference/Exhibition Center in downtown Detroit
When: Public Show Days Jan. 13-20 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. (no admittance after 9 p.m.) Sunday Jan. 21, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. (no admittance after 6 p.m.)
How much: Adult, \$12. Senior Citizen (65 and older) and children 7-12, \$6. Children under 6 admitted free with parent.
Getting there: Shuttle service available at the Detroit Zoo and Greenfield Village Jan. 13-15 and Jan. 20-21 every 20 minutes to Cobo Center, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. and from Cobo 9 a.m. to 11 p.m. Last departures Jan. 21 from the Detroit Zoo and Greenfield Village will be 5 p.m. and from Cobo Center at 9 p.m. Parking is \$5 and round trip for the shuttle bus is \$4 per person. Tickets can be purchased on-site at the Zoo and Greenfield Village.
Downtown Shuttles: Shuttle services downtown will run Jan. 13-15 and Jan. 20-21 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. every 15 minutes. The Greentown shuttle will run from southbound Beaubien, between Monroe and Lafayette to Cobo Center on northbound Cass, between Congress and Fort. The Joe Louis shuttle will run from the west side of Joe Louis Arena to Cobo Center on the south side of Cobo Hall. Cost is 50 cents one-way, exact change can be paid to the driver.
Who to call: For information call the NAIAS hotline at (248) 283-7000 or on the Web at naias.com.

added. "An exception is when a domestic car is named because of the expectations of the imports."

The Chevrolet Silverado topped the Ford Edge and Mazda CX-7 to capture Truck of the Year honors.

"We at Chevrolet have felt we have the best truck out there in the new Silverado," said Ed Peper, general manager of Chevrolet. "This validation is very encouraging, and we are

very, very honored to receive this award."

James Schram, sales manager at Gordon Chevrolet in Garden City, said the Silverado award has already created a buzz.

"We've been getting calls and showroom activity from people who want to take a look and drive it to see what it's all about," said Schram, who lives in Canton Township.

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Athens Coney serves up a Detroit tradition

BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER

Pete Mitchell, the owner of Athens Coney Island in Royal Oak, was kept busy Monday and Tuesday at the North American International Auto Show, serving a Detroit tradition to members of the media during press preview days.

Mitchell, a Berkley resident, has had a different perspective on the Detroit auto show since 1999, when he was hired by General Motors to serve one of Detroit's finest culinary refinements to journalists around the world who visited the GM display.

Mitchell and his crew served 2,000 Detroit-style coney islands — including chili, cheese, onions and mustard — with French fries, which has become a tradition at the show after a suggestion by one of Mitchell's best customers.

It happened through a gentleman named Bill O'Neill, director of GM communications, who is a very longtime customer at the restaurant," Mitchell



JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

For two hours Monday and Tuesday GM hired Athens Coney Island to serve hot dogs at the auto show. They were expected to hand out between 1,000 and 1,200 each day. Left to right, Athina Mitchell, Beverly Hills, Howard Shock, St. Clair Shores and Pete Mitchell, owner of the Athens

said. "It was a match made in heaven."

"General Motors also headquarters at the restaurant on Dream Cruise night," he said.

Athens Coney Island has been in business on Woodward Avenue, south of 14 Mile Road in Royal Oak, since 1963.

Mitchell's set-up at the GM display is very similar to his restaurant, from equipment Mitchell said he specified for the portable outings.

Mitchell said the coney get a good reception by the

media.

"When we open for lunch, we have a line from the opening to the closing," Mitchell said. "We go non-stop for two hours."

Mitchell said he also likes the opportunity to see the auto show in a different perspective.

"It's really a unique experience," Mitchell said. "It's an opportunity to see the auto show unlike the public sees it, with the press. We get to walk the show when no one is here."

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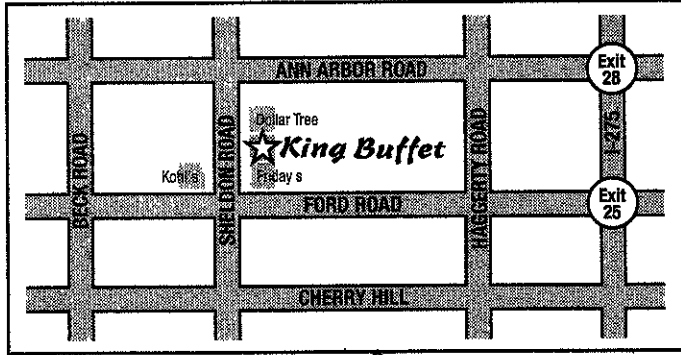
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| 26 Cashew Shrimp | 4 95 |
| 27 Kung Pao Shrimp* | 4 95 |
| 28 Shrimp with Vegetables | 4 95 |
| 29 Shrimp with Lobster Sauce | 4 95 |
| 30 Curry Shrimp* | 4 95 |
| 31 Shrimp Chow Mein | 4 95 |
| 32 Garlic Shrimp | 4 95 |
| 33 Sweet & Sour Shrimp | 4 95 |
| 34 General Tso's Chicken* | 4 95 |
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Fried Rice

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|-------------------------|------|
| 38 Chicken Fried Rice | 4 50 |
| 39 Vegetable Fried Rice | 4 50 |
| 40 Beef Fried Rice | 4 50 |
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- | | |
|----------------------|------|
| 44 Chicken Lo Mein | 4 50 |
| 45 Vegetable Lo Mein | 4 50 |
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- | | |
|-----------------------------------|------|
| 50 Egg Roll(1) | 1 00 |
| 51 Fried Wonton(8) | 2 25 |
| 52 Fried Chicken Wings(4) | 2 95 |
| 53 Fried Shrimp(3) | 3 00 |
| 54 Bar-B-Q Chicken (4) | 3 95 |
| 55 Crab Rangoon (3) 2 00 (6) 3 95 | |
| 56 Steamed or Fried Dumplings(6) | 4 25 |
| 57 Pu Pu Tray (for 2) | 7 25 |
- (Includes egg roll fried shrimp, bar b q chicken crab rangoon and fried chicken wing)

Soups

- | | |
|--|------|
| 58 Egg Drop Soup | 1 50 |
| 59 Wonton Soup | 1 50 |
| 60 Hot & Sour Soup* | 1 50 |
| 61 House Special Soup (for 2) | 4 95 |
| <small>(chicken shrimp scallops)</small> | |
| 62 House Noodle Soup | 5 95 |
| <small>(chicken shrimp beef)</small> | |
- * Denotes HOT & SPICY



Saturday Dinner &

Sunday All Day Buffet... \$10.99

(Including Lobster)

Dinner Dishes:

All dinners served with Steamed Rice

Poultry

- | | |
|----------------------------|------|
| 63 Sweet & Sour Chicken | 7 50 |
| 64 Chicken with Broccoli | 7 50 |
| 65 Moo Goo Gai Pan | 7 50 |
| 66 Cashew Chicken | 7 50 |
| 67 Kung Pao Chicken* | 7 50 |
| 68 Almond Chicken | 7 50 |
| 69 Lemon Chicken | 7 50 |
| 70 Moo Shu Chicken | 7 50 |
| 71 Yu-Hsiang Chicken* | 7 50 |
| 72 Szechuan Chicken* | 7 50 |
| 73 Hunan Chicken* | 7 50 |
| 74 Chicken with Snow Peas | 7 50 |
| 75 Curry Chicken* | 7 50 |
| 76 Empress Chicken* | 7 50 |
| 77 Chicken with Vegetables | 7 50 |

Beef

- | | |
|----------------------------|------|
| 78 Mongolian Beef | 7 50 |
| 79 Beef with Broccoli | 7 50 |
| 80 Yu-Hsiang Beef* | 7 50 |
| 81 Szechuan Beef* | 7 50 |
| 82 Hunan Beef* | 7 50 |
| 83 Beef with Vegetables | 7 50 |
| 84 Kung Pao Beef* | 7 50 |
| 85 Moo Shu Beef | 7 50 |
| 86 Pepper Steak with Onion | 7 50 |
| 87 Beef with Snow Peas | 7 50 |
| 88 Sha Cha Beef* | 7 50 |

Seafood

- | | |
|------------------------------|------|
| 89 Sweet & Sour Shrimp | 8 50 |
| 90 Shrimp with Snow Peas | 8 50 |
| 91 Cashew Shrimp | 8 50 |
| 92 Kung Pao Shrimp | 8 50 |
| 93 Shrimp with Broccoli | 8 50 |
| 94 Moo Shu Shrimp | 8 50 |
| 95 Yu-Hsiang Shrimp* | 8 50 |
| 96 Szechuan Shrimp* | 8 50 |
| 97 Hunan Shrimp* | 8 50 |
| 98 Curry Shrimp* | 8 50 |
| 99 Shrimp with Lobster Sauce | 8 50 |
| 100 Shrimp with Vegetables | 8 50 |
| 101 Yu-Hsiang Scallops* | 8 50 |

Pork

- | | |
|--------------------------|------|
| 102 Sweet & Sour Pork | 7 50 |
| 103 Moo Shu Pork | 7 50 |
| 104 Yu-Hsiang Pork* | 7 50 |
| 105 Twice Cooked Pork* | 7 50 |
| 106 Hunan Pork* | 7 50 |
| 107 Pork with Vegetables | 7 50 |

Vegetables

- | | |
|-------------------------------|------|
| 108 Vegetarian's Delight | 6 50 |
| 109 Moo Shu Vegetables | 6 50 |
| 110 Yu-Hsiang Broccoli* | 6 50 |
| 111 Family Style Bean Curd* | 6 50 |
| 112 Bean Curd Szechuan Style* | 6 50 |

Chow Mein

(Crispy Noodle)

- | | |
|-----------------------|------|
| 113 Chicken Chow Mein | 6 50 |
| 114 Beef Chow Mein | 6 50 |
| 115 Pork Chow Mein | 6 50 |
| 116 Shrimp Chow Mein | 7 50 |
| 117 Combo Chow Mein | 7 50 |

Lo Mein

(Soft Noodle)

- | | |
|-----------------------|------|
| 118 Chicken Lo Mein | 6 50 |
| 119 Beef Lo Mein | 6 50 |
| 120 Pork Lo Mein | 6 50 |
| 121 Vegetable Lo Mein | 6 50 |
| 122 Shrimp Lo Mein | 7 50 |
| 123 Combo Lo Mein | 7 50 |

Fried Rice

- | | |
|--------------------------|------|
| 124 Chicken Fried Rice | 5 95 |
| 125 Beef Fried Rice | 5 95 |
| 126 Pork Fried Rice | 5 95 |
| 127 Vegetable Fried Rice | 5 95 |
| 128 Shrimp Fried Rice | 6 95 |
| 129 Combo Fried Rice | 6 95 |

Side Orders

- | | |
|--------------------|------|
| 130 Steamed Rice | 0 50 |
| 131 Fried Rice | 1 25 |
| 132 Crispy Noodle | 0 50 |
| 133 Fortune Cookie | 0 10 |
| 134 Soft Drink | 1 25 |

Chef's Specialty:

Served with Steamed Rice

- | | |
|--|------|
| C1 General Tso's Chicken* | 8 95 |
| <small>(Chunks of chicken quickly deep fried with red pepper garlic & ginger in a red hot & sweet sauce)</small> | |
| C2 Sesame Chicken | 8 95 |
| <small>(Crispy chicken with sesame in spicy sweet brown sauce)</small> | |
| C3 Peking Chicken* | 8 95 |
| <small>(Crispy chicken with peppers carrots mushrooms & celery in a Peking style special sauce)</small> | |
| C4 Orange Flavor Chicken* | 8 95 |
| <small>(Crispy chicken in our orange flavor hot & spicy sauce)</small> | |
| C5 Orange Flavor Beef* | 8 95 |
| <small>(Chunk slices of beef sauteed in our orange flavor hot & spicy sauce)</small> | |
| C6 Orange Flavor Shrimp* | 9 95 |
| <small>(Jumbo shrimp deep fried in our orange flavor hot & spicy sauce)</small> | |
| C7 Hunan Double Delight* | 9 95 |
| <small>(Jumbo shrimp & chicken with green pepper broccoli carrots mushrooms & water chestnuts in our special garlic sauce)</small> | |
| C8 Yu-Hsiang Delight* | 9 95 |
| <small>(Beef shrimp & chicken with select vegetables in spicy garlic sauce)</small> | |
| C9 Scallop Beef | 9 95 |
| <small>(Fresh scallops with slices of beef in light brown sauce)</small> | |
| C10 Happy Family | 9 95 |
| <small>(A combination of chicken shrimp beef pork & scallops sauteed with assorted vegetables in chef's special sauce)</small> | |
| C11 Seafood Combination | 9 95 |
| <small>(King crab shrimp & scallops stir fried with vegetables)</small> | |
- * Denotes HOT & SPICY

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Why cross is worn by firefighters

Almost any fire apparatus you see today has a Maltese cross on it. Firefighters wear badges that also have the shape of the Maltese cross on it. The Maltese cross is the red center circle, with the four shapes that emanate from the center. But many people ask us what the connection is between the fire service and that Maltese cross. Hopefully, the following tale will help to answer that question.

This emblem had its beginning during the Crusades, and was the symbol of the knights of that period in history. The knights were designing a shield that could be used in battle, but not be too cumbersome during the fighting while riding horses. The cross design was adopted and put into use by the early Knights of Malta.



Tom Kiurski

The Knights of Malta became a charitable, non-military organization during the 11th and 12th centuries. They also provided aid to the sick and poor and help to set up numerous hospitals. Later, they would take up arms and join with the Knights of the Crusades in an effort to win back the Holy Land.

This new breed of knight was quite well known as a flamboyant lot. They dressed in regal fashion to show their colors in a uniform manner. Large crimson-colored capes were worn over the suits of armor. Not only were the capes

symbolic, they also helped provide a defense against one of the newest weapons of war - fire. As invading forces attacked a castle, the defenders would throw containers of naphtha and other flammable liquids. Once the armies were soaked, a torch would be thrown down at the attackers, igniting their fuel-soaked clothing.

With their fellow troops engulfed in fire, the Maltese Knights would approach on horseback, rip off their capes, and use it to extinguish the flames on their burning fellow fighters.

As a reward for their bravery,

the cross that was worn by those Knights was decorated and inscribed by their admirers. It came to be known as the most honorable badge of acclaim that could be adorned on a uniform.

The legend of the Maltese cross grew as it was associated with the admirable qualities of loyalty, bravery and defender of the weak. Today, your firefighters are all proud to wear the time honored Maltese cross as part of their uniform and adorn our charnots with the emblem as well.

Tom Kiurski is the training coordinator for Livonia Fire & Rescue.

'A Call to Wholeness' coming to OCC

The Womencenter at Oakland Community College's Orchard Ridge Campus in Farmington Hills will present 'A Call to Wholeness', its 15th annual conference for women, on Saturday, March 17.

The event will run from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Orchard Ridge Campus' J Building. Registration is \$45 and the public is welcome.

Keynote presenter is Licensed Professional Counselor Pam Micallef, who will offer an interactive presentation titled "Reality

Check," which encompasses the need to slow down and look at where you've been, who you have been and are today, and where that leads you next," said Womencenter Coordinator Arlene Frank.

"A Call to Wholeness" is presented by the Womencenter, a facility that provides educational and supportive resources for area women. For further information and a registration brochure on this and other Womencenter Program offerings call (248) 522-3642.

Sciatica?

Suburban Detroit - A new free report has recently been released that reveals an amazing new medical breakthrough that has proven 86% successful treating debilitating back pain. Even with multiple herniated discs. Find out how space travel solved astronauts back pain treatment today. For your free report entitled, "How Space Age Technology Is Solving Back Pain Without Drugs Or Surgery!" call 1-800-469-3618 and listen to the toll-free 24 hr recorded message for all the details. If phone lines are busy, visit www.midischerniation.com



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BRIGHTON 8159 Challis Ste C (off Grand River in front of Target) 810 225 4789	FENTON 17245 Silver Pkwy (in the Sears Plaza) 810 629 2733	ROYAL OAK 31921 Woodward Ave (at Normandy) 248 549 4177	WESTLAND 35105 Warren Rd (southwest corner of Warren & Wayne Rds.) 734 722 7330
CANTON 42447 Ford Rd (corner of Ford & Lilley Rds. Canton Corners) 734-844 0481	FT GRATIOT 4129 24th Ave 810 385 1231	ST CLAIR SHORES 26401 Harper Ave (at 10 1/2 Mile) 586 777 4010	OR VISIT THE VERIZON WIRELESS STORE AT CIRCUIT CITY
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FAIRLANE MALL (3rd floor next to Sears) 313 441 0168	MONROE 2161 Mall Rd (in front of Kohl's) 734-241 4099	TAYLOR 23495 Eureka Rd (across from Southland Mall) 734 287 1770	CLARKSTON Cellular Technologies 248 625 1201
	NORTHVILLE Three Generations Plaza 20580 Haggerty Rd 734 779 0148	WESTLAND Lakeside Mall (lower level Sears Ct.)	CLAWSON Communications USA 248 280 6390
	NOVI 43025 12 Mile Rd (Twelve Oaks Service Dr north of Sears) 248 305-6600	TAYLOR 23000 Eureka Rd (in the JC Penney wing)	COMMERCIAL Cellular Source 248 360 9400
			WIRELESS Tomorrow 248 669 1200
			FARMINGTON HILLS Cellular City 248 848 8800
			FERNDALE Communications USA 248 542 5200
			FT GRATIOT Wireless Solutions 810 385 3400
			GROSSE POINTE Authorized Cellular 313 417 1000
			MACOMB Authorized Cellular 586 566 8555
			MONROE Herkmier Radio 734-242 0806
			MT CLEMENS Authorized Cellular 586-468 7300
			NORTHVILLE Cellular Cellulations 248 349 8116
			OAK PARK Cellular Cellulations 248 284-0091
			OXFORD Wireless Network 248 628 8400
			PLYMOUTH Ann Arbor Wireless 734 456 3200
			ROSELVILLE Authorized Cellular 586-293 8684
			ROYAL OAK Cellular Cellulations 248 582 1100
			Fusion Communications 248 549-7700
			SOUTHFIELD Wireless USA 248-395 2222
			STERLING HEIGHTS Authorized Cellular 586 795-8610
			TAYLOR Cell Phone Warehouse 734 374-4472
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U.S. Attorney charges include Canton woman

A Canton woman was among a total of 19 people charged in federal court in connection with the misuse of more than \$76 million in loans guaranteed by the federal Small Business Administration. The charges were announced Tuesday afternoon by U.S. Attorney Stephen J. Murphy.

Those charged by indictment were

■ Patrick J. Harrington, 44, of Beverly Hills, a former executive vice president of Business Loan Express, LLC, a company owned by Allied Capital. BLX is one of the largest lenders participating in the SBA 7(a) Loan Guaranty Program and has offices throughout the country.

Harrington was charged in a 14-count indictment with conspiracy, wire fraud, tampering with witnesses, making false declarations before the grand jury, and making false statements to a bank. According to his indictment, Harrington was the head of the Troy office of BLX.

The indictment describes a scheme whereby Harrington and others conspired to qualify loan applicants fraudulently for SBA loans, primarily for the purchase of gas stations. The indictment alleges that Harrington in conjunction

with approximately five "loan brokers" fraudulently caused BLX to make as many as 76 SBA-guaranteed loans totaling \$76,869,200.

The indictment claims that borrowers' payment defaults have already cost taxpayers some \$28,423,223. The indictment claims that loan applicants were "qualified" for the loans by overstating or misstating the applicants' financial and other qualifications and by falsifying the amount of money contributed to the small business by its owners.

■ Deborah J. Lazenby, 48, of Canton, a former assistant vice president of Huntington National Bank, was charged with conspiracy and misapplication of bank funds as a result of her alleged involvement in the conspiracy. According to her indictment, Lazenby, who managed a Dearborn branch of Huntington National Bank, participated in the scheme by supplying one of the loan brokers with false verifications of applicants' bank accounts, and by giving the broker unpaid-for Huntington National Bank cashier's checks to be used at loan closings for loans provided by BLX.

■ Abdul Waheed Khan, 60, of Sterling Heights, Fikri

Mamdouh, 36, of Dearborn, and Khaled Manassra, 35, of Dearborn Heights. Their indictment charges the men with conspiracy and making false statements within the jurisdiction of the SBA. It alleges that Khan and Mamdouh fraudulently obtained a \$944,000 SBA-guaranteed loan from a BLX subsidiary, the Business Loan Center, and that Manassra facilitated the loan by providing phony bank documentation for Khan and Mamdouh. The indictment states that the SBA has already incurred a loss of \$709,264 on the loan.

Murphy praised the investigative work of the SBA-OIG and Secret Service in the case.

Eric Thorson, inspector general for the SBA, praised the combined law enforcement efforts and work of the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Michigan.

A number of individuals who were borrowers alleged to have obtained fraudulent loans were charged by complaints with conspiracy to defraud the United States and to make false statements within the jurisdiction of the SBA.

The Tuesday charges relate to charges lodged in six previously returned indictments.

Police cite Chuck E. Cheese for selling alcohol to minor decoy

The Canton Police Department's Special Enforcement Unit cited Chuck E. Cheese, 42001 Ford Road, for selling alcohol to a minor during alcohol and tobacco sales checks in December. Chuck E. Cheese was on of 15 Canton businesses checked during campaign. Valero Gas, 41350 Ford Road, was cited for selling tobacco to a minor. All the other businesses refused to sell to the minor decoy.

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

Teen runaway goes home

A 16-year-old Canton girl has returned home after a weekend on the run.

The girl's parents reported their daughter missing Wednesday night after she snuck out of their home Sunday night.

She had been denied permission to attend a New Year's Eve party.

The teen called her parents hours after she left home to ask

POLICE BEAT

for more clothing and her mother told her to come home and she refused. Her mother later spoke to a 19-year-old man who said the teen wanted to be picked up from a Livonia high school. When the mother went to the school, her daughter wasn't there.

After police were contacted, an officer spoke to the 19-year-old who said the girl left the high school because she saw a police cruiser. He then said he didn't know her current location. The officer warned the man he could be criminally charged with harboring the girl, who'd been entered in lieu as a juvenile runaway.

Shortly afterward, the girl arrived at the Canton police station with her father. She said she'd been staying at another boy's home and ran away from her parents because she hadn't been out in a while.

The girl has been removed from the system as a runaway and is expected to go to court for curfew violation.

Man harrasses singer

A man known only by a first name was threatened with being arrested after he made a series of menacing phone calls to a 32-year-old Canton woman.

The woman told police Wednesday that she's a singer and the man got her number

from an advertisement and called her numerous times cursing and accusing her of being a man.

The man hung up on police after an officer got the man's number from the woman's telephone. When the officer called a second time, the man said (expletive) the police' and was then told if he contacted the woman again they'd seek a warrant for his arrest.

iPod stolen

A thief with a musical side stole an iPod from a 43-year-old Canton woman's vehicle while she was at the dentist.

The woman reported to police Tuesday that when she left a Lilley Road dental office she found a door of her Ford Windstar open. An Apple iPod valued at \$199 was missing.

The woman told police she left her doors unlocked.

Home gets egged

A Canton woman is expected to notify police if any damage surfaces from her home being egged early Wednesday morning.

The 38-year-old woman lives on the 49,000 block of Lansdowne and told police she heard noises outside her home but when she looked, she didn't spot anyone.

She later discovered broken eggs on her deck, driveway and Pontiac Sunfire.

Any damages will be reported after she cleans the egged areas.

DEATHS

A

Liana Louise (Carpenter) Adams

Adams 86 of Birmingham died Jan 7

Julia H. Adomits

Adomits 88 formerly of Ypsilanti died Jan 8

Ruth N. Arnold

Arnold 83 of Livonia died Nov 14

B

Marjorie F. (Foley) Bever

Bever 90 formerly of Plymouth died Jan 4

Duane L. Block

Block 80 of Bloomfield Hills died Jan 3

Herbert James Brown

Brown 87 died Jan 3

C

Joseph Carlton

Carlton 78 died Jan 1

H

Robert Warren Hamilton II

Hamilton 57 formerly of Birmingham died Dec 27

Sinclair John Marcus

Marcus 81 formerly of Bloomfield Hills died Dec 21

Alice Elizabeth (Betty) Henke

Henke 93 died Jan 5

Joseph M. Henshaw

Henshaw 76 of Plymouth died Jan 4

J

Mary B. Jensen

Jensen formerly of Birmingham died Jan 7

K

Brigid A. Kenney

Kenney 59 died Dec 30

William Kimball

Kimball 78 of Bigfork Mont. died Dec 26

L

Joan P. Lyon

Lyon 66 died Jan 6

M

William P. Mauck

Mauck 87 formerly of Bloomfield Township died Jan 2

Sandra G. McCullough

McCullough 56 formerly of Birmingham died Jan 4

Dallas June McKennon

McKennon 68 formerly of Garden City died Jan 7

Robert Jerome Mettetal

Mettetal 88 of Plymouth died Jan 4

Verna Mae Montague

Montague 86 of Birmingham died Jan 5

David Quinlan Mount

Mount 48 formerly of Bingham Farms died Dec 16

P

Helen Josephine Parrish

Parrish 85 formerly of Birmingham died Dec 30

R

Robert William Rosenberger

Rosenberger 84 formerly of Plymouth died Jan 3

William Ruthenberg

Ruthenberg 90 of Birmingham died Jan 7

Orvey J. Rydin

Rydin 82 died Dec 29

S

Robert R. Schultz

Schultz 79 of Plymouth died Dec 28

Douglas Steinhoff

Steinhoff 56 formerly of Livonia died Dec 24

T

Ellen L. Truesdell

Truesdell 70 of Plymouth died Dec 28

V

Sara Villarreal

Villarreal 81 died Dec 29

Lawrence J. Von Buskirk

Von Buskirk 63 died Dec 31

W

Laverne Gordon Willsey

Willsey died Jan 4

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

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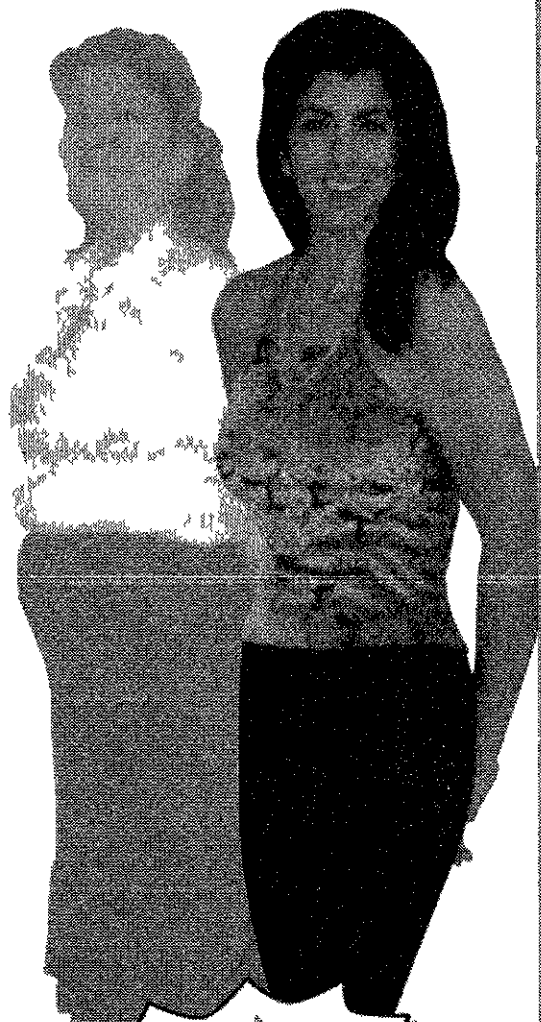
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A celebration of the life and ideas of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Book Launch

Monday, January 11, 7 p.m.
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394-5460

Author of *Men of Soul*, *Men of Hope*, and *African American Men* speaks and signs books at the Canton Public Library. Sponsored by the Friends of the Canton Public Library.

Tee Turner & the Headliners

Friday, January 12, 8 p.m.
Village Theater at Cherry Hill. Call 394-5460.

Tickets: \$10 in advance, \$15 at the door
Tee and his 10-piece band will have the audience grooving to the sounds of Motown, hip hop, funk and more!

Ahimsa: The Path of Peace -

A full-length thematic dance production
Saturday, January 13, 8 p.m.
Village Theater at Cherry Hill
Tickets: \$15. Call 394-5460.

A thematic dance presentation celebrating the wisdom of nonviolence as taught by Mahatma Gandhi and Martin Luther King, Jr. as choreographed by Nadanta's Chaula Thacker. Sponsored by The Partnership for the Arts and Humanities, Inc.

Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Sunday, January 14, 4 p.m.
Village Theater at Cherry Hill
Free, tickets required. Call 394-5460.

An exciting and empowering peace initiative that utilizes the creative arts to build bridges of understanding and create long-lasting relationships to break the cycle of fear, hate and violence.

Canton Celebrates Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Monday, January 15, 7 p.m.
Village Theater at Cherry Hill
Free, tickets required. Call 394-5460.

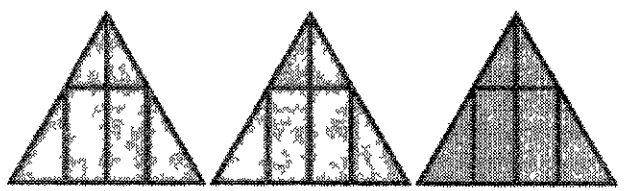
A community celebration featuring Vision, a film from the Detroit School of Music, and Cheryl Valentine. Keynote speaker and video presentation.

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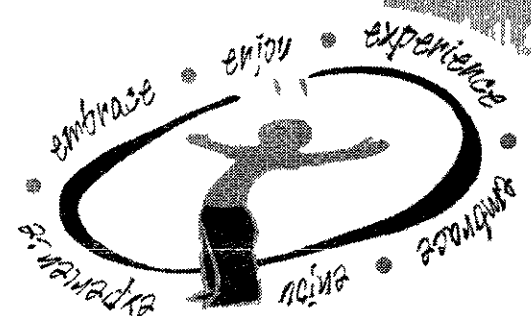
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Open Letter to all DFCU Financial Member-Owners

Restore Member Trust - It's time for a change in Leadership!

Dear Member-Owners,

DFCU Owners United is pleased to endorse three highly competent DFCU Financial members who are running for the credit union's volunteer board of directors. After fulfilling all the requirements mandated by the credit union's bylaws, **Jesse D.L. Brunais, Linda M. Malec and Salvatore Mazzola** have been notified by the DFCU Financial Board of Directors Nominating Committee that their names will be included on the ballot for the 2007 Board of Directors election.

Bruce D. Gears, Ryan M. Hershberger and Ronald K. Seiler, endorsed by DFCU Owners United, also qualified to run for the board election. However, they have since notified DFCU Financial that they wish to have their names withdrawn from the ballot, and will lend their support to **BRUNAIS, MALEC and MAZZOLA** for the three announced open board positions.

Brunais, Malec & Mazzola pledge that putting members first is their #1 commitment. Each of these candidates has a passion for DFCU Financial Federal Credit Union, and they have expressed their displeasure at the recent attempt to change their credit union to a bank.

"It is no secret that DFCU's recent initiative to become a bank provoked very strong opposition from member-owners of the credit union. Early in 2006, I took the time to learn more about this ill-fated proposal by talking with others, attending informational meetings sponsored by DFCU Owners United, and reading industry related periodicals. The more I learned, the more my personal opposition grew. I now ask the members of DFCU for their vote as a candidate for DFCU's Board of Directors in order to help guide this great institution in an open and transparent manner as governed by the credit union's bylaws and policies."

--- **Jesse D.L. Brunais**, automotive product design engineer in Powertrain Operations at Ford Motor Company. A member of DFCU Financial since 1981, Brunais is a graduate of Michigan State University with a Master's degree in electronics and computer science from Wayne State University.

"I became re-involved in DFCU during the attempt to convert it into a for-profit bank. During that time, I also listened to members unhappy with other changes that seemed to be trending toward 'just another bank.' I was stunned because, as a cooperative, DFCU operates for the benefit of member-owners and should strive to be 'better than the competition' by returning earnings back to members with better rates on savings, lower rates on loans, and providing exemplary services so that over time, all members benefit. With your vote, I pledge to 'put members first' and to support continuing the great traditions of DFCU, its employees and members." --- **Linda M. Malec**, human resources associate on the corporate staff at Ford Motor Company's World Headquarters. A member of DFCU Financial for 36 years, Malec served on DFCU's board of directors from 1980 to 2000, including chairperson from 1988 to 1998. Malec holds a Bachelor's degree from the University of Michigan.

"In the nine years I have been a member of DFCU, I have come to value the credit union for what it is—an efficient organization of exceptionally competent professionals, committed to serving all its members as owners and not as customers. I first became involved with DFCU Owners United when my confidence in the present Board of Directors was shaken by last year's proposed bank conversion, which was strongly opposed by the membership. In seeking the members' vote for the Board of Directors, I ask DFCU member-owners to support continuing the credit union's traditions of professional service and growth driven by members' needs." --- **Salvatore Mazzola**, funding analyst in the Treasurer's Office of Ford Motor Company. Mazzola earned his Bachelor of Science degree from Michigan Technological University and a Master of Science degree from the University of Illinois, as well as a Master of Business Administration degree from Wayne State University.

Ballots are expected to be mailed to members in January 2007, in advance of DFCU Financial's Annual Membership Meeting scheduled for February 15, 2007.

**At a credit union, it's one member--one vote.
VOTE FOR A CHANGE IN LEADERSHIP!**

For additional information, visit www.SaveMyCU.com

SPORTS

B

 (CP)
 Thursday January 11 2007

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

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

www.hometownlife.com

Late free throws lead Plymouth over Rocks

 BY ED WRIGHT
 STAFF WRITER

With 45 seconds left in Tuesday night's game against visiting Salem and the score knotted at 55-all, Plymouth coaches Tom Van Wagoner and Jason Maschke relayed the following game plan to the Wildcats during a crucial timeout: Work the clock down to 20 seconds, then create.

Junior guard Myron Puryear followed the orders to a "T."

With exactly 20 ticks left, Puryear drew a foul while driving to the basket. He then calmly converted two clutch free throws that proved to be the difference in the Wildcats' 59-55 Western Lakes Activities

PREP HOOP

Association cross-over triumph

With 7.5 seconds left, Rock senior guard Jierah Dixon's potential game-tying 14-foot jumper hit the back of the rim then bounced out of bounds. Puryear sealed the win with a pair of free throws with 1.7 seconds to go.

"I shot a little sooner than I probably should have, so I knew I'd better make those free throws," said Puryear, referring to his game-winning swishes. "I just tried to stay relaxed and block everything else out."

"We had a set play called, but that was-

n't it, a smiling Maschke said of Puryear's late-game drive. "Ideally, we wanted to milk the clock down a little more than we did and get the last shot, but Myron spotted a breakdown in their defense and we got the call."

The victory improved Plymouth's record to 3-3 heading into Friday night's game at Livonia Churchill Salem, which will host Northville on Friday, dropped to 2-4.

With the exception of a few isolated sloppy spurts, the fast-paced game was both tight and entertaining from the opening tip. Plymouth junior Brandon Roberts, Puryear's back-court running mate, contributed a game-high 24 points

not to mention a few up-and-under, double-pumping drives that elicited "ooooohs" and "aaahhs" from the crowd.

Puryear netted 18 points and four rebounds while Jake Hager and Austin Barnett both chipped in with six points a piece. All but six of the Wildcats' 59 points came from juniors.

A pair of junior forwards paced the Rocks. Grant Stone twined 18 and Ross Davis netted 13. Senior forward Dan Cassidy had eight, including a pair of threes.

Salem converted four three-pointers — three from beyond the arc and one the

PLEASE SEE PLYMOUTH, B2

Sidelines

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.

Runners shine

A pair of P-CEP graduates made major contributions to the Eastern Michigan University women's track program at the Jan. 6 University of Michigan Open.

Freshman Sumon Joyner, a Canton graduate, placed sixth in the 600-meter run with a time of 1:59.99 while freshman Brittany Lockhart, a Salem graduate, placed sixth in the long jump with a leap of 15-feet, 11-inches.

2007 Spring Soccer

Spring 2007 registration is under way through Sunday, Feb. 18, for the Wayne-Westland Soccer League for both its recreational and premier teams (ages 5 through high school).

Late fees start Sunday, Jan. 21.

Forms are available at either the Westland Bailey Center, 36651 Ford Road, or the Wayne Recreation Center, 4635 Howe Road.

Locations for new fields have been created through Wayne Recreation until the Central City Park complex has been deemed safe. For more information, call (734) 467-5260 or visit www.wsisoccer.com.

Tigers stop at EMU

The Detroit Tigers Winter Caravan will make a stop at the Eastern Michigan University Convocation Center 6-7:15 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 18. Doors open at 5:30 p.m.

Tigers slated to attend are manager Jim Leyland, coaches Gene Lamont and Lloyd McClendon and players Placido Polanco, Justin Verlander, Marcus Thames, Craig Monroe and Chris Shelton.

Free tickets are available by calling the Convocation Center at (734) 487-2282. Dan Dickerson, the voice of the Tigers, will emcee a question and answer session with Leyland and the players. There also will be free giveaways and the showing of a highlight video.

Following the free portion of the program will be a VIP reception in the Stadium Club with the Tigers. Tickets are \$75 each and are available on a first-come, first-serve basis. For tickets, call the EMU ticket office at the above number.

Canton grapplers first again

 BY ED WRIGHT
 STAFF WRITER

Apparently it's going to take more than a 16-day layoff to slow down the momentum built up by the Canton wrestling team.

Competing in their first official meet since Dec. 21, the Chiefs captured the first-place hardware at Saturday's 15-team South Lyon Varsity Individual Wrestling Invitational as they outlasted second-place Linden, 211-200.

Canton, which will take a 13-1 dual-meet record into tonight's home contest against Walled Lake Western, held a slim 179-178 lead heading into Saturday's final matches. However, they pulled away when five wrestlers won their respective weight classes.

"Overall, I'm happy with how we wrestled, but we still need to work on our depth and with placing more kids," said Canton coach Casey Randolph. "Eight of our 14 wrestlers placed, which a lot of teams might be happy with. But considering where we want our program to be, it's not good enough."

Two of the Chiefs' five champions — 103-pound Donnie Watkins and 140-pound Corey Phillips — pinned all four of their opponents.

"The kid Corey pinned in the final was a two-time state placer from Lakeview, so that was impressive," said Randolph.

Canton's other golden performances came from heavyweight Donnie Laramie, 125-pound Steve Cox and 130-pound Brent Winekoff.

Also placing for the Chiefs were Carl Lucke (second at 112), Jeremy Filippelli (third at 119) and Kiel Price (third at 160).

Tonight's 6:30 p.m. home meet against Western will feature the unveiling of the Canton football team's Division I semifinal banner. Among the other highlights will include the distribution of glow-sticks to the first 150 students.

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PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth-Canton Salem's Katie Zimmerman (far right) rifles a shot past Grosse Pointe South's Shami Entenman and Kelly Breen during Tuesday night's 7-3 Penguin victory.

HAPPY FEAT

Penguin icers glide past Blue Devils, 7-3

 BY ED WRIGHT
 STAFF WRITER

Call it 'Redemption on Ice'

Ten months after dropping a 5-1 decision to Grosse Pointe South in the 2006 Michigan Metro Girls High School Hockey League championship game, the Plymouth-Canton-Salem Penguins redeemed themselves in a big way Tuesday night by outskating the Blue Devils, 7-3, before an enthusiastic crowd at the Arctic Edge Ice Arena in Canton.

Nikki Songer had a huge game for the winners, netting three goals and an assist.

The win extended the Penguins'

record to 8-0-1 overall and 7-0-1 in the MMGHSHL. South fell to 4-4.

"PCS had never beaten South before, so the girls were pretty pumped tonight," said first-year Penguins coach Eric Mink. "We didn't come out real strong in the first period, but — like we've been doing all year — the girls regrouped and had a strong second period."

Penguins Katie Zimmerman and Keely Kowalski joined Songer in the "four-point club" Tuesday night. The winners also received a strong effort from goalie Kristie Kowalski, who stopped 14 shots.



Plymouth-Canton-Salem forward Nikki Songer blasts in one of her three goals during Tuesday night's 7-3 victory over Grosse Pointe South.

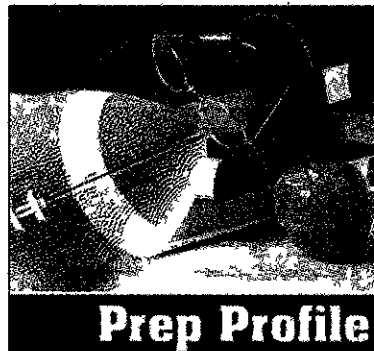
PLEASE SEE PENGUINS, B3

Fast-skating Heisler proves to be asset for Rocks

 BY ED WRIGHT
 STAFF WRITER

In the fall of 2005, Steve Heisler power skated into the same fork in the road many talented hockey players encounter during their mid-teen years.

Heisler, then a 16-year-old junior at Salem, had to choose between the travel-heavy, talent-rich road of Midget Major hockey, a path that could eventually lead to a college scholarship, or he could have chosen to play high school hockey — an option that would severely diminish any post-high school hockey plans, but at the same time give him an opportunity to compete with his classmates at Salem.



Prep Profile

When it came time to make the decision, Heisler chose the high school road.

"During my freshman and sophomore years at Salem, I played for the Detroit Trackers, a AAA team," Heisler said. "But before my junior year, the team started falling apart

and I was told the coach was quitting. I was offered a chance to play Midget Majors, but I thought I was too young and I didn't think I'd get much ice time. I knew if I played for Salem, I'd have a chance to play every other shift."

"I thought it over for awhile, then I talked to some of my friends who were playing for Salem — Ralph Aspenwall, Nate Werda and Kris Brandt — and they convinced me to play with them. I like it a lot and, looking back, I'm glad I made the decision I did."

SUDDEN IMPACT

The 5-foot-8 Heisler made an

PLEASE SEE HEISLER, B2



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Salem's Steve Heisler has led the Rocks in scoring the past two seasons. The former AAA standout was voted captain prior to this season.

Waidmann heats up in 2nd half to lead Chief cagers

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

PREP BASKETBALL

Canton's Ryan Waidmann had a hard time catching the basketball during the first half of Tuesday's Western Lakes Activities Association cross-over game against Walled Lake Northern.

But in the second half, Waidmann caught fire.

Following a forgettable first half that included six turnovers, the Chiefs' 6-foot-7 center tallied 17 points in the fourth quarter alone to lead Canton to a 54-42 victory in the Phase III gymnasium. Waidmann finished with a career-high 28 points to go along with his six rebounds.

The triumph, Canton's second straight, improved the Chiefs' record to 2-4 overall and 2-0 in the WLAA. The Knights slipped to 3-3 and 1-1, respectively.

"For some reason, Ryan had a tough time holding onto the ball in the first half," said Canton coach Charlie Paye. "In the second half, we made some nice passes to 'Waid,' he hung onto the ball and made the shots in the post."

Senior guard Josh Butler complemented Waidmann's big night with eight points and five rebounds.

"Josh also did a great job defensively against their best player, Ryan Bahnmiller, who ended up with only 11," Paye said.

Neil Sharma, Steve Paye and Ryan Langdon all netted four points for the winners. Sharma grabbed six boards while Paye dished out a half-dozen assists.

"Devy Jackson and Pete Boucher only scored three points each, but they gave us some good minutes tonight," Paye said. "It was a good

team win.

"Walled Lake Northern is a very pesky team and I think they're going to do some damage in the league this year. They can score points. Before tonight, I think they've been right around 60 all season, so to hold them to 42 proves we played a good defensive game tonight."

The long busride apparently didn't affect the Knights, who led 14-9 after one quarter and 21-18 at the half. The Chiefs led 32-30 with eight minutes to play before Waidmann took over. The senior hit 12 of his 14 field goal attempts.

Canton drained 7-of-12 free throws. Northern was 11-of-15 from the stripe.

SUMMERFIELD 67, CANTON AGAPE 60: On Tuesday at Garden City United Christian, the Wolverines led 26-25, but couldn't withstand a strong second-half surge by the Bulldogs.

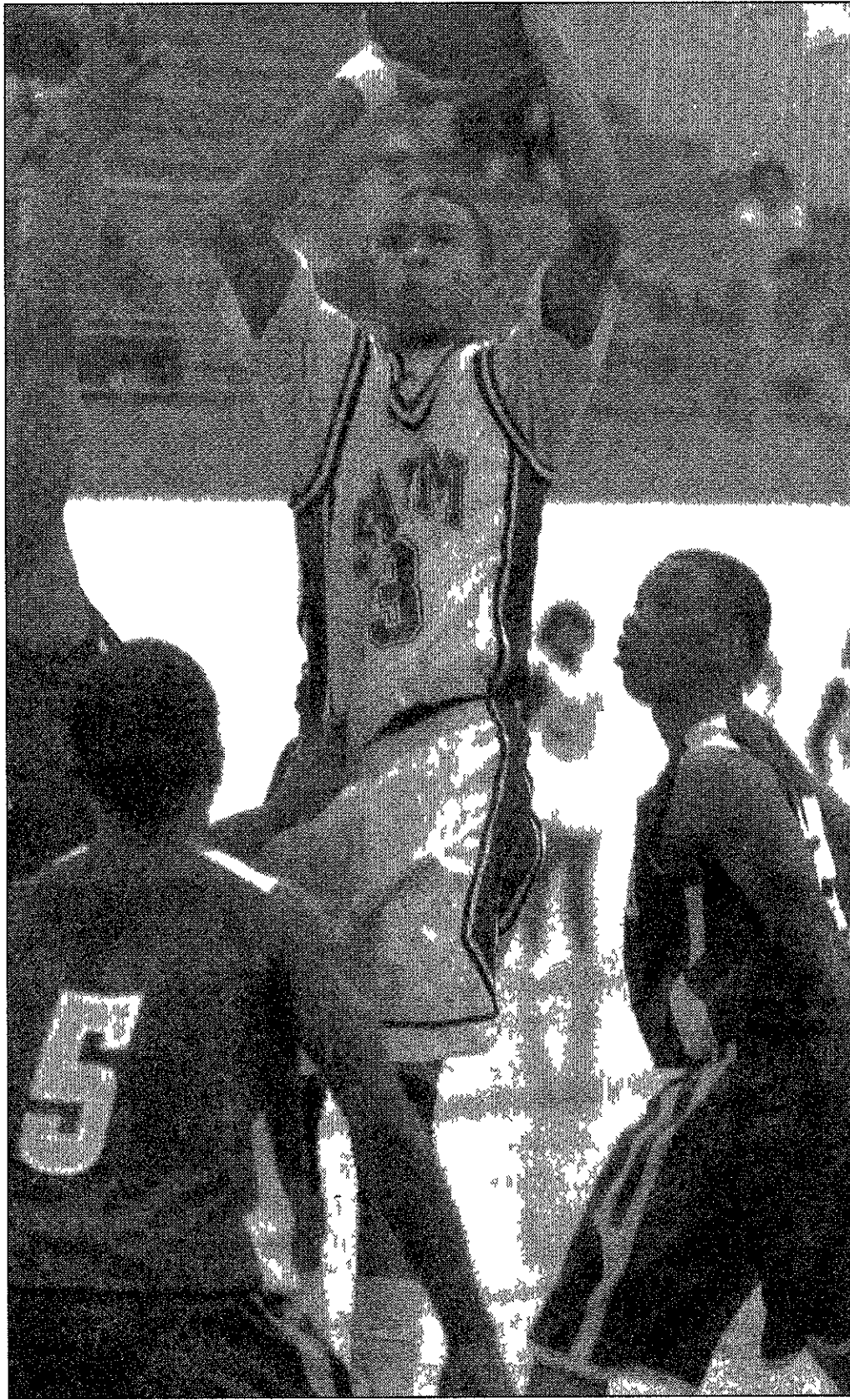
The setback dropped the Wolverines to 2-3. The Bulldogs improved to 4-3.

"They did a nice job pressuring us," said Agape coach Keith Anleitner. "Our on-the-ball defense wasn't as good as it's been recently."

Summerfield extended its one-point halftime advantage to 45-41 with eight minutes to go before outscoring its hosts 22-19 down the stretch.

Ty Majeski paced the Wolverines with 15 points. Keith Anleitner also had a solid night, finishing with 11 points and six assists. Tyler Gubbs led the winners with 13.

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Grant Stone, pictured above in a game earlier this season, scored a team-high 18 points in Salem's 59-55 loss to Plymouth Tuesday night.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

PLYMOUTH

FROM PAGE B1

old-fashioned way — to secure a 19-14 lead after one quarter.

A fast-break layup from Cassidy with 3:50 left in the first half gave the Rocks their biggest lead of the night — 25-19 — but Roberts dominated the rest of the half, scoring 10 points, including a buzzer-beating triple, to stake the Wildcats to a 34-33 advantage at the intermission.

Both teams scorched the nets in the third quarter, which ended with the Wildcats in front, 49-46.

Salem grabbed its first lead of the second half — 51-49 — with 5:56 to play on a highlight-reel reverse layup by Dixon. However, Barnett countered with a nice inside move at the other end to tie it at 51-51. Salem's last lead of the game — 53-51 — came with 3:55 to go on a break-away layup off the fingertips of Stone.

Hager, who yanked down a game-high eight rebounds, tied the game at 53-53 with three minutes to play and Roberts nailed a short, fade-away jumper 30 seconds later to put the host ahead, 55-53. Davis converted an offensive rebound with 51 seconds left to make it 55-51, setting the stage for Puryear's late-game heroics.

"Salem crashed the boards hard all night and we didn't block them off the boards, which was a big factor in them staying with us," said Van Wagoner. "Players from both these teams hang out and play against each other in our gym a lot during the off-season, that's why they're confident when they come in here."

"One of the keys for us tonight was the fast tempo," added Maschke. "The faster-paced games benefit us. We're still working on our offensive execution and setting up our offense. We also need to work on controlling certain game-time situations, like when we're leading at the end of a quarter or half."

"Most of our kids were on the junior varsity last year, so it may be mid-season before we really make a push."

Both teams were red-hot from the charity stripe. The Rocks drained 5-of-7 free throws (71.4 percent) while the 'Cats connected on 11-of-13 (84.6).

The Rocks turned the ball over 18 times, Plymouth had 14 miscues.

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HEISLER

FROM PAGE B1

instant — and positive — impact on the young and inexperienced Rocks last season as he led coach Fred Feiler's team with 16 goals and 10 assists. Proving last season was no fluke, he's among the points leaders again this year with seven goals and seven assists.

Heisler's No. 1 attribute is probably his speed, which he has developed through years of hard work.

A lot of it is technique, but mostly it's building the leg muscles up, he said. "I do a lot of off-ice workouts with plyometrics and we usually work out an hour or so before we practice. Our coach got us a medicine ball that we use in workouts, too."

Heisler's passion for hockey was ignited as a 6-year-old growing up in Livonia.

It was right about the time the Red Wings were doing really well and my friends and I started playing roller hockey in the street," said Heisler, who moved to Salem Township with his family when he was 12. "When I was 7, I started playing ice hockey

'A lot of it is technique, but mostly it's building the leg muscles up. I do a lot of off-ice workouts with plyometrics and we usually work out an hour or so before we practice. Our coach got us a medicine ball that we use in workouts, too.'

Steve Heisler
Salem hockey standout

and really liked it. The skating part came easy to me because my uncles had been taking me skating since I was about 3, but everything else about the sport took some time to learn."

FAST START

Heisler's first taste of upper-echelon travel hockey came at the age of 8 when he made the Livonia Knights' travel team, which went on to finish second in the state when he was 13.

"We were 48-8, or something like that, that year," he remembered. The highlight of his youth hockey career unfolded in 2002 when he was named MVP after notching a goal and an assist in a state-qualifying victory while skating for the Knights. The effort earned the then-13-year-old a spot on the cover of "Hockey Weekly" magazine.

FUTURE COACH

Heisler's long-term plans include coaching hockey at some level. He received some invaluable on-the-job training recently at one of his younger sister Amanda's practices.

"Her coach let me run a practice and I really enjoyed it," he said. "I gave them some tips on power skating and we worked on moving the puck. Coaching is definitely something I want to get into later on."

In the fall, Heisler will attend Western Michigan University, where he will work toward a degree in business. He also plans on playing for the school's club hockey team.

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Wildcat skaters split 2 at Woodhaven tourney

Plymouth's hockey team split a pair of games at last weekend's talent-rich Woodhaven Invitational.

On Friday, the Wildcats were upended by the host Warriors, 3-1. They bounced back in Saturday's consolation game with a 5-3 triumph over Gibraltar Carlson. The split left coach Chuck Dubois' squad with an 8-4-2 record heading into Friday night's 7 p.m. home game against Northville at the Compuware Sports Arena.

"I thought we outplayed and outshot both teams, but we just couldn't put the puck in the net," said Dubois.

Adam Lazorka tallied the lone goal for the Wildcats in their loss to Woodhaven. He was assisted by Jason O'Gunn and Brandon Patterson. Justin Desilets made 18 saves for Plymouth, which outshot the Warriors, 30-21.

Lazorka shined again in the victory over Carlson as he scored a pair of goals, as did O'Gunn. Nick Rosochacki scored the opening goal for the Wildcats off an assist from Anthony Fuciarelli. Kyle Rockov (two) and Cody Brown and Rosochacki notched assists for Plymouth.

Nathaniel Gibson earned the win between the pipes, knocking away 16 Carlson shots.

SALEM 4, COUNTRY DAY 3: Joel Cheesman scored with 4:42 remaining to propel Salem's hockey team to a 4-3 victory over Detroit Country Day Saturday night in a game played at the Plymouth Cultural Center.

Cheesman's game-winner was assisted by Kris Brant.

Salem net-minder Ralph Aspenwall stopped 18 shots while Country Day goalie Danny Gibson knocked away 25.

Brant put Salem up 1-0 early in the first period off assists from Nathan Werda and Cheesman. The Rocks claimed a 2-0 lead at the 7:37 mark of the first when Werda deposited the puck in the net thanks to helpers from Cheesman and Brant.

Country Day rebounded to knot the game at 2-all in the wild first period on a pair of goals from Kevin Sandhu who was assisted on both lamp-lighters by Sam Lites and Erik Rebbe.

Salem secured a 3-2 lead at the end of the first on Aaron Maxwell's unassisted goal at the 2:02 mark.

Country Day tied the game at 3-all with 10:13 left in the second period on Mike VanAntwerp's goal. The game stayed even until Cheesman's late-game heroics.

PLYMOUTH 5, CHELSEA 4: On Wednesday, Jan. 3, the Wildcats received strong offensive efforts from Connor Dresser, Rick Cigle, Brandon Patterson and Nick Cote to knock off the Bulldogs in a game played at the Compuware Sports Arena. Dresser tallied a pair of goals while Cigle, Patterson and Cote notched one a piece. Gibson earned the win in goal stopping 13 shots.

CHURCHILL 7, SALEM 1: Nathan Milan and Keith Yackley each scored two goals and added two assists to propel Livonia Churchill to a lopsided victory Tuesday night over the host Rocks at the Plymouth Cultural Center.

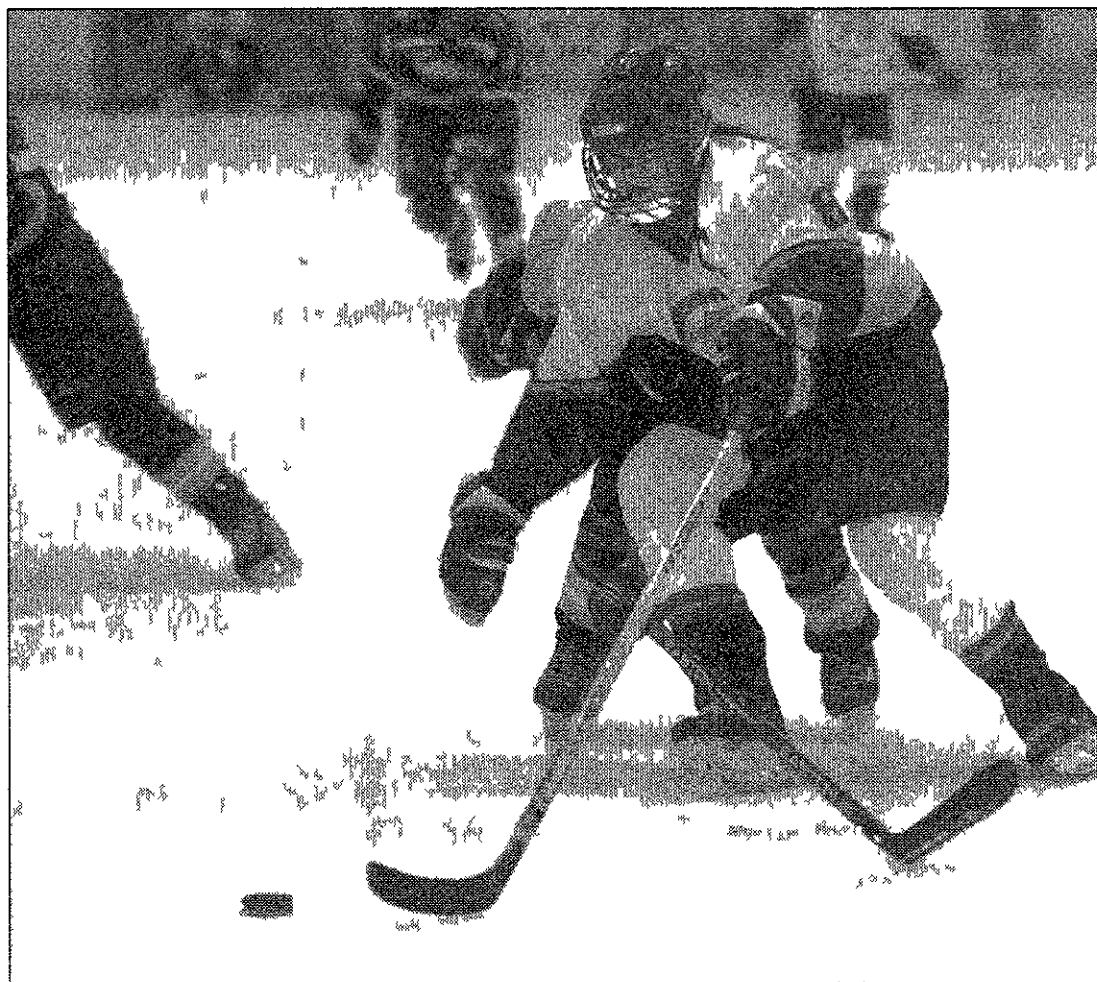
Churchill, ranked No. 3 in the latest Division I statewide rankings, is 9-1 overall and 2-0 in the Lakes Division of the Western Lakes Activities Association.

Freshman goaltender Aaron Crouse, making his first varsity start, earned the victory by turning away 10 of 11 shots.

Dustin Wischmeyer added a goal and assist for the victorious Chargers, who led 3-1 after one period and 5-1 after 30 minutes.

Tony Ross and Andrew LaBerge also scored goals for Churchill, while Phil Wendecker and Josh Proben each chipped in with two assists. Kurt Driscoll scored the lone goal for Salem (4-6-2, 0-1) at 7:55 of the opening period to make it 2-1. Steve Heisler and Aaron Markwell drew assists.

Salem netminder Ralph Aspenwall made 17 saves.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Adrienne Cercone's goal late in the first period gave the Penguins a lead they would never relinquish.

PENGUINS

FROM PAGE B1

PCS outshot its visitors, 29-17.

The Blue Devils picked up where they left off last spring when they grabbed a 1-0 advantage six minutes into the contest.

The Penguins answered with five straight lamp-lighters — three off the stick of Songer and one each from Adrienne Cercone and Kelsey Nikkila — and took a commanding 5-1 advantage into the final 15 minutes.

Songer's first goal and Cercone's net-finder — both of which were unassisted — came just 56 seconds apart in the first period.

Those back-to-back goals were huge, said Mink. "They gave us the spark we were looking for."

Songer scored at the 12:47 and 5:14 marks of the second period before Nikkila contributed to the onslaught with

1:45 remaining in the stanza Zimmerman and Kowalski both registered two assists in the period while Amy Coleman was credited with one.

Zimmerman closed out the scoring for the Penguins with a pair of third-period goals that were assisted by Kowalski (two) and Coleman.

On Friday, Jan. 19, the Penguins will host MMGHS power Grosse Pointe North in a 9 p.m. contest at the Arctic Edge. In an effort to expose the sport of girls high school hockey to the area's youngsters, all middle school students will be admitted free of charge.

PCS 8, H W REGINA 0: On Saturday, the Penguins special teams shined against Regina as they accounted for three short-handed goals and one power-play lamp-lighter.

Adrienne Cercone and Nikki Songer both registered hat tricks for the winners, who led 2-0 after one period and 7-0 after the second intermission.

The game was stopped due to the Michigan High School Athletics Association mercy rule once PCS scored its eighth goal with 3:40 left in the third.

Edra Burris and Katie Zimmerman scored single goals for the Penguins while Keely Kowalski notched four assists. Songer, Burris (two), Kara Bongiovanni and Shauna Siebert also recorded assists.

Kristie Kowalski was credited with six saves, including one spectacular stop during one of the Penguins' short-handed situations.

"We came out a little slow and we had a short bench due to illness and one girl was on vacation," said PCS coach Eric Mink. "But in the second period we started to move the puck well even when we were short-handed. Kristie didn't have a lot of action, but she made one outstanding stop to keep the shutout."

"Overall, it was a good team effort."

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Whalers acquire O'Connor, Whitely

The Plymouth Whalers acquired 19-year-old right wing/center Sean O'Connor from the Erie Otters on Tuesday in exchange for 17-year-old defenseman Frank Grzeszczak.

O'Connor grew up in Trenton and his family currently resides in Brownstown Township. He joins three other Whalers with local ties: goaltender Jeremy Smith (Brownstown), Ryan McGinnis (Fenton) and A.J. Jenks (Wolverine Lake).

O'Connor was selected by Erie in the second round (24th overall) of the 2003 Ontario Hockey League Draft. Now playing in his fourth season in the league, O'Connor's best with Erie was last year when he netted 19 goals and 38 assists in 68 games.

He has missed most of the first half of this season with a shoulder injury, but he returned recently and has scored eight goals and 17 assists in 20 games.

Grzeszczak (pronounced GRAY-shack) was selected by Plymouth in the 11th round (209th overall) of the 2005 OHL Draft. He has one goal and seven assists in this, his first season with the Whalers.

In another deal, the Whalers acquired 19-year-old defenseman Steven Whitely from the Belleville Bulls for a future fifth round draft choice. Whitely was originally drafted by Toronto in the 14th round and has played for Toronto, Saginaw and Belleville. A stay-at-home defenseman, Whitely had six assists in 35 games with Belleville this season.

Both new players are expected to be in the Whalers' lineup this weekend when they travel to Saginaw on Friday before returning home to the Compuware Sports Arena for a 7:05 p.m. game Saturday against Windsor. Tickets are available by calling (734) 453-8400.

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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Charter Township of Canton 1150 Canton Center S Canton Michigan will accept sealed bids at the Office of the Clerk up to 3:00 p.m. Thursday January 25 2007 for the following:

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Lions need to start rebuilding

Matt Millen wasted no time. Father Time had barely walked off into the sunset for 2006 and the Lions president and CEO was confirming that he would return for a seventh season. Owner William Clay Ford didn't even think it was worth a press conference to announce that Millen would be staying right here.

"I'll never quit. I don't even consider that. It's not the way I am made," Millen said to some reporters last week.

Despite the 24-72 overall record, worst in the NFL, there never seemed to be an indication that Ford would dump the guy he hired early in 2001. Averaging just four wins a year usually buys a general manager a ticket to nowhere-ville. In Millen's case, it is business as usual.

"You are given a job, regardless of what it is," Millen added. "You keep on working trying to get



Mark Wilson

the thing done.

After last season, Millen joked about the 'Fire Millen' signs. He even said his kids put one up on the Christmas tree. He went so far as to mock an average Lions fan hearing that Matt would be back hard at work trying to 'get the thing done.'

'Oh, great. Millen is going to try and fix this thing. That's all we need,' the former Penn State linebacker joked.

The first order of business was to fire Donnie Henderson. The defensive coordinator never seemed comfortable trying to install Rod Marnelli's cover-two defense. A day later, Marnelli hired his son-in-law, Joe Barry. The two worked together in Tampa and the Lions head

coach sees no nepotism here.

"I hired one of the best. If we didn't get him, he would be defensive coordinator some other place right now," Marnelli said. "People can look at it how they want to look at it, I am not interested in that. I am interested in winning."

To Barry's credit, he has confidence to burn. "The reason why I came here is (No. 1) Rod Marnelli. Reason two is I believe the Detroit Lions can win and that's going to be our top goal," said the guy married to Marnelli's daughter, Chris.

Marnelli wanted Barry last year. The Buccaneers blocked it since he was under contract. It certainly gives the head man a coach who knows his system and it brings his grandchildren closer to him. It also reunites Barry with his own father. Mike Barry joined the staff with Marnelli

last season. It's like old home week.

The Lions did lose special team's guru Chuck Priefer. After 10 years in Detroit and 16 in the NFL, Priefer retired. Larry Beightol, the offensive line coach, is also a casualty of the 3-13 campaign. Other moves will be made, but one thing that has to improve right away is talent evaluation. It starts with free agency and all the way to the April draft. Quite frankly, talent evaluation never ends in the NFL. It's a constant, year-round thing. Not only do the Lions need to start finding more quality players already playing in the league, they must do a better job finding talented guys coming out of college.

Since Millen's first draft in 2001, only eight players remain from his six drafts taken in the third round or later. Cory Redding is the best of the bunch, picked in the third round in 2003.

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Program for 2007 season - now

Terrence Holt was a fifth-round selection that year. Those two have made the biggest impact of any picks the Lions have taken following the second round.

One guy who came on late is Stanley Wilson. The third-round pick out of Stanford in 2005, he replaced Fernando Bryant at corner and did a credible job after his dropped pass that would have been an interception touchdown in the game against San Francisco.

"I think I am getting better all the time and I love the chance to be a starter. That's why I am in the league," said Wilson, who happens to be the son of a former NFL player.

The Lions' scouting staff needs to find more guys like Wilson and receiver Mike Furrey. Furrey had an incredible year, catching 98 passes for more than 1,000 yards. It's the highest number of

catches in the history of the NFL for a guy who didn't catch one the previous season.

He has been outstanding, what a find. Mike Martz did a fantastic job turning a former safety back into one of the better possession receivers in all of football," Marnelli said.

I asked him what the Lions would be like if they had 53 Mike Furreys.

"Pretty darn good I think," Marnelli said. Furrey went from leading the St. Louis Rams in interceptions as a safety on defense, to a mean machine on offense in just one year. His touchdown against the Cowboys and subsequent firing of the football against one of the Dallas 'stars' in the end zone also showed his fire and attitude.

He has all the qualities you want in a football player. He and Roy (Williams) are a pretty good tandem, the head coach added.

They are the first pair of pass catchers to each have a 1,000-yard season in Detroit since Johnnie Morton and Germaine Crowell in 1999. Jon Kitna threw every one of those balls. He set Lions records for attempts and completions in a season. He came just short of breaking Scott Mitchell's 11-year-old record for passing yards in a season.

Kitna was only the second Lions quarterback to have a 4,000-yard campaign. The turnovers were his undoing, however. If he indeed is coming back as the starting QB in 2007, he has to cut down on those mistakes. It's non-negotiable. The Lions will be no better if those things continue.

Kitna knows that. He will turn 35 two weeks into this next season. Quarterbacks that age are usually on the downturn in a career. Brett Favre aside, not many guys think they are just peaking at that time. Kitna

believes he has a lot of football left in him.

"I am having fun this year, maybe more fun than I have had in my 10 years of playing," Kitna said earlier in '06. "I really want to make this happen here."

Kevin Jones needs to make a strong comeback and stay healthy, as does Shaun Rogers and Shaun Cody. Fifteen players on injured reserve just cannot happen again. Millen has to find some diamonds in the rough at draft time, and they have to be smart and active in free agency. There is no other way to rebuild this thing.

It is the only chance to avoid a seventh consecutive 10-plus loss season. The work begins now.

Mark Wilson is a former Associated Press and Michigan Association of Broadcasters Michigan Sportscaster of the Year. He lives in West Bloomfield.

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Terry Miller	North Bros Ford	8-4 129-87	Baltimore
Bill Albrecht	Bruce Campbell Dodge	7-5 127-89	Indianapolis
Keith Lang	Tennison Chevrolet	8-4 125-91	Baltimore
Tim Flanagan	North Bros Ford	11-1 137-79	Baltimore

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SALES PARTS SERVICE BODY SHOP RENTAL

GC Novice Tournament still gives kids a chance

BY TIM SMITH
STAFF WRITER

In 1967, when Garden City coaches and administrators hatched the high school's first novice wrestling tournament, it was a novel concept to say the least.

The idea was to give up-and-coming wrestlers a taste of competition, to boost their confidence and help them gear up for varsity duty against bigger and stronger athletes.

"We were one of the first schools to run a JV-type tournament," said Bob Dropp, longtime athletic director at Garden City. "Now, there are many of them."

But few schools can match the longevity of Garden City's now-traditional tourney. On Saturday, beginning at 9:30 a.m., the 41st Annual Garden City High School Novice Wrestling Tournament will unite younger wrestlers from close to 30 Wayne and Oakland county schools.

In addition to the host Cougars, squaring off on the

six mats — with simultaneous action throughout the day — will include freshmen and sophomores from Redford Union, the Shamrocks of Catholic Central (now in Novi after decades based in Redford Township), Canton, Livonia Stevenson and Farmington Harrison.

Other Observerland schools slated to take part include Livonia Churchill, Farmington, Livonia Franklin, Westland John Glenn, North Farmington, Plymouth, Plymouth Salem, Wayne Memorial and Belleville.

Also scheduled to be in the fold are Walled Lake Central, Walled Lake Northern, Walled Lake Western, Dearborn Heights Annapolis, Dearborn Heights Crestwood, Dearborn, Dearborn Divine Child, Inkster, Melvindale, Monroe, Novi, Southgate Anderson and Woodhaven.

Trophies will be presented to the top three finishers in both the ninth- and 10th-grade divisions. There also will be an "Outstanding Wrestler Award"

for each division.

Garden City varsity wrestling coach and tournament manager Aaron Davis said the novice invite "gives young guys a shot at really competing against someone their own age."

Moreover, the experience should help them "learn to love the sport and move forward from there," added Davis.

According to the Cougars coach, Garden City sophomores Tyler Twigg (125), Shane Miller (130) and Brad Desmit (189) could really benefit from Saturday's competition.

Twigg already is building on a positive experience. At Saturday's Dearborn Fordson Invitational, he made it to the finals at 125 before falling short. Also earning second-place honors were juniors Justin Johnson (119) and Mike Nordby (171).

For more information about the Garden City High School Novice Wrestling Tournament contact Dropp (734-762-8363) or Davis (734-377-4435).

tsmith@hometownlife.com | (734) 953 2106



Shock waves

The Shock captured the 2006 7th/8th grade championship in the Canton Educational Basketball League with a 9-3 record. The Shock defeated the Storm 35-31 in the title game that was played on Dec. 13. Pictured (from left) are Robyn Mack, Katie Potter, Kaylee Arella, Julie Podorsek, Lynanne Anderson, Kristin Lindberg, Lauren Bennett, Katie Justice and Jennifer First. The team was coached by Jeff Justice and Craig Lindberg.

WRESTLING RANKINGS

OBSERVERLAND INVITATIONAL WRESTLING RANKINGS (as of Jan. 8)

TEAM 1 Canton 2 Livonia Franklin 3 Belleville 4 Westland John Glenn 5 Livonia Churchill

INDIVIDUAL

103 pounds 1 Namic Kerimov Farmington 2 Tommy Myshock Livonia Stevenson 3 Chad Dunn Wayne Memorial 4 Donnie Watkins Canton 5 Brad LaRose Lutheran Westland

112 1 Justin Flesoon Belleville 2 Carl Lucke Canton 3 Ben Kosmalki Plymouth 4 Dustin Ashley Garden City 5 Jared Pieknik Livonia Franklin

119 1 Jamie Preiss Wayne 2 Jared Stephens John Glenn 3 Niek Ianni Novi Detroit Catholic Central 4 Martin Rivera Churchill 5 Seth Wald North Farmington

125 1 Dustin Zak Belleville 2 Jeremiah Austin John Glenn 3 Jon Roos Franklin 4 Nick Steiger Salem 5 Steve Cox Canton

130 1 Greg Roberts Churchill 2 Josh Billiau Franklin 3 Brent Winekoff Canton 4 Nick Shak John Glenn 5 Alex Kemp Salem

135 1 Jon Reale Stevenson 2 Brian Augsburg Belleville 3 J.P. Gaffke Churchill 4 Kevin Hayter Salem 5 Jon Cautchi Franklin

140 1 Corey Phillips Canton 2 Jim Wood John Glenn 3 Steve Cook Belleville 4 Gramos Pallasca Churchill 5 Derek Robbins Livonia Clarenceville

145 1 Matt Edwards Lutheran Westland 2 Adam Kibner RU 3 Steve Sherman Belleville 4 Dan McCahill John Glenn 5 Jason Zanger Franklin

152 1 Steve Kemp Lutheran Westland 2 James Zerebiny John Glenn 3 Jeremy Epley Salem 4 Ryan Brown Novi Detroit CC 5 Brian Wisniewski Garden City

160 1 Ziad Kharbush Stevenson 2 Nate Turco Franklin 3 Wassim El Alwadi Belleville 4 Kiel Price Canton 5 Brian Ziemba Churchill

171 1 Jeff Elswick Wayne 2 Dan Woodall Franklin 3 Andrew Hein John Glenn 4 Mike Nordby Garden City 5 Isaac Burris RU

189 1 Joe Kinville Novi Detroit CC 2 Vince Darolf Plymouth 3 Joey Kowtko John Glenn 4 Marc Kadrich Franklin 5 Adam Powers Canton

215 1 Shamir Garcia John Glenn 2 Matt Aubrey Novi Detroit CC 3 Vince Benavides Franklin 4 Paul Rockrohr Lutheran Westland 5 Dan Wanshon Canton

285 1 Donnie Laramie Canton 2 Kyle Brown Franklin 3 Mike Martin Novi Detroit CC 4 Dean Hubbard Plymouth 5 Robert Coffey Wayne

Note: Rankings are compiled by Jim Gourlay (Franklin) and Aaron Davis (Garden City)

Farias goal keys Ignition's win

Carlos Farias's two-point goal at the 14:08 mark of the fourth quarter lifted the Detroit Ignition to a 6-4 victory over defending Major Indoor Soccer League champion Baltimore on Saturday.

The setback was the Blast's first at the 1st Mariner Arena since March 24, 2006.

The victory, Detroit's second straight, pushed the Ignition to 7-6 while Baltimore dropped to 4-6. The Ignition returns to action Friday when it hosts Milwaukee in a 7:35 p.m. game at the Compuware Sports Arena in Plymouth Township.

The Blast's Jonathan Steele scored the game's lone first quarter goal to put the hosts in front 2-0.

The Ignition responded at the 5:42 mark of the second quarter with a two-point goal from forward Mike Apple, his sixth of the year, to tie the contest at 2-2. Lee Tschantret put the Blast back in control with a

two-point goal that snuck past Ignition netminder Sanaldo to give Baltimore a 4-2 halftime edge.

After a scoreless third quarter, Apple scored his second goal of the contest, a two-pointer, at 8:39 of the fourth quarter to tie the game 4-4. Farias then found the back of the net with a two-pointer at 14:08 to give the first-year club its second consecutive win and fourth victory in the last five games.

SANALDO LAUDED

The Major Indoor Soccer League announced that Detroit Ignition goalkeeper Sanaldo has been named the league's Goalkeeper of the Week for the seven-day period ending Jan. 7.

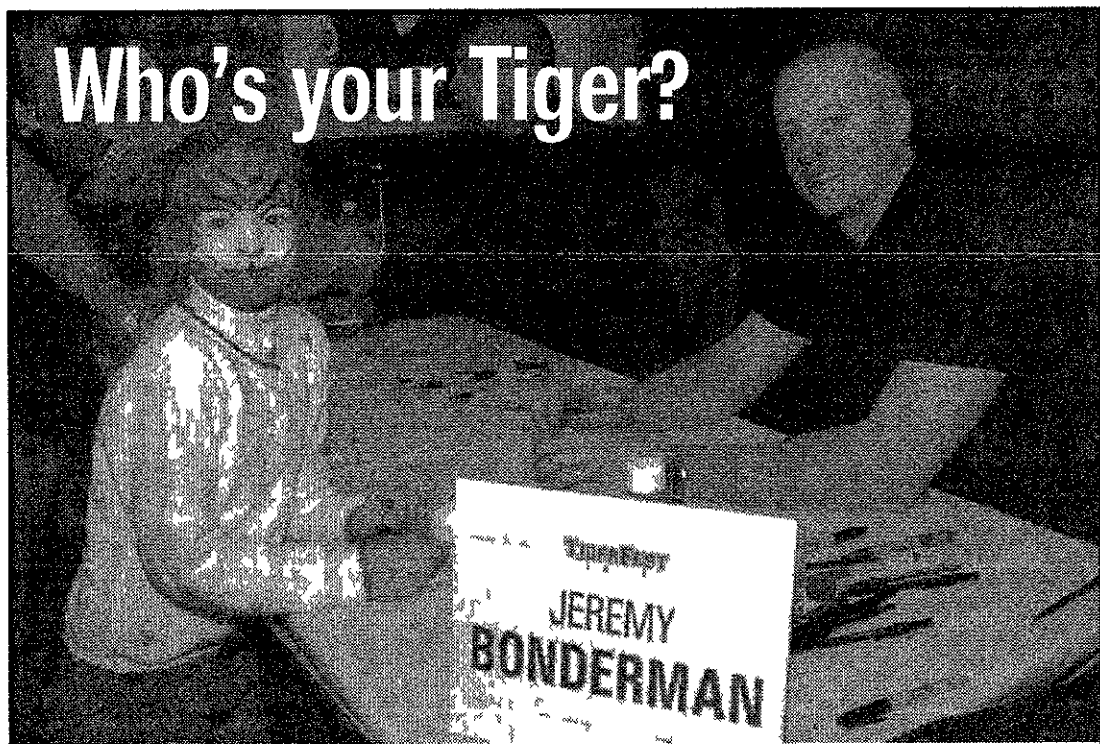
The 28-year-old netminder registered a 24-14 win over the Chicago Storm before a sellout crowd at Compuware Sports Arena on Jan. 5 and followed

up with 6-4 triumph at Baltimore on Saturday.

Saturday's victory over the Blast was the first time the defending MISL Champion had suffered a regular season home loss since March 24, 2006. The four-year veteran won this award on Nov. 13 and was also selected as the MISL's "Goalkeeper of the Month" for November.

Sanaldo's latest honor symbolizes the strong season he has established, Ignition President Greg Bibb stated. Along with Danny Waltman, he has provided out team with one of the best goalkeeping tandems in the MISL and we are pleased to have both men wearing an Ignition uniform.

This season, Sanaldo (4-5) has stopped 111 of 158 shots for a 70.3 save percentage while establishing a 10.35 points against average, good for second place in the MISL rankings.



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and

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SPORTS BRIEFS

PLYMOUTH REC

The City of Plymouth Recreation Department is currently offering the following youth sports programs

- Lacrosse for boys and girls in grades 3rd through 8th is available for the spring of 2007. The season will run from mid-April through mid-June with all practices and games played mostly on mid-week nights. Registration will run through January on a first-come, first-served basis.
- Spring youth soccer registration will run throughout January at the recreation office, which is located at 525 Farmer in downtown Plymouth. The office is open weekdays from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. All first-time registrants need to supply a birth certificate.
- For more information, call (734) 455-6620 or visit www.ci.plymouth.mi.us

LACROSSE REGISTRATION

A mandatory player/parent meeting for the 2007 Plymouth-Canton-Salem boys lacrosse team will be held tonight at 7 p.m. in the Canton High School library.

GCYBSA SIGN-UPS

Registration for the Greater Canton Youth Baseball & Softball Association will begin Jan. 15. The GCYBSA offers baseball and softball programs — T-ball through 18U — for residents of Plymouth and Canton, or any child who attends school in Plymouth or Canton.

Registrants may register online at GCYBSA.com, drop off their forms at the Canton Sports Center or the Summit on the Park, or mail them in to the Canton Sports Center. Forms will be available online, at the Canton Sports Center or at the Summit.

There will also be a mass registration at the Summit on the Park on Feb. 11 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. For more information, see gcybsa.com or call (734) 394-5489.

MU SOFTBALL CLINICS

Madonna University will stage two sessions of girls softball fundamentals clinics for ages 7-18 from noon to 2:30 p.m. Sundays, Jan. 14, 21, 28 and Feb. 4 (Session I), and from 9-11:30 a.m. Saturdays Feb. 3, 10, 17 and 24 (Session II), at the MU Activities Building.

Specialized individual instruction is offered by MU women's softball coach Al White, the 2004 NALA Region VIII and Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference Coach of the Year. He will be assisted by staff members Curt White, Terry Abraham, Shawn Hopper, Steve Gentilia and Rodney Schellenberger.

The cost is \$150 and pre-registration is required.

For more information, call Al White at (734) 432-5783 or (734) 495-4719. You can also call Gentilia at (734) 414-8053.

TENNIS CAMPS

A series of tennis camps through the Plymouth-Canton Community Ed after-school program will be held throughout

the community in the coming weeks. Following is the schedule:

- **Tuesdays, Jan. 23-March 6 at Isbister Elementary:** Intro to Tennis (grades 1-5, 3:45-4:40 p.m.), Intro to Tennis II (for those who have completed 'Intro to Tennis') from 5-5:55 p.m.
- **Thursdays, Jan. 25-March 8 at Workman Elementary:** Intro to Tennis (grades 1-5, 3:45-4:40 p.m.), Intro to Tennis II (for those who have completed 'Intro to Tennis') from 5-5:55 p.m.

For more information, call (734) 416-2937.

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 Co-ed 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 tournament 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 two-and-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.

Canton gymnasts second at Rockford Invitational

Canton's gymnastics team placed second behind only Grand Rapids Forest Hills at Saturday's 17-team Rockford Gymnastics Flip-Flop Invitational.

The Chiefs compiled 140.100 points, just over two less than the winners' 142.225 total. Rockford (137.775), Portage (135.025) and Ludington (134.225) filled out the top five spots in the standings.

Canton was bolstered by first-place efforts from Jessie Murray in the balance beam (9.325) and Alyssa Kelley in the vault (9.500).

Kelley finished second in the all-around with 36.825 and Murray was fourth with 35.750. Forest Hills' Karen Verbrugge topped the all-around standings with a score

PREP GYMNASTICS

Canton also received strong performances from Kate Staley, who tied for fourth in the vault, sixth in the uneven bars and eighth all-around.

Rockford Gymnastics Flip-Flop Invitational Saturday at Rockford H.S.

TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Forest Hills 142.225, 2. Canton 140.100, 3. Rockford 137.775, 4. Portage 135.025, 5. Ludington 134.225, 6. Kenowa Hills Grandville 131.125.

Canton placers:

VAULT: 1. Alyssa Kelley 9.500, 4. (tie) Kate Staley and Jessie Murray 8.70

UNEVEN BARS: 4. (tie) Alyssa Kelley and Jessie Murray 8.80

BALANCE BEAM: 1. Jessie Murray 9.325, 5. Alyssa Kelley 36.825, 10. Kate Staley 8.250

FLOOR EXERCISE: 2. Alyssa Kelley 9.375, 5. Jessie Murray 8.925

ALL-AROUND: 2. Alyssa Kelley 36.825, 4. Jessie Murray 35.750, 8. Kate Staley 34.025

Chief spikers drop WLAA opener

Canton's volleyball team opened its Western Lakes Activities Association slate Monday night by dropping a hard-fought, four-game match to Walled Lake Northern 21-25, 25-18, 25-23 and 25-18.

The loss dropped the Chiefs to 3-6-6 overall.

We came out and played very aggressively in the first game, but then we seemed to lose a little intensity as the match went on," said Canton coach Jen Barnes. "We served extremely well and that kept us in the game. We just need to improve on the little things, but that will come with experience."

Among the Chiefs who turned in stellar efforts in the loss were Laura McParlin (nine kills, four blocks and seven digs), Hannah Mills (17 digs), Laura Daniels (13 digs), Kacy Moran (six kills, 20 assists, three aces and 12 digs)

PREP VOLLEYBALL

and Jordan Kietly (five kills, two blocks, three aces and 12 digs).

On Saturday, Canton advanced to the "Silver Division" semifinal round of the Walled Lake Central Varsity Tournament before falling to Grand Ledge, 25-22, 25-27 and 16-14. The Chiefs advanced to the semis by sweeping Monroe Jefferson, 25-16 and 25-18.

"Considering we were in a very good pool, I thought we played well," said Barnes. "We lost to Novi, but we played them tough. In the semis, we just ran out of gas."

Excelling for the Chiefs were Mills (56 digs), Kietly (17 kills, four blocks, 41 digs) and Marie Martin (15 kills and 12 blocks).

THE WEEK AHEAD

- BOYS BASKETBALL**
Friday, Jan. 12
Plymouth at Livonia Churchill 7 p.m.
Bham Roper at PCA 7:30 p.m.
Canton Agape at Detroit Urban 7:30 p.m.
Northville at Salem 7 p.m.
Canton at Livonia Stevenson 7 p.m.
- PREP VOLLEYBALL**
Thursday, Jan. 11
PCA at Oakland Christian 6:30 p.m.
Franklin Road at Canton Agape at G.C. United Christian 6:30 p.m.
- Saturday, Jan. 13**
PCA and Salem at U of M Dearborn Invitational 9 a.m.
- PREP HOCKEY**
Friday, Jan. 12
Northville at Plymouth at Compuware Sports Arena 7 p.m.
Salem at Livonia Stevenson at Eddie Edgar Arena 6 p.m.
Livonia Franklin at Canton at Arctic Edge 8 p.m.
- Saturday, Jan. 13**
Plymouth at Canton at Arctic Edge 3:30 p.m.
- PREP WRESTLING**
Thursday, Jan. 11
Livonia Franklin at Plymouth 6 p.m.
Salem at W.L. Central 6:30 p.m.
W.L. Western at Canton 6:30 p.m.
- Saturday, Jan. 13**
Wildcat Team Tournament at Plymouth High School 10 a.m.
Salem at Adrian Invitational 10 a.m.
- Canton at Novi C.C. 8:30 a.m.
- BOYS SWIMMING**
Thursday, Jan. 11
Plymouth at W.L. Northern 7 p.m.
W.L. Western at Salem 7 p.m.
- Saturday, Jan. 13**
Rock Kilgore Invitational at Salem noon
Plymouth at Tecumseh noon
- GIRLS GYMNASTICS**
Thursday, Jan. 11
Canton at Plymouth 7 p.m.
- Saturday, Jan. 13**
Canton at Grand Rapids TBA
- MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL**
Saturday, Jan. 13
Macomb CC at Schoolcraft 3 p.m.
UM-Dearborn at Madonna 3 p.m.
- WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL**
Saturday, Jan. 13
Macomb CC at Schoolcraft 1 p.m.
UM-Dearborn at Madonna 1 p.m.
- ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE**
Friday, Jan. 12
Whalers at Saginaw Spirit 7:11 p.m.
- Saturday, Jan. 13**
Whalers vs Windsor Spitfires at Compuware Arena 7:05 p.m.
- MAJOR INDOOR SOCCER LEAGUE**
Friday, Jan. 12
Ignition vs Milwaukee Wave at Compuware Arena 7:35 p.m.
- Sunday, Jan. 14**
Ignition at Milwaukee Wave 7:35 p.m.
- TBA - time to be announced

Pistons camp planned

A Detroit Pistons youth basketball clinic will be held at Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church in Northville on Saturday, Jan. 27. Coach Steve Moreland will conduct the clinic for boys and girls in grades 1st through 3rd from noon to 2:30 p.m., and for girls and boys in 4th through 6th grade from 2 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Each participant will receive a "Pistons Basketball" T-shirt. Parents will be able to purchase Pistons tickets at a discount and they will be invited to attend a pre-game "shoot-around" with their children on the court. Refreshments will be provided.

The cost is \$15 per child. Pre-registration is necessary by calling (248) 374-5932.

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

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Personal property described below in the matter of 3110-James Craft curio totes dresser
3004 Tammara Johnson lawn equipment clothing 20 bags
3118 Ronald Staples II suitcase chairs table
3204 Duane Cummings golf clubs, stereo sports equipment
1132 Quartesia Fields big screen TV, couch love seat
2056 Mike Witkowski Pool table, stove dryer
2054 Mike Witkowski stereo lawn mower, ladder
3034 Gerald Simmons armour, exercise equipment, dresser
6046 Universal Video tools weight bench
5156 Arthur Dozier couch loveseat, bike
5078 Sharon Watkins stereo entertainment center toys
4082 Tonya Battle record albums tote
4072 Dawn Barry toys totes, stereo
4014-Jessica Burton totes microwave computer
2086 Mark Borg bike scooter boxes
1246 Nia Higgins TV bike dresser

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 1/30/2007 at 11:00 AM.

Personal property described below in the matter of 2032 Gregory Johnson entertainment center, toys chair
2030 Kathy Owens vacuum stove ladder
4017 Brandi Weyer TV stove, couch
9260 Dustin Mitchell computer, boxes, chair
9210 Martin Caruana microwave computer chair
9209 Martin Caruana tool box, chair boxes
4052 Orlando Austin mmi bike, microwave, toys

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3027 Rhonda Knight Dryer refrigerator washer
3033 Christopher Hahn Hundar Tiburon vin KMHHN65F76V191045

4024 Shatoya Gray 2 box springs, 2 mattresses, 3 TV
4120 Life Changing Ministries mattress 2 dressers coffee table
4129 Stephen Clements couch TV 2 mattresses
4145 Kevin Steele 20 boxes 10 bags clothing
4272 Marry Woods box springs mattress, boxes
4274 Betty Bryant boxes, chairs, microwave
5002 Carol King Bags mattress, boxes
5111 Darryl Richardson boxes, dressers, washer
5136 Jennifer Reid boxes, exercise equipment totes
5151 Ed Clay mattress box spring, stereo
5245 Ern Morley headboard, boxes, dresser
5266 Felipe Brown & Valeeka Springfield couch, stove, big screen TV

5360 Alicia Greenwood Couch, refrigerator, TV

On the premises where said property has been stored and which are located at Public Storage 2101 Haggerty Rd, Canton, MI, 48187, (734) 981-0903 on 1/30/2007 at 11:30 AM.

Personal property described below in the matter of 3008 Georgina Buba boxes, chair, TV
3033 Sha Radhakrishnan mattress love seat, boxes
3034 Park Avenue Cleaners boxes, totes, toys
3044 Philippe Lorzessa BBQ, dressers, boxes
4004 Kenneth Marshall chair, dresser, totes
4026 Kenneth Marshall bicycle boxes, clothing
4058 Wayne Neary video tapes, luggage boxes
4064 Christopher Peters boxes dressers, table
4076 James Peters TV, tool box, boxes
4233 Renata Broughton dryer, toys washer
4253 Kevin Diaz boxes, stereo, TV
4258 Michael Denney boxes, toys, footlocker
5029 Cleopatra Peck mattress, refrigerator, TV
5218 Markita Wilkins clothing, bags, boxes
6003 William Hall microwave, boxes, toys
6012 Gaylyne Wall mattress, dryer, washer
6211 Valarie Williams boxes, lamp, luggage
6224 Mark Mayo box, bags, totes

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- PRIMEVAL (R) (11) 1:20 3:25 5:30 7:35 9:40 FRI/SAT LS 11:45
- HAPPILY N'EVER AFTER (PG) (11) 1:10 3:10 5:10 7:10
- WE ARE MARSHALL (PG) 9:25
- NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM (PG) 12:00 2:20 4:40 7:00 9:20 FRI/SAT LS 11:40
- CHARLOTTE'S WEB (G) 12:35 2:45 4:55 7:05 9:15 FRI/SAT LS 11:25
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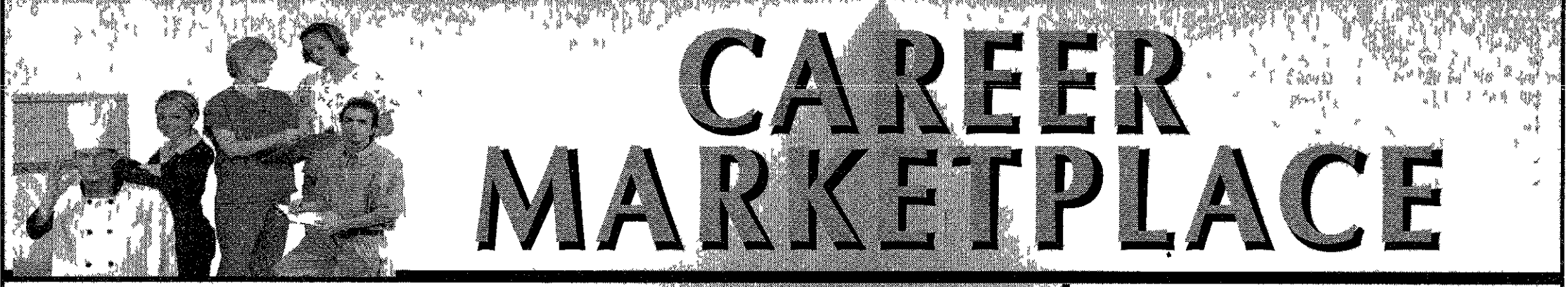
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Email: kkschrauba@varum.com EOE</p>	<p>Help Wanted-Office Clerical 6020</p> <p>POLICE RECORDS CLERK</p> <p>The Novi Police Department seeks an individual with excellent clerical and public relations skills to perform a variety of general office functions including typing, answering phones and record keeping duties. Experience in Public Safety field and transcript on a plus. Must be able to demonstrate strong Word and Excel skills. Salary is \$30 033 with a comprehensive benefit package. Please submit a resume and completed City of Novi application to Loribeth Sneller, Human Resource Department, City of Novi, 45175 W Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375, email: galdwell@cityofnovi.com or fax to (248) 735 5684. Visit www.cityofnovi.com for more info or call 248 347 0452. Deadline to apply January 19 2007. EOE</p>	<p>Help Wanted-Office Clerical 6020</p> <p>RECEPTIONIST/SECRETARY</p> <p>Farmington area law firm seeks reliable full time receptionist / secretary. Must have good computer skills; data entry required. Please forward resumes to: newjob1024@yahoo.com. No Phone Calls. Please!</p>	<p>Help Wanted-Dental 6040</p> <p>DENTAL ASSISTANT</p> <p>For Oak Park office 4 days per week. Some exp. preferred. Excellent pay. Large Russan patient base. (248) 541 2022.</p> <p>DENTAL ASSISTANT</p> <p>Modern dental office is looking for exp'd dental assistant. Part time to start. Fax resume to 248 912 0735.</p> <p>DENTAL HYGIENIST</p> <p>For established Northville general practice. Full time. No evenings or weekends. Call 248 347 4250.</p> <p>DENTAL RECEPTIONIST</p> <p>Full Time Progressive fast paced modern dental office in Farmington looking for an experienced front desk person. Must be a team player. Dental exp. preferred but will train the right person. Fax resume to (248) 476 1191.</p> <p>DENTAL RECEPTIONIST</p> <p>Upscale Canton office looking for a special person to join our team. Must have dental experience, be self-motivated, outgoing & dependable. Please call Nancy at 248 788 2252.</p> <p>DENTAL TREATMENT COORDINATOR/NEW PATIENT COORDINATOR</p> <p>Are you looking to make a difference and be important? If so, we might be right for you! A newly remodeled Downriver office with huge potential to make people feel better about themselves. Great benefit package! Full time. Great attitude and exp. necessary. Fax resume to 248 321 9360.</p> <p>FRONT DESK</p> <p>Farmington Hill's dental office. Great staff. Friendly environment. Must have dental exp. Call 248 324 0075 or fax resume 248 324 1025.</p> <p>ORTHO LAB TECH</p> <p>Part time flexible hrs. 3 doctor orthodontic office. Exp. necessary. Respond to michelle@plymouthortho.com</p> <p>HYGIENIST</p> <p>Southfield area dental office seeks a motivated, highly qualified hygienist. 2 1/2 days per week. Fax resume to (248) 304 1387.</p>	<p>Help Wanted-Medical 6060</p> <p>CSR Manager with Healthcare Background</p> <p>Growing multifaceted medical organization in Wixom seeks CSR Manager with healthcare and insurance background. DME knowledge preferred. Must be able to manage staff of 20 plus. This position requires strong people skills. Knowledge of insurance payers helpful. Please send resume to vmarshal@jandbmedical.com or fax to 248 960 8059 for a personal interview.</p>	<p>Help Wanted-Medical 6060</p> <p>MEDICAL BILLING MANAGER NEEDED</p> <p>Medical supply company in Wixom requires a Billing Manager. DME, medical billing experience preferred. Growing company has high volume claims. Kindly send your resume to vmarshal@jandbmedical.com or fax to (248) 960 8059 for a personal interview.</p> <p>MEDICAL ASSISTANT</p> <p>for busy Southfield OB/GYN practice. Full time. Experienced only. Benefits. Call 248 948 1990 ext 11.</p> <p>MEDICAL ASSISTANT</p> <p>2 yrs exp in internal medicine or gastroenterology for physicians located in Troy. Excellent benefits, competitive salary full time. Fax resume to (248) 244 9579.</p> <p>MEDICAL ASSISTANT</p> <p>Part time position available in a busy family practice/ internal medicine office. Fax resume to 734 455 3405.</p> <p>MEDICAL ASSISTANT</p> <p>Full time. Must know EKG injections & vital signs for fun Farmington Hills family practice. Great benefits. Fax resume (248) 476 9709.</p> <p>MEDICAL ASSISTANT</p> <p>Full time position for experienced MA in fast paced family practice. References req. Fax resume to 248 474 4224.</p>	<p>Help Wanted-Medical 6060</p> <p>ORTHODONTIC PATIENT COORDINATOR</p> <p>Seeking a mature motivated person to complete our professional team. Must be comfortable handling patient finances, demonstrate excellent communication and people skills. 3 1/2 days per week. Novn 248 465 7500.</p> <p>OT, PT, PTA & RN</p> <p>Rehabilitation One Home Health Care Agencies. Fax resume to 248 565 2257.</p>	<p>Help Wanted-Medical 6060</p> <p>PHYSICAL THERAPIST</p> <p>PT afternoons 8 Mile & Farmington Rd. Call Bill 248 866 4364 or Fax resume 248 543 0479.</p> <p>RECEPTIONIST/BILLER</p> <p>For Bloomfield/ Birmingham Dermatology practice. Will train. Medical benefits. Please fax resume to (248) 674 4886.</p>	<p>Help Wanted-Medical 6060</p> <p>RECEPTIONIST & ASSISTANT MEDICAL BILLER</p> <p>2 Positions Available. West Bloomfield area. Receptionist: Answer busy multi-line phone, verify insurance, check in patients, Biller: Verify insurance, assist front desk transmission and daily billing. Experience preferred but will train the right person. 25.30 hrs/wk. Med ca & childcare benefits available. Fax resume 248 932 0182.</p>
<p>SELL IT ALL WITH Observer & Eccentric 1 800 579 SELL</p>		<p>CLASSIFIEDS WORK! 1-800-579-7355</p> <p>RECEPTIONIST</p> <p>Needed for busy real estate office. Real Estate Experience a plus. Must be organized with a positive attitude. Must be willing to work Sun 1 4pm. Please email resume to Therreggsiteam@remerca.com</p> <p>RECEPTIONIST</p> <p>Experienced Full time for Livon a Property Management Co. Word / Excel \$10/hr plus Retirement. Must have two bus references. Accepting resumes by Fax: 248 888 8404 or Email: jdcinanaco@hotmail.com</p> <p>RECEPTIONIST</p> <p>For tool shop. Apply with n 12651 Newburgh Rd Livon a</p> <p>RECEPTIONIST</p> <p>11 30 8 00 Mon Thur 9 30 6 Fr \$9 50 Hour. Apply Re/Max Prestige 25050 Ford Rd Dearborn Heights</p> <p>RECEPTIONIST</p> <p>Architectural/Engineering firm seeking a team oriented individual for a full time receptionist/clerk position. Applicants should possess 3-5 years exp and be proficient in Microsoft Word and Excel. Send resumes to: NSA Architects Engineers Planners, 23761 Research Drive Farmington Hills MI 48335. Email: hwl@nsa.com or www.nsa.com</p>		<p>Help Wanted-Medical 6060</p> <p>CUSTOMER SERVICE REPS NEEDED</p> <p>Growing medical supply company located in Wixom needs several customer service reps. Medical background a must. Computer experience is also a must. This is a multi-task position. Please email your resume to vmarshal@jandbmedical.com or fax to V Marshall (248) 960 8059.</p> <p>Dental Assistant</p> <p>Plymouth Endodontic office 2 3 days/wk. Exp'd w/X-ray certification. Fax resume: 734 459 8281.</p> <p>Home Care Agency</p> <p>seeking RPT's Full Time RN's Certified HHA's Part Time QA preferably RN, Ken or MA at (313) 292 0862.</p> <p>HOME CARE RN</p> <p>Full time with benefits or pay per visit. \$90 SOC \$60 rev sit. Cal (248) 689 4010.</p> <p>Infinity Primary Care</p> <p>Is seeking experienced: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical Billers • Medical Assistants • Practice Managers • Front Desk Receptionists • Electronic Medical Records Specialists <p>Strong computer skills req. We offer comprehensive benefits.</p> <p>Please send resume w/salary history to careers@ipcm.com Fax (734) 853 4900 www.infinityprimarycare.com</p> <p>MA NEEDED</p> <p>Part time for Southfield office. Mon Tues Wed Fr & Sat. Fax resume to 248 358 3425.</p> <p>MASSAGE THERAPIST</p> <p>For busy chiropractic wellness center. Great way to further your wellness career in an educational environment. Fax resume to 734 463 9992.</p> <p>MEDICAL ASSISTANT</p> <p>FULL TIME. Send resume to 43422 West Oaks Drive PNB #167 Novi MI 48377 3300.</p> </p>		<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px;"> <h2 style="text-align: center;">CUSTOMER SERVICE Specialists</h2> <p>Michigan First Credit Union is looking for energetic, personable customer service specialists to join our team. The ideal candidate will have a proven track record of providing excellent customer service, preferably in a retail environment. Opportunities exist for both full-time and part-time people in a variety of customer service positions in our branches, call centers and collections areas. All of these positions involve constant and direct interaction with members, either over the telephone or face to face. We require a keen attention to detail and a high level of accuracy and integrity.</p> <p>Qualified candidates for these positions must have a high school diploma, 13 years of related experience, a commitment to excellent customer service, and a cooperative and positive attitude. Professional appearance and demeanor is a must.</p> <p>Michigan First Credit Union provides an attractive benefits package including career apparel for branch employees. Come be a part of the organization that is The Only Place To Do Your Banking!</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Michigan First CREDIT UNION</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The only place to do your banking!</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Please apply online on our website www.michiganfirst.com or send cover letter, resume and salary requirements to: hr@michiganfirst.com or fax: 248/395 - 4173</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Michigan First Credit Union is an Equal Opportunity Employer</p> </div>		
<p>Help Wanted-Office Clerical 6020</p> <p>LEGAL SECRETARY</p> <p>Needed for busy Birmingham Office. At least 4 yrs of litigation exp. Competitive salary and benefit package offered. Fax resume (248) 646 8375.</p>		<p>Help Wanted-Medical 6060</p> <p>ACTIVITY DIRECTOR</p> <p>Livonia Assisted Care. Exp. Excel a must. (248) 212 4740. LPWAD@AOL.COM</p> <p>Administrative Assistant</p> <p>Medical office seeks experienced Receptionist Full/Part Time with exc pay & benefits. Ann Arbor/Plymouth area. Only medical office experience need apply. Fax resume to 734 996 8767 or Email: a2derm@aol.com</p> <p>Administrative Assistant</p> <p>Medical office seeks experienced Receptionist Full/Part Time with exc pay & benefits. Ann Arbor/Plymouth area. Only medical office experience need apply. Fax resume to 734-996 8767 or Email: a2derm@aol.com</p>		<p>Help Wanted-Medical 6060</p> <p>RECEPTIONIST</p> <p>Full time S Farmington Hills office. Call 248 473 2000.</p> <p>DENTAL ASSISTANT</p> <p>Plymouth Canton area specialty office. Mainly chair side with possible one day business. Send resume to Human Resource Development at: humanresourced@aol.com</p>		<p>PHLEBOTOMY EDUCATION</p> <p>Classes begin in Jan 1 day a week 5 weeks. Cost \$850 at local hospital (313) 382 3857.</p> <p>MEDICAL RECEPTIONIST</p> <p>Needed Full time for busy family practice. Must have tele phone skills, computer sched uling and billing exp. Full package to work great benefits. Fax resume (248) 476 9709.</p> <p>MEDICAL BILLER</p> <p>Farmington Hills Internist 3 1/2 days. Exp necessary. Fax resume 248 855 0190.</p> <p>OFFICE NURSE</p> <p>Busy internal medicine practice is looking for an experienced part time office nurse for our Canton location. Benefit package offered. Interested candidates should fax their resume to 734 623 8591 or email: mbondie@pum.org. Attn: Clinical Nursing Director.</p> <p>Optician</p> <p>Needed with a flare for creativity, a desire to serve patients and the drive to help create the best optical in the area. Must be experienced in lens verification and frame fitting. Please email your resume to: kvansingel@suburbaneyecare.com</p>		
<p>Help Wanted-Office Clerical 6020</p> <p>OFFICE ASSISTANT</p> <p>Part time office asst for 2 busy W Bloomfield lawyers. 20 hours flexible. Skills: Typing, Internet, clerical organizing & computer. Good phone and people skills. Pay negotiable. Fax resume to 248/932 2534.</p> <p>OFFICE ASSISTANT</p> <p>Exp'd QuickBooks knowledge required. Part time. Please email resume & salary req. to: officeposition1006@gmail.com</p>		<p>Help Wanted-Office Clerical 6020</p> <p>RECEPTIONIST in Southfield</p> <p>30 hrs a week duties include administration and data entry. A positive personality, good voice and general office skills get you a flexible schedule and paid time off. Send resume to: hr@mcdonaldmoldular.com or fax 248 356 5021.</p>		<p>Help Wanted-Medical 6060</p> <p>ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT</p> <p>For busy chiropractic wellness center. Great way to further your wellness career in an educational environment. Fax resume to 734 463 9992.</p> <p>MEDICAL ASSISTANT</p> <p>FULL TIME. Send resume to 43422 West Oaks Drive PNB #167 Novi MI 48377 3300.</p>				



HI-LO OPERATORS

The Plymouth Absopure Water Company bottling and packaging facility is currently recruiting for experienced Hi Lo Operators. Ideal candidates will have previous experience in a manufacturing environment. Must be able to participate in a team environment, meet the physical requirements and display excellent attendance. Additional weekends & OT will be required to support the needs of the business.

Qualified candidates should submit a resume to Attn: Hi-Lo #14 e-mail: jmcraemer@hotmail.com

P.O. Box 701248, Plymouth, MI 48170
Or fax resume: (734)416-3810
E.O.E.

PRODUCTION TECHNICIANS

Due to company growth Absopure Water Company has several new Production Technician openings available at our Plymouth location. Ideal candidates will be team oriented, willing to learn all aspects of our operation and have the ability to display excellent attendance. Qualified candidates will have at least two years experience in a manufacturing environment. Experience with high speed automated filling and packaging equipment is a plus. Overtime will be required to support the needs of the business.

We offer a competitive benefit package including medical, dental, 401K with company match and more! Send resume to attn:

Production Technician #14
e-mail: jmcraemer@hotmail.com
or fax (734) 416-3810
or mail: PO Box 701248, Plymouth, MI 48170 E.O.E.

American Laser Centers
Hair Removal & Skin Rejuvenation

Call Center Representative
Bilingual (Spanish)
Preferred But Not Required

American Laser Centers is looking for a Call Center Rep with excellent telephone and computer skills and call center experience. You will be required to answer inbound calls, address patient concerns, promote products, book patient consultation and make outbound calls.

Fax resume to: 248.426.0129
or email: careers@alpartner.com

TIER 1 / TIER 2 MANUFACTURING SUPPLIER IN PLYMOUTH is currently seeking candidates for...

NIGHT SHIFT Manufacturing Supervisor

Responsible for overseeing all machine operators and machine set-up personnel and their activities. Responsible for maintaining proper production levels from production machinery. Must work with all departments to resolve any problems related to products on a daily basis. Must effectively communicate between departments or personnel for prompt problem resolution. Must also self motivated and proactive in dealing with personnel and manufacturing issues. Candidate must have strong production CNC machining background.

Please forward salary requirements with resume to: oesresume@hometownlife.com
Reference box #1470

TIER 1 / TIER 2 MANUFACTURING SUPPLIER IN PLYMOUTH is currently seeking candidates for...

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE CLERK

Responsibilities for this position include: Basic accounting duties (matching invoices with shippers and purchase order receipts and miscellaneous accounting duties as instructed). Entering invoices into system. Prepare weekly accounts payable payments including getting invoice approval. Process payroll weekly. Track employee attendance and process disciplinary action for supervisors. Maintain accounts payable files. Must be very detail-oriented and a fast learner. Must have at least 2 years experience in accounts payable.

Please forward salary requirements with resume to: oesresume@hometownlife.com
(Reference Box #1469)

TIER 1 / TIER 2 MANUFACTURING SUPPLIER IN PLYMOUTH is currently seeking candidates for...

Accounting Manager

Responsibilities for this position include: Management and maintenance of Company financial records. Review of monthly financial statements including analysis with comparisons to budget. Responsible for budgeting and forecasting. Inventory and Standards rate analysis and control. Monitoring of job cost reporting. Management of General Accounting personnel. Oversight of Accounts Payable and Accounts Receivable. Provide support to Company Chief Financial Officer. Three + years in a manufacturing environment with cost accounting experience.

Please provide salary requirements with resume to: oesresume@hometownlife.com
reference box #1467

Wed. • January 17
10am - 2pm

STORE MANAGERS ASSISTANT MANAGERS

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF LIENED PROPERTY Notice is hereby given that a closed bid sale will be held on January 25 2007 at 1:00 PM at 40671 Joy Road Canton Michigan 48187 County of Wayne...

ST JUDE NOVENA May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored glorified loved and preserved throughout the world now and forever Sacred Heart of Jesus pray for us St Jude worker of miracles pray for us St Jude helper of the hopeless pray for us Say this prayer 9 times a day on the 8th day your prayer will be answered! It has never been known to fail (Publication must be promised) Thank you St Jude for granting my petition

Exercise bike Tunturi Ergometer Good condition pickup after 4pm (734) 591 0498

YOUR SEARCH ENDS HERE! No matter what you're looking for a new home, a new job, a new car, or maybe a contractor to work on that new home... your search ends here in Your Classifieds!

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ANNOUNCING AN ESTATE SALE! In a Miles Van Der Rhoie Townhouse Fri-Sat, Jan 12-13 10 4PM

Market Place

Announcements & Notices Board & Care Home BaBBoardAndCare.com ~ 800 770 1231

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Already brawny Ford truck adds 600 pounds in towing capacity for '07

Advertising Feature

CA Report



By Tenisha Mercer
Avanti NewsFeatures

There's a reason Ford's F-150 has been the nation's leading full-size pickup truck for three decades running. Setting the standard for hauling, comfort and style in a pickup truck, the 2007 F-150 bulks up with more horsepower, new accessories and a sleeker design.

What makes the Ford F-150 a popular option for pickup truck lovers is here — three cab choices, three box lengths, two box styles and five series: the entry level F-150 XL, F-150 STX, all-purpose F-150 XLT and the luxury F-150 Lariat.

It's hard to make a great thing better, but in this case, that's what Ford accomplishes. There are two new body styles this year, the F-150 X2 Sport and a Harley Davidson Super Crew model.

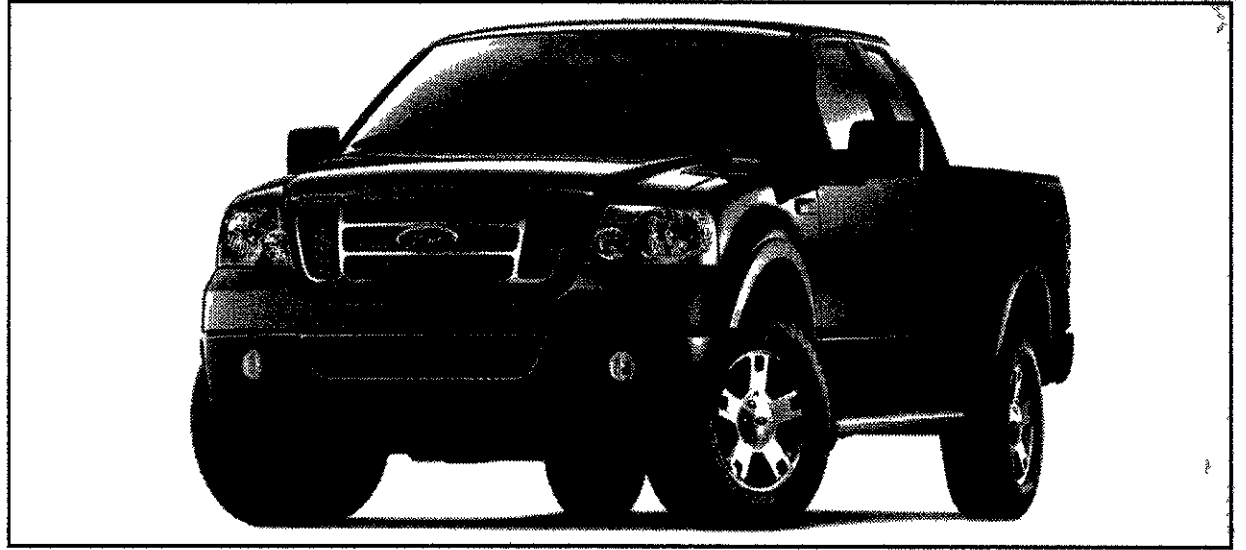
The flagship truck is already known for its brawn, but this year comes with 600 more pounds of towing capacity. Kudos to Ford for one of the best warranty and roadside packages for full-size pickup trucks in the industry.

All this for a lower, \$1,400 retail price. The lower price doesn't mean Ford scrimped on accessories. There are tons of new options — a tire pressure monitoring system, comfier seats, auxiliary audio input jack and a DVD-based navigation system, just to name a few.

Revamped XLT and Lariat chrome packages have chrome grilles, 18-inch chrome grilles, five-inch tubular running boards, chrome exhaust tips and chrome mirror caps in the Lariat.

The XL adds 17-inch steel wheels, a split front seat and black grille and front fascia. The STX features body color front and rear step bumpers and grille. The XLT adds even more — remote keyless entry, power exterior mirrors and automatic headlamps.

There are two-tone front and rear bumpers and manual driver and passenger lumbar support. The premium Lariat adds the most options of them all, with power heated side mirrors, rear window



2007 Ford F-150 Vehicle class: Full-size, six-passenger pickup truck. Power: V6 and V8 engines. Where built: Dearborn, Mich.; Norfolk, Va.; and Kansas City, Mo. Price range: \$29,470-\$39,565 MSRP.

defroster, a message center with a trip computer and leather-trimmed seats.

Three different instrument cluster designs, combined with two-tone instrument panels, give each series a unique look. A choice of two captain's chairs with a floor shifter on FX4 and Lariat Models is available, while models with split front bench seats have more room for middle passengers.

Six colors are new this year — Pueblo Gold, Redfire, Dark Blue Pearl, Forest Green and White Sand Tri-Coat.

A new FX2 Sport package is available on the 4X2 SuperCab or Super Crew with a styleside box. A grille insert with body grille surround, 18-inch or 20-inch wheels and chrome exhaust tips, fog lamps round out the sportier F-150.

The Hotchkiss design rear suspension with rear shock absorbers placed outside the frame rails allow for a smoother ride and improved control. For crash safety, hydroformed front frame rails collapse like an accordion in the vent of an accident, shielding crash energy before it reaches passengers.

Other safety features include a Ford Personal Safety System that senses if occupants are in the front row and turns an airbag on and off. Using sensors mounted to the seat track, front air bags deploy at different levels depending upon the severity of a crash.

Anti-lock brakes are standard. Traction assist, which adds acceleration and stability, are options on the F-150 4X2 V8 models.

The F-150 has three choices of engines: a 4.2 liter

V6, a 4.6 liter V8 and a 5.4 liter, three-valve Triton V8. A 5.4-liter V-8 engine packs 300 horsepower. A flex-fuel version that can use up to 85 percent ethanol also is available. A 4.6-liter V8 horsepower increases from 231 to 248.

For a big pickup truck, it's amazingly quiet. That's because the V-8 engine has three valves per cylinder and liquid-filled engine mounts reduce engine noise and vibration. Hydroformed front rails quiet jostling on rough terrain.

Whatever storage you need, it's here. An overhead rail system makes it possible to customize storage inside. Easy to install snap-on modules can make room for toolboxes, first aid kits and flashlights.

Other safety features include a Ford Personal Safety System that senses if occupants are in the front row and turns an airbag on and off. Using sensors mounted to the seat track, front air bags deploy at different levels depending upon the severity of a crash.

Anti-lock brakes are standard. Traction assist, which adds acceleration and stability, are optional on the F-150 4X2 V-8 models. With all these features, expect the F-150 to continue its long-held sales streak.

Write Tenisha Mercer at avanti1054@aol.com or maito1054@aol.com. She is a senior editor of Mercer Media Group @ 2006, Fracassa Communications.

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BMW 525 2004 Loaded excel cond silver grey interior only 37000 miles chrome wheels \$38,000 (248) 299 9566

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ACURA 3.0CL 1998 143,000 mi 1 owner 2dr sunroof air leather heated seats Good cond \$4800 810 656 7172

Buick (8360)
CENTURY 2001 tan air sharp! Save \$3,995
Bob Jeannotte Pontiac (734) 453-2500

LACROSSE 2006 4 to choose CXL Starting at \$15,950
JOHN ROGIN BUICK 734 525 0900

LESABRE 2002 Tan 57,000 miles \$9,495
Bob Jeannotte Pontiac (734) 453-2500

LESABRE CUSTOM 2003 leather tan \$7,895
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PARK AVENUE 2001 dark blue only \$4,995
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REGAL GS 2002 super charged one owner \$6,995
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RENDEZVOUS 2002 AWD black leather \$8,995
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RENDEZVOUS CX 2002 red only \$8,995
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RENDEZVOUS CXL 2003 navy 1 owner like new call today Only \$9,500!
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Cadillac (8380)
SEVILLE SLS 2003 pearl red chromes call today! \$12,950
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Chevrolet (8400)
CAMARO Z28 2002 leather T tops 45K car looks new frost white \$13,900
Lou LaRiche Chevrolet 888-372-9836

CAVALIER 2003 4 dr sand beige sharp \$7,995
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CAVALIER 1999 white 4 dr auto a/c 150,000 miles Original owner \$2800
734 326 5305

CAVALIER 2002 auto air 39K \$8,995
NORTH BROTHERS FORD (734) 524 1264

CAVALIER 2003 Power steering brakes a/c 18,000 miles Exc cond \$7,500 **SOLD**

CAVALIER 2004 Auto air STU# P19814 \$9,150
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COBALT 2005 4 dr auto air \$8,995 Stk #P19820
NORTH BROTHERS FORD (734) 524 1264

MALIBU'S 2005 several to choose from all front line cars Ready for delivery From \$11,895
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MONTE CARLOS 2001-2006
Several to choose from Starting at \$7,995
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Chrysler-Plymouth (8420)
CONCORDE LX 1996 Orig owner 103,000 miles sun roof Newer brake/tires Clean \$3100/best 248 770 7430

CONCORDE LXI 2002 fully loaded \$9,995
NORTH BROTHERS FORD (734) 524 1264

PT CRUISER 2001 one owner 52K power moon \$7,995
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PT CRUISER 2002 leather moon gray flannel fun car \$8,995
Lou LaRiche Chevrolet 888-372-9836

PT CRUISER 2005 blue 4 dr auto a/c 50,000 miles Original owner \$9,700
734 326 5305

Ford (8480)
ESCORT COUPE 2001 21K red auto \$6,995
Bob Jeannotte Pontiac (734) 453-2500

FOCUS SE 2000 4 dr silver 62K \$5,995
Bill Brown Ford (734) 742-0565

FOCUS 2005 4 dr silver save on gas great price \$10,995
Lou LaRiche Chevrolet 888-372-9836

FOCUS 2005 auto air power moon 40K \$9,495
Bob Jeannotte Pontiac (734) 453-2500

FOCUS S 2006 15 to choose with low low miles all colors from \$11,995
Bill Brown Ford (734) 522-0030

FORD TAURUS 1995 Good running & appearance Silver 121,000 mi New brakes etc \$2000/best 734-453 6971

MUSTANG GT 2006 Convertible black 5 speed 6K \$28,995
Bill Brown Ford (734) 742-0565

MUSTANG GT 2004 5 speed leather \$16,995 Stk 6T6577A
NORTH BROTHERS FORD (734) 524 1264

TAURUS 1996 57K like new must see \$4,995
Bill Brown Ford (734) 742-0565

TAURUS 1999 blue auto air \$3,995
Bob Jeannotte Pontiac (734) 453-2500

TAURUS SE 2003 full power great car great price \$8,995 Stk #7C8051A
NORTH BROTHERS FORD (734) 524 1264

THUNDERBIRD 1997 spot less great car! \$4,595
NORTH BROTHERS FORD (734) 524 1264

Honda (8520)
HONDA CIVIC EX 2004 4 dr auto loaded ABS brakes front & side air bags power moon roof cruise alloy wheels gray 31,000 miles \$13,800 248 553 0200

Hyundai (8524)
ACCENT 2004 Mint cond only 3900 miles Auto air 2 dr exc gas mileage Michelin tires \$8000 734 981 0536

HYUNDAI 2002 1 m not sure who makes it but they say they are great on gas Only \$4200
TYME 734 455 5566

SANTA FE 2004 LX 12K leather moon \$16,950
JOHN ROGIN BUICK 734 525 0900

TUCSON 2006 Limited AWD 18000 miles loaded \$19,900
248 645 9235

Jeep (8535)
SAHARA WRANGLER 1997 New paint hvy miles many new parts 2 tops w/ main fanned \$5500 248 212 5691

Lincoln (8560)
LS 2002 Silver w/black leather heated seats 31,000 miles V6 Loaded! Exc cond \$14,500 (248) 380 9580

Mercury (8600)
COUGAR 2000 65,000 miles Silver runs good & in good shape \$3300/best offer 734 776 7224

GRAND MARQUIS LS 2005 leather moon \$15,995
Bill Brown Ford (734) 742-0565

GRAND MARQUIS LS 2003 fully loaded \$8,995 Stk P19880
NORTH BROTHERS FORD (734) 524 1264

MYSTIQUE 1997 great trans portation \$2,995
NORTH BROTHERS FORD (734) 524 1264

SABLE LS 2004 Premium leather black moon roof chromes \$12,995
Bill Brown Ford (734) 742-0565

Pontiac (8680)
FIREBIRD 2001 Formula V8 auto one owner 46K white \$12,995
Bob Jeannotte Pontiac (734) 453-2500

Pontiac (8680)
BONNEVILLE SLE 2001 auto air silver \$6,995
Bob Jeannotte Pontiac (734) 453-2500

AZTEK 2002 gold save air auto only \$5,995
Bob Jeannotte Pontiac (734) 453-2500

G6 2005 leather moon chromes loaded \$14,995
Bill Brown Ford (734) 522-0030

GRAND PRIX GT 2004 red one owner \$12,995
Bob Jeannotte Pontiac (734) 453-2500

GRAND PRIX GT 2004 white auto air \$12,495
Bob Jeannotte Pontiac (734) 453-2500

GRAND AM SE 2003 4 dr V6 full power white \$8,995
Lou LaRiche Chevrolet 888-372-9836

GRAND PRIX GT 2004 loaded silver \$11,995
Lou LaRiche Chevrolet 888-372-9836

GRAND AM SE 2003 4 dr silver 63K \$6,495
Bob Jeannotte Pontiac (734) 453-2500

GRAND AM GT 2003 2 dr orange see the moon! \$9,995
Lou LaRiche Chevrolet 888-372-9836

GRAND PRIX 2004 fully loaded moonroof leather 6 CD Moonson Stereo 34000 miles \$16,499 248 474 0706

GRAND PRIX 2006 (6) low miles SE GT From \$13,900
JOHN ROGIN BUICK 734 525 0900

GRAND PRIX 1997 81,000 miles good cond fully powered 248 471 4053

GTO 2004 great car for under the tree \$18,995 Stk 6T1569B
NORTH BROTHERS FORD (734) 524 1264

SUNFIRE SE 2001 loaded spoiler wheels \$5,950
JOHN ROGIN BUICK 734 525 0900

VIBE 2005 2 to choose from sharp \$12,995
Bob Jeannotte Pontiac (734) 453-2500

Volkswagen (8740)
BEETLE 2002 auto air (with flower) \$12,490
NORTH BROTHERS FORD (734) 524 1264

Volvo (8750)
C70 1999 Convertible auto air only 56K \$10,995
Bob Jeannotte Pontiac (734) 453-2500

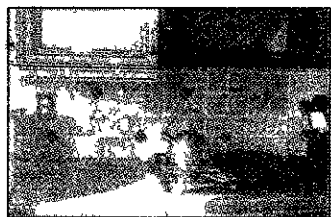
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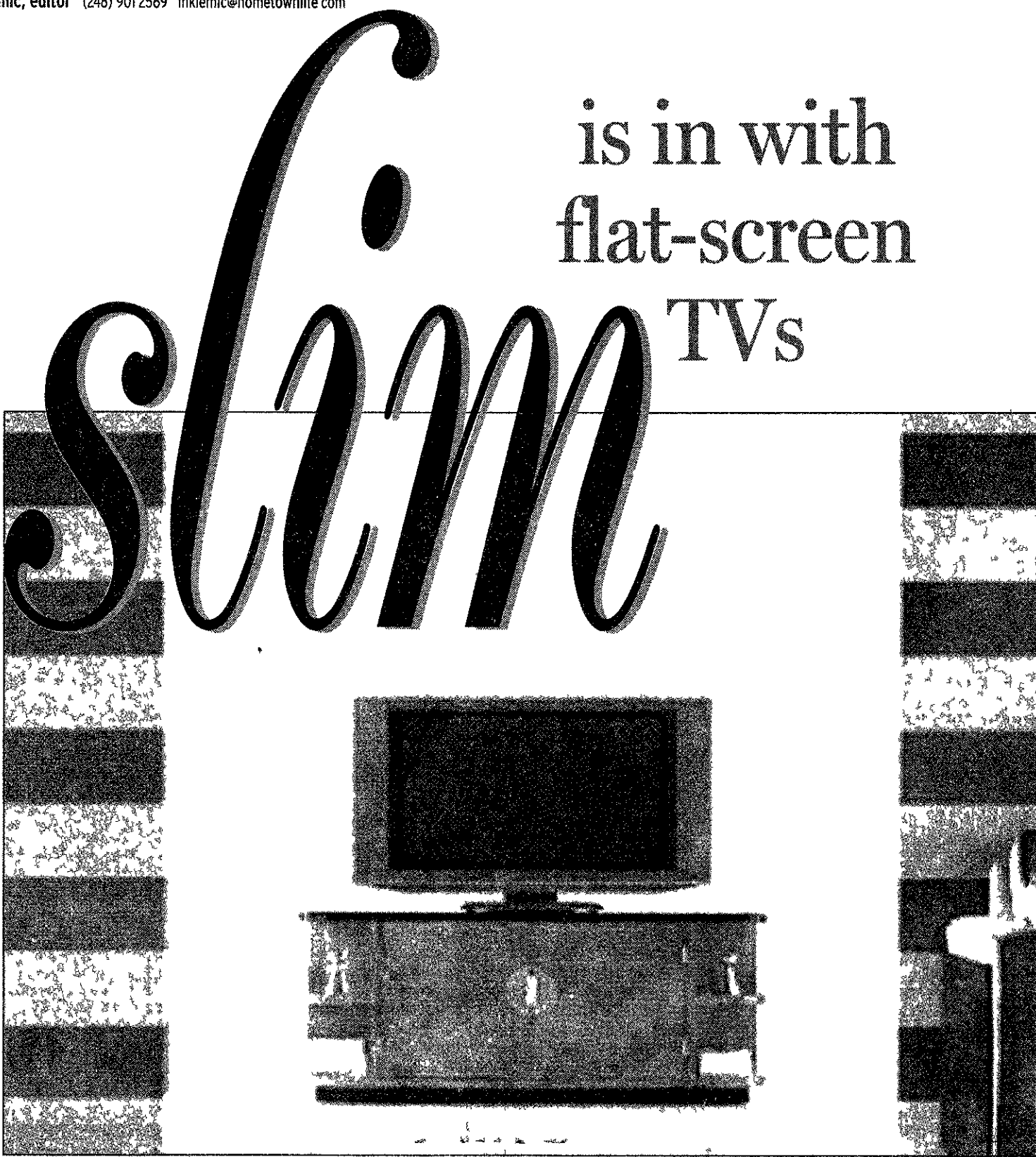


Thursday January 11 2007

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

Mary Klemic, editor (248) 901 2569 mklemic@hometownlife.com

www.hometownlife.com



is in with
flat-screen
TVs

A plasma TV is at home on a credenza, such as this piece from the Walt Disney Signature Collection, which will be introduced this month at Drexel Heritage in Bloomfield Hills. This credenza (\$1,999) features a black granite top with laminated edges, hidden trays that pull out for DVD/VHS storage, and two adjustable shelves inside. Designs in the collection follow an art moderne and art deco styling and were inspired by furnishings found in Disney's studio and living spaces.

BY MARY KLEMIC
STAFF WRITER

If you haven't bought a new television in at least five years, you may be especially impressed with what the market is offering.

"Everything has changed dramatically," said John Mistak, owner/president, Walter's Home Appliances in Livonia. "(TVs) are better, lighter."

Slim is in when it comes to the shape of televisions. While cathode ray tube sets are still available, consumers are choosing between two types of flat-panel TVs: LCDs and plasmas.

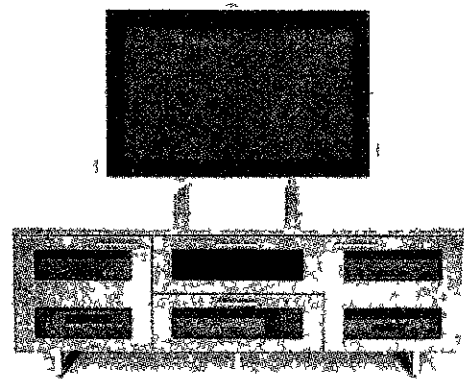
"That's the way of the future," Mistak said.

High-definition TV (HDTV) is bringing sharper images and sound into homes. And both LCDs and plasmas have improved in presenting HDTV.

Also dramatic is how prices have fallen and continue to drop.

When plasma TVs first came out, the cost for a 42-inch set was around \$30,000, the price for a 42-inch model is now around \$2,000 or less, said Jason Tennant, salesman at The Gramophone

Plug in the latest
offerings
in televisions



The Avion™ from BDI includes a three-component cabinet, adjustable shelves and fabric inserts for concealed speakers.

in Birmingham.

Plasmas and LCDs come in a wide variety of sizes. The size of a set is the diagonal measure of the screen. Common sizes are 23 to 45 inches for LCDs and 42 to 50 inches for plasmas.

"The trend is for 45-50 inch," said Efstratios "Strat" Calagias of Paulson's Audio & Video in Farmington Hills.

Modern screens have a longevity of 60,000 hours. That translates to watching six hours of TV every day for 27 years, Calagias said.

LCD stands for liquid crystal display. An LCD is like a larger version of a laptop computer.

A plasma TV creates an image by illuminating thousands of tiny fluorescent lights.

LCDs are the most popular types today, Mistak said. Their screens are mat instead of glass and so don't have glare. They have less heat buildup and are more energy efficient than plasmas, Mistak said.

LCD units come with a swivel base, but can be mounted on a wall.

PLEASE SEE TVS, D2

When dealing with eBay and PayPal, it's seller beware

I just got scammed out of \$1,074. That hurts to admit, not only because I consider myself a tech-savvy guy (it says so right there under my picture), but also because I should have known better.

At least I can share my mistake with you, in hopes that you might avoid repeating it.

Recently I bought a new notebook PC from Circuit City—the HP Pavilion DV9005. Although it had every feature I wanted and a bunch of rebates to make it affordable, I found myself unhappy with it after a few days.

For starters, it ran slower than the machine it was replacing—not the performance I expected from Intel's well-regarded Core Duo processor.

Furthermore, the screen produced a ton of glare. I'm not sure why HP put such a shiny coating on it, but it really proved bothersome.

Tech Savvy

Rick Broida

Because I wasn't about to pay Circuit City a 15-percent restocking fee for a week-old PC, I decided to see if I could sell the notebook on eBay.

After all, it was before the holidays, and it was an in-demand model, so I figured I could easily break even on the deal.

A few days after I'd listed the auction, a prospective buyer e-mailed me with a question: Would I be willing to ship the notebook to the Ukraine? He'd send payment immediately and cover the extra shipping costs, he said.

Normally, I never sell outside the U.S. (extra hassles, added risks), but I was an eager seller, so I decided to break my own rule just this once.

By now you can probably guess where this is going.

I use the electronic-payment service PayPal for almost all my eBay transactions. True to his word, the buyer sent the funds right away, and I shipped the notebook off to the Ukraine.

I'd made back all my money on the notebook, so I was pleased.

PROBLEM

Flash-forward one month. I received an e-mail from PayPal that looked like the usual identity-theft come-on. There's a problem with my account, funds have been placed on temporary hold, yada-yada.

Just as I was about to delete it, however, I noticed the amount in question—\$1,074, exactly what I'd been paid for the notebook. Hmmm.

Rather than clicking the link in the e-mail, I went directly to the PayPal site (always the safe bet), and sure enough, there was a report of fraudulent activity.

Apparently the Ukrainian buyer had broken into someone else's PayPal account and used it to pay me.

Even worse, I was liable for those funds, they were deducted from my account and returned to the payer.

I didn't qualify for PayPal's Seller Protection because I sent the notebook to an unconfirmed address—not the one linked to the payer's account. I didn't request proof of delivery. And I didn't check to see if the Ukraine was one of the countries covered by the protection policy. It's not.

In other words, I broke my own rule, and I paid the price.

Had I paid closer attention to the transaction, I might have spotted the inconsistency in the addresses.

For the record, in all the years I've bought and sold goods with eBay and PayPal, I've had only a handful of problems, and usually they were decided in my favor.

If there's a silver lining here, it's that I used PayPal funds to buy the notebook in the first place, and those funds came from items I'd sold on eBay. So it wasn't "real money," though the loss is still plenty painful.

I'm still investigating this to see if I have any recourse (Attorneys, let me hear from you!).

In the meantime, seller beware. If you're a PayPal user, make sure you're thoroughly familiar with the Seller Protection Policy before you ship anything to anyone, anywhere.

The money you save could be your own.

Rick Broida writes about computers and technology for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. Broida of Commerce Township is the co-author of numerous books, including *How to Do Everything with Your Palm Powered Device*, Sixth Edition. He welcomes questions sent to rick.broida@gmail.com.

Cleaning out some thoughts for new year

Dusting off a few random observations culled from taking some time off over the holidays.

Why is it that everyone is in a fog after the holiday break? I don't know about you, but the first week of the New Year is difficult.

Is it because we were sitting around eating, sleeping and generally turning our brains off for a week?

Dick Purtan

Even if you did work between Christmas and New Year's, how much was really accomplished?

This really perplexes me. If we take a week off at spring break or

OFF THE AIR WITH DICK PURTAN & PURTAN'S PEOPLE

during the summer we don't come back out of focus, do we?

I'm sure some large university could commission a study to determine the relative attention spans of workers in the weeks before and after Christmas and compare that to brain wave activity during the summer. Then, they could make a pill to cure it.

Other thoughts to clean out for the New Year.

Congratulations to the University of Michigan Wolverine football team. OK, so they didn't do what we thought they would, but, still, 11 and 2 ain't too shabby.

Congratulations to the Lions for—once again—fulfilling our expectations.

Many of my friends are griping that the final victory cost us the No. 1 draft pick.

I tell them we already have enough wide receivers. Don't you wish you had a boss like Matt Millen's?

How about this weather, eh? I know the folks who run all the winter playgrounds up North aren't enjoying the balmy winter, but not having to take down Christmas decorations in sub-freezing conditions is a novel experience.

Someone told me El Niño was the culprit for all this warmth. Silly me, I thought he was talking about a Tigers reliever.

Speaking of which, in only six weeks the defending American

League champs report to Lakeland for fielding practice.

On a more serious note, wasn't it gratifying to see Gerald Ford, who was often overlooked, get his proper due?

I'm glad the world finally came to the realization that this honorable citizen of the great state of Michigan was a class act.

That's pretty much it. The holiday is lifting and I'm slowly adjusting to the fact that it really is 2007.

By next week this column should be up to its usual pithy, clever and cogent standards—whatever that means.

Don't miss another exciting edition of *Dick Purtan & Purtan's People* from 5-10 every morning on the Motor City's 104.3 WOMC.

HOME CALENDAR

Wildflower painting

The Community House 380 S Bates in Birmingham presents home decor classes. The schedule includes Wildflower Painting (7:30-9:30 p.m. Tuesday Jan 16 cost is \$24 plus \$15 materials fee payable to instructors in class). To register and for more information call The Community House at (248) 644-5832 or visit www.communityhouse.com. Interior decorating professionals Bob and Esther Kerr will conduct the workshop. Students will learn techniques of painting foliage, star roses, backgrounds and petals that can be used on craft projects as well as furniture and complete a wood plaque.

Dog show

The Michigan Midwinter Classic Dog Show will take place Friday-Sunday, Jan 19-21 at the Rock Financial Showplace, 46100 Grand River, one mile west of Novi Road in Novi. Show times are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day. Admission is \$10-\$7 for seniors (over 65) and ages 6-12, \$25 for family day passes. Download a discount coupon at www.ukcdogs.com/DEMetroClassic.htm. Parking is \$5. Spectators may meet the dogs and ask owners about characteristics and care of the different breeds. Don't bring dogs or pets; dogs not participating won't be allowed into the event area. The show will feature dog and owner teams from across the country representing many popular and rare breeds. The Novi-based Rock N Roll K-9s team will perform high energy relay and obstacle competitions. The show is licensed by the United Kennel Club. For information about UKC registration and events call (269) 343-9020 or visit www.ukcdogs.com.

Celebrate Michigan

All Art Van Furniture stores will have a Celebrate Michigan Open House, noon to 3 p.m. Saturday, Jan 20. Visit artvan.com for more information. Stop by to view Copper Harbor, the new Michigan inspired furniture collection. Sample products from Michigan (Better Made, Sanders and Faygo) enjoy children's activities and learn facts about our state. Get gardening tips from Nancy Szerlag, noon to 1 p.m. in Novi and 3-4 p.m. in Westland. Szerlag will also autograph copies of her books *Perennials for Michigan* and *Annuals for Michigan*. Colleen Burcar will sign her book *Michigan Curiosities: 2nd Quirky Characters, Roadside Oddities & Other Offbeat Stuff*, 1 p.m. Jan 20 in Royal Oak and 1 p.m. Jan 21 in Shelby Township. Miss Better Made will make personal appearances in Warren and Clinton Township. Now to Wednesday, Jan 24, register to win a Cedar River getaway at Shanty Creek.

Sample sale

Michigan Design Center in Troy will have a Sample Sale, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday, Jan 26, and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Jan 27. MDC is at 1700 Stutz Drive, north off Maple between Coolidge and Crooks. MDC is usually open only to interior designers and their clients. This is one of the two times a year its doors are open to the public. Shoppers will find savings of 60 to 70 percent and more on the finest names in home furnishings. Most items aren't anywhere else in Michigan. Admission is \$7, with a portion of the proceeds to benefit COTS (the Coalition on Temporary Shelter). For more information call (248) 649-4772 or visit michigandesign.com.

Send calendar items at least two weeks ahead of the event to Mary Klemic, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham 48009. e-mail mklemic@hometownlife.com fax (734) 591-7279 or (248) 644-1314.

Follow special steps when selecting tile

Mark of Canton writes: "My wife and I are in the process of remodeling the main bathroom in my house. We have visited a couple of tile stores and with so many choices, it is very overwhelming. There are dramatic looking tiles that we both like, but we are concerned about making a wrong choice that we'll be stuck with forever. Do you have any guidelines or suggestions for making good tile selections?"



Design Solutions

Terri Guastella

You are faced with a very common dilemma among homeowners making important selections for their remodeling or building projects. Once tile is installed, you will likely never replace it. This fact only adds to the pressure of making a good selection in the first place.

It is important that you approach your tile selection in a logical manner. There is a progressive process you can follow to help you make this type of decision.

Stay focused on each step and move to the next only when you've completed the previous one. The steps are Commit, State, Collect, Analyze, Ideate, Select and Implement.

Commit: This simply means that you've committed yourself to doing a specific project. State: State the nature of the project. Where are you tiling in the bathroom? Are you including the floors, tub deck, vanity backsplash, shower walls, etc? Arrive at a budget and give yourself the parameters of the job.

Collect: Gather any information you need to help make your decision. Pull together photographs from magazines, look at model homes, and accumulate tile samples from tile stores.

Research the most appropriate type of tile for a bathroom project. Analyze: This is a very important step in the design process and you need to be thorough in your analysis. Assess all of the information you've gathered.

For example, some tiles you like may require additional labor for installation, thus increasing the price. You may like marble tile for the floor, only to discover it is far too slippery when wet to use in a bathroom.

The trendy tiles look great right now, but what kind of longevity will they have in your home? Ideate: Take the results of the Analyze step, and eliminate many of your initial selections. Come up with creative ways to use the remaining selections in your home.

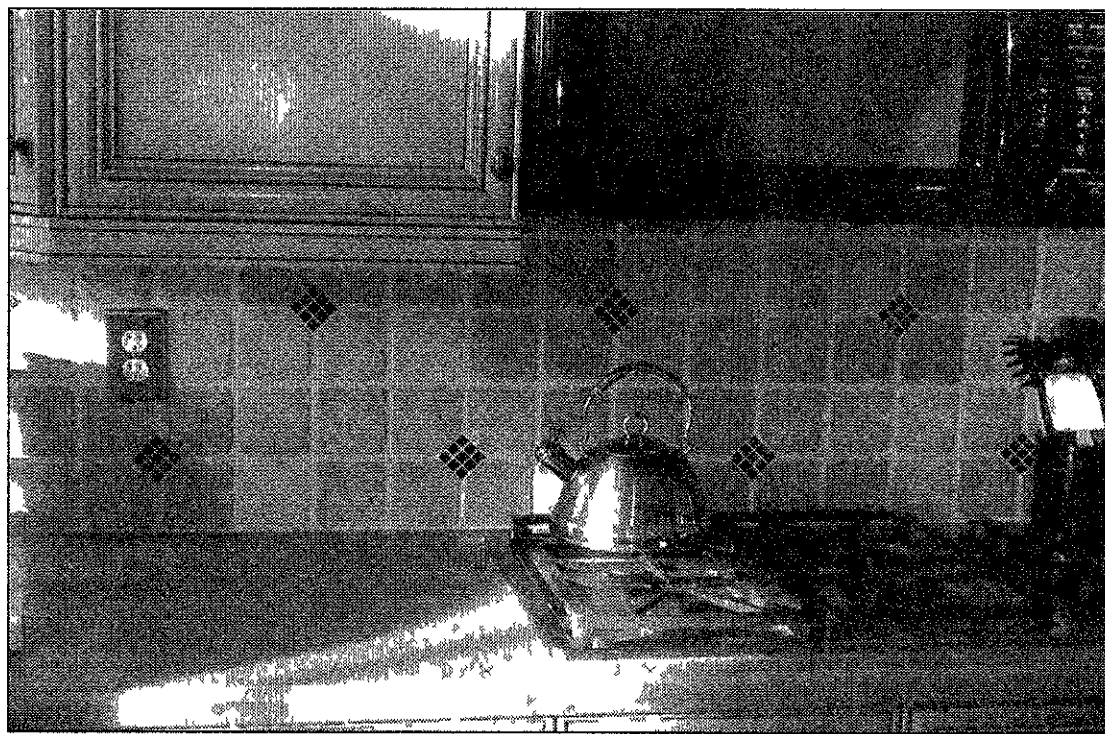
Select: Make your final selection based on this process. Implement: Incorporate the final selection into your bathroom design and be confident that you have considered color, style, budget and design in this process.

Evaluate: Step back and admire your hard work! Keep in mind that these steps will aid you in the design process, but there are still things you need to consider when perusing the tile stores. Be prepared with some of your research before you walk in the door of a tile store. Have an idea of the type of tile you are looking for, and find someone to direct you and to answer your questions.

Bring along photos of your bathroom along with the new countertop and the finish on the bathroom cabinetry. It all needs to be considered for a cohesive design. Don't be afraid to add some spice to your bathroom with colorful or unique tiles. After all of this hard work, you will want more than a bland, boring tile job.

A word of caution: Go easy on the intense colors and use accent tiles or borders to add interest. This can have a very dramatic effect. Rushing through this process will only leave you and your wife unhappy with the end result. Take your time, follow the steps, and then you will be able to enjoy your beautiful new bathroom.

Terri Guastella, an interior designer and a Canton resident, specializes in space planning, design and color consultation. Do you have a question about interior design or decorating your home? Contact Terri Guastella at www.exclusiveinteriordesign.com.



This kitchen backsplash shows limestone field tile with black tumbled marble insets. The look is simple, sophisticated and very beautiful.

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Consumers pressured about extended warranties

I received e-mail the other day from a lady who received a phone call from an appliance dealer who was trying to sell her an extended service contract on her washer, dryer and refrigerator.



Appliance Doctor

Joe Gagnon

She bought these products in January 2006, and the dealer wanted \$850 to cover them for the next three years. I'm sure you will agree, that's a lot of money to cover three products you would assume to be able to operate for several years without problems. My advice was to shop around. I thought she could find a much better deal.

TVS

FROM PAGE D1

An LCD might be better for a room with a lot of windows, or if you play a lot of video games on your set. New technology has reduced reflections and burn-

in (the retaining of marks from images displayed for too long) on more plasma TV models. Burn-in isn't a problem with something like letterboxes (the black boxes seen on the top and bottom of movies that have been formatted to fit a TV screen), Tennant said.

PLACEMENT

Flat-panel models can be mounted on a wall in different ways. Some are so slender they can hang flush with the wall. Others, for example, can be held with arms that extend as needed, or placed in an ArtScreen.

ArtScreen, displayed at Paulson's, features a frame-like border and a painting that glides down to cover the screen when the TV isn't being used. The Yanachiks of Rochester Hills put their new plasma TV

on a wall over a fireplace. The cords are out of sight, contained in a new, hollow mantel built for the Yanachiks by Claudio Consolino of Macomb. The top of the mantel lifts up. Neighbor Tammy O'Neil helped pull the room decor together. "It saves so much space," Cindy Yanachik said. "We had a big entertainment center that took up the entire room."

Flat-panel sets can disappear into cabinets, or stand on furnishings. And entertainment centers are still stylish. Furnishings by BDI are innovative and attractive, with such features as panels that conceal cables and connections, media storage compartments, flow-through ventilation, and hidden wheels for easy movement.

If you housed a tube TV in an armoire, you could consider retrofitting the furnishing to hold your new flat-panel set, said Jayson Small, owner of Adobe Cinema & Automation LLC of Walled Lake. Flat-panel models are more rectangular than square, and not as deep as tube TVs. A company such as Adobe Cinema & Automation, which also does installation, will meet with the homeowner about style and be sure the custom work can be done properly.

Whether placed in a furnishing or mounted on the wall, a flat-panel TV must have adequate ventilation so cool air can circulate around it and so warm air won't be recycled. Remember, you'll have the television for a long time, Small said. "It's really an investment," he said.

major appliance is \$700 and the average on central air conditioning is \$2,000. This is an exaggeration of a dollar figure that is designed to alarm and confuse the homeowner. The people who make a living out of the rip-off world we live in know full well that if a consumer can be kept off balance with confusing information, he or she can be taken advantage of. Be aware and stay tuned.

Joe Gagnon can be heard on Talk Radio WAAM 1600 at 8 a.m. Saturdays. He is a board member of Spectrum Human Services and the Society of Consumer Affairs Professionals (SOCAP). His phone number is (734) 971-1600 Ext. 28. Do you have a question about an appliance or a problem you have with an appliance? E-mail your question to mklemic@hometownlife.com and it will be forwarded to Joe Gagnon.

In years past, there were so many unethical factors tied in to the selling of extended appliance warranties, and I'm telling you that it's all coming back. I have in my office a letter from a national company that sells extended warranties. In that letter it says that the average service call and repairs on a

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Cru Bourgeois 2005 wines are stellar values

Many modestly priced Bordeaux wines from vintage 2005 are in the Medoc Cru Bourgeois classification

History of Cru Bourgeois is closely linked with Bordeaux wines and the city itself. The bourgeois were residents of the city, inhabitants of the bourg of Bordeaux, a town of merchants and artisans. During the 12th century of English rule, the bourgeois acquired rights and privileges, notably an exoneration of taxes on wines from their vineyards.

Because of their valuable involvement in the Hundred Years' War, ending in 1453, the French king continued to recognize the bourgeois' right to own seignorial land, thus they were able to acquire the finest parcels in the region, which were simply referred to as Cru Bourgeois.

Both World Wars dealt these lands a fatal blow and many vineyards were uprooted and converted to pine forests or acacia stands. Today, the classification Cru Bourgeois has been completely assimilated into the language of the Bordeaux region, transcending to a reassurance of an image of quality and authenticity. Yet not all bourgeois land was created equal.

Thus beginning with the 2003 vintage, the Alliance des Crus Bourgeois du Medoc, approved a strong visual acknowledgment on the label, using the ascending quality recognition of Cru Bourgeois, Cru Bourgeois Supérieur and Cru Bourgeois Exceptionnel.

WINES OF OLIVIER DAUGA

Worldwide, winemaker/consultants have been epitomized by Michel Rolland, winemaker for his family-owned Château Le Bon Pasteur in Pomerol and Château Pontenil in Fronsac and wine consultant for over 100 wineries in 10 countries, including the United States.

There have been criticisms suggesting that wines produced where consultants are involved begin to acquire an international style and lose their sense of terroir. That certainly is not the case for the more than 30 wines from 2005 made by Bordeaux con-



Focus on Wine

Ray and Eleanor Heald

sultant Olivier Dauga, who also consults for wineries in Australia's Margaret River region.

"When I begin consulting at a chateau, I first identify the soil and grape varieties planted," Dauga said. "I then assess the viticultural practices and equipment. Concepts of a chateau owner must also be honored, yet the fruit sensed in the wine must represent the personality of the property and this means judicious use of oak and eliminating over extraction."

Look for the following Dauga-influenced wines among the Bordeaux 2005s: Château les Eyrins, Margaux \$52, Château Rollan de By, Medoc Cru Bourgeois \$39, Château Larrivet Haut-Brion \$31, Château Respide Medeville, Graves \$31, Château Labat, Haut Medoc, Under \$25, Château La Mothe du Barry "Cuvee Design," Bordeaux Supérieur \$21, Château Fleur Haut Gaussons, Bordeaux Supérieur \$21 and Château Roques Mauriac "Prestige, Bordeaux Supérieur \$21.

ECO-FRIENDLY

Since the end of 1988, the 55-acre vineyard of Château Falfas, owned by John Cochran, a former New York City finance attorney, and his wife Veronique in the Cotes de Bourg, has been cultivated by biodynamic methods, meaning that no synthetic chemical products (fungicides, herbicides, insecticides or fertilizers) are used. In harmony with the seasons at Falfas, the land is maintained, worked and cultivated naturally and is certified by Ecocert.

Château Falfas Le Chevalier is made from a selection of old vines planted before World War II. Although healthy due to biodynamic practices, these aged cabernet sauvignon and cabernet franc vines have half the yield of the rest of the

WINE PICKS

Cabernet Sauvignon, or a blend of Bordeaux varieties from other than their indigenous French base, neither have the same aromas and flavors nor the same style as a Bordeaux wine.

Develop a discriminating palate with these recommendations:

- 2004 Hess Allomi Vineyard Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon \$25
- 2004 Decoy Napa Valley Red Wine (49 percent Cabernet Sauvignon) \$28
- 2003 Dry Creek Vineyard Meritage \$28 (52 percent merlot, 41 percent cabernet sauvignon with the balance malbec, cabernet franc and petit verdot)
- 2003 Hogue Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon \$30
- 2002 Wilson Dry Creek Valley Sydney Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon \$44
- 2002 Kenwood Artist Series Cabernet Sauvignon \$70 is a legend in achievement.
- 2003 Duckhorn Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon \$90

If a retailer does not stock a specific wine we recommend, ask that it be ordered from the distributor or order it direct from the winery.

vineyard. At harvest, these grapes are co-fermented to create an intriguing blend of complex and rich black fruit characters.

Seek out 2005 Château Falfas \$15 and 2005 Château Falfas Le Chevalier \$16.

Prices cited for all wines are approximate.

Eleanor and Ray Heald are contributing editors for the internationally respected *Quarterly Review of Wines* and Troy residents who write about wine spirits and restaurants for the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers*. Contact them by e-mail at focusonwine@aol.com.

Beyond pot roast: new takes on slow cooking

BY J.M. HIRSCH
AP FOOD WRITER

When his boss asked him to oversee a slow-cooker recipe contest, Steve Shipley braced for the worst.

As a chef and director of culinary relations at Johnson & Wales University, Shipley had low expectations for this 1970s kitchen throwback. He figured he was in for countless unmemorable pot roasts and stews.

But after testing 100 recipes in two days, he was convinced he needed his own slow cooker. He now owns five.

"I didn't feel you could be creative with those," says Shipley, who is based at the university's Providence, R.I., campus. "But I was amazed with what these people came up with."

That's because despite a steady reputation, the slow cooker is a versatile tool that performs in surprising ways. Recipes ranging from breakfast to dessert abound online, and cookbooks dedicated to the subject flow regularly from publishers.

Shipley appreciates slow cookers for their do-ahead applications. Especially for parties and large dinners, he frequently will brown meat on the grill the day before, then let it finish slowly in the pot the day it is served.

He is most impressed by non-traditional applications, including many he saw while judging the recipe contest. Some entrants used the cooker to temper chocolate to make peppermint bark, or to slow simmer chutney.

That creativity also has impressed the editors at *Taste of Home* magazine, which is driven by reader-developed recipes.

Some people use them to keep food (such as mashed potatoes and stuffing) warm and free up space in the oven or on the stove, says Diane Werner, the magazine's food director.

Similarly, smaller slow cookers can double as fondue pots filled with cheese, chocolate and marshmallow toppings, or be used to serve warm drinks (such as mulled cider), Werner says.

And slow cookers really shine at baked goods where a moist consistency is desired, such as steamed puddings and cakes.

It's not just cooking that's easier. Newer slow cookers have removable dishwasher safe pots. Some companies even sell plastic liners designed to cover the pot, reducing cleanup to tossing the liner in the trash.

In their recent book *Slow Cooker* (Oxmoor House, 2006, \$17.95), the editors at *Cooking Light* magazine offer a number of tips for safe and satisfying cooking, including:

■ Dried beans can take longer to become tender if salt, sugar or an acidic ingredient are added at the start of cooking. For best results, cook the beans until tender, then add those ingredients.

■ Dairy and seafood can break down during long cooking. Dairy should be added during the last 15 minutes of cooking, and seafood during the last hour.

■ Vegetables such as carrots, onions and potatoes cook more slowly than meats. They should be placed in the cooker under any meat to give them the most contact with the sides and bottom of the pot.

■ Keep perishable ingredients refrigerated until ready to use. Because slow cooking doesn't heat the ingredients as quickly as conventional methods, such ingredients otherwise could remain at room temperature for too long.

■ Cook meats on high for the first hour. If that's not possible, substitute two extra hours on low for the one hour on high.

■ Frozen meats should be fully thawed before adding to the slow cooker.

■ Don't use the slow cooker to reheat leftovers, they won't heat up fast enough to be safe.

Looking for some non-traditional uses for your slow cooker? Consider these recipes for apple bread, which more closely resembles a gooey steamed pudding than a bread, and spicy cashews, which are perfect for a party.

APPLE BREAD

Cooking spray with flour
1 cup all purpose flour
1/2 teaspoons baking powder
1 teaspoon apple pie spice
1/4 teaspoon salt
1/2 cup packed brown sugar
2 tablespoons cooking oil or melt

ed butter
2 eggs lightly beaten
1/2 cup applesauce
1/2 cup chopped walnuts, toasted
1/2 cup warm water

Coat two 1-pint (or four half-pint) straight-sided, wide-mouthed canning jars with cooking spray. Set aside.

In a medium bowl, combine the flour, baking powder, apple pie spice and salt. Make a well in the center, then set aside.

In a small bowl, combine the brown sugar, oil, eggs and applesauce. Add this mixture to the dry ingredients and stir until just moistened. Stir in the walnuts.

Divide the batter between the prepared canning jars. Cover the jars tightly with greased foil (greased side in). Place the jars in a 4- to 6-quart slow cooker. Pour the water around the jars.

Cover and cook on high for 1 1/2 to 2 hours, or until a toothpick or long wooden skewer inserted near the centers of the cakes comes out clean. Remove the jars from the cooker and place on a wire rack. Cool for 10 minutes, then carefully remove the bread from the jars. Serve warm.

Makes 12 servings. Start to finish: 2 hours 20 minutes - 20 minutes active.

(Recipe from *Better Homes and Gardens Slow-cooker Meals*. Meredith Corp. 2006. \$9.95)

SPICY CASHEWS

2 cups raw cashews
1 teaspoon chili powder
1/2 teaspoon cayenne powder
1/4 teaspoon cinnamon
2 teaspoons fine sea salt
1 tablespoon extra virgin olive oil

In a 3 1/2-quart slow cooker, combine the cashews, chili powder, cayenne and cinnamon. Stir to mix well. Cover and cook on high for 1 1/2 hours, stirring every 30 minutes, or until the nuts are nicely toasted.

In a small bowl, combine sea salt and olive oil. Add this to the nuts and stir well. Transfer the nuts to a serving bowl. Serve hot or cool.

Makes 6 to 8 servings. (Start to finish: 1 hour 45 minutes)

Recipe from Judith Finlayson's *175 Essential Slow Cooker Classics*. Robert Rose 2006. \$24.95

Chef fires up fish recipes this weekend

Dan Donarski from Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, is the official chef of the Ultimate Fishing Show - Detroit. During the show at Rock Financial Showplace in Novi, Jan. 12-15, Donarski will demonstrate at least three simple fish recipes, using a Coleman camp stove. The preparations include Hail Caesar! Walleye, Thai-style Pepper Jelly for whitefish, and Mustard Salmon.

Here is one of Donarski's recipes for walleye. The subtlety-sharpness of the dressing is a beautiful contrast to the sweet-

ness of the walleye. The recipe works equally well with northern pike, whitefish, orange roughy, red snapper or grouper (or any delicately flavored, white-fleshed fish).

HAIL CAESAR! WALLEYE

4 walleye fillets 8 to 10 ounces each
1 large onion
12 ounces Caesar salad dressing
Non-stick spray
1 1/2 by 12 inch piece of aluminum foil

Spray the foil with non-stick spray.

Slice onion in quarter-inch rounds to make one layer in center of foil.

Place walleye fillets on top of onion.

Cover fillets with a quarter-inch layer of Caesar dressing.

Fold the foil into a pouch, covering all.

Bake for 30 minutes in a 375 degree F oven or place atop a barbecue grill for 10 minutes, using medium heat.

(Note: For a showy presentation, dress plated walleye with a mix of pomegranate seeds and capers. Chopped dried cherries can be used instead of the pomegranate.)

Even chicken Parmesan can be low-fat option

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Almost by definition, Parmesan dishes — as in eggplant Parmesan or chicken Parmesan — are fat bombs.

That's probably because nearly every step of the recipe seems almost designed to infuse the meal with as much fat as possible. Coat the eggplant or chicken in egg. Bread it. Fry it. Drown it in oil-laden sauce. Then, of course, top it with loads of cheese.

No wonder they taste so good. But surely there's a way to enjoy these classics without all the fat. But enjoy is the key. There are plenty of light versions that either shortchange the cheese or substitute it with anemic fat-free versions.

Which is why *Cooking Light's* version in the magazine's recent *Cooking Light Italian* (Oxmoor House, 2006, \$17.95) is such a winner. This recipe cuts the fat by using an egg white instead of a whole egg, as well as fat-free

sauce. Those savings, as well as cutting down on the amount of fat used to fry, mean real cheese can be used elsewhere (Parmesan in the breading and provolone over the top). And that makes all the difference.

HERBED CHICKEN PARMESAN

1/2 cups shredded Parmesan cheese divided
1/4 cup breadcrumbs
1 tablespoon minced fresh flat leaf parsley
1/2 teaspoon dried basil
1/4 teaspoon salt divided
1 large egg white lightly beaten
1 pound chicken breast tenders
1 tablespoon butter
1/2 cups bottled fat free tomato basil pasta sauce
2 teaspoons balsamic vinegar
1/4 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
1/2 cup shredded provolone cheese

Preheat the broiler. In a shallow dish, combine 2 tablespoons of the Parmesan with the breadcrumbs, parsley, basil

and 1/2 teaspoon salt. Place the egg white in a second shallow dish.

Dip each chicken tender in the egg white, then dredge through the breadcrumb mixture. In a large nonstick ovenproof skillet over medium heat, melt the butter. Add the chicken and cook 3 minutes per side, or until done. Remove the pan from the heat and set aside.

In a microwave-safe bowl, combine the remaining salt with the pasta sauce, vinegar and pepper. Cover with plastic wrap, leaving one side loose to vent. Microwave on high for 2 minutes, or until thoroughly heated. Pour the sauce over the chicken in the pan. Sprinkle evenly with provolone and remaining Parmesan. Broil 2 minutes, or until the cheese melts.

Makes 4 servings. Start to finish: 25 minutes.

Nutrition information per serving: 308 cal., 10 g total fat, 88 mg chol., 808 mg sodium, 36 g pro., 16 g carbo., 2 g dietary fiber.

Recipe from *Cooking Light* magazine's *Cooking Light Italian* (Oxmoor House 2006. \$17.95)

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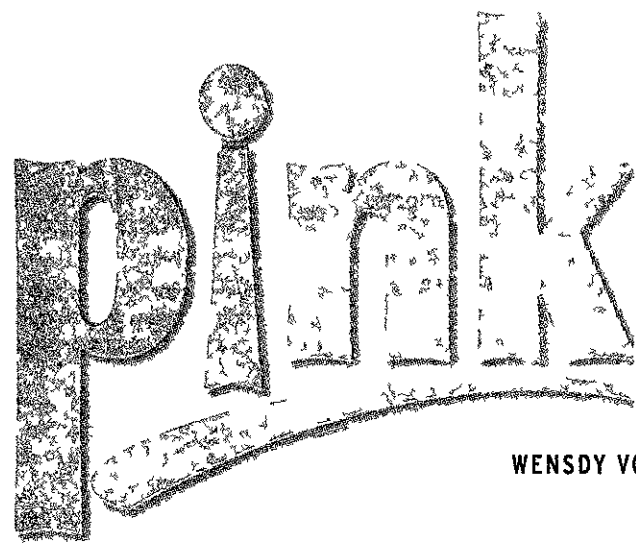
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Governor Granholm re-takes office in style

By Deanna Belger

Representing strong female leadership, Jennifer Granholm was re-elected Governor of Michigan in November. Granholm says she will continue to develop policies that will ensure the state is more supportive of existing businesses and industry, while focusing on improving the state's overall quality of life to help make Michigan more attractive to citizens and organizations. Granholm is a Harvard Law School Graduate, served as a federal prosecutor in the U.S. Attorney's Office in Detroit, and was elected State Attorney General in 1998. Officially sworn in for her second term as Governor on Jan. 1, Granholm is busy completing 13 inaugural events staged through Jan. 21. She found time in her busy schedule to talk with PINK.



Granholm
more accessible for our businesses and our citizens

How do you balance work life with home life?
Just like any working mother, balancing work and family is very important to me. I'm very fortunate to have married well.

My husband, Dan, is my partner and my biggest supporter.

How do you stay motivated?
Getting results motivates me. Knowing that I only have a limited amount of time to get those results motivates me even more.

How do you de-stress and relax?
I love to run. It's a great way to relieve stress and stay healthy.

What do you enjoy most about being Governor of Michigan?
I enjoy having the ability to have a positive impact on the lives of people in Michigan.

What advice would you give to women considering politics as a career?
My advice is to get involved. The percentage of women in our state Legislature has hardly grown over the past 10 years, hovering just over 20 percent. We need more women in elective office to represent and give voice to the issues and priorities that are important to women.

Are you a member of any organizations supporting the growth and influence of women in politics or business?
I belong to the Women's Economic Club and the Women's Forum.

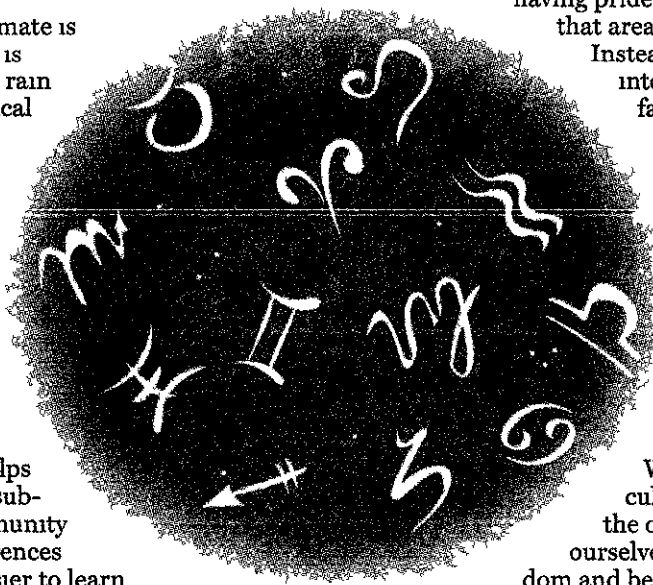
What are your most important issues or policies?

Education, children, jobs and health care are my administration's top priorities. It is important to me that we do all that we can to protect Michigan's families, educate our children so they are prepared to compete in the 21st century global marketplace, grow our economy and create jobs for every Michigan worker, and work to make health care more affordable and

Future Forecast

What's in the stars for 2007?

As the new year dawns, the climate is marked by uncertainty. Not only is nature unable to decide between rain or snow, but economic and political unrest seem to have a firm foothold on the future. In order to get some insight into the unknown, PINK turned to local astrologer Aluna Michaels for a fun forecast based on the stars. Here's what she said.



Community

The planet Jupiter is in Sagittarius for 2007, and that helps bond different ethnic groups or sub-cultures of people within a community. It's fun to be different, and differences become more interesting. It's easier to learn from one another, and easier to blend philosophies. You can see the wisdom in every philosophy and how they are one. There may be people standing up for unjust things, seeing the ridiculousness of dogma. People will be thinking for themselves instead of having just knee-jerk reactions.

Family

With Saturn being in Leo, this really helps men and fathers. Fathers will take a more active role. I know in Michigan there tends to be a hard stance on deadbeat dads. It can be a very unfair stance, lumping men into one category. There may be some awareness that not all men are like this. They want to be responsible financially, and may be breaking some of these myths even on a state level.

Values

I think also in general people are becoming more grass-roots about traditional values, maybe getting more into co-ops or taking their health into their own hands. They'll be demanding changes based on common sense. There will be less believing what public speakers say, and more questioning — why do politicians make everything so complicated? We can do more sensible things.

Idealism

I think making ideals practical will be characteristic of the new year. We won't just be talking about ideas but manifesting them — figuring out how we can really make things happen and make them work. That could be about downtown Detroit. Maybe there will be more a sense of community, especially with-

in inner city Detroit, reclaiming the history of the city and having pride in the city rather than forgetting about that area and continuing to move to the suburbs. Instead of escaping, people will be going back into the center, not only in Detroit, but our families.

Healing

Chiron in Neptune brings a lot of community healing through the arts. Resurrecting music and plays can be a way that people and different cultural groups can bond. Even through spirituality, there could be churches coming together to work on some of these things, healing long-time wounds. We all are empowered through our difficulties, kind of like a scar is stronger than the original skin. We're not feeling sorry for ourselves, but moving forward with some wisdom and beauty coming out of it.

Finance

Saturn and Neptune are working together and this can help people become more clear about debt issues. We may question why we are spending so much. People will be waking up from a fog, and instead of buying into what the culture says we need, they will be asking "why am I buying this?" Individuals may be consolidating debt and spending more wisely. This philosophy can be on a city-wide or community level too. In the community, it could mean helping the poor, and taking lower income voices into account. Let's ask the poor how they really need to be helped, instead of shoving our assumptions down their throats.

Travel

There will be a lot more interest in travel in 2007. We've been in such fear of flying for some time, but long-distance and foreign travel will be more accepted.

Ideas

The year is beginning on an idealistic level with people brainstorming ideas. It will start out with an equal collection of voices, and move into filtering out the most solid ideas and really getting something done. As Jupiter moves into Capricorn at the end of the year, we'll know which ideas are the most practical.

Aluna Michaels is an esoteric astrologer and soul evolutionist practitioner who resides in Metro Detroit. She holds a Masters in Spiritual Counseling and has been teaching and consulting for more than two decades. Call (248) 583-1663 or visit www.alunamichaels.com

list Shows feature the latest in wedding trends

June has long been the most popular month for weddings, but this year 7/07/07 is shaping up to be the most-booked day. Couples planning summer weddings will find help with all the details at these upcoming shows.



This decadent confection was created by Sweet Dreams Bakery one of many exhibitors in the Community House Bridal Open House on Feb. 3.

A Royal Wedding Celebration
The Palace will be full of vendors who know how to make every bride feel like a princess during the Winter Bridal Celebrations show noon 5 p.m. Sunday Jan. 14. The show is a one-stop shop for all things bridal including cakes, catering, fashion, locations, DJs, honeymoons and more. Visit www.cbride.com for more information, future shows and a coupon for \$2 off admission.

Roma Sposa Couture Shows
Roma Sposa Atelier will host two trunk shows featuring gowns by designers to the stars. On Jan. 18-20 the couture bridal boutique will showcase Kenneth Pool for Amsale and Amsale Attendants Attire. One of the leading bridal couture designers in the world, Amsale has dressed celebs like Kim Basinger and Selma Hayek for walks down the aisle as well as the red carpet. On Jan. 25-27 Roma Sposa will feature the Amy Michelson Bridal Collection. Having dressed everyone from Geena Davis to Halle Berry, Michelson specializes in silk gowns and describes her signature look as soft sensuality infused with modern confidence. To book an appointment at the new Roma Sposa Atelier located next to the old boutique at 722 North Old Woodward in Birmingham, call (248) 723-4300.

Best of Birmingham & Beyond
The Community House in Birmingham will host its eighth annual Bridal Open House 1-4 p.m. Saturday Feb. 3. This year's Bridal Open House will feature over twenty-five exhibitors and offer brides to be numerous ideas and tips for planning the wedding of their dreams. Exhibitors include Champagne Chocolates, The China Closet, Emerald City Designs, Miss Kate's Maids, Neiman Marcus Bridal Registry, Paper & Ink by Betsy Coats, Virtuoso An Elemental Salon and many more. Back by popular demand, Dale Morgan, owner of Blossoms Florist, will present a free seminar entitled Bridal Style at 1:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. Admission is free and includes complimentary champagne, hors d'oeuvres and a gift for the bride. Yumi RSVP at (248) 594-6400.

list

Kissable in Livonia
Are folks in Metro Detroit the most kissable in America? On Feb. 1 the bad breath doc will find out. Celebrity kissing guru and bad breath expert Dr. Harold Katz, who has prepped celebs for some of Hollywood's hottest kissing scenes and helped millions of ordinary folks rid themselves of breath that could wilt a flower, is coming to Livonia as part of his Most Kissable City in America Challenge. Visit the doc at Meijer on Middlebelt 2 p.m. Thursday Feb. 1 for fresh breath tips and to be tested by Dr. Katz's Halimeter Register at www.freshbreath.com to receive free samples of his TheraBreath products along with a copy of his book, The Bad Breath Bible.

Calling All Women Entrepreneurs
The National Association of Women Business Owners Greater Detroit Chapter will hold its 15th Annual Joint Networking Meeting with more than 15 organizations for women and girls in Metro Detroit at 5 p.m. Thursday Jan. 18 at the Atheneum Suite Hotel & Conference Center in Detroit. This year the Sloan brothers entrepreneurial experts and co-founders of StartupNation.com will share seven of the most important lessons they've learned as lifelong entrepreneurs and venture capitalists. They will speak about financing, outsourcing, strategic partners and public relations. Free parking is available at Greek Town Casino. Visit www.nawbogdc.org for more information.

The Red Dress Tour
Drop off your favorite red garments at the dry cleaner so they're ready for Wear Red Day on Feb. 2. The annual national event is part of the American Heart Association's Go Red for Women campaign. Designed to bring attention to the fact that heart disease is the number one killer of women, the campaign includes events across the country. Locally, The Red Dress Tour will feature red clothing from local and national celebs including Oprah's red Stuart Weitzman shoes, a red blouse from Dr. Maya Angelou and a dress designed by Pamela DeVos and worn by Lauren Graham of Gilmore Girls to the 2005 Emmys. The Red Dress Tour will kick off at the Detroit Historical Society Jan. 31 and will include free health screenings. On National Wear Red Day, admission is free to those who wear red or a red dress pin. For more information visit www.americanheartassociation.org.

Bag a Great Handbag
Mark your calendar for the area's first ever all handbag charity auction 6 p.m. Thursday Feb. 8 at Laurel Manor in Livonia. Presented by St. Mary Mercy Hospital in conjunction with Observer & Eccentric Purse Power, Handbags With Heart will assemble a collection of about 75 purses for a silent and live auction. Guests can bid on everything from evening bags to artist creations as they enjoy strolling, supper, dessert and coffee and purse tips. Tickets \$50 or \$450 for a table of 10 benefit St. Mary Mercy Hospital's Cancer and Cardiovascular Services. Call (734) 655-2759.

ARTrageously Fashionable
See top finalists in the Fanclub Arts Foundation's Fashion Awards as they walk the runway during the ARTrageous Charity Gala set for 7:30 p.m. Saturday Feb. 10 at the new MOCAD museum. Ten local fashion designers and 10 models will compete for valuable prizes. In addition to seeing Metro Detroit's local fashion talent in action, guests will enjoy a fashion show by Shapes Boutique, live entertainment by The Edit, Concern food and wine tastings from the area's hottest restaurants and plenty of art. Tickets \$100 in advance, \$125 at the door benefit arts education. Call (248) 584-4150 or visit www.fanclubarts.com.

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