

Foreclosures hit home

Canton sees an increase, but not all is gloomy

BY TIFFANY L. PARKS STAFF WRITER

It's a safe bet that the property sitting at 2119 Tradition Street used to be someone's dream home. But now, the impressive, two-story, four-bedroom home sits vacant near the entrance of its posh Vintage Valley subdivision off of Ford and Ridge roads. The sprawling, 3,200square-foot residence has met the same foreclosure fate as thousands of other homes in the state.

"Our company covers 10 counties so we see this on a large level and we are very much in the middle of this," said Mark Goedert, the listed agent for the Tradition Drive property. "Anytime you get the President on television you know you have a huge problem."

More than 200 Canton properties have been listed as being in danger of foreclosure for unpaid 2005 property taxes.

"It's a long process to get to foreclosure and, no question, we have more this year than we did last year," said Township Supervisor Tom Yack.

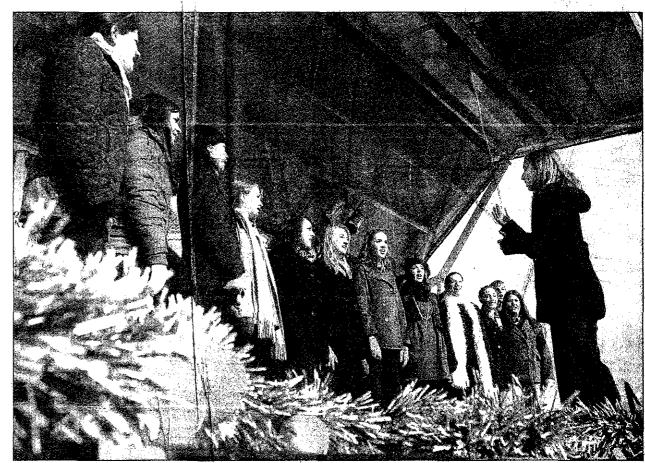
Goedert blamed the rise of foreclosures on a "very loose mortgage market, unscrupulous mortgage companies and many people buying beyond their means." He said despite plenty of interest and several offers, he's been unable to ink a deal for the three-car garage home on Tradition. 'The bank is only willing to drop the price so far and buyers have a lot of choices," Goedert said.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Theresa Merbler, a resident of the Vintage Valley subdivision, said she's known of four foreclosed properties in the upscale subdivision.

kind of homes you retire from." Merbler, who began eyeing the subdivision seven years ago and bought her home three years ago, said it was disheartening to see a foreclosed model of her home sell for \$85,000 less than what she and



The Festival Singers from Plymouth-Canton Educational Park entertain during the Shop Canton event.

ShopCanton's Holiday Fest a big hit with families

RV TIFFANY I PARKS STAFF WRITER

ping plaza at Ford and Lilley for Saturday's annual



Vintage Valley resident Theresa Merbler said she's known of four foreclosed properties in the upscale subdivision.

"It would be naive to say I was shocked but we were saddened," she said. "Some of these people never should have had mortgages. They got zero-down and cash advances (whereas) my husband and I worked hard and we saved to buy our home. This was our move up, these are the

her husband paid for their property.

"This is going to have an enormous trickle down effect on all of us," she said. "We've already had to go before Canton and fight our tax rate."

A BRIGHT SIDE

While state lawmakers, along with the federal government, scurry to come up with plans to ease the mortgage crisis in and out of Michigan, Yack said he's found some hope in the township's numbers on the other side of the coin.

"There's not a whole lot that local governments can do to fix the problem but fortunately Canton had

Please see HOMES, A2

As a group of kids held out their small bags and happily said "trick or treat," Jim Eiben got down on one knee, smiled at the tykes and offered them a few candy canes.

"This has been a lot of fun," said Eiben, the manager of the Mattress & Futon Shoppe, located at 42489 Ford in the Canton Corners plaza. "There's been (so much participation) that I'm starting to run out of candy and it's not like I didn't buy a lot." Hundreds of families

made their way to the shop-

ShopCanton Holiday Fest. The festival, which was pre- Sisters Skylar and Noelle Smith get ready to visit with Santa Claus. sented by the Downtown **Development Authority**, Canton Chamber of Commerce and Canton Leisure Services, featured games, coloring contests, karaoke, Santa and Rudolph's main squeeze, a 6-month-old reindeer

named Clarice. "We like to say that she's Rudolph's girlfriend," Tammy Iaconelli joked as everyone from toddlers to high school students snuggled up to the 100-pound reindeer to take pictures. Iaconelli of the South

grinned as his 4 year old attempted to guide him to her next destination.

Larry Cislo of Wesley Berry Flowers, 42531 Ford, said he was having a thrill juggling customers with trick or treaters.

"I think this is excellent for the community," he said, as he handed a group of kids some candy. "It's great, the kids are going to get a sugar high."

tiparks@hometownlife.com (734) 459-2700

School district moves elections

BY TONY BRUSCATO STAFF WRITER

The Plymouth-Canton Board of Education voted Tuesday to move the annual May school board election to every other year - beginning in 2009 which will save the district tens of thousands of dollars.

Trustees did not seriously consider an option of holding school board elections in even-year November – on ballots with state and federal races - that would have eliminated all costs.

According to a school board analysis of costs for holding elections in various combinations involving annual and bi-annual May and November elections, the current cycle of May annual elections costs the district \$100,000, with a 50-percent savings every odd year when costs are shared with Schoolcraft College.

Under the new format, elections will cost Plymouth-Canton \$50,000 every two years as it continues to split the cost with Schoolcraft.

The election shift means three

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Do you agree with the school board's decision to hold board elections in May rather than in November on ballots with state and federal races that would have eliminated all costs? E-mail your comments to kkuban@hometownlife.com.

current board members will have their terms extended one year. The terms of board President Judy Mardigian, Vice President Barry Simescu and Trustee John Jackson were scheduled to expire in May 2008. And, with board Treasurer Tom Wysocki's four-year term to expire in 2009, there will be four seats up for grabs.

Please see ELECTIONS, A8

Police arrest two suspects in 7-11 armed robbery

Lyon-based Carousel Acres

are always amazed by their

said children, and adults,

reindeer who can grow up

"People love her," she

In between listening

to carolers, trick or treat-

ing and being entertained

opted to go on a sleigh ride

around the plaza's parking

ed," Ratimukta Satapathy

"My daughter is so excit-

by balloon artists, some

said, rubbing Clarice's

to 450 pounds.

head.

lot.

Canton police have arrested two suspects accused of two armed robberies early Tuesday morning, including at the 7-11/Citgo gas station on Michigan Avenue in Canton. Police have not identified or released any details about the two suspects.

They were expected to be arraigned Wednesday in 35th District Court.

While one of the suspects waited in a vehicle, the other allegedly entered the Canton 7-11 at about 1:40 a.m., demanded money and fired a shot into the store's ceiling with a .22 rifle. No one was injured during the incident.

Canton Sgt. Rick Pomorski said the two

were apprehended shortly after leaving the store.

"The employee hit the alarm and they were arrested in the same general area," he said.

The rifle and stolen cash were recovered. The two suspects are also believed to

have committed a similar armed robbery in Van Buren Township earlier that evening.

A 7-11 employee said Tuesday afternoon he was glad to hear of the arrests.

"It's good news, definitely," he said. "Our (manager) has told us to be careful."

- By Tiffany L. Parks

© The Observer **Coming Sunday** INDEX Join the & Eccentric For Home in Health Newspapers C2 **Best & Brightest! APARTMENTS** COMMUNITY AUTOMOTIVE C9 Delivery call: Volume 33 CROSSWORD PUZZLE C10 Community Financial has been named one **Reduce your stress** (866) 887-2737 FINANCIAL Hometownlife Number 48 D1 of the 101 Best & Brightest Companies to during the holidays C11 JOBS Work for in Metropolitan Detroit. This, and in a characteristic OBITUARIES D2 our 96.2% member satisfaction rating tells OPINION A10 us we're doing things right. Open your free (877) 937-2328 toll free PINK D6 (734) 453-1200 www.cfcu.org checking account at Community Financial REAL ESTATE C2 Plymouth Canton Northville Novi and enjoy free online banking and more. SERVICE GUIDE C6 96.2% satisfaction rating based on 2006 member survey. NCUA Your savings federally insured to at least \$1,00,000 and backed by the full faith and credit of the United States Government, 🙆 Equal Housing Lender. ©2007 Community Financial B1 SPORTS

12 Days...

A2

(C)

LOCAL NEWS

SHOWROOM OF

BY TIFFANY L. PARKS STAFF WRITER

Two suspects have been arrested and a third remains on the loose in connection with the Dec. 5 burglary at Calvary Baptist Church.

The suspects, who were expected to be arraigned Wednesday, are accused of breaking into a classroom at the Joy Road church and stealing a laptop computer. Their identities have not been

"On one hand, we are glad the individuals were apprehended because they've possibly done this before or will do it again," said the Rev. Tony Beckett.

"But on the other hand, it's hard to see young people make mistakes like this that have huge consequences.

The suspects, who were caught on surveillance cameras, were identified through tips from the public. Beckett

said they appeared to be young adults.

Maybe God could use this to help change their lives," he said. "We have been praying for them and we will continue to do so.

Any person with information regarding the third suspect is advised to call Canton Police at (734) 394-5420. Callers may remain anonymous.

tlparks@hometownlife.com (734) 459-2700

Buy smart: Company offers tours of foreclosed homes

BY TIFFANY L. PARKS STAFF WRITER

With fresh crops of foreclosed homes hitting the market left and right, Added Value Realty of Livonia is urging people to take advantage of its two-day investor class.

"We've had a steady stream of interest from investors and first-time home buyers," said Georgia Kapsalis of AVR's foreclosure bus tours.

With classes starting at \$97, the venture is promoted as a way to "teach you to buy smart.'

"I have been watching the market and saw this coming years ago," Kapsalis said the swelling foreclosure crisis. 'When people take the maximum mortgage for a maximum house that equals major problems."

AVR's tours include one day of classroom instruction and a second day of visiting 6-10 foreclosed properties with a licensed inspector, remodeling expert and realtor.

In addition to its tours, AVR is also offering assistance to homeowners on the brink of

FROM PAGE A1

foreclosure.

"If we can't help them, we will send them in the right direction," Kapsalis said emphasizing that people need to reach out for help. "The worst thing someone can do is do nothing. There are so many people in this situation that there's no need to feel embarrassed or overwhelmed.'

For more information on the tours, which are ongoing, or foreclosure help, call Kapsalis at (248) 787-7325 or log on to www.addedvaluerealty.com.

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December 13-December 24

LIKE NUMBERS? there are a pile of them in dsection





225 occupancy permits and 62 new residential unit permits (in 2007)," he said. "Like everyone else, we have great concern about the foreclosures relative to our community but I think this bodes well for us in the long run."

Township Treasurer Elaine Kirchgatter echoed those comments.

While this is a crisis for those that are involved and I'm not trying to downplay it, Canton continues to see houses being sold and bought," she said, adding that vacant parcels and spec homes are included in the listing of potential township foreclosures.

In its 2008 budget, the township allocated \$

the property's taxes.

FORECLOSURES AT ALL-TIME HIGH

It was reported last week that U.S. foreclosures have reached an all-time high. The Mortgage Bankers Association has said that the delinquency rate for all mortgages rose to 5.59 percent in the third quarter, up from 5.12 in the second quarter. This is the highest rate since 1986. Delinquency is deemed to payments 30 or more days past due.

In response to the crisis, President Bush has proposed freezing the interest rates of some mortgages that fit certain criteria

Yack said he supports the concept of the President's plan but Goedert feels it's not the solution for such a widespread problem. "I would hate to see so many homes foreclosed but some people didn't think (their actions) through," he said. "I believe we should let the market drive itself. Freezing the interest rate won't help people who can't afford their properties."

www.hometownlife.com

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John C. Stewart Attorney and Counselor at Law



to cutting the lawns of foreclosed properties.

"We haven't had to deal with this in the past but we want to ensure that our property values are maintained and that our community standards are met," said Municipal Services director Tim Faas, adding that in turn for maintaining the lawns, the property owners will be billed for the service or the fees will be tacked onto

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Canton official honored

Bruce Malinczak, Canton's assistant treasurer, was recently presented with the 2007 PRIME Award during the Michigan Municipal Treasurers Association (MMTA) annual state conference. Annually,



ognizes one individual for outstanding service to their profession, community and the Michigan Municipal Treasurers

Malinczak

Association by awarding the prestigious Professional Recognition in Municipal Excellence (PRIME) award. This year there were five nominees for the award, and a vote of the membership resulted in Malinczak coming out on top. Malinczak, who has worked for Canton for five years, is a past president of the MMTA, and currently serves as president of the Wayne County Treasurers Association and is a member of the Association of Public Treasurers of the United States and Canada.

In Canton, Malinczak has helped to bring new technologies to the Treasurer's Office and has streamlined processes and procedures to better serve the community's taxpayers and ratepayers. He keeps residents informed through regular articles in the Focus newsletter and appearances on Canton Community Television.

"People don't realize how highly respected Bruce is among his peers," said Elaine Kirchgatter, Canton Treasurer. "This award is proof of that respect and a very big compliment. We are very proud of him."

Church holiday performance

St. John Neumann Church on Warren between Sheldon and Canton Center roads in Canton will present the Christmas concert, "Sing Out," at 3 p.m., Dec. 16. The concert will include skits, performances by two chorale groups, and sing alongs for the participants to enjoy. There will also be skits performed by St. John Neumann volunteers (the SJN Players).

There is no cost for the tickets, but people are asked to

bring a hygiene product (such as toothbrushes, toothpaste, combs, etc.) or new gloves or hats for a charity project the church will complete in January. Tickets can be obtained in the office at St. John Neumann and are used merely to keep a count of the number of people expected.

Sounds of the Season

The award-winning Plymouth-Canton Educational Park Choirs, under the direction of Jennifer L. Kopp, will present their annual holiday concert, "Sounds of the Season," on Tuesday, Dec. 18, at 7 p.m. in the Salem High School Auditorium. Tickets are on sale from all PCEP Choir students or from the Choir Office (Room 1603 at Salem). Tickets are \$4 in advance and \$5 at the door while they last. This concert is very popular and typically sells out before the night of the performance.

The PCEP Choirs consist of six choral ensembles comprised of more than 250 students in grades nine-12 from Plymouth. Salem, and Canton high schools, under the direction of Jennifer L. Kopp.

Newcomers offer safety tips

The Canton Newcomers, whose motto is "where neighbors become friends", invites the public to their next general meeting on Wednesday, Jan. 2, at 7:15 p.m. This social, civic, and charitable organization will host Barb Cane from PKSA Karate. Cane will share valuable information on self defense.

In addition to the monthly meeting, several activities throughout the month are offered: book club, bunko, creative kids, moms and tots, ladies day out, game night, euchre, chick flick, scrapbooking and many more. The meeting offers the opportunity to sign up for any activity that interests you.

Everyone who attends the meeting will be entered into a drawing to win a prize. The meeting will be at the Hanford Clubhouse in the Sunflower subdivision at 45800 Hanford Road between Canton Center and Beck.

For more information about the group or to receive a complimentary January newsletter, visit cantonnewcomers.org or call (734) 398-6487 before the meeting. You don't have to be "new" to be a Canton

AROUND CANTON

Post office holiday hours

Newcomer.

The Canton Branch post office (480 N Canton Center Road) has new hours for its Automated Postal Center (APC). Customers will have access to it 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Also there will be a special Sunday full retail (including passport processing) hours from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Dec. 16 for the Christmas season.

Please feel free to contact Reggie Dapremont, customer service manager, if you have any questions at (734) 844-3786.

Classical Bells holiday concert

Classical Bells will be performing their popular Christmas concert at the Village Theater on Friday, Dec. 21, at 8 p.m. Classical Bells has performed handbell music since 1983. The auditioned ensemble consists of accomplished handbell musicians from the metropolitan Detroit area, led by director Darlene Ebersole. Their repertoire draws from a wide mix of music genres-classical, inspirational, seasonal, popular, even ragtime and swing. Their primary instrument consists of 68 bronze plus six aluminum English handbells, a range of more than six octaves.

Due to the popularity of their show they will be performing in the Main House this year to allow for even more people to enjoy this special holiday event. The concert is sponsored by The Partnership for the Arts and Humanities and tickets are \$10.

Other event highlights warming stations with hot cocoa and spiced cider available



Classical Bells

To purchase tickets or for more information, visit www. canton-mi.org/villagetheater. Tickets can also be purchased at Summit on the Park by phone at (734) 394-5460 or in person, or the Village Theater ticket office will also be open one hour prior to each performance.

Summit on the Park ,holiday hours

Canton's Summit on the Park, located at 46000 Summit Parkway, will be adjusting its hours for the holidays. The Summit hour changes are as follows:

 Monday, Dec. 24: 7 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 25: Closed Monday, Dec. 31: 7 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 1: 7 a.m. to 2 p.m.

To learn more about Summit on the Park's holiday hours or available memberships, visit www.canton-mi.org or call (734) 394-5460.

Christmas in the Village

Celebrate the season at this year's Christmas in the Village on Saturday, Dec. 15 from 3-9 p.m. in the Cherry Hill Village. Come and tour nine homes decorated for the holidays by homeowners, interior designers, and florists in this year's annual home tour. Then venture outside and enjoy carriage rides though the park, carolers, holiday treats, and unique seasonal entertainment featuring the P-CEP Madrigals and Chamber Choir, members of the Canton Concert Bánd, and the Grace Notes Flute Ensemble.

include ice skating in the park,

THINKING ABOUT ...



Spreading some holiday warmth

Canton's Amy, Anna, and Alan Sun, members of the Little Stars Foundation, show off the 360 fleece throws the foundation purchased to give to seniors. at area nursing homes as Christmas presents. According to Amy Sun, an 8th grader at East Middle School and director of the foundation, they raised more than \$1,000 to pay for the gifts. Comprised of 18 members, the group of accomplished musicians has been playing at local nursing homes and senior communities for about a year. They will be performing holiday music at Waltonwood at Carriage Park in Canton on Dec. 15 and the Four Seasons Nursing Home in Westland on Dec. 16. The Little Stars Foundation is a non-profit and charitable organization comprised of local kids who love music and care about seniors. For more information, please visit http:// thelittlestars.org or e-mail amytsun@sbcglobal.net.

for purchase, a ginger bread house activity in the Cherry Hill School, and visits with Father Christmas in the Cady-Boyer Barn at the Bartlett-Travis House, which will also be decorated and open to the public free of charge. Home Tour tickets are \$17 on the day of the event at the Village Theater Box Office. Advanced tickets can be purchased for \$15 at the Summit on the Park, or the Village Theater Box Office, or by visiting www.canton-mi.org/ villagetheater or by calling

(734) 394-5460. Participants touring the homes must be 12 years of age and older. For those not wishing to attend the home tour, there is no admission fee for the winter attractions, but some activities may require a nominal fee. Dress for the weather. Shuttles will be available for your parking convenience, due to anticipated high volumes of traffic for the Village Theater mainstage performances. For more information, visit www.canton-mi.org or call (734) 394-5460.





LOCAL NEWS

Foreclosure help doesn't lessen the responsibility of borrowers

he residential real estate market is going through a difficult period in southeast Michigan and throughout the country. The number of

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foreclosures has skyrocketed. There are a variety of reasons for the high foreclosure rate. The news media has extensively covered stories

about adjustable-rate mortgages resetting interest rates and thus causing the problem. Although this is part of the problem, it is not the entire



problem. Part of the problem also is people who were fiscally irresponsible when they purchased homes they could not afford. There also are individuals who are losing their houses through no fault of their own, but rather a change in their economic situation such as losing their job. There is a new program that has just been announced that will help a limited number of people.

President Bush and the mortgage industry have reached an agreement to provide some relief. It is limited and applies only to some homeowners with adjustablerate mortgages. For those who qualify, the interest rate on their home mortgage will freeze for the next five years. It is important to understand this is not a government bailout. The government is funding this program. This is merely the government and the mortgage industry reaching an understanding with regards to interest rates on the mortgage.

Many believe they will qualify for this relief, however, the devil is in the details. In order to qualify, you have to meet the following requirements:

1. You must be up to date on mortgage payments.

2. The mortgage must be

an adjustable-rate, sub-prime loan and originated between January 2005 and July 31, 2007. **Money Matters**

adjustment on the adjustable-**Rick Bloom** rate mortgage

3. The first

cannot come until Jan. 1, 2008.

4. You must be unable to afford your new monthly payments.

5. You cannot have more than 3 percent equity in your home and your FICO score. must be below 660.

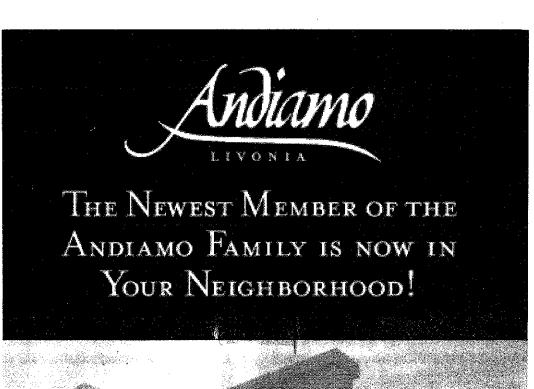
The issue that still needs to be addressed is even with temporary relief, can you still afford the home? Many people, even without their mortgage interest rate adjusted upward, still cannot afford their home. A good number of the foreclosures to date are people who couldn't even afford the first mortgage payment. So do we deal with the problem now or delay it into the future?

I believe for people who are struggling to make their house payments and who are constantly robbing Peter to pay Paul, the most prudent and fiscally responsible plan is to bite the bullet now. Don't wait, resolve the issue now.

For those in desperate financial situation - whether you qualify for this program or not - contact your lender and discuss your options. Mortgage companies know that in many cases they took advantage of individuals and they are more willing to work out a solution than in the past. One solution is a deed in lieu of foreclosure, where you're basically turning the house back to the mortgage company. Another solution can be a short sale, where the proceeds of the sale of the house extinguish the mortgage. Both these solutions will result in you losing your home and potentially hurting your credit, however, there is a great benefit to gain by getting

your financial house in order. The bottom line is if you are having financial difficulty with your home, you must take the initiative. Burying your head in the sand and hoping the problem goes away will not solve the problem. It will make a solution more difficult.

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





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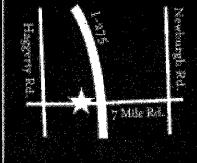
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LOCAL NEWS

Dining winner and Florine Mark 'party' at Buddy's Pizza

Anna Reseigh of Rochester Hills and Florine Mark of Weight Watchers ate healthy, talked, danced and got the recent lunch crowd at Buddy's in Farmington Hills in a party mood.

Reseigh was the November winner of The Observer & Eccentric and Mirror Newspapers "Dining With the Stars." Reseigh was treated to a limo ride, courtesy of All Class Transportation, makeover by Utopia Salon & Spa on Main Street in Northville (hair by Sebastian and makeup by ILSE), a \$100 gift certificate to the Reaver Diamond Co. in Southfield and a dance exhibition courtesy of Fred Astaire Dance Studio in Bloomfield Hills.

"Florine Mark is a remarkable woman and I would be deeply honored to dine with her," wrote Reseigh in her email entry. "She has shared her life with us, with its ups and downs, so that we may meet the challenges we face and be the best that we can be. Her strength and positive attitude is an inspiration to me and many women. I would be thrilled to meet her." Reseigh got her wish.

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TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

November Dining with the Stars winner Anna Reseigh (left) and Florine Mark of Weight Watchers (right) join Evan Mountain and Leonid Sidoranko of the Fred Astaire Dance Studio for a guick dance lesson at Buddy's Pizza in Farmington Hills.

"Lunch was great. The winner, Anna Reseigh of Rochester Hills is a beautiful very thin woman. She had a wonderful time with Florine," said Marcy Brontman of Buddy's who organized the "Dining With the Stars" program.

"Both Florine and Anna danced. Florine danced with Leonid Sidoranko (the male dancer who took part in the exhibition) and Anna danced with Evan Mountain, owner of Fred Astaire Dance Studio in Bloomfield Hills. Florine can dance," said Brontman. "The other customers at Buddy's got into the fun as well."

Reseigh said she had a great time and "loved her makeover."

Robert Jacobs, owner of Buddy's presented Mark with a \$500 check for the ALS Association, the charity of her choice. Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) is a motor neuron disease, Lou Gehrig first brought national and international attention to the disease in 1939 when he abruptly retired from baseball after being diagnosed with ALS.

Reseigh was among six finalists in the November competition. Mark is known throughout metro Detroit as a successful businesswoman and philanthropist.

Mark has a "healthy" pizza named after her on the Buddy's menu. It's "The Florine Mark Pizza" with brick/fat-free cheese blend, spinach, mushrooms, diced tomatoes, garlic and black olives.

Buddy's Pizza reviews all entries for "Dining With The Stars" and selects the top four to five "fan" letters. The stars featured for the month make the final selection.

Students can enter Dr. King essay contest, win U.S. bonds

BY KURT KUBAN

What does the life and message of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. mean to you? If you are a local middle school or high school student, the Canton Public Library, Friends of the Canton Public Library and Canton Observer want to know what you think about the great civil rights leader.

The three groups are cosponsoring a Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. essay contest that is open to all middle school and high school students attending Plymouth-Canton schools or any school in Canton, including All Saints, Plymouth Christian Academy and Agape Christian Academy. It is also open to Canton residents attending school elsewhere.

The contest will be divided into middle school (grades 6-8) and high school (grades 9-12) categories, and winners in each category will win U.S. Savings Bonds (\$200 for first place; \$100 for second place; and \$50 for honorable mention).

The contest is being held in conjunction with Canton Township's annual Martin Luther King, Jr. celebration held in January.

The idea, according to library spokesperson Laurie Golden is to help local students understand the influence King had and still has on society.

"We've done the MLK program for the last three years. We really want to get more involvement in the program," Golden said. "We're asking kids to get involved and think about Dr. King's influence and accomplishments. Kids these days grew up in a generation without Dr. King and the Civil Rights Movement."

Students interested in entering the contest must choose one of the two topics for each age group.

High school (750-1000 words):

When you look around the Canton community, do you see any relevance to Dr. Martin Luther King's dream?

Dr. Martin Luther King and Mahatma Gandhi both practiced some forms of civil disobedience. In your opinion, under what conditions is civil disobedience morally acceptable?

Middle school (500-750 words):

Has Dr. Martin Luther King's dream been realized?

(C)

■ If Dr. Martin Luther King were alive today, what current issues would he be involved in? Submissions must be

received by 9 p.m., Jan. 6. Drop off or mail to the Canton Public Library, Attention: Laurie Golden, 1200 S. Canton Center Road, Canton, MI 48188.

Essays must be typed, double spaced, and be original and student's own creation. No electronic submis ons will be accepted. Wor must have a cover sheet with student's name, address, phone number, grade and school. Place student's name and phone number on the top right corner of each page.

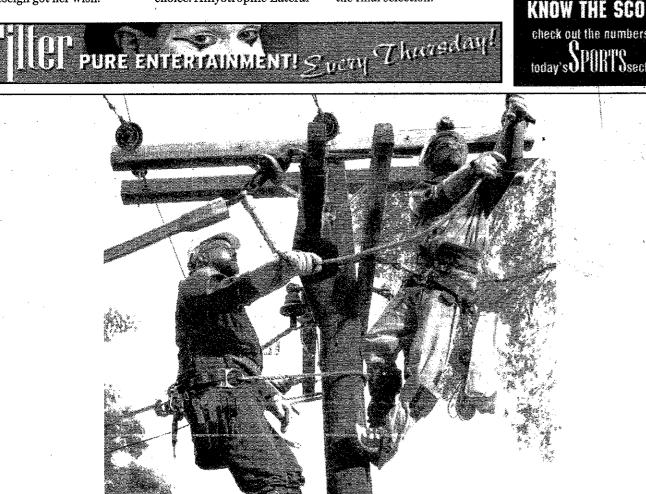
All submissions become the property of the Canton Public Library and will not be returned.

Entries may be displayed in print or on the Internet by the Canton Public Library or Observer & Eccentric Newspapers.

The contest will be judged by members of the library and journalists at the Observer. For more information, please

visit the library's Web site at www.cantonpl.org.

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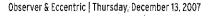
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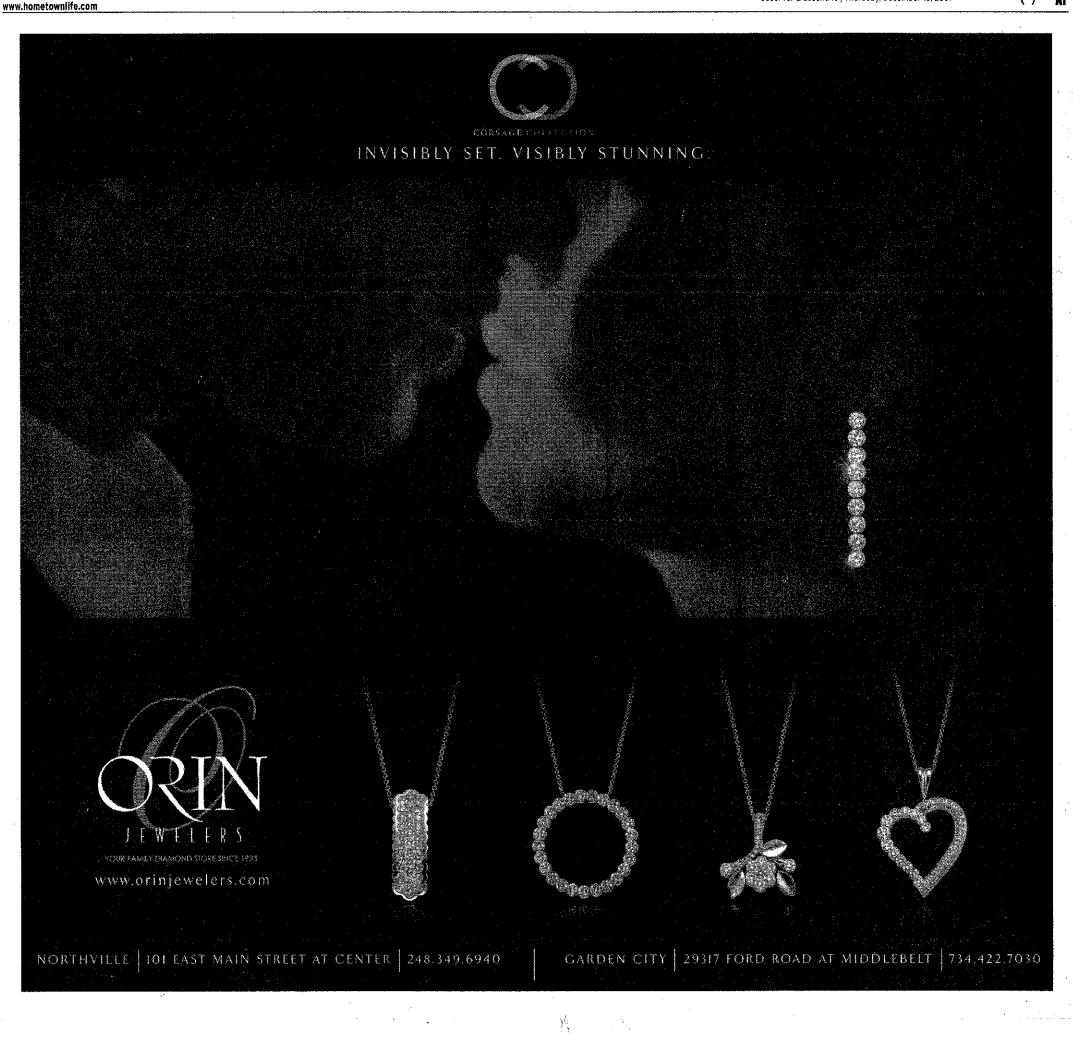
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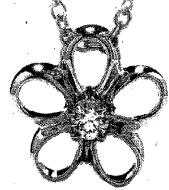
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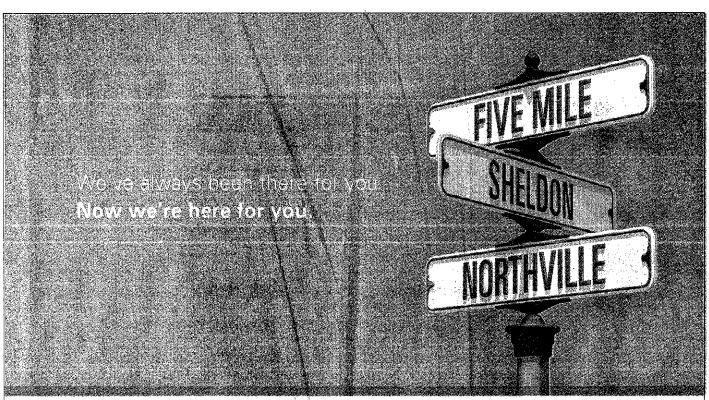
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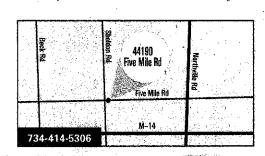
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COST OF ELECTIONS

Here's what school officials estimate it would cost the district for elections, with and without Schoolcraft College as a partner.

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|-------------|-------------|--------------------|
| Schoolcraft | Schoolcraft | Election |
| \$75,000 | \$100,000 | Annually in May |
| \$25,000 | \$50,000 | Odd-years May |
| \$21,000 | \$42,000 | Every November |
| \$21,000 | \$42,000 | Odd-year November |
| \$0 | \$0 | Even-year November |
| • | | • |
| | | |

ELECTIONS FROM PAGE AT

Trustees voted 6-1 to realign the election.

"We've been told by many people we need to save money, and this is an area where the board can do something directly to save the district money," Mardigian said. "Saving \$200,000 over four years is a lot.

"I always had an uneasiness about November, and when the state clerk's association expressed concern about even-November (elections) and voter fatigue - some estimates say only 10 percent of the voters make it to the end of the ballot and there's a higher rate of spoiled ballots - that was enough to convince me," she added.

Trustee Steven Sneideman said he chose May over November to keep school board elections from becoming political.

'I believe that even-year November is a very highly political time, and I'd like to stay away from there," Sneideman said.

Plymouth Township resident Larry Martin, the lone speaker at the public hearing, said November elections are needed to involve more people in the voting process.

"The only option that involves the public is to have a November election," Martin said. "There are over 70,000 (registered) voters in this district, and only 10 percent go out for a May election. You'd expect at least a 50-percent turnout for a November election."

Former school board president Mark Horvath of Canton Township, whose online petition for a November election to reduce costs collected 650

signatures, said trustees saved only half as much as they could have by continuing May elections.

"I think it's amazing that a public group can think they were successful when they saved half as much as they could have and reduced the amount of public input to every other year," Horvath said. "Only a group of people that's spending the public's money would consider that a success."

Simescu, who voted in favor of the change, said his concern now is with possible major changes in the board after the next election.

"We're looking at a new superintendent and within the first year that superintendent could be faced with an entire change of the majority of the school board," Simescu said.

Wysocki was the lone vote against moving the current election cycle at all.

"I believe we should try to encourage people to vote more often," Wysocki said. "Odd-year elections, with the number of seats on the ballot either three or four — could allow special interest groups to come in and completely take over the board in one election."

There's no guarantee the next P-CCS board election will actually be held in May 2009.

"I don't think this is the last move we're going to make," Mardigian said. "I think next year the state (Legislature) will get its act together and they will give us a date we need to work with or give us different options. I think the board, next year, will have to revisit this."

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OUR VIEWS

Page AI0 (C)

A less compassionate **Canton emerges at** temple meeting

The Canton community has shown how compassionate it can be in the wake of a home explosion that destroyed nearly all of Dave and Jan Goble's worldly possessions.

The couple, who survived the natural gas explosion that leveled their home, has been overwhelmed by the support of the community. People, many of whom the Gobles have never even met, have offered them all kinds of donations, from money and food, to vehicles and even the use of their homes. Numerous groups have come forward and are planning fund-raisers.

The whole episode has been one the community can take pride in.

Another, much less compassionate side of Canton emerged last week at the Planning Commission meeting, however. The Hindu Temple, located on Cherry Hill Road, presented a plan at the meeting to replace its current, facility with a new state-of-the-art temple on its 5.6-acre parcel that is surrounded by three subdivisions (Cherry Blossom, Kingston Estates and Glengarry Village).

Dozens of residents in those subdivisions showed up and voiced their opposition to the project, saying the proposed building didn't fit in with the character of the neighborhood. Many times when a building is proposed in a residential area, it is opposed by surrounding neighbors. One neighbor even said, "Not in my backyard, please," which was met by a big applause. So the opposition wasn't that unusual.

But some of the comments went far beyond the typical NIMBY argument. In particular, Planning Commissioner Catherine Johnson's statements about reports of Hindu women urinating in public were ridiculous and, frankly, quite embarrassing. It had nothing to do with the proposed site plan, which is what the commission should be focusing on.

We're not sure what audience Johnson was trying to play to, but she should realize Canton is home to a large Hindu community.

The proposed Hindu Temple, which meets all zoning requirements, would be about 19,000 square feet - larger than some churches in the community, but much smaller than some others. And nearly all the religious worship facilities in the community are in residential areas. So the Hindu Temple would not be unusual in any way.

Members of the Hindu Temple board should be commended for still wanting to work with the neighbors, even after some of the offensive remarks at the meeting. Their neighbors should accept the fact that they are not going anywhere. They own the property, and their plan meets all the township's requirements. It's time to stop casting stones and work together. That's what neighbors do.

Legislators can do better at reaching compromise



A rough year

State Rep. Paul Condino, D-Southfield, (right) and Senate Majority Leader Mike Bishop, R-Rochester, spoke at the Observer & Eccentric's annual Journalist of the Year program. They discussed the often contentious partisan disagreements during the Legislature's prolonged budget negotiations.

· . . . Attorney was wrong

I am writing to express my resentment of the slanderous, and possibly actionable, characterization by Bryan Amann, of the attendees at the Dec. 3 Canton Planning Commission meeting as "bigots." As a former member of the award-winning diversity council at For Motor's Wayne Assembly Plant, I am deeply hurt that someone would broad-brush everyone who raised questions about the modification with the same offensive epithet.

I do not, in any way, condone the scattering of inappropriate and, in at least one instance, tasteless remarks. I would like to point out, however, that the initial hour of the meeting was restrained and rational, for the most part. It was only after Amann spent a half hour failing to answer the valid objections, which had been raised that the rhetoric became heated.

In my opinion, the misdirection, half-

LETTERS

fession. It is very telling that he did not mention the concerns that were brought up at the meeting such as safety of little children, possible flooding if the pumps for the underground detention water fail and the damage it will cause to surrounding area and homes, lights that will be on until 11 p.m. when parents are trying to get their children to bed, trash pickup at a Dumpster when people are still sleeping and also the traffic problems that doubling the size of a congregation will cause on Cherry Hill which already has more than enough traffic for a two-lane street. This congestion also makes it nearly impossible for people living in the condos on the north side of Cherry Hill to enter or exit their area.

Mr. Amann told us at the meeting that it would only be used for a couple of hours on Sunday. Even we are aware you do not spend that kind of money for a building to be used for only a couple of hours one day a week. Mr. Amann would like to meet with all of the homeowners association presidents. That sounds commendable, but since he seems to be so narrow-minded with his name calling I have to wonder what that will accomplish.

to assist the Plymouth A.M. Rotary and Tanger staff and families to make this necessity a reality!

> **Richard Ham-Kucharski** Canton

Time to tax junk food

The international pandemic of obesity threatens our society, both in terms of present and future adverse health and economic outcomes.

We need to heed the successful lessons against the tobacco industry and apply the same principles toward our efforts against obesity. Just warning people about and throwing more money towards its ravages is not working.

The preponderance of scientific evidence supports the issue that obesity, once established, is extremely difficult to treat by conventional methods. While we still need to intervene in those patients who are presently overweight, there should be a stronger public policy direction towards primary prevention. Social attitudes, norms and health and economic disparities must be addressed and policy makers need to encourage radical policy changes so that there are forced environmental shifts towards effective food production, marketing and consumption. While personal lifestyle decisions are an important part of this equation, strong environmental policies need to be enacted in order to support positive adult health behavior change. Therefore, it is now time to have policies and actions such as taxation of junk food, banning of advertising of fast foods and offering of financial incentives to manufacturers of food to sell smaller portion sizes. Policy makers should provide us with framework towards a healthier environment for food consumption and the insidious daily food excesses that leads to overweight and obesity. This stuff matters. It simply is not acceptable for us to remain silent anymore. Contact and encourage your legislative representative to enact public policy no less effective to what is in place presently for a smokeless environment. The future quality and longevity of our lives and that of our children hang in the balance.

Senate Majority Leader Mike Bishop, R-Rochester, and Rep. Paul Condino, D-Southfield, were the guest speakers Dec. 7 at the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers annual Journalist of the Year program.

They discussed the long, contentious battle over completing the 2007-08 budget. The wrangling has been blamed by some on the inexperience of legislators because of term limits. Others are demanding that Michigan move to a part-time Legislature. Still others suggest that the stalled action is part of a national partisan polarization that makes it difficult if not impossible for legislators to move beyond narrow partisan positions.

Bishop and Condino both acknowledged the process was ugly and neither is particularly happy with the final outcome. Condino, however, was upbeat about the cooperation between the legislators of both parties who crafted the Michigan Business Tax that replaced the Single Business Tax.

"We did a good job of coming together in creating the new business tax," he said.

But for Bishop, compromise on the Republican no tax mántra was clearly a failure.

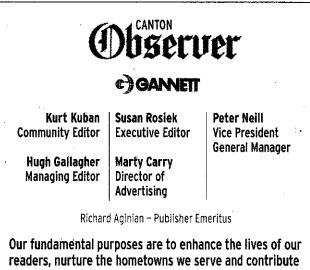
"It felt like I was at the Alamo, but I wasn't willing to give in to the pressure of going with the easy solution," he said.

Bishop acknowledged that those on the other side were also fighting for what they believed to be right.

The truth is, both sides can read the same statistics and come to equally valid and opposite points of view. But good legislators understand the fine art of compromising through give and take and respect for the core values of their opponents.

We don't think "no taxes ever" or "tax and spend" are core values. We believe both parties can find a way toward more efficient, cost-effective government that serves the needs of all residents, whether business leaders or those who are economically and socially vulnerable.

We hope for better in the future.



to the business success of our customers.

truths, and implied intimidation which Amann presented were a deliberate attempt to provoke the very behavior of a small minority, which you reported. Even though Amann, who is not only their "lawver" but also the developer (an economically significant fact that you did not report) made a point of telling the attendees that he had his "experts" in attendance, he failed to allow them to answer any technical questions, even when admitting that he did not have the answers himself.

If there is any question about Amann's sincerity and commitment to "work with the community," you need go no further than a half block west to the CVS development. That fiasco is a chronicle of broken promises, failed commitments and missed deadlines. Past evidence bodes ill for the congregation of the temple. They have my sympathy if the decision is to move forward on the project with Amann.

Roger Sands

secretary, Pheasant Glen Condo Association

We are not bigots

My husband and I attended the Planning Commission Meeting at the Canton Administration Building on Dec. 3. I was appalled to read in the Canton Observer on Dec. 6 that Mr. Amann had used the term bigotry because people in three subdivisions do not want a large building shoehorned into the middle of their subdivisions. It does not matter what the building is to be used for. It is the building itself; the size that is being proposed that would not be welcome because it is not consistent with the esthetics of the surrounding area.

It has absolutely nothing to do with anyone's faith, the color of their skin or their ethnic background. Mr. Amann should be ashamed of himself for inferring that we are bigots. It sounds to me as if he is looking for sympathy for his case and not basing his statements on facts.

We have been very fortunate to live in a neighborhood of such diversity and to have as friends people of all races, creeds and color. This means Asian, African American, or Caucasian, Hindu, Muslim, Jew, Protestant or Catholic just to name a few. We enjoy the diversity; we learn from it. For Mr. Amann to make such a blanket statement does a disservice to the law proSharon Doyle

Canton

Focus on home

Could someone please ask Thaddeus McCotter to please stop trying to reshape the world and focus on issues that are more important to his constituents. We need help with soaring medical, energy and grocery costs. People are hurting in his district. Is anybody in Washington listening?

Can his Liberty Alliance help us with these issues?

Khalil S. Kandah

Canton

Tanger needs playground

Santa was there, as he is every year, and the kids were so excited! Yes, it was another wonderful holiday party at Tanger Center, the PCCS Special Education Preschool!

Kids were playing, telling Santa their deepest holiday wishes, having holiday snacks. Smiles abound!

And there is only one thing I wish for this holiday: For these kids to have a playground they can actually use! Yes, Tanger has been a special education preschool for over 30 years in this district, but it still does not have the basic necessities which make education fun and functional for all kids ... a playground that works!

I give my many thanks to the Plymouth A.M. Rotary, Visteon, and the many other groups and companies that have helped provide the classroom tools necessary to help these extraordinary kids become Tanger graduates!

Now Tanger needs the district's help to build a new playground, with accessible play equipment, wide solid paths for wheelchairs, strollers, and walkers, and wonderful natural scapes for all to enjoy and learn about the world around them!

The Board of Education needs to use funds from the Capital Improvement Fund Paul R. Ehrmann, D.O. Royal Oak

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QUOTABLE

'This is our property. Sure, they are mad and they don't want us here but we are not upset. We want to work with our neighbors.' - Suresh Shah, member of the Hindu Temple board, responding to complaints from neighbors about their expansion plans

Building bridges – from the Great Lakes to the Great Wall

f the current and two former Michigan governors, and top governmental, business, political, labor and educational leaders told you to pay attention, that what you are about to hear and see is going to impact our state, our communities, families and your children and grandchildren - would you? Well, you'd better.

At 11 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 16, WWJ-TV will premiere a three-part series that examines



Michigan's economy and future and their potential connections with China in Building Bridges: From the Great Lakes to the Great Wall. (Part two airs 6-6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 18. The series wraps up 6-6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 19.) This show, in which I assisted as a consul-

tant for WWJ-TV, is a wake-up

call to everyone in Michigan. It

Tom Watkins

tells us that the world we once had is now gone. There are 1.3 billion new consumers/capitalists that are going to challenge and engage us at every turn - in business, education, innovation and creativity.

This TV special, Building Bridges, is shot in stunning high-definition and hosted by Carol Cain, community affairs and editorial director of WWJ-TV. It leads us on a journey to see how the Chinese have built one of the most explosive economies on the planet and how the economic growth in China could help position Michigan for future growth.

Rick Wagoner, CEO of General Motors, said it this way: "Twenty years from now, the only markets that will really matter will be the U.S. and China," If it were not for the profits being made in China, GM would be in much tougher financial shape than it is today. While the U.S. auto market is stagnant, the growth of sales in China is growing by leaps and bounds. This should not surprise anyone who understands that the ability to own a private car is a phenomenon that is less than 20 years old in this country that is home to one-fifth of the world's humanity!

Cain interviewed a number of experts to offer the most comprehensive, eye-opening report on those who are building bridges and attempting to develop opportunities for Michigan residents. She and WWJ-TV award-winning videographer Paul Pytlowany captured the sights and sounds of China from the majestic city of Shanghai teeming with its 20 million residents, to the sunrise over the Great Wall of China and the scenic beauty of the habitat of perhaps one of the most beloved animals in the world, the Giant Panda.

Building Bridges features exclusive interviews with virtually every local business leader and decision-maker who will play a part in Michigan's economic expansion. From government officials to business CEOs, automotive executives to union leaders. Cain leads a very balanced discussion on this important topic.

A number of experts were tapped to offer the most comprehensive, eye-opening report how bold pioneers in business and education are laying the groundwork for future prosperity in Michigan. A partial list of her guests includes: Jennifer Granholm, governor of Michigan; John Engler and Jim Blanchard, former governors of Michigan; Phil Spender, Ford China COO; Audie Wong, Amway China; Zhou Wenzhong, Chinese ambassador to the United States; Mary Sue Coleman, University of Michigan president; Kenneth Lieberthal, University of Michigan China expert; C. Peter Theut, partner, Butzel Long, Global Business Advisory Council; Karolo Chen, CEO of Motown Travel; Mark Brewer, Michigan Democratic Party chairman; Mark Gaffney, Michigan AFL-CIO president; Lou Dobbs, CNN anchor; and two students from a local high school who are traveling in China.

Jim Epolito, president and CEO of the Michigan Economic Development Corporation, gives this advice: "There is a need to change the mindset of all Michigan companies, regardless of size. In today's economy, where goods and services move across time zones and international borders seamlessly, ALL business is global, regardless if you want it to be or not."

Building solid relationships, or "guanxi," is critical to long-term success in China. Two local political leaders, L. Brooks Patterson, Oakland County executive, and Robert Ficano, Wayne County executive, are working overtime to build the relationships that will pay dividends back here in the Southeast Michigan region. Both of them and their staffs have made numerous, grueling transcontinental flights in an effort to develop the guanxi and "bring home the bacon" or in this case the jobs, for their constituents.

Patterson has both long and short term strategies to help prepare his county for the transformational global wave that has been heading our way for some time. He understands that our children will not be competing against the children in the school district or state next door - they will be competing against the children of the world. He has called for, and the Oakland schools have. embraced, the teaching of Mandarin Chinese (the most spoken language on the planet) in all schools in Oakland County. His call has been heard in China by educators and business leaders alike as a visionary educational effort and one that will make Oakland County and all of Southeast Michigan an economic magnet for Chinese investment.

Clearly, the 21st century will be driven by leadership, innovation, talent, creativity, knowledge, change and China. Watch this special, Building Bridges: From the Great Lakes to the Great Wall, with your entire family - it will help you understand that change and China are coming our way.

Tom Watkins is a business and education consultant. He served as state superintendent of schools for the state of Michigan from 2001-05 and as president and CEO of the Economic Council of Palm Beach County, Fla., 1996 to 2001. He has a long-standing interest in China and has traveled there many times. Read his internationally recognized report (now translated into Chinese): The New Education

Michigan Colleges Foundation leader's retirement offers a time to reflect

t the end of this month, Madonna University will bid farewell to a great friend and advocate. After 16 years as president of the Michigan Colleges Foundation (MCF), Bill Liebold has decided to retire. He leaves a lasting legacy of successful service to independent higher education in Michigan.

MCF is a not-for-profit organization that serves as a vital link between



Sister Rose

Marie Kujawa

mission is to provide students the opportunity for a valuesbased, high quality education at its 14 member four-year, liberal arts colleges by secur-

foundation communities. Its

Madonna University and

Michigan's corporate and

ing financial resources from the private sector. Madonna University has been a mem-

ber of MCF since 1952, and due to Bill's hard work and innovative thinking, we are a beneficiary of its success, receiving almost \$4 million in financial support over 50 years.

What has Bill taught us about the importance of Michigan's independent colleges like Madonna University?

First, the state's independent colleges and universities strengthen Michigan by preserving student choice and supplying a talented, diverse and well-educated workforce. Michigan businesses, corporations and foundations appreciate the quality, independence and tradition of private higher education and the graduates it produces. The fact that more than 96 percent of the alumni from MCF's member institutions currently are employed demonstrates how highly Michigan employers value the preparation provided by a liberal arts education.

Second, students benefit from the individualized attention they receive at MCF schools. The educational experience focuses on critical thinking, problem solving, communication, community service and personal values, such as integrity and a strong work ethic; qualities also highly valued by Michigan employers.

Finally, our state benefits from the significant economic impact of Michigan's independent colleges and universities, valued at \$6.1 billion annually. MCF institutions are responsible for approximately one-third of this impressive figure.

Under Bill's leadership and as a result of his vision, we have strategically and aggressively marketed minority scholarships to companies prevented by Proposal 2 from using this tool. This means that our state's employers still can meet their corporate diversity initiatives and goals by providing minority scholarships to students attending MCF member institutions and by recruiting successful graduates for employment. Under Bill's tenure as president,

Under Bill's leadership and as a result of his vision, we have strategically and aggressively marketed minority scholarships to companies prevented by Proposal 2 from using this tool. This means that our state's employers still can meet their corporate diversity initiatives and goals by providing minority scholarships to students attending MCF member institutions and by recruiting successful graduates for employment.

MCF has awarded more than 4,500 named scholarships to students.

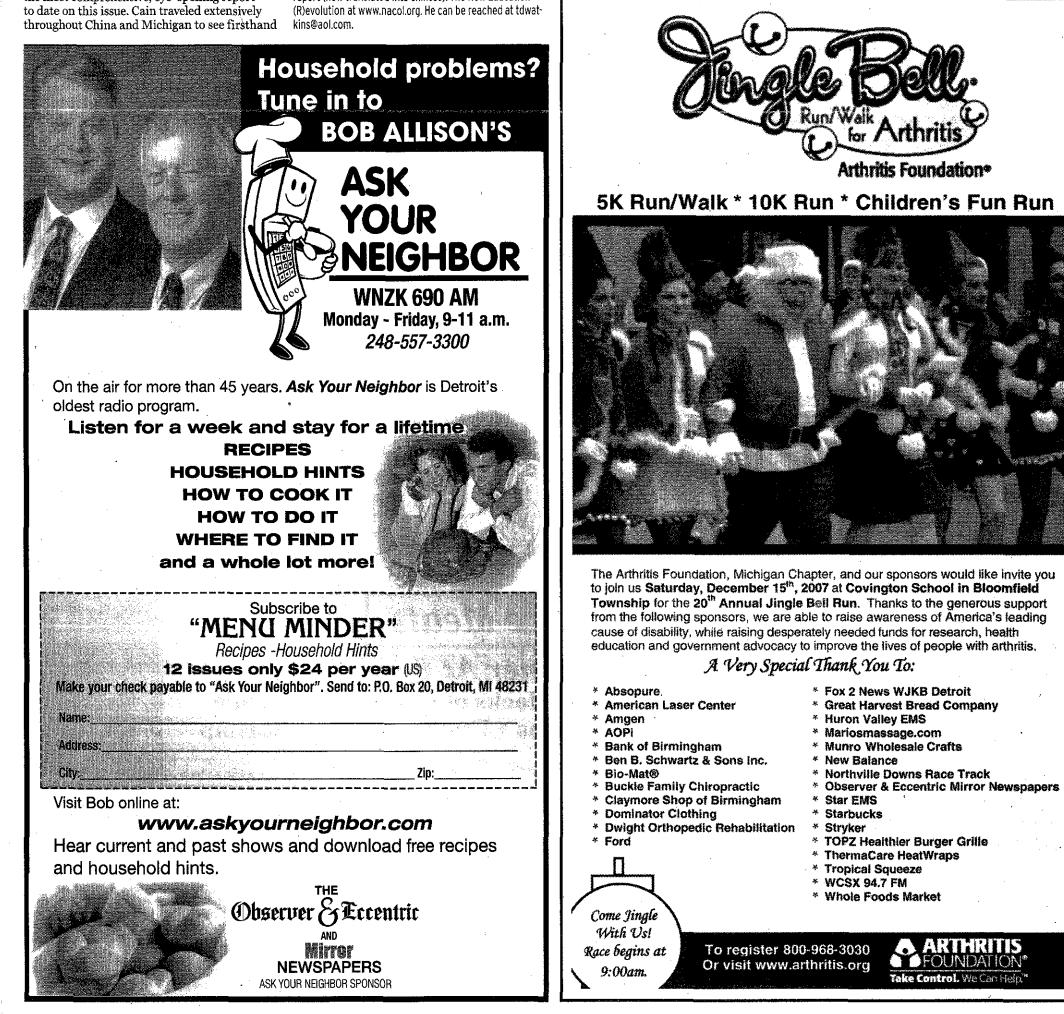
Most recently, Bill launched the Detroit Bridge Program, an innovative pre-college program to boost urban high school graduation rates and help MCF's member institutions enhance diversity in enrollment. The program engages first-generation, lowincome, Detroit area students in mapping a pathway to college through year-round academic enrichment as well as college preparation and leadership development programs hosted on MCF campuses. A similar initiative, to be launched in 2008, is being planned by business leaders in West Michigan.

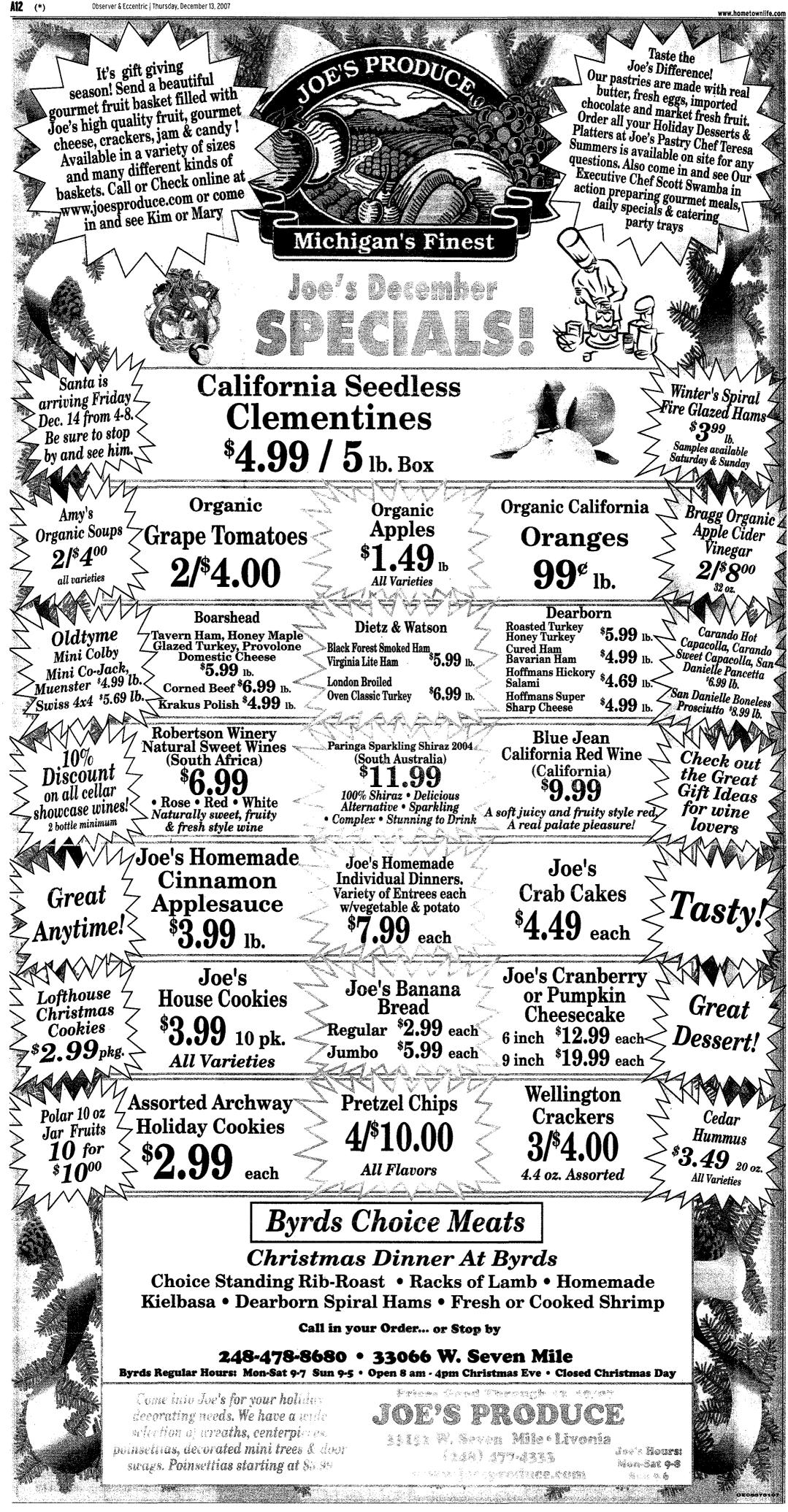
Originally conceived solely as a joint fundraising organization, under Bill's leadership MCF has developed collaborative projects among its member institutions, and Bill has inspired Madonna University to be a proud participant. Since its inception in 2003, the Collaborative Ventures Initiative has saved MCF's member institutions in excess of \$5 million. The spirit of cooperation developed under Bill's leadership is directly responsible for these projects that reduce costs, improve quality and increase resources for students.

We will honor Bill's legacy by continuing to pool the resources of our member colleges to address the academic and economic issues of concern to corporations and other funders. We will further honor his legacy by continuing to offer students an independent higher education option, and by empowering them with a quality academic foundation, an appropriate set of values, leadership skills and lifelong desire for learning. Finally, we honor Bill by establishing the William H. Liebold, II Scholarship, to which I am a proud contributor.

We salute Bill Liebold and all that he has done for our students, for our independent colleges and universities and for our state. We wish him all the best in the future.

Sister Rose Marie Kujawa, C.S.S.F., Ph.D., is the president of Madonna University.





PCEP wrestling teams pin hopes on talent, depth, B2

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

Stefan replaces Vellucci behind Whalers' bench

Mike Vellucci still holds three titles following a shuffling of the Plymouth Whalers' hierarchy Tuesday, but head coach is not one of them.

Vellucci was promoted to governor of the thriving Ontario Hockey League franchise by Compuware CEO and team owner Peter Karmanos, Jr. He will retain his president and general manager duties while former Detroit Red Wing goalie Greg Stefan will take over as the team's head coach.

Stefan resigned his position as an assistant coach with the Carolina Hurricanes on Tuesday to rejoin the Whalers for the third time in his coaching career.

Joe Stefan, Greg's younger brother, will remain the team's assistant coach.

"Mike's had tremendous success as a head coach, while balancing the demands of three different jobs," said Karmanos. "He's created stability and has built a winning environment within the organization. He has taken our on-ice performance in Plymouth to another level. I'm proud of the fact that Mike was able to bring home a championship to Plymouth. Mike will now have an opportunity to focus his energies toward running Compuware Arena and the Whalers without the day-to-day restraints of coaching."

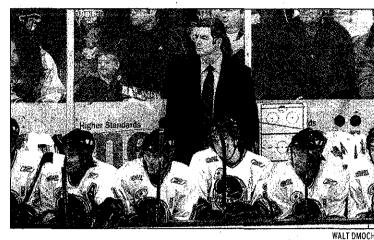
After losing to Barrie in the

OHL Rogers Championship Series in 2000 and in 2001 to Ottawa, Vellucci went behind the bench in the summer of 2001 and led Plymouth to the franchise's second championship last season.

Vellucci recently became the winningest coach in Plymouth history, compiling a record of 246-132-37-22, which is good for a .630 winning percentage. Vellucci became the first American-born coach to win the OHL's Matt Leyden Award (Coach of the Year) last season.

Plymouth won four West Division titles and never finished lower than second during

Please see VELLUCCI. B3



Mike Vellucci won't be standing behind the Plymouth Whalers' bench beginning with tonight's game at Petersborough. Vellucci handed the coaching reins to Greg Stefan on Tuesday after being promoted to the position of governor of the OHL franchise. Vellucci will retain his president and general manager duties.



with rally against Stevenson

BY ED WRIGHT STAFF WRITER

Livonia Stevenson's girls basketball team got a front-row seat to the "Baylee & Kaylie" show Tuesday night in the Canton Phase III gymnasium.

The Spartans probably weren't thrilled with the result — a 42-35 setback to the host Chiefs — but you couldn't blame them if they were at least a little impressed with the play of Canton standouts Baylee Hollowell and Kaylie Martin.

Canton's first victory in four games was paced by Hollowell, a senior forward who registered her fourth double-double of the season (10 points and 12 rebounds) and Martin, a sophomore guard who added nine points, including a clutch triple in the third quarter that sparked a game-altering 10-0

run. The loss dropped the Spartans 12-7 over the final eight minutes. Hollowell and Martin were just two components of turned out to be a very balanced Canton attack. Freshman forward Mel Pickert added 7 points; freshman forward Kayla Bridges added six points and eight rebounds; and junior guard Leslie Weisz chipped in with six points and some air-tight defense for the winners.

"Leslie did a great job defensively on the ball," said Samulski. Sarah Smith led Stevenson with

10 points. Canton led 9-8 after one quarter before the Spartans stormed back to secure a 19-18 lead. Stevenson tallied the first five points of the

second half before the Chiefs mounted their game-winning rally. The 1-3 Chiefs struggled from the charity stripe, draining just 13of-25 attempts. The Spartans con-

nected on 8-of-10 free throws. Canton committed a season-low



PCEP skaters shine

Thursday, December 13, 2007

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

www.hometownlife.com

The Plymouth-Canton Educational Park figure-skating team opened its 2007-08 season Saturday at the Plymouth Cultural Center by placing first in both the Level A and Level C competitions and fourth in Level B.

The A team placed first in jumps and moves; and third in spins, while the B team finished ninth in jumps, first in moves and fifth in spins.

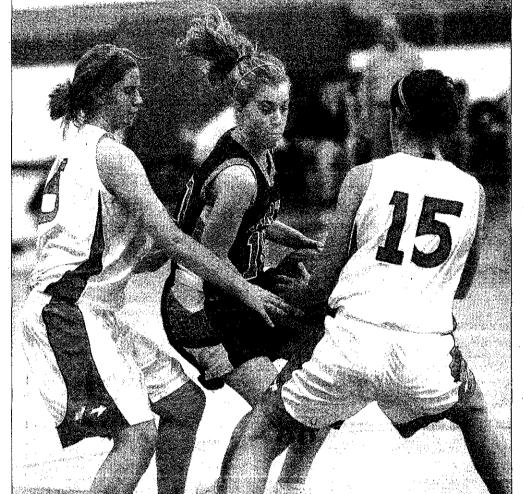
The C team placed third in jumps, and first in both moves and spins..

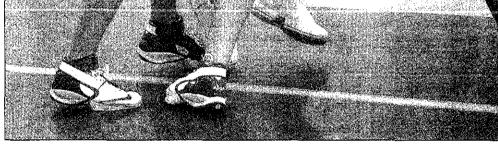
PCEP competed against the following teams: Northville, Lakeland/Milford, Ann Arbor Huron, Farmington United, Walled Lake, Hartland, Mercy, Ladywood and Novi.

Baseball clinic

The Velocity Sports Performance Baseball Academy will be hosting a Preseason Hitting & Pitching Camp Dec. 26-28 at its facility located in the Arctic Edge Ice Arena in Canton.

The three-day camp, which will consist of three-hour daily sessions, will focus





BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton's Leslie Weisz (left) and Melanie Pickert (right) put the defensive clamps on Livonia Stevenson's Julia Schroeder during Tuesday night's WLAA cross-over game. The Chiefs won, 42-35.

GCYBSA sign-ups approaching

Registration for the Greater Canton Youth Baseball & Softball Association's (GCYBSA) 2008 season is right around the corner.

Area baseball and softball players ages 4-18 who reside in Plymouth or Canton, or attend any school in the Plymouth-Canton School District, are eligible to participate.

Online registration will begin Jan. 10 at www.gcybsa. com. Walk-in registration is also available at the Canton Sports Center, which is located at 46555 W. Michigan Ave. daily from 8:30 a.m. to 5 and softball activities.

p.m. Prospective registrants can also visit the Summit on the Park, which is located at 46000 Summit Parkway to pick up a form.

Last year, 2,600 players and 750 volunteers combined to make the season a resounding success.

The mission of the GCYBSA is to work in cooperation with local government and committed volunteers to provide opportunities for community youth to develop socially, emotionally and physically through excellent instructional, recreational and competitive baseball

Participating parents and coaches also teach skills, the value of teamwork and the rewards of sportsmanship. With 162 recreational teams. 10 fastpitch softball travel teams, and 10 travel baseball teams, the GCYBSA offers a wide range of progressive play from T-ball through travel leagues.

Player evaluations and roster requests will take on a new format for the 2008 leagues, so players' parents are encouraged to visit the above-listed Web site for upto-date registration information and upcoming coaches and player clinics.

to 3-2. "Stevenson was up 24-18 early in the third quarter when Kaylie hit a big three," recalled Canton coach Brian Samulski. "That seemed to propel us and get us rolling for the

rest of the game." Canton went on to reel off seven consecutive points following Martin's long-range swisher to build a 28-24 advantage. The Chiefs turned back any thoughts Stevenson had of pulling off a late comeback by outscoring their foes

10 turnovers.

SALEM 49, NORTHVILLE 40: On Tuesday night at Salem, the Rocks improved to 4-0 with an impressive triumph over the visiting Mustangs in a Western Lakes Activities Association cross-over contest.

Salem built a 16-8 first-quarter lead then turned back every threat Northville threw at it by outscoring the Mustangs 33-32 over the final three quarters.

Please see HOOPS, B3

Picking up where it left off Jamar Beasley (left) and his **Detroit** Ignition teammates will host the expansion Monterrey La Raza in a Major Indoor Soccer League game Saturday at 7:35 p.m. at the Compuware Sports Arena. The Ignition improved to 5-2 last Saturday when it throttled Baltimore, 19-11.

DETROIT IGNITION PHOTO

on player skill and athletic development. Instructors include Cleveland Indians hitting instructor Bruce Fields and Los Angeles Dodgers bullpen coach Ken Howell.

The two camps one for kids 10-13 years old: the other for 14-18 year olds - will be limited to 15 athletes each.

For more information, call (734) 485-2561 or visit www. velocitysp.com/canton.

Callahan lauded

For the second time this season. Detroit Ignition defender Droo Callahan was named the Major Indoor Soccer League's "Defensive Player of the Week" after posting four blocks against the Baltimore Blast in a 19-11 victory on Saturday. Callahan also notched two unassisted goals, a two-point tally and a three-point score. Callahan has recorded 16 blocks so far this season.



LOCAL SPORTS

Rock grapplers 2nd PCEP wrestling teams pin hopes on talent, depth at own tournament **BY ED WRIGHT**

Salem's wrestling team turned in a solid effort at Saturday's Salem Team Tournament as the Rocks placed second in the seventeam event with 186 points.

Sterling Heights captured first with 216.5 points while Adrian racked up a third-place showing with 163.5 points.

Salem's Kevin Hayter earned Most Valuable Wrestler honors for the lower weights when he won the 130-pound weight class. Adrian's Rafael Rodriguez was the MVP of the upper weights after going unbeaten at 152.

In addition to Hayter, the following Salem grapplers also took the title in their respective weight classes: Jeremy Epley (160), Austin Root (171), Kevin Bennett (125) and Alex Kemp (140)

12TH ANNUAL SALEM **TEAM TOURNAMENT**

ANH ARBOR HURON 124 CANTON 62

THURSDAY AT CANTON

THURSDAY AT CANTON 200-yard medley relay: 1. Huron (Raymond Viviano, Michael Swain, Chris Berloth, Vinayak Nikam), 1:47.14; 2. Huron, 1:49.42; 3. Canton, 1:52.59. 200 freestyle: 1. Richard Zhang (C), 1:53.57; 2. Charlie Zhang (AAH), 2:00.77; 3. Keeley Maher (AAH), 2:01.27. 200 Mu-1 Chris Barloth (AAH), 2:03.44

200 IM: 1. Chris Berloth (AAH), 2:03.46; 2. Kevin Karlinski (C), 2:15.48; 3. Leopold Chen

50 freestyle: 1. Dan Thurston (AAH), 22.67; 2. Chris McGinnis (C), 24.47; 3. Vinayak Nikam (AAH), 24.62.

Nikam (AAH), 24,62. **1-meter diving:** 1. Thomas Jahanian (AAH), 177,45 points: 2. Jeff Camalo (AAH), 174.15; 3. Matt Figlewicz (C), 133.95. **100 butterfly:** 1. Dylan Wood (AAH), 58.83; 2. Michael Toner (AAH), 59.20; 3. Pat

FINAL STANDINGS 1. Sterling Heights, 216.5; 2. Salem, 186; 3. Adrian, 163.5; 4. New Boston Huron, 162.5; 5. Ypsilanti Lincoln, 104; 6. Walled Lake Western, 94; 7. Dearborn Usingha Constructed Q Heights Crestwood, 91. **152 pounds:** 1. Rodrieguez (A) def. Koch (NBH), 5-3; 3. Freeman (YL) def. Boyd (SH),

160: 1. Epley (S) pinned Moosa (SH) in
 5:35: 3. Goette (YL) def. Verner (A), 6-0.
 171: 1.Root (S) def. Koszykowski (NBH), 13 5: 3. Turner (SH) pinned Baydoun (C) in 2:38.

189: 1. Banas (NBH) def. Leoper (S), 17:5; 3. Itaweel (SH) pinned Abbey (S) in 1:54. 215: 1. Mackey (NBH) def. Folden (SH), -2; 3. Hoffman (A) pinned Campbell (WLW) 3:47

3.47 HVY: 1. Mandelka (C) pinned Coleman (A)

in 49 seconds; 3. Alverson (WLW) pinned Talio (SH) in 4:29.

(SH) in 4:29. **103:** 1. Hanni (SH) pinned Devin Stratton (S) in 1:17; 3. Romano (NBH) won by forfeit over Al-Homoudi (C). **112:** 1. Cristobal (SH) def. Farrell (YL), 7-5; **121:** 1. Cristobal (SH) def. Farrell (YL), 7-5;

Sutter (A) pinned Yezbick (WLW) in 2:59. 119:1. Batarseh (SH) def. Bail (A), 11-1; 3.

- DeWitt (S) pinned Polocoser (C) in 4:16. 125:1 Bennett (S) pinned Al-Hussein (C)
- 3:02; 3. Galvan (A) pinned Shen (S) in 2:52. **130:** 1. Hayter (S) def. Mann (NBH), 13-10; 3.

Lutren (WiW) def. Laudermain (KH), 7-5. **135:** 1. Williams (SH) pinned Butler (WLW) in 3:26; 3. Polocoser (C) def. Monday (A), 7-5. **140:** 1. Kemp (S) def. Olind (S), 9-2; 3.

Engle (A) def. Romanski (NBH), 3-2. **145:** 1. Farrell (YL) def. Verner (A), 4-2; 3.

Kane (S) def. Schultz (X), 6-5.

SWIM RESULTS

Richardson (AAH), 1.00.40. 100 freestyle: 1. Michael Swain (AAH), 51.23; 2. Richard Zhang (C), 51.59; 3. Vinayak (AAH), 52.80.

(AAH), 52.80. **500 freestyle**: 1. Dan Thurston (AAH), 4:48.09; 2. Nick Clyde (AAH), 5:28.77; 3. Michael Everett (AAH), 5:35.76. **200 freestyle relay**: 1. Huron (Pierce

Theisen, Sam Nam, Ronald Conn, Pat Richardson), 1:37.13; 2. Canton, 1:41.33; 3.

luron, 1:46.89. 100 backstroke: 1. Michael Toner (AAH),

100 backstroke: 1. Michael Toner (AAH), 57.74; 2. Raymond Viviano (AAH), 1:03.15; 3. Leopoid Chen (AAH), 1:04.32. 100 breaststroke: 1. Michael Swain (AAH), 1:01.33; 2. Kevin Karlinski (C), 1:08:05; 3. Keeley Maher (AAH), 1:11.59. 400 freestyle relay: 1. Canton (Chris McGinnis, Chris Marinica, Eddle Koelzer, Richard Zhang), 3:43:55; 2. Canton, 4:03.74; 3. Huron, 4:10.69.

Notice of Public Sale of Personal Property.

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self Service Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, PS Orangeco, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc. will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage (formerly Shurgard) located at 41889 Joy Rd Canton MI 48187 (734)254-0243 on 12/28/07 at 11:00 am. Sales are for cash only. Removal within 24 hours. For sale and storage units in which rent and fees are past due. Personal property described below in the matter of: 1006 - Ray Miller - Air Conditioner, 5 Boxes, Misc Items 2030 - Mary Owens - Couch, Washer, Dryer 3069 - Archie Mcgill - Bedframe, Endtable, Dresser 4001 - Robert Kozak - Vacuum, 10 tool boxes, Misc Items 4044 - Christopher Barnett - Couch, 12 Totes, Misc Items 9154 - Daphani Dent - 10 Boxes, Couch, Love Seat Publish: December 13 and 20, 2007 OE08575145 2x2

STAFF WRITER

The wrestling mats at the three Plymouth-Canton Educational Park high schools will once again serve as proving grounds for some of the area's most-promising grapplers as the 2007-08 campaign kicks off.

Last season was an up-anddown season collectively for Canton, Salem and Plymouth. Led by 140-pound state champion Corey Phillips, the Chiefs collected the most accolades, sending four wrestlers to the Division 1 individual state meet at the Palace of Auburn Hills. Canton missed a second straight trip to the D1 team state meet in Battle Creek when it was nipped by 1 point by Novi Catholic Central at the Regional meet in Novi.

Meanwhile, the Rocks and Wildcats will be looking to rebound from a season in which both teams failed to send a single performer to the Palace. While it was the first time Salem had been shut out in several years, the prognosis is much-improved for both teams as they return an abundance of stellar, experienced matmen.

Following is a look ahead to the 2007-08 season.

The Chiefs will be in reload mode under sixth-year coach Casey Randolph as a number of proven wrestlers return from last year's 27-5 team that racked up a District title for the third consecutive season.

Among the key losses to graduation were Phillips, who is currently a freshman contributor for Eastern Michigan University's mat squad; heavyweight standout Kuchenberg and Pat Durocher Donnie Laramie; and Kiel Price, who anchored the middle weights for the Chiefs.

"We have a young, athletic group, so I'm excited heading into this season," said Randolph. "This team has a lot of potential. We have a very demanding schedule, so it may take awhile to develop for some of the younger wrestlers, but they have good work ethics."

The Chiefs head into the season with only four seniors, the heaviest being 140-pounder Steve Cox.

Sophomore Waleed Faraj has earned the call at the 103-pound slot. The younger brother of former state qualifier Marwan Faraj, Waleed enjoyed a stellar campaign at the junior varsity level as a freshman.

PREP WRESTLING PREVIEW

last year, has a headlock on the 119 weight class. "Carl's a tough kid and one of the leaders in our wrestling room," said Randolph.

Sophomore Donnie Watkins has bulked up to 125 after qualifying for the state meet at 103 as a freshman last season. Watkins finished fourth in the state - the highest finish ever for a freshman Chief – with a stellar 52-4 mark. Sophomore Mitch Wolski should also see time at 119 and 125, according to Randolph.

A pair of juniors - Phil Rollinger and Jeremy Filipelli will man the 130 and 135 spots, respectively. Randolph is pleased with the work both 11th-graders put in during the long off-season. Cox was a Regional qualifier last year and he competed for Team Michigan during the sum-

mer. "We wrestled non-stop this summer for Team Michigan and is ranked third in the state at 135," said Randolph. He's a very tough kid."

Shayne Wilson and Tim Koelzer will provide depth at 130 and 135.

Sophomores Brent Winekoff and Keith Zech give the Chiefs a solid middle-of-the-order line-up. Winekoff was a Regional qualifier as a freshman and also competed for Team Michigan, while Zech gained a measure of valuable varsity experience as a ninthgrader in 2006-07. Freshmen Braden Price and Anthony Abro; and sophomore Fawzi Zeidan will provide Randolph with depth at 152 and 160.

A pair of juniors - Mitch - are battling it out for the 160pound starting spot while two seniors - Rodger Kropp and Adam Powers — have locks on the 171 and 189 slots, respectively. "Rodger really hit the weights over the summer and had a solid football season this past fall," said Randolph. He's definitely one of

our senior leaders. "Adam is a returning captain and he's a lot bigger and stronger than he was last year. He's a great leader who commands respect from his teammates."

Senior Dan Wanshon, an All-WLAA linebacker, will wrestle at 215 while sophomore Dakota Dark-Bird, Junior Luke Konsitzke and sophomore Tyler Bourcier will try to fill the big shoes left by the graduation of

SALEM

The Rocks will be motivated somewhat by the fact that last year's team was the first since 1991 to not send a single wrestler to the individual state meet.

"We have a good, solid group of seniors leading us into this season," said Salem coach Greg Woochuk, noting the return of upper-classmen Kevin Bennett, Kevin Hayter, Jeremy Epley, Justin Kane and Alex Kemp. "It's a good group of dedicated wrestlers who, hopefully, will lead us to good things when March rolls around.

The Rocks' lighter weight classes will be bolstered by sophomore Carl Allen (112), a first-year wrestler; junior Ben DeWitt, who saw some gained some valuable varsity time as a sophomore; and 125-pound seniors Bennett and Steve Shen.

"Kevin had an excellent season last year with over 35 wins," said Woochuk. "He's a third-year varsity wrestler and a captain."

Hayter will double as a 130pound standout and captain while Kemp has looked solid at 135, Woochuk said.

"Alex is a hard worker and I'm expecting a lot out of him this season," said the veteran coach.

The mid-section of the Rocks' line-up will be filled by junior Johannes Olind (140), senior captain Kane (145) and 152-pounders Robbie Schultz (junior) and Colin Gross, a sophomore.

Senior captain Jeremy Epley will be out to cap a spectacular career at 160. Austin Root is also slotted to see time at 160 when Epley moves up to 171.

"Jeremy is another wrestler who had over 35 wins last year, so we're expecting a lot out of him this year," said Woochuk.

Junior Sam Lepper will wrestle at 171 with sophomore Blake Abbey slated to compete at 189. Sophomore A.J. Smith has been the Rocks' most-impressive performer at 215 while Chase Moore has looked solid so far at heavyweight.

PLYMOUTH

Second-year coach Jay Helm has reason to be optimistic as he enters the 2007-08 season armed with a solid nucleus of returning grapplers.

While we want to win, one of our primary goals is to get the kids to become closer as a group and to be there for each other," said Helm, a former standout wrestler at Detroit Catholic Central. "We're a young team - we had four freshmen wrestle in our first match — but we have some solid, experienced kids back, too.

www.hometownlife.com

The Wildcats' lighter weights will be dominated by freshmen: Nick Conroy is set at 103, Jimmy Ahearn and Brett Echols are dueling for the No. 1 spot at 112; while Nick Rizzo has earned the early nod at 119.

Plymouth's premier lightweight performer is senior Steve D'Annunzio, who was 3-1 with three pins in his team's first four matches.

"Steve has tremendous potential," said Helm. "He's very explosive and he's strong. He's a hard-nosed, in-your-face kind of competitor who never quits.

Helm also had high praise for 130-pound junior Dylan Spicher.

"Dylan had a pretty good year last year when he saw a lot of varsity action," said Helm. "The experience he got last year will make him better this year. He went to some camps over the summer and he was at all of our open rooms, so he's a hard worker who wants to get better."

Junior Matt Traitses opens the season as the Wildcats' top performer at 135. Three under-classmen --- freshmen Tony Rhodes and Alex Saunders; and sophomore John Kelly - give the team loads of depth at 140.

One of the Wildcats' leading returners is senior Andrew Saunders, who will battle at 145.

"Andrew is a great kid and a hard worker," said Helm. "He's very scrappy and very intelligent. He started 5-1 this season, so he's doing a nice job."

Junior Sceo Rizzo has also started 5-1 at 160.

"Sceo has a lot of raw talent and natural ability," Helm said. Junior Derek Davey will bolster the upper-weight classes at 171. He's started the season 4-2.

"Derek is definitely a determined young man," said Helm. "He has a lot of heart and he's relentless in his pursuit to beat his opponents."

The Wildcats' top returner is 189-pound senior Vince Darolfi, a four-year letter-winner who was a standout on the Wildcats' football team.

He's off to a spectacular start, going 6-0 with six pins.

"Vince is definitely one of our leaders," said Helm. "He's a leader by example. Of his six pins, none went more than 1:10.

Senior Brian Chandler is the Wildcats' 215-pounder while Anthony Pomerson could prove to be one of the area's premier heavyweights based on his early 7-0 start.

"Anthony's doing well and he had a very good summer," said Helm.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON ACCESS TO PUBLIC MEETINGS

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

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

Publish: December 9 & 13, 2007

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON **REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**

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

SPONSORSHIP AND ADVERTISING SALES FOR CANTON LEISURE SERVICES

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

TERRY G. BENNETT, CLERK

OE08575414-2x8

OE08574834

Publish: 12/13/2007

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS **THURSDAY, JANUARY 3, 2008** 6:00 P.M.

PLEASE NOTE that the Zoning Board of Appeals will hold its Regular Meeting on Thursday, January 3, 2008 commencing at 6:00 p.m., to consider:

- Application 1452, 14300 Beck Rd: The applicant is requesting a variance in allowable sign square footage from a maximum of 60 sq ft to 70.68 sq ft. Requested variance is 10.68 square feet.
- Application 1453, 12285 Wendover: The applicant is requesting a variance in required distance between residential dwelling units; required distance is 16 feet, proposed distances is 12.5 feet, variance requested is 3.5 feet.
- Application 1454, 15255 Sheldon Rd: The applicant is requesting a variance to required rear yard setback. The minimum setback is 20 feet, the proposed setback is 14.9 feet, the variance requested is 5.10 feet.

The meeting will be held at Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty Road in the Town Hall Meeting Room.

For further information contact Plymouth Township Building Department 734-354-3210.

Publish: December 13, 2007

A pair of sophomores — Connor Johnson and Jon Dugan - are battle for the right to start

at 112 pounds. Junior Carl Lucke, who was a state qualifier at 112

Laramie. "Dan won quite a few matches as a junior and he is looking really good during the pre-season," said Randolph.

Notice of Public Sale of Personal Property.

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self Service Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, PS Orangeco, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc. will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage (formerly Shurgard) located at 2500 S Industrial Hwy Ann Arbor, MI 48104-6130 (734)973-5584 on 12/27/07 at 2:00 pm. Sales are for cash only. Removal within 24 hours. For sale and storage units in which rent and fees are past due.

Personal property described below in the matter of:

- 2006 Jerrell Steele Microwave, 8 Boxes, Misc Items 2017 - William Armstead Jr - Dresser, TV, Mattress
- 3033 William Denning
- 4018 Joan Wright 5 Bags, 4 Boxes, Misc Items
- 6006 Bernice Holman 4 Boxes, 5 Bags, Misc Items
- 8032 Kimberly Barnet Misc Items, Clothes, 8 Boxes

Publish: December 13 & 20, 2007

OEn8575141 - 2 x 2.5

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON INVITATION TO BID

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Charter Township of Canton, 1150 Canton Center S, Canton, Michigan will accept sealed bids at the Office of the Clerk up to 3:00 p.m. Thursday, January 3, 2008 for the following:

LAYOUT, DESIGN, PRINTING, SORTING & MAILING OF THE DISCOVER CANTON BROCHURE

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

TERRY G. BENNETT, CLERK

Publish: 12/13/2007

OE08575349-2x3

OE06574851 - 2 x 3

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON NOTICE OF CLOSE OF REGISTRATION FOR THE JANUARY 15, 2008 PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION

Notice is hereby given that DECEMBER 17, 2007, is the last day registrations can be accepted in order to be eligible to vote in the above stated election to be held on Tuesday, January 15, 2008. Registrations will be accepted at the Township Clerks Office, 1150 South Canton Center Road, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Registration can also be made at any Secretary of State Office or State Designated Agency. Persons with special needs who are unable to register in the above mentioned manner are urged to contact the Clerk's Office at 734-394-5120. Mail-in registration postmarked by December 17, 2007 will also be accepted.

> Terry G. Bennett Clerk

Publish: December 9 & 13, 2007

ewright@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2108

Notice of Public Sale of Personal Property.

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self Service Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, PS Orangeco, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc. will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage (formerly Shurgard) located at 45229 Michigan Ave Canton MI 48188 (734)397-0082 on 12/28/07 at 12:30 pm. Sales are for cash only. Removal within 24 hours. For sale and storage units in which rent and fees are past due.

Personal property described below in the matter of: 2037 - Shawn Booth - Mattress, Bike, 5 Totes

- 3006 B & B Builders Lawn Mower, Fan, Snow Blower
- 4024 Amy Lynn Feister 2 Bikes, 10 Totes, Chest
- 4127 Ron Miller 6 Totes, 3 Toolboxes, Endtables 4155 – Toni Venturella – 7 Totes, 10 Boxes, Misc Items
- 4168 Janneth Williams TV, 3 Totes, 2 Mattresses
- 4222 Terry Brown Microwave, Endtable, Chair
- 4226 Toni Venturella Washer, Mattress, 12 Boxes
- Publish: December 13 and 20, 2007

OE08575146-2z2.5

Notice of Public Sale of Personal Property.

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self Service Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, **PS Orangeco, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc.** will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage located at 2101 Haggerty Rd Canton MI 48187 (734)981-0303 on 12/28/07 at 12:00 pm. Sales are for cash only. Removal within 24 hours. For sale and storage units in which rent and fees are past due.

Personal property described below in the matter of: 2026 - Carin Malley - Washer, Dryer, Dresser 3030 - Herman Glass - TV, VCR, 10 Bags 3042 - Dianne Croskey - Couch, 10 Boxes, 5 Bags 3047 - Cann Malley - Entertainment Center, 2 Kids Bikes, Microwave 4212 - Brooke Forquer - Table, 4 Boxes, Misc Items 4267 – Alina Lafleche – China Cabinet, 4 Chairs, 2 Totes 4294 - Diane Jacobs - 5 Boxes, 10 Totes, Misc Items 5029 - Cleopatra Peck - 4 Bikes, Lawn Mower, Refrigerator

- 5202 Donald Reardon 5 Totes, TV, Trunk
- 5240 Debra Charnoske Keyboard, Tool Chest, Air Compressor
- 6011 Mark Allen Mayo Microwave, Keyboard, 10 Totes
- 9054 Karen Luna Headboard, Sofa, Mattress

Publish: December 13 & 20, 2007

OE08575144 - 2 x 3

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH CLOSE OF REGISTRATION NOTICE FOR THE TUESDAY, JANUARY 15, 2008, PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that December 17, 2007, is the last date to register for the Presidential Primary Election scheduled for Tuesday, January 15, 2008. Registration for electors within the Charter Township of Plymouth will be taken at the Office of the Township Clerk, 9955 N. Haggerty Road or at any Secretary of State Office or state designated agency. The office of the Clerk is open from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. If a resident is unable to register during those hours, a call to the Clerk's Office can set up a convenient time for the resident. Phone 734-354-3224.

> Marilyn Massengill, CMC Clerk, Charter Township of Plymouth

Publish: December 13, 2007

OE08575843 - 2v3

HOOPS FROM PAGE BI

Senior guard Alaya Mitchell led all scorers with 15 points. Other standouts for the Rocks were Chelsea Davis (14 points and 10 rebounds), Victoria Brotz (eight points), Sara Stone (seven points and a game-high 12 rebounds) and Brett deBear, who scored five points.

Sarah Stern led Northville with 14 points. "We really had a great first quarter," said Salem coach Fred Thomann. "We made some shots - Alaya had three baskets, Chelsea Davis had two and Brett deBear hit a big triple.

"Northville made a run at us late in the third quarter when they cut our lead down to six, but the girls responded well with a couple of baskets. It was a really nice effort by the girls tonight. They really played hard."

The Rocks will host cross-campus rival Plymouth Friday night in a WLAA cross-over clash. The opening tip-off is set for approximately 7 p.m. in the Salem gym.

PLYMOUTH 53, LIVONIA CHURCHILL 39: On Tuesday at Churchill, the Wildcats rode the hot shooting touch of junior Kelsi Robinson to a decisive road victory over the Chargers.

Robinson buried four three-point shots in the first quarter alone on the way to an 18-point night. Thanks to Robinson's perimeter explosion, the 'Cats (2-3) led 18-11 after one quarter and 30-20 at the half. Churchill cut its deficit to 39-30 after three, but Plymouth responded by outscoring its hosts 14-9 over the final eight minutes.

Junior center Shaakira Haywood was as productive inside for Plymouth as Robinson was outside as she finished with 17 points, most of which came in the paint. Sophomore forward Stacey Klonowski also shined for the winners, netting nine points and a team-high 11 rebounds.

"Churchill came out in a zone but Kelsi made all four of her three-point shots in the first quarter to get us off to a great start," said Plymouth coach Richelle Reilly. "It was a good win for this team after starting the season with three losses against some very good competition.

"We took a big step tonight because we were challenged by a good team and we hung on and won. We had a couple of freshmen - Alex Roberts and Katie Moss – who stepped up in the fourth quarter and made some big free throws.'

Roberts sank 5-of-7 freebies in the game's waning moments while Moss buried both of her charity tosses to help seal the deal. Overall, Plymouth made 15-of-22 free throws.

Salem Friday at 7 p.m. on the Rocks' court. PCA 49, FRANKLIN ROAD 29: On Tuesday



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHEF

Canton's Baylee Hollowell and Stevenson's Julia Schroeder hit the floor for a loose ball during Tuesday night's WLAA crossover game. Canton rallied for a 42-35 victory.

at Plymouth Christian Academy, the Eagles soared to a one-sided triumph thanks to solid defense and a balanced scoring attack.

The win improved PCA to 3-1 while the Warriors slipped to 2-2.

Senior guard Meghan Polera sparked the victory with 10 points. Also making major contributions were Allyson DeKruyter (eight points), Autumn McKenzie (eight) and Jessica Murphy (six).

Courtney Mucklin led Franklin Road with 15. The Eagles put the game away with a domi-

nating first half when they built a 23-5 advantage. The Warriors chopped their deficit to 33-20 after three quarters but PCA closed it out with a 16-point fourth quarter.

"We did a nice job rebounding and getting out on the fast-break," said PCA coach Carol Gerulis. "Our defense was very good tonight, too. We mixed it up between man-to-man and zone and we were able to put a lot of pressure on them."

Neither team sparkled from the free-throw line: PCA canned 7-of-15 uncontested shots

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The Wildcats will take on cross-campus rival while the Warriors hit 7-of-18 from the stripe.

Sizzling Chief cagers outrun Howell

Penguins nip Regina, 3-2

The Plymouth-Canton-Salem girls hockey team improved its record to 2-6 Tuesday night with an exciting 3-2 come-from-behind triumph over Warren Regina at the Arctic Edge Ice Arena.

"We fell behind 1-0 in the first period, but the girls did a nice job of staying in the game and not getting down on themselves," said PCS coach Lori Callahan. "Amy Coleman played really well for us. She had a couple nice rushes that led to goals."

Trailing 1-0 early in the second period, the Penguins notched the equalizer when Kelsey Nikkila scored off an assist from Lauren Smith. The Penguins grabbed the lead for good with 11:22 left in the third on an unassisted Coleman goal. Seven minutes later Jenny Fedon found the back of the net off a helper from Brooke Caccevelli to make it 3-1. Regina cut the gap to 3-2 with 1:57 left, but PCS goalie Michelle Shaffer slammed the door shut the rest of the way.

PCS outshot Regina 32-27. On Dec. 5, the Penguins dropped a 9-2 decision to Ann Arbor Unified. Coleman and

Jenny Grodus (from Caccevelli and Coleman) scored for PCS.

(CP) **B3**

On Dec. 4, PCS notched a 2-0 win over visiting Walled Lake Unified as Shaffer recorded her first career shutout. Amy Coleman scored both goals — the first was assisted by her younger sister, Sarah; the second was unassisted.

The Penguins dropped a hard-fought 4-2 decision to Livonia Ladywood on Dec. 1 despite goals from Nikkila and Jessie Hazlett. Sarah Coleman was credited with an assist on Hazlett's net-finder.

Salem icers stick it to Mott

mirror Tuesday night by outskating Waterford Mott, 5-3, in a non-conference game played at the Plymouth Cultural Center.

The Rocks' second straight victory improved their record to 3-3.

'Overall, we've been playing more consistently than we were our first few games," said first-year Salem coach Ryan Ossenmacher. "We're not taking as many shifts off as we

VELLUCCI FROM PAGE BI

Vellucci's tenure behind the bench.

The Whalers are currently 18-8-1-2 and in third place in the ultra-competitive OHL West, eight points behind the first-place Windsor Spitfires and seven behind second-place

Sault Ste. Marie. Greg Stefan, 46, worked as an assistant for the Whalers from 1993-98 and rejoined the team from 2003-05 before moving to the Hurricanes the year they won the Stanley Cup in 2006.

Stefan played in the OHL

were before. We still have a long way to go to get to where we want to be, but we're playing much more consistently."

Salem led 3-2 after one period and 4-2 after two. Mott sliced its deficit to 4-3 in the third before the Rocks sealed the deal with a late-game lamp-lighter.

Senior captain Joel Cheesman paced the winners with two goals and two assists.

"Joel played well at both ends of the ice tonight," said

Ossenmacher. Steve Haburne, Eddie

as a goaltender with Oshawa

Generals from 1978-81 before

being selected in the seventh

round of the 1981 NHL Entry

Wings. Stefan turned to coach-

ing after retiring as a player in

"I've worked closely with

Greg for a long time and he has

been loval to the organization,'

Vellucci said. "He deserves

this opportunity to become

a head coach. I am confident

he will develop our players for

the next level and continue our

winning tradition. He knows

what it takes to make it to the

National Hockey League, both

as a player and a coach.'

Draft by the Detroit Red

1991.

Mazorowicz and Kurt Driscoll all added one goal to the Salem attack. Mark Barkoff was solid

between the pipes for the Rocks, stopping 17-of-20 shots in his season debut.

"Mark got stronger as the game went along," said Ossenmacher. "He seemed to be fighting the puck a little bit early on, which is expected when you haven't played in a few weeks. But I thought he did a nice job overall."

Mott dropped to 2-4 with the setback.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Bowling for Baseball

The Canton Chiefs baseball teams are hosting the inaugural Canton Chiefs Bowling Tournament on Saturday, Dec. 15 at Super Bowl Lanes in Canton.

Tickets are \$25 and include two games of bowling, shoes, pizza and pop.

Reservations may be made for five-person teams or for individuals.

This event will help raise funds to make necessary improvements to the Canton Chiefs baseball facility.

For more information, contact Susan Stoney at (734) 459-9415 or stoneyfamily@msn.com.

left off in the second. The two seniors had an outstanding first half. Neil was pretty con-

BOYS PREP HOOP Bloodsaw and Delmichael

ted 16 points. sistent the whole way through. "We got a lot of deflections

Thurston was led by Jarmel Youngblood, both of whom net-'We didn't do a good job of

handling their pressure and we didn't shoot the ball very well tonight," concluded Plymouth coach Tom Van Wagoner. **CANTON AGAPE 53, CALVARY**

Salem's hockey team continued to put its sluggish start to the season in the rear-view

ing Tuesday night's game at Howell.

relay team passes a baton dur-

BY ED WRIGHT

STAFF WRITER

Canton's boys basketball

team passed the "hot hand"

like a 400-meter Olympic

When it was over, the Chiefs had secured a "relay" impressive 49-26 road victory over the Highlanders to improve their record to 2-1. Howell slipped to 0-2.

Senior guard Brody Coplai ignited the Canton attack with nine first-quarter points. He then handed off to senior Chris Bailey, who poured in nine second-quarter points to lead the Chiefs to a commanding 28-16 halftime advantage.

Seniors Neil Sharma and Ryan Seely picked up in the second half where Coplai and Bailey left off as the Chiefs outscored their hosts. 21-10. over the final 16 minutes.

Sharma finished with 11 points while Seely contributed six.

"Brody came out on fire in the first quarter and hit three three-point shots," said Canton coach Dan Colligan. "Then Chris picked up where Brody

on defense, which is something we've been working on. Offensively, we took care of the ball."

Canton canned 7-of-10 free throws. Howell made one and missed one from the stripe. The Chiefs return to action

Friday when they host South Lyon.

REDFORD THURSTON 59, PLYMOUTH 30: On Tuesday at Plymouth, The Wildcats slipped to 0-3 after commit-ting 27 turnovers against the Eagles' relentless full-court pressing defense.

Thurston led 12-5 after one quarter, 25-14 at the half and 45-23 with eight minutes to play.

Senior guard Brandon Roberts paced Plymouth with nine points. Michael Rose added six points and seven rebounds.

Garrett Rebain had a solid night, too, adding two points and nine rebounds.

CHRISTIAN 40: On Tuesday at Calvary Christian, the Wolverines notched their first victory of the season thanks to strong efforts from Ty Majeski (17 points), Mark Mullett (15) and Terrell Pierce (11).

John Wiedman led Calvary with 10.

We pressed pretty much the entire game - both full-court and half court," said Agape coach Keith Anleitner. "The boys did a nice job defensively. This is our first step toward our goal of winning the MIAC Red.

Agape (1-2) led 12-9 after one quarter, 25-20 at the half and 40-29 with eight minutes to play.

The Wolverines travel to Plymouth Christian on Friday to take on the Eagles. The opening tip is set for 8:30 p.m.

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Profile of a Paw Print Inn Guest NAME: Cody

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FAVORITE PASTIME: Chasing cats FAVORITE HOLIDAY **DESTINATION:** The Paw Print Inn



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| ADVERTISER PICKS | | | | <u> (</u>) | ZA. | 4-)- | T | | | 6 * l | (main) |
| Sunday, Dec. 16, 2007 | Dr. Don | Jon Bond | Bob Neugebauer | Mike McKenzle | Brian Harlow | Justin Thomson | Mike McKenzie | Keith Lang | Tony Kubisiak | Steve Viso | Jim Masterson |
| Detroit at San Diego Arizona at New Orleans | WYCD Radio | WVMV Radio 9-3 | Bob Neugebauer Travel 11-1 | Royal Oak Ford 9-3 | Harlow Tires 10-2 | Thomson's Automotive 10-2 | Builfrogs Bar & Grill 9-3 | Tennyson Chevrolet 10-2 | World Of Floors 9-3 | Jack Demmer Ford 8-4 | Auburn Pontiac |
| Atlanta at Tampa Bay Buffalo at Cleveland | 104-64 | 116-52 | 106-62 | 115-53 | 108-60 | 110-58 | 116-52 | 114-54 | 100-68 | 107-61 | 109-59 |
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ALL-OBSERVER SWIMMING

Strokes of genius: Local swimmers set an All-State pace

FIRST-TEAM INDIVIDUAL ALLISON SCHMITT, SR., CANTON (200-YARD FREE-

STYLE): The two-time All-State performer etched a place in Michigan high school swimming history with a career that was lined with a pool-ful of records and state championships. This season she won Division 1 state titles in the 200yard freestyle (1:46.25) and 500 freestyle (4:47.46), setting pool and state records at the same time. She also placed first in the 50 freestyle (24.16) and 100 freestyle (51.49 - meet and pool record) at the Western Lakes Activities Association meet in November.

"Allison has been a tremendous asset to our team, both in and out of the water," said Canton assistant coach Ed Weber. "Her positive attitude and nevergive-up personality define who she is. I do not see any limit for this great athlete. I wish her the best as she prepares for this summer's Olympic Trials, and continues her swimming at the University of Georgia."

ASHLEY GORDON, SOPH., LIV. STEVENSON (200 IM): The sophomore placed fourth in the 100 backstroke (1:00.63) and 11th in the 200 IM (2:12.99 during the prelims) at the Division 1 state meet.

She also was co-champion in the 100 backstroke runner-up in the 200 IM at the WLAA meet.

"Ashley is a very hard worker and did a very good job this year qualifying for 'state' in five individual events," Stevenson coach Greg Phill said.

KATIE GORMAN, SR., SALEM (50 FREESTYLE): The senior captain posted the area's third best clocking (26.28 during the prelims) en route to a sixth-place finish at the WLAA meet.

Gorman also added a seventh in the 100 butterfly.

She is a four-time All-WLAA and All-Area pick, along with a four-time state qualifier.

"Katie has had an outstanding high school career and has the talent to compete in any stroke or distance, and do what is expected by her teammates," Salem coach Chuck Olson said of the

Coaches Award winner. CARLA MCNAMARA, SOPH., LIV. STEVENSON (DIVING): The sophomore earned a 10th-place finish at the state meet with an 11-dive total

of 335.45 points. McNamara captured the Western

Lakes title with a total of 342.70. "Carla just missed qualifying for 'state'

as a freshman and came back to take fourth at the regionals," Phill said. ASHLEY SELLS, JR., WESTLAND GLENN (100 BUT-

TERFLY): The junior placed fifth in the state meet (58.71), won the WLAA and broke her own school record in the 100 butterfly.

Sells also added 12th in the 200 IM (2:14.13) at the state meet and was fourth in the WLAA.

"Ashley is the hardest worker on our team, she has become a great leader in that regard," Glenn coach Randy Ferguson said of the three-time All-Area pick and captain elect for 2008. "If I can get more swimmers to step up and keep up with her in practice, we'll have a much better team next year.'

LAURA TIMSON, SR., LIV. STEVENSON (TOO FREESTYLE): The senior captain and four-year performer placed fifth in the 500 freestyle (5:08.21) and eighth in the 200 IM (2:09.58 in the prelims) at the state meet. 2007 ALL-OBSERVER GIRLS SWIMMING & DIVING TEAM INDIVIDUAL EVENTS 200 freestyle: 1, Allison Schmitt, St. Canton: 2, Monica Blaesser, Sc. Canton, 200 Individual medley 1, Ashley Gordon, Soph, Livonia Stevenson: 2 Maggie Carlson, Soph, Canton, 50 freestyle: 1, Katle Gorman, Sr. Salem, Alyssa Liakos, Sr., Plymouth, 9-meter diving: 1, Carla McNamara Soph, Stevenson; 2, Katle Koetting, Ur. Salem,

Salem. 100 butterfly: 1, Ashley Sells, Jr., Westland John Glenn, 2, Megan Holycross, Sr., Stevenson, 100 freestyle: 1, Laura Timson, Sr., Stevenson, 2, Jerdan Burgess, Jr., John Glano.

500 freestyle 1 Savannah Hatt. Fr., Stevenson, 2. Kaylee Dollaski, Fr., Stevenson.

100 backstroke: I. Whitney Aumiller Jr., Salem, 2. Kayla Douglas, Fr. Livonia ranklin.

100 breaststroke: 1. Brynn Marecki, Sr., Stevenson, 2. Elle Palczynski, Jr. Plymouth.

RELAY EVENTS Content Service Servic Peterson, Soph.). 200 freestyle: 1. Canton (Monica

Blaesser, Sr.; Maggie Carlson, Soph, Kari Schmitt, Fr., Allison Schmitt, Sr.); 2. Stevenson (Blake Holtz, Sr.); Kaylee Dolinski, Fr.; Savannah Hatt, Fr.; Laura imson Srì 400 freestyle: 1, Stevenson (Laura)

Timson, Sr.; Ashiey Gordon, Soph.; Savannah Hatl, Fr.; Brynn Marecki, Sr.); 2 Canton (Monica Blaesser, Sr.; Maggie Carlson, Soph.; Karl Schmitt, Fr.; Alason Schmitt, Sr.)

COACH OF THE YEAR Greg Phill, Livonia Stevenson

best of 2:06.09).

In the WLAA meet, Marecki cap tured the 200 freestyle (1:55.35) and 100 breaststroke. She was also MISCA champion in the 200 IM and 100 breaststroke.

Marecki, three-time MVP for the Spartans, broke three pool records at Stevenson. She recently signed with the

University of Buffalo. FIRST-TEAM RELAYS

200 MEDLEY - STEVENSON (ASHLEY GORDON, SOPH; MEGAN HOLYCROSS, SOPH.; BRYNN MARECKI, SR.; LAURA TIMSON, SR.): The Division 1 state runnersup went 1:49.54 during the prelims. "This relay swam together for the first

time at the state meet," Phill said. "The girls had two great swims to finish second in the state and earn All-American honors.

200 FREESTYLE - CANTON (MONICA BLAESSER, SR.; MAGGIE CARLSON, SOPH.; KARI SCHMITT, FR.; ALLISON SCHMITT, SR.): This foursome set a school record in the event and earned All-State honors at the Division 1 state meet at Eastern Michigan University by placing seventh in 1:40.62.

400 FREESTYLE - STEVENSON (LAURA TIMSON, SR.; ASHLEY GORDON, SOPH.; SAVANNAH HATT, FR.; BRYNN MARECKI, SR.): The Spartans took fourth in the Division 1 state meet with a seasonbest 3:37.05.

"These four girls really came together when it counted and had two great swims at the state meet," Phill said.

SECOND-TEAM INDIVIDIAL MONICA BLAESSER, SR., CANTON (200 FREESTYLE):

The senior qualified for the Division I state meet three straight years and is was a pivotal member of two of the



Monica Blaesser Canton



Ashley Sells John Glenn

Whitney Aumiller

Salem



Kaylee Dolinski Stevenson

Allison Schmitt

Katie Koetting

Salem

Canton

Koetting carries a 3.3 GPA. MEGAN HOLYCROSS, SR., LIV.

STEVENSON (100 BUTTERFLY): The senior captain and fourthyear swimmer qualified for the state meet in the 100 backstroke by taking 24th overall (1:03.52). She also finished fifth in

the butterfly (1:03.04 during the prelims) and added a sixth in the 100 backstroke at the WLAA meet.

"Megan did a great job for us at the end of the season qualifying for the

backstroke and swimming the fastest 50 butterfly split that we've had in 14 years," Phill said.

JORDAN BURGESS, JR., WESTLAND GLENN (100 FREESTYLE): The junior posted a seasonbest time of 56.58 in Glenn's final dual meet of the season and added a 50 freestyle split of 25.7 as the anchor of the Rockets 200 freestyle relay team.

At the WLAA meet, Burgess took sixth in the 500 freestyle and 12th in the 200 freestyle. She also took 35th in the 500 freestyle and 39th in the 200 freestyle at the state meet.

"Jordan is talented and versatile being able to swim both sprint and distance events," Ferguson : swam every event for us this year and qualified for the state for the first time in the 200 and 500 freestyle. When we need her to win a sprint in our dual meets, or lead off our medley relay at big meets, we knew we could count on



Megan Holycross

Stevenson



Maggie Carlson Canton





B5

(*)

Katie Gorman Salem

Alyssa Liakos **Plymouth**





Plymouth

Stevenson

Stevenson



Blake Holtz Stevenson

as a junior really speaks to how well she's learned to swim the stroke and how quickly she's evolved as a swimmer. She's an extremely kind young lady who does a great job mentoring a lot of our younger swimmers. SECOND-TEAM RELAYS

200 MEDLEY - JOHN GLENN (JORDAN BURGESS, JR.: KHIRY SPARKS, FR.: ASHLEY SELLS, JR.: CASEY PETERSON, SOPH): This quartet took a third at the Western Lakes meet in 1:57.22. then turned in a season-best at the





Khiry Sparks John Glenn

Division 1 state meet in 1:56.25. With all four girls returning next season, look for the Rockets to improve on their 19thplace state meet finish.

200 FREESTYLE - STEVENSON (BLAKE HOLTZ, SR.; KAYLEE DOLINSKI, FR.: SAVANNAH HATT, FR., LAURA TIMSON, SR.): This foursome earned a third-place finish at the WLAA meet with a season-best clocking of 1:44.09

"With only one real sprinter among the four, and with Dolinski, Hatt

and Timson coming out of the 500freestyle, these four girls did a great job to swim what they did." Phill said.

400 FREESTYLE - ALLISON SCHMITT, SR.: MAGGIE CARLSON, SOPH.; MONICA BLAESSER, SR.; KARI SCHMITT, FR.): The Chiefs set a school records in the 400 freestyle event this season, earning All-State honors at the Division 1 state meet at Eastern Michigan University with a sixth-place showing in 3:39.87.



Karl Schmitt **Casey Peterson** John Glenn Canton

> ELLE PALCZYNSKI, JR., PLYMOUTH (100 BREAST-STROKE): The junior captain enjoyed a stellar season, earning a berth at the Division state meet in the 100 breaststroke. She's the first Plymouth swimmer --- boys and girls --- to advance to

the second day of the state meet. "Elle started as a very raw breaststroker," said Plymouth coach Doug Schade. "She hadn't swum the 100 breaststroke before her freshman year, so to make the state meet and qualify



Laura Timson Stevenson





Brynn Marecki

In the Western Lakes meet, Timson won the 200 IM and 500 freestyle.

"Basically Laura swam wherever we needed her and qualified for the state meet in every individual event," Phill said.

SAVANNAH HATT, FR., LIV. STEVENSON (500 FREE-**STYLE):** The first-year performer made quite an impact with a sixth in the 500 freestyle along with an 11th in the 200 freestyle at the state finals.

Hatt was runner-up in the 200 freestyle (season-best 1:57.83) and 500 freestyle (season-best 5:08.66) at the Western Lakes meet.

"She did an outstanding job for the team this year," Phill said. "I really look forward to the next three years. They should be terrific.

WHITNEY AUMILLER, JR., SALEM (100 BACKSTROKE): The junior earned a third-place finish at the Division 1 state finals with a time of 1:00.35.

At the WLAA meet, Aumiller took third in the 100 freestyle (57.04) and sixth in the 200 freestyle (1:59.71 in the

prelims). She has been selected Salem's MVP and captain for 2008.

Whitney has had a great three years at Salem and has shown improvement in all her times," Olson said. "Whitney has a determination of always doing her best everyday in practice or in competition."

BRYŇN MĂRECKÎ, SR., LIV. STEVENSON (IÕO BREAST-STROKE): The senior captain and four-year swimmer capped off stellar career with Division 1 state titles in the 100 breaststroke (1:05.13) and 200 IM (lifetime

school's record-setting relay teams.

"Monica is a natural leader and hard worker," said Weber. "We'll miss her dedication to the team and boundless energy at practice. I want to wish her the best next year as she plans to swim in college.

MAGGIE CARLSON, SOPH., CANTON (200 IM): The sophomore qualified for the Division 1 state meet in both the 200 IM and 100 breaststroke for two consecutive seasons. She's a member of two of the Chiefs' school-record relay teams.

"Maggie is an energetic individual who demonstrates her love for the sport every time she enters the water. Canton is lucky to have her on its side, and I look forward to her accomplishments in the seasons to come.'

ALYSSA LIAKOS, SR., PLYMOUTH (50 FREESTYLE): The senior posted the fifth-best time (26.46) in Observerland this fall in the 50-yard freestyle. She was a valuable member of the Wildcats' swimming-

and-diving team for the past four seasons, providing both in-the-water skills and out-of-the-pool leadership qualities. KATIE KOETTING, ĴR., SALEM (DIVING). Tĥe junior was runner-up in the WLAA meet (337.00 points) and is a two-time

Division 1 state qualifier. The three-time All-WLAA honoree will be a captain next season for the Rocks

"Katie has shown she is one of the best divers in the conference, area and state," Olson said. "Katie is an athlete that enjoys practice almost as much as the competition."

her to step up and perform well." KAYLEE DOLINSKI, FR., LIV. STEVENSON (500 FREESTYLE): The first-year swimmer wound up 15th overall in the Division 1 state finals (5:15.20 in the prelims) and placed third in the Western Lakes meet

She also added a fourth in the WLAA meet in the 200 freestyle. Her best time in the 200 free was 1:58.87.

"Kaylee is another first-year freshman that has been a privilege to coach," Phill said. "And again, being a freshman that scored at the state meet, the next three years will be a lot of fun." KAYLA DOUGLAS, FR., LIV. FRANKLIN (100 BACK-

STROKE): The ninth-grader was co-champion in the Western Lakes meet with a time of 1:01.04 and followed up with a seventh-place finish in the Division 1 state meet with a season-best 1:00.37 during the prelims. She also added a sixth in the 100 but-terfly at the WLAA meet (1:04.35 in the prelims).

"Kayla has a tremendous amount of natural ability," Franklin coach Kevin Hafner said of the school-record holder "If she puts in the time needed to excel, she should improve over the next three years and look to place higher at the state championship meet in multiple events.

2007 OBSERVERLAND GIRLS BEST SWIM TIMES

200-YARD MEDLEY RELAY Livonia Stevenson 1:48.93 Westland John Glenn 1:56.25 Salem 1:58.36 Canton 1:58.53 Livonia Ladywood 2:00.6 **200 FREESTYLE** Allison Schmitt (Canton) 1:46.25 Brynn Marecki (Stevenson) 1:55.35 Savannah Hatt (Stevenson) 1:57.83 Kaylee Dolinski (Stevenson) 1:58.87 Laura Timson (Stevenson) 1:58.94 Whitney Aumiller (Salem) 1:59.71 Monica Blaesser (Canton) 2:01.29 Jordan Burgess (John Glenn) 2:01.90 Natalie Cote⁽ (Franklin) 2:02.60 Maggie Carlson (Canton) 2:04.58 200 INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY Brynn Marecki (Stevenson) 2:06.09 Allison Schmitt (Canton) 2:07.77 Laura Timson (Stevenson) 2:09.58 Ashley Gordon (Stevenson) 2:12.99 Ashley Sells (John Glenn) 2:14.13 Maggie Carlson (Canton) 2:14.74 Emily Nelson (Salem) 2:18.00 Whitney Aumiller (Salem) 2:20.83. Catherine Irwin (Canton) 2:21.29 Monica Blaesser (Canton) 2:21.74 **50 FREESTYLE** Allison Schmitt (Canton) 24.16 Brynn Marecki (Stevenson) 25.25 Katie Gorman (Salem) 26.28

Laura Timson (Stevenson) 25.56 Alyssa Liakos (Plymouth) 26.46 Blake Holtz (Stevenson) 26.48 Jordan Burgess (John Glenn) 26.52 Khiry Sparks (Stevenson) 26.57 Monica Blaesser (Canton) 26.62 Natalie Cote' (Franklin) 26.75

1-METER DIVING (11 DIVES) Carla McNamara (Stevenson) 357.00 Katie Koetting (Salem) 337.00 Katina St. Pierre (Churchill) 293.70 Desiree Clenney (John Glenn) 282.80 Robyn Piwowar (Canton) 255.40 Kailea Stancer (Churchill) 242.45 Allison Spitzley (Ladywood) 310.85 Jennie Humbach (John Glenn) 222.50 Katy Harris (John Glenn) 221.10 Tara Mylnarek (Churchill) 209.70 100 BUTTERFLY

Allison Schmitt (Canton) 57.28 Ashley Sells (John Glenn) 58.71 Laura Timson (Stevenson) 1:01.69 Megan Holycross (Stevenson) 1:03.04 Monica Blaesser (Canton) 1:03.45 Kayla Douglas (Franklin) 1:04.35 Catherine Irwin (Canton) 1:05.19 Katie Gorman (Salem) 1:05.47 Khiry Sparks (John Glenn) 1:06.15 Emily Bair (Salem) 1:06.27 **100 FREESTYLE** Allison Schmitt (Canton) 50.46 Brynn Marecki (Stevenson) 53.67 Laura Timson (Stevenson) 53.92 Jordan Burgess (John Glenn) 56.58 Whitney Aumilier (Salem) 57.04 Michelle Chang (Plymouth) 57.16 Kari Schmitt (Canton) 57.29 Blake Holtz (Stevenson) 57.48

Katie Gorman (Salem) 57.46 Monica Blaesser (Canton) 57.56 500 FREESTYLE

Allison Schmitt (Canton) 4:47.46 Laura Timson (Stevenson) 5:08.21 Savannah Hatt (Stevenson) 5:08.66 Brynn Marecki (Stevenson) 5:11.13 Kaylee Dolinski (Stevenson) 5:15.20

Monica Blaesser (Canton) 5:25.49 Jordan Burgess (John Glenn) 5:26.08 Sijia Hao (Plymouth) 5:27.46 Natalie Cote' (Franklin) 5:27.89 Whitney Aumiller (Salem) 5:28.1 200 FREESTYLE RELAY Canton 1:40.62 Livonia Stevenson 1:44.09 Salem 1:45.53 Plymouth 1:45.79 ronia Franklin 1:46.67

100 BACKSTROKE Whitney Aumiller (Salem) 1:00.35 Kavia Douglas (Franklin) 1:00.37 Allison Schmitt (Canton) 1:00.61 Ashley Gordon (Salem) 1:00.63 Laura Timson (Stevenson) 1:02.53 Emily Nelson (Salem) 1:03.42 Ashley Sells (John Glenn) 1:03.47 Megan Holycross (Stevenson) 1:03.52 Natalie Cote' (Franklin) 1:05.25 Charlotte Buckley (Stevenson) 1:05.57 **100 BREASTSTROKE** Brynn Marecki (Stevenson) 1:05.13 Elle Palczynski (Plymouth) 1:09.52 Maggie Carlson (Canton) 1:10.50 Laura Timson (Stevenson) 1:11.56 Allison Schmitt (Canton) 1:11.73 Casey Peterson (John Glenn) 1:13.81 Kayla Perchall (Stevenson) 1:14.16 Ashley Sells (John Glenn) 1:14.36 Ashley Sells (John Glenn) 1:14.37 Jordan Burgess (John Glenn) 1:15.01 Khiry Sparks (John Glenn) 1:15.56 400 FREESTYLE RELAY Livonia Stevenson 3:37.05 Canton 3:39.87 Salem 3:48.32 Westland John Glenn 3:53.25 Livonia Franklin 3:54.97

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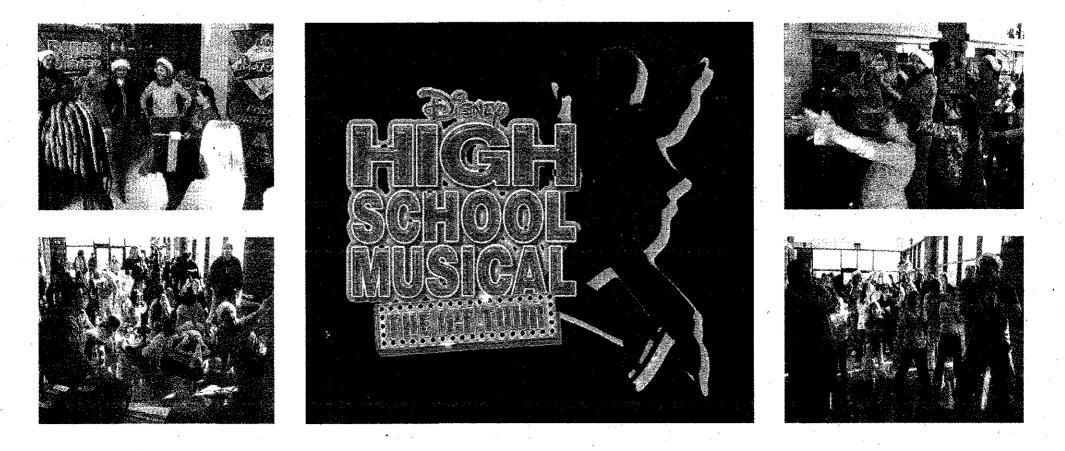
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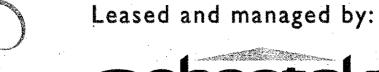
B6 (*)



10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Join **AM 910 Radio Disney** for the Radio Disney D-Tour, including holiday fun, games, and more! Win exciting prizes, enjoy cool music, face painting and a chance to win a family four-pack of tickets to "**Disney's High School Musical - The Ice Tour**" at The Palace of Auburn Hills, February 29, 2008 through March 2, 2008!









Rochester homes, condos put best foot forward

BY JULIE BROWN STAFF WRITER

For the first time, the community of Rochester Realtors joined to host more than 35 open houses featuring homes \$188,400 and under, which qualify for a new Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA) funding program. The goal is to help first-time buyers and others to afford homes.

Sue Falk, sales manager for Weir Manuel of Rochester, organizer and among participants, was pleased with the Sunday, Dec. 9, afternoon event.

"I wanted to do it because I knew our homes were well maintained and attractive," she said. Rochester offers affordable housing, particularly as the MSHDA loan became available.

She went to Realtors in the area: "I think we need to do something positive in our market," was Falk's approach. She approached each broker in Rochester. "Every one of them said yes." She got MLS listings from them.

They set up a committee, We turned this whole thing into an event with probably 10 days. We just made it happen."

They started Nov. 20 with the first meeting "and got it going."

"It shows that when everyone believes in it, they all agreed we had the right houses to offer.'

Reaching that first-time buyer is a little more difficult, she finds, in that they've read negative news. "They have to sit down and have a trusted adviser." Those folks need to leave the Internet for a bit and realize benefits of ownership.

Mobile home dwellers, new college graduates and others are among those being

These are the area residential real estate

Brokers agreed the Sunday session was good for clients, and a good way to market property and bring in buyers. "These types of open houses are wonderful if the buyer understands what's available," Falk said. National City can write loans, and did a lot with program. They and other lenders can write loans.

There were 38 homes, she visited 10 and found at least one buyer at each. "Yes, there was traffic." She's still checking on contracts.

We're all going to work together to do all we can to showcase Rochester," Falk said of brokers. "We all are on the same page.'

The community's fortunate to have diverse housing, she said. "I think it's perceived as a great place to be." There are a total of 299 homes and condos that would qualify in Rochester, Rochester Hills and Oakland Township.

A Weir Manuel listing at 2895 Corinthia Drive in Rochester, north of Auburn and west of Livernois, is a four-bedroom and twobath home with a two-car attached garage. It includes all appliances, and is 1,440 square feet, priced at \$159,000. Your payment would be \$880 a month with no money down and no points, 5.25 percent interest rate fixed for 30 years, Falk said.

"That's better than living in an apartment. It is a really nice home. It's in a subdivision," she said. Two bedrooms are downstairs, she added. The lot is 70 feet by 117 feet. "It's a great location on a quiet street."

A Real Estate One condo of 839 square feet has two bedrooms and one bath. It's at 440 Baldwin Ave. and is listed at \$89,900. The payment would be \$492 a month with a \$175 a month association

14385 Blue Skies St

42144 Gladwin St

50655 Hawthorne Ct

16015 Morningside

49896 Parkside Dr

46672 Pineburst Cir

30699 Ardmore Ct

24570 Bethany Way

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Ken Reiter, National City lender, discusses financing with Peter Cirulis, a Weir Manuel Realtor, at the Dec. 9 event.

and other expenses.

The MSHDA program allows qualified buyers to purchase with \$0 down and 100 percent financing, at 5.2 percent. Targeted areas may receive interest rates as low as 4.2 percent. These funds are available on a first come, first serve basis until they're depleted.

Buyers who qualified are those who have not owned a home within the last three vears, or are first-time buyers. Income cannot exceed \$60,500 for a one- or . two-person household, or \$62,800 for a three-or-more household.

Participants were Weir Manual Realtors, Century 21 Sakmar & Associates, Century 21 Town & Country, GMAC The Kee Group, GMAC Great Lakes, and Real Estate One/Max Broock.



Ken Reiter of National City with Marty Barrett, a Weir Manuel Realtor.

named by Money Magazine one of the top 100 US cities in which to live. The good school system, and Rochester's close proximity to interstates, universities, nospitals, walking and bik-

\$290,000

\$172,000 \$475,000

\$130,000 \$227,000

\$380,000

\$380,000 \$191,000

\$210,000 \$374,000

\$525,000

\$133,000 \$105,000 \$138,000 \$98,000

\$125,000

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\$149,000

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\$125,000

\$114,000

\$97.000

\$141,000

\$54,000

\$168,000

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\$145,000

\$135,000

\$140,000

\$115.000

\$149,000

\$140,000

\$200,000

\$193.000

ing trails and downtown living, along with the availability of subdivisions and estate living, have made it a very desirable area in which to live, according to event

Court upholds taxpayers' rights

Q. There was a recent case about the ability of a township to levy a special assessment regarding a sewer project. Do you have any information on that?

A. Recently the Michigan Supreme Court remanded a case back to the Michigan Tax Tribunal to determine if a \$3.2 million

dollar special assessment was "proportional." The Supreme Court basically sent a message to Michigan local governments

Robert Meisner

that they are not empowered to levy special

assessments, change the original physical basis for the special assessments and thereafter be immune from a contest on the special assessment. In effect, the Supreme Court was saying that taxpayers must have due process of law. You would be best advised to consult with your tax adviser regarding how the special assessment law will affect you as a developer.

Q. My mother who is elderly was induced by a mortgage company 2 1/2 years ago to refinance her home based on a sub-prime mortgage where she would get 110 percent of her equity. She had heard about it on the radio. She is now in foreclosure. What can we do about it?

In 2006, Rochester was

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Plymouth

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Westland

41256 Village Lake St

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48901 Tucson Hills Dr

26502 Five Mile Rd

17301 Brady

13561 Farley

9998 Marion

14910 Seneca

11696 Virgil

14077 San Jose

6928 Apache Tri

31107 Avondale St 31121 Avondale St

382 Brookfield Dr

627 Darwin St

36251 Glen St

5681 Herbert St

33346 Hunter Ave

8226 Huntington St

32854 Mackenzie Dr

8734 N Farmington Rd

33714 Parkwood St

2600 S Linville St

38535 Shelby Dr

38456 Watson Cir

571 S Bryar St

38665 Northampton St

570 Larchmont Dr

328 Marigold Cir

35600 Columbia St

12880 Columbia

12864 Garfield

26229 Grand River Ave

48665 Hilltop Dr W

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\$230,000 \$140,000

\$139,000 \$184,000

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\$769.000

\$372,000

\$210.000

\$130,000

\$515.000

\$487,000

\$50,000 \$142,000

\$364,000

\$193,000

\$138,000

BRIEFS

Appraising and Sales

Century 21 Today offers career seminars Tuesday or Saturday noon to 1 p.m. at 28544 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills. Contact Steve Leibhan at (248) 855-2000, Ext. 238.

Speaker

The Real Estate Investors Association of Oakland will meet 5:30/9:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 13, at the MSU Management Education Center, 811 W. Square Lake Road, Troy. Hear Stephen Piazza discussing the state of the mortgage industry after one of the most tumultuous years in its history. Piazza has more than 20 years experience in the mortgage and real estate industry. Seminar free to members, \$20 nonmembers. Call (800) 747 6742 (www.REIAofOakland.com).

BIA

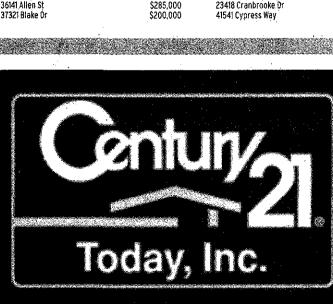
Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan (BIA) will sponsor a builder's license preparation course on Friday, Dec. 14, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at BIA headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100, in Farmington Hills. Presented by NCI Associates, the course is designed to prepare students for the Michigan Residential Builder's License Examination. Material covered will

Please see BRIEFS, C4

A. Based on the circumstances and the transaction, I would argue that there was fraud on the part of the mortgage company in inducing your mother to enter into this type of contractual relationship. Too many mortgage companies enticed people to refinance and/or obtain mortgages when they knew or should have known that they were unable to afford the mortgage, even at the rates quoted to them. Perhaps there should be a law passed by Congress or the state legislature putting caps on the recovery available to mortgage companies who enter into a mortgage arrangement which results in a foreclosure which could have been averted.

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and the author of Condominium **Operation: Getting Started & Staying** on the Right Track, second edition. It is available for \$9.95 plus \$1 shipping and handling. He also wrote Condo Living: A Survival Guide to Buying, Owning and Selling a Condominium, available for \$24.95 plus \$5 shipping and handling. For more information, call (248) 644-4433 or visit bmeisner@meisner-associates.com. This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

33940 Carl Dr 12108 Caveli St closings recorded the week of Aug. 13-17, 2007, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds 31802 Delaware St 38020 Five Mile Rd office, plus some from Oakland County. Listed 28736 Grandon St below are cities, addresses and sales prices. 31191 Grandon St 39133 Grennada St 18360 Laurel Dr Canton 50380 Amberley Blvd \$301,000 50013 Black Horse Ln 6772 Foxcreek Dr \$380,000 \$250,000 20470 Milburn St 29599 Nottingham Cir 46071 Graystone Ln 50899 Hanford Rd \$256,000 \$565,000 29520 Nottingham Ct 16029 Riverside St 5878 Hathaway Rd 49118 Hawksburry Rd \$315,000 \$185,000 9085 Sunbury St 29530 Westfield St 502 Highlands Dr 39862 Hillary Dr \$325,000 \$181,000 783 Martindale 45034 Lothrop Ct 835 Meadowlake Rd 758 Panorama Dr 763 Promontory Dr \$278,000 \$171,000 348 Merion Dr \$337,000 2661 N Woods Blvd \$360,000 17039 Abby Cir \$249,000 \$203,000 504 Baseline Rd 44917 Broadmoor Cir S 7093 Norwood Dr 44672 Ridgefield Rd \$427,000 \$539,000 44950 Broadmoor Cir S 16117 Crystal Downs E 2032 Tradition Dr 2196 Trinity Rd 525 Fairbrook St # 104 48717 Freestone Dr Farmington 22405 Floral St \$132,000 Farmington Hills \$144,000 \$240,000 \$85,000 38622 Brandmill 37560 Burton Ct 15937 Jupiter Hills Dr 17655 Laurel Creek Ct 27718 E Echo Vly \$94,000 \$195,000 22300 Gill Rd 16014 Morningside 29431 Glen Oaks Blvd E 28329 Hawberry Rd \$208.000 18199 Parkshore Dr 39136 Kennedy Dr \$394,000 21840 Levte St \$175.000 49129 Rainbow Ln S 28600 Ryan Dr \$253,000 20261 Rippling Ln 717 River Park Village Blvd 29667 Sierra Point Cir \$187,000 29679 Sierra Point Cir \$160,000 Garden City 45977 Riviera Dr 28596 Krauter St \$130,000 50617 Amesburg Dr 1558 Middlebelt Rd \$142,000 \$130,000 29769 Rush St 28062 Sheridan St \$127,000 24610 Bashian Dr Livonia 36141 Allen St \$285,000



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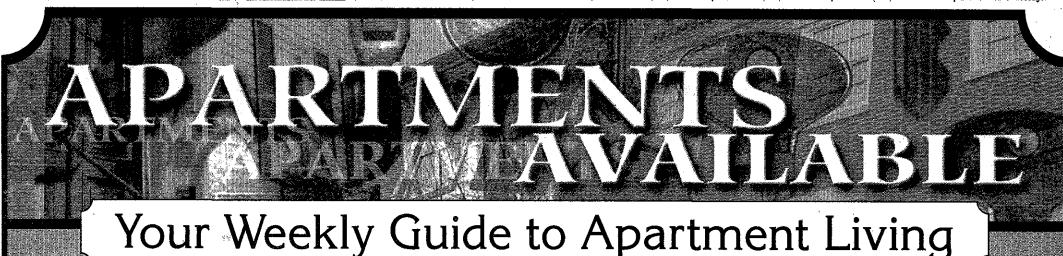




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Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, December 13, 2007 (*) . C3







FROM PAGE C1

(*)

C4

include topics on the exam, laws and rules, building practices and procedures, sample test questions and test-taking strategies. Registration fees are \$200 per person. For registration information, call (248) 862-1033.

Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan (BIA) presents Green Built Training from 9-10:20 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 23, at 879 Benjamin in Troy, in a Green Built certi-

fied home built by Wake-Pratt Construction Co. In this first of five trainings, Chris Pratt of Wake-Pratt Construction discusses the technical and sales aspects of Building Green using materials and methods that result in Green Built certification. Building Green offers a change from selling cost per square foot to making an environmental statement.

The training is free for BIA members. Advance registration is required. For registration information, call (248) 862-1008.

Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan (BIA) kicks off the Sales and Marketing Council (SMC) programs for 2008 with a Roundtable Discussion, "You're At A Networking Event ... Now What?" on Wednesday, Jan. 30, from 8:30-10:30 a.m. at BIA headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100 in Farmington Hills. Kirk Armstrong of Gerry

Weinberg & Associates will lead the discussion focused on how to get a conversation transitioned into your business without appearing needy or offensive by using proven, systematic techniques.

Registration fees are \$10 for

SMC members, \$20 for BIA members and \$45 for guests. For registration information, call (248) 862-1033.

Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan (BIA) and its Remodelors Council (RC) will present a Negotiating Skills seminar, at BIA headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100, in Farmington Hills on Thursday, Jan. 31, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. The seminar is part of the Certified Graduate Remodelor (CGR) series and counts toward CGR, Certified Graduate Associate (CGA) and Graduate Master Builder

(GMB) designations.

Chuck Breidenstein, CAPS, of Builder Professional Services Group Inc. will present methods and strategies to negotiate with customers, employees, subcontractors, suppliers and government officials. Participants will gain confidence in these skills through role-playing following lectures and exercises.

Registration fees are \$155 for Remodelors Council members, \$175 for BIA members and \$200 for guests. For registration information, call (248) 862-1033.

Real Estate Investors

Real Estate Investors of Oakland will meet Thursday. Jan. 10, at the Michigan State University-Management Education Center, 811 W. Square Lake Road, Troy. There will be a buffet dinner (reservations needed) 5:30-6:30 p.m., early bird session 6:15-7 p.m. and general membership meeting 7:15-9:30 p.m. RSVP for dinner by Jan. 4 to www. reiaofoakland.com/ dinner. html.

Speaker will be attorney David Nykanen discussing strategies for appealing tax assessments. Admission free for members, \$20 for guests.





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New const! Imm occ w/views of lake. Brazilian cherry&marble firs,GR/DR w/21' clg, mstr ste w/glam ba,gran entrs t/o,fin daylight bsmt,fin 3.5 car gar. MLS# 27193020 248-347-3050

Updated colonial! Remod kit w/cherry cabs,gran

1/2, main&mstr ba, new stone FP in FR. P fin bsmt.

Cape cod w/cathedral ceil, open fir plan, natural FP

cntrs,limestone fir, new furn. New paver patio, remod

FARMINGTON HILLS

MLS# 27181853



esses. Lighthous Court...Unpredictable Fir Plan, Pella wndws, New Hiefficent Furnace, Fab Fam Rm & Private Rear Yard. MLS# 27194148 734-453-6800



fir Office, GR w/skylights, Gas FP, Bright Kit w/dining area. All BRs incl WIC. Perfect condo! MLS# 27155391 734-453-6800



Incredible value! 3BR, 3BA ranch in great area. Finished LL w/2 additional rms & full BA. Lrg island kit. Deep lot w/patio & privacy. 1st fir laundry. MLS# 27211113 734-453-6800



Treatmnts T/o. 3 BRs W/Hwd. Kit W/oak Cab Incl Al Appl. Updated BAs. LR W/bow Wndw. Alarm Sys 248-347-3050 MLS# 27212967

248-347-3050

ii 1

MLS# 27196743



1785 Saft condo. Built 2005-18 unit complex. En unit, 2 bdrms 2 1/2 baths, Great Rm, Loft area, 1st f indry. Some hrd wd firs, bsmt, 2car att/gar MLS# 27205371 Pat Shields 248-879-3400









Livonia Schools, 3 BR, 1.5 Bth W/1600 Sq', Kit W appls Overlooks Fam Rm W/fp, Sep DR, 2 Car Gar, Full Bsmt &WICs. Updates: HW Firs, Vinyl Windows&Roof MLS# 27088284 734-453-6800



PLYMOUTH

MLS# 27208946

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\$89.000



Move into this dream home in a very desirable

location. Spacious home w/vaulted cellings, upgraded

kitchen, & beautiful curtains. Better than new!

MLS# 27175361

Main bath w/therapeutic tub. FR w/skylights. MLS# 27212447 734-453-6800



Imm Occ! Updated brick ranch w/fenced yard! New furn, new fir t/o, new kit ontrs, hwd fir ba, new hwh, newer vinyl wndws, 2.5 car detached gar& deck! MLS# 27213614 248-347-3050

Very Clean Brick Ranch W/lg Fin Bsmt W/Bar& Fo

Updates: Oak Kit, New Windws, Drwl, Paver Patio, C/

a,water Tank & Copper Plumbing. Appls Stay. Lg Yard.

\$109.86

248-347-3050



1606 sq ft Coionial, 4BR, 1st fir indry, completely gutted & remodeled in 2006, dbl lot survey done for split, Livonia schools! Seller concessions! 734-453-6800 MLS# 27212124

Move-in ready bungalow! New carpet, new roof ('06),

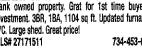
ST. CLAIR SHORES





1& indry All appls stay. Fin bsmt w/berber. Lro mstr suite w/BA & WIC. Refin deck. 2-car gar. MLS# 27201604







freshly painted, newer appliances. Sunroom & large, fenced lot. \$89,000. More info at kimbelz.com MLS# 27213538 734-453-6800



cer tile fir (appls incl). Nice MS w/lg WIC.

Loaded w/extras. 2 BR condo within walking distance

to downtown Plymouth, LR w/gas FP, Kit w/gak conts

ORPORATE HEADQUARTERS 3555 E 14 MILE ROAD, STERLING HEIGHTS, MI 48310

foyer, kit, fr, & powder. 2-story fr,dr w/bay. 1st fir laud. new pergo fir, bright & sunny kit, full deck off back. Lrg mstr w/jet tub & WIC. Deep bsmnt Assoc maintains grass & snow removal. 734-453-6800 MLS# 27209120

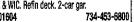
\$325,000

248-347-3050

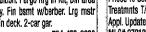
\$234.900



Condo in move-in condition. Pergo firg in Kit, Din area



\$129,900



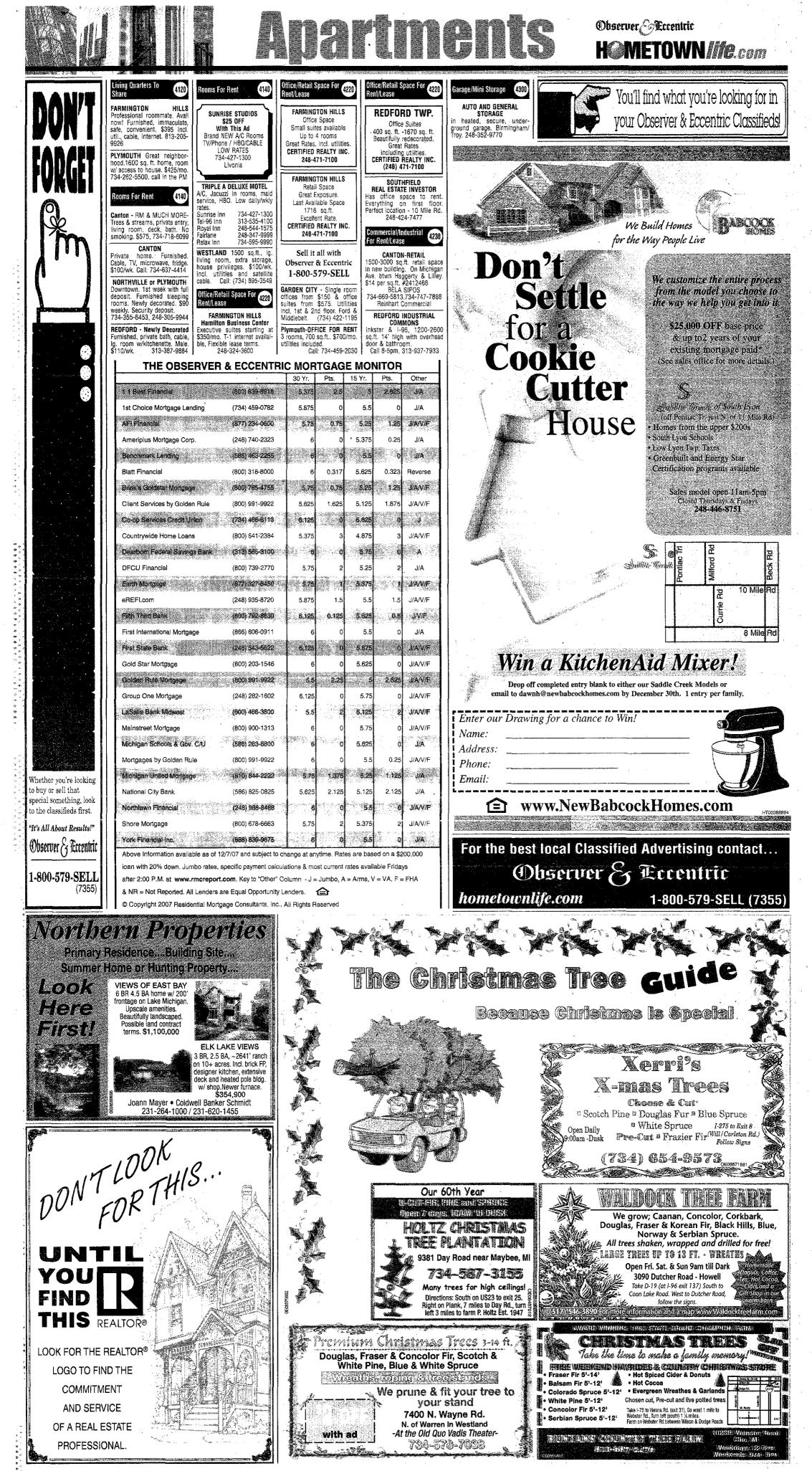
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\$189,900

734-453-6800

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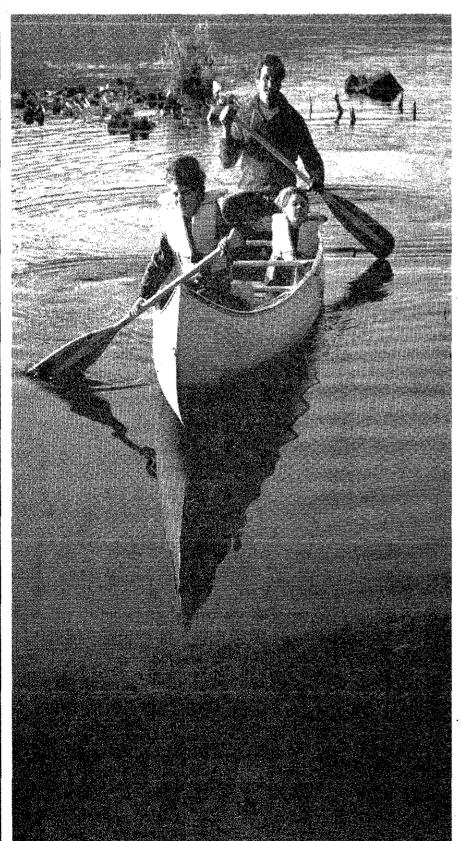
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WOMEN SEEKING MEN

SINCERE ONLY

SINCERE ONLY SBF, 36, feminine, beautiful, sexy, seeks con-fident, similar lady to share nights on the town, good talks and simple fun. Will it be you? Friendship first, possibly more. **2210970 AWAITING YOUR CALL** Honest, attractive SBF, 25, 5'2", 150bs, mother, employed, caring, looking to meet outgoing, child-friendly, respectiue Christian man to enjoy dinner dates, good talks, family, friendship and fun. **32**37322 **TAKE A CHANCE** TAKE A CHANCE

TAKE A CHANCE SWF; 25, 52°, medium build, athletic, enjoys sports, working on cars, bowling, pool, Italian food, music, my dogs, having fun. Seeking outgoing, fun-loving guy to get to know, share fun. \$213228

CLASS ACT & GOOD CATCH Free kitten to good home. Affectionate, attrac-tive intelligent DWPF, 5'8", N/S, upbeat with class, warmth and sense of humor, seeks LTR

with monogamous, romantic gentleman, 55-69. Make me purr. 238978

YOUR SOULMATE IS WAITING SBF, 27, 5'4", chocolate complexion, pretty brown eyes, dimples, thick build, looking for SBM, 28-60, for thendship and possibly more.

ARE YOU SEEKING? DWF, 63, 5¹², Italian, brunette, attractive, well-dressed, sincere, loving, optimistic, likes, theater, travel, dining, fitness. Wishing to meet N/S WM, 58-70, financially secure, easygoing, good mor-als, loves family, for dating. **2630808 BIEV CIP**

als, loves tamily, for dating, a 530808 BUSY GIRL Very cute 48-year-old SWF, could easily pass for 35, 5', 115lbs, long brown wavy hair, tooking for someone to spice up my life. @230116 ITALIAN/SICILIAN MAN... wanted. 40-year-old SBF, 5'8' looking for handsome, fun, older Italian or Sicilian Male, 40-55 years old. I like shopping, movies, and cooking. @218623 PERSONABLE AND SPECIAL PERSONABLE AND SPECIAL

SWF, retired, talented, fun-loving, attractive, 132lbs, 5'5", blonde, seeks well-groomed gentleman, 65+, to share life and enjoy each, other's company. 27391247

SEARCHING FOR A MAN... 40-60, who's looking for commitment, love and laughter. I'm a 46-year-old who's bright, spunky and pretty. Only Jewish men please. \$2962317

LET'S HAVE FUN SWF, likes camping, fishing, hiking, motor-cycles, seeking a SWM, 36-63, who enjoys the same, for friendship first, possible LTR. 2244983

COULD U BE THE ONE 4 ME? COULD U BE THE ONE 4 ME? Active SWF, 5'2", blonde, fun-loving, nurse likes boating, traveling, sports, dancing and dining, seeking a SWM, 70-78, who enjoys the same, for friendship, maybe more. **2**231724 **HELLO OUT THERE** SWF, 39 years young, seeks SWM, who enjoys lifes simple pleasures. I enjoys dining out, com-puters, movies, the parks walks, travel and life in general. Friendship first. **2**241298 **WILD AND SOPHISTICATD** Ebory worman desires shared love relation-

WILD AND SOPHISTICATD Ebony woman desires shared love relation-ship for mental, emotional, physical, spiritual and financial uplifting. 40-50. 27147056 CLASSY LADY SBF 36, 5'3", N/S, seeking a SBM, 35-49, who enjoys sports, dining, traveling and movies, for friendship first, maybe more. 27192050 DO-WOP TO CLASSICS DWF, 56, 5'4", N/S, with traditional values, shapely blond, enjoys concerts, dining, classic cars, the lake, dancing. ISO christian a+, N/S, gentieman, 50+, for dating, open to new activi-ties. Rochester. 37225822 SWEET SEXY LADY WANTS... SWEET SEXY LADY WANTS ..

SWEEL SEXY LADY WANTS... to be swept off my feet! Very pretty SWF, 42, brunette, 5'6", 133lbs, N/S, seeks good-look-ing, tall SWM, 40-45, hornest, cosmetic sur-geon, college-educated, ormanic, sensual, for friendship first, possible LTR. \$235306

READ THIS ADI SWF, 61, IV/S, homebody, enjoys cuddling, scary movies and antiques, searching for a SWM, 52+, with various interest and qualities. **2**164114

HIDDEN TREASURE I'm the needle in the haystack, and there you will find true love. Seeking SM, 65+. \$212790

LOOKING FOR ME? SBF, 46, 5'8", dark complexion, slim, cute, looking for tall, attractive, sweet guy, kind and understanding to share all the good things life offers. **32**16297

Uners. 421029/ LOOKING FOR ME? SBF, 37, attractive, trustworthy, down-to-earth, with grown son likes walks, movies, dinners, park, music. Seeking BM, 36-55, for friend-ship, possible romance. 12220303

LIFE IS BEAUTIFUL

Attractive SWF, 503, 577, 125lbs, loves all life, animals, arts, family, nature, spintuality. Masters helping professional. Seeking big-hearted, financially/emotionally secure, intel-ligent DPM, 48-68, for fun, friendship, depth, etc. **17**892242

LOOKING FOR A FRIEND SBF, 19, fuil-figured, 5'4", caramel complexion looking for a good man to enjoy talks, hang out with and just get to know. 2230300 HOPE TO HEAR FROM YOU HOPE TO HEAR FROM YOU WIWF, 57, homeowner, independent, a little lonely, dog owner, enjoys quiet times, good talks and togetherness. Seeking a kind man to share these. \$211330

BEAUTIFUL MAKEUP ARTIST SEAUTIFUL MAKEUP ARTIST Sincere, kind SWF, 53, proportionate, 5'6", 1241bs, professional, attractive, intelligent and educated, loves music, dancing, motor-cycles, outdoors, movies and creative pur-suits. Seeking attractive gentleman, 42-53, with like interests/qualities, for friendship/LTR. 2230791

T2230791 POSSIBLE LTR SWPF, 58, 5'7", attractive, slender, athletic, IVS, enjoys sports, concerts, dining out, seeks SWPM, 55-62, IVS, college degreed, healthy, SOH, possible LTR. T293381 HELLO DWF, 57, 5'4", 180lbs, size 16, attractive red-head, retired RN, homeowner, smoker, loves cooking, movies, good company, conversation and travel. Give me a call. All call returned T229066 HOW ABE VOL2

HOW ARE YOU?

SBF, 29, mom of 2, N/S, fun-loving, caring, compassionate, likes cooking, painting, walks, beaches, family times. Seeking a nice guy with zest for life, to share a little happiness. 2200770

SEEKING MR. RIGHT SEEKING MR. RIGHT Classy SBF, hoping to meet mature SBM, 45-60. I'm a very passionate, affectionate, lov-ing person, who enjoys a variety of activities. If you're seeking your soulmate, why not try me? \$\$\$985794

NURSE Attractive SWF, 64, 5', 135ibs, dark hair, blue eyes, fair skin, looking for N/S, honest gentie-man, 60-70, who has numerous interests including history, traveling, and home life. **2**409879 NURSE

WHY NOT CALL? SBF, full-figured, seeks a SM, 37-80, for friend-ship, possible LTR. Call me, let's get together and get to know each other. 72/17/234

LET'S TALK SF, 31, 5'9', brown/blue, Pisces, enjoys romantic dinners, movies, nice talks, quiet walks, simple fun. Looking for a nice, easygo-ing, simple guy to share friendship and fun.

LOOKING FOR AN EXPLORER SBF, 56, looking for a cultural man who enjoys restaurants, cates, the Arts, French culture, stimulating conversations, reading, cooking and more, Let's meet and see if we connect. T2226494

T226494 strangeness. Quirky, compassionate SF, 27, mother with 11 month old who is my world, loves reading, triends, animals, and explor-ing life. Seeking someone compassionate to share a friends first relationship. T235616 MEY CILVE HEY GUYS

HEY GUYS SBF, 20, 5'9", slim, long black hair, enjoys movies, concerts, and just having fun, look-ing for a nice, respectful man, to enjoy talks, casual dates, and see what happens next. **2**235810

LADY IN THE WOODS SWF, 50, looks younger, nice smile, blonde/ hazel, 5'5", average build, employed, edu-cated, homeowner, dog lover, seeking com-patible, outdoorsy, rugged, good-hearted male to share the good things in life. Livingston county. \$210247

CLASSY LADY SBF, middle-aged, attractive, enjoys dining, movies, plays and bowling, seeks a SM, 48-69, N/S, good sense of humor and good values/morals. 32207254

 varues/morals.
 xr20/254

 READY FOR A FRESH START?

 DWF, 47, 55", 120lbs, long blonde/blue, well-proportioned, very femihine, attractive, self-employed. Seeking SWM, 45-57, 61"+, 225lbs+, good sense of humor, energetic, trav-eler, outdoorsman, adventurer, manly gentle-man. Te922549
 man. \$692549

I NEED A LOVE ... to keep me happy. Attractive, classy, delightful, chaming WF, 49, no kids, seeks SWM, 45+, no kids, N/S, tun, loving, caring, 2568059 COULD YOU BE THE ONE?

SBF, 27, self-sufficient, up front and real seeks employed, respectful, nice man independent and not about games, to get to know and have a good time. 2231868

ISO MY COUNTERPART

Adventurous, energetic, handsome, laid-back SWM, 48, looks younger, 5'11", N/S, enjoys traveling, dining out. Seeking fit, energetic, pretty woman, 28-59, N/S, with same qualities, and interests, for LTR. 7218526 BEAUTIFUL PRINCESS WANTED

SBM, early 40s, seeks attractive, younger lady, 28-45, for romance, companionship, must be independent and shapely. Serious replies only. 27684501

HOPE ABOUT A CALL? Loving, real separated BM, 28, business owner, father, looking for genuine, sexy, sweet, chtld-triendly SWF, goal-oriented and affectionate who knows how to have a good time in life. 12240443

CALL THIS MAN! Easygoing, expressive DVM, 43, nice looks, no kids, enjoys traveling, outdoors, romantic eve-nings. Seeks warm-hearted SWF, ©112288

call for a date SWM, 40-50, for companionship, maybe rote SWM, 40-50, for companionship, maybe more 50-2020 for companionship, maybe more. 2992956

 more.
 ☎992956

 LETS GET GOING!

 SWM 40s, attractive, good shape, great listener, enjoys good conversation, friendship, spontaneous fun, and laughter, seeks personable SWF for dating and more.
 ☎128302

 HI LADIES!
 DHM, 48, kind, hard-worker, N/S, seeks a H/WF, 37-57, N/S, for sharing of conversations, dates, fun and more.
 Possible LTR.

 ☎216527

tions, date 216527

WORTH A SHOT Nice, affectionate, fun SWM, 3G, 6', 230lbs, substitute teacher, muscular build enjoys fit-ness, dining, dancing, movies, and more. Seeking similar SF, to share the good times, friendship and maybe more. **2**243485

COULD IT BE YOU? SBM, 48, 6/2", brown complexion, wavy hair, mustabhe/goatee, employed, mature, intel-ligent, hard-working, enjoys soulfood, good company, romance. ISO very attractive, intel-ligent, down-to-earth and independent lady, for tife and love. TB189723

EASYGOING Sharp, sociable SWM, 45, with good character and pleasant personality, likes the outdoors, fishing, motor sports etc. WLTM SWF, for dat-ing and fun times. \$187614

SERIOUS WOMAN WANTED SERIOUS WOMAN WANTED SBM, 44, looking for that special persona for LTR, someone who enjoys walks, movies, sporting events, cuddling at home. Please be shapely, independent and know what you want in life. To Second

want in the. 17692418 **A TERRIFIC GUY** SWM, 45, 6*, blue/brown, 200lbs, N/D, little on the shy side, enjoys quiet times, classic cars, bowling, more. Seeking SWF, N/D, trustwor-thy, 35-55, in good shape, w/similar interests. Possible LTR, 17224408 WORTLA CUCT

WORTH A SHOT Easygoing honest, fun-loving guy, 36, 6'2'', 250lbs, former Marine, father of 2, ISO roman-tic, outdoorsy, sensitive, sweet, child-friendly lady who can make me laugh and smile. is it wu/2 02/327256 you? 2237256

MAN WITH CUTE DIMPLES whan with CUTE DIMPLES Friendly, affectionate, warm, respectful BM, 43, N/S, in search of a easygoing, honest, active woman, with God in her heart, hwp, for friendship, romance and more. No head games/drama. To 155436

WANT TO JOIN ME? WANT TO JOIN ME? SWM, 38, social drinker, smoker, electrician by trade, looking for an outgoing, honest, fun lady with like interests. I enjoy biking, hiking, snowmobiling, outdoor activities, quiet times.

BOATER SEEKS 1ST MATE SWM, 35, N/S, good-looking, trustworthy, enjoys boating, good music, working out. Seeking very attractive SF, 28-40, race unim-portant, for friendship leading to possible LTR. 2205048 200127

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WORTH YOUR TIME WORTH YOUR TIME Attractive, clean-cut SM, 46, 5'11", 155lbs, self-employed, respectful, open-minded, enjoys cooking, music, movies, comedy, shows, ISO attractive, pleasant SWF, 28-42, D/D-free, slender-medium build, classy, kind, compassionate and caring, for friend-ship/LTR? 12:1334

TRY THIS ONE Loving, young-looking SM, 36, 5'9", 200ibs,

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2860305 Area. VANILLA SEEKING CHOCOLATE Call me if you desire a nice shape, SWM, blue-eyed blonde, 50-year-old, 180lbs, desires SBF for friendship and definitely romance. \$\Pi777324

ENJOYS GOING TO CHURCH SBM, 28, 6', 173lbs, N/D, N/kids, slim build, brown complexion, glasses, likes movies, long walks, Jesus, cooking, music, bowling, mexican food, styness, seeks SB/HF, 25-28, N/S, for friendship, possible romance. TP380453

HEY LADIES SBM, 22, 6'2", brown complexion, brown eyes, 175ibs, looking for sexy, thick, shapely ladies to kick it with and have a good time. adies to N 2240995

Try this easygoing, lovable SWM, 50, good listener, who enjoys book stores, coffee shops, nature and concerts. I seek a like-minded counterpart for where ever it goes. \$200890 ROMANTIC & ATTRACTIVE DWM, 60, 5'11," 1901bs, seeks nice-tooking tady to help share each others heart, and lifes daily adventures. \$146279 ARE YOU MY LADY?

ady to help share each others neart, and lites daily adventures. 37146279 SBM, 54, N/S, loves R&B, jazz, simple times, romance and time with someone special. Seeking a loving lady, medium build/full-figured, to share all lites simple pleasures. 37210024 NICE GUY SWPM is looking for a companion, SWF, 50-65, to enjoy each other's company. I like mov-ies, sports, and other things. I'm 68, 155lbs, 5'6'', and an active professional. 3708126 LIFE DOESN'T END AT 60... It starts! SWM, 62, enjoys meting new people, trying new things, laughter and living life to the fullest. Seeking active, happy lady who feels the same. Friendship, fun, LTR? 3228816 LOOKING FOR YOU SBM, 20, 6', full-time student, enjoys singing and song writing. Seeking creative, lovely lady, beautiful inside/out, with a warm heart, big smile, and passion for music, to share life. 37235228 WORTH IT WORTH IT

Loving, retired senior, former educator, wish-ing to meet a youthful, active SF, 59-72, who loves movies, dancing, romance and laughter. Could it be you? \$236410

SEARCHING FOR YOU

Affectionate DWM, 65, brown hair, N/S, D/D-free, enjoys craft shows, fiea markets, mov-ies, dining, camping, The Red Wings. ISO a special IaOV, 48-59, to share friendship, dates, possible LTR. **19**20969

LET'S TALK SWM, 6'3", 240lbs, italian, blue eyes, easygo-ing, blue-jean type of guy, looking for a petite woman, 50-60, easygoing, laidback, who likes dining, shows, gardening, 23991273

BRUNETTES ARE BETTER SWM, 5'8", blonde/blue, masculine build, seeking a SWF, 22-35, with good values, who

enjoys the outdoors, movies, dining, travel-ing and shopping, brunette a+, smokers ck. 2203186

WORTH IT WORTH IT SM, 52, brown/brown, 225lbs, 5'9", work-ing construction, student, enjoys driving, the outdoors, fitness, biking, good company, nice tarks. Seekinbg honest, trustworthy, respectful woman to share all life offers. **32**212923

ATTRACTIVE SBM, 34, 5'6", ISO SF, race open, 18-27, who wants to talk, share good times and juts have some fun. 215278

WILL IT BE YOU? Sociable, happy, romantic SM, 61, 61*, 205lbs, caramel complexion, passion for dancing, concerts, music, romance, good company and laughter. Looking for a kind, classy lady to share these. ₱215554

LET'S HAVE FUN LET'S HAVE FUN SM, 18, enjoys working on cars, painting, seeks a SF, 18-22, for movies, fishing and having fun. 2217283 LOOKING FOR A FRIEND

SM, 205, 611, like comedy, and suspense films, fitness, romantic times with someone special. ISO genuine, nice lady, good-looking, intelligent, to get to know, share a little fun and romance. \$217356

TRY THIS ONE

SBM, 18, 140bs, tatos, piercings, father, looking for a cool, sweet lady who likes chil-dren, sports and just having fun, to kick it with. 2221658

WORTH YOUR CALL WOHTH YOUN CALL SM, 53, employed, outgoing, enjoys times at home, movies in/out,(westerns, classics) good food, good company. ISO a good woman to share the fun times, happiness and possible LTD, Statopood

run every week. Be sure to renew your ad frequently to keep it fresh. Guidelines: Personals are for adults 18 or over seeking monogamous relationships. To ensure your safety, carefully screen all responses and have first meetings occur in a public place. This publication reserves the right to edit, revise, or reject any advertisement at any time at its sole discretion and assumes no responsibility for the content of or replies to any ad. Not all ads have corresponding voice messages. To review our complete guidelines, call (617) 425-2636

ship, possible romanče. 1220303 SEEKING FRIENDSHIP SBF, voung 60s, wjood morals, caring, nice-tooking, 5'3", 156ibs, N/S, N/D, N/Drugs, clean, honest living, partiy retired, enjoys art, card playing, casinos, and movies. Seeking honest man 50-60, race open. 12134425 IN THIS BOX U CAN FIND... a 42-year-old SWF, ISO SWM, 38-45, for friendship and possibly more. I'm sociable, affectionate 57", 120bs, long dark curly hair, N/D, N/S, D/D-free, never married, no chil-dren. interested? Call! 12224748 COULD IT BE YOU? COULD IT BE YOU? SBF, 44, professions?

SBF, 44, professional, hard-working, independent,enjoys church, shopping, more. Looking for a SPM, 44, employed, open-minded, warm-hearted and considerate, to share all life has to offer, \$235988

A GOOD IRISH GIRL SWF, 25, enjoys intelligent conversations, cuddling, movies, at and relaxing at home sometimes. Searching for a SM, 21-45, who enjoys the same, to get to know, friendship, maybe more. \$252375

maybe more. \$252375 TRY THIS ONE Loving, sincere SBF, 58, easygoing, looking for a good-hearted, Christian gentleman with The Lord in his heart to share life, laughter, happiness and possible LTR. \$242234 COULD YOU BE THE ONE Bright, spunky, pretty SF, 46, educator, outgo-ing, pretty eyes, wishing to meet a kind Jewish man, 45-60, who's looking for commitment, love and laughter. \$230694 LET'S TALK SOMETIME

LET'S TALK SOMETIME SBCF, 38, 516', 120lbs, smoker, loves jazz. Seeking BF, 30-45, smoker, for dining out and movies, for friendship, possible romance. 152399

BF SEEKING MR. RIGHT

SBF, 38 mother, N/S, seeking WM ,40-60, N/S, for a friendship that could turn into something the analysis of the second state of the secon

tive, enjoys music, dining, concerts, travel, ISO honest, compassionate SM, 57-65, N/S. Possible LTR, 17963760

LOOKING FOR A COMPANION LOOKING FOR A COMPANION Tall, attractive WIWF, 60s, enjoys good con-versation, walks, playing board/card games, antiques and more. Looking for honest gentle-man, 64-80, with a wide verity of interest to share all life offers. \$236416

Share all life Offers. 42/236416 DO YOU EXIST? DWF, 59, 5'7", slender, very attractive, col-lege-educated, enjoys movies, theater, sports, concerts, dining and travel. Seeking widowed/ divorced WPM, 55-63, athletic, healthy, tall, U/O DV word, concerts, concerts, concerts, and the concerts, and the concerts, and the concerts, and the concerts and the con D/D-free, with good sense of humor. **2**200296

VERY CUTE

HEY GUYS SBF, 28, mother of 3, dark complexion, 5'4", 120bs, red/brown, likes chilling at home, hanging with friends. Looking for a loving SM, to get to know. \$2234678

MEN SEEKING WOMEN

HANDSOME & FUN-LOVING

INTUDUINE & FUN-LOVING Sincere, fun-loving, down-to-earth SBM, 44. ISO romantic, honest, intelligent BF, 25-55, with great SOH, for companionship, possible LTR. 25968147

HOPE TO FIND YOU SM, 41, wishing to meet loving, respectful lady, 26-50, not about games, to share hap-piness, special times, laughter and possibly love. \$241700

GOOD BETTER BEST! SWM, 49, 59°, 195lbs, is nuts about nature, enjoys the outdoors, fishing, etc. Seeks com-patible SWF, to have and hold. 1992943

A SPECIAL GUY DWM, 56, 5'10'', handsome and secure, seeks honest S/DWF, w/sense of humor, who enjoys travel, candlelight dinners, plays, dancing, concerts, boating, and movies. Friendship, possible LTR, 2269646

possible LTR. 12269646 NICE GUYS DO EXIST SBM, 6'1", 250lbs, likes walks on the beach, casinos and movies. Searching for a H/AF, 18+, 4'11"+, attractive, caring, 1212428 WHAT'S GOOD Simple, cool, genuine SBM, 25, 6', athletic, seeks outgoing lady who knows how to have fun. 12231020

TRY ME LADIES SBM, 25, 5'8", 165!bs, caramel complexion, black hair, N/S, N/D, independent, self-employed, seeking a SF, 18-30, active, kind, who's ready for a committed relation-bio, #20/3066 ship. 2243066

HOPE TO HEAR FROM YOU SM, 29, 6', 195lbs, attractive, employed, seeks SF, 21-31, kind-hearted, sweet, fit and active, to share dinner dates, theater nights, sporting events, romance and lots more. 2244899

LAUGH WITH ME DWM, 48, 5'10", 170ibs, physically fit, smoker, recovering alcoholic, skilled tradesman, quit drinking not laughing. Loves cooking, movies and much more. ISO SF, 35-50, HWP, laugh ter and honesty a must. 12244639 COUGAR LOVER Some things do get better with ane. Blue-

COUGAR LOVER Some things do get better with age. Blue-eyed, handsome SM, mid 40s, physically fit, laid-back, good sense of humór, seeks woman, with like qualities, who likes travel, music, exercising, etc. 3244280

TALL, ATHLETIC TALL, ATHLETIC SWM, 48, 6'2", 200lbs, part-time personal trainer, brown/blue, degreed, outgoing per-sonality, enjoys outdoors, working out, new activities, seeking friendly SF, age/location open. 7551308

VOUR ATTENTION PLEASE! Handsome, mature gent SWM, 50, tradi-tional values, romantic, and thoughtful, enjoys cultural events, antiquing, short trips, etc. Seeking SWF for friendship and companion-ship. 2176497

well-groomed, health-conscious, likes action and horror films, seeking, a nucle cool, honest lady who knows what she wants in life, for friendships and fun. 2219704

LOOKING FOR ME? LOOKING FOR ME? SWM, 36, 6', 240lbs, brown/brown, muscular, attractive, well-built, likes movies, dining out, travel, trying new things. ISO attractive, fit, honest, fun SF, to share the good times in life. Friendship/LTR. 2222019

ANOTHER STATE OF MIND ANOTHER STATE OF MIND SWM, 35, enjoys action/adventure films, day trips, weekend getaways, music(punk/indie). Seeking sociable, fun-loving, creative SF, with interested in art, india music, exploring life and new adventures. T223363

ASIAN PRINCESS WM, 37, enjoys travel, clubbing, walks, video-games, and concerts. Seeks 18-45 AF for LTR. 2020954

LTR. 1222054 YOU WON'T BE DISAPPOINTED Attractive SWM, 5'8", 165lbs, muscular, look-ing for attractive, down-to-earth woman, fit and open-minded, to get to know and share good times 67027219 times. 227318

WHAT HAVE U GOT TO LOSE?
 WHAT HAVE U GOT TO LOSE?

 SM, 44, creative, fun, independent film maker, looking for a good-humored, nice, easygoing lady who's down-to-earth and fun, to share all the good things in life. ☎228696

 LATIN FEMALE DESIRED

 Attractive WM, 38, 6'3", great SOH, enjoys concerts, sports, movies. Seeks latin or hispanic female from South America. Age open.

 ☎228720

 LOKING FOR A FRIEND

 Outgoing, honest, spontaneous man, 43,

LOOKING FOH A FHEND Outgoing, honest, spontaneous man, 43, father, looking for easygoing, fun-loving, affec-tionate woman, 25-49, for dating, fun times and see where it goes. T222056 ENJOY THE VIEW Romantic, thoughtful SWM, 39, is looking for love, enjoys hugs, kisses and cuddling, seeks kind, attractive SWF, age and area open. T113855

C 113835

DOWN-TO-EARTH SBM, young looking 48, N/S, 6, 250ibs, laid-back, family-oriented, fikes bowling, dinner, travel. Seeking a SF, 30-45, race open, N/S, who's caring, honest and laid-back with sense of humor. 2221121

MUSCULAR AND ATHLETIC Tall, athletic SWM, 48, 6'2', 200lbs, brown/ blue, never married, no dependents, college-educated, clean-cut, good sense of humor, outgoing, seeks friendly SF, for fun. Age/loca-tion open, #587540

tion open. 2587540 MOTORCYCLES AND FUN DWM, 53, 6', average build, likes bewling, concerts, movies and motorcycling. Seeking a lady, 40-55, that can enjoy my things and have you add your fun things to the mix. 2243739 CUTE, CUDDLY COWBOY Wise and kind SWM 46, enjoys simplic.

Wise and kind SWM, 46, enjoys simplic-ity, art fairs, flea markets, festivals. Seeking the company of a lady with similar interests 7200459

ROMANCE & HONESTY WM, 50, 5'9", 173lbs, loves Nascar, fishing, camping, quiet times, spontaneity, seeks com-patible caring, special lady to share friendship and possible LTR. 2242175

LTR. #2222209

WHAT'S UP LADIES? Fun-loving, genuine SBM, 30, 5'5", brown complexion, good-looking cool, fun, looking for a lovely, sexy lady to kick it with. I like cooking, board games, nights out, more. Call me. 2222957

HOW ABOUT THIS ONE

HOW ABOUT THIS ONE Sociable SM, 57, 577, graying brown/blue, mustache, loves music, cooking, Italian tood, reading, writing action and romance films, quality conversation nd romance. ISo good-hearted, creative, nice lady to share these. T223744

LOCKING FOR YOU SWM, 50, 5'11", 185lbs, seeks SWF, 35-52, who enjoys Backgammon/Chess, dancing, working out at Bally's, plano bars, comedy clubs, coffee houses, art galleries. Must be social drinker, N/S, H/W proportionate, \$218827

HW proportionate. 2218827 TAKE A CHANCE SBM, 27, 61*, 2381bs, brown complexion, brown eyes, dark hair, employed, independent, seeking sexy, intelligent, sophisticated SB/WF, 21+, to share a little romance. I enjoy bowling, movies, pool, dining, more. 2225588. HI LADIES SBM, 30, no kids, employed, independent, 57°, medium complexion, braids, looking to meet a sweet, cool lady level-headed and real to share all the good things in its. 2225791 SEEKING SOMETHING REAL Sociable, active SM, 25, 6'3°, 225ibs, brown/ hazel, strong, affectionate, lovable, loves

hazel, strong, affectionate, lovable, loves camping, cuddling, trying new things, nice talks. Seeking loving, family-oriented, outdoorsy SF, to share lifes little pleasures and adventures. **2**227126

SEARCHING FOR A MUSE

32-year-old renaissance man, artist, confident and true of heart, ISO inspiring friendship. Race open. 2227497

WORTH YOUR CALL SM, 27, easygoing, fun, 6'2", dark brown com-plexion and eyes, clean-cut, well-groomed, likes occasional nights out, quiet times in life, simple fun. Seeking similar lady for friendship, dates and more? T2229192

LET'S TALK

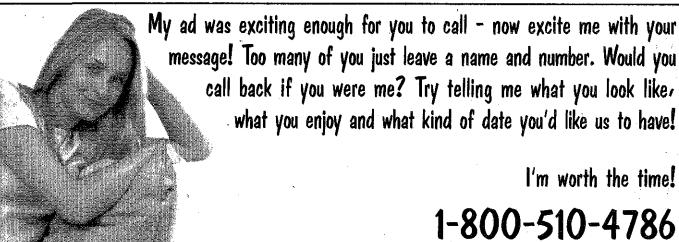
Simple,, easygoing SBM, 18, looking for a pretty, sweet and sincere lady, open-minded and down-to-earth, who knows how to enjoy life. \$229571

TRY THIS ONE SBM, 33, 5'9", 175lbs, brown complexion, mustache/goatee, attractive and sweet, seeks sexy lady to share the good things in life.

GOOD NEWS/BAD NEWS Cool, classy, attractive SWM 50s, HIV+ seeks special lady for dating and possible LTR. 2235509

VANILLA SEEKING CHOCOLATE Call me if you desire a nice shape, SWM, blue-eyed blonde, 50-year-old, 180/bs, desires SBF for friendship and definitely romance. \$672855

DLAY 2004 SONG? DLAY 2004 SONG? DWM, 52, D/D-free, east area, great SOH, interested in music, outdoors, pets, gardening, romantic evenings by my fireplace. ISO WF, 35-55, with similar interests, for friendship, possible LTR. 202143



SINGLES LINGO: A-Asian B-African American/Black C-Christian D-Bivorced F-Female H-Hispanic J-Jewish M-Male N/S-Non-smoker N/D-Non Drinker N/Drugs- No Drugs P-Professional S-Single W-White LTR-Long Term Relationship



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VERY CUTE SBF, 56, 5'3", 122lbs, interested in fit, good-iooking, confident male, 45-58, N/S, intelligent, sincere, down-to-earth, who wants to commit to someone special. 2113198 HERE I AM GUVS Loving, sexy SBF, 34, caramel complex-ion, 5'5", 156lbs,brown eyes, independent, employed, secure, Seeking warm-hearted intelligent, commitment-minded man who wants to share something real. 2238307

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8070

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3 INNOVATIONS FROM DETROIT EXCITE AUTO BUYERS

Advertising Feature



Observer SEccentric

Mirror

Automotive



By Dale Buss

The traditional Big Three are doing more and more things that genuinely excite American auto buyers. They're fully demonstrating a renewed ability to innovate that will end up being their salvation if General Motors, Ford and Chrysler are going to be able to recover any of the U.S. market share they've lost against the rest of the world over the last generation.

Each automaker has produced a very current case in point: Ford, with the popularity of its new SYNC electronics technology; Chrysler, with its immediate-hit new Dodge Challenger: and GM, whose new Cadillac CTS has just been recognized by Motor Trend magazine as its Car of the Year.

Ford's new SYNC in-vehicle electronics technology already is proving to be a powerful lure to buyers of the 12 Ford, Lincoln and Mercury models equipped with the Microsoft-powered system.

Overall in November, when volume sales of SYNC-equipped vehicles began, dealers required an average of 27 days to turn over a unit that included SYNC compared with an overall average of 52 days to turn over the same models including vehicles without SYNC, Ford said. For the Ford Focus, days-to-turn was 21 with SYNC-equipped models versus 25 days overall.

Consumers also are reporting high levels of satisfaction with SYNC, which features voice-activated, hands-free mobile-phone calling, uninterrupted connections from the vehicle to a Bluetooth phone, audible text messages, voice-activated music and other mobile-communications features.

"Nearly 90% of new owners indicate that this is a technology they would recommend to a friend," says Ford spokesman Mark Schirmer. About 80% of SYNC owners so far say that it "exceeds" or "greatly exceeds" their expectations, Schirmer adds.

"That's significant, because one of the things we did to prepare is a lot of work at the dealership level trying to get dealerships up to speed in terms of how to use this system - and how to make sure during the handoff process that customers are getting comfortable with it before they leave the dealership," Schirmer says.

More than 80% of consumer respondents report that dealership personnel did a good job demonstrating SYNC.

Among the models including SYNC as standard are highend versions of Lincoln MKX and Ford Edge crossovers, and Ford Focus compact, while SYNC is optional in models including the Focus SE and the Focus S. It will be available on nearly all Ford, Lincoln and Mercury products - standard or as a



GM Vice Chairman Robert Lutz addresses employees after Motor Trend named the Cadillac CTS the magazine's 2008 Car of the Year

So far, Chrysler has realized photos only of tantalizing details of the hot new Dodge Challenger.

\$395 option - within two years.

Ford began installing SYNC at the factory in September and started advertising the feature in mid-October.

The company began putting more marketing muscle behind SYNC last week with the launch in Cincinnati of a partnership with Jive Recording star Chris Brown, through Ford's sponsorship of his tour, Up Close & Personal Holiday Exclusive Tour Powered by SYNC.

The promotion features Brown in radio and TV advertisements featuring SYNC and a new web site devoted to the partnership. Ford said in a news release that it will "ultimately integrate some of the key features of the technology into the tour" but wasn't more specific.

"It's the first time that Ford has ever aligned itself with someone who is promoting a specific technology (feature) versus promoting a particular vehicle model," notes Ford spokeswoman Michelle Matthews.

Meanwhile, Dodge was swamped last week with 6,600 orders for the 2008 version of the new Challenger muscle car in the three days since its dealers began taking orders on Monday. The breathtaking surge in initial orders already raised questions about whether Chrysler was going to be willing to build enough of the vehicles to satisfy demand.



"We have not said what we are going to build," Kathy Graham, Dodge Challenger public relations specialist, told Edmunds.com, disputing the 5,000 volume number that keeps popping up in the media and on blogs. "We haven't decided yet. It will be less than 10,000."

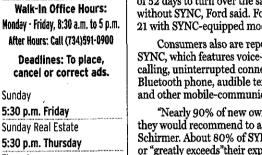
Dodge said the new Challenger will be shown publicly for the first time on February 6 at the 2008 Chicago Auto Show. Chrysler will kick off production with the top-of-the-line SRT8 model only as a Limited Edition model, which goes on sale in the spring.

The two-door coupe will be available in black, silver or Hemi Orange. More than half of the orders taken thus far are for the Hemi Orange spec. The Challenger SRT8 is powered by a 6.1-liter Hemi V8 and features a numbered dash plaque, plus dual "carbon fiber" hood stripes. Dodge has priced the car at \$37,995, including a \$675 destination fee.

Over at GM the new CTS was named 2008 Motor Trend Car of the Year.

'It's ... really gratifying to see the development team, the engineers, the designers and all of Cadillac, to have their work recognized and appreciated for the achievement it is," GM Vice Chairman Bob Lutz wrote on his FastLane blog on GM.com.





Sunday Real Estate 5:30 p.m. Thursday Thursday 6 p.m. Tuesday Thursday Real Estate Display 3 p.m. Monday

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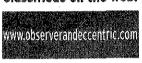
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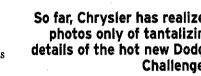
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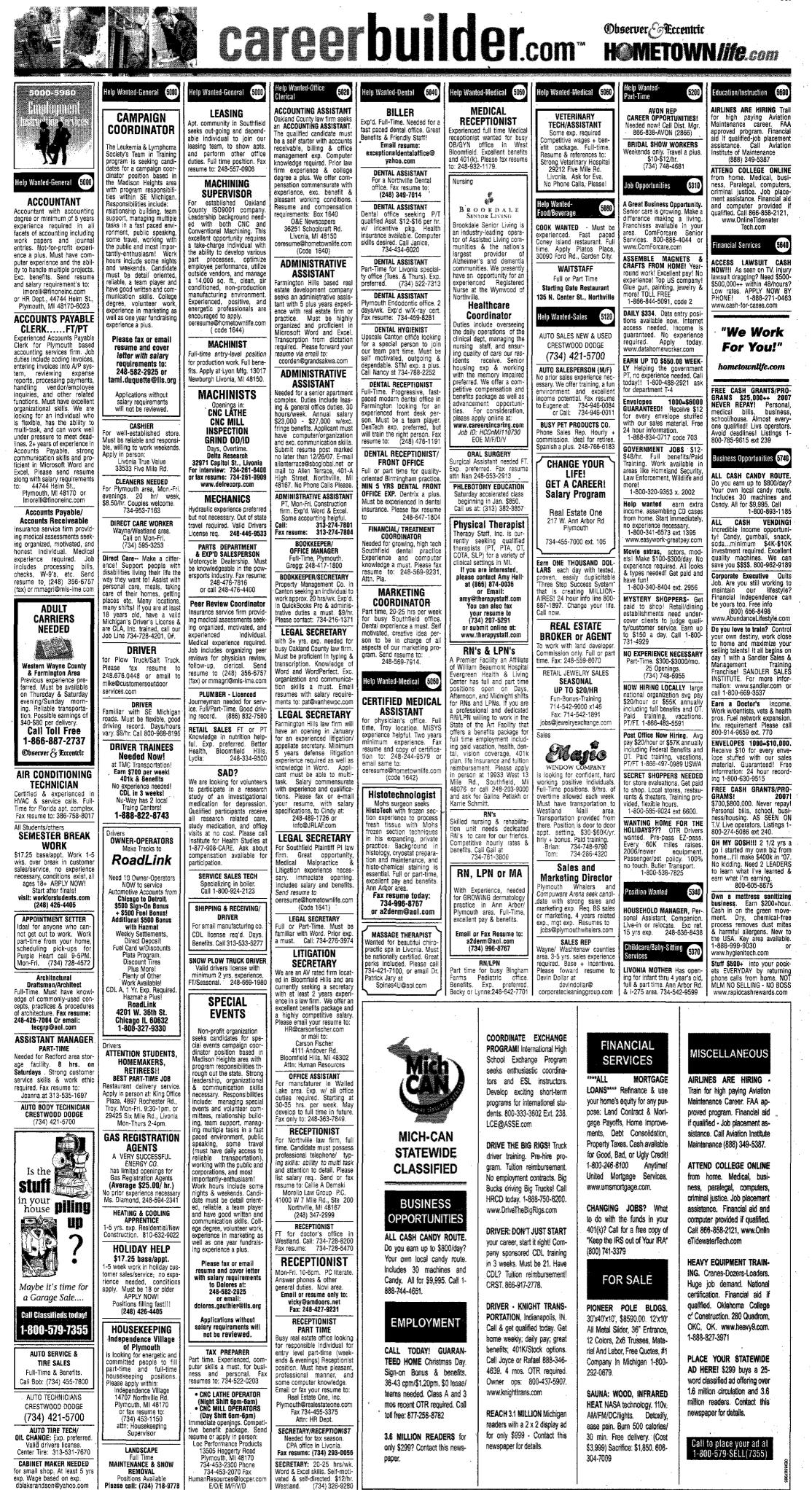
C10 (*) Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, December 13, 2007

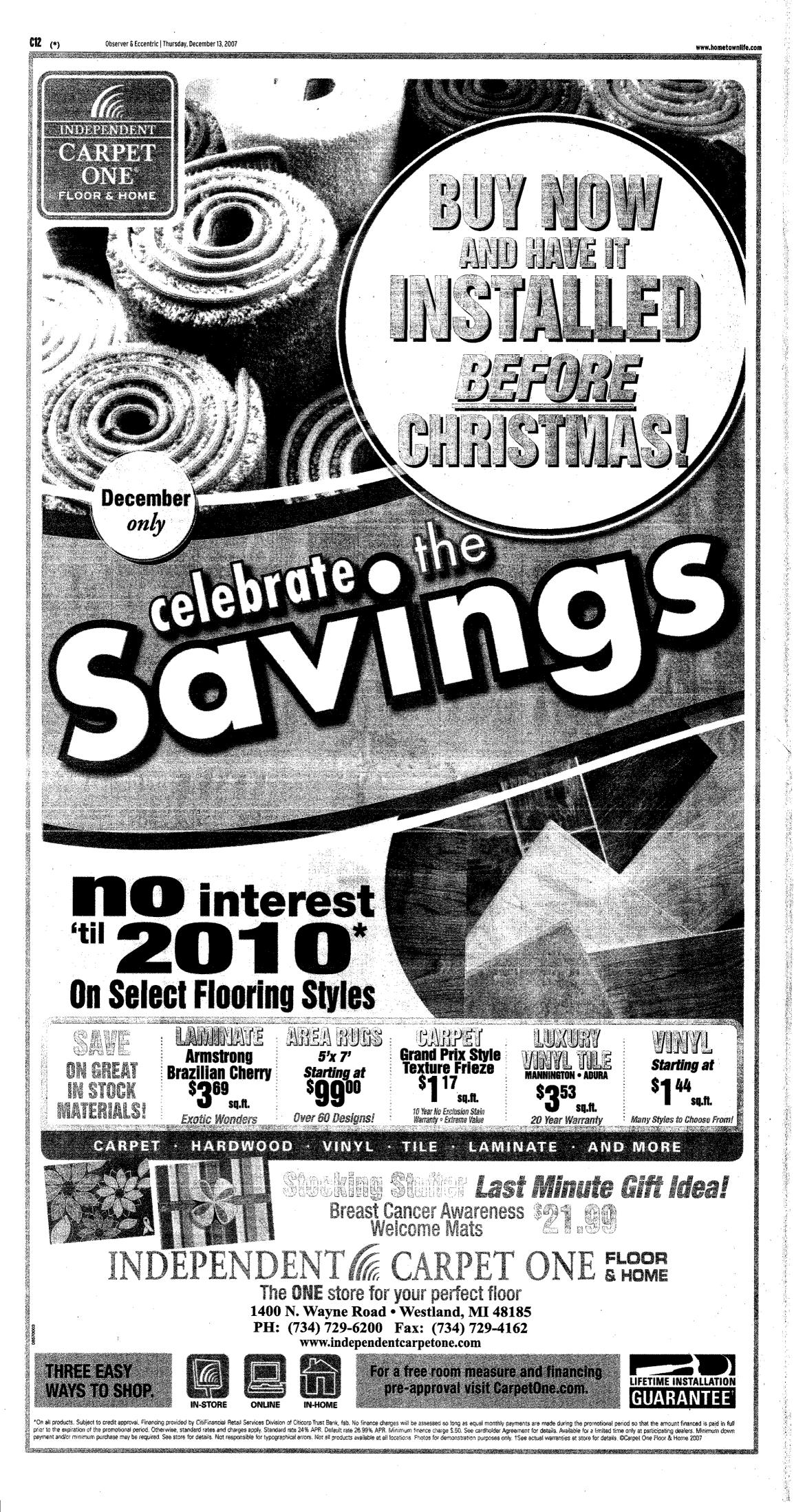
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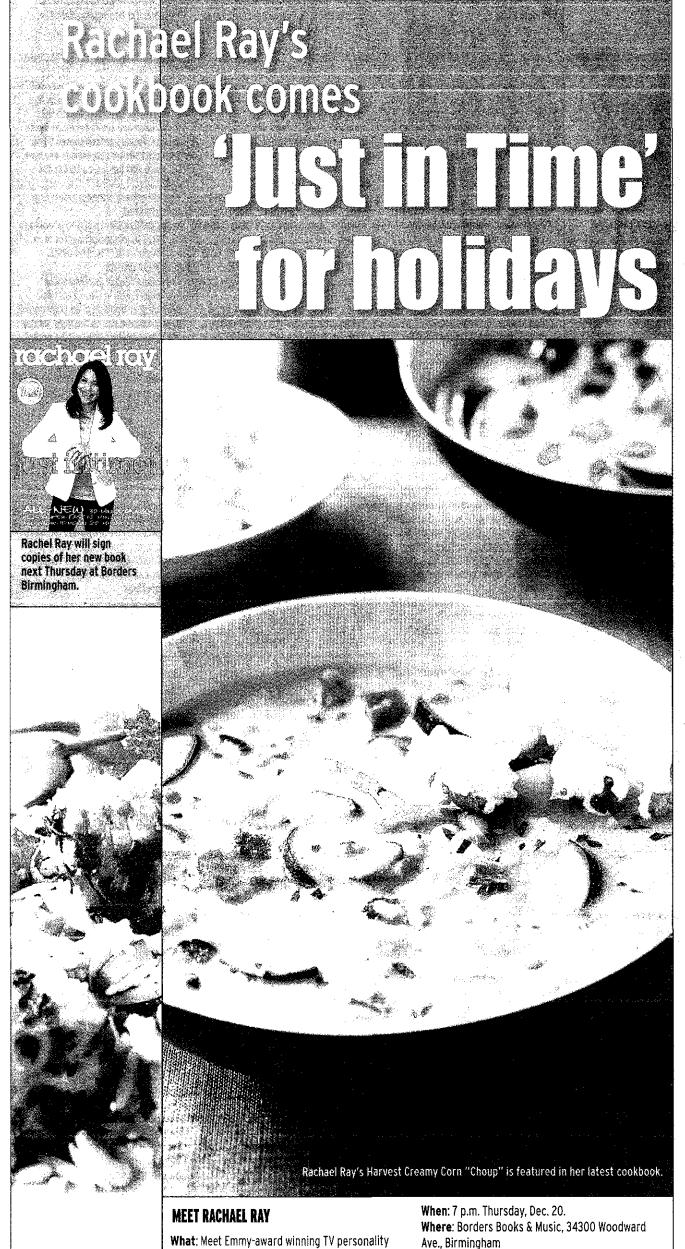




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HOMETOWN

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



achael Ray earned her stripes in the kitchen and became a household name showing off her culinary skills on such Food Network favorites as 30 Minute Meals and \$40 a Day.

The Emmy-award winner now hosts her own syndicated talk show, *Rachael Ray*, and has successfully launched the magazine Every Day with Rachael Ray. She continues to host two Food Network series, the aforementioned 30 Minute Meals and Rachael Ray's Tasty Travels. Over the years Ray has written

a series of cookbooks based on her well-honed 30 Minute concept for people on the go. Her latest book marks a slight departure from that idea.

Just in Time offers super-simple recipes for those who have even a little time to cook, as well as some double duty dishes for days when it's possible to spend more time in the kitchen. Fans will notice plenty of Rachael-isms in Just in Time. From healthy doses of her musthave ingredient EVOO (extra virgin olive oil), to soups so thick and hearty she calls them "choup."

We've included a few of the more mouth-watering moments from the book in anticipation of Ray's Birmingham book signing, and just in time for the holidays. By Stephanie A. Casola

Fifteen minutes

- GNOCCHI WITH SPINACH AND GORGONZOLA 2 (10-ounce) boxes frozen chopped spinach
- Salt 2 (14- to 16-ounce) packages fresh gnocchi
- ½ cup chopped walnuts
- ¼ cup EVOO (extra-virgin olive oil), 4 times around the pan
- 3 to 4 garlic cloves, grated or finely chopped Black pepper
- 1 cup chicken stock

8 ounces Gorgonzola cheese, crumbled To defrost the spinach, place it on a plate and microwave on high for 5 minutes. Wring it dry in a clean kitchen towel and set aside.

Bring a large pot of water to a boil for the gnocchi and season it liberally with salt. Cut open the gnocchi packages and set aside. Place the walnuts in a small skillet and toss over medium-low heat for 3 to 4 minutes until toasted and fragrant.

In a deep skillet, heat the EVOO over medium heat. Add the garlic to the warm oil, then add the spinach. separating the clumps as you add it to the garlic oil. Season the spinach with salt and pepper, add the stock, and bring to a bubble over medium heat. Add the Gorgonzola to the spinach and stir until it melts. While the spinach heats, cook the gnocchi in the boiling water for 2 to 3 minutes, or until they float to the surface. Drain, then add to the spinach and toss for 1 minute to coat, then adjust the seasonings. Serve the gnocchi topped with the toasted walnuts.



Need ideas for your cocktail lineup this holiday season? Check out Ti Adelaide Martin and Lally Brennan's "In the Land of Cocktails," an amusing collection of recipes and stories from the family that gave us New Orleans' famous Commander's Palace restaurant.

This eggnog recipe packs serious punch; you might start with 4 cup of Southern Comfort, then add more according to your taste.

EGGNOG COUPE DE MILIEU

Start to finish: 2 hours (10 minutes active) Serves 6-8.

2 medium eggs 1 cup heavy cream % cup sugar



www.hometownlife.com

and author Rachael Ray, host of her own talk show and the Food Network series "30 Minute Meals" and "Rachael Ray's Tasty Travels." She'll autograph her latest book, "Just in Time."

More information: To secure a place in line be sure

to get a wristband from a Borders staff member. They will begin handing wristbands out at 8 a.m. on Dec. 20. Call (248) 203-0005.

Thirty minute meals

GREEK MIXED GRILL KEBABS AND PINE NUT ORZO SALAD

- Salt ½ pound orzo pasta
- 4 garlic cloves, minced
- 4 fresh oregano sprigs, leaves stripped and finely chopped
- 6 fresh rosemary sprigs, leaves stripped and finely chopped
- ½ cup green olive tapenade
- 1 teaspoon red pepper flakes
- zest and juice of 2 lemons
- ½ cup plus 14 cup of extra virgin olive oil
- (EVOO) 1/2 pound firm white-fleshed fish, like halibut or

Please see RECIPES, D4

Pinch ground cinnamon ½ cup Southern Comfort ¼ teaspoon vanilla extract Grated nutmeg, for garnish

Bring about an inch of water to a simmer in the bottom half of a double boiler.

While the water heats, in the top half of the boiler combine the eggs, heavy cream, sugar and cinnamon. Place the top half over the simmering water and whisk until thick and frothy, about 6 to 8 minutes.

Pour the mixture through a mesh strained into a bowl. Refrigerate until chilled like custard, about 2 hours. When cold, whisk in the Southern Comfort and vanilla. Divide among chilled shot glasses and garnish with freshly grated nutmeg.

Compiled by AP Food Writer J.M. Hirsch; Recipe from Ti Adelaide Martin and Lally Brennan's "In the Land of Cocktails," William Morrow, 2007, \$19.95.

Three more gadgets to end 2007 on a happy note

till can't find the perfect gift for the gadget lover in your life? Perhaps you've got some gift cards burning a hole in your pocket. Whatever the case, check out this final batch of 2007 hardware from my happy holiday closet. Wow, there's some good stuff in there.



Try Rachael's Greek Mixed

in Time."

169. Cast

Grill Kebobs, featured in "Just

THE \$99 VIDEO PHONE

Okay, not really a video phone, but rather a webcam, which can accomplish more or less the same thing.

Specifically, webcams allow you make Jetsonian video phone calls to faraway friends and relatives. The camera mounts atop your desk or monitor; software connects you to the other party (who will also need a webcam, of course, along with a broadband Internet con-

I recently tested webcams from five different manufacturers, including Creative and Microsoft. They all worked reasonably well, but there was definitely a standout: the Logitech QuickCam Pro 9000.

Though priced on the high side at \$99, it produced far and away the highest-quality video of the five webcams. I also found it admirably easy to use, with smartly designed software and some fun video effects.

It comes with a built-in microphone, of course, so you really can have two-way video chats with your loved ones. I highly recommend using SightSpeed (sightspeed. com), a free program that makes video calling grandmafriendly.

THE \$150 MP3 PLAYER

Okay, so you've got \$150 to spend on a new MP3 player. Three choices: the Apple iPod Nano (\$149), Creative Zen (\$129.99), or Microsoft Zune (\$149.99).

They're all great players, all equipped with 4GB of storage space (enough to hold about 1,000 songs) and bright color screens. You really can't go wrong with any of them.

That said, I have a favorite. It's not the Nano: Much as I love its elegant, wafer-thin design, it falls short in the feature department.

Microsoft's new Zune is longer and a bit thicker than the Nano, but still thin and pretty, and stocked with extras like FM radio and Wi-Fi for syncing and song sharing.

Unfortunately, Microsoft still doesn't offer TV shows or movies, so the beautiful screen goes largely to

Please see BROIDA, D4

The Logitech QuickCam Pro 9000 delivers top-quality video, making it the perfect webcam for video chats with far-flung friends and relatives.

Rick Broida

Tech Savvy

nection).

BELIEFS AND VALUES



DZ (*)

BETTY JANE FELKER

Age 85, formerly of Farmington, MI. Passed December 7, 2007. Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington, MI

DANIEL C. MCKENZIE Age 68, formerly of Detroit, MI. Passed December 8, 2007. Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington, MI



DONAT RENE LECLAIR

"Don", beloved husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather and friend, died

peacefully at home on Saturday, December 8, 2007 with his family, at the age of 88. He was a res-ident of Fairfield Glade, TN and an active member of the St Francis of Assisi parish community. Donat was preceded in death by his parents, Donat and Marie (Gelinas) Leclair and nine siblings, all from New Bedford, MA, where Don lived as a child. He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Barbara (Mealiff), originally of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, their two sons, Donat Jr (fiancée Barbara) of Plymouth, MI and Stephen (Genii) of Chicago, IL, and their three daughters, Jeanne Lappin (Robert) of Gaithersburg, MD, Christine Corriveau (Thomas) of Orland Park, IL and Elizabeth Leclair of Marlton, New Jersey. Mr. Leclair will also be missed by his eighteen grandchildren and four great- grandchildren that he leaves behind. Don was a veteran of World War II serving in the US Army Air Corp as a Lt and navigator; his plane was shot down and he became a POW in Roumania. Later, after returning home from the war, he attended and graduated from Georgetown University, Washington, D. C. A for-mer resident of Plymouth, MI, Mr. Leclair retired from the Ford Motor Company in 1980. A mass of The Resurrection will be held at St. Francis on Tuesday, December 11, 2007 at 10 a.m. In lieu of flowers the family requests that donations be made to Hospice of Cumberland County, 30 E. Adams St., Crossville 38555.

FREDERICK CHARLES, (FRITZ) GRAUNSTADT

Of Westland, December 10, 2007. 76 Beloved husband



JOHN KAPANOWSKI 1947-2002

It's been five years since you left us. We still love & miss you every day! Judy, daughter Shannon & grandson Josh & Nick

KARIN E. CLANCY

Age 83, of Northville Twp, MI. Passed December 7, 2007. Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington, MI



MARILYN B. JOHNSON

December 9, 2007. Loving wife of Paul H. Loving mother of Colleen (Drew) Wolford, Kevin and Karen Scott) Melby. Sister of Virginia (Frank) Leeds. Also survived by 14 grandchildren. Marilyn was an active member of the Highland Park Baptist Church of Southfield, where she served the Lord in many, volunteer capacities, including as the church librarian for many years. She was a dedicated genealogist. She and her husband made over 20 trips to England, tracing her ancestry to the year 1065. She is a descendant of King Henry II. She was also an active member of the Birmingham chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. She will be remembered as a gourmet cook and gracious hostess. Her entire life has been one of service, first to the Lord, then to her husband, children and grandchildren. Funeral Service was held on Wednesday at Highland Park Baptist Church. Visitation was at A.J. Desmond & Sons Funeral Home in Royal Oak with R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home in charge of arrangements. Memorial contributions may be directed to Moody Bible Institute, 820 N. LaSalle Blvd., Chicago, IL 60610. Please sign the online guestbook at www.rggrharris.com. For further information please call 734-422-6720.



lassages

MARY ANN DuBAY

of Troy, Michigan, passed away on December 7, 2007. Beloved wife of Dennis. Dear and proud mother of Michael (Sarah), Karen Holt (Brian), and Anne Healy (Thomas). Loving grandmother of Brendan, Lauren and Daniel Holt; Catherine and Charlotte DuBay and Thomas Healy. Dear sister of Robert Sweeney (Joyce), Susan Steele (Art), Frank Sweeney (Carol), Kathleen Bulger (Michael), Maureen MacGillivray and Margaret Fellinger (Jamie). Dear sister-in-law of Terry DuBay (Sue), Mark DuBay (Margie) Candy DuBay, Connie Peterson (Jim) and Philip DuBay (Sue). Mary Ann is also survived by many loving nieces and nephews and her many dear friends. Mary Ann always shared her joyous enthusiasm for life with all who knew her. Her exuberance, sparkling personality and warm sense of humor will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved her. Mary Ann was born to Robert and Marie Sweeney on June 14, 1946 in Mt. Pleasant, Michigan After graduating from Sacred Heart

Academy, she attended Aquinas College from which she graduated with honors in 1968. She married Dennis on August 10, 1968 and taught at St. Francis in Ann Arbor for three years before moving to Troy in 1972 Mary Ann was active in many volunteer organizations and served as President of the Troy Junior Women and the Marian Mothers'Club. Mary Ann was an avid tennis player and especially enjoyed golf. Mary Ann coached girls' soccer in the Troy Youth Soccer League for many years and her travel teams won three Michigan State Cup Championships. She loved to travel and especially enjoyed her trips to Greece and Ireland. Mary Ann cherished being with her family and friends and enjoyed being at the family cottage, playing the piano, singing and dancing. A Funeral Mass was held on Tuesday, December 11 at St. Thomas More Catholic Church in Troy. Memorials may be sent to The Mary Ann DuBay Scholarship Fund at Marian High School, 7225 Lahser Road, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48301 or to The Karmanos Cancer Institute, Development Office, 4100 John R, Detroit, Michigan 48201. A.J. Desmond & Sons, 248-362-2500. View obituary and share memories at: www.DesmondFuneralHome.com

RELIGION CALENDAR

If you want to submit an item for the religion calendar, fax it to (734) 591-7279 or write: Religion Calendar, Observer Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150. Deadline for an announcement to appear in the Thursday edition is noon Monday.

DECEMBER

Single Place Make It, Bake It, Fix It, Sew It Holiday Silent Auction Thursday, Dec. 13, proceeds go to Single Place Ministry at First Presbyterian Church, 200 East Main Street, Northville. Call (248) 349-0911 or visit www.singleplace.org. Bring in items between 6-6:30 p.m. for auction at 7 p.m. Items may include crafts, artwork, woodworking projects, baked good, or donations such as handyman or homemaking skills or home cooked meals. No admission. Questions, call Nancy at (734) 459-7235.

Activities continue Dec. 20 with dinner, caroling and Afterglow beginning with dinner 6 p.m. in the St. Mary Mercy Hospital cafeteria in Livonia. Meet in a room off the cafeteria to practice at 6:45 p.m. To sign up, call (248) 349-0911 or at Single Place at the church. Old Fashioned Hootenanny concert with Bob Allwine Thursday, Dec. 27. Single Place meets Thursdays at the church, 7:30-7:45 p.m. for social time, 7:45-8 p.m. opening, 8-9 p.m. program. Cost is \$5 per person.

Reformed Protestant services The doctrines and teachings of Reformed Protestantism will be preached 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 14, at a worship service of the Free Church of Scotland (Continuing) at the Cherry Hill

School, 50440 Cherry Hill, corner of Ridge, Canton. Rev. Sean Humby of Ohio will preach. For more information, call Margaret Waldecker at (313) 530-6170 or. Humby at (937) 252-1156, or visit www. westminsterconfession.org. Weekly Sunday services will begin on Jan. 6. Cookie walk and bake sale

10 a.m. till sold out Saturday, Dec. 15, at Timothy Lutheran Church, 8820 Wayne Road, south of Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia. Christmas cookies of all varieties will be available for sale by the pound along with various bake sale items

Boar's Head Festival of Music Ancient processional celebrating Epiphany presented by Cherry Hills Presbyterian Church with the Livonia Symphony Orchestra and Dearborn High School's Choral Group 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 15, and 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 16, at the church, 24110 Cherry Hill at Telegraph, Dearborn. Tickets are free but a free will offering will be accepted. Advance tickets are recommended. Call (313) 563-4800. The interdenominational experience features the Christmas story, the Yule procession and trimming of the hall.

Stranger in the Manger The Jesus Jammers Choir performs a

Dr. Seuss style musical about the birth of Jesus 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 15, at

8828 Wormer, Redford. Everyone is welcome, Call (313) 537-7480.

A Christmas flourish A celebration of the season featuring a concert by the Birmingham Concert band and the choir of Lutheran Church of the Redeemer 3:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 16, in the sanctuary of Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, 1800 W. Maple, Birmingham. No charge but donations to the Band's Music Scholarship Fund are appreciated. **New schedule**

9 a.m. Sunday school for all ages and Faith Forum, 10 a.m. Worship Service with Communion and nursery, at Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA), 30650 Sic Mile, Livonia. All visitors welcome. For more information, call (734) 427-1414 or visit www.holycrosslivonia. ora.

Christmas Eve services

4:30 p.m. Family Service Candlelight, and 7:30 p.m. and 11 p.m. Candlelight Service Monday, Dec. 24, at Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA), 30650 Six Mile Road, Livonia. Call (734) 427-1414 or visit www.holycrosslivonia. orq

Christmas Eve service

The Anglican Church of Livonia will hold a Christmas Eve service 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 24, at the Livonia YMCA, 14255 Stark Road, between Lyndon and the I-96 service drive.

Christmas Eve worship

5 p.m. Children/Family service, 7 p.m. Lessons & Carols and Candlelight, and 11 p.m. Festival Worship and Candlelight Monday, Dec. 24, at Newburg United Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia. Call (734) 422-0149.

Candlelight service

A special service of singing and worship 6 p.m. Monday, Dec. 24, at Faith Community Wesleyan Church, 14560 Merriman, north of I-96, Livonia. For information, call (734) 522-3570.

Christmas Eve service 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 24, at Memorial Church of Christ, 35475 Five Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 464-6722. Day of service

Beginning in January, a Day of Service and Spirituality will be made available by the Capuchin Soup Kitchen and the Solanus Casey Center. The purpose of the day is to serve, to meet, and to have one's faith grow. The day allows groups to help at the Capuchin Services Center and dipe with guests at the Capuchin Soup Kitchen. A tour of the Earth Works urban garden, which provides six tons of produce each season, will also be made available. The day concludes with a self-guided tour of the Solanus Casey Center, a spirituality center dedicated to the Capuchin friar who is credited with miraculous cures and valued for his wise and compassionate counsel. The minimum age is 7th grade and the maximum size of the group is 30. The day starts at 8:30 a.m. and ends at 2:30 p.m. There is no cost. Lunch included. For more

Forum, at Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA), 30650 Six Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 427-1414. All visitors welcome. Visit www.holycrosslivonia.org.

Sunday worship

11 a.m. Sunday worship service, 9:30 a.m. Sunday school, 7 p.m. Wednesday Bible Study, at Good Shepherd Reformed Church, 6500 N. Wayne Rd. at Hunter, Westland. For information, call (734) 721-0800.

Worship services

10 a.m. Sundays Divine Liturgy followed by a fellowship/coffee time, at Holy Transfiguration Orthodox Church, 36075 W. Seven Mile, between Newburgh and Wayne roads, Livonia, Church school for children and adults begins at 9 a.m. Sunday, Vespers are celebrated 5 p.m. Saturdays. Visitors are always welcome. For more information, call (248) 476-3432 (church), (248) 477-4712 (rectory) or Web site at www.orthodoxlivonia.org. Singers wanted

Riverside Park Church of God is looking for voices to join their choir. For more information, call (734) 464-0990.

Pancake breakfasts

The Ushers' Club of St. Michael the Archangel Parish in Livonia continue their 30-year tradition of all-you-can-eat pancake breakfasts on the third Sunday of each month from 8:30 a.m. to noon, The breakfasts are served in the school cafeteria at 11441 Hubbard, south of Plymouth Road. Adults, \$5; children ages 4-11. \$3: children under age 3. free: and family (2 adults and all children), \$15. Everyone is welcome.

Men's breakfast

Ham & eggs, hash browns, pancakes, and more when you come to the Men's Breakfast at 8 a.m. on the first Saturday of every month at The Senate Restaurant, located off Haggerty Road between Five Mile and Six Mile in Northville. All men are invited for fellowship and food. Sponsored by Riverside Park Church of God, 11771 Newburgh, Livonia. Call (734) 464-0990.

MOPS meetings

The Hosanna-Tabor Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) group began meeting this fall at a new time at the Lutheran church, 9600 Leverne, Redford. Meetings continue the first and third Thursdays of the month at 9:30 a.m. Join in for teaching, discussion, creative projects and presentations. For more information, call (248) 470-5202 or send e-mail to nikki. tiernan@gmail.com.

Bible studies

Regular Bible Study program continues at 7 p.m. on the first and third Thursdays of the month, focus is on St. Paul's Letters to the Romans, at St. Michael's Catholic Church on the corner of Plymouth and Hubbard roads, Livonia, To register, call (734) 261-1445, Ext. 200. MOPS groups

Mothers of Preschoolers meets on the first and third Friday mornings or first and third Wednesday evenings at Calvary Baptist Church, 43065 Joy Road, Canton. For information, call (734) 455-0022, Ext. 4, or send e-mail to cbcwomensministries@hotmail.com. LOGOS Youth Club Calling all youth grades 4-12 to join the LOGOS Youth Club at Northville First United Methodist Church. Recreation, dinner, Bible study and music Wednesdays, 5:15-8:15 p.m. began Wednesday, Sept. 26. For information or registration, visit www.fumcnorthville, org or call (248) 349-1144. HeartCry The support group provides hope and help for mothers of prodigals at 7 p.m. on the second, fourth and fifth Wednesdays of each month, at Calvary Baptist Church, 43065 Joy Road, Canton. The group is using the book, The Hope of a Homecoming, by O'Rourke and Sauer (\$12). For information or to register, call (734) 455-0022, Ext. 4.

to Delores. Devoted father of Ron (Cheryl), Michael (Julie) and Linda (Richard) Blaszczyk. Loving Papa to Andrea, Tracy and Erica Graunstadt, Emily (Joe) Viger and Laura Graunstadt, Audrey, Joey and Lucas Blaszczyk. Dearest great-grandfather to Michael Joseph Viger. Survived by one sister, Mae Ristau, several brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law and many nieces and nephews. Visitation at L.J. Griffin Funeral Home, 7707 Middlebelt Rd., Westland, MI Wednesday, Family hour 4pm and general visitation from 5 - 9pm. Thursday, Visitation noon - to 9pm. Friday, Funeral Service 11am in L.J. Griffin Chapel. Private interment at White Chapel Cemetery.





JAMES M. KENDALL

Of Birmingham age 84 December 7, 2007. Beloved husband of Dorothy "Dottie". Devoted father of Laurie Kendall, James II (Leslie), Amy (Mark) Flanagan and Beth Kendall. Cherished grandfather of James III 'Mac", Jacqueline, Jennifer, Isabelle and Erinn. Brother of Jeanne Cartwright. Also survived by many nieces and nephews. 'Memorial Service at North Congregational Church, 36520 W. Twelve Mile Road, Farmington Hills, Saturday 11am. Visitation at Lynch & Sons Funeral Home, 1368 N. Crooks Rd. (between 14-15 Mile Rds) Thursday 2-9pm. Memorials appreciated to North Congregational Church or Cambridge North Nursing Home, 535 N. Main Street, Clawson, MI 48017.

Obituary and condolences at lynchfuneraldirectors.com



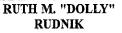
ROBERT A. VAN DYKE, JR.

TRAVERSE CITY - Robert A. "Rob" VanDyke, Jr., 47, of Traverse City, formerly of Livonia, died unexpectedly December 10, 2007. Rob is survived by his wife Ann (Dreves); his sons, Scott and Paul; his mother, Joan VanDyke; sisters, Lea (Gary) Wood and Gair Van Dyke; his mother and father in law, Carl and Lorraine Dreves and the entire Dreves family, along with many nieces and nephews. Visitation will take place from 6 until 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 13 at the Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home, Traverse City. Services will be held Friday, Dec. 14 at 11 a.m. at Immanuel Baptist Church, 1027 McRea Hill Road, Traverse City, Rather than flowers, the family would ask that a more lasting memorial would be The VanDyke Children College Fund, c/o Members Credit Union, 3745 N. US 31 South, Traverse City, Michigan 49684.



TODD R. SUMMERS

Of Howell, formerly of Redford passed suddenly, December 8, 2007, age 45. Survived by Michael, Kate, ex-wife Amy, and his parents: Beloved son of Janice (of Redford) and Robert (of Howell), and much-loved brother of Cyndi (Rick Neilson) and Jim. Born June 27, 1962, Todd was a warm and witty man who worked hard to build a business and provide for his family, whom he loved deeply. Also survived by many good friends. Funeral servicwere held at MacDonald's Funeral es Home, 315 North Michigan Ave., Howell, 48843. Donations to the family in lieu of flowers.



Age 97, December 7, 2007. Wife of the late Stanley. Mother of Barbara (Don) Harp. Grandmother of Laura (Dean) Fordham, Susan (Dr. Robert) Anderson and Janis (Robert) Evans Great grandmother of Ryan (Karen) Fordham, Staci Fordham, Nicole and Ben Russell. Great great grandmother of Marisa Fordham. Memorials may be made in Dolly's honor to the charity of the donor's choice.





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

Deadlines:

Friday 4:15 PM for Sunday Wednesday 9:45 AM for Thursday Obituaries received after these deadlines

will be placed in the next available issue.

e-mail your obit to oeobits@hometownlife.com or fax to: Attn: Obits c/o Charolette Wilson 734-953-2232 For more information call: **Charolette Wilson** 734-953-2070 or Liz Keiser 734-953-2067 or toll free 866-818-7653 ask for Char or Liz 0E08518982

KNOW THE SCORE check out the numbers in



Memorial Church of Christ, 35475 Five Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 464-6722. Advent services

6 p.m. Sunday evenings in December at Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA), 30650 Six Mile Road, Livonia. Call (734) 427-1414 or visit www.holycrosslivonia.org

Worship

Sundays: 10 a.m. Worship Service with nursery, 9 a.m. Sunday School for tots through high school and Adult Faith Forum at Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA), 30650 Six Mile Road, Livonia. Call (734) 427-1414 or visit www.holycrosslivonia.org. Visitors welcome.

Caroling Join us 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 16, to go to Heartland University for caroling. We will then meet back at the church for a Hot Soup Buffet and more caroling at the church, Faith Community Wesleyan Church, 14560 Merriman, north of I-96, Livonia. For information, call (734) 522-

3570. Messiah

A special presentation of Messiah by G.F. Handel under the direction of Tim Schoenherr, 9 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 16, at Orchard United Methodist Church, 30450 Farmington Rd., Farmington Hills. Concert features The Orchard United Methodist Church Chancel Choir accompanied by local musicians in a full Baroque orchestra and solo vocalists from the University of Michigan School of Music, Theater, and Dance. The presentation includes favorite choruses from the Christmas portion, such as "And the Glory of the Lord" and "For Unto Us A Child is Born", and concludes with "Hallelujah," a gospel version of the Halleluiah Chorus For more information, call (248) 626-3620. Everyone is invited to join in this celebration.

Christmas concert

Sing Out is scheduled for 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 16, on Warren Rd. in Canton. The concert features selections by two parish chorales as well as skits performed by St. John Neumann volunteers (the SJN Plavers). There will also be singalongs for the audience. Aystery of the Manger

Victory Voices Choir performs Christmas musical 6:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 16, at Memorial Church of Christ, 35475 Five Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 464-6722. Choir cantata

Mt. Vernon Baptist Church presents a Christmas choir cantata, One Small Child, 11 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 16, at the church.

information, send e-mail to ccrane@ thecapuchins.org. To learn more about the Capuchin Soup Kitchen, visit www.cskdetroit.org.

UPCOMING

ENDOW

Educating on the Nature and Dignity of Women sessions 7-9 p.m. Thursdays, Jan. 17 to March 6, (explores Pope John Paul II's Mulieris Dignitatem-On the Dignity and Vocation of Women), in Bixmal Hall church building at St. Aidan Catholic: Church, 17500 Farmington Rd., Livonia. Second session begins 7-9 p.m. Mondays. Jan. 14, to March 3, (explores Pope John Paul II's Letter to Women), in conference room in parish office. Registration required for both sessions. \$60 for materials for each session. Contact Michele Schmidt at (734) 367-0353 or send email to mtschmidt@sbcglobal.net.

ONGOING

Sunday worship

The early service for the Anglican Church of Livonia is at 7:45 a.m. at Trinity Church, 34500 Six Mile, west of Farmington Road and next to Stevenson High School, Livonia. The 10 a.m. service (with Sunday School) will continue to be at the Livonia YMCA at 14255 Stark Road, between Lyndon and the I-96 service drive. Worship service

10:45 a.m. Sundays, Adult Sunday School

at 9:30 a.m., Children's Sunday School during worship, Youth Group 5-7 p.m. and Catechism for Grownups 5:30-6:30 p.m., at Trinity Church of Livonia, 34500 Six Mile. For information, call (734) 425-2800.

Upper Room Ministries

Meets 6 p.m. Sundays, in Room 111 in Our Lady of Loretto School on Beech Daly and Six Mile in Redford. Upper Room Ministries is a spirit filled, charismatic ministry sponsored by Living Water Church in Livonia. All faiths welcome to attend. For information, call Pastor Luke Willis at (734) 425-6360, or Bishop Dan Strength at (734) 812-1099.

F.I.R.E. ministries

With theme scripture, He shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire (Luke 3:16), is organizing in Livonia at Living Water Church, 11663 Arcola in the Inkster and Plymouth roads area at 7 p.m. Fridays under the leadership of Luke Willis. F.I.R.E. Ministries. For more information, call (734) 425-6360.

New worship schedule

Regular church service 10 a.m. Sundays with Communion and Nursery, 9 a.m. Sunday School for all ages and Faith

Women of the word

Bible study meets 9:15 a.m. and 6:45 p.m. Tuesdays, at Calvary Baptist Church, 43065 Joy Road, Canton, Choose from Covenant, a Precept Upon Precept class, or The Truth Project (new from Focus on the Family). To register, call (734) 455-0022, Ext. 4 or visit www.vchurches. com/cbcwomen.

Bible study

Get a new life, study Scripture 9-10:30 a.m. Saturdays at Blessed Sacrament Monastery on the northwest corner of 13 Mile and Middlebelt in Farmington Hills. Focus of study is Romans. Come once or more often. Call (248) 626-8253 for more information.

Fellowship Dinners

6 p.m. Thursdays. Dinner catered by The Cookie Lady, Susan Navarro. \$6: At St. James Presbyterian Church, 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford, Call (313)534-7730.

Thrift Shop

9:30-11:30 a.m. and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays at St. James Presbyterian Church, 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford,

Registration

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Early Childhood Center is now taking registrations for the fall program at 14175 Farmington Road, north of I-96, Livonia. It is open from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Friday. Loving and caring programs are offered for toddler, preschool, pre-K, and child care. Call (734) 513-8413.

Morning prayers

7:30 a.m. Tuesday-Friday, at New Beginnings United Methodist Church, 16175 Delaware, corner of Puritan, Redford. Please join in as participants start day with prayer. Call (313) 255-6330.

Please see RELIGION, D3

BELIEFS AND VALUES

RELIGION

J.O.Y. meeting

The J.O.Y. Builders (Just Older Youth, ages 50 plus) meet 11:30 a.m. the third Thursday of the month for lunch, fellowship and fun, at Riverside Park Church of God, 11771 Newburgh at Plymouth roads, Livonia, Call (734) 464-0990. All are welcome to join in. There is no charge, although organizers ask that you bring a luncheon dish to share.

Higher Rock Cafe

Second and fourth Friday of the month, doors open at 7:30 p.m., live bands begin at 8 p.m. presented by Salvation Army of Wayne/Westland, 2300 S. Venoy, between Michigan Avenue and Palmer. For information, call (734) 722-3660 or visit www.tsa.higherrockcafe.4t.com.

Uplifting church services

Want a unique church experience? Join in Sunday mornings at 10:45 a.m. for a service that will lift your entire family, but be prepared for what will happen after just one service. An open discussion 7 p.m. Wednesdays. Classes available for all ages, child to adult. Riverside Park Church of God is at 11771 Newburgh (corner of Plymouth Road), Livonia. Call (734) 464-0990.

Worship service

10 a.m. Sundays, at The Lutheran Church of Our Saviour, 29425 Annapolis, Westland. Sunday School for children. For information, call (734) 728-3440. Youth wanted

Turner

Tweens and teens age 12 and up are invited to join in various youth activities held at Riverside Park Church of God, 11771 Newburgh Road (corner of Plymouth), Livonia. Come to one of the regular classes on Sundays at 9:30 a.m. or Wednesdays at 7 p.m. For details, call (734) 464-0990.

A healthy you

Join with others as you discover ways to keep minds and bodies healthy through a four-week class that is open to the public and free of charge at Riverside Park Church of God, 11771 Newburgh Road (corner of Plymouth), Livonia. Day and night classes available. To register, call (734) 464-0990. **Sunday worship**

10 a.m. at Lutheran Church of Our Saviour, 29425 Annapolis, Westland, For information, call (734) 728-3440. Sunday services

Pastor Dan Strength leads services at Living Water Church (Pentecostal Church of God), 11663 Arcola, one block west of Inkster Road on Plymouth Road. Sunday School is 10 a.m. followed by worship at 11 a.m. Bible study 7 p.m. Wednesdays. Call (734) 425-6360.

Farmington Women Aglow

Meets the second Monday of each month 7-9:30 p.m. at the Longacre House on Farmington road between 10 Mile and 11 Mile, Farmington Hills. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Call Vikki for more information at (248) 497-7755. Farmington Aglow is a Christian women's groups.

Worship services

Sunday worship services are at 8 a.m. (traditional) and 10:30 a.m. (contemporary), at Grace Lutheran Church, 4600) Warren, between Canton Center and Beck, Canton. For more information, call (734) 637-8160. Sunday school and Adult Bible Study at 9:15 a.m. Adult Bible Study series: Heaven Can't Wait.

Worship services

Praise and worship 10 a.m. Sundäy, at Westwood Community Church, 6500 Wayne Road and Hunter, Westland. Contemporary music and casual dress. Children church and nursery. Call (734) 254-0093. Doughnuts and coffee served.

Celebrate Recovery Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church in Northville launches Celebrate Recovery, a Christ-centered recovery program helping men and women find freedom from their hurts, habits and handups (addictive and compulsive behaviors), meets every Friday, evening for 6 p.m. dinner (optional), 7 p.m. praise and worship, 8 p.m. small group discussion, 9 p.m. Solid Rock Cafe (optional coffee and desserts). Child care during Celebrate Recovery is free and available by calling (248) 374-7400. For information, visit www. celebraterecovery.com and www. wardchurch.org/celebrate.

Sunday service All are welcome to attend wor-

ship service at 10 a.m. Sunday in the sanctuary at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, 27475 Five Mile, one block west of Inkster, Livonia. For more information, call (734) 422-1470.

Worship service

At 10:30 a.m. Sundays at New Beginnings United Methodist Church, 16175 Delaware at Puritan, Redford. Congregation is hearing lessons from I Peter. Call (313) 255-6330.

Adult literacy classes

Adult and English as a Second Language literacy classes are available for those wishing to improve reading, writing and English conversational skills. Open to adults age 18 and over. Trained tutors available for day or evening. For information, call Merriman Road Baptist Church in Garden City at (734) 421-0472. Leave your name and phone number and someone will contact you. **Personal ministry**

Due Season Christian Church is a nondenominational, multicultural,

full gospel church that offers Sunday worship services at 10 a.m. and Tuesday night Bible study at 7:15 p.m. Services are currently held at Stevenson High School on Six Mile, west of Farmington Road, Livonia. All are welcome. For information, call (248) 960-8063 or visit www.DueSeason.org.

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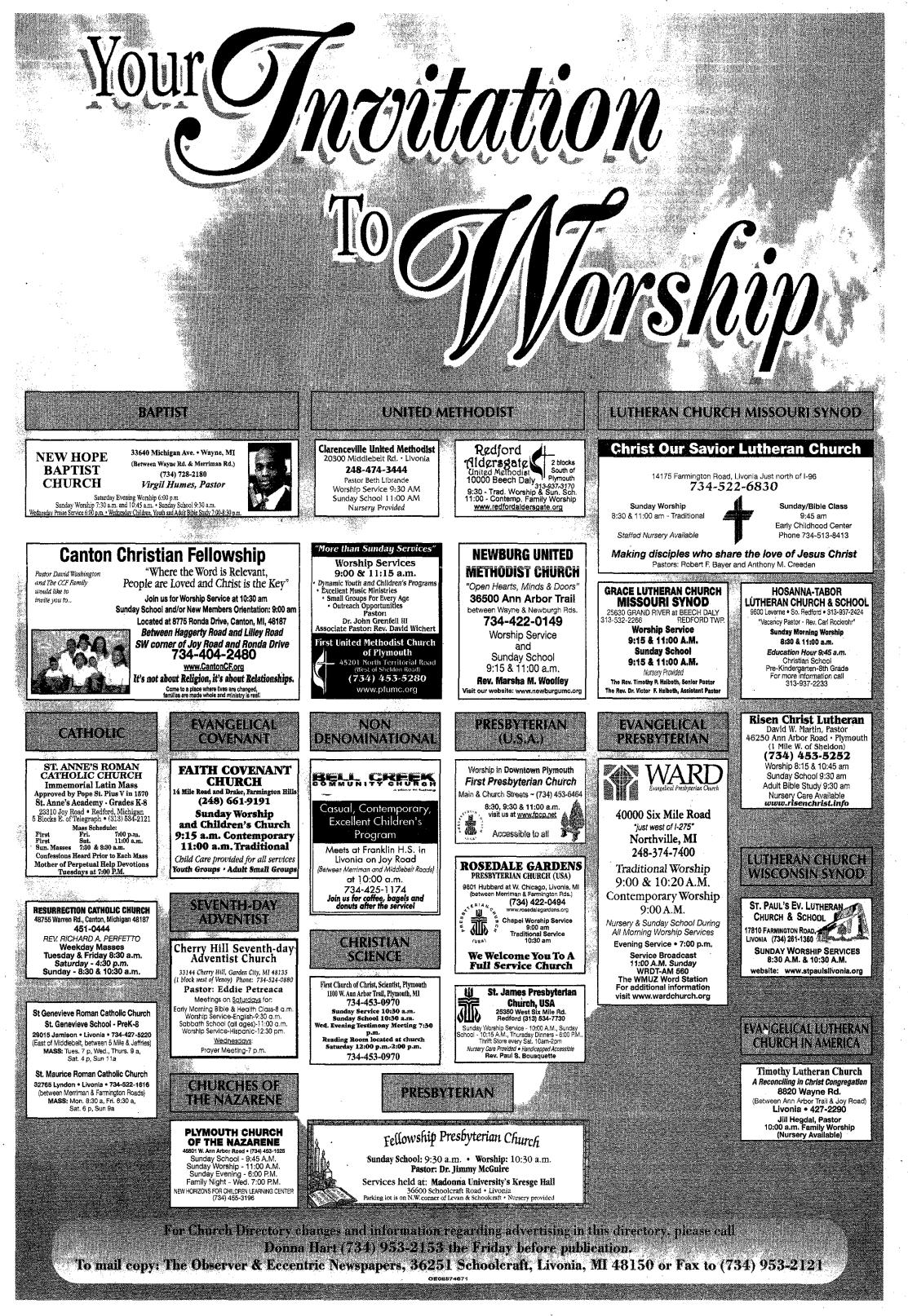
Scripture studies

From 7-8:30 p.m. Mondays in the lower level of Our Lady of Loretto Church, Six Mile and Beech Daly, Redford. Call (313) 534-9000. **TOPS**

Stands for Take Off Pounds Sensibly, meets at 7 p.m. every Thursday evening at St. Thomas a' Becket Church, 555 S. Lilley, Canton. Weigh-in is from 6:15-6:55 p.m. It is a weight support group that encourages members to lose weight and keep it off. Call Margaret at (734) 838-0322.

Learner's Bible study

At 7 p.m. Mondays, in Room A101, at Ward Presbyterian Church, 40000 W. Six Mile, Northville, Call (248) 374-5920.



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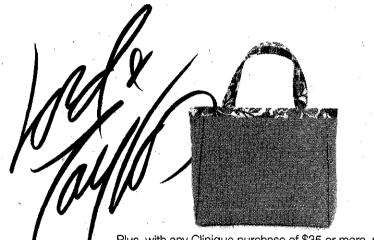
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FROM PAGE DI

swordfish cut into 12 2-inch chunks 2 pounds boneless, skinless chicken breast cut into 12 2-inch chunks

Black pepper 1 small red onion, finely chopped ½ cup fresh flat-leafed parsley, finely

chopped 1 cup feta cheese crumbles

½ cup kalamata olives, chopped

2 tomatoes, diced

½ seedless cucumber, diced ¼ cup pine nuts, lightly toasted in dry skil-

let 3 to 4 minutes Preheat grill pan or outdoor grill

to medium high. Bring a large pot of water to a boil. Salt the water. Add orzo and cook al dente.

While pasta works, combine the garlic, oregano, rosemary, tapenade, red pepper flakes, 1 tablespoon lemon zest and the juice of one lemon with ½ cup EVOO in a small bowl. Place the fish and chicken in separate shallow dishes or bowls and season with salt and pepper. Divide the dressing between the bowls and turn the fish and chicken to coat evenly. Skewer the fish and chicken on metal skewers. Grill the fish for 6 to 8 minutes and the chicken for 10 to 12 minutes or until firm and juices run clear, turning the kebabs frequently. Drain the orzo and combine in a mixing bowl with the onions, parsley, feta, olives, tomatoes, cucumbers, pine nuts, the juice of 1 lemon, 1/2 cup EVOO, and the salt and pepper. Serve the orzo salad with three pieces each of chicken and fish alongside. Garnish each plate with a couple of hot peppers.

HARVEST CREAMY CORN "CHOUP"

2 tablespoons EV00 4 bacon slices, chopped 1 onion, chopped

4 to 5 large ears of corn, cut off the cob

or 110-ounce box frozen corn 1 medium or 2 small zucchini, chopped 1 pound small potatoes, chopped ½ red bell pepper, seeded and chopped

1 bay leaf 5 to 6 fresh thyme sprigs

1 teaspoon paprika Salt and black pepper

3 tablespoons all purpose flour

1 quart chicken stock 1 cup milk

1 cup heavy cream

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½ cup fresh flat-leaf parsley, a couple of

generous handfuls chopped a few dashes of hot sauce, to taste Oyster crackers or white cheddar popcorn to pass at the table

Heat the EVOO in a medium soup pot over medium high heat. Add the bacon to the hot oil and

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cook until crisp at the edges, 2 to 3 minutes. Add the onions, corn, zucchini, potatoes, and bell pepper as vou get them chopped. Add the bay leaf, thyme sprigs, paprika, and salt and pepper to taste. Cook for 7 to 8 minutes until the vegetables begin to soften. Sprinkle flour around the pot and stir and cook for 1 minute. Then stir in the stock and bring it up to a bubble. When it thickens up a bit, stir in the cream, milk and parsley and simmer for 5 minutes. Turn off the heat and discard the bay leaf. Season the choup with salt, pepper, and hot sauce to taste and serve with crackers or popcorn to float on top.

Sixty minutes

OVEN-ROASTED CIOPPINO 4 celery ribs, sliced on a long angle 1 large fennel bulb, cored and thinly sliced, 1/4 cup fennel fronds reserved 2 medium onions, thinly sliced 4 large garlic cloves, chopped 1 teaspoon red pepper flakes 1 cup fresh flat-leaf parsley leaves Salt and black pepper 1/2 cup EVOO (extra-virgin olive oil) 1 cup dry white wine 1 cup seafood stock or chicken stock

1 (28-ounce) can crushed tomatoes 2 pounds fresh cod, cut into 2-inch chunks

12 jumbo sea scallops

12 jumbo shrimp, peeled or not, as you prefer

1 loaf crusty bread Zest of 1 orange

Preheat the oven to 425°F. In a large roaster or casserole

combine the celery, fennel, onions, garlic, red pepper flakes, and a couple of handfuls of the parsley. Dress the vegetables with salt and pepper and about 1/4 cup of the EVOO. Add the wine, stock, and crushed tomatoes. Season the seafood with salt and pepper; nestle the fish, scallops, and shrimp among the vegetables; and pour the remaining 1/4 cup of EVOO over the top. Roast uncovered until the cod is cooked through, 40 to 45 minutes. At the midway point, ladle some of the liquids over the seafood to keep the top moist.

Cut or tear the bread into large chunks. Place them on a baking sheet and toast in the oven until lightly charred, 8 minutes or so. While the bread is toasting, chop

the remaining parsley together with the orange zest and reserved fennel fronds to create a gremolata garnish. Serve the cioppino in large bowls topped with the gremolata, with the charted bread chunks for dunking.

Recipes from "Just in Time" are courtesy of The Crown Publishing Group/Random House, Inc.



FROM PAGE D1

waste.

The clear winner here is the. Zen, which includes the largest screen of the three (2.5 inches), an SD slot for adding more storage, an FM tuner, support for TV and movie downloads, and compatibility with several music-subscription services. All this for \$20 less than the competition. No contest.

THE \$1,199 HOME THEATER

What's better than a 50-inch plasma? How about a screen that spans 10 feet? The Epson MovieMate 72 turns just about any room of the house into a giant-screen home theater.

It's an HD projector with a built-in DVD player and speakers. Plug it in, point it at an empty wall, and pop some popcorn. Sorry if I sound like a marketing brochure; it's only because this thing is such a delight to have in the house.

The MovieMate can churn out 720p video when connected to a high-definition source (like your cable box). Alas, its DVD player doesn't support Blu-ray or HD-DVD discs, but it does "upconvert" standard DVDs.

In other words, it makes your old movies look much better than they would if you watched them on an ordinary DVD player.

The projector features an HDMI interface for connecting a cable box, TiVo HD, Xbox 360, or just about any other high-end video source. It also has analog inputs for other sources, like older TiVos and Xboxes.

Videogames, movies, TV shows-everything looks phenomenal. I can't wait to use the projector this summer for backyard "drive-in" movies.

Epson's MovieMate 72 hometheater projector features four built-in speakers and a slotloading DVD player. It also displays high-definition video.

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

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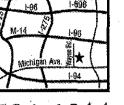


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Bruno Paillard – the man and his Champagne

hampagne Bruno Paillard is the youngest producer in the Champagne region.

In 1981, at the age of 27, Paillard began to raise the capital to begin his new company. This is amazing since there had not been a new



growing area has a defined size that, by law, cannot be enlarged, although some **Focus on Wine** attempts to do

years!

The

Champagne

Champagne

this are being

considered. So

how does a new

producer in 100

Rav & Eleanor Heald

producer source grapes when it would seem that all available fruit is already under contract? We posed this question to Alice Paillard, Bruno's 25-yearold daughter.

As it turns out, Bruno is not exactly new to the Champagne region. His family has been growing grapes and brokering Champagne since 1704 -- over 300 years. Obviously, the Paillard family knows everyone in the region. In 1975, Bruno also became a broker and six years later decided to start his own Champagne House.

SMALL BUT PRESTIGIOUS

By 1988, Bruno Paillard Champagnes had met with great success and Hugh Johnson, the noted English wine journalist, complimented the wines of the "small but prestigious young Champagne house." By 1990, Paillard needed a larger production facility and built a modern glass and stainless steel building with a cellar temperature controlled at 51 degrees F and low light intensity, perfect for aging champagne during the second fermentation in the bottle.

Paillard acquired his first sevenacre vineyard in 1994, which has gradually expanded to 62 acres, of which half are located in Grand Crus villages. These vineyards satisfy about one third of his needs, the remainder of the fruit is purchased from independent growers in more than 30 different villages. Today, Paillard produces 45,000 cases of wine, 70 percent of which is exported to other European countries, Asia and North America.

With so many different champagnes available, why would you seek out the wines of Bruno Paillard?

Paillard champagnes are produced exclusively from first pressed juice. The harder the press, the lower the quality and delicacy of the juice. This might also be termed "free run" juice that requires minimal pressure to extract. Grapes from each cru (village) are fermented separately to permit better selection when blended.

Blends contain from 20 to 50 percent reserve wines in order to maintain consistent quality and capture the elegance in each bottling.

The second fermentation in the bottle is two to three times longer than required. The wines are always made in a Brut (dry) style. After disgorging, the wines are further aged for three to four months before release.

High on our list of reasons is the fact that Paillard puts the month and year of disgorging (this is not a sell-by date) on every bottle. Current released wines were dis-

gorged June 2005. Alice explains that "disgorging is like a second birth for the wine. It begins a new aging process that gradually changes aromas from fruit and flowers to spice. It deepens the color to golden and the taste becomes more complex."

WHAT TO BUY

Bruno Paillard Brut Premiere Cuvee Champagne \$50 comes across fresh and crisp with notes of toast, apples and cherries. The wine is made from all three allowed grape varieties: 22 percent pinot meunier, 33 percent chardonnay, and 45 percent pinot noir. Two thirds black grapes provide a creamy complexity and body while the chardonnay gives structure. Twenty five percent reserve wines add depth.

Bruno Paillard Blanc de Blancs Reserve Privee Champagne \$65. As the name implies, this wine is 100 percent chardonnay, grown on the famous Cotes des Blancs and Cote de Sezanne. Four years on the yeast lees results in a pleasant bread dough aroma with citrus notes and a very creamy palate

impression. Bruno Paillard Brut Rose Premiere Cuvee Champagne \$75 with a delicate peach skin color is

Available in:

WINE PICKS If you seek elegance and delicacy in

a champagne, another house to consider in addition to Bruno Paillard is Champagne Henriot. Henriot Brut Souverain Non-Vintage

\$48. A large percentage of chardonnay gives this champagne both structure and finesse. Henriot Blanc Souverain \$54. This

cuvee is 100 percent chardonnay from the best sites in the Cotes des Blancs. Lively and subtle.

Henriot Rose \$60 has a delicate pink hue and an extended, most pleasant finish.

Great holiday gifts: Purely outside the bottle but giving you a peek inside is the best book yet on Michigan wineries and travel to Michigan wine regions. "From the Vine: Exploring Michigan Wineries" by Sharon Kegerreis and Lorri Hathaway, \$34.95, is available online through www.michi-

full yet crisp with cherry and red berry flavors due to 85 percent pinot noir. It delivers great flavors through to its long, finesseful finish.

The Healds are contributing editors for

ganvine.com. The classy book explores the unique beauty of Michigan's wine regions with terrific photography and captures the passion of Michigan vintners in words.

Spirits lovers will thank you if you gift them with a bottle of either The Macallan Sherry Oak 18 Years Old, a classic single malt Scotch \$130 or The Macailan Fine Oak 15 Years Old \$80 with its rich chocolate impression. Cabernet lovers will praise your good taste when you give them a bottle of the seductive 2004 Joseph Phelps Insignia, Napa Valley \$200. Ice wines from 2006 in 375mL from Inniskillin on the Niagara Peninsula, Ontario, Canada: Riesling \$75, Vidal \$65; Cabernet Franc \$95 and a rare Sparkling \$75 -- all lush and lovely.

If a retailer does not stock a specific wine we recommend, ask that it be ordered from the distributor or order it direct from the winery if it's domestic.

the internationally respected "Quarterly Review of Wines" and Troy residents who write about wine, spirits, and restaurants for the "Observer & Eccentric Newspapers." Contact them by e-mail at focusonwine@ aol.com.



Advertising Correction Notice

The Lowe's tab in this week's newspaper contains an error. An incorrect image was displayed on the Front Cover for the SKIL 14.4-Volt Single Speed Cordless Drill/Driver Kit (#278341). The image displayed a 14.4-Volt SKIL drill with a Lithium Ion battery and the advertised Special Value is for a 14.4-Volt SKIL drill with a Nickel Cad battery.

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

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8SOTS

Observer & Eccentric | Thursday, December 13, 2007



WENSDY VON BUSKIRK · EDITOR · (734) 953-2019 · wvonb@hometownlife.com

Don't sweat it! How to take care of your sweaters

BY JENNIFER FARRAR ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

ut away those filmy blouses of summer and bring on the sweaters.

You can pretty much pick your pleasure this fall: Stores are filled with chunky cardigans (the freshest have a slight trapeze shape), loose-knit drapey cowlnecks, proper cashmere crewnecks and boldly striped pullovers

And after you get it home, take good care of it so it can still keep you warm next year. Here's how:

DON'T THROW IT ON THE FLOOR

Most sweaters are best stored flat or gently folded. Never stuff them into crowded drawers.

To fold a sweater to reduce wrinkles and minimize bulk, Real Simple Magazine recommends that you lay the sweater face down and fold each arm straight across the back of the garment. Fold over one side to the middle, then the other, so the sleeve edges meet in the center.

Then fold the bottom up to the top once or twice, depending on the length and bulk of the sweater.

If you've worn the sweater to a stinky place, or have packed sweaters in a suitcase, you'll also need to air them out before putting away.

Shake out the sweater, then lay flat on a bed, or use padded hangers after buttoning or zipping all closures to maintain the shape. Hang dry sweaters in a steamy bathroom to remove wrinkles, but

Association recommends placing a towel under the stain and gently rubbing it with carbonated water toward the center of the spot. For red wine, immerse it in cold water. For lipstick, rub the stain with white bread.

READ THE LABEL

It seems obvious, but many a sweater has been ruined by being tossed in the laundry bin and accidentaly run through the spin cycle with socks and underwear.

Read the label and plan accordingly _ keeping in mind that "Dry Clean Only" doesn't always mean what it says.

You can put a wool, cashmere or fine cotton garment in the washer with some precautions, according to Real Simple. Be sure to use a protective pillowcase or mesh bag, pick the delicate cycle, and wash with cold water only. You can even add a couple of capfuls of distilled white vinegar in the rinse cycle to make your sweater softer and fluffier.

Never put a sweater in the dryer, unless the manufacturer's label specifically indicates it is safe to do so. In that case, use a low dryer heat to avoid shrinkage. Otherwise, lay your sweater flat on a towel to dry.

HAND-WASHING HINTS

For best hand-washing results, you may want to use a dedicated plastic basin instead of your sink, which might have cleanser or toothpaste residue that could ruin your sweater.

Use a small amount of fine-washables detergent. Soak your sweater in cold water; use lukewarm only if the label specifies it, and never use hot water.

Do not wring or twist a sweater when washing it. Just gently squeeze the suds through the garment, or swirl it around in the water for a couple of minutes. Rinse thoroughly in cool water by refilling your basin a few times, as running water could stretch delicate fabrics.

Roll your sweater in a towel to absorb extra water, then dry flat, preferably on a towel laid over a drying rack for good air circulation. Avoid drying too near to a heat source. And you shouldn't overwash your sweaters, according to clothing retailer Lands' End, because the fiber loosens a bit with



detthit

Wear It! The Jaw Coney zip up hoodie at Moosejaw

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Kick H Sue London ballet flats at Martin + Osa

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Reusable canvas totes from brownbagit.com (based in Farmington Hills)



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IDAYUS MAGIC OF BIRMINGHAM

From 6-8 p.m. tonight and next Thursday, Dec. 20, shoppers will be stopped at random to receive gifts as part of the first-ever "Magic of Birmingham" promotion. Merchants have donated gifts with a combined value of over \$20,000, including leather wallets, soaps, restaurant gift certificates and more. Top prizes include a piece of jewelry from **Astrein's Creative Jewelers** valued over \$1,000; and a weekend at the Townsend Hotel. Downtown Birmingham's Santa House also is open for business, while carolers and free horse drawn carriage rides add to the fun.

the Walter P. Chrysler Museum hosts "Cars, Trees & Traditions" through Dec. 30. The exhibit features evergreen trees accurately decorated in holiday fashion, paired with Chrysler vehicles of similar eras, nostalgic images and text. For details, visit www.chryslerheritage.com or call (888) 456-1924.

OLD FASHION HOLIDAY

Holiday Nights in Greenfield Village brings back traditions of Christmas past. The event includes live music, Model T and horse-drawn carriage rides, ice skating, visits with Santa and live reindeer, sing-alongs and fireworks. Historic Eagle Tavern offers dinner packages with an authentic holiday meals and live

remove delicate sweaters from hangers as soon as the wrinkles are out. Remove spots and stains promptly.

For getting food or alcohol out of wool, the American Sheep Industry each washing

For more information on caring for sweaters visit Real Simple, www.realsimple.com; and the American Wool Council, www. sheepusa.org.

Key to the season's luscious lips

BY AMANDA ABUKHADER CONTRIBUTING WRITER

COURTESY OF MARSHALL'S

Fall's hottest makeup trends include sultry red lips and elegant liquid eveliner. It's safe to say that it is the classiest modern day look around ... but not so easy to pull off. Finding the right shade of red? Forget it! Applying the perfect stroke in liquid liner? Not unless you're a professional. Thankfully, the editors of Marie Claire are here to help with their new ultimate guide to makeup. The Marie Claire Makeup book is filled with fabulous close-ups, high-gloss pages, and most importantly helpful tips to keep the modern day fashionista sane. Can the techniques stand up to close-ups of the polished models that grace each page? We say yes.

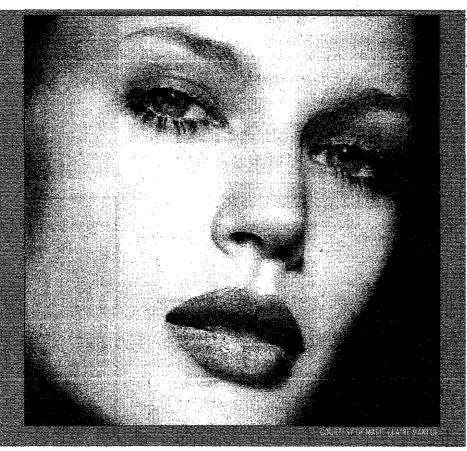
Just listen to what Marie Claire Makeup has to say about applying a perfect even coat of lipstick:

1. Like your skin, your mouth also needs to rid itself of dead cells from time to time. For silky lips choose a very soft facial exfoliate and gently clean away with a soft, supple toothbrush (reserved exclusively for this purpose).

2. Generously apply an ultra-rich, creamy lip balm (or even Vaseline) for several minutes to nourish your lips. Wipe away with a cotton swab when you're done.

3. Think of your lip liner as your lips' guardrails.

It should be the same color as your lipstick, but one shade lighter. Nude tones



flattering effect of increased volume. 4. Coat both sides of the brush with lipstick and start applying from the inside of your lips, moving upward in small strokes until you reach the outer edges.

5. Lip gloss will help bring it all togethwill suit paler complexions and will yield a er: a single dollop in the middle of your

lips will create a three-dimensional effect. Of course you can also spread it across your whole lip for a full on shine.

- Source: Marie Claire Makeup, from the Editors of Marie Claire (Hearst, \$19.95

BBAC HOLIDAY SHOP

Shop for a cause the last weekend of BBAC Holiday Shop. On Dec. 13-14, 10 percent of sales proceeds will benefit **Birmingham Public Schools arts** programs and Lighthouse of **Oakland County. Holiday Shop** offers hand-crafted, one-of-akind pieces from a variety of artists. Holiday Shop is open through Dec. 16, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday to Saturday, noon-4 p.m. Sunday. Admission is free. The BBAC is located at 1516 S. Cranbrook. Call (248) 644-0866 or visit www.BBArtCenter. orq.

CARS, TREES & TRADITIONS

Take a look back at holiday celebrations from the early 1900s through the 1980s, as period music. Holiday Nights takes place Dec. 14-16 and 19-23. Tickets are \$12.75 for members, \$8.50 for children; \$15 for non-members, \$10 for children; four and under free. Call (313) 982-6001 or visit www.thehenryford.org.

AANM HOLIDAY MARKETPLACE

The Arab American National Museum will host its 2nd annual International Holiday **Marketplace & Fashion Show** 6-9 p.m. tonight. The free event includes a variety of multicultural merchandise, complimentary refreshments, music and a live fashion show featuring culturally inspired apparel. Call (313) 624-0216 for details or to receive a registration form. Space is limited.

