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Judge: Woman can stand trial in death of foster daughter

BY TIFFANY L PARKS STAFF WRITER

Carol Poole of Canton has been deemed competent to stand trial for the September death of her 2-year-old foster child

Poole, 41, was in Third Judicial Circuit Court in Detroit Wednesday when Judge



Ulysses W Boykin found her fit to assist in her defense The next pretrial hearing is scheduled for June 1

The Canton woman has been accused of killing one of her two foster children, Allıson Newman

Poole

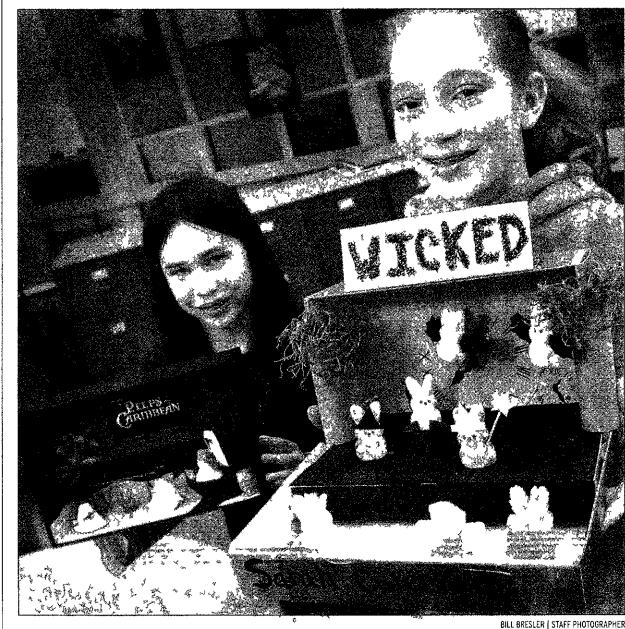
Poole offered four different accounts of how the toddler suffered the injuries after calling police to say the child was unresponsive One of the explanations involved Allison accidentally falling 12 feet over a second-floor balcony during a game

I don t know which (claim) the defense will use,' said Wayne County Assistant Prosecutor Jerry Dorsey IV

Poole has been charged with felony murder, first-degree child abuse and involuntary manslaughter

Mark Satawa, Poole's defense attorney brought her competence into question He could not be reached for comment

The toddlers autopsy showed she had a skull fracture, bleeding over the surface of the brain and brain swelling The ruling of her death was of an "indeterminate manner, according to Washtenaw County Medical Examiner Bader Cassin



Power to the 'Peeps'

Pioneer eighth-grader Sarah Coleman (right) and sixth grader April Olinger show off their "peeps" designs from this week's Peeps contest at Pioneer Middle School Coleman's project was inspired by her love for the hit Broadway musical "Wicked," which she saw on a class trip to New York City Olinger's favorite movie would be titled Peeps of the Caribbean" if Johnny Depp was a

Oakwood weighing options before next move

BY TIFFANY L PARKS STAFF WRITER

Will the third time be the charm for Oakwood Healthcare Systems?

Tom Yack, township supervisor, is hoping the medical corporation doesn't attempt to find out

Although Oakwood s plans were rejected by the Canton Planning Commission last week and were tabled in October, they can still go before the township board for a final decision

The Dearborn-based health care 🚽 provider can also withdraw its request for an amendment to a planned devel opment district agreement for 88 acres of land on the northwest corner of Beck and Geddes

Oakwood has been looking to build a 650,000-square-foot hospital on the land, which is zoned residential and is

Teen's death ruled drug overdose; police still looking at roommate

BY TIFFANY L PARKS STAFF WRITER

As the Canton Police Department prepares to wrap up its investigation into the death of Ashley Pierce, charges could be coming for the woman that lived with her body for three weeks

The Wayne County Medical Examiner's Office indicated last week that Pierce, 19, died of a selfimposed drug overdose When police discovered her body underneath a pile of clothing in her living room, they also found a small amount of heroin in her apartment

"Theres no way to show it was accidental," said Canton Sgt Rick Pomorski "It's almost impossible to tell, but we don't suspect foul play We believe (Pierce) was a willing participant'

Pierce's 28-year-old roommate has been accused of keeping her death a secret in order to swindle nearly \$2,000 from the teen's father

Police plan to submit the findings of their investigation to the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office sometime this week The prosecutors office will determine whether charges will be filed against the woman, whom police have declined to iden-

"We ve been in touch with her and she is still cooperating, Pomorski said

Pierce and the woman had lived together about two months before her death in Heathmoore Apartments off

of Haggerty, south of Ford Road Her body was discovered through an anonymous tıp

The roommate, who lived in Dearborn with a man when he died of a drug overdose last year, has since been asked to leave the apartment complex

tlparks@hometownlife com (734) 459 2700

surrounded by several subdivisions

Both of Oakwood's appearances before the commission drew crowds of more than 500 people, the majority of whom opposed their plans

Yack said he doesn t want to have a third massive meeting regarding a hospital at that intersection

I hope they send us a letter withdrawing their request,' he said, adding that he "can't imagine" the board veering from the commission's recommendation I don't think it's (necessary) to go through that whole thing again'

At the most-recent hearing on Monday, Oakwood Attorney Bryan Amann said the corporation may look to build outside of Canton if the PDD were rejected

PLEASE SEE OAKWOOD, A6

Still one of the best

Thai Bistro a favorite eatery with area diners

THAI BISTRO

T

Owner: Lada Sripinyo Address: 45620 Ford Road Phone: (734) 416-2122 Hours: Lunch is available from 11 30 a m to 2 30 p m Monday through Friday Dinner is available from 4 30 pm to 9 pm Monday through Thursday and from 4 30 p m to 10 p m Friday and Saturday

BY TIFFANY L PARKS STAFF WRITER

When a friend suggested she couple her nursing career with opening a restaurant, Lada Sripinyo said she didn t look at him like he was crazy

Instead, she took his advice and opened Thai Bistro in Canton in 1994

The eatery, located in the Kennedy Plaza at Ford and Canton Center recently nabbed "Best Thaı" honors in the **Observer & Eccentric**

Newspapers "Best in 2007" readers survey

Sripinyo, who's received recognition by other media outlets for Thai Bistro, said it's always a pleasure to be honored for her work

"It's very nice to have it," she said "I actually enjoy working here We have good food and good service"

With regulars coming in from Ann Arbor, Sripinyo said it's a feather in her cap that people have said her Thai dishes are the best in the area

"I had someone tell me (Wednesday) that they had tried other places, but nothing was like it is here,' she said

Popular entrees include red curry and a spicy chicken dish, ga poa guy

People keep asking me when am I going to open a restaurant in Ann Arbor, but I'm happy (with one location)," she said and then joked, 'I don't want anymore work'

Manager Debbie Stainbrook

PLEASE SEE THAI, A6



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

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ızed

7 arrested in major home break-in ring

BY DAVE VARGA STAFF WRITER

A2 ~ (C)

Livonia police nabbed four men and three women this week in a major home invasion ring that operated across at least a half dozen western Wayne County towns, includ ing in Canton

Police say the crew was responsible for 20-30 house break-ins in Canton Westland, Redford, Garden City, Dearborn Heights and Livonia They mainly stole jewelry and other valuables such as cell phones cameras computer equipment, guns etc

According to Sgt Rick Pomorski of the Canton Police Department, the group was responsible for at least six burglaries in Canton He said Canton helped execute a search warrant with Livonia police officials and found items from the Canton burglaries

A . Duran

'We interviewed the suspects on Thursday and Friday, and three of the individuals admitted involvement in the Canton break-ins.'

Sgt Rick Pomorski Canton Pol ce

'We interviewed the sus pects on Thursday and Friday, and three of the individuals admitted involvement in the Canton break ins, Pomorski said

Their method of operation was viewed firsthand Wednesday at a Livonia home on Harrison Street near Joy, thanks to a Livonia police surveillance team, according to Livonia Sgt Cory Williams

Those officers had followed the crew for two days after tracking them down due in

large part to a woman who described a man with a crew cut and a vehicle after a breakin last week while she was at her home in the Joy and Middlebelt area, Williams said

The break-in on Harrison happened about 11 15 a m Wednesday There, police watched a woman knock on the front door and then act as a lookout, while a man kicked in the back door

Officers caught him and found assorted jewelry in his pockets - including a woman's watch and ring - valued at about \$1100, according to reports

The other members of the crew were arrested for receiving and concealing stolen property They were expected to have been arraigned Friday or Saturday

Pomorski said some of the individuals will also be arraigned in 35th District Court once charges are final-

734-394-5613

We just got done with our investigation Well probably be submitting our case to the

Williams said the group was selling the stolen items to pay for crack cocaine

This is going to clean up a lot, a lot of the home invasions and burglaries, and more will come forward, Williams said He cited the work of Livonia Detective Martin Donnelly and the help of other police departments in breaking the case

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dvarga@hometownlife com (734) 953 2119

prosecutor next week some time," Pomorski said Friday afternoon

All the robberies were daytime burglaries, often in quiet neighborhoods where most of the people were at work, Williams said The crew all western Wayne County resi dents, used different vehicles in different cities

FineLand Restaurant EXPERTS IN MIDDLE-EASTERN CUISINE Falafel Chicken Kabob		B LL BRESLER STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER Livonia Police Detective Ron Selleck's efforts, along with other department members resulted arrests and recovery of stolen items
Tabbouli Steaks & Chops Raw Kibbe Buy 1 Dinner Get 2nd Dinner		EDUSERUER WHERE HOMETOWN STORIES UNFOLD GANNETT HOMETOWNLIFE COM HOW TO REACH US
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Guitar store 'strings' out fun

Old Village shop celebrates grand re-opening

BY LINDA SPARKMAN CORRESPONDENT

Lively sounds flew from the open door of Blue Fish Music in Plymouth's Old Village's during the shops recent grand re-opening

Owners Paul and Paula Murphy doubled the size of their store this spring and held the well-attended event to celebrate The couple has owned the store since July 30 2006

"Old Village is really moving up, said Paul Murphy, who runs the day-to-day operations and has seen a lot of improvement in the area recently Its been a bit sleepy, but I think things are turning around Theres been a lot of work on the local houses, and real estate has gone way up around here

'My mission for Blue Fish Music is to be an alternative to the big box stores as far as what I carry and the service I m able to give,' says Murphy

Plymouth Township resident Chris Carson is happy to have discovered Blue Fish Music, and also glad he attended the re-opening

I've played guitar for over twenty years, but I've never seen Gypsy-Jazz performed live he said, referring to the Joe Summers Jazz Trio, who performed that day

Carson, a student at Blue Fish Music, said hes working on jazz solos

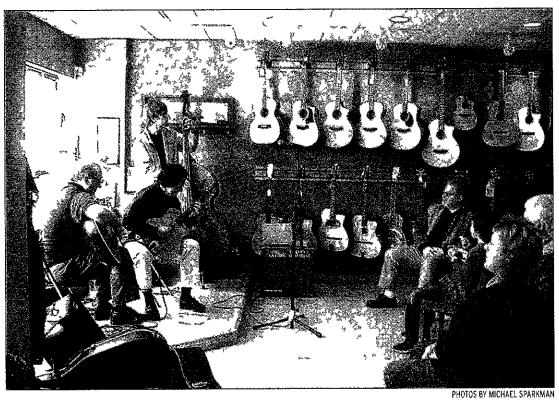
"Being part of the music community is a lot of fun and Paul is a wealth of knowledge Carson said His goal is to do right by the customer

Area musicians including The Troubadours Bobby Lewis Chuck Newsome and Jacob Chmara also performed as guests milled around, seeing what the store offered and enjoying a nice spread of celebratory foods made available by friends and family of the Murphy's

People aged 1 to over 80 came and went throughout the day

I was very happy with the turnout," said

Murphy Everyone seemed to



The Joe Summers Trip performed at the grand reopening of Blue Fish Music in Plymouth's Old Village

IF YOU GO

What: Blue Fish Music Where: 744 Starkweather in Plymouth s Old Village When: Monday Thursday 1-8pm Friday 16pm Saturday 10 a m to 5 p m Contact: (734) 927 0675 or on the Web at www blue fishmusic com

enjoy themselves and we got a lot of encouragement to do this every week

Acoustic and steel stringed guitars are popular items at Blue Fish Music

What we do well is sniff out instruments that are high quality and mid-level in price" said Paul Murphy We have an eclectic mix of instruments reflecting my personal musical tastes I like world music I like the rootsy stuff

"We also have a decent selection of specialty books he



said A lot of music stores have personality specific music We have books of music types

"Another strength of the store 1s, we do repairs, from set-ups which are tune-ups to neck resets, said Murphy, who ran a repair business from his home prior to opening the store I ve always been fasci nated with music and the nuts and bolts of instruments Eventually I would like to start building again

Murphy a self professed

WE

Paul and Paula Murphy who ve owned Blue Fish Music in Plymouth s Old Village since July 2006 recently celebrated a grand reopening

"guitar junkie owns fourteen different guitars himself and becomes animated at the opportunity to share ins and outs of just what type of instrument might fit any certain

musician Guitar players are always looking for something that will connect with us," he says 'I love this stuff!

Union taps its favorites for board election

BY TONY BRUSCATO STAFF WRITER

The education group which represents nearly 1,600 unionized employees in the Plymouth-Canton school district is recommending its members support one of the two incumbents running in the May 8 school board election, as well as one of the challengers

The Michigan Education Association 2A Coordinating Council suggested its members vote for incumbent Mark Slavens and challenger Nancy Eggenberger, both of Canton

After interviewing the six candidates, the council decided not to support Richard Ham Kucharski of Canton, who is completing his four-year term and seek ing re-election to the Board of Education

The MEA 2A Coordinating Council represents teachers, custodians, maintenance employees and paraprofessionals The Plymouth-Canton Education Association, with 1,100 teachers, 15 the largest of the groups

We like his experience and the direction he's taken the board, said P-CEA President Chuck Portelli of Slavens, who has been board president twice during his eight years on the board

Portelli said Eggenbergers experience with parent groups and as co-chair of the past two bond commit-

tees gives her the edge

"Even though Richard has been on the board for four years, we believe Nancy has had more experience in the district and knows what's going on," said Portelli "We think she'll come with more ideas and will look at the big picture'

As for not endorsing Ham-Kucharski, Portelli said, "He's a one-issue candidate, special education"

Portelli said there were a number of issues during the next four years that helped guide the group's selection

"The superintendent search will be big, and we want someone who is going to lead the district and not follow,' Portellı saıd

Whoever gets on the board will have a lot of say who they will pick

We want board members who will listen to all sides before they make a decision," he said 'The two people that we picked are the best choices for us this time'

Portellı saıd notification will be sent to all MEA members who live in the Plymouth-Canton school district

The other candidates include Larry Martin of Plymouth Township, who is running for the second consecutive year, along with challengers Kurt Heise of Plymouth Township and Bruce Koldys of Canton Township

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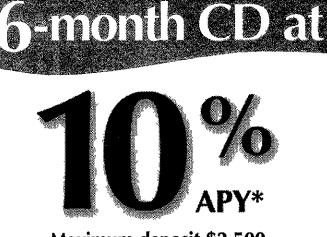
- Southwest Salad Bed of mixed greens vegetables our homemade tortillas and your cho c. of crispy chicken grilled chicken or shrimp with salsa and sour cream dress ng or salsa and ranch
- Shrimp Scampi Shrimp sauteed with butter and garlic and topped with mozzarella Monterey jack and cheddar cheeses then baked Served with long grain wild rice and your choice of soup or salad
- Choice New York Strip Chibatta Soz Choice New York Strip smothered with grilled on ons and mushrooms topped with your choice of cheese and served on a chibatta roll with steak or seasoned fr es
- Chicken Club Wrap Crispy chicken ham bacon Sw ss cheese Amer can cheese lettuce tomato and our homemade ranch dressing Served with coleslaw and steak or seasoned fr es
- Salmon Alfredo Fertuccine noodles with our homemade Alfredo sauce topped with grilled salmon Served with your cho ce of soup or salad
- Albert's Cajun Mama 802 Angus beef burger served Quesadilla style with two tort lias pepper jack cheese grilled on ons and mixed peppers Served w th Cajun mayo on the side homemade chips and salsa WOW
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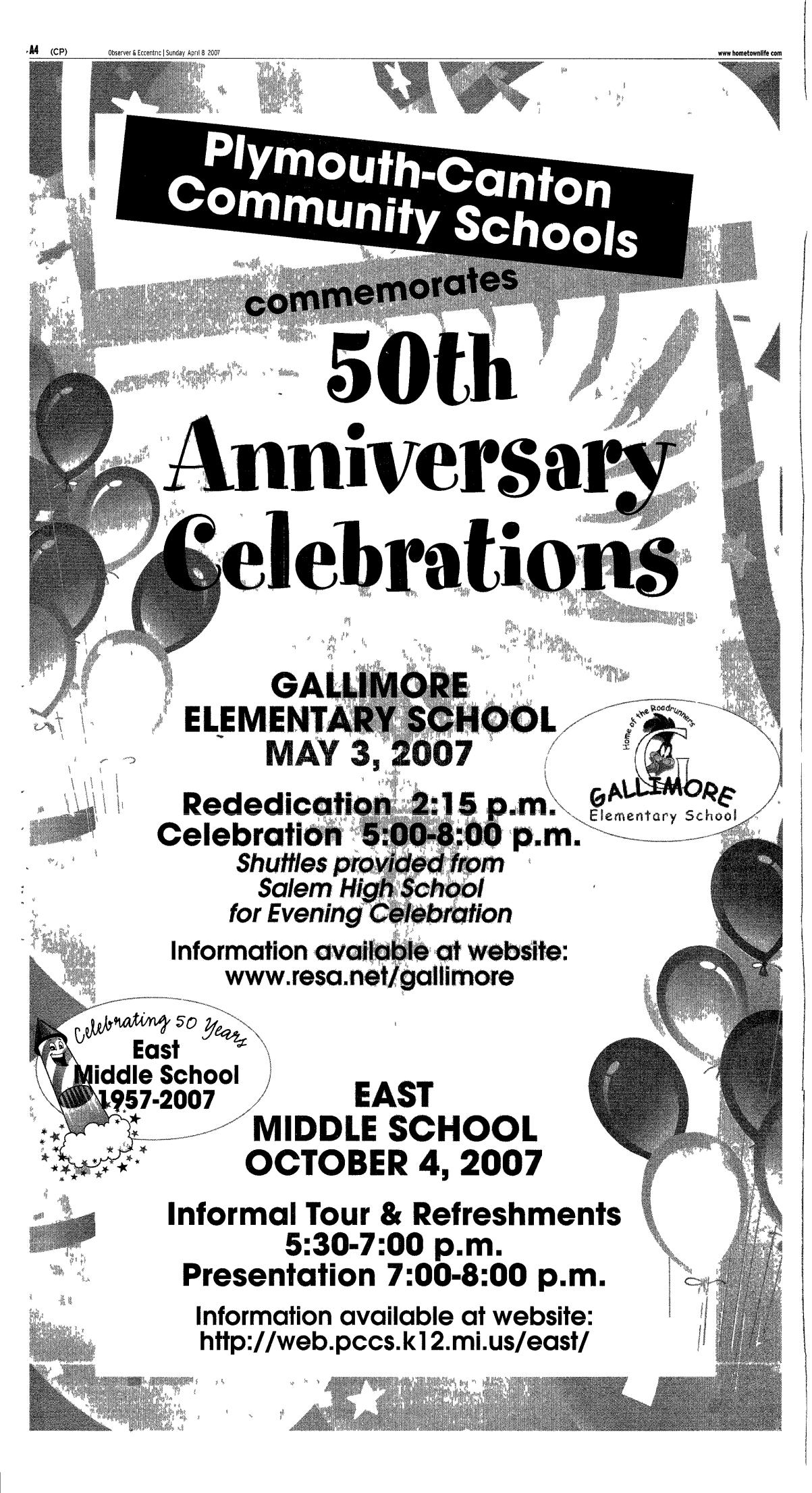
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Road project delay

Plans to reconstruct and widen Canton Center Road from Cherry Hill Road to Palmer Road have been delayed until 2008 Township officials learned of the delay earlier this week when Canton and Wayne County staff met to discuss the township's 2007 Capital Improvement Program

The project is behind schedule due to staff reductions at the Wayne County Department of Public Services Part of the reason is that much of the county's resources have been wrapped up in the Sheldon Road grade separation project in Plymouth Township

According to Canton officials, the county said money allocated for the project will still be obligated for the project The county will strive to design and bid the \$3 4 million project by the end of the year so construction can begin in April or May of 2008

Plans to widen and reconstruct Lilley Road from Warren Road to Ford Road are ahead of schedule The county road project is anticipated to be bid sometime in May with construction scheduled to begin this summer and be completed by late fall

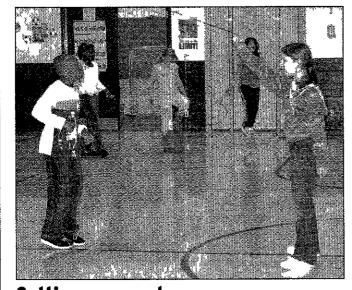
For more information on road projects going on in Canton please visit www.canton-mi org or call Canton Public Works at 394-5150

Township board meeting

The Canton Board of Trustees will meet at 7 p m, April 10 at the Canton Administration Building Agenda items include a public hearing for a Class C liquor license with Sunday sales and official permit for difference in hours of operation for Mariachi, LLC, consider site plan for JC Penney, consider purchase of water meters and metering control devices for 2007 award bid for vending services, and sale of property

Rally4Canton

Canton's second annual Rally4Canton charity road rally is scheduled for Saturday, May 12 Proceeds from this event will benefit the Cady-Bover Barn Fund Senior Prescuption Matching and the Leadership Canton Alumni Fund The cost to participate is



Setting a record

Students at Walker-Winter Elementary School in Canton raised a record \$7,102 with Jump Rope for the Heart Jump Rope for the Heart, benefits the American Heart Association while promoting the value of physical activity to elementary school children. Students secure sponsors and raise money for the fight against heart disease and stroke by jumping rope. According to physical education teacher Mel Long Walker-Winter consistently is one of the top fund raising schools In Wayne County

portable radios, enhanced

are also being planned

Fire Chief Michael

Rorabacher

tions

significantly enhance our

Public Safety building security

and mobile command updates

This grant will allow us to

emergency preparedness capa-

bilities in Canton," said Canton

Canton Homeowners

The Canton Homeowners

Advisory Council will meet at 7

p m , April 9, in the lower level

Administrative Building Jeffe

Management Group, will be

homeowner or condo ques-

Model boat show

the quest speaker Everyone is

welcome to attend Bring your

On Saturday April 21, from

noon to 2 p m, the Michigan

Scale Model Boat Club will be

demonstrating several types of

radio controlled model ships at

Cantons Heritage Park located

at 1010 S Canton Rd directly

behind the Canton Township

groups Web site at www michi-

Hall For more information

about the event visit the

ganmodelboats com

Advisory Council

of the Canton Township

Gourlie, Cheif Operating

Officer of Kramer-Triad

\$35 and includes a T-shirt and entry into the 'IKEA Finish Line Party There is a limit of 30 cars with 4-6 people per car There are also various lev els of sponsorships available, ranging from \$100 to \$1,000

A road rally is a game played by a group of people who pit their intelligence and problemsolving skills against each other to solve puzzles, drive to the destination specified in the puzzle, and obtain a clue to the next puzzle The route is in Canton, and the final destination is a location where participants socialize and eat while scores are tabulated, and winners announced

For more information, visit the Web at www.rally4canton.com, or call Deb Zevalkınk at (734) 394-

5188 Emergency

Preparedness grant

Canton Public Safety has obtained a grant for \$175,000 through the 2005 Urban Area Security Initiative Funds from this grant will be used to update and augment Cantons **Emergency Operations Center** and its related components Preliminary plans call for addi tional computers and phone lines for the Emergency Operations Center Additional

Wine event

Resurrection Catholic Church in Canton sponsors a Wine Event Friday, April 27

This event, hosted by Hohday Market in Canton, will feature 150 wines from around the world, 25 premium beers, and a variety of hors d'oeuvres and desserts Tickets are \$35 in advance or \$40 at the door All proceeds will benefit local and international charities

The event takes place 7 30-9 30 p m at All Saints Catholic School, 48735 Warren Road in Canton, will be from 7 30-9 30 p m

For more information or to purchase tickets contact Holiday Market at (734) 844-2200, Sarah at (734) 667-2287 or e-mail szydeck@aol com Staff appreciation

luncheon

The Canton Chamber of Commerce is hosting its annual Staff Appreciation Luncheon at 11 45 a m on Wednesday, Aprıl 25 at Carrabbas Italian Grill, 1900 N Haggerty Road in Canton The cost for this event 1s \$20 per person and includes lunch, beverages, dessert and door prizes Every year our Staff

Appreciation Luncheon serves as a wonderful opportunity for our members to say thank you to their staff," said Dianne Cojei, president of the Canton Chamber of Commerce

The luncheon is being sponsored by Lou LaRiche Chevrolet and National City Bank

Seating is limited and reservations are needed To make your reservation, contact the Canton Chamber of Commerce at (734) 453-4040 Deadline for reservations is Friday, April 20, 2007

Creative Day registration

Creative Day Nursery School on Cherry Hill in Canton is accepting registration for the Fall

Creative Day is a developmental school that encourages children to learn at their own pace while promoting social skills through music, art, story time and hands-on activities Both morning and afternoon classes are available

For more information call (734) 981 3990 or (734) 981 6470

Mom to mom sale

Children's clothes, toys, books, videos, maternity clothes, and more will be sold at 30 tables when the Canton Newcomers (found on the Web at cantonnewcomers org), a social, civic and charitable group host their public Mom 2 Mom sale from 8 30 a m -1 pm, April 21 at Summit on the Park (46000 Summit Parkway)

Several home-based businesses will be on hand, including Bilingual Fun, Arbonne International. Tastefully Simple, Creative Memories, Jockey Person to Person, Lia Sophia and Tupperware Admission is \$1 For more

information about the sale call (734) 699-7398



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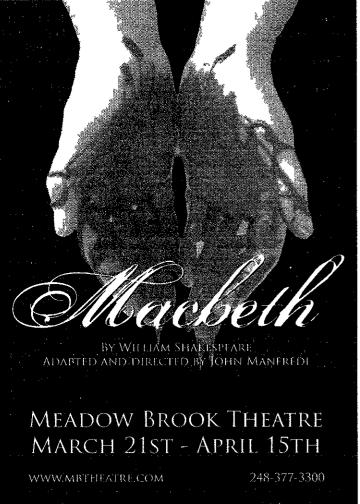
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Livonia boy wins court time with the Pistons

Matthew Hunt of Livonia and Samantha Zwick of Southfield are winners in the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers Detroit Pistons Ball Kid Contest

Matthew will be on the court today April 8, when the Pistons take on the Cleveland Cavaliers at 1 p m at The Palace Samantha will be ballgirl for the last home game of the 2006-07 season when the Toronto Raptors come to town April 17

Matthew, who is in the sixth grade at Riley Upper Elementary School in Livonia is taking his mom, dad and 19-year-old brother, Don, to today's game

Matthew's favorite player is





Chauncey Billups "I play three sports — baseball, baseball and football I play for the Northville Broncos for baseball, I play for the St Edith Eagles for football and basketball,' he said

Samantha, a seventh-grader at Akıva Day School, will be

OAKWOOD

FROM PAGE A1

Ken Trester, Oakwood planning consultant and former senior vice president, said the companys plans are 'still in the air but acknowledged the pos sibility of building in another community

We will consider our options, he said

Trester, who worked on the proposed project longer than anyone else and spent hours getting aerial views of potential sites, said the property at Beck and Geddes stood out

'We felt it was the best site we found, he said And that was in the span of a couple years'

Some residents accused Oakwood of wanting to settle at the location because they didn't want to pay more money for property along Michigan Avenue

Trester denied that and said Oakwood prefers building their facilities near homes

"Despite what the homeowners said at the meeting, you'll find that most hospitals around the country are near or in residential neighborhoods, he said Commercial areas are too congested

Oakwood was planning to buy the land from Singh Development Singh was

taking her her mom, dad and brother, David, to the April 17 game

Samathas favorite player is Rasheed Wallace

More than 425 students ages 12-16 participated in the online ball-kid contest, which asked 'Who's your favorite Piston?"

Billups was No 1 with $O \mathfrak{S} E$ online readers, followed by Richard Hamilton and Wallace

Ball kids are on the court prior to game time and particpate in the Pistons shootaround

Ball kids also receive a thank you gift, photo op with a Pistons player and tickets to the game

initially slated to build more luxury homes and apartments at the location as an expansion of its Charing Cross subdivision The plans were scrapped in favor of the hospital proposal because of a slumping economy

Trester had hoped that residents critical of Oakwoods proposal would come to appreciate the final product If a different location for the hospital is set, Trester said the final design may be different from the artist renderings of the proposed building at Beck and Geddes

That look incorporates the design philosophy of Oakwood but it may be tweaked, he said "We may add more stories

In its original plan to the commission, Oakwood proposed building a six-story facility, but then scaled it back to four stories

Although it appears Oakwood won t be given the green light to build at Beck and Geddes Yack said the corporation is welcome to keep the township in their list of prospective communities

'I ve known for a long time they were looking at multiple sites in other communities,' he said "They have to decide what is good for them, but we would like to see them in Canton A hospital is a great asset and I hope they keep Canton on the radar

Telcom Credit Union expands with merger

been named agency of record

for Plexus Systems, Inc in

renewed its contract with

Markit Strategies early this year after a successful partner-

ship in 2006 The 12-year old

software-as-a-service firm just

released record earnings, post-

ing 53 percent growth in 2006

Strategies and PR to help with

media relations, analyst rela-

tions, and general marketing

agency is led by 17-year mar-

of Canton

pr com

Smith

keting veteran Peggy Fenwick

Markit Strategies and PR,

founded in early 2005, assists

automotive, technology, and

professional services compa-

nies and organizations with

strategic market development,

planning, Web and collateral

writing and establishing pro-

ductive relationships with the

media. For more information,

visit www.markitstrategiesand-

Sisson joins Mannik &

The Mannik & Smith Group,

sulting engi-

neering servic-

es, 1s pleased to

announce that

Jasmine Sisson

firm as a senior

has joined the

design engi-

Inc, a leading provider of con-

Sisson joins MSG from

HNTB where she served as a

development, press release

communication activities The

Plexus relies on Markit

Auburn Hills for the second

year Plexus (www.plex.com)

Effective March 1.

Hometown Community Credit Union has been merged into Telcom Credit Union, which has a branch in Canton All 5,500 members of Hometown are now member-owners of Telcom Credit Union

"We are happy to welcome our new Hometown members to the Telcom family,' said Telcom Credit Union President and CEO, Tom Reagan At a time when some businesses and financial institutions are downsizing and leaving Michigan, we are expanding We are committed to serving our members and the local community, said Reagan, from Telcoms Novi branch and headquarters

The Hometown branches in Novi and Livonia will continue to serve Hometown members After a June information systems conversion, Hometown members will be able to use Telcoms other four branches in Novi, Canton, South Lyon, and Southfield

With the merger, Telcom Credit Union is a \$405 million full-service credit union with more than 34,000 memberowners Founded in 1936. Telcom 15 now able to offer membership as an employee benefit to local businesses and organizations, as well as to individuals living and working in southeast Michigan Visit their Web site at telcomcu com

PR firm lands account

Canton based marketing communications and public relations agency, Markit Strategies and PR, LLC has

THA

Thai Bistros recent honor This is one of the busiest restaurants I ve ever

worked at. she said Sripinyo, who has retired from nursing, said

looming growth

'I came here in 1985 to look for a grocery store and there was nothing here I came back in 94 and saw that things were being built,' she

Thai food was getting popular and I saw potential in Canton I just didn t know I would be a hit right away

tlparks@hometownlife.com (734) 459 2700

structural engineer Her experience includes bridge scoping and inspection, designing bridge rehabilitation, new bridge structures and replacements, project coordination, and construction engineering assistance In her new position, Ms Sisson will serve as a senior bridge engineer in the Transportation Group Her responsibilities at MSG include technical leadership with MDOT bridge projects, business development, and providing technical support for struc tural work and non-structural transportation projects throughout the company

Agent of the year

National Western Life Insurance Company announced that Vince Gauci of VFG Associates, LLC, which has an office in Canton, earned Agent-of-the-Year honors for production excellence with the companys domestic division "I m pleased



for Vince's suc cess," said the company's president Ross Moody 'This is a production achievement for sure but also recogni-

tion of his professionalism and dedication to serving his clients

Gauci, an industry veteran specializing in retirement planning and wealth preservation, is a Certified Senior Advisor With a client base approaching 2000, Vince and his firm have been serving Michigan residents since 1972

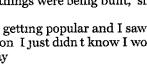
neer in the Sisson company s Canton office

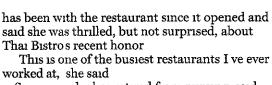


FROM PAGE A1

said she was thrilled, but not surprised, about

said





she chose to open in Canton because she saw its

(C)

A6

Associates in Internal Medicine – Cherry Hill in welcoming their newest physicians

Dr. Irene Connolly Dr. Ngeche Washington

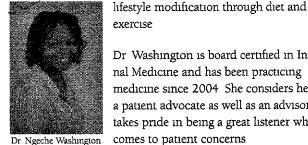




Both physicians joined the Cherry Hill Office in the fall of 2006 and are currently accepting new patients

Dr Connolly is board certified in Internal Medicine and has been practicing medicine since 2000 She has additional training in oncology and has an interest in cancer prevention womens health issues and

Dr Irene Connolly



Dr Washington is board certified in Inter nal Medicine and has been practicing medicine since 2004 She considers herself a patient advocate as well as an advisor She takes pride in being a great listener when it comes to patient concerns

Drs Connolly and Washington invite you to join Associates in Internal Medicine Cherry Hill Office and experience life long care and quality medical treatment

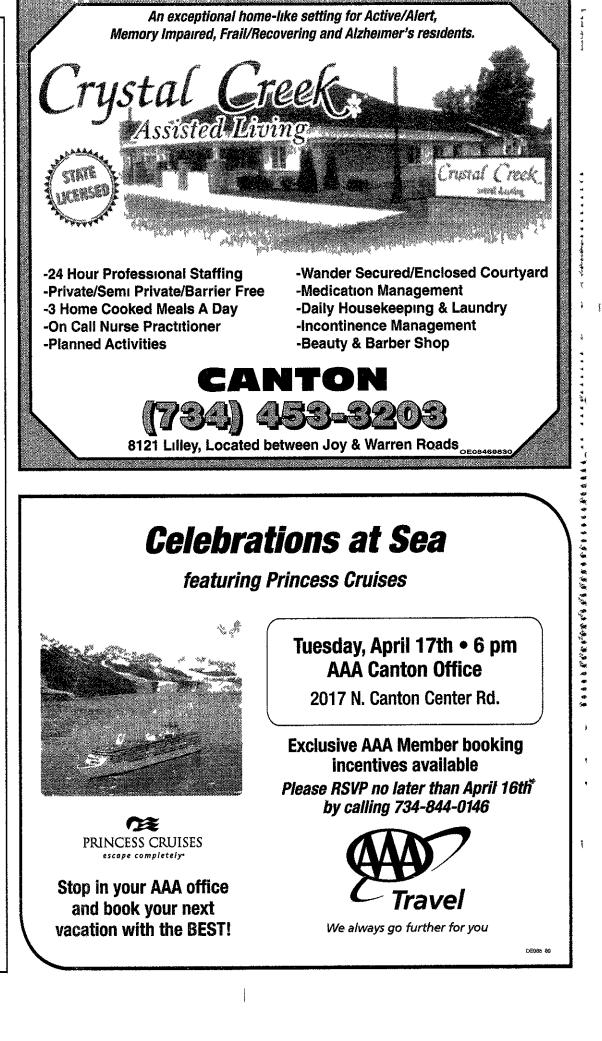
For more information and insurances accepted please visit ihacares com or to schedule an appointment contact

Associates in Internal Medicine Cherry Hill

49650 Cherry Hill Road Su te 120 Canton Mich gan 48187 734 398 7800



ihacares com



Michigan at defining moment to get financial house in order

ny company facing disaster must do three things 1) Cut costs to the bone in order to survive

2) Stabilize its financial position to gain breathing room 3) Invest heavily and systematically in whatever distinctive, proprietary and competitive assets it has The goal has to be to drive sales up and gain market share

Michigan is no different. We're facing financial disaster And this state needs to right-size and stabilize itself fast - while figuring out how to become more competitive in the future

Let's look first at where we stand State government faces a general fund budget deficit that is now at least \$686 million, and which must be resolved in less than six months

But then a new fiscal year starts - and the total projected shortfall for the 2007-08 fiscal year that will begin Oct. 1 is



Phil

around \$900 million That's assuming the Single Business Tax that the Legislature voted to repeal as of Dec 31 is fully replaced. That tax produces around \$1 9 billion a year in money the state cannot afford to lose Yet the Legislature still isn't close to agreeing on any replacement tax, and the clock is ticking

There's more For years, the state has been borrowing more than \$1 billion every year to paper over the chronic general fund deficit, a shortfall created by unrealistic economic assumptions

Power

Seven years ago when we had a healthy 'ramy day' fund, we were raking in nearly \$140 million from interest income

Today, the cupboard is bare, and were spending \$85 million a year in interest to finance the deficit But the shell game is about over Michigan is at its short-term borrowing limit, so we won't be able to finance our fiscal irresponsibility any longer, at least this year

What all this means is that we need to launch - right now! a far-reaching, broadly acceptable package of financial reforms modeled on what any company has to do in order to survive

1) First, cut costs Michigan is operating on a structure of government dating back to the 19th century that we simply cannot afford today The buzz word is 'restructure."

What that means is taking a hard look at how government is organized, what it does and how much it costs

Thanks to the Home Rule Act, adopted in 1909, we have one of the most complex local government systems in the entire nation. We have 83 counties, 1,242 townships, 274 cities with less than 10,000 population, 259 villages and 553 school districts

And each of those has its own overlapping and duplicating costs, bureaucracies and sources of funding Do we really need that many school districts and townships? Of course we don't We should require consolidation and cost sharing for any money the locals get from the state

Our teachers do, by and large, an OK job But they're among the highest-paid in the country And their pension and health care benefits are gold-plated, a legacy of the good old days when we were the world's automaker Health care alone costs more than \$1,200 per pupil, and best estimates are that one in every three dollars of school aid funds will go to pensions and health care by 2018

The total unfunded liability for state workers' and school district employees' pension and retiree health care benefits is \$35 billion

Workers in the private sector have had pension and health care benefits cut so why shouldn't public employees share the pain? 2) Once we get serious about cutting costs, we then gain the

moral legitimacy to bring the tax system kicking and screaming into the 21st century In advocating a 2-percent sales tax on services, Gov Jennifer Granholm got the sequence wrong She should have started with cutting government costs and only then looked to raise revenue

Many people - including, very privately, many members of the Legislature - believe we cannot simply cut our way to prosperity They expect that taxes are going to have to be raised But it is not simply a question of turning a tap It will take the Department of Treasury months to work out how to administer and collect whatever tax system the Legislature passes and the governor signs

Lansing, which will need that money as soon as possible, needs to realize that time is rapidly running out.

3) If we fix the tax system, we have a chance to stabilize our financial position by curing - once and for all - the chronic, structural billion-dollar annual deficit in the general fund. For years, the Legislature and governor have papered over this deficit by a combination of one-time fixes, accounting gimmicks and mid-year budget cuts Left unresolved, this chronic budget deficit will result in a "fiscal train wreck, according to Tom Clay, the highly respected and semi-retired research director of the Citizens Research Council.

4) If we stabilize our financial position, we can generate the funds required for a sustained investment program to beef up Michigan's durable, distinctive, competitive assets Those include our colleges and universities, the brains and skills of our people, our environment and the admirable quality of life it brings Without such an investment program, we'll lose the competition with other states and enjoy chasing Alabama and Mississippi in the race to the bottom

None of this is rocket science. Indeed, conversations I ve had with thousands of Michiganders over the past year leads me to believe this program taps into the core of an emerging consensus of far-reaching reform principles for our state.

But a complete fix will be a complex and long-term matter, and nobody I've talked with thinks it can be enacted thoughtfully or competently by Lansing in the next few months

What's much more likely in the short-term is that the governor and the Legislature will cobble something together over the next month or two that just barely squeaks us past financial disaster

But we can and should do some things right now, to start us on the longer-term road for reform Granholm should re-summon the Emergency Financial Advisory Panel that was so disgracefully ignored after its fir-seeing and intelligent report was released at the end of January She might add to it a group of the state's most distinguished and powerful business leaders to add financial realism and just plain guts to the discussion

The governor should also convene a panel of experts to examine the structure and costs of state and local government One perfect vehicle for that already exists The Center for Local, State and Urban Policy at the University of Michigan's Ford School of Public Policy

The hour is late The full magnitude of the crisis is almost upon us We're approaching Michigan's defining moment

And we - all of us - better snap to it, before it's too late

Phil Power is a longtime observer of politics economics and education issues in Michigan and was a regent of the University of Michigan from 1987 99 He is also president and founder of The Center for Michigan a moderate think and do tank These opin ons and others expressed in his columns are his own and do not in any way represent official policy positions of The Center for Michigan Phil would be pleased to hear from readers at ppower@hcnnet.com

Who was that? Some names deserve to be remembered

Id you know that Mark Detroit?

Neither did I But I stumbled across her name as I was perusing my copy of The Official Who's Who in Michigan for 1936 There she 1s, on page 74 "Clemens, Clara, (Mrs Osip Gabrilowitsch) Singer, Actress ADDRESS - 611 Boston Blvd W, Detroit, Mich , b Elmira, NY, (daughter) Samuel L Clemens ("Mark Twain")

It goes on to note that she played eight leading roles at the Civic Theatre in the 1928-29 sea-

son, and was the author of Why be Nervous and My Father Mark Twain Oh, and she was

an adherent of the 'Yoga Philosophy" I like to rum-

mage through old books on local history You can find some fascinating

facts, like the reference to Clara

There are about 1.500 names listed in this Who's Who, each with a brief bio Interestingly, Henry Ford s bio is three-and-a-half inches long That's typical, but hardly compares to Dr Virgil Raymond Drexel Kırkham's bio, which is a whopping nine inches long

Who?

He was an 'economic geologist,' whatever that is, with the Peters Trust Co, whatever that was And he must have been pretty important

In a way, this is a sad book Of the 1,500 or so people listed in it, I counted out all the ones I recognized 24, and one them, Mrs Maurice Keyworth, I only knew of through her husband, who was a great educator Others still notable, at least to me, were Carl Sandburg, of Harbert, Walter Briggs, Edgar Guest, William Scripps and Homer Ferguson of Detroit, and an assortment of other persons from around the state

I recognized one of the 20 names from Birmingham ---George Averill, editor and publisher of the Birmingham Eccentric and two of the $1\overline{2}$ from Bloomfield Hills, Henry Booth and Eliel Saarinen

I despise clichés, but nevertheless will resort to one here Fame is fleeting

Granted, I'm sure other people going through the list would recognize names that I don't, but does anyone remember Elmer Osum, who was a physician, or Howard Spedding, a photographer in Detroit who was not only included in this volume, but also in Who's Who in Portraiture in America? Or how about Harry S Toy? He is one who generated some long-lasting recognition somewhere, as he served briefly as a justice of the state Supreme Court But how many people remember that name today?

As one interested in local history, I hate to see names lost to the past Everyone who ever lived had an impact on someone else, and in that way, on the world as a whole With the exception of those who turned on society, child killers perhaps, no one should be forgotten

I'm in the process of creating biographical files of "significant" (I hate that term, but it will do for now) people from my home town I have a few thousand already and add about 10 a week I pore through old newspaper, magazines and books, like The Official Who's Who in Michigan, for new ones to add In a way, I feel I am reaching into the past and pulling people from the darkness of forgotten obscurity into the light of today

These people lived and made an important contribution to the world of our community and sometimes to the world as a whole The above mentioned Mrs Keyworth's husband Maurice designed educational programs that were adopted by school districts across the country and even overseas He was the state superintendent of schools in 1936, was considered a brilliant educator and was respected nationally He certainly would have earned his own entry into Who's Who, but died in a car accident, probably just as the book was being edited He deserves to be remembered

Ever heard of him? You have now

And that's the point

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



Clemens

Kowalski



COUNTY NEWS

Shredder essential tool to destroy documents

I just got done completing my tax return. How long do I need to save my old tax returns and how long should I save financial papers in general? - J.K

A8

(*)

With regards to your tax returns, the IRS can audit you up to three years after your return has been filed For example, your 2003 tax return would have been filed by April 15, 2004, unless you filed for an extension Therefore, the IRS can audit you on that return up until April 15, 2007

You need to save your tax returns and underlying docu mentation for a minimum of three years after you file the return In a great majority of situations, you can destroy your tax returns and supporting documents after three years The one exception is the IRS can audit you up to seven years after the return has been filed if they suspect fraud Therefore, if you have taken any unusual deductions or if there was anything unusual about your tax return, then I would retain that tax information for seven years after the

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Money **Matters** Rick Bloom

return has been filed My general rule on financial statements 1s destroy the old statement when new statement arrives When I receive my March statements, I destroy my February statements If there are any statements to save, it would be the year-end statement

I generally destroy checks after I reconcile my bank account, except checks that I need for backup documentation for tax returns In today's world where so much information is stored digitally on computers, there is very little reason to retain this type of documentation

When I talk about destroying a document, whether it is a check or old tax returns, I do not mean just throwing it in the garbage You need to shred

the document A shredder, as far as I am concerned, is an essential appliance Identity theft is one of the fastest growing white collar crimes in America and although there is nothing that you and I can do to eliminate the risk, we certainly can make it harder on crooks

I have a large position in DaimlerChrysler stock It represents approximately 90 percent of my portfolio I read your column about diversification and I agree that I need to do something Should I wait until Chrysler is divested from DaimlerChrysler to sell my stock or should I sell it now? - N.M

Although there has been much speculation over the last few weeks, it was confirmed at the recent DaımlerChrysler shareholder meeting in Germany that Chrysler 1s for sale The problem is we have no idea when the sale will occur or the terms

Lots of things can happen which can affect the value of the stock both positively and negatively I believe keeping 90 percent of your portfolio in one same protection as a CD Fixed stock is far too great of a risk My recommendation is you begin to reduce your position in DaimlerChrysler stock now

That doesn t mean you have to sell all the stock at once You could begin a program of dol lar cost averaging out of DaımlerChrysler In other words, you may decide to sell 10 percent of your DaimlerChrysler stock now and another 10 percent next month and so on Just as dollar cost averaging makes sense for people purchasing an invest ment, it also makes sense when selling The bottom line is you own too much of Chrysler stock and that you need to diversify Good luck

I am 66 years old and consider myself a very conservative investor 1 do not need income and 1 have some cash to invest I am concerned with taxes and I am considering a CD or an annuity Which would you recommend?

In your situation I lean towards a fixed annuity A fixed annuity will give you the

Pam

annuities in Michigan are guaranteed up to \$100,000 just like CDs but in addition, annuities give you the benefit of having money grow taxdeferred

The fact this money grows tax-deferred will save taxes in two ways First, since you do not need the income and you are letting it reinvest, that money will grow tax deferred unlike a CD which is subject to income tax In addition, because you are 66 and are collecting Social Security, you may find because you are letting money in the annuity grow tax deferred, your Social Security is subject to less income taxes

Unfortunately, not all annuities are the same I would recommend a traditional fixed annuity or an equity indexed annuity In a traditional fixed annuity, you get a guaranteed rate of return In an equity indexed annuity, you also get a guaranteed rate of return typically a little lower than the

You may qualify for this study if you-

and travel.

OE085099

fixed annuity, however, if the stock market does well, you get additional earnings based on the growth in a broad market index such as the S&P 500 Index In the equity-indexed, just like the fixed annuity, you a can't lose money If you do not need the money for a number of years, the equity-indexed annuity is the way to go

www.hometownlife.com

Not all equity-indexed annuities are the same I like the no load variety which just like in mutual funds, means more 4 money ends up in your pocket : where it belongs

Annuities, unlike mutual funds, require you to use an agent A local company that handles no-load annuities is Hutton Financial, (800) 870-4444

Rick Bloom is a fee only financial adviser Observer & Eccentric readers can submit questions at moneymat ters@hometownlife.com For more nformation visit his Web site at www.bloomassetmanagement.com You can hear Rick from noon to 3 p m., Sundays on WDTK AM (1400)

The Michigan Head+Pain & Neurological Institute is seeking individuals 18 to 65 years of age to participate in a research trial to evaluate an investigational medication to treat chronic headaches

a Have a history of chronic headaches for at least 6 months

Michigan Head+Pain & Neurological Institute

3120 Professional Drive • Ann Arbor, MI 48104

(734) 677-6000 • www.MHNLcom

Qualified participants will receive study-related examinations and medication at no cost and may also receive compensation for time

S Experience 15 or more headaches per month

Please contact one of our clinical research coordinators for

additional information at (734) 677-6000 x 4.

ALTERNATIVES The best treatment for a worn out knee or shoulder is ont replacement However this solution may not be appropriate if you suffer from advanced lung or

heart disease are under treatment for cancer with chemotherapy or are experiencing a neurologic problem such as advancing Parkinson s D sease to name a few of the conditions that would preclude joint replacement If joint surgery s out of the question what are your a ternatives? Med cation to

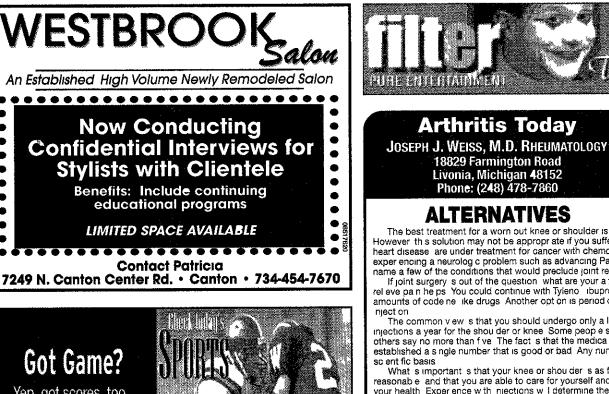
rel eve pain he ps. You could continue with Tyleno ibuprofen and possibly small amounts of code nellike drugs. Another opt on is period c joint aspiration and

The common view is that you should undergo only a limited number of injections a year for the shou der or knee. Some people say three njections a year others say no more than five. The fact is that the medical profession has never established a single number that is good or bad. Any number you hear is without sc ent fic basis

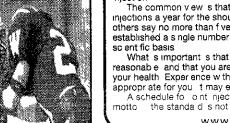
What s important s that your knee or shou der s as free from pain as is reasonable and that you are able to care for yourself and exercise as needed for your health Experience with njections will determine the number of injections appropriate for you it may even mean one a month

hedule for ont njections that sibest for you is a example of the neo ca the standa d is not plact call the plact call becomes standa d

www.drjjweiss.yourmd.com



Yep, got scores, too.





Recognizing HomeTown Heroes Awards Luncheon

VOLUNTEERS

Congratulations to the following people and groups who will be honored at United Way's annual volunteer recognition event Join WJBK-TV FOX 2 anchor Huel Perkins as we acknowledge these outstanding volunteers for their service to our region

ELEBRATE



Monday, April 16 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. **Detroit Marriott Renaissance Center**

Bernie Firestone Labor Award William Dueparo of Detroit

CorPLUS Award Barbara Wojtas of Sterling Heights

Exemplary Group Service Award Disaster Action Team - American Red Cross Southeastern Michigan Chapter

> **Outstanding Youth Award** Mikhail George of Novi

Young Adult Award of Excellence Danielle Baillargeon of Windsor ON

Outstanding Business Award United Parcel Service in Livonia

Heart of Gold Awards Dan Ballnık of Dearborn **Beverly Palise of Madison Heights** Roberta Patt of Huntington Woods Robert Rosowski of Northville

Reservations must be made in advance. To RSVP, please contact United Way at 313-226-9430 by April 6. Tickets are \$35.

United Way

Special thanks to our media partner

Observer HEccentric NEWSPAPERS HOMETOWNLIFE COM



I N ONCERT UE FRIDAY MAY 4

Win four (4) tickets to see **Billy Joel In Concert** and a gourmet Dinner Buffet in The Captain's Quarters at The Palace on Friday May 4th.

TO ENTER, LOG ON TO WWW PALACENET COM/OBSERVER WITH YOUR NAME, ADDRESS AND DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER ONE (1) WINNER CHOSEN AT RANDOM WILL RECEIVE FOUR (4) TICKETS TO THE ABOVE SHOW AND DINNER AT CAPTAIN'S QUARTERS AT THE PALACE (ALCOHOL TAX AND GRATUITY NOT INCLUDED) ALL ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BY APRIL 27TH WINNERS WILL BE NOTIFIED ON APRIL 30TH VIA E MAIL EMPLOYEES AND IMMEDIATE FAMILY MEMBERS OF PALACE SPORTS & ENTERTAINMENT LIVE NATION & THE OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC ARE NOT ELIGIBLE PRIZE IS NOT EXCHANGABLE



Tickets available at livenation com palacenet com The Palace Box Office, all ticketmaster outlets or charge by phone at 248 645 6666

New coach likes what he sees in 'Cat runners, B2



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

Proposed merger would combine WLAA, KVC

BY BRAD EMONS STAFF WRITER

A merger between the Western Lakes Activities Association and the Kensington Valley Conference appears all but a done deal for the 2008-09 school year

The merger will also include two Waterford schools, Mott and Kettering, from the Oakland Activities Association

The conference, yet to be named, will feature 24 schools divided into four six-team divisions based on geographic locations

"I'm confident in saying things are close," said Lakeland athletic director Greg Michaels, who has helped spearhead the merger effort "Things are positive and we just have to tie up some loose ends as far as drafting a resolution, as well as putting a constitution and the bylaws together '

Michaels said that one major hurdle was cleared last week

when principals from the Western Lakes unanimously voted to accept being part of the merger

The two leagues will have a follow-up meeting to discuss scheduling issues, by-laws and a constitution on April 26

"The only reason we could not put it in writing is because it has to be approved by the boards in Pinckney and Howell, but it's my understanding both

PLEASE SEE MERGER. 82

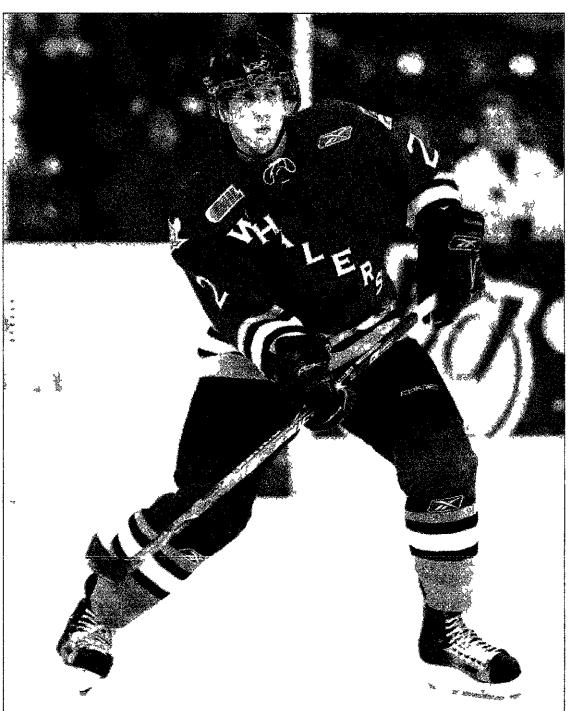
WLAA-KVC MERGER PLAN

South Division: Livonia Franklin, Livonia Churchill, Canton, Plymouth, Westland John Glenn, Wayne Memorial Central Division: Livonia Stevenson Salem Northville, Novi, South Lyon, South Lyon East

North Division: Walled Lake Central, Walled Lake Western, Walled Lake Northern, White Lake Lakeland, Waterford Kettering, Waterford Mott

West Division: Brighton, Hartland, Howell, Howell Parker, Pinckney, Milford

OHL Playoffs: Western Conference Semis -



GOAL-ORIENTED

Brophey's overtime game-winner sends Kitchener home dejected

BY ED WRIGHT STAFF WRITER

For a moment late Friday night, Evan Brophey traded in his role as the Plymouth Whalers' best passer for a far more important one overtime hero

Brophey, who led the Whalers with 71 regular-season assists, ripped a shot through Kitchener goaltender John Murrays five-hole 6 25 into overtime to give Plymouth a 6-5 victory in Game 1 of the Ontario Hockey League's Western Conference semifinal series The short handed net finder was Bropheys second OT gamewinner this post-season

When the red light went on, the sellout crowd of 3,775 in the Compuware Sports Arena

minutes after his crowdpleasing shot "Kitchener has a very tough team, so I'm sure there will be a lot of games in this series that are tight like

tonight's was " Don t count on Plymouth head coach Mike Vellucci inviting Friday night's officiating crew over for Easter dinner – not after the men in stripes whistled his Whalers for 14 infractions compared to the Rangers' four Vellucci pointed toward the disparity in penalties as the primary reason his team was outshot, 55 34

I knew that if we were going to win it in OT that it would have to be a shorthanded goal because we were short-handed the whole game," quipped Vellucci "It was a great play by Brophey

Sunday April 8 2007

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

www.hometownlife.com

In search of **Boston runners Plymouth and Canton**

residents who are planning on running in this year's **Boston Marathon are** encouraged to contact **Observer Sports Editor Ed** Wright for a feature article he is writing on the event **Boston-bound runners** should contact Wright at (734) 953-2108 Monday or Tuesday night between 5 30 p m and midnight, or e-mail Wright at ewright@hometownlife co m

Plymouth volleyball camp

The annual Plymouth High School Volleyball Team Camps will be held July 23-25 (Monday through Wednesday) in the Plymouth gymnasium A camp for current Wildcat volleyball players will be held 8 30 a.m to noon while a separate one for fifth- through ninth graders is set for 1-4 p m each day

The cost of the morning camp is \$95, the afternoon camp is \$65

For more information, contact Plymouth coach Kelly McCausiand at (734) 223-1737 or at mccausk@taylork12 mi us

Plymouth football

let out a thunderous roar as Brophey was mobbed by his teammates The game-winner was set

up by defenseman Wes Cunningham, who controlled a Kitchener turnover near the Whalers' blue line before threading a pass to Brophey, who unleashed a low laser after skating up the left side

'It's always nice to get an OT game-winner, but we'd prefer that the game not go into overtime in the first place," said Brophey, a few

WALT DMOCH

It was a nice shot and it went five-hole

"We took a few too many penalties, but I thought the officiating was horrible We were on our heels the entire game Wed get up two goals, then we'd get four or five penalties in a row They'd score, we go up two again, and then the same thing would happen All we ask is that they call it even ' Plymouth net-minder

PLEASE SEE WHALERS, B4

Leading by example Ignition's Johnson serves dual role as assistant coach/defender

Plymouth Whalers defenseman Brett Bellemore, pictured above in a game earlier this season, notched an assist in his

team s 6-5 victory over Kitchener Friday night in Game 1 of the best-of-seven OHL Western Conference semifinals series

BY ED WRIGHT STAFF WRITER

There are a number of players in the Major Indoor Soccer League who display the off-thefield strategic instinct and rare leadership skills that earn them the label of "Future Coach"

That said, the future is now for Detroit Ignition defenseman Matt Johnson

The 6-foot-2, 183-pound native of St Paul, Minn , holds the unique title of player/assistant coach for the first-year MISL franchise, which currently sits atop the league standings with an 18-12 record

Johnson has played in 18 games this season, racking up two goals, three assists and 18 blocks For the other 12, he's either been head coach Mark Pulisic's right-hand man on the bench or, in several early-season contests, he served as the Ignition's interim head coach when Pulisic was out due to health problems

I enjoy both roles,' Johnson said of his player/assistant coach title "Before every practice, I'll meet with Mark and talk about what we're going to do and then after practice we'll talk about what we're going to do the rest of the week and what we need to work on

'Once practice starts, I'm more of a player than a coach Mark 1s the one who sets up the drills and actually runs the practice When I dress for the game, I'm focused on what I need to do as a player and what I need to do to prepare "At the end of the day, I get involved in the game plans and making sure everyone is on the same page and not pulling in different directions

GOOD CHEMISTRY

Johnson said he is not surprised by the Ignition's meteoric rise to the top of the MISL standings, given its stockpile of savvy, veteran players

"The biggest key to our success is that everybody on the team bought into our defense-first philosophy right away," Johnson said "From day one, we've wanted to be strong in our own defensive half of the field and then counterattack from there If we defend well, which we've been doing, we have some very good offensive players who can create and finish at the other end

'Off the field, everybody gets along, too, for the most part It's a good group of guys

TOUGH CHOICE

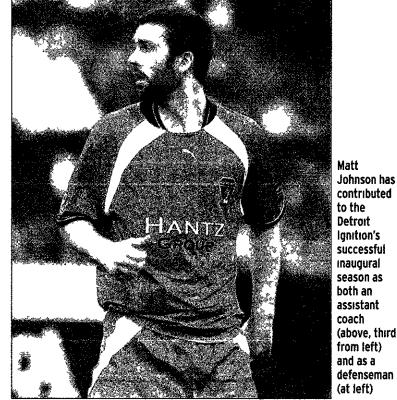
Johnson was a three-sport standout in soccer, baseball and hockey in high school

"Once I graduated from high school, I considered going to a smaller college and playing both hockey and soccer," he said 'But I eventually decided that soccer was probably my best sport and I was fortunate enough to get an opportu-

PLEASE SEE JOHNSON, B2



PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE DETROIT IGNITION



Matt Johnson has contributed to the Detroit Ignition's successful

"Best Penalty Killer" Coaches were not allowed to vote for players on their own team

golf outing

The seventh annual **Plymouth Wildcat Football** Golf Outing will be held 2 pm Sunday, June 3, at Hickory Creek Golf Course, which is located at 3605 Napier in Canton

Included in the \$100 entry fee for the best-ball scramble (shotgun start) are 18 holes of golf and a dinner afterwards Individuals are invited to attend the dinner only for \$40

There will be prizes for the first place team, longest drive for men and women, and closest to the pin. There will also be a silent auction and 50/50 raffle

To register, mail a check to and the names of the individual in your foursome to Lisa Goble, 5160 Gotfredson, Plymouth, MI 48170

For more information, call (734) 207-8889, or send an e-mail to Rgoble64@aol com. The registration deadline

is Tuesday, May 22

Whalers lauded

Several Plymouth Whalers were recognized in the final results of the 2006-07 Ontario Hockey League Coaches Poli categories, including Tom Sestito, who was voted "Most improved ' and

Other Whalers honored were Evan Brophey (third place in "Smartest Player" and "Best Playmaker", and second in "Best in Faceoffs), Jared Boll (second in "Hardest Worker"), Dan Collins (tied for first in ' Best Shot"), and James Neal, who was voted the OHL's "Best Body Checker'

MERGER

FROM PAGE B1

B2

school districts are on board and ready to go,' Michaels said

The proposed set-up would include a division with all schools from the 12-school WLAA including Livonia Churchill, Livonia Franklin, Canton, Plymouth, Westland John Glenn and Wayne Memorial

The next division would merge three schools each from the WLAA and KVC including Livonia Stevenson Salem and Northville, along with Novi, South Lyon and South Lyon East (which opens in the fall of 2007)

Yet another division will consist of schools along the M-59 corridor - Walled Lake Western, Central and Northern, all from the WLAA, White Lake Lakeland of the KVC, and both Mott and Kettering from the OAA

The fourth division will include all schools that are current members of the KVC -Brighton, Hartland, Pinckney, Milford and Howell, along with Howell Parker (set to open next fall as well)

Concerns about rising transportation costs caused both leagues to look at ways to maximize scheduling concerns, as well as accommodating new sports such as lacrosse, bowling, figure skating, etc

We don t have any fall schedules set yet (for 2008-09), but we now can certainly get more creative now," Michaels said

The Lakeland A D said he also hopes the new league can address the gender equity issue following Monday's decision by the US Supreme Court, which upheld a lower federal court decision to switch girls basketball to the winter and girls volleyball to the fall Also affected was both boys and girls golf and tennis, which is being flipflopped between the spring and fall

"There's a lot ahead,"

Michaels said 'As far as scheduling girls basketball, we're looking at three different scenarios and seeking a consensus in 2008-09 But this (merger) was a natural because we both (the KVC and WLAA) share the same philosophies

Michaels is pleased the way the divisions have been set up geographically

"Those schools in our division are all 11 miles within each other and it benefits us the most distance-wise," he said The Waterford schools have been in the mix unofficially all along

"After the three Farmington schools (Harrison, North and Farmington of the OAA) said no to our invitation last fall, we got a letter of inquiry about joining awhile back from Tim Domke when he was A D We've always had a close work ing relationship with Mike Butterfield (at Mott) because they're right in our back yard

bemons@oe homecomm net | (734) 953 2123

New coach likes what he sees in 'Cat runners

Please see Thursday s Observer for Boys track and field previews

> BY ED WRIGHT STAFF WRITER

While the Plymouth girls track-and-field team and firstyear head coach Kurt Britnell are still in the getting-toknow you stage, Britnell has seen enough to form an opinion of his youth-dominated contingent

"I have a great feeling about this team, said Britnell, who also coaches the Wildcats boys team along with assistants Jeff Wood, Brian Theisen, Ricky Styes, Jon Mıkosz, Tıffany Grubaugh, Sarah Kehoe, Alice Ahern and Kevin Palmer For the most part, we re young and inexperienced, but the girls are working extremely hard and they re all business at practice '

Among the few veteran performers Britnell gets to work with are senior standouts Brittany Petty and Chrystien Guyton Brittany does everything,

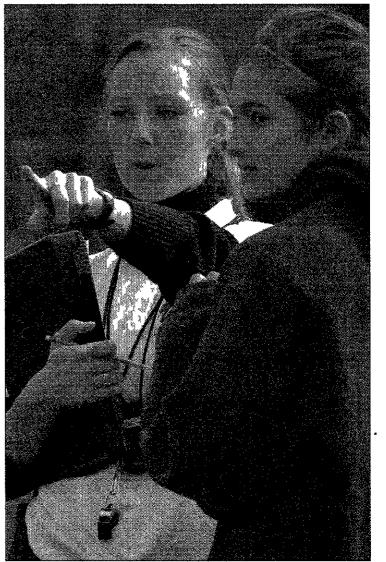
said Britnell, when asked how the four-year letter-winner will contribute this season 'Shes an excellent high jumper, a sprinter and shell run on some relays

'And Chrystien is a lot like Brittany in that she can do it all, including hurdles, sprints and she's a very good shot-putter"

Other key returners for the Wildcats include the sister combination of long jumper/sprinter Stephanie Okolo and middle-distance performer Karen Okolo, both of whom are sophomores There's also sophomore Jill Morton, who is a talented sprinter and key member of several relay teams, and Kelly Hahn, who may be the best of a solid and deep long-distance crew

Others counted on to make key contributions include sisters Troi and Megan Davis, Mandy McManus Lauren Ahern and Molly Slavens

This is an awesome group of kids, said Britnell They re very workmanlıke You d would think there would be some goofing around because we practice with the boys team, but that s not the case at all They listen and they work when they re at practice I'm excited about this season"



TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

First-year Canton girls track coach Pam Schaufele discusses strategy with one of her runners during Tuesday's dual meet against Northville

GIRLS TRACK PREVIEW

on potential

"We should be strong in the sprints said Schaufele, who competed in cross country and track and-field at Albion College "We have a lot of potential and we had a strong turnout of freshmen and sophomores, which will be nice if they all stick around all four years

The biggest thing I m looking for this year is growth"

A trio of seniors and one jun ior will serve as captains for the 48 member squad this season Brittany McKinney (sprinter/long jumper) Ashley McClellan (shot and discus), Meghan Matheny

Dexter I m excited to see how it all pans out"

SALEM

First-year head coach Jennifer Dattilio, who didn't take over the reins of the team until a few days before the first official workout, is optimistic heading into the 2007 campaign

'We have a pretty strong distance squad and our sprinters look promising," said Dattilio, who ran in college at Hillsdale College "We have a lot of freshmen who have a lot of potential too

The Rocks will be paced by All-State cross country performer Hannah Cavicchio, who should be among the area's best in the 3,200- and 1,600meter events Other standouts that Dattilio noted were junior Kelley Determan, who excels in the 800 and 1,600, pole vaulter Alexa Van Vliet and speedster Caitlyn Heaney, whose best events are the 200 and 400

JOHNSON

FROM PAGE B1

nity to play at Wisconsin-Green Bay

I ve played soccer all over the country since I graduated from college Initially I played in Louisiana

The coach on that team left and moved west, and I followed him there and played in Salt Lake City for three years I ve also played in San Diego, Cleveland and Chicago

Johnson said its never easy moving from city

to city, pulling up roots and friendships along the way

The nice thing about it is that wherever I've gone, I ve had a built-in set of friends,' he said And there are always guys on the team who know the city and can help you find your way around I didn t know anything about Detroit before I came here, but a couple of our players are from this area, so they ve helped the new guys find our way around

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PCS boys white wash Ypsi 16-0

Senior captain Jared Ruark netted two goals and three assists to lead the Plymouth-Canton-Salem boys lacrosse team to a convincing 16-0 white-washing of Ypsilanti in a game played Tuesday night at the P-CEP junior varsity stadium

The victory improved the Warriors to 2-0

PCS outshot its visitors 55-2 while also dominating the ground-ball category, 34-9

LACROSSE

Both teams were whistled for four penalties

one quarter, 9-0 at the half and 13-0 with 15 minutes to play

scorers were Devin Murphy and Patrick Downey, who both netted two

Martin, Scott Wisniewski,

Danny Norris, Nick Cote, Scott Darel, Jacob Underwood, Brian Walsh, Nick Thompson and Chris Koetting scored single goals for the winners

lar in net for the Warriors, who return to action Tuesday at the P-CEP junior varsity stadium

ENTER FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN TICKETS & A MEET AND GREET! TOM COLLINS Presents

The Warriors led 3-0 after Joining Ruark as multi-goal

Kyle Dunleavy, Connor

Wisniewski, Murphy and Cote registered assists along

with Ruark Junior Justin Scott was stel

when they host Holt at 7 p m

CANTON

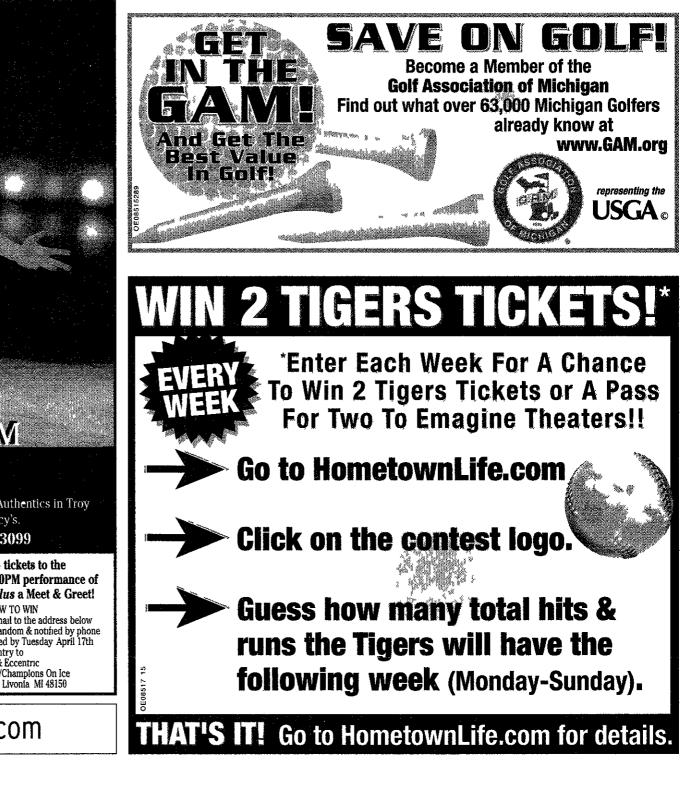
First-year coach Pam Schaufele inherits a team that is short on experience, but long

sprinter/high jumper/ and distance runner Casey Cheves, the lone junior

Among the underclassmen expected to earn their share of points are freshmen Beth Swanberg (middle distance) and sprinter Ashley Banks

'We have a lot of talent, said Schaufele, who grew up in

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Friday, April 20 • 7:30 PM . Joe Louis Arena

Tickets available at the Joe Louis Arena and Fox Theatre box office, Hockeytown Authentics in Troy (without service charges) and all *ticketmaster* outlets, including Macy's.

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NAME ADDRESS	 Enter to win 4 tickets to the Friday, April 20• 7·30PM performat Champions on Ice <i>plus</i> a Meet & G
CITY STATE DAYTIME PHONE	
E-MAIL	 Send entry to Observer & Eccentric Attn Jeanie Parent/Champions On Ice 36251 Schoolcraft Livonia Mi 48150

Visit us online at hometownlife.com

B3



B4



Mighty mini-mites

The Plymouth Tiger Sharks captured the Little Caesars Amateur Hockey League championship at Joe Louis Arena March 20 when they defeated Canton, 1-0 The team consists of Jack VanDenBeurgeury Ben Posa Will Moran, Jacob Marciniak Joshua Revnew Martino Zaia, Alec Regula, Jake Semik Chase Cunningham, Evan Williams C J Mullenax Nolan Loomis, Marcus Jackson, Brendan Pick, Drew Fletcher and Garrett Bush The team was coached by John VanDenBeurgeury, Troy Pick, Bob Mullenax and Brett Loomis



Middleton, Ohio, March 23 25 The Celtics edged the MTSC Cobras 1.0 in the championship game Pictured (front row from left) are Stephanie Sheridan, Kayla Berendt Kaitlin Jatczak Annie Marshall Michele Bellovary, Lauren Leskovitz, Ashley Melnick, Brianne Miller (back row from left) Lauren Chipman, Emily Southern, Tori Tripp, Niki Gilo Lexy Barman, Megan Peplinski and Christine Jiang The team was coached by Dermot Davitt and Joe Sheridan

WHALERS

FROM PAGE B1

Michal Neuvirth was his usual stellar self, but he had to be considering the barrage of pucks he faced Possibly the most sterling play of Neuvirths highlight-reel night came with 5 20 left in the second period when he sprinted all the way out to the left face-off circle to swat away a puck that Kitchener forward Steve Downie was honing in on

'Michal made some great saves for us tonight, just like hes done all year, said Vellucci

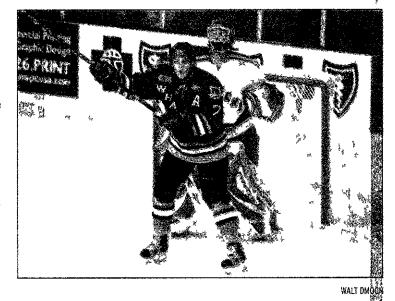
The Whalers seemed to be riding the momentum of their first-round sweep of Guelph when they exploded for a pair goals in the game's opening 10 minutes a Chris Terry lamp-lighter 3 07 into the contest and a short-hander from Tom Sestito with 10 01 left in the opening stanza

Kitchener made it 2-1 on Downies goal with 5 44 to go in the first period

The Whalers extended their lead to 3-1 8 50 into the second period when James Neal picked up a loose puck at the Plymouth blue line then outskated a pair of Ranger defenders before beating Murray with a hard shot glove side

heavy dose of momentum and a 4-2 lead - into the remaining in the second period when Daniel Ryder after securing a slick pass from Brett Bellemore, who

31 seconds a part Yannick Webers power-play marker period and Downies second of the night 31 ticks later



Plymouth's Jared Boll, pictured above in a game earlier this season, played a key role in the Whalers' 6-5 victory over Kitchener Friday night in Game 1 of the OHL Western Conference semifinals

in on the Whalers night when Weber scored a - you guessed it^{\dagger} — power-play goal with 7 30 left in regulation to put the Rangers on top, 5 4 However, Neal banged in a rebound goal just over a minute later to tie the game at 5-5

Plymouth's Jared Boll nearly ended the contest 2 28 into the extra session. but he was robbed from close range by a slick glove save by Murray

Thirty-two seconds after Plymouth was called for its 14th penalty of the game,

Brophey did something the Whalers have done all year turned a potentially adversarial situation into a positive one with his game-winnıng goal

The two teams will renew. acquaintances tonight at 7 p m for Game 2 at Kitchener Game 3 is set for Tuesday night at 7 05 at the Compuware Sports Arena while Game 4 is scheduled for Wednesday on the Rangers' home ice

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TOTAL AND A TOTAL TEALS





Sunday April 8 2007 The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

www.hometownlife.com

Brad Kadrich editor (734) 459 2700 bkadrich@hometownlife.com

Easter eggs have place in healthy diet

ggs even beautifully colored Easter eggs are full of nutrition including high quality protein which helps protect lean body mass as you lose weight They also contain antioxidants that enhance your immunity B vitamins that are essen tial for energy production and essen tial fatty acids that are necessary for metabolism

Eggs are also a source of iron and folate So why are whole eggs limited to four per week? If you said because of their cholesterol content you ic correct

The American Heart Association says four eggs per week are OK for almost everyone because the choles terol you consume in food is not a major player in coronary disease The actual culprit is blood cholesterol



Studies show the amount of choles terol in vour diet really doesn t affect your blood choles te10l levels Our bodies usually auto matically respond to increased choles terol consumption by reducing choles terol production in the body

Lında Aubuchon

Still the American Heart Association

recommends limiting cholesterol intake to less than 300 mg daily and an egg has about 213 mg

More important to your weight loss progress vou should limit eggs due to their fat content One whole egg contains about five grams of fat in the yolk This makes it a higher fat protein choice Although you should consume eggs only occasionally they can still be put of a successful weight loss program as they provide nutrient that i beached how mu

Although you should consume eggs only occasionally, they can still be part of a successful weight loss program as they provide nutrients that are beneficial to your diet.



Christians celebrate Resurrection with church services, food

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN STAFF WRITER

Even before the birds start to sing on Easter Sunday morning Volodymyr and Luba Shesiuk head for church to celebrate the Resurrection at Mass Its a tradi tion the Garden City couple brought with them from Ukraine in 1991

Afterwards they ll gather their two adult daughters son in law and friends around the kitchen table for a breakfast shared only on this festive Christian occasion Over the years different ethnic groups have observed Easter Sund win a variety of ways but church cryres indfodaem in at the Leart of rejoicing over Jesus rising from the dead after his crucifixion

Luba is preparing very special bread It smells so nice in the nouse its a very long preparation for this said Volodymyr Shesiuk conductor of the Livonia Symphony Orchestra Around 5 a m we go to church then have a very special breakfast with eggs paska (sweet bread with raisins) kielbasa (sausage) At Easter time everything tastes so good

POLISH EASTER

Sister Nancy Jamroz grew up in a Polish family who celebrated the entire week from Palm Sunday to Holy Thursday, Good Friday Holy Saturday and Easter Today as a Felician nun, Sister Jamroz follows similar obser vances

On Holy Thursday for Catholics the evening Mass is the Last Supper and celebration of the institution of the priesthood preceded by a supper or agape from Latin meaning love feast said Sister Jamroz vice president for student services at Madonna University in Livonia On Good Friday many Polish people spend all thick hours in church Besides the Stations of the Cross Polish people have special prayers called lamentations If you talk to any Polish about Gorzkie Zale they

Swieconka the Easter feast On Holy Saturday Polish and Ukrainian families traditionally take their Easter baskets filled with paska bread sausage salt butter, and eggs to church to be blessed At the Fehrian Motherhouse a priest comes to bless the food eaten by the nuns

"We have eight tables with breads made into rabbits and Easter baskets a table with meats including Polish sausage dairy products with butter lambs another with desserts including candy and bunny cakes another table with fruits said Sister Jamroz There is a special bless ing for each of the foods

On Sunday morning at 6 a m is a Polish tradition of the Resurrection Mass Children wear new Easter clothes and carry lilies in procession and either have a cross without the body of Jesus draped with white cloths, or the resurrected Jesus Afterward all the food that was blessed on Saturday will be eaten during large family gather

mgs

ITALIAN EASTER

Quinto Milito left Italy in 1959 but brought the tradition of the Easter feast with him to America. On Easter morning the Livonia man will go to church before gathering for a 'huge family dinner"

Two weeks later, the artistic director of the Friends of the Opera of Michigan presents the nonprofits annual Easter concert 4 30 p m Sunday April 22, at St Priscilla Church 19120 Purlingbrook Livonia For details about the concert featuring Theodorc Dubois The Seven Last Words of Christ call (313) 582 0997 or (248) 476 4700

We start with antipasto and white wine and then have lasagna, lamb chops and pannetone bread made special for Easter said Milito

diet While eggs are most often con sidered a breakfast food theres no reason to limit them to mornings alone Add some leftover Easter egg to a hearty grilled chicken salad one night this week

Speaking of breakfast do you still skip or consume little for breakfast because you don't like traditional breakfast foods? Well get over it To have a healthy weight loss and more importantly to keep your weight off breakfast is essential

Breakfast jump starts your metab olism for the day it helps control your hunger satisfies your appetite gives you energy and makes you feel more alert throughout the day all of which can help you reach your weight loss goals

If you really don t like typical breakfast choices then find some thing else to start vour day on a healthy note Here are some favorites from mv weight loss clients

🖬 Create a Pita Pizza Just stuff a whole wheat pita with some tomatoes and low-fat mozzarella cheese Heat it up in the microwave or toaster oven and enjoy

How does rice pudding sound? All you need is about 1/3 cup of left over rice 1 cup of nonfat vanilla yogurt with artificial sweetener, and a dash of cinnamon Just mix and enjoy a cool sweet breakfast

Forget about greasy hash browns Just heat up a leftover baked potato and top it with nonfat melted cheese for a warm filling breakfast meal Breakfast 1s meant to refuel your body, and there's no rule that says you have to stick to standard 1tems

Try these simple ideas and begin to create new ones to start off your day with a healthy meal that can help you with your weight loss efforts

Linda Aubuchon is owner of Diet Center of Canton a provider of personalized we get loss solutions E mail comments or questions to Linda@DietCenterofCanton com or cal her at (734) 414 9200

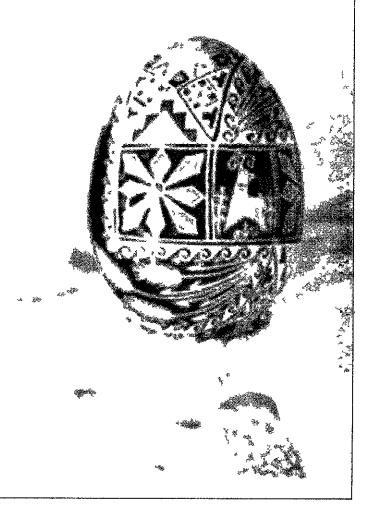
will know

Earlier in the week or on Good Friday afternoon Sister Jamrozs family colored eggs in preparation for

UKRAINIAN EASTER

Olga Soloveys parents brought the family's Easter traditions with them from Ukraine Many of

PLEASE SEE EASTER, C3



Home hunts a happy Easter happening

BY DONNA KENSKE CORRESPONDENT

Grandmothers unite1

Instead of the big Easter Egg Hunt put on by parks have you ever given thought to having one at your house condo or homeowners association / Think its too much trouble? Wrong A few simple steps and you ll find a new family tradition your grandchildren will await with glee

This is your lucky day' Calling all kids, the hunt is on' Invest in a few bags of plastic eggs the amount varies by the number of children attending (be sure to retrieve eggs at end of hunt for next year) Next, a bag or two of wrapped candy will do or visit the bulk-food sec tion at the grocery store for a greater variety

Raid your change jar and the couch I

PLEASE SEE EGG HUNT, C5



Grandma Donna Kenske of Canton hunts Easter eggs with grandchildren Olivia, Anthony and Emily

Genealogical Society

John Castle will focus on researching Michigan's township records when the Western Wayne Genealogical Society meet Monday April 16 at the Livonia Senior Center 15218 Farmington Road Livonia Castle will speak following the 730 pm business meeting Sue Cromwell will speak about Obits Death **Records Cemeteries Funeral Homes** and Their Connections at the 6.30 p.m. session. The meetings are open to the public and guests are welcome. For more information visit the Web site at www.rootsweb.com/~miwwcgs.or.by calling Margie at (734) 522 4050 Antiquarian book fair

The 29th annual Ann Arbor Antiquarian Book Fair takes place 11 a m to 5 p m Sunday May 6 in the ballroom of the Michigan Student Union 530 S State Street in Ann Arbor There is a \$5 admis sion charge which benefits the William L Clements Library of the University of Michigan Nearly 40 book dealers from Michigan and throughout the Midwest will offer fine used rare and out of print books maps postcards photographs and prints for sale. The William L Clements Library will hold an auction Saturday May 5 as a lead in to the book fair Preview is 1 4 30 p.m. the auction starts at 5 p m. For more information contact Jay Platt c/o the West Side Book Shop 113 W Liberty Ann Arbor MI 48104 e mail jplatt@provide net or call (734) 995 1891

Art center workshops

The Ann Arbor Art Center will be offer ing special workshops as part of the ArtVentures program to coincide with Ann Arbor Public Schools spring break period Workshops will be offered April 10 12 at the Art Center Liberty Street location The workshop Tuesday April 10 will be creating hand painted paper lanterns A rainy day umbrella workshop will be offered Wednesday April 11 On Thursday April 12 we will offer a paper bead making workshop. All three work shops run 1.30 3 p m ArtVentures work shops cost \$16 per creator Further defails can be found either in the Spfing/Summer course brochure or on the center's Web site at www.annarbo rartcenter org Registration for all Ann Arbor Art Center programs is necessary and can be completed on line or by call ing (734) 994 8004 Ext 101 Raggedy Ann & Andy

The Marquis Theatre presents Raggedy Ann and Andy through April 29 Performance dates and times are 2 30 pm Saturdays (April 14 21 28) and Sundays (April 15 22 29) and Monday Friday April 9 13 Tickets are \$8 for all performances For more information visit the theater's Web site at www.northvillemarguistheatre.com.or call (248) 349 8110

Great Lakes Doll Club

The Great Lakes Doll C ub s 18th annual Grant A Wish Mini Convention a benefit for the 32 Degrees Detroit Masonic Learning Center for Dyslexic Children takes place April 13 15 at the Livonia Marriott The weekend event includes an exclusive Barbie doll Friday night cocktail party and charity auction Saturday luncheon with guest speaker Bill Greening from Mattel Collectibles and a Sunday brunch Tickets are \$180 The salesroom featuring fashion dolls is open to the public 7 30 10 p m Saturday April 14 and noon 2 p.m. Sunday April 15 For more information e mail gaw fund@aol.com

Genealogical society

The Livingston County Genealogical Society meets Thursday May 3 at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints 1041 W Grand River in Howell Speaker Cindy Gorstick corresponding secretary of the Michigan Genealogical Council will discuss WWI and WWII Draft Registration Information The meeting which starts with a pot luck dinner at 6 30 p m and the business portion at 7 30 p.m. will also serve as the group's annual meeting. The public is invited. For more information, call Margaret Bowland (810) 227 7745 Art of healing

St Mary Mercy Hospital offers a Master Reiki III class 2.4 p m April 28 and 2.5 pm April 29 The classes will help stu dents develop and become skilled at administering this ancient art of healing that creates a powerful experience Reiki I and II are pre requisites To regis ter call (734) 655 1162 St Mary Mercy Hospital is located at 36475 Five Mile (at Levan) in Livonia

Women remembering Women

A Women Remembering Women evening tea is set for 7 8 30 p m Thursday May 10 at the Best Western Hotel Laurel Park Suites 16999 S Laurel Park Drive in Livonia The evening is designed for women who have lost mothers daughters grandmothers granddaughters aunts friends or other special women in their lives. The evening includes tea and desserts a special speaker educational materials and a special gift Cost is free RSVP requested by May 7 but not required To RSVP or for more information call (800) 770 9859 and ask for Diana or Sherri

Golf league

The Livonia Women's Golf League is hoping to expand with 18 hole women golfers The league plays at Whispering Willows Golf Course on Newburgh just south of 8 Mile Thursday mornings tee ing off at 8 am beginning May 3 Cost is \$25 per week which includes golf and a cart Non residents are encouraged to join For more information call Kathy (248) 476 3991

Simply Self Storage

Notice is hereby given that on Monday April 16 2007 on or after 9 30 a m that Simply Self Storage will be offering for sale under the judicial lien process by public auction the following units The goods to be sold are generally described as household goods Terms of the sale are <u>cash only</u> Simply Self Storage reserves the right to

ODE

Honor induction

Dylan Karides 12, the son of Steven and Lori Karides of Garden City, became a member of the National Junior Honor Society at a recent candlelight induction ceremony at Garden City Middle School In addition to being an "A" student, Dylan plays basketball soccer and the plano His grandmother, Joan Brady and Joseph DeKraub live in Plymouth

Tables and Tea

The Ann Arbor Women's Club hosts its 17th annual Tables and Teal event dis playing elegant sometimes whimsical tables settings designed by club mem bers and local retailers. The event is set for 11 a m to 4 p m Sunday April 29 at the City Club 1830 Washtenaw Ave in Ann Arbor Tickets are available at the City Club John Leidy Shops Georgetown Gifts Kitchenport and Quinn's Essentials For more informa tion call Winifred Schweiger (734) 434 8521

Hospice care help sought

Visiting Nurse Association of Southeast Michigan's (VNA) hospice program needs volunteers to comfort and sup port patients at the end of life Volunteers can provide companionship write a memoir provide respite for fam Ily or work as office support A free 18 hour training program is provided the next training session is April 14-21 and 28 from 9 a m to 3 p m at the VNA headquarters 25900 Greenfield Road Suite 600 Registration is required (248) 967 8361 or visit www.vna.org **Register for St Genevieve School** St Genevieve Catholic School is accept ing applications for the 2007 08 school year The school preschool through eighth grade is accredited by the Michigan Association of Nonpublic Schools Its at 28933 Jam son n L von a east of M ddlebelt south of Five Mile and offers full academic curricu lum full and half day preschool and kindergarten extended day program before and after school CYO program

Crafters and vendors are wanted for the springtime craft show/bazaar 1 6 p m April 28 at the Inkster Recreational Center 2025 Middlebelt in Inkster Cost is \$30 per booth E mail Vdotson@twmirr.com for application or

call (734) 595 1083 Mom-to-Mom Sale

The St Edith/St Kenneth Mothers of Preschoolers group w II host a Mom to Mom Sale from 9 a m to 1 p m Saturday April 21 at St Edith Church 15089 Newburgh south of Five Mile Gently used baby and children's items will be sold Admission is \$1 Lindsay (248) 252 4775

Bocce for bucks

Visiting Nurse Association of Southeast Michigan's signature fund raising event Bocce for Bucks III sponsored by Complete Infusion Services offers patrons an opportunity to receive pro fessional instruction on the sport from World Cup Bocce players The event takes place 2.6 p.m. Sunday April 22 at the Palazzo di Bocce in Orion Township Bocce for Bucks III features an afternoon of indoor bocce ball tour nament play ideal for families and peo ple of all ages an Italian buffet silent auction and much more. No prior expe rience or equipment needed Dress is casual and prizes will be awarded to the top teams. New this year is a private benefactor reception to be held 6 p.m. Sunday March 25 at Park West Gallery in Southfield Funds raised will help pro vide an innovative life saving system VNAs TeleHomecare program used by VNA to educate and empower patients by checking their health between home visits Tickets are available with the fol lowing benefits \$100 Guest ticket Receives bocce play Italian buffet din ner beerwine desserts silent auction and exit gift \$150 Patron ticket Receives all of the above plus expert bocce instruction from World Cup Bocce Players one hour prior to event start and \$200 Benefactor ticket Receives all of the above plus invitation to Private Benefactor Reception For spon sorship advertising or ticket informa tion for Bocce for Bucks III call (248) 967 8324 or visit vna org Waste to Watts

The Ann Arbor Hands on Museum has extended the Waste to Watts exhibition through summer of 2007 due to popular demand Waste to Watts shows how new environmentally friendly technology can turn our trash into electricity Developed by Landfill Energy Systems of Wixom Michigan this one of a kind exhibit demonstrates how methane gas recovery from landfills can be used as an alternative energy source ultimately reducing our dependency on other fuels Hours are 10 a m to 5 p m Monda / Saturday noon to 5 pm Sunday For information visit www aahom org or cal (734) 995 5439

Card party/luncheon Victoria Chapter #290 OES Livon a Masonic Temple hosts a card party/luncheon noon 3 p m the second

prizes The temple is located at 27705 W Seven Mile in Livonia. For more informa t on cali (734) 459 6063

Hospice training

Heartland Hospice is looking for caring and dedicated people with an interest in serving terminally ill patients and their families in Washtenaw western Wayne Monroe and Livingston counties Volunteers provide a variety of services including companionship light house keeping errand running grief support and clerical services. For more informa tion contact volunteer coordinator Candice Jones (888) 973 1145 Literacy Council tutors

The Community Literacy Council (CLC) is looking for volunteer tutors in Western Wayne County to help adults improve their reading writing and communica tion skills The CLC will provide training to interested volunteers Previous expe rience or a bachelor's degree is not required The council will provide free training and materials and then match you with an adult student in your area Call (734) 416 4906 for more informa tion

Toastmasters meet

Do you have a fear of public speaking? Do you need to do presentations at work and don t know where to start? Or are you terrified of the thought of standing in front of a group of people to present that report? If you answered yes to any of these questions then Toastmasters is for you! Canton Communicators Club meets every Wednesday at 6 30 p m at the Canton Coney Island on Lilley just south of Joy in the Golden Gate Plaza For additional information contact Bonnie at (734) 646 2237

Grief support

New Hope Center for Grief Support is a Christian based bereavement outreach and resource center located in Northville Age appropriate groups for widows and widowers are provided in various locations in southeastern Michigan including groups for young widows and widowers and their children between the ages of 4 through the teen years Groups for parents who have lost a child adults who have lost a parent pet loss and other specialized groups are offered at various times of the year All services for adults and children are offered at no cost to the participants If you are arieving or know someone who is please call (248) 348 0115 for further information about services provided by New Hope Center for Gr ef Support or visit www.newhopecenter.net

CLUBS

Rotary A M

The Plymouth Rotary Club of Plymouth A M meets at 7 a m every Tuesday at the Plymouth Cultural Center 525 Falmer New members are a ways we come Contact Mark Hammar president Rotary Club of Plymouth A M by calling (734) 455 6620

Canton Newcomers

May) for an adult evening of socializing a speaker or an activity Additionally the group hosts more than 20 events during the month including Book Club Bunko Playgroups Creative Kids Ladies Day and Night Out Scrapbooking Walking and many more Request a complimentary newsletter at canton newcomers org or call Jennifer at (734) 981 1715

Kiwanis Club

The Plymouth Canton Kiwanis Club meets every Tuesday at 715 a m at the Plymouth Cultural Center on Farmer Street The Club invites you to their morning meetings to discuss communi ty projects and activities Be part of the solution and not just a spectator Call (734) 981 0460 or see the Web site (www.pckiwanis.org)

Plymouth Newcomers

Plymouth Newcomers & Neighbors play groups for children ages 0 5 meet sev eral times during the week at member homes and occasional special events Come meet new parents while your kids meet their own new friends! For details contact Janet Keller at (734) 451 1840 or robertplusjanet@aoi.com

Fibromyalgia/Chronic Fatigue

The Great Lakes Fibromyalgia and Chronic Fatigue Syndrome Association will meet 13 p m on the first Thursday of each month at Merriman Road Baptist Church on Merriman south of Ford There will be a guest speaker at each meeting and a variety of topics will be covered There is no membership fee but a small donation will be accept ed For information call Lucy Rowley 734 462 1768

MOPS meet

MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers) meets twice monthly from September May for moms and their children newborn kindergarten at Lakepointe Bible Church in Plymouth For more information call Crystal Johnson (734) 459 1861

Mosaic

MOSAIC is a group where Moms come together to be refreshed and equipped for the important task of mothering. It presents speakers on child and family issues has small group discussion time crafts and brunch Child care is provid ed It meets at Plymouth Baptist Church 42021 Ann Arbor Trail on the first and third Tuesday mornings of each month September to May Contact Resha at (734) 207 0658 or resha@juno.com

Moms Club

Moms Club of Livonia S/Plymouth Canton and Westland offers a variety of activities for stay at home moms and their children. For more details call Birthe at (734) 458 8143 or Kimberly at (248) 231 6120

DAR

The Sarah Ann Cochrane Chapter Daughters of the Ame Ican Revolution meets the third Monday of each month except January July and August A group with ancestors who fought in American Revolution Members partici pate in community work involving vet



EASTER

FROM PAGE C1

Solovey's four children and nine grandchildren will gather for the festivities

We try to celebrate Easter together Were having a traditional Easter breakfast after going to church, said Solovev cantor at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Ukrainian Catholic Church in Dearborn Heights Solovey a Livonia Symphony board member, taught music in Wayne-Westland schools for 25 years

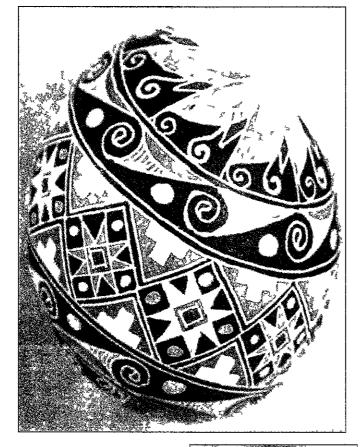
"Easter 1s a culmination Were rejoicing Christ has risen The observance begins at the beginning of Lent and starts on Monday not Ash Wednesday for Ukrainians There are Lenten services during the week After the sunrise service on Easter Sunday we eat the food blessed on Holy Saturday and divide the first egg before passing it around the table

Like Solovey, Chrystyna Nykorak observes Lent and Holy Week by going to church This year, shes planned an exhibit of Ukrainian art to coincide with the holiday A former vice presi dent of membership for the Livonia Chamber of Commerce Nykorak is executive director of the Ukraiman-American Archives and Museum in Hamtramck. The museum is presenting the exhibit at the Scarab Club in Detroit

Among the works displayed in the exhibit In Search of Ukrainian Symbolism and Motifs, are pysanky intricate Easter eggs made from beeswax and dyes Two cases will be on display by Roman Seniuk who decorated his first pysanky from a kıt ın 1986

Ukrainians began decorating pysanky more than 2 000 years ago during pre-Christian times Symbols such as the sun and ani mals were worshiped by pagan religions With the introduction of Christianity in 988 A D in Ukraine, the symbolism of the eight pointed star for the Sun God evolved into the Three Wisemen on their way to Bethlehem

"My mother never learned because my grandmother died when she was young and my great grandmother was blind said Roman Seniuk 56 of



Roman Seniuk combines traditional designs with his compositions in these Ukrainian pysanky Seniuk demonstrates the art 1 5 p m Sunday April 15 at the Scarab Club

Detroit When my mother was alive she baked paska and took kielbasa and put it around the paska with hard boiled eggs and took it to church for midnight Mass to be blessed Thats where I first saw Ukrainian eggs in a little old lady's basket Just seeing them they re absolutely beau tıful

Today Seniuks eggs can be found in three gift shops, and the Great Lakes Folk Festival and Sunflower Festival in August His work was also seen in a folk art exhibit sponsored by the Smithsonian Institution in East Lansing

No two are exactly alike said Seniuk, whose mother and father were born in Ukraine They re all traditional designs but my composition - horses, animals for wealth and prosperi ty flowers for medicinal purpos es oak leaves which are given to somebody recovering from ill ness and a symbol of strength

Ukrainians had the eggs before Christianity After Christian ty came the church

said the eggs were too beautiful and the triangles for earth wind and fire became the Father, Son and Holy Ghost

In Search of Ukrainian Symbolism and Motifs continues to May 12, at the Scarab Club 217 Farnsworth behind the Detroit Institute of Arts Semuk demonstrates the art of pysanky 15pm Sunday, April 15 during an opening reception Maria Nazarenko sings Ukrainian folk songs at 3 p m accompanied on piano by Solovey For informa tion call the Ukrainian museum at (313) 366 9764

Ichom n@hometown fe com | (734) 953 2145

Orchestra to perform lighter side of Shostakovich

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN STAFF WRITER

Volodymyr Shesiuk is always trying to come up with a signature sound so when the Livonia Symphony music committee was selecting programs for the 2006-07 season Dmitri Shostakovich came to mind

Shades of Shostakovich introduces the audience to the lighter side of the Russian composer 7 30 p m Saturday, April 14, in the fifth concert of the Livonia Symphony Orchestra series at Clarenceville High School in Livonia Shostakovich's music is often referred to as dissonant His Symphony No 9, Ballet Suite No 3, First Piano Concerto Romance (from Gadfly), and Waltz II (Jazz Suite No 2) demonstrate his witty, spirited nature

Tickets are \$17, \$5 child/student and available at Livonia libraries and at the door For more information. visit

www.livoniasymphony.com.or call the hotline at (734) 421 1111 The concert is spon sored by the Livonia Town Hall

It s a little different pro gram with Symphony No 9 Not many orchestras play this It was written after World War II It's so personal for me,' said Shesiuk who like Shostakovich lived under Soviet rule - Shostakovich in St Petersburg, Shesiuk in Ukraine

We also have nice surprises with Pauline Martin performing (Shostakovich's) concerto for piano strings and trumpet

Martin has been a guest artist with the Livonia Symphony Orchestra a couple of times in the past The West Bloomfield planist earned a doctorate of musical arts at the University of Michigan School of Music In addition to appearing as a soloist with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, New American Chamber Orchestra Florida West Coast Symphony, and Orchestra London (Canada), Martin performs with Detroit Chamber Winds & Strings In 1989 she founded the St Clair Trio whose CD, Hobson's Choice, received a first round Grammy nomination in 1996 Martin currentlv teaches at Oakland University in Rochester She also serves as artistic director of the Pro Mozart Society of Greater Detroit



C3

(CP)

West Bloomfield planist Pauline Martin performs with the Livonia Symphony Orchestra on Saturday

Shostakovich's First Concerto features prominently the trumpet so it's really interesting scoring,' said Martin

'People have a tendency to think of Shostakovich as less accessible The more one hears his music you recognize, at least in my opinion, he's the most expressive composer we might have found in the 20th century Shostakovich puts in his score a huge range of emotion with an economy of means The slow movement is absolutely beautiful There's a lot of humor in his work His music is more and more gaining popularity '

Clarenceville High School is at 20155 Middlebelt, south of Eight Mile

ichomin@hometownlife com | (734) 953 2145

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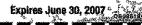
 Flooring Installations, Carpet. Tile, Hardwood Installs & -Refinishing



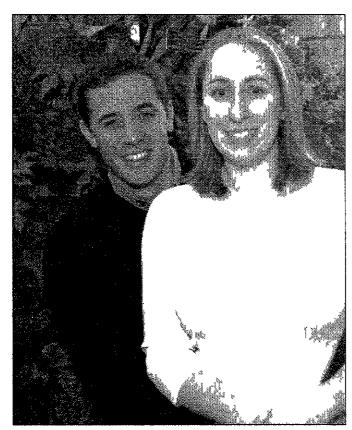
National Steam & Installations Commercial • Residential • Industrial



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Froelicher-Jones

Hans and Joan Froelicher of Annapolis, MD, announce the engagement of their daughter, Katherine Froelicher, to Brian Jones, son of Tom and Cindy Jones of Canton

Joan Froelicher, a 1999 Annapolis High School graduate earned degrees from Connecticut College and the London Center for International Relations She is pursuing a juris doctorate at George Washington University

Brian Jones, a 2000 Livonia Stevenson graduate, earned degrees from Western Michigan University and George Mason University He is a proposal coordinator at USIS, a defense contractor

A May wedding is planned



lassages Obituaries, Memorials, Remembrances 1-800-579-7355 * fax 734-953-2232 e-mail oeobits@hometownlife com

VIRGINIA "SANDY" **CONHEIM**

Age 93 of Farmington Hills, MI Born in Detroit in 1914, she died April 3, 2007 in the Hospice wing of Beaumont Hospital after a brief ill-ness She was the beloved wife of the late Melville B Conheim founder and president of Shifrin Willens Jewelers A lifelong and enthusiastic student of languages and literature she had books and articles in five languages on her bedside table at the time of her death She is survived by her two daughters MaryAnne Conheim of Philadelphia PA and Catherine Conheim of LaJoila CA also nei devoted caregivers of many years, Kathleen Nicolin Laura Magewick Joan Stenerson Carolyn Webster, Grace Joseph and Deborah Wessel A Memorial Mass will be offered at 1 pm on Wednesday April 11 at St Colman Church 32500 Middlebelt Road (at 14 Mile Rd) In lieu of flow ers contributions may be made to Hospice of Beaumont Hospital or to the Michigan Humane Society Please sign Virginia's online guest book at www.cremationmichigan.com

PAUL F. JOSEPH

Age 90 of Bowling Green OH passed away on Tuesday April 3 2007 at the Heritage Inn Bowling Green, OH He was born on August 28, 1916 in Luckey, OH to Arthur and Lydia (Welling) Joseph On January 31 1948 Paul married Gladys I Warner in Morgantown WV and she preceded him in death on February 3 2000 He was a sales engineer for Delwal Corp Novi MI for 50 years retiring in 1997 Paul was a member of St Mark's Lutheran Church Bowling Green OH and because of his love for choral music he was also a member of the Detroit Lutheran Singers Detroit MI Surviving Paul are sons James (Cynthia) Joseph of Clarkston MI Thomas (Marie) Joseph of Ann Arbor MI brothers C Fred (Helen) Joseph of Utica OH Donald (Carolyn) Joseph of Chesapeake MD and seven grandchildren He was preceded in dearth by his parents wife Glayds and step mother Helen (Grolle) Joseph Family and friends will be received on Monday April 9 2007 from 2 4 and 6 8pm at the Marsh Funeral Home 110 W Main Street Luckey OH Funeral Services will be conducted on Tuesday April 10 2007 at 11 00am from St Mark's Lutheran church Bowling Green OH, where additional visitation will be from 10 00am until time of service Officiating will be Rev Dale Schaefer Intement will be at Troy Township Cemetery Luckey OH> There will be a bereavement luncheon held at Troy Webster American Legion Post #240 OH immediately following the committal service at the cemetery Those wishing to give a memorial contribution may wish to consider Detroit Lutheran Singers On-line condolences may be sent to the family at www marshfuneralhomes com

HENRY "Hank" A WYESS

Of Livonia March 26 2007 age 74 Born July 15 1932 in Hamtramck MI to the late Frank and Pauline (Sroka) Wielgoszynski He served in the United States Navy on the USS Hornet as an aircraft mechanic during the Ko ean War and was honorably discharged in 1955 In a 30 year career as a tool and die maker he worked in machine shops around the Detroit area and as a supervisor in the Experimental Tool Room at the General Motors Hydra Matic plant in Ypsilanti Hank is survived by his wife of 46 years Marie (nee Delich) his daughter Pamela and her husband Sidney Moen of Saline special grandchildren John Moen Karen Brim Ashley Warren Katie Warren and Adam Hill Warren and his wife Xochiti Also survived by his brother Theodore and his wife Ann and their children Paula Kerrebijn Greg Wyess and wife Inna and their daugh ter Georgia Ann Wyess Hell also be missed by an aunt and several cousins A memorial visitation will be held at Neely Turowski Funeral Home 30200 Five Mile Road (between Middlebelt and Merriman) Livonia on Wednesday April 11th 1 3pm and 5 9pm Funeral Mass on Thursday April 12th at 11am at St Priscilla Catholic Church 19120 Purlingbrook Livonia Online condo lences at www neely turowski com



Raycraft 40th Wedding Anniversary

Gerald and Lynne (Herdell) Raycraft of Livonia celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary on April 7

The Raycrafts were married on April 7, 1967, at St Monica's Church in Detroit

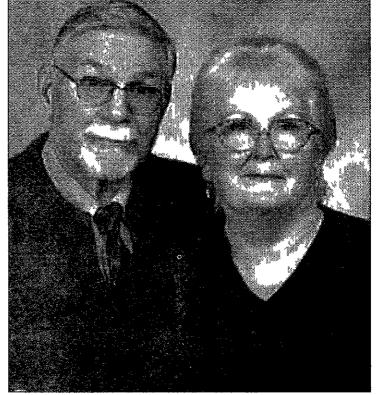
The couple was attended by Joyce Hoxsey, Carmen Herdell, Kathy DiRusso, Tom Raycraft, Chuck Raycraft, Bryce Rainer, and Mike Schier The bride was walked down the aisle by her brother, Wayne Herdell, and the flower girl was her niece, Debbie Taylor They had reception at the home of the grooms parents, Russell and Alberta Raycraft

ANNIVERSARIES

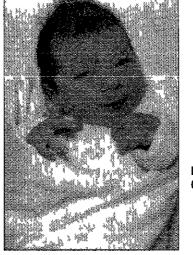
Jerry and Lynne moved to Livonia in 1997 Jerry is a code enforcement officer for the city of Livonia. He is retired from the Detroit Police Department Lynne is a retired mortgage officer

The couple have three children Scott (Melissa) Raycraft of Garden City, Amy Raycraft of Plymouth, and Todd Raycraft of Canton The Raycrafts celebrated their anniversary with many family and friends at a surprise party hosted by their children at the Monaghan Knights of Columbus in Livonia





BIRTHS



As space permits the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers print without charge announcements of class reunions Send the information to Reunions Observer & Eccentric Newspapers 36251 Schoolcraft

Dunigans to celebrated 50th anniversary

Thomas Dunigan and Julie (Lindauer) Dunigan of Westland were married May 11, 1957, at St Mary's in Jackson, Mich

Children are Kathy (David, deceased) Solomon of Wayne, Susan Taylor of Romulus, Patricia (Ronald) Walker of Taylor, Christy (Carl) Wiese of Wayne, Daniel (Karen) Dunigan of Westland and Jennifer Rauton of Garden City

They have 17 grandchildren

and five great grandchildren They enjoy playing cards, reading and spoiling their grandchildren Tom is a member of the Board of Review of the City of Wetland and they both belong to Sts Simon & Jude Church

They will celebrate their 50th anniversary on May 12, 2007 at the Wayne Tree Manor m Wayne

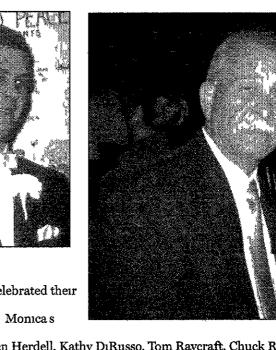
REUNIONS

A 10 year reunion 6 p.m. Saturday June 9 5th Avenue Novi private party on second floor Cost \$30 per person or \$50 per couple due no later than April 16 Make checks payable to Matt Zielinski 12829 Lanatana Ridge Court Austin Tx 78732 For more details join the Google group at http //groups google com/group/nhspa rty97

(*)

C4

ENGAGEMENT





JOHN CABOT DILLER, III

April 5, 2007 Age 43 Beloved Husband of Angi, Dear Father of Alexis Loving Brother of Christine Marianne, Thomas, Liz and Charlotte Dear Son of John Jr & Mette Also remembered by His loving Mother in law Rose Ajoian and Sister-in law Christy (Greg) Fornwalt John was A Lifelong resident of Birmingham Graduate of Seaholm High School class of 1982 Prior to John's Illness some of his favorite activities included watching professional sports golf ing, collecting sports memorabilia and spending time in his Garden More than anything John loved spending time with his Daughter playing video games, going to movies and partici-pating in her school functions Despite his long fought battle with cancer John never lost his indom inable spirit or his sense of Humor He will be missed John's Wife would like to offer a special heart felt thank you to all of the friends and family that have offered their kindness and support during John's affliction Share Memories with the Family at their On Line Guest Book at WujekCalcaterra com

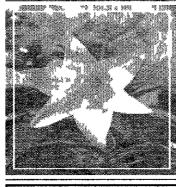
EDITH M. DONAHEE

Long time member of the Plymouth Salvation Army April 3 2007 age 86 Beloved wife of the late Lewis Beloved mother of Lawrence (Linda) Donahee, Lillian Ritter Edith Donahee Denton Sondra (Ray) Redilla and Lawrine Easley Also leaves 14 grand children and 28 great-grandchildren Sister of Phyllis Doane Services were held Saturday at The Salvation Army Plymouth Arrangements entrusted to the Schrader Howell Funeral Home

HAZEL R. WILCOX

Chelsea Michigan formerly of Birmingham, MI Age 90 died Thursday April 5 2007 at Chelsea Retirement Community She was born November 11, 1916 in Marlette, Michigan, the daughter of John W & Vera (Prowse) Jackson At age 18, Hazel met David E Wilcox at a Methodist camp in Forester Michigan They were married on May 18 1940 in Marlette MI and he pre ceded her in death on April 6 1988 Hazel was a member of the First United Methodist Church of Birmingham for 50 years where she was active in the United Methodist Women and was a Sunday School Teacher for many years Survivors include three sons Ronald A (Linda) Wilcox of Oneonta NY Craig J (Kate) Wilcox of Royal Oak Paul A (Barb) Wilcox of Jackson one brother Warren Jackson of Phoenix AZ four sisters Dora Jickling of Marlette MI Grace Seeker of Greenville OH, Lola Hicks of Kettering, OH 6 grandchil dren, and many nieces & nephews She was preceded in death by her hus band David, son James two brothers Robert Jackson and John Jackson and two sisters Merle Spencer and Genevieve Kennedy A memorial service will be held Saturday April 14 3 00 pm at the First United Methodist Church of Birmingham, with Rev Dr John E Harnish officiating Her ashes will be interred in White Chapel Memorial Cemetery Troy Memorial contributions may be made to Chelsea Retirement Community 801 W Middle St Chelsea, MI 48118 or First United Methodist Church 1589 W Maple Birmingham MI 48009

Arrangements by Cole Funeral Chapel Chelsea



65 Ş **OBITUARY** POLICY

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

Deadlines Friday 4 30 PM for Sunday Wednesday Noon for Thursday Ob tuar es received after these deadl nes w II be placed in the next available issue

e mail your obit to oeobits@hometownlife com or fax to Attn Obits c/o Charolette Wilson 734-953 2232 For more information call Charolette Wilson 734-953 2070 or Liz Keiser 734-953-2067 or toll free 866-818 7653 ask for Char or Liz

Carter Francesco Caccamo

Kay and Todd Caccamo of Canton announce the birth of their son, Carter Francesco Caccamo, on Feb 21, 2007, at Beaumont Hospital

He weighed $\hat{7}$ pounds, 11 ounces and was 20 inches long at birth

Grandparents are Dan and Ethie Neuzil of Fort Atkinson, Iowa, and Frank and Rosemary Caccamo of Auburn Hills



Collin Timothy Battle

Bob and Ginger Battle of Novi announce the birth of their son, Collin Timothy Battle, on March 3, 2007, at Providence Hospital in Southfield

Collin weighed 7 pounds, 15 ounces and measured 21 inches at birth

His grandparents are Bob and Peg Battle of Livonia and John and Pat Krawczynski of Lansing

Collin has a big sister, Delaney Battle, 5

Livonia, MI 48170, Please include the date of the reunion one contact per son and a telephone number

REUNIONS

Ladywood High School Class of 1967

A 40 year reunion in planned for June 9 10 2007 Headquarters at Courtyard by Marriott Laurel Park Livonia Call Liz at (248)681 7768 or email LHS67@comcast net for further infor mation

Livonia Bentley High School Class of 1957

A 50th reunion Saturday June 9 at St Mary s Cultural Center 18100 Merriman Road Livonia Doors open 6 p.m. din ner at 6 30 Cost \$45 per person due May 1 For information call Janice Sue Fernandez (734)427 1288 Livonia Churchill

Classes of 1971-2007

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

Livonia Franklın Class of 1969

A reunion is in the pre-planning stages for 2007 For more information contact Kathy Nisun at (248) 363 5679 or e mail Kaynınılu@aol com Northville High School Class of 1997



Advertising **Correction Notice**

The Lowe's circular in this weeks newspaper contains an error The price for Stainmaster Carpet (#74491) on page 8 is for carpet only and does not include labor or pad

We sincerely apologize for any inconvenience this error may cause to you, our valued customer.

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Novi High School

Classes of 1974 , 1975, 1976 and 1977 A combined class reunion July 28 2007 at Rock Financial in Novi For information please contact Laurie (Maier) Butler (1974) Ibutler@motorci tyharley.com Claire (Salow) Klingelhofer (1975) clairek1@com cast net Leigh (Tarczy) Guzowski (1976) laguzow@alumni nmu edu Patty (Pohlman) Mayer (1977) mayer123@comcast net

Our Lady of Sorrows Class of 1966

Aug 17 18 and 19 For more informa tion call Pat Ormsby LaPlante at (248)476 0634

Redford Thurston High School Classes of 1957, 1958

A 50 year reunion is planned with sev eral events Sept 14 16 at Embassy Suites Livonia For information con tact Ron Beller at (989)652 9724 or e mail at Admiral741@yahoo com or Marian Keegan Hierholzer at (248)349 2697 or e mail at Mamia@comcast net

Classes of the '80s

Thurston High School s 80s Reunion Committee will host a 2007 THS Multi Year Reunion from 6 p m to 1 a m Saturday Sept 22 at the Hyatt Regency in Dearborn A limited num ber of first come/first served tickets at \$59 per person will be available and no tickets will be sold at the door E mail Andrea Gambotto (Class of 86) at andshaffer@netscape net or Dan Phillips (Class of 82) at DanielP422@yahoo com Representatives from graduating classes of 80 82 88 and 89 are sought

Wayne Memorial High School Class of 1957

A 50 year class reunion 6 p m to mid night Saturday May 19 2007 at American Legion Post 9318 Newburgh Road (near Ann Arbor Trail) Livonia Also a Wayne High Alumni Association All Class Reunion honoring class of 1957 on Friday May 18 Try to attend both

For details contact Richard Smith at (248)442 7543 or Carl Allore at (810) 231 2713 or Larry Schafer at LES87@aoi com

Class of 1997

Wayne Memorial High class of 1997 reunion is this year June 12 and 3 If you have information about class mates pleas call Marion Redd at (734)721 9358

(CP)

Dueling for dollars

Pianists to raise money for free jazz festival

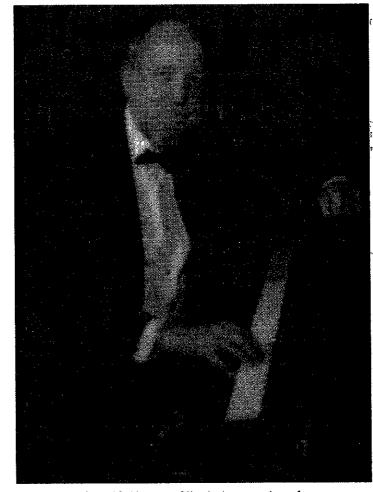
Pianists Matt Michaels and Cliff Monear duel each other on Steinway Grand pianos 3 p m Sunday, April 15, in the VisTaTech Center at Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty, between Six Mile and Seven Mile, Livonia They will follow the format used on Public Radio's Marian McPartland Piano Jazz program

The concert will be totally improvisational and unrehearsed In between dueling, the pianists will discuss the tunes they play, the composers, and different ways jazz allows the freedom to never play a piece the same way twice They will each solo and may play ducts on the same or separate pianos

Tickets are \$15 and available at the door or by calling (248) 474-2720 Proceeds go toward producing the 13th annual Michigan Jazz Festival scheduled for Sunday, July 15, at Schoolcraft College



Cliff Monear (above) along with Matt Michaels improvise on two Steinway grand planos Sunday, April 15, at Schoolcraft College in Livonia



Matt Michaels of Southfield is one of the dueling planists performing in a benefit concert for the Michigan Jazz Festival

@ THE LIBRARY

Every week the Plymouth District Library staff provides the library s list of best-sellers based on the number of requests for titles by library patrons

The books are available by placing a request with the hbrary at (734) 453-0750 or on-line at

plymouthlibrary org

FICTION

1 Nineteen Minutes," Jodi Picoult 2 'Shopaholie & Baby," Sophie Kinsetta 3 'Daddy s Girl," Lisa Scottoline 4 Whitehorn Woods, Maeve Binchy 5 'For a Few Demons More," Kim Harrison **NON-FICTION** 1 'In an Instant,' Lee and

Bob Woodruff

2 "Grace (Eventually),' Anne Lamott

3 How Doctors Think," Jerome Groopman

4 "A Long Way Gone,'

Ishmael Beah 5 "The Audacity of Hope," Barack Obama

PARENT'S CHOICE

NEW CHILDREN'S PICTURE BOOKS

1 'Big Bug Surprise," Julie Gran 2 'Little Rooster's Diamond Button,' Margaret MacDonald 3 4'If You re Happy and You Know It, Jungle Edition," James Warhola 4 "A Second is a Hiccup, Hazel Hutchins 5 'Rhinos Who Rescue,

Julie Mammano

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Plymouth/Dearborn Heights Housing Commission is pleased to be opening its waiting list from 8 00 am on April 18 through 5 00 pm on April 23 2007 After 5 00 pm on April 23 the waiting list will be closed and the application will no longer be available All applications must be post marked by May 7 2007 in order to be considered Applications accepted onto the waiting list will be

EGG HUNT

FROM PAGE C1

put either one or two pieces of candy or small change in each egg and secure with scotch tape

Opportunities are endless, because the eggs can be filled with anything Need some ideas? Girls love barrettes or hair bows while boys prefer matchbox cars or tattoos All kids love stickers, bubbles and glow-in-the-dark bracelets or even a deck of cards

This Easter I kicked it up a notch by writing "Grandma Coupons" to put inside the eggs My coupons say "You have won a trip to the movies, one-night stay at Grandma's house, a trip to the library, lunch with Grandpa', you get the idea Personalize your coupons to fit your children Make a master list so you can record who won what

Children actually love the hunting part more than the contents of the eggs! They feel like pirates going after buried treasure Do not underestimate the ability of even the youngest child They can sniff out candy anywhere They feel like pirates going after buried treasure They will look high and low I hide my eggs in the bush-

Now Hiding the eggs

es, in and under trees, the window ledge, on the landscape rocks or the park bench Don't forget the hose cart, the front porch or window sills Having a car in the driveway is a bonus Place an egg in front of and behind a tire, on the hood or bumper, balance an egg on the door handle

Here's the most important part Get out your camera and have a ball, capturing the giggles and surprises as reflected in their faces

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON ACCESS TO PUBLIC MEETINGS

The Charter Township of Canton will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting to individuals with disabilities at the meeting/hearing upon two weeks notice to the Charter Township of Canton Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Charter Township of Canton by writing or calling the following

Exhibit features encaustic paintings

Artist Dee Ann Segula exhibits her unique, colorful and richly textured encaustic paintings through April 29, at the Plymouth Community Arts Councils Joann Winkleman Hulce Center for the Arts, 774 N Sheldon Hours are 9 a.m to 5 p m Monday-Friday Visitors can meet the artist 10 a.m to noon Saturday, April 14, during special exhibit viewing hours

A self-supporting artist, Segula has been working in oil painting, print making, drawing, metals, calligraphy, and mixed media for more than 25 years

While this Milford-based artist has always been known for her whimsical and thought-provoking work, she has recently learned the ancient technique of encaustic

Encaustic is the method of painting molten beeswax and pigment on a surface Historians date this practice back to ancient Greece

Segula's take on the encaustic technique has found her experimenting with themes of nature like animals, flora and fauna.

OE085 798

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For more information, call (734) 416-4278

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

Notice is hereby given that on 04/13/07 at 10 00 a m at Mayflower Auto Transport 1179 Starkweather Plymouth MI 48170 a public auction of the following

1991	FORD	F150	1FTEF14Y7M1A53079
1985	MERCURY	GR MARQUIS	2MEBP93F8FX635470
1987	LINCOLN	TOWN CAR	1LNBM82F7HY677486

Publ sh Apr 18 2007

PLANNING COMMISSION

selected at random. Only those applications accepted will be contacted by September 1, 2007 All other applications will be destroyed

The application can only be obtained from out web site <u>http://</u> www.phchousing.net_DO_NOT come to the Plymouth Housing Commission offices If you need access to a computer and the internet you can go to your local library For any updated information you may call (734) 455 3670 extension 235

All applications **MUST** be processed through the US Postal Service Hand delivered applications will NOT be accepted Faxed copies will NOT be accepted Only ONE application per household will be considered

Publish April 8 & 15 2007

OE085 7923

OE0850 38

PLYMOUTH DISTRICT LIBRARY PUBLIC NOTICE

The Plymouth District Library Board will hold its REGULAR February meeting Tuesday, April 17 2007 at 7 30 pm at 223 S Main Street, Plymouth Michigan 48170

The Plymouth District Library will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tape of printed materials being considered at the meeting to individuals with disabilities at the meeting/hearing upon seven (7) days notice to the Plymouth District Library Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Plymouth District Library by writing or calling the following

> Barbara Kraft, Library Secretary Plymouth District Library 223 S Main Street Plymouth MI 48170 734 453 0750 X217

Publish April 8 2007

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

The following vehicles have been deemed abandoned and will be sold at public auction April 10 2007 at 10 00 AM The auction will be held at Westland Car Care Towing 6375 Hix Rd Westland MI 48185 The vehicles will be sold as is, starting bid is for towing and storage

YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	BODY	VIN#
1996	OLDS	AURORA	2 DR	1G3GR62C2T4121396
1990	GEO	PRISM	4 DR	1Y1SK7467LZ134459
1984	MERCURY	G MARQUIS	4 DR	1MEBP95F1EZ600825
1992	TOYOTA	COROLLA	4-DR	1NXAE94A7NZ341534
1996	FORD	F 150	P/U	1FTHX25H0TEB79351
1991	CADILLAC		4 DR	1G6DW54E7MR725201
1993	CHEVY	CORSICA	4 DR	1G1LT53T0PY282541
1987	FORD	MUSTANG	2 DR	1FABP45E8HF245630
1994	CHEVY	S 10	P/U	1GCCS14Z6RK113474
1989	PONTIAC	SUNBIRD	4 DR	1G2JB51K1K7615893
1988	CHEVY	CAMARO	2 DR	1G1FP21E9JL182978
1988	CADILLAC	DEVILLE	4 DR	1G6CD5153J4252556
1994	NISSAN	ALTIMA	4 DR	1N4BU31D3RC202560
Publish	April 5 & 8 2007			
				QE085 7550



David Medley ADA Coordinator Charter Township of Canton 1150 S Canton Center Road Canton MI 48188 (734) 394 5260

Publish April 8 & 22 2007

NOTICE TO RESIDENTS CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON

If you experience an overflow or backup of a sewage disposal system or storm water system you must file a written claim with the Charter Township of Canton Division of Public Works within 45 days after the overflow or backup was discovered Notice should be mailed to Charter Township of Canton Division of Public Works 1150 S Canton Center Canton Michigan 48188 Failure to provide the written notice will prevent recovery of damages Contact the Division of Public Works at 734/394 5150 for assistance immediately upon discovery of an overflow or backup

> THANK YOU CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON DIVISION OF PUBLIC WORKS

Publish April 5 & 8 2007

Publish April 1 & 8 2007

OE085 6859

OE08517021

PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The Board of Education of the Plymouth Canton Community Schools invites all interested and qualified companies to submit Bids for Moving Eriksson, Field, Hoben, and Hulsing Elementary Schools as well as Pioneer Middle School

Bidding documents may be picked up at the office of the Construction Manager, McCarthy & Smith, Inc, 24317 Indoplex Circle, Farmington Hills, MI 48335 on April 5, 2007 Bids will be received until 10.00 a.m., local time on Wednesday. April 18, 2007 at which time they will be opened and read publicly at the Plymouth Canton Community School E J McClendon Educational Center 454 S Harvey Plymouth Michigan 48170 Bids received after this time and date will be returned Faxed proposals will not be accepted

Bids are to be submitted in a sealed envelope supplied by McCarthy & Smith Inc There will be a **Pre-Bid Meeting and Site Walk-Through on Wednesday, April 11, 2007 @ 10.00 a.m** at Pioneer Middle School located at 46081 Ann Arbor Road Plymouth MI 48170 Questions regarding the scope of the project may be addressed to Mr Doug Underwood of McCarthy & Smith Inc at (248) 427 8400 Plymouth Canton Community Schools reserves the right to reject any or all bids received and to waive any informalities and irregularities in the bidding documents This project is to be bid at the prevailing wage rate

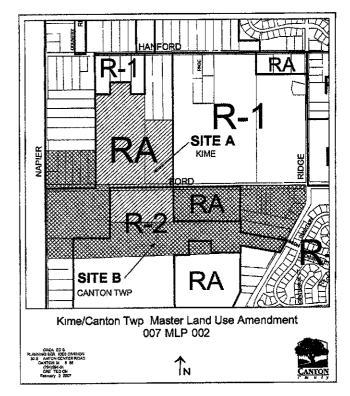
The bidder shall disclose any familial relationship as required by the State of Michigan on the proposal pricing form This form must also be signed and notarized in order for the bid to be accepted

> Board of Education Plymouth Canton Community Schools JUDY MARDIGIAN Secretary OE085 626

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE FUTURE LAND USE MAP OF THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON, WAYNE COUNTY MICHIGAN

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Public Act 263 of 2001 of the State of Michigan, as amended and pursuant to the Comprehensive Plan of the Charter Township of Canton that the Planning Commission of the Charter Township of Canton will hold a Public Hearing on Monday May 7 2007 in the First Floor Meeting Room of the Canton Township Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road at 700 pm. on the following proposed amendment to the Future Land Use Map of the Comprehensive Plan



TOWNSHIP FUTURE LAND USE KIME/CANTON CONSIDER REQUEST TO AMEND THE AMENDMENT FUTURE LAND USE MAP FROM VERY LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL AND LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL TO MEDIUM LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL FOR PARCEL NOS 027 02 0001 000 (51150 FORD), 027 02 0002 000 (51170 FORD), 027 02 0003 000 (51185 FORD) 027 02 0004 000 (51190 FORD), 027 02 0005 000 (51320 FORD) 027 02 0006 001 (51350 FORD), 027 02 0006 002 (3540 NAPIER) 027 99 0005 005 (50750 FORD RD) 027 99 0009 000 069 99 0002 000 (48901 FORD) 069 99 0003 000 069 99 0004 000 (49707 FORD) 069 99 0005 001 069 99 0005 002, 069 99 0005 003 (2105 RIDGE N) 069 99 0006 000 (49729 FORD) 069 99 0007 000 (2075 RIDGE N) 069 99 0008 000 (1925 RIDGE N) 069 99 0009 000 (1875 RIDGE N) 069 99 0010 700 069 99 0015 702 PART OF (1299 RIDGE N) 069 99 0017 000 (50145 FORD) 070 99 0001 000 070 99 0002 702 AND 070 99 0003 000 Property is located north and south of Ford Road between Ridge and Napier Roads

Written comments addressed to the Planning Commission should be received at the Canton Township Administration Building 1150 Canton Center S prior to Thursday May 3 2007 in order to be included in the materials submitted for review

Vic Gustafson Chairman

Publish April 8 & 22 2007

OE085 702

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

Advances in treatment

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

Cause for hope for people with multiple sclerosis

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN STAFF WRITER

Page C6 (*)

Sunday April 8 2007

Dr Robert Lisak has seen more progress in treating multiple sclerosis in the last decade than the years since 1966 when he became involved with MS research This is good news for patients suffering with the devastating autoimmune disease which attacks the central nervous system, in many cases crippling the body and mind

In early March, the Michigan Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society held a series of events to let MS patients and their families know there is help for the nerve-damaging disease Lisak pre sented the latest findings He is considered the leading authority on MS and internationally known for his research work at Wayne State University

Lisak emphasizes that while none of the six therapies approved by the Food and Drug Administration are a cure, the treatments do decrease the relapse rate and severity of attacks in general, and over a three- to five-year period reduce the amount of disability About 85 percent of patients have relapsing multiple sclerosis with periods of remission 'We have several clinical trials at WSU including newer agents and our MS Center 15 involved in basic science in genetics Were looking for genes to see who gets mild or horribly disabling MS, to see what genes get MS and who doesn t," said Lisak, professor and chair of neurology, and profes-

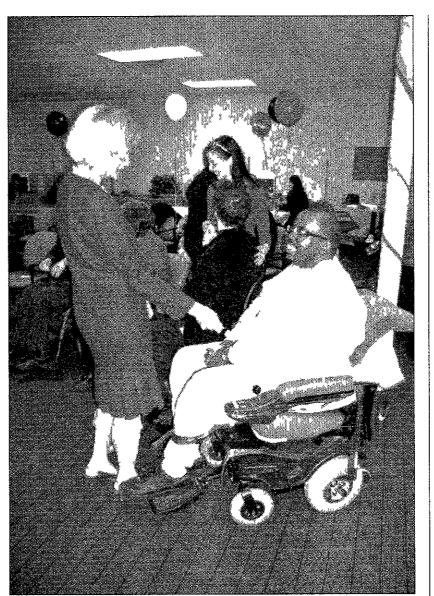
sor of immunology and microbiology at Wayne State University School of Medicine, Neurologistin-Chief, Detroit Medical Center, and Chief of Neurology, Harper University Hospital

The six FDA-approved therapies include three injectible interferon beta drugs, glatiramer acetate, which is not an interferon but works for relapsing MS, mitoxantrone, a chemotherapy drug used for T-cell leukemia and patients in secondary MS to stabilize the dis ease, and infusion natalizumab for relapsing remitting MS which was approved then withdrawn from the market because some patients developed progressive multi-focal leukoencephalothaty, a brain virus usually only seen in AIDS patients The FDA put it back on the market, but not for use in combination with other therapies Lisak said most physicians would not use this as the first drug

"I m encouraged we ll have better and better therapies," said Lisak of Bloomfield Hills The first step is understanding the disease and getting better therapies and eventually if not have a cure, although we may"

Kevin Palmer says hes seen an improvement in his brother, Jason Bledso, since Palmer began giving him daily injections of the noninterferon Copaxone (glatiramer acetate) in January Bledso came to live with his brother in West Bloomfield in December after their mother died in Kansas where Bledso had been staving

Prior to this he had episodes



Joyce Nelson and Jason Biedso recently took part in National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Michigan Chapter events to raise awareness about the disease. Nelson is president and CEO of the national organization based in Denver

when MS would prohibit nerves from relaying messages to muscles, Kevin Palmer said He hasn't had any episodes since receiving injections

Diagnosed with MS in 2000 at the age of 21, Bledso became unable to walk four years ago but can still feed himself and brush his teeth Hes especially grateful for the social activities and classes provided by the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Michigan Chapter based in Southfield

Bledso takes part in tai chi, yoga and computer classes once a week Palmer says his brother is a 'stickler on having his independence and insists on taking the SMART bus by himself" to classes

'I look forward to yoga because I get to breathe in deep and relax," said Jason Bledso, 28

Joyce Nelson says the National Multiple Sclerosis Society exists to make sure MS doesn't stop people

PLEASE SEE MS, C7

Weight is linked to cancer risk

Rich from Southfield e-mails for the latest research on the link between weight gain and cancer risk

Rich, we all know that weight gain puts the heart at risk, but not much research has



Nielsen

been done linking obesity and cancer Now the largest study ever done shows a powerful link between being overweight and a variety of cancers, in fact nearly all of them Researchers tracked a mil-

lion men for years They found that excess weight **Peter's Principles** Peter

accounts for 14 percent of cancer deaths in men and 20 percent in women In the US, that adds up to around 90,000 extra cancer deaths per year If you are over-

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weight, these numbers should scare you Talk to a doctor or nutritionist about a proper diet before you become a statistic

Jim e-mails from Southfield and asks for information on the dangers of osteoporosis in men

Jim, osteoporosis is a male health hazard that often goes unnoticed In fact, a male over the age of 50 has a greater chance of a bone break because of osteoporosis than of being diagnosed with prostate cancer Heres another sobering statistic one in five men will suffer a hip fracture by the age of 90, one-third of them will die during the healing process But medical experts say that osteoporosis continues to be viewed as a woman's disease

Men should know the warning signs They include things like height loss, poor posture and sudden back pain Treatments for men are getting better There are new medicines and testosterone replacement therapy Men, like women, can also help prevent the disease by not smoking, taking calcium supplements and exercising

If you have a health or fitness question you would like answered in the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers e mail Peter through his Web site www peternielsen com Contact him at Peter Nielsen's Personal Training Club in West Bloomfield or Nielsen's Town Center Health Club in Southfield



If your business or organization serves seniors you'll want to be part of this exciting event!

TUESDAY, MAY 22, 2007 9 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Schoolcraft College Livonia Campus in the VisTaTech Center Haggerty Road between 6 and 7 Mile Roads

Exhibitor Package Includes:

- BOOTH INCLUDES: Covered table and two chairs, identification tent care, with ample space for your giveaways, demonstrations and promotional materials.
- PRINT ADVERTISING: Ad in our special Mature Lifestyle section distributed on Thursday, May 17, 2007
- **EXHIBITOR LISTING** on the center spread of Mature Lifestyle section and newspaper promotion of the event during April and May, 2007.
- FOOD: Continental breakfast plus two boxed lunches for exhibitors.

For more information about this popular Expo and to reserve your exhibit space, contact: Frank Cibor, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers Classified Manager 734-953-2176 or fcibor@hometownlife.com





Schoolcraft College

SCHOOLCRAFT.EDU

Colorectal cancer screening saves lives MS

Dr Michael Biederman is trying to raise awareness of the colorectal cancer and empha size the importance of early detection through screenings Colorectal cancer is the cancer of the colon and/or rectum and is the third most common cancer in both men and women It is also one of the most preventable cancers because it can develop from polyps that can be removed before they

become cancerous Colorectal cancer usually starts as a small polyp growing on the inside of the colon or rectum

'Most polyps never become cancer, but if you find them and remove them, you significantly reduce the risk of it becoming colon cancer," said Dr Michael Biederman, a Botsford Hospital gastroenterologist 'Everyone should

have a colonoscopy when they are 50 as this is when the cancer usually starts to show up"

In addition to people age 50 and older, individuals with a personal or family history of colorectal cancer, colorectal polyps, or inflammatory bowel disease (ulcerative colitis or Crohn's disease), smokers, or people who are obese and are sedentary are also at risk for

colorectal cancer

Biederman offers the following prevention tips

Exercise regularly and maintain a healthy weight Eat a healthy diet that

includes fruits, vegetables and whole grains Do not smoke and do not

drink alcohol excessively The most important pre-

vention measure is to get regular screening tests

was created in 1955, few chil-

dren lived to attend elemen-

tary school Today, as a result

of dramatic improvements in

research and care, supported

FROM PAGE C6

from moving When myelin, a fatty tissue protecting the nerve fibers, 1s damaged 1n one or "multiple" areas and results in scarring, the nerves are unable to conduct electrical impulses to and from the brain The scarring or "sclerosis" thus hinders movement and causes vision and memory problems, bladder and bowel dysfunction, spasticity, numbness, pain, and fatigue The progression and intensity of symptoms varies in the four recognized types of MS In addition to offering services and programs for MS patients and their families, the Society funds research on the causes and treatments for the unpredictable disease

"We had over \$3 million of research going on at the University of Michigan and Wayne State University in 2003," said Joyce Nelson, president and CEO of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society based in Denver

Nelson was in town during the week of March 5-11, which was proclaimed 'MS Awareness Week" in Michigan by Gov Jennifer Granholm During that time the national organization launched a campaign to make the public aware of the devastating disease affecting more than 16,000 people in the state and 400,000 in the country

Once thought to attack people between the ages of 20 and 50, Nelson says children as young as age 4 are being diagnosed with MS today Lisak says he doesn't know if there's a trend in children developing MS or that it was just underdiagnosed Advances in diagnostic tools such as the MRI could account for the increase In response to the growing numbers, the society is funding six regional pediatric centers to treat children with MS

'I'm excited about letting

everyone know there is a movement afoot," Nelson said "I want to encourage everyone who has MS or a family member to contact the chapter here in Michigan to get the latest information on treatments, research 'The six FDA-approved ther-

apies, while not a cure, do seem to show a slowing of the attack Unfortunately they're all injectibles or an infusion and also very costly The cost of these drugs can be as high as \$40.000 a year We work with Medicare and Medicaid folks and private insurers to make sure people have access to these therapies"

RoseJones Taylor works daily to raise awareness not only about the help available at the National Multiple Sclerosis Society in Southfield, but the disease itself In March she was encouraged by the collaboration which occurred during an MS advocacy conference in Washington, DC Non-MS Society groups together with the organization are working to promote public policy to benefit people with MS

We want to raise awareness about the MS cause, increase visibility so we can reach people with MS and anyone who's a part of the lives of individuals with MS - caregivers, professionals,' said Rose Jones Taylor, vice president of programs for the Society's Michigan Chapter 'We want to make sure they know we're here for them '

For information on the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, visit www.nationalMSsociety.org.or call (248) 350-0020, ext 235, or (800) FIGHT-MS

To support the launch of the Society's new campaign, a new Web site is available for those interested in helping to eliminate MS Learn more about volunteering, participating in a MS Walk or Bike Ride, or donating by visiting www.jointhemovement.org

Ichomin@hometownlife.com | (734) 953 2145



Michigan passes law for CF screening of newborns

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

Newborns in Michigan will be screened for cystic fibrosis (CF), beginning in fall 2007 Michigan is the 36th state, plus the District of Columbia, to support routine CF screenıng at bırth

Cystic fibrosis is a fatal genetic disease that affects 30,000 children and adults in the U S Newborn screening for CF is important because more than 10 million Americans are unknowing, symptomless carriers of a cystic fibrosis gene Most people who have a child with CF are not aware of a family history of the disease Cystic fibrosis causes thick mucus to build up in the lungs and other organs, causing life-threatening infections and serious digestive complications

Research studies show that newborn screening for CF will hkely improve and extend the lives of those born with CF Newborn screening involves a blood test that searches for the most common defective gene in CF patients Early diagnosis allows affected infants to begin nutritional interventions

immediately In research studies on the benefits of newborn screening, these interventions have been shown to improve height, weight and cognitive function as well as benefits in maintaining or improving lung function and life expectancy, and in reducing hospitalizations

When the CF Foundation

by donations from individuals, corporations and foundations, the median survival age for a person with CF is nearly 37 years The Cystic Fibrosis Foundation is the leading US

organization devoted to curing and controlling CF For information, visit www.cff.org

Luncheon begins at 8 30 a m

APRIL

Divorce support group

Group discussion 7.9 p.m. Tuesday April 10 attorney Patricia Kasody Coyle will be available to answer questions in a private setting on a first come first served basis in Women's Resource Center at Schoolcraft College 18600 Haggerty Livonia Call (734) 462 4443

Learn about diabetes

St Mary Mercy Hospital Livonia hosts diabetes lecture 7 p m Wednesday April 11 with speaker Dr Jacqueline Fabello Gamiao in the hospital's audi torium 36475 Five Mile at Levan Livonia Please use Main Entrance on Five Mile For information call (734) 655 8961 No charge Pre registration not required

Stop smoking clinic

Begins 10 30 a m to noon Thursday April 12 and continues Monday Friday April 16 20 with graduation on Monday April 23 in the fellowship room at Metropolitan Seventh day Adventist Church 15585 Haggerty north of F ve Mile Coordinated by Arthur Weaver M D and funded by donation For information call (248) 349 5683

Tai chi for seniors ix week series of classes begin nod to 1 p m Friday April 13 at Huron Valley Sinai Hospital 1 William Carls Drive Commerce To register call (248) 937 3314

trist Adult group features noted author Dr Arthur Robin speaking on Cognitive Behavior Therapy for Treating Adults with AD/HD Meetings start at 7 30 p.m. registration at 7 pm Meeting ends 9 pm No charge to CHADD members and their families \$5 donation per non member family For details call (248) 988 6716

Hatha Yoga classes

5 15 6 30 p m Tuesdays beginning April 17 to May 22 at St Mary Mercy Hospital 36475 Five Mile at Levan Livonia To register call (734) 655 1145 Hatha Yoga increases flexibility ener gy level and strength includes medi tation and breathing techniques Class participates need to be able to move between a standing position to a hands and knees position with ease Bone marrow transplant

Educational series for individuals who have received transplants their fami ly and caregivers 6 30 8 30 p m Tuesday April 17 and May 8 at the **Troy Community Center Topics** include emotional aspects of sur vivorship and coping strategies inutr tion for health maintenance

resources integrative medicine To register visit www.nbmtlink.org/edseries_send.e mail to info@nbmtlink org or call (800) LINK BMT (546 5268)

Alzheimer's update

7 pm Tuesday April 17 at Huron Valley Sinai Hospital 1 William Carls Drive Commerce Learn about new research and latest treatment options To register call (248) 937 3314 Pre registration recommended as space is limited Hatha Yoga classes

Beginning and Intermediate 5 15 6 30 pm Tuesdays April 17 to May 22 at St Mary Mercy Hospital 36475 Five Mile at Levan Livonia To register call (734) 655 1145 Hatha Yoga increases flexibility energy level and strength at your own pace in a non competitive setting Includes medi tation and breathing techniques Class participates need to be able to move between a standing position to a hands and knees position with ease

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Catch your breath Women's Lung Health Conference and

Wednesday April 18 at the Trov Marriott Hotel Hosted by American Lung Association the event features speakers on topics of interest to laypersons and medical professionals including lung cancer and women COPD healthy homes hazards of mainstream industry personal care and cosmetics product tobacco mar keting to women nutrition smoking cessation clean air asthma infec tions and pulmonary hypertension Cost is \$75 For more information visit www.catchyourbreathmi.org For guestions call (248) 784 2012 or (248) 784 2000 Dr John Ruckdeschel presi dent and CEO of the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute is one of the medical experts scheduled to lec ture Care House benefit

Wednesday April 18 at Penna's 38400 help child victims of sexual and physi cal abuse Call (586) 463 0123

Italian cuisine live auction raffles entertainment and karaoke 6 p.m. Van Dyke Sterling Heights Tickets \$100 all proceeds go to Care House

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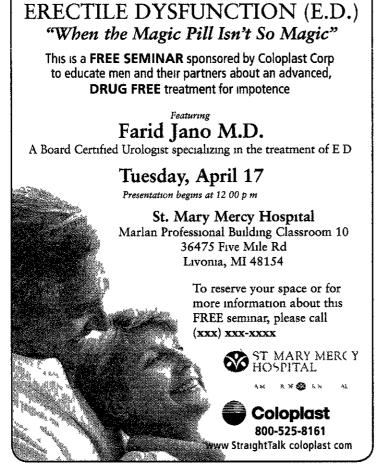
Fund-raiser

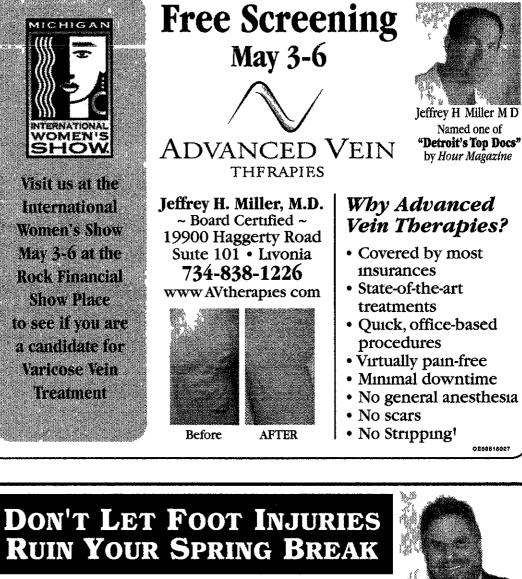
American Cancer Society Relay for Life Team Red White and Blue are having a large indoor garage sale 10 am to 5 pm Saturday April 14 at the American Legion Hall 9318 Newburgh between Joy and Ann Arbor Trail Livonia All proceeds go toward a cure for cancer Donations welcome No very large items or big furniture. For information call (734) 525 3736 Blood drive

8 30 a m to 1 30 p m Sunday April 15 at Nardin Park United Methodist Church 29887 W 11 Mile Farmington Hills Call (248) 476 8860 No appoint ment necessary

CHADD meeting

Children and Adults with Attention Deficit Disorder meet Monday April 16 at Way Elementary School on W Long Lake east of Telegraph The parent presentation will be on Medication for Children and Adolescence with AD/HD with Dr Birget Amman child psychia





As thousands of Americans hit the beaches in Florida, Mexico, or the Caribbean, Dr Randy H Bernstein, DPM, FACFAS, a foot and ankle surgeon in Dearborn Heights, shares these safety tips from the American College of Foot and Ankle Surgeons

Puncture wounds and cuts. Wear shoes to protect your feet from puncture wounds

and cuts caused by sea shells broken glass and other sharp objects Don t go in the water if your skin gets cut - bacteria in oceans and lakes can cause infection. To avoid complications from a puncture wound see a foot and ankle surgeon for treatment within 24 hours

Jellyfish stings. Remember that a jellyfish washed up on the beach can still sting if you step on it if their tentacles stick to the foot or ankle remove them but protect your hands from getting stung too Vinegar meat tendenzer or baking soda reduce pain and swelling Most jellyfish stings heal within days but if they don t medical treatment is required

Sunburns. Feet get sunburn too Rare but deadly skin cancers can occur on the foot. Don't forget to apply sunscreen to the tops and bottoms of your feet

Burns. Sand sidewalks and paved surfaces get hot in the summer'sun Wear shoes to protect your soles from getting burned especially if you have diabetes

Ankle injuries, arch and heel pain. Walking jogging and playing sports on soft uneven surfaces like sand frequently leads to arch pain heel pain ankle sprains and other injuries Athletic shoes provide the heel cushioning and arch support that flip-flop and sandals lack. If injuries occur, use rest ice compression and elevation to ease pain and swelling Any injury that does not resolve within a few days should be examined by a foot and ankle surgeon

Diabetes risks. The 20 million Americans with diabetes face serious foot safety risks at the beach. The disease causes poor blood circulation and numbress in the feet A diabetic may not feel pain from a cut puncture wound or burn Any type of skin break on a diabetic foot has the potential to get infected and ulcerate if it isn't noticed right away Diabetics should always wear shoes to the beach and remove them regularly to check for foreign objects like sand and shells that can cause sores ulcers and infections

For treatment of beach-related foot injuries, contact Dr. Bernstein at (313) 274-7047 27235 Joy at Inkster

BOARD CERTIFIED IN FOOT SURGERY • FELLOW, AMERICAN COLLEGE OF FOOT & ANKLE SURGEONS

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美袋雨

YOU'LL NEVER GET

150 MILLION AMERICANS TO

AGREE ON ANYTHING

ABOUT THE NEWS.

EXCEPT WHERE TO FIND IT.

aily newspapers enjoy the kind of popular support most politicians can only dream of. A recent study shows that newspaper is the dominant news franchise in the U S Newspapers reach 70% of all adults during an average week (Source Media Market Research Inc)

Some of them read the paper-and-ink edition, some read the online edition, and some read both So while new technologies

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have splintered audiences for TV and radio, they've actually expanded readership of newspapers Consider this Thanks to the popularity of newspaper websites, total newspaper readership among 25- to 34-year-olds is up 15% (Source Scarborough 2006) Newspaper sites receive more than 58 million unique visitors per month That's more than Yahoo'® News and MSNBC com combined (Source Nielsen/ Net Ratings 2006, 2007) Why all the love? Consumers appreciate the core strengths

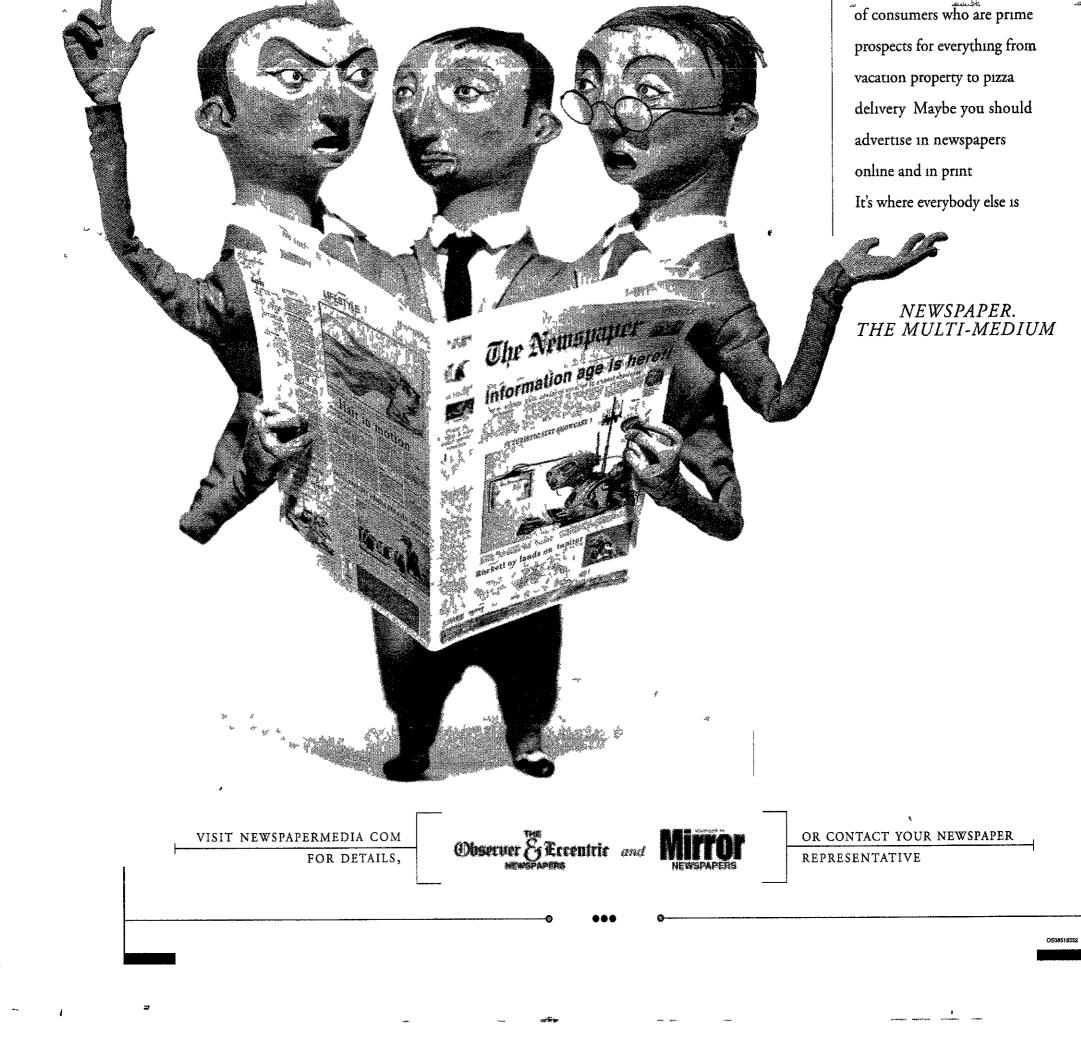
of newspapers, like in-depth reporting Newspapers have the largest, most experienced newsgathering staffs around Small wonder newspaper organizations, because they've been part of those communities much longer That explains why newspaper websites are the hands-down favorites for online

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NEWSPAPERS REACH 70% OF ADULTS OVER FIVE WEEKDAYS.

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reporting gets reused in other new media outlets, and by pundits and bloggers. Another thing readers of all ages like — local expertise Daily newspapers have a closer connection with their local communities than other news



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BY JULIE BROWN STAFF WRITER

Blaire Miller of Beverly Hills started retirement savings at age 25 early in her banking career That was more than 20 years ago and she's glad she did

Miller, who does consulting as Global Trade Solutions shared her financial expertise from years of banking recently at a meeting of the Plymouth-Canton branch, American Association of University Women My forte is international banking, she told the women gath ered at Roman Forum Restaurant in Canton

She talked about personal finance I think I ve broken every rule I ve suggested and I ve learned from that People are in different situations Miller pointed out, and they think differently about money

She asked the women to think about money in terms of what it can do on your behalf and for your family Miller urged women to avoid the credit card trap, limiting the number of cards, avoiding late payments and getting rid of balances especially now that interest rates are high She even encouraged members to put their card in the freezer to discourage use

It's good to check your credit report once a year If you re over 740 you ie in real good shape she said of a credit score, which tops out at 900

Miller also recommended paying a lawyer \$500 \$750 for a will, trust and durable power of attorney (for health decisions) Your will needs period updates, she added

She also urged those attending to have sufficient insurance, life, longterm care and disability "Don t make the mistake that you can live on a lot less, Miller said, noting Social Security doesn't pay all that much

She also recommended having a higher deductible on a homeowners policy, noting 'The odds of you actually using that deductible are quite low

Employers are dropping pen sions, she said, and private sector employees are increasingly turning to 401(k) plans Companies are trying to get people to save more said Miller, who urges people to 'invest the maximum, and to maximize company matches

IRAs are another good way to go she said Miller, who's not a certified financial planner, recommends putting pay raises into retirement savings 'You keep living year after year on the same amount of money

She touted the benefits of flexible savings accounts for medical and child care expenses along with online bill paying Miller suggested

converting to a 15-year mortgage if possible or making one extra principal payment a year, which will cut off loan time considerably

'You ask for credit when you don't need it,' said Miller, who got a home equity loan at the bank before taking a buyout from LaSalle Bank when they downsized She noted home values are slipping, a concern with such loans when reselling

As far as investing goes, she recommends a steady approach

'The stock markets really bouncing up and down" Frequent and continuous investing is best, said Miller, who's saving to send her 11year-old daughter to college

Miller recommends a diverse portfolio of stocks, bonds and cash In the case of job loss, she recommends keeping debt/expenses low, your network strong and your resume current

She also urged women to reduce income tax withholding 'We love having that tax refund come dont we? It's better to invest that money, she said

The AAUW members appreciated Miller's presentation

She comes to use with a topic most of us are interested in," said Pam Dean of Canton, program vice president for the branch 'It was so thorough I m taking it home to show my husband the list







The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers has a part-time position available for a graphic artist, creating ads for our newspapers. Ideal candidates will possess working knowledge of Quark Xpress, Multi-ad Creator, Adobe Acrobat, Photoshop, inDesign and Illustrator, as well as proficiency in Microsoft Office. Candidates must also be able to type 45 w.p.m., plus be familiar with internet search tools and have proven creative ability. Flexible hours; some nights and weekends are possible, but not common. We are looking for team players with excellent communication, multitasking and Interpersonal skills.

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Observer & Eccentric | Sunday April 8 2007

3



Building Industry Association announces winners in 2007 Spring Parade of Homes

Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan (BIA) announced the winners of its 18th annual Spring Parade of Homes architectural judging Parade of Homes is an exhibition of 58 new model homes and condominiums located throughout southeastern Michigan The showcase takes place March 16 through Aug 1, 2007 BIA and LaSalle Bank sponsor the event

The winning homes were selected based on the following criteria best value for the price, best use of space, most innovative design and aesthet ic appeal Before being judged, participating homes were divided into 10 categories by price Two special categories for infill design and historic preservation were added this year

'This year's Parade of Homes offers a variety of quality craft ed homes by BIA Professional Master Builders from attain able housing to lavish estates, said Richard Ives, president of BIA and vice president of Trinity Land Development There has never been a better time to buy a new home and our spring lineup is filled with prime examples of the unprecedented value con sumers are experiencing in today's buyer's market The blue arbben homes are

The blue ribbon homes are Affordable Housing Grace I, priced at \$117,000 plus fees, in Pontiac, built by CNS Construction for Lighthouse Community



The St Tropez built by Arteva Homes inc and located in Birmingham received a special award for Urban Infill Design Priced at \$1 4 million it was awarded for its excellent design, minimal hallways and design to fit in with existing neighborhood content

for its open floor plan, well, detailed front elevation and two walk-in closets in the mas ter suite

Homes Priced \$250,000 to \$340,000 Pheasant, priced at \$329,900 in Brownstown Township built by Gerish Construction Company Inc awarded for its wrap around loft and well planned rung space

Homes Priced \$540 000 to \$380,000 Beachwood priced at \$369,900 in the Village of Oxford, built by Wineman & Komer Building

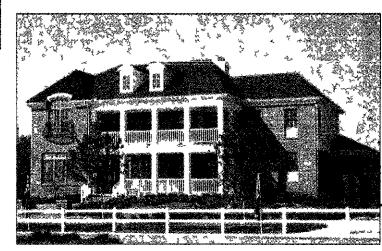




The Beachwood located in the village of Oxford was awarded a blue ribbon for homes priced \$340 000 to \$380,000 Built by Wineman & Komer Building Company it was awarded for its front elevation efficient floor plan and good use of split staircase



The Shoreline located in Independence Township was awarded a blue ribbon for homes priced from \$380,000 to \$520,000 Built by Vogue Building Company and Trinity Land Development it was awarded for its traffic flow and first floor master suite



Development, av arded for combining two different living spaces and including a side entrance and garage

Attached Condominiums Under \$215,000 The Atwater, priced at \$139,995, in Hazel Park built by Fairview Place LLC, awarded for its well proportioned elevation and sensi tive use of detail

Attached Condominiums Over \$215,000 Wisteria priced from the \$240,000s, in Clinton Township, built by Palazzolo Brothers and Towne & Country Homes, awarded for its great value and clever use of main floor space

■ Homes Priced Under \$250,000 Kennedy II, priced at \$230,000, in Berlin Township, built by Sherr Development Corp, awarded Company, awarded for its front elevation, efficient floor plan and good use of split staircase

Homes Priced \$380,000 to \$520,000 The Shoreline priced at \$400,000 in Independence Township, built by Vogue Building Company and Trinity Land Development, awarded for its traffic flow and first floor mas ter suite

■ Homes Priced \$580,000 to \$1 Million Bradford, priced at \$699,900, in Canton Township, built by Singh Homes Building Company, awarded for its presentation, efficient floor plan, and garage at the rear of the home

Homes Priced Over \$1 Million The Legacy priced at \$1 175 million in Northville Township, built by Michael The Legac, located in Northnine Township was awarded a blue ribbor for homes priced over \$1 million. Built by Michael Moceri Design Build it was awarded for its exceptional value open floor plan and master suite layout

Moceri Design Build awarded for its exceptional value, open floor plan and master suite layout

Special Award for Urban Infill Design St Tropez priced at \$1 4 million in Birmingham, built by Arteva Homes, Inc, awarded for its excellent design, minimal hallways and design to fit in with existing neighborhood content

■ Honorable Mention for Historic Renovation The Wardell priced at \$365 000 in Detroit, built by BRG Custom Homes and Park Sheltor Condominiums, L P, awarded for its encouraging contribution to urban preservation A panel of local architects and industry experts judged the homes Participating judges were Sharon Glinka of LaSalle Bank Michael Gordon, AIA, of Moiseev/Gordon Associates Inc and Michael T Miller, AIA, of The Design Group The 58 Spring Parade of Homes models are located throughout southeastern Michigan and can be viewed via open house tours, or online

www.biaparadeofhomes.com, beginning on March 16, 2007 Featured homes include con dominiums and single family homes ranging in price from

The Bradford located in Canton, was awarded a blue ribbon for homes priced \$580,000 to \$1 Million Built by Singh Homes Building Company it was awarded for its presentation efficient floor plan and garage at the rear of the home

\$97,400 to \$1 4 million

For additional information on the 2007 Spring Parade of Homes, please call (248) 862 1032 or visit www.biaparadeofhomes com Free Parade of Homes magazines are available at 350 LaSalle Bank Branches and 205 CVS/pharmacy locations BIA and LaSalle Bank also sponsor a Parade of Homes event in the fall

Real Estate career seminar

For people interested in exploring a career in Real Estate, Keller Williams is hosting a seminar at 6 30 p m on April 10 and 2 p m on April 27 at Keller Williams Realty, located at 40600 Ann Arbor Rd , Suite 100 Plymouth (48170) Registration is required Please call (734) 459 4700 to reserve a seat

Madonna offers investment class

Flagstar Branch Manager Jeff Clatterbaugh will teach, 'How to Build Wealth by Investing in Real Estate," at Madonna's main Livonia campus, 36600 Schoolcraft Rd from 10 a m to noon on Saturday, April 14 A real estate investor, Clatterbaugh, will offer his perspective on creative ways to obtain supplemental income and build equity

"We are currently in the strongest buyer's market this industry has seen in decades," said Clatterbaugh, who has been teaching real estate semi nars for three years Now is the time to buy property '

Clatterbaugh will share pointers on immediate and long term invest ments, purchasing property with minimal out-of-pocket expense, and designing a transaction to raise profits and reduce taxes

Tuition is \$37 For registration

information, call the Madonna University Office of Continuing Education & Professional Studies at (734) 432-5804 or visit www.madonna edu

Future of Michigan discussion

The Detroit Real Estate Investors Network will host the first session of its 12-week discussion series entitled What Becomes of a Broken Market -The Future of Michigan Real Estate" from 5 30-8 p m on Monday, April 9 at The Java Exchange Café, 440 Burroughs (TechOne building), Detroit The location is in Detroit's Tech Town area on the north side of Wayne State University Each session of the 12-part series will focus on a different topic of interest to real estate investors, practitioners, homeowners, business owners and the community at large Each event is free and open to the public, however seating is limited so timely arrival is suggested For more information, call Loray at (313) 443 7188

Decorate like a designer

Take the guesswork out of decorat ing your home with the seminar "Decorate Like a Designer offered by Farmington Community Education in cooperation with Oakland Builders Institute's Design Spirit This class will be held from 7-9 30 p m Wednesdays,

April 18 and 25, and May 2 and 9 at The Community School, 30415

BRIEFS

at

The Community School, 30415 Shiawassee, Farmington

Learn how interior decorators make decisions about furniture choices and placement as well as those important touches that create beautiful homes The course will cover basic design principles and how to apply them to your home Hands-on exercises include measuring and sketching a room on graph paper as well as finding companion wall furniture and flooring colors with samples of patterned fabrics Also covered are the principles of color and color matching There are many hand-outs and helpful tips Bring a small pair of scissors to class

The instructor is a graduate of New York's Sheffield School of Interior Design and the University of Michigan

The cost of the class is \$110 plus \$5 for materials to the instructor Class size is limited Register by Monday, April 16 Call the Farmington Community Education Monday – Friday, 8 30 a m to 4 30 p m at (248) 489-3333 to register Duildor's class is offered

Builder's class is offered

Get the help you need to pass the Michigan state builders license examination with a 16 hour comprehensive seminar offered by Henry Ford Community College in cooperation with Oakland Builders Institute The seminar is scheduled from 6-10 p m Tuesday and Thursday, April 17, 19, 24, and 26 at Henry Ford Community College, Dearborn Heights Campus, 22586 Ann Arbor Trail

The course is for those who want to subcontract the construction of their own homes, real estate investors and developers and building trades people who want to work legally in Michigan The cost of the seminar is \$189 for residents plus \$20 for the course textbook and sample questions, or \$208 for non-residents plus \$20 for the course textbook and sample questions

Pre-registration with payment is required no later than Friday, April 13 to Henry Ford Community College Please call (313) 317-1500 Monday – Friday, 9 a m to 4 30 p m to register

Pre-license class offered

Get the help you need to pass the Michigan state builders license exam ination with a 16 hour comprehensive seminar offered by Clarkston Community Education in cooperation with Oakland Builders Institute The seminar is scheduled from 6-10 p m on Tuesday and Thursday, April 17, 19, 24, and 26 at the Community Education Center, 6558 Waldon Road, Clarkston The course is for those who want to subcontract the construction of their own homes, real estate investors and developers and building trades people who want to work legally in Michigan The cost of the seminar is \$199 plus \$20 for the course textbook and sample questions Pre-registration with payment is required no later than Friday, April 13, to Clarkston Community Education Call (248) 623-4321 Monday – Friday, 9 a m to 4 30 p m to register

Builder helps customers build their own home

Howard Satovsky, a 35-year veteran Master Builder in the Western Oakland and Wayne County markets has decided to switch hats in 2007 to a style better suited to the current economic climate and Web savvy clients

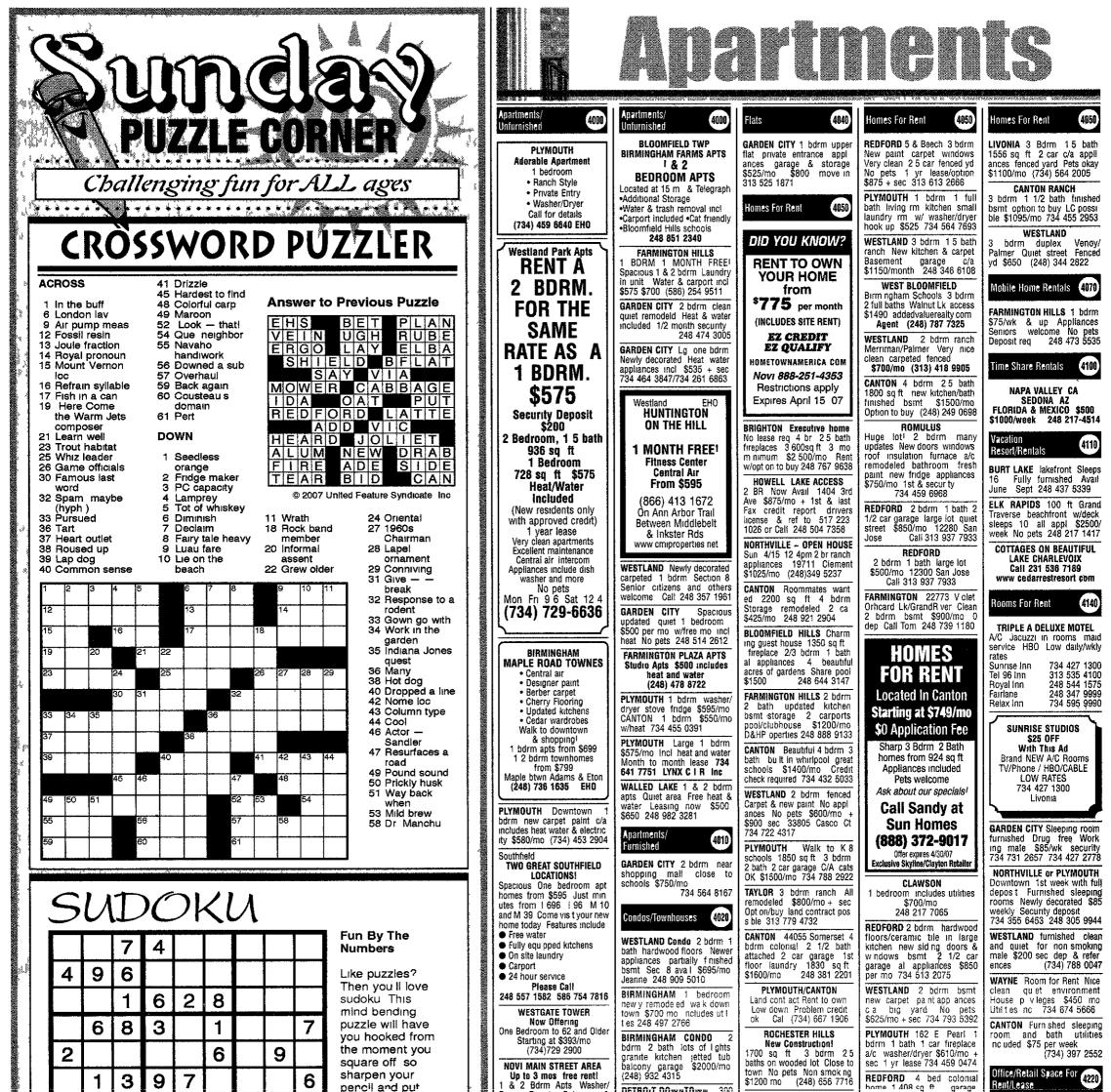
Satovsky says his new company, Help To Build It, LLC is a way to orchestrate the final dream home with customers that know little about the building business

Through extensive reference materals, software and one-on-one counseling, Satovsky shows how to make the dream a reality from start to finish

Visit www HelpToBuildIt com or see the consultants at the Spring Home and Garden Show at the Rock Financial Showplace, April 13-15 (*) Observer & Eccentric | Sunday Apr I 8 2007







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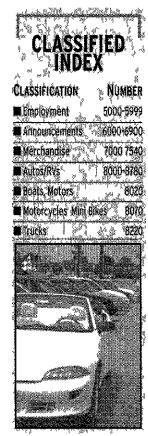




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FOR ONLY \$407,000, YOU CAN GET INTO AN '08 ROLLS-ROYCE Advertising Feature



Everyone dreams of having the finer things in life You know, the things you secretly long for - the milliondollar cars and the supersized homes you see in the pages of Robb Report Magazine and on popular TV shows like MTV Cribs

The Rolls-Royce falls in that wish for category you may not ever buy a Rolls-Royce, but isn t it fun to imagine that one day you'll actually own one, even if you ve got a caviar appetite on a champagne budget?

You can t get any more luxurious than the 2008 Rolls-Royce Phantom Drophead Coupe Launched at the 2007 North American International Auto Show in Detroit in January, the Phantom Drophead 1s the second new model from Rolls-Royce since BMW acquired the luxury marque in 1998

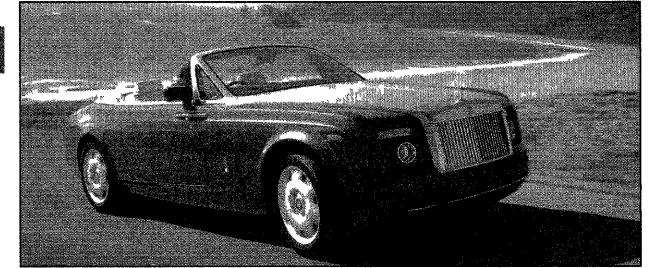
It was well worth the wait The two-door, four-seat convertible stands apart from the classic Rolls Royce design It's built using a lightweight, all aluminum frame for ultimate technology and a streamlined body But there are unmistakable Rolls-Royce cues - the long bonnet, long wheels and short front and long rear overhangs

What s amazing about the Phantom is that Rolls-Royce made the Drophead coupe practical and pleasing to the eye No wood-like grain and chrome-like materials here The Phantom has hand-crafted wood, leather, chrome and brushed steel throughout

The coupe isn't simply a Phantom with the top removed, it's unique with new exterior panels The rakish front end and the sweeping rear create an elegant and classy vehicle Inside, Rolls-Royce tried to keep the design as natural as possible with brushed steel and teak backdrops in favor of heavily manipulated finishes The Phantom Drophead is more than a typical

convertible It has front coach doors — unique to Rolls Royce - that make getting in and out of the car easier A rakish grille finished in steel matches the Drophead s steel bonnet and A-piller

A more streamlined front end caps off the Drophead, with slim LED side lights and large round driving lights and an integrated front bumper melding into the design A camera built underneath the front of the car gives drivers a split-screen view of the road thanks to an on-



2008 ROLLS-ROYCE PHANTOM DROPHEAD COUPE offers unprecedented luxury. Vehicle class: Luxury convertible. Power: 6.75-liter V-12 engine. Where built: Goodwood, England. Base price: \$407,000.

board monitor

Just because you own a convertible doesn't mean that you should have substantially less space A picnic boot on the Drophead affords access to the luggage rack and allows two adults to sit comfortably There's enough space back there to hold three sets of golf clubs, and the 11 cubic feet of space remains even if the hood is raised or closed

The Drophead is available in nine new colors Metropolitan Blue, Admiral Blue, Jubilee Silver, Diamond Black, Duck Egg Blue, Semaphore Yellow, English White, Woodland Green and Ensign Red

The rear hood cover is decked in teak, with a special process used to make the wood look as natural and as hand-finished as possible More than 30 pieces of teak are built into each deck, bathed in a special formula of oils for protection

Again, this isn't your average convertible Rolls Royce claims the brushed steel hood of the Drophead is the largest of any recent convertible The fabric roof is lined with a cashmere blend and five layers of insulation between occupants and the outside of the vehicle Simply stunning

Inside, the seats are smooth, with no ridges, to wipe moisture off in case it rains Seatbelts are mounted on the seats, with seat airbags giving occupants added protection The driver's seats are positioned higher for the driver to see over the Drophead s long bonnet, and curved seats in the rear make the rear passenger compartment more spacious

The Drophead s sound system is unmatched with 15 speakers for listening enjoyment

The Phantom s chassis is one of the strongest in any convertible today Much of the Phantom's strength comes from its triangle-shaped A-pillar struts that extend to the floor of the car Additional aluminum support, as well as

wider sills, make the Drophead even stronger

The rear frame has a rollover protection system that is activated from the rear head restraints during an accident The Drophead is designed to absorb the shock of accidents with its special construction Crumple zones are built into the chassis and understrucutre and strong side skills and side impact bars in each door give added protection for a vehicle that Rolls Royce calls among the safest convertibles on the market

More than 13,00 new parts were used in the Drophead, adding to the coupe s lightweight yet strong aluminum frame that make driving the coupe a unique driving experience A lower center of gravity, a smaller wheelbase and a stiffer body produce a comfortable ride, while new spring dampers and lighter anti roll bars make the Drophead agile as ever

The Drophead is powered by a 6 75 liter, V-12 engine with 453 horsepower and 531 foot pounds of torque The engine is mated to a six-speed automatic transmission that goes from 0 to 60 mph in under six seconds and a top speed of 140 mph

When you spend this type of money on a car, you expect the best Rolls Royce tested the Drophead in a variety of climate conditions such as the deserts of Death Valley Calif, and the Namibian desert, and the cold winters of Scandinavia.

More than 350 hours of labor are spent crafting each Drophead More than a month is spent preparing, matching shaping and finishing the wood on each vehicle All this starting at \$407,000, with vehicles available starting this summer

Tenisha Mercer covers the automotive industry for Avanti NewsFeatures and the Mercer Media Group Write her at tenishamercer@yahoo.com OE08518357



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