WHODUNIT

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Oakwood submits initial plans for site

BY TIFFANY L. PARKS STAFF WRITER

Oakwood is on to round three in its quest to build a hospital in the township.

Having been hugely criticized twice in its attempts to build a facility on the northwest corner of Beck and Geddes, the Dearborn-based health care system has apparently listened to suggestions that it build on or near Michigan

Canton Community Planner Jeff Goulet said

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

We want to know your thoughts about the location where Oakwood is proposing a medical campus. Either e-mail editor Kurt Kuban at kkuban@hometownlife. com or post a comment on our Web site at www.hometownlife.

Oakwood has submitted a preliminary planned development district request for a parcel of land on the west side of Beck Road north of

Michigan Avenue.

"They submitted it last week," he said Wednesday. The property is zoned

industrial and was intended for warehouses. Two warehouses sit south of the possible site for the

hospital. The Beck Road land is less than a mile south of where Oakwood previously sug-

gesting building a state-of-

the-art medical center. In late 2006, Oakwood presented its proposal to the Canton Planning Commission but faced sharp

criticism from hundreds of homeowners adjacent to the 88-acre property. The health care provider then tabled the proposal and altered it in an effort to accommodate residents.

When Oakwood went before the commission again in April, the request was denied.

Goulet said township officials are reviewing Oakwood's submitted documents.

Township Supervisor Tom Yack said he plans to back the proposal.



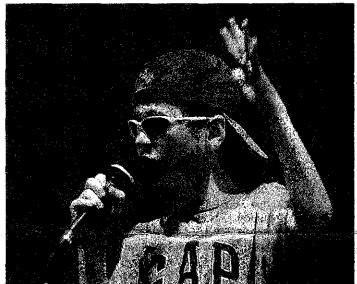
The proposed hospital is on Beck Road, south of Geddes and north of Michigan Avenue, less than a mile south of a parcel Oakwood wanted to build on last year.

"I'll be an unabashed supporter this time," he said.

Paula Rivera-Kerr,

not available for comment.

tlparks@hometownlife.com Oakwood spokeswoman, was (734) 459-2700



Hip-hop artist Eric Kim raps.

A time to shine

Talent show allows students to show growth

BY BRAD KADRICH STAFF WRITER

For most of the first eight years of the Building Bridges Therapy Center's annual "Twinkle Twinkle Little Stars" talent show, Casey Orr was a participant.

As she celebrated her 17th birthday last Saturday, she had graduated to valuable helper for the ninth annual show at

Geneva Presbyterian Church in Canton.

To paraphrase an old commercial, Casey has come a long way, baby.

"She looks forward to it every year, and she's made great friendships," said proud mom Sue Orr. "Casey has made great strides over the years. She could barely talk when she started, and now she can carry on a conversation."

Building Bridges (formerly Speech, Language and Sensory-Motor Systems Inc.) is a Plymouth Township-based therapy center specializing in working with special needs students. The annual talent show is a vehicle for those students



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Arianna Bickle of Joanne's Dance Extension and ballet dancer Kylie Diluvio perform during Saturday's Building Bridges talent show.

to display the things they've learned over the course of the

The number of participants was down this year — some 15 youngsters signed up, although a few missed the event due to illness — but the show went on, and went on well.

More importantly, for those

who took part, it was their chance to step out of their comfort zone and shine, according to co-owner Stephanie Naberhaus.

"The numbers were down, but we were still very happy with it," Naberhaus said. "What

Please see TALENT, A4

Man accused in burning of girl headed to trial

District Court Judge Mike Gerou ordered Willis Jacob Adams bound over for trial on child abuse charges Friday, after prosecutors provided compelling evidence that he put his live-in girlfriend's 3-yearold daughter into a scalding mother, Ann Plass, prohot bath and burned her.

The most damning evidence was the testimony given by the girl's 8-yearold sister, who was home at the time the burns occurred, which was sometime in early January. According to the sister, Adams put the girl in the bath after she had soiled her pants because of a case of diarrhea.

"She was fussing and splashing," the third-grader



her sister. She was crying loud-

The girl's testimony also contradicted statements

that Adams and the girl's vided to police and doctors at University of Michigan Hospital, where they took their daughter several weeks after she suffered the burns only after Child Protective Services visited the home and told them to do so. Adams allegedly told doctors and police that the girl got into the bath by herself and never cried.

The sister also testified

Please see TRIAL. A6

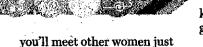
O&E moms site is moving: Come join us on the Web

Looking for a new pediatrician in your neighborhood? Fed up with your tween's instant messaging? Or are you trying to find the best place to teach your teen to parallel park? MotorCityMoms.com is the

place for you! Through a new partnership with the *Detroit Free Press*,



the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers are joining efforts to bring this Web site to you. You'll find all sorts of great things to do in your community, plenty to talk about and



like you in the area. Plus, we've got lots of contests and promotions to offer up. Right now, we're giving away tickets to High School Musical On Ice at

The Palace of Auburn Hills. So check us out, and let me know what you think of our growing community. See you online!

– Kristen Jordan Shamus is editor of MotorCityMoms.com. She can be reached at (313) 222-5997 or kshamus@MotorCityMoms.com.



TOM HAWLEY (STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Around the world

China and Vietnam are just two of the countries being showcased at a cultural fair at St. Mary Catholic School in Wayne today (Feb. 17). Student Colleen Verla of Canton holds the papier-mâché head her mother made for the eight-foot long Chinese dragon that kindergartners are showing off during the fair. Parents of prospective students are invited to visit the school until 1:30 p.m., located on Michigan Avenue east of Wayne Road in Wayne.

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INDEX

APARTMENTS AUTOMOTIVE CROSSWORD PUZZLE D3 HEALTH C1 HOMETOWNLIFE C6 **NEW HOMES** C4 A9 **OBITUARIES** 02 REAL ESTATE SPORTS

Coming Thursday in filt@



The Center for Creative Studies features more than 1,000 pieces of art by local artists.

Relay for Life kick-off

The American Cancer Society invites everyone in the Canton community to celebrate cancer survivorship, remember loved ones lost and fight back against cancer at this year's Relay For Life event. Canton residents will kick off the 10th annual **American Cancer Society** Relay For Life of Canton on Thursday, Feb. 28, at 6:30 p.m. at Emagine Theater, 39535 Ford Road, Canton.

Residents are invited to attend the kick-off celebration to learn more about Relay For Life and how they can become part of an exciting overnight event that can lead to a cure for cancer.

Relay For Life is the Society's signature event, dedicated to increasing awareness and raising funds to fight cancer. Teams of family, friends and co-workers camp out overnight, taking turns walking the track.

Donations can be made to this local Relay For Life event by visiting www.relayforlife. org. Community members can also start or join a team by following the links to our local Relay event on www. relayforlife.org.

The Relay For Life of Canton will take place on May 17-18 at Heritage Park. For more information on how you can get involved or about the kick-off event, contact Jamie Chapman at (248) 663-3419 or jamie.chapman@ cancer.org.

Charity hockey game

On Saturday, Feb. 23, the Canton firefighters will take on the coaches from the Canton Amateur Hockey Association in a charity hockey game. Game time for this third annual event is 7 p.m., at the Arctic Edge Ice Arena in Canton. Admission is just \$2, with all proceeds going to the Canton Firefighter's Charity Foundation.

Symphony Society benefit

The Plymouth Canton Symphony Society will present a special benefit concert, "A Beatles Blast!", on Thursday, Feb. 21 at 8 p.m. at the historic Penn Theatre in downtown Plymouth.

A substantial ensemble of PSO musicians -- with the newly-minted moniker "Friends of the Plymouth of

Symphony Orchestra" -- are donating their services to help support the numerous music education programs the PCSS brings to the Plymouth, Canton and Northville communities. The show will feature classic rock & roll, symphonic style, featuring plenty of "Fab Four" songs - plus much loved tunes by Simon & Garfunkel, the Beach Boys, Barry Manilow, and Billy

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, February 17, 2008

New Liberty Bank and Lotus Arts Gallery will be hosting a pre-concert cocktail party at Lotus Arts Gallery at 6:30-7:30 p.m. The purchase of a ticket also automatically enters patrons for a chance to win a collection of valuable CD box sets of the featured musicians and a \$500 savings bond from New Liberty Bank.

Tickets are \$100 per person, with a 10-percent discount for groups of eight or more, and are tax deductible due to the donation of services. Tickets may be purchased by contacting the Plymouth Canton Symphony Society office by phone at (734) 451-2112, by visiting www. plymouthsymphony.org, or in person at 470 Forest Avenue, Suite 18, Plymouth.

Saberette kids clinic

The Plymouth High Saberette are looking for participants in a Kid's Clinic Performance at the Saberette Variety Show at the Salem Auditorium. Rehearsal for all age groups will take place at 6 p.m., Feb. 21 at the Salem Auditorium.

The Beginner and Intermediate performance (grades K-3, grades 4-6) will take place at 7 p.m., Feb. 22. The Advanced performance will take place at 7 p.m., Feb.

Performance outfits include pom T-shirts, black shorts and poms. For more information, call (734) 459-6460.

Rotary award ceremony

On Feb. 25 the Canton Rotary Club will present their first annual Community Service Award to a member of the Canton Community who exemplifies the Rotary ideal of "Service Above Self". The public is invited to attend the noon ceremony at Carraba's restaurant located at 1900 N. Haggerty Road in Canton. Lunch will be served.

The Canton Rotary works to serve members of the local, national, and international

communities through charitable and humanitarian projects, and to promote peace and understanding within local and international communities. With this award the Canton Rotary Club will recognize a member of the Canton Community whose goals and selfless service are similar to that of the Rotary Community.

Anyone planning to attend the ceremony or interested in learning more about Rotary should contact President Susan Kowalski at (734) 968-1436, or Membership Chair Lisa Kennedy at (734) 454-

Marching band seeking members

The Plymouth-Canton Marching Band, named Bands of America Regional Champions for 2007 and a BOA Finalist at Grand Nationals in Indianapolis, is hosting a series of informational meetings for students and parents who are interested in joining the 2008 Marching Band program.

The meeting is designed for incoming 8th graders, but is open to any high school student. Interested students will spend time with the existing marchers, while parents listen to a presentation by the Plymouth Canton Music Boosters on how 8th graders can become a member of the award-winning marching band for the 2008 summer/ fall season.

Parents and students are asked to attend the Open House meeting at 7 p.m., Feb. 19 in the Plymouth High School band room.

For more information, contact Marc Whitlock, director of bands, at (734) 582-5666.

Calling all artists

The Village Theater at Cherry Hill is now accepting proposals for the 2009 exhibition season. The deadline for submission is Márch 31. The theater is interested in exhibiting both local and regional artists in all medias of artwork.

On average, more than 5,000 individuals visit the theater each month. The Village Theater is a venue that comfortably showcases established, as well as emerging artists that have been recognized for their exceptional talent.

Artists must submit slides or high quality digital images, contact information, current resume/biography, an artist statement, and availability.

The Village Theater at Cherry Hill is located in Cherry Hill Village on the corner of Cherry Hill and



Consumer Expo

The Canton Chamber of Commerce and Canton Downtown Development Authority will present the biannual Consumer Expo Feb. 21 from 5-7:30 p.m. at Summit on the Park in the Grand Ballroom. The event is held twice annually in February and October, and features more than 60 businesses from the community who display their products and services to the public. Participating businesses include banks, insurance, travel agents, pet services, carpet cleaning, and many more. Each vendor gives away a door prize, admission is free. The event is being sponsored by Canton Computers and Martha M. Snow, attorney, Xuereb Snow PC.

Ridge roads. Deliver your submissions to the theater or e-mail your submissions to villagetheater@cantonmi.org.

For more information on the 2009 exhibition season, visit canton-mi.org/villagetheater or call (734) 394-5460.

LaJoy hours

Due to the Van Buren Township offices being closed for Presidents Day, state Rep. Phil LaJoy's office hours have been moved to the Big Boy located at 10705 Belleville Road in Belleville. La Joy will be at the Big Boy on Monday, Feb. 18, from 3:30-5 p.m. to meet with constituents.

An appointment is not necessary. Residents unable to meet LaJoy during the scheduled office hours can contact his Lansing office toll free at 866-LAJOY21 or through e-mail at phillajoy@house. mi.gov to make an appointment.

Hall of Fame nominations

Nomination forms for Canton's Hall of Fame, Community Supporter and Community Achiever awards are now available at the Canton supervisor's office, the Canton Chamber of Commerce and on Canton's Web site, www.canton-mi.org. Completed forms are due back to the supervisor's office no later than Friday, Feb. 22.

The Canton Hall of Fame

recognizes those individuals who have made a long-time, long-lasting contribution to the Canton community. The Community Achiever award recognizes those individuals who brought attention to Canton as a result of a special or outstanding achievement in 2007 and the Community Supporter Award recognizes those individuals or groups who continue to make a regular contribution to the community. These contributions or achievements cannot be a result of the individual's employment.

The reception honoring the recipients will be held April 13 at the Summit on the Park. For more information, please call (734) 394-5188.

Newcomers bingo night

The Canton Newcomers will host Bingo Night, with prizes donated by local businesses, dinner samples by Entree Vous of Canton, dessert by Back Home Bakery, a raffle to benefit a local charity, and an opportunity to sign up for 20plus activities for the entire family, at their adult general meeting, Wednesday March

The club's own "March Madness" starts at 7:15 p.m. at the Sunflower Clubhouse, at 45800 Hanford, west of Canton Center. Visitors are welcome.

Request a complimentary newsletter at www.cantonnewcomers.org of this social, civic and charitable organization or call Donna at (734) 398-6487 with questions before the meeting. You don't have to be "New" to be a Newcomer.

Mom-2-Mom sale

In anticipation of their upcoming Mom 2 Mom Sale, the Canton Newcomers, a social, civic and charitable organization, invites table renters to sell new and gently used maternity, baby and child items including furniture and larger play equipment. The sale will be held on Saturday April 5, at the Summit on the Park from 8:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. For more information, please visit cantonnewcomers.org or e-mail amybrody@comcast.net.

Tonda scholarships

The Tonda Elementary School Scholarship Committee is accepting applications and essays from now until April 9.

Qualified applicants must have attended Tonda for at least three years, have a GPA of 3.25 or better and have been accepted into an accredited college, university or trade school. Two letters of reference from a non-family member as well as transcripts must also be submitted.

Applicants will submit an essay entitled "Qualities of a Peaceful School."

Applications and further rules may be obtained at Plymouth, Salem, and Canton High School, or at Tonda . Elementary School.

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No passes SHOWTIMES 2/15 - 2/21 O JUMPER (PG-13) 12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:35, 9:45

FRI/SAT LS 11:50

DEFINITELY, MAYBE (PG-13) 1:00, 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:40 O WELCOME HOME ROSCOE **JENKINS** (PG-13) 11:20, 1:55, 4:40, 7:15, 9:50 HERE WILL BE BLOOD (A) 12:00, 3:15, 6:30, 9:45 THE EYE (PG-13) FRI/SAT LS 11:35 **27 DRESSES** (PG-13) 1:45, 2:10, 4:35, 7:00, 9:25

FRI/SAT LS 11:50 THE BUCKET LIST (PG-13) 4:55, 7:10 **JUND** (PG-13) RI/SAT LS 11:45 ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS (PG)

2:00, 2:15, 4:30

-COUPON



Dr. Jeffrey Mendelson enters the operating room where the patient is prepared for knee replacement surgery. He carries the patient's x-rays and other medical records.

Inside the operating room

Teamwork, advances awe visitors to St. Mary Mercy

BY ALEX LUNDBERG STAFF WRITER

Caterers and legislator's aides, CEOs and correspondents got a firsthand look, and a very close one at that, at how a hospital operating room really runs Tuesday morning in the Healthcare Partnership Program at St. Mary Mercy

Volunteers got to shadow doctors that morning, watching them perform various procedures, as part of a program designed to educate people about the inner workings of the most private of public buildings.

Jennifer Kennedy, marketing and public relations manager, said the program, launched in 2001, is there to

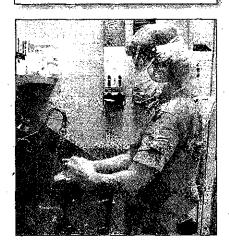
"We want to educate the community about what we do," she said. "Not everyone gets to see so far inside the hospital. We're trying to encourage a dialog between the community and the hospital, to show off our resources."

* In one of the hospital's operating rooms, Dr. Jeffrey Mendelson discussed the generalities of joint replacement The procedures are necessarily violent — even elderly bones are hard — but the conditions the procedures are designed

to alleviate are no less brutal. "Over time, cartilage erodes and bone



For more images, some of them graphic, from the operating room, visit www.hometownlife.com



Physician's assistant Lisa Hypnar scrubs before knee replacement surgery.

Osteoarthritis, the loss of cartilage due to wear, is something that virtually vone will face given a long enough life. No one knows what causes it.

"All of the treatments are based on replacement," Mendelson said. "We don't know how to prevent it. Inflammatory arthritis, like rheumatoid or lupus, can starts rubbing against bone," he said. "It's be managed. It's a miracle, the alteration





Surgical technician June Mathews hands a drill to Dr. Jeffrey Mendelson, as he and physician's assistant Lisa Hypnar fit a knee replacement to the patient at St. Mary Mercy Hospital.

in those conditions. Those diseases are extremely well-controlled."

The process of removing a natural joint and replacing it with a construction of titanium and plastic has become fairly routine, a near one-hour process. The plastics are new, the machining of the parts is extremely fine and the replacement parts can be expected to last for the life of the patient.

What's amazing, given all of the work that is done with drills, saws and hammers, is that the patients were expected

to be walking in the afternoon.

Livonian Ron Reinke, a former parks superintendent with the city, also took part in the program and visited the hospital's cardiology department. He was floored by the abilities he saw on display.

"The skill the doctor possessed to run a wire from the patient's leg to view and eliminate a blockage was amazing," he said. "I was also impressed by the teamwork of the team the doctor had around

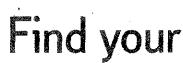
Chico Rodriguez saw a man's back

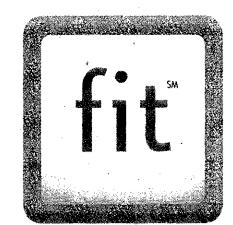
being repaired.

They were pouring cement into the vertebrae," he said. "It reminded me of people working construction, pouring concrete into a pillar. It was amazing, they were doing it by monitor."

Since the inception of the progra 2001, 110 participants have visited the hospital. The program is offered three times a year.

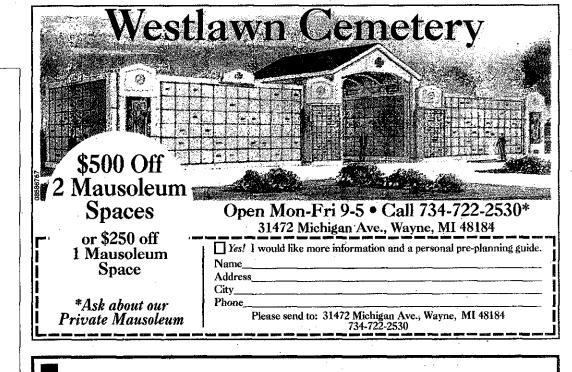
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(C)

Oakwood, Meijer store TALENT on planning agenda

Canton Planning Commission

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

SITE PLANS

■ Hindu Temple rebuild: Consider site plan and special land use for a religious institution. Property is located south of Cherry Hill Road and west of Canton Center Road. Item was tabled Dec. 3.

■ St. Joseph Mercy Health Center expansion: Consider site plan approval. Property is located west of Canton Center Road and north of Summit Boulevard.

PUBLIC HEARING

■ Kirco Business Park: Consider special land use for a medical office. Property is located east of Haggerty Road and north of Ford Road.

NEW BUSINESS

■ Schoolhouse Montessori Academy: Refer review of site plan to staff. Property is located east of Haggerty Road and north of Palmer Road.

■ Canton Corners Shopping Center addition: Refer review of site plan developer instigated revisions to staff. Property

is located south of Ford Road

and west of Lilley Road. ■ Comerica Bank addition: Refer review of site plan to staff. Property is located north of Ford Road and west of Sheldon Road.

■ Oakwood Canton Medical Campus planned development: Refer review of preliminary PDD to staff. Property is located on the west side of Beck Road, north of Michigan Avenue.

Michigan Avenue Marketplance/Meijer planned development: Refer review of preliminary PDD to staff. Property is located north of Michigan Avenue between Sheldon and Lilley Roads.

Van Buren Board of Education

The Van Buren Schools Board of Education will hold a special meeting/work study session at 7 p.m., Feb. 18 at the district's administrative building, 555 W. Columbia Avenue. in Belleville. For more information, call (734) 697-9123.

Agenda items include: ■ Elementary boundary discussion

■ 2007-08 budget amendment discussion

■ Strategic plan discussion Board of Education feed-

I liked was we had different acts. It's always fun when that happens."

The show was choreographed largely by volunteer dancers from Joanne's Dance Extension in Canton. Those teens volunteer every year to spend time with the students, putting the musical and dance aspects of the show together.

The girls volunteer an hour a week starting in October.

"It's a good way for a high schooler to interact with younger kids," said Canton High School student Erika Martin of Canton, 16, who has done every show but the first. "The kids, seeing their smiling faces when they accomplish everything, is the best part."

Naberhaus and her husband, Brad, were quick to point out the show — which features dancing, music and readings. in addition to a fashion show - couldn't go on without the sponsors.

In addition to Joanne's Dance Extension, flowers are provided by Vanessa's Flowers, Gap Kids at Laurel Park Place in Livonia provides the clothes for the fashion show, Screened



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Jacob Endres, Joshua Kayden and Ryan Tomaszycki sing 'I Know a Chicken' with a little help from music therapist Debbie Gombert (right) and student music therapist Julie Raphael.

Images Inc. and C&M printing take care of programs and T-shirts, and Kroger provides the food.

They all combine to provide the opportunity for Building Bridges students to show how much they've grown.

"Certain kids have no stage fright, but for other kids, getting up on stage in front of people, even if they don't do anything, is a huge deal for them," Stephanie Naberhaus

said. "It's neat to see. Some of the kids come year after year, so it's neat to see how the kids grow with it."

bkadrich@hometownlife.com (734) 459-2700

School board set to make decision

STAFF WRITER

The Plymouth-Canton Schools Board of Education is expected to make one of two decisions Tuesday night as it considers who will succeed Jim Ryan as superintendent.

The board will decide wheth- District 124 in Evergreen Park, er either of the two finalists -Paul Kadri, 42, the superintendent of the Neshaminy school district in Langhorne, Pa., which consists of 9,200 students; or Craig Fiegel, 52, the superintendent of Evergreen Park Elementary School

. Ill., which has 1,900 students - is worthy of further consideration.

If the board isn't impressed enough with either candidate, the second option would be to suspend the search and have interim superintendent Ken Jacobs continue in the position until the board decides to reopen the search.

"We still have some final things to do, including reference checks, before we make a final decision," said Judy Mardigian, board president. The question is do we have

someone to lead the district into the future, with finances and academics our biggest pri-

"If the answer is 'no," she added, "we always have a Plan B, Ken Jacobs, who is very knowledgeable about the district. I think we will be in good hands either way."

The school board meets Tuesday at 7 p.m. at the E.J. McClendon Educational Center, 454 S. Harvey in Plymouth.

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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

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CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH NOTICE OF HEARING

NOTICE OF HEARING given that the Plymouth Township Board of Review will meet on the following dates and times:

Hearings are by appointment, please call 354-3269, between 8 am and 4:30 pm for an appointment.

Tuesday, March 4

9 am - Noon Organizational Meeting 2 pm - 5 pm Hearings by Appointment

Monday, March 10

2 pm - 5 pm Hearings by Appointment 6 pm - 9 pm Hearings by Appointment

2 pm - 5 pm Hearings by Appointment

Saturday, March 15 9 am - 11 am First Come - First Served

Other hearing dates and times may be scheduled as needed.

prior to appearing before the Board. A personal appearance is not required. Appeals by mail will be accepted if received by March 21,

Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty Road, Plymouth, MI

Please come prepared as a ten (10) minute time limit before the Board of Review will be strictly adhered to.

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Livonia • Orchard Lake Main Campus: 36600 Schoolcraft Road • Livonia, MI 48150

www.stjude.org/tribute Wednesday, March 12 9 am - Noon Hearings by Appointment All persons protesting their assessment must complete petitions The Board of Review will be held in the Board Meeting Room of Research Hospita Publish: February 14, 17 & 21, 2008

Money Management and Mortgages:

Real solutions seminar for homeowners in financially challenging times.

Community Financial is committed to helping make your financial life easier. Please join us as we team with GreenPath Debt Solutions and Plymouth Community United Way.

Topics at this Free Seminar:

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Don't miss this opportunity to put yourself in control of your finances! Plus, you'll be able to set up individual appointments for free mortgage reviews, credit reviews and financial counseling.

Tuesday, February 26th • 6:30-8:00 p.m. Plymouth District Library

To reserve your seat, call Betty at (734) 453-6879 ext. 2







Business views vary on stimulus money impact

Retailers hope you'll come shopping with checks

BY JULIE BROWN STAFF WRITER

Local retailers have their eye on the rebate checks due to taxpayers this spring, although not all think they'll make a big difference.

Kate Rosevear, owner of Carlson Wagonlit Travel in Plymouth, didn't expect a big rush the day after the president's signature came through.

"In truth, my business is doing fine," Rosevear said. "I had a good year last year. A lot of my colleagues had a good

year."
She gets a lot of baby boomers whose kids are now through college, meaning they have some disposable income. "They're young enough to travel," she said.

Buyouts from local employers have also boosted the travel business for Rosevear

and others.
Talk of the rebates

- expected by May and to range from \$300 to \$1,200 - came up Thursday morning at Laurel Park Place in Livonia among mall walkers.

"I'm going to buy a brand new TV if it's made in the United States," said Mel Karfis of Livonia, a retired construction ironworker. His wife noted few such TVs are now.

Jack Morrison of Plymouth Township, retired from brick sales, had no immediate purchases in mind. "Probably just put it in the bank, I guess," said Morrison, adding he doesn't know how much he'll get. "I think maybe I'll pay my income tax."

Over at Bill Brown Ford in Livonia, sales manager Mike Schrieber was pleased. "Business is pretty good,"
Schrieber said. "Any money
that's put in the hands of
people that live in this area is
good for the economy in genarel."

He thinks customers mulling a car purchase but cautious about a down payment or making payments "will now have that little extra to work with." Those concerned about property values will buy American, the sales manager added.

"It allows them to make some of those purchases they've been dreaming about," Schrieber said.

Westland Floor Covering owner Richard Strausbaugh said this is their normal slower season, with January normal and February thus far slower. "We're hoping the final figures aren't too bad" for February, he said.

"I sure hope so,"
Strausbaugh said when asked if the rebates will boost business. He plans to offer 110 percent to customers who come in to spend rebate checks. "We're

definitely going to help the economy, personally," he said of his family, noting a TV purchase is in the works.

"I would imagine there's a pent-up demand for goods," Strausbaugh said. "I would hope it would help our business." Westland Floor Covering will mark its 48th anniversary this year.

Tracey Pawlowski owns
Back Home Bakery in Canton.
"I know personally ours is
going in the bank," she said of
the family's check, citing the
volatile economy. "That money
is our padding" in case her
husband loses his job.

Pawlowski would like to take a vacation, but isn't rushing to make plans. "The beauty is everybody has a birthday, thank God," she said of business at Back Home Bakery.

Pawlowski, who grew up in Garden City, was a "jumper" with her sister for UPS this past holiday season, helping deliver packages. The women saw a lot of vacant, foreclosed homes, and an eviction.

That was hard for her to

watch, and Pawlowski said even losing a business wouldn't be as bad. She hopes people hang on to their money, "just to help themselves."

Laura Van Vliet, owner of Eva's Bridal & Fashions in Garden City, is pleased with what she views as "a windfall" for customers.

"We were just discussing that. It certainly couldn't hurt us," said Van Vliet, who wouldn't want people to ignore mortgage payments but is hoping for increased business. Her store has moderate prices, which she said will belo

which she said will help.
"Right now, we're into

proms." Eva's Bridal &
Fashions also has bridal and
mother of the bride dresses,
said the owner, who's a member of the National Federation
of Independent Businesses.
That group anticipates help
from the stimulus money.

"It will be a little extra cash," said Van Vliet. "I would think they would" spend.

"I really feel that people are going to hang onto the money for emergencies," said Mary Jo Mullen, executive director for the Redford Township Chamber of Commerce. "I don't think they're going to go out and buy."

Excelsior Energy Fund still a good investment after management change

Dear Rick: I received notice that Excelsior Funds has become Columbia Funds. I know you recommend Excelsior. I am curious about your

thoughts
now that it is
Columbia.
I have liked

the Excelsior
Energy &
Natural
Resources
Fund
(UMESX).

Rick Bloom
Rick Bloom
I did some
research and
I confirmed

Money Matters

that a natural resource fund does belong in a portfolio. This allows an investor to further diversify and also to provide some hedge against rising energy prices.

The Excelsior Energy & Natural Resources Fund has been managed for more than 10 years by Mike Hoover. Members of the Investment Committee at my firm had the opportunity to discuss the changes happening with the company with representatives from Excelsior. They have been assured there will be no fundamental changes to

the fund and that Hoover will continue to manage the portfolio.

The Excelsior Energy & Natural Resources Fund has been very good and for current investors, I recommend they stay put. Despite having a difficult year so far, if you look at the fund's long-term track record, it has been very productive.

The Columbia Funds are managed by Columbia Management, which is the investment management division of Bank of America. Columbia Management, for the last number of years, has been aggressive in acquiring different mutual fund companies. In some cases, it has merged and consolidated funds. It has also acquired a fund company and left some of the funds as is.

Although I continue to like the Excelsior Energy & Natural Resources Fund, I will judge it like I do all other funds, based on performance over the long term. If other things occur such as defections from the portfolio management team, I will reconsider my opinion. That being said, my present recommendation is keep the fund.

Dear Rick: I've always done my own tax return. I am getting to the point where it's getting too difficult to do on my own. Should I buy a software package or should I hire a professional?

I agree that tax returns have become more complex. If you are going to attempt to do your tax return on your own, use a software package such as Turbo Tax or Tax Cut. It makes preparing your return much easier and eliminates mathematical errors. If you file a return with mathematical errors, the IRS will take closer scrutiny of your tax return and that is something none of us want.

For filers who do not want to do their own tax return or have a complicated situation — such as they own a business or they have income in more than one state — it makes sense to hire a professional.

Just because someone knows how to prepare tax returns does not make him or her a professional. If you are having your return professionally prepared, spend a few extra dollars and make sure you are dealing with a professional

— someone who is dedicated to keeping current on the tax law changes and who is available to assist you on any issues throughout the year with regard to your tax return.

As a taxpayer, you are responsible for your return — whether you prepare it, use a software package or hire a professional.

As I have mentioned in previous columns, there is a program where you can obtain free software and do your return for free.

The IRS has partnered with many software companies to offer this service. To see if you qualify, visit the IRS Web site, www.irs.gov and click on "free file."

It is important to remember that tax returns, like everything in our society, have become more complex. So don't be stubborn. If you need help, hire a professional.

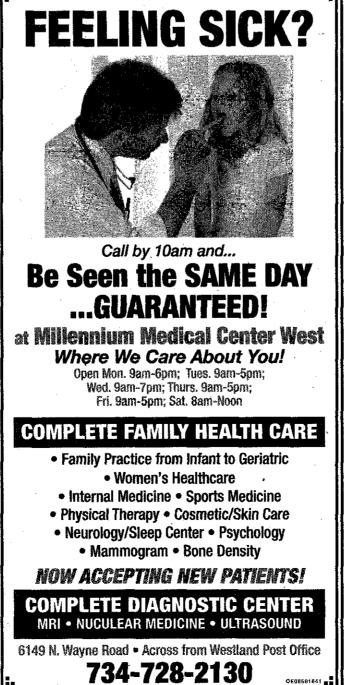
Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. Observer & Eccentric readers can submit questions at moneymatters@hometownlife. com. For more information, visit Rick's Web site at www.bloomassetmanagement.com. You can hear Rick from noon to 3 p.m. Sundays on WDTK-AM (1400).



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Coming March 19: Moonlight and Magnolias



that Adams told her not to tell anyone about the incident.

"He told me not to tell anyone or I would get in trouble, and I would be taken away by Protective Services," said the girl, who also added that Adams threatened her with physical violence.

It is the policy of the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers not to name minors involved in the case.

The 25-year-old Adams, who was arrested Feb. 7, is charged with first-degree child abuse, a 15-year felony; second-degree child abuse, a 4-year felony; and habitual offender II, which will enhance his sentence to 1.5 times the sentence amount, if he is found guilty. According to Wayne County **Assistant Prosecutor Lora** Weingarden, Adams was convicted of a felony in 2005.

Child Protective Services removed both girls, as well as their 6-year-old sister,

from the couple's mobile home near I-275 and Michigan Avenue. Neither Adams nor Plass are allowed to have contact with them.

University of Michigan pediatric physician Dr. Leena Dev also testified Friday. She examined the girl on Jan. 23, the day after Adams and Plass brought her to the emergency room for her burns.

Dev said the girl's buttocks and the back of her upper thighs were raw and blistered, and she considered it a serious injury. She also interviewed the parents, and said the injuries were not consistent with the story that the child got into the bath on her own.

"She would've had injuries to her feet or lower legs, said Dev, who has testified in dozens of child abuse

Dev said the child was most likely cradled over hot water, and had her buttocks submerged, which is why that was the only area to be burned.

Defense attorney Matthew Evans told Gerou there

wasn't enough evidence to hold his client, and that it was likely the burns were a result of some cleaning agents Adams had used in the tub about a half hour before the girl used it.

Weingarden got Plass to admit she lied to Child Protective Services, which learned of the girl's injuries by an anonymous tip, when she told them she had taken her daughter to Oakwood Hospital after the burns occurred. Plass admitted the first medical treatment the girl received was when she was taken to U-M Hospital roughly three weeks after the incident.

Weingarden said the girl's injuries were clearly child abuse.

"He had a motive to do this," she said. "She had diarrhea, and he had to clean it, which isn't a pleasant job. So he was angry. He intentionally dumped this child in the tub."

Adams, who is being held in Wayne County Jail on a \$10,000 cash bond, will be arraigned in circuit court in Detroit on Feb. 29.

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

5 candidates file in WW board race

BY SUE MASON STAFF WRITER

Voters in the Wayne-Westland Community Schools will have a choice of five candidates to fill two seats on the Board of Education in the May 6 school election.

Filing nominating petitions were incumbent Cindy Schofield of Wayne and Shawna Walker of Westland. Paying the \$100 filing fee were Westland residents Jennifer Finley of Westland, Brian Mulligan and William Gabriel.

Missing from the list if Terrance McClain who announced Tuesday that he would not seek a second term

on the school board. Schofield, a residential property manager, is the current school board vice-president, a position she has held for six of her eight elective years. She has said that she decided to run again because "there are still things to be accomplished, especially at the secondary level."

Finley is a registered nurse and the mother of seven adopted children. She has been involved in programs at the Stottlemyer Early Childhood and Family Development Center and

serves on its policy commit-

"I'm involved in the schools and education and what better way is there to make an impact on a community I've been a part of for 14 years," she said.

Gabriel is a consultant in airline management. He has served on the Westland Library Board and Local Officers Compensation Commission and currently is a member of the Westland Planning Commission.

"Education is probably the one most important thing to me," he said. "My experiences (on the Library Board) have reinforced my wanting to give back to the community," he said.

"I also have more time to give and think I can do a good job."

Mulligan is making his second bid for a school board. recall in 2006. He ran unsuccessfully in the 2007 election.

A licensed electrician, he has said that he believes ordinary citizens need to take a more active role in their communities.

In campaigning last.year, he stated that "all parents need to take responsibility for their children's education and actively participate in that education, not only for

their children's benefit but

for our society as well." Mulligan and Walker were unavailable for comment on their decision to campaign for a school board seat.

In the Livonia Public Schools, three candidates have filed for two four-year terms on the school board.

Incumbents Tom Bailey and Greg Oke are running for re-election. And Patrice Mang, who ran unsuccessfully for a one-year seat last year, will try again this year.

Bailey, a technical specialist with BASF, was elected in 2004. Prior to that he held leadership positions with the PTA at local, regional and state levels.

Bailey was the only trustee to vote against the Legacy Initiative school closings and reconfigurations.

As such, he did not face

Oke, assistant principal at Wolfe Middle School in Center Line, was elected last May to a one-year position.

Mang is a high school special education teacher in Allen Park.

Staff writer Rebecca Jones contributed to this story.

smason@hometownlife.com (734) 953-2112



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 pm, Thursday, February 28, 2008 for the following:

2008 SITE IMPROVEMENTS COPPER CREEK CONDOMINIUMS

The removal of 4,900 square yards of existing 7-inch concrete pavement with integral curb and gutter and replacing with 8-inch concrete pavement, excavation and subsurface drainage improvements including 1.700 feet of underdrain, drainage structure adjustments, sidewalk repairs, restoration and related work.

Bid documents are available to pick up at Canton Township Hall, Engineering - 2nd Floor, 1150 S. Canton Center Road, Canton, MI 48188. A nonrefundable fee of \$ 40.00 will be charged for the bid packet. A 5% bid bond will be required.

Bid Documents are on file for review at Canton Township Hall -Engineering 2nd Floor, Construction Association of Michigan, Reed Construction Data, McGraw Hill Construction Dodge, and Construction News Service of Michigan, Inc.

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. The Township reserves the right to reject any or all bids, in whole or in part, and accept only the bid deemed to be in the best interest

Publish: February 14 & 17, 2008

of the Township.

TERRY G. BENNETT, CLERK

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON NOTICE TO PUBLIC BOARD OF REVIEW APPOINTMENTS

Notice is hereby given by the undersigned, Terry G. Bennett, Clerk of the Charter Township of Canton, County of Wayne, State of Michigan to all residents of the Charter Township of Canton: that all persons protesting their assessment must complete petitions prior to appearing before the Board. A personal appearance is not required. All petitions must be received in the Assessor's office by March 14, 2008 at 12:00 p.m.

The Board of Review will be held in the Canton Township Hall on the first floor, at 1150 S. Canton Center Road. Entry into the building can be accessed through the front doors of Township Hall. Please come prepared, as an eight (8) minute limit before the Board will be strictly adhered to.

The Following is the schedule for March Board of Review:

Tuesday, March 4, 2008

Organizational Meeting --4:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. (No Appointments)

Monday, March 10, 2008

Hearings from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Appointments Only)

Tuesday, March 11, 2008

Hearings from 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. (Appointments Only)

Wednesday, March 12, 2008

Hearings from 1:00 p.m. -- 5:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. (Appointments Only) Hearings from 9:00 a.m. -- 12:00 p.m.

Thursday, March 13, 2008 Friday, March 14, 2008Z

(Appointment Only) Hearings from 9:00 a.m. -- 12:00 p.m.

(Appointment Only)

Please be advised entry the building on Tuesday, March 11th after 5:00p.m.and Wednesday, March 12th after 5:00p.m. can only be accessed through the front entrance of the Township hall.

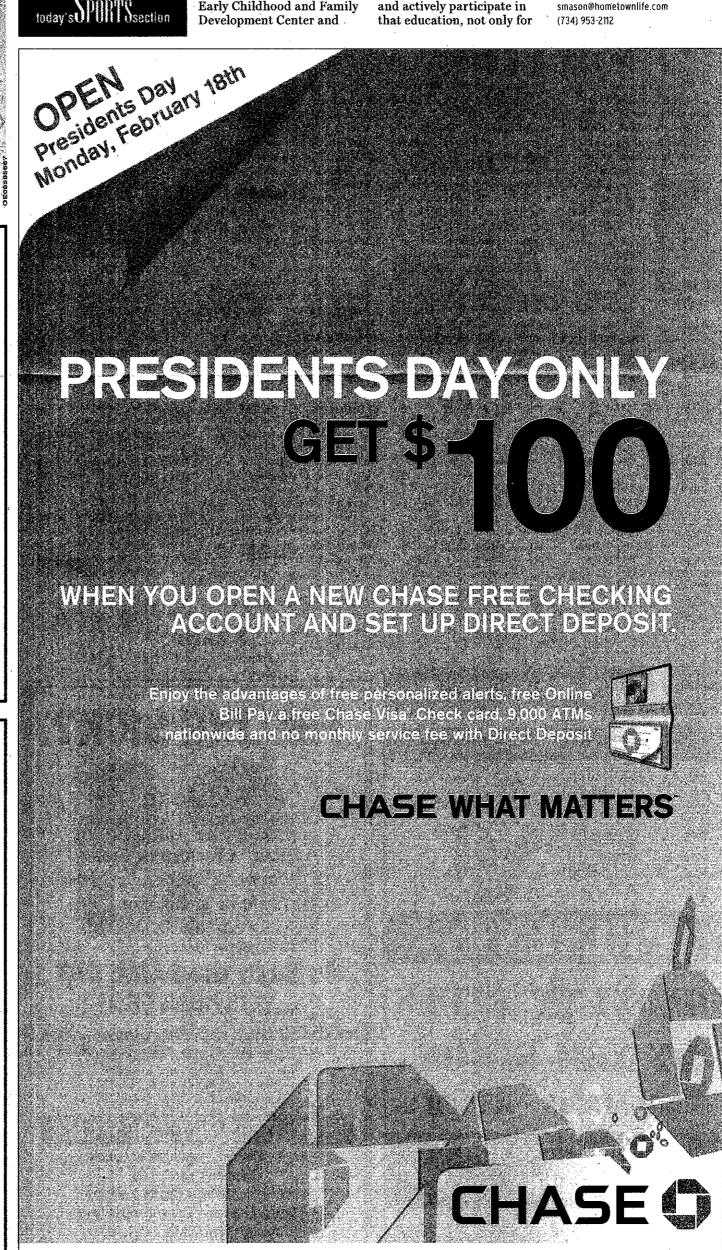
If you have any questions, please contact the Assessor's office directly at (734) 394-5111.

> TERRY G. BENNETT, CLERK Charter Township of Canton

Publish: February 21 & 24, 2008

interest and will be reported on IRS Form 1099-INT.

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deposit. The customer has 60 calendar days to set up a repeating direct deposit on the new account. The \$100 bonus will be deposited into your new

account 6 - 8 weeks after the initial direct deposit and is not considered part of the minimum opening balance. Limit one personal checking accountrelated award/premium per customer, per calendar year. Offer not available on account conversions or in combination with any other offer. Checking account must remain open for six months or the reward will be debited from the account at closing. Account is subject to approval. Bonus is considered



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12 oz. New York Strip*

20 oz. Porterhouse*

Riblet Dinner

Steak Kabobs*

Pork Chop Dinner

Boneless Chicken

Breast Dinner

Pasta

All pasta dishes served with garlic bread

and your choice of soup or salad.

Ravioli
Baked Mostaccioli
Fettucini Alfredo
Chicken Parmesan
.Garlic Shrimp
Fettucini Alfredo
Linguini

Seafood

Seafood dinners served with soup, salad or cole claw, and choice of potato.

Lake Perch Dinner Fish & Chips Shrimp Dinner

Mexican

Served with Mexican rice, refried beans, and a basket of chips and salsa.

Fajitas*-Chicken or Steak
Soft Tacos*-Chicken or Steak
Steak & Cheese
Enchilada*

Plus a Huge Selection of Appetizers, Sandwiches, Sub, Burgers, Soups and Chili!

Salads

Caesar Salad Greek Salad Side Salad Chef Salad Antipasta Salad Side Slaw

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New president

Canton's Ted Blashak has been named president of the Art Institute of Michigan, a school that offers academic programs in design, fashion and culinary arts. In this position, Blashak has operating responsibility for the school, and is overseeing the faculty, finance, administrative and human resource departments.

Previously, Blashak served as vice president of business



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responsibilities

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for Apollo

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where his

various partner opportunities and acquisition targets. Blashak graduated from the University of New Mexico with a bachelor's degree in organizational communication and a master's degree in adult education/training and development. He is currently a student at the University of Phoenix pursuing an Ed.D. in educational leadership. Blashak is a member of the Detroit Economic Club. American Management Association, and Leadership Detroit.

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Andrea S. Vivian, D.D.S.

BRIDGING GAPS

Similar to a highway bridge

spanning two embankments to connect a roadway gap, a dental bridge replaces missing teeth with prosthetic teeth (known as the "pontic") that span the gap between remaining healthy teeth on either side. One important function of the dental bridge is preventing the adjacent teeth from drifting into the empty space. The teeth to which a fixed bridge is attached are called "abutment teeth." In most cases, these abutment teeth must be prepared to accept the bridge. If they are reasonably healthy and free of large fillings, the dentist may a resin-bonded bridge, which reduced the amount of necessary preparation by fusing the pontic to metal bands that are bonded to the abutment teeth.

If one or more of your teeth have been lost to damage or decay, prompt attention with bridges. partials, implants, or other methods of repair will prevent additional, perhaps bigger and more painful problems later on, visit your dentist on a regular basis, and practice good home oral hygiene. It will pay off in the long run. If you don't have a family dentist at this time, we invite you to 496 W. Ann Arbor Trail. Ste. 201, Plymouth. (1 blk. E. of Kellogg Park). We have convenient office hours by appointment. Call 734-453-9413.

P.S. A "cantilever bridge" is used when there are healthy teeth (to which the bridge may be attached) on only one side of the gap, and the area is under less



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For everyone's good, Johnson should resign

It appears longtime Planning Commissioner Catherine Johnson is going to force the hand of the Canton Township **Board of Trustees.**

Johnson, you may remember, was told by Township Supervisor Tom Yack to resign after a Dec. 3 meeting for making, in his words, "intolerable" statements about the proposed Hindu Temple expansion. At the meeting, Johnson, who lives in one of the neighborhoods surrounding the temple where there has been widespread opposition to the project, said she had heard reports that Hindu woman at another temple were urinating in public, and wanted to know if that was going to happen at the Hindu Temple.

We completely agree with Yack — Johnson's statements were definitely off-base. Intolerable is one word that can be used. So are embarrassing, insensitive and a slew of others. We also agree that Yack did the right thing to ask for Johnson's resignation. As a longtime township official - she's been on the planning commission since 1980 and was formerly a member of the zoning board of appeals — Johnson should have known better. She was representing the township when she made those remarks.

Yet here we are more than two months later and Johnson still has not tendered her resignation. Yack has said that unless Johnson submits her resignation by Feb. 21, the township board will hold a public hearing regarding her appointment in March. At that time, the board will consider removing her from the

We hope it doesn't come to that, however. No. 1, it wouldn't be good for the community to drag this issue on. Canton is home to one of the largest Hindu communities in the area. They, more than anyone, have been offended by Johnson's remarks (not to mention some of the comments made by residents living in the subdivisions surrounding the temple property). This episode has created divisiveness in a community that prides itself on its

It would also put members of the township board on the spot, forcing them to in essence publicly fire a longtime active member of the community boards. Perhaps she is hoping that the board goes against Yack on the issue. We can't imagine that happening — it would be a public relations nightmare, especially for members seeking re-election this fall.

And ultimately, this wouldn't be good for Johnson. It is unfortunate that this episode clouds Johnson's long and distinguished career serving the Canton community. It is easy to vilify her, but it should be remembered that in addition to serving on planning commission and ZBA, she also has volunteered in more roles than can be listed here. It is a list that goes on and on. So for her to drag this on only takes away from her legacy that much more.

For the good of the community, the one that Johnson has given so much to and cares so much about, she should take the high road and tender her resignation.

Adjust temple site plan

I am writing regarding the Hindu Temple rebuild which is scheduled to be on the Feb. 18 Planning Commission meeting agenda. I live in Glengarry Village on Fairfield Court, a street that will be directly affected by this project. I attended the Planning Commission meeting on Dec. 3, and have since attended several neighborhood meetings including two with Mr. Bryan Amann and a member of the Temple. Amann has addressed a number of our concerns regarding the construction of the new temple and cultural center including the noise, the drainage, the security of the back lot, and the traffic. There is, however, one major issue that has not been addressed to the satisfaction of the neighbors and that is the location of the new building on the lot.

At the Dec. 3 meeting, the planning commissioners were all invited to visit our neighborhood so they could adequately visualize the impact of a 19,699-square-foot and 43-foot-high building nestled (shoehorned?) in between two residential cul-de-sacs.

If you have not taken the opportunity to do so, I invite and encourage you to visit before the meeting on Feb. 18. I have received a packet of siteline drawings. They do not present an accurate visualization of the impact the building will have on the neighborhood. The building is too close to the two cul-de-sacs, and there is too little space there for a large building in between.

At the meetings with Mr. Amann we have asked the temple to consider moving the building to the north and east of the proposed location to a position behind the current temple and adjacent to an open field. This will distance the temple from the back yards of those living in Kingston Estates by placing the driveway between them and the temple, and locate it north of Fairfield Court. We were told that this is not possible because the members would have limited parking during construction (a short-term issue) and affect the traffic flow in and out of the parking lot. I do not believe these are insurmountable

Another issue with this suggested

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

relocation is that the building would no longer be centrally located in the parking lot, thereby causing a longer walk for some members. Given that the temple has indicated that they would need full use of the parking lot only a few times a year; this does not appear to be a major issue. Moving the proposed building "one section" north and to the east would go a long way toward alleviating neighborhood concerns with this project. The long term effect would be an atmosphere of neighborly cooperation.

In the Supervisor's Update dated Jan. 21, Mr. (Tom) Yack states a number of arguments leading one to believe the Planning Commission and Board of Trustees have no options if the temple project meets all state and local zoning regulations and Canton ordinances. I do not believe it would a "capricious and arbitrary action" for the Planning Commission to act within its authority, as stated on the Canton government Web site, to ensure "that the community receives the best development possible." The temple members would not be denied their rights to develop on their land, using an architecture they deemed appropriate, if the Planning Commission required that the building be moved to the north and east of the currently proposed location on their lot.

Furthermore, it is important to consider the spirit of the zoning ordinances because the letter of the law cannot be expected to cover all possible contingencies. While the proposed building may meet the requirements for lot and building size, it is unlikely that those who drafted the regulations considered the possibility of such a large building on such a narrow lot where the length is more than six times the width.

The ordinances also require religious institutions to locate in residentially zoned districts. This ordinance is well intended, but again it is not likely those who drafted the regulation had in mind the shape and location of the Hindu Temple lot. At some point there must be an acknowledgement that the spirit of the law is not being respected. I believe that the current proposal does not respect the spirit of the law and the

Planning Commission and the Board of Trustees have a responsibility to uphold the spirit of the law in cases such as this one.

If the Planning Commission chooses to recommend approval of the project, it is my hope that the approval will be contingent on the building being positioned in a location that minimizes the long-term impact on the neighbors.'This can be accomplished with minimal and only short-term impact on the Temple members by moving the proposed building to the north and

Kim Zaugo

Canton

Attorney shouldn't frame issue

Why has the Planning Commission let attorney Bryan Amann dictate about what to build and where to build in Canton? Mr. Amann is behind much of the development in Canton. He is good with words and has turned a building proposal about a Hindu temple into a diversity issue. If you drive around Canton, you see that Canton is not against any religious construction. We have many wonderful churches, temples and places of worship. Do not let Bryan Amann insult the people of Canton by turning the temple development into an issue about diversity or who can build the biggest building.

And why is the Planning Commission also allowing more construction of buildings in front of existing buildings that remain empty (southwest corner of Ford and Lilley)? And do they also forget that the old Farmer Jack is another empty building in Canton?

We need to give fair, unbiased consideration to every building proposal, and make the decision based on the best interest for the people of Canton Township, not for the interests of a developer or lawyer. The Planning Commission needs to approve or not approve based on the land use, ordinances, neighboring properties, and available space. Whether it be a place of worship or a restaurant.

Linda Whiteaker

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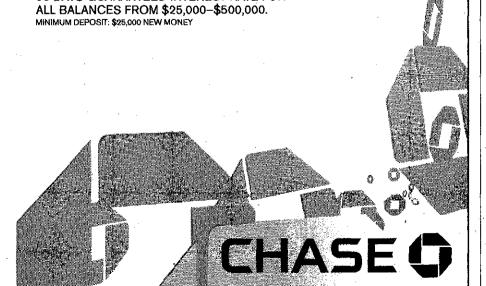
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'Pursuit of Happyness' author speaks at Music Hall Feb. 28

movie The Pursuit of Happyness comes to Detroit to share his inspirational "rags-to-riches" story 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 28, at Detroit's Music Hall Center. Gardner will discuss his struggles of being homeless and his incredible journey to becoming the CEO and owner of Christopher Gardner International Holdings.

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, February 17, 2008

Unfortunate circumstances left Gardner and his toddler son homeless on the streets of San Francisco in the early 1980s. A man driving a red Ferrari became the major turning point in Gardner's life. He realized what he wanted for his and his son's future and what it would take to get there. As a father first, and a businessman second, Gardner's story is one of overcoming obstacles, facing the daunting task of balancing life's responsibilities, and ultimately succeed-

Despite not possessing any connections or a college degree, Gardner, who wanted to be a stockbroker, managed to earn a place in the Dean Witter Reynold's training program and was offered a position there in 1981. Gardner spent time at Bear



Christopher Gardner, who's story inspired the movie "The Pursuit of Happyness."

Stearns & Co. from 1983 to 1987, eventually becoming the top earner in San Francisco and later in New York. Gardner left in 1987 to establish Gardner Rich & Company, Inc., which has since expanded into Christopher Gardner International Holdings. Gardner's bestselling autobiography, The Pursuit of Happyness, recalls this remarkable journey and is also the inspiration behind the movie

African American Family Magazine's Distinguished Speakers Series presents America's most intellectual, inspirational and informative speakers who engage broad-based audiences by addressing issues such as history, race, literature, economics and education. The series has had notables, such as the late Coretta Scott King, author and poet Maya Angelou, Nobel Laureate and Pulitzer Prize recipient Toni Morrison, Sheila Johnson, the world's first black female billionaire and, most recently, former President Bill Clinton.

"The Pursuit of Happyness: Meet the Real Christopher Gardner" is produced by African American Family Magazine. This event is also sponsored by DTE Energy Foundation, Fifth Third Bank, Central Michigan University, McDonald's, the Michigan Economic Development Corporation, Metro Parent Magazine, International Black Expo, Inc., WMXD 92.3 and Warner, Norcross and Judd. Partial proceeds from this event will benefit The Yes Foundation, a local 501c3 nonprofit organization that works to promote literacy in Detroit.

High school students: Film a PSA video, win

The Observer & Eccentric and Mirror Newspapers are teaming up with Buddy's Pizza to sponsor a public service announcement video contest for high school students.

The winning team will receive \$1,000 to be divided among the participating students.

Schools throughout the tri-county area are invited to produce a 30-second PSA video focusing on teen issues.

"The contest will give high school students an opportunity to send a powerful message that impacts their peers and the community on topics including, but not limited, to the dangers of tobacco, alcohol, drugs, bullying, cyber-bullying and violence," said Marcy Brontman of Buddy's.

Completed student PSA videos are due by midnight Tuesday. April 1. They will stay on the Buddy's Web site throughout April for the public to view and vote for their favorite video. Detroit media professionals will select the winner from the top 10 public favorites.

Student teams interested in participating should e-mail or fax their school name, student project manager and name of high school adviser with address telephone and e-mail contact to Buddy's Pizza, Attn: Michelle at (248) 855-6329 or mlawton@ buddyspizza.com by 5 p.m. Monday, Feb. 25.

CONTEST RULES

Each video must include some representation of Buddy's Pizza and the Observer & Eccentric or Mirror Newspapers (i.e.: filmed at a Buddy's Pizza location.

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Buddy's logo in video, Observer & Eccentric and/or Mirror Newspaper visible at some point in video). Also included must be the tagline "Sometimes you just need some Buddy's ... Seriously!" Entries received after deadline

will be disqualified. A school team (one per high school) entering the contest must have a school staff member to supervise the project. No copyrighted audio or video materials will be allowed. Only public domain and royalty free music is allowed. No obscenities, vulgarity or lurid material will be permitted and disqualification will

be at the discretion of the judges. All entries become the legal property of Buddy's Pizza to utilize at their sole discretion and will not be returned. Entry in the contest constitutes permission to use winner's video without additional compensation.

Each school can submit only one video for judging.

Release forms must be filled out and signed by all participants, on-air and voice-over talent used in the video.

For more information on uploading submitted videos to YouTube and a complete list of rules, contact Michelle Lawton at (248) 855-6222, Ext. 212, or via e-mail at mlawton@buddyspizza.com or Brontman at (248) 626-0250 or visit Buddy's on the Web at www.buddyspizza.

Student teams must save their original video. The top 10 selected by viewers from the online poll must submit a high quality version for final judging. Winners will be contacted for further instructions.



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

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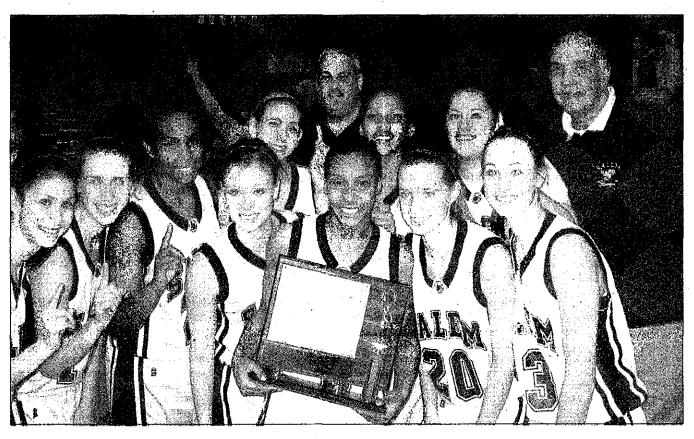
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The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers www.hometownlife.com

🗝 WLAA Championship Game: Salem 38, Western 36 🕆



Salem's basketball team earned its first WLAA championship trophy since 2004 Thursday night when it knocked off Walled Lake Western, 38-36, on Alaya Mitchell's last-second shot. Mitchell is pictured holding the hardware.

THE PRE NO. 18

Rocks win conference title on Mitchell's 1-in-a-million shot

BY ED WRIGHT STAFF WRITER

Thursday night's WLAA girls basketball championship game was decided by a shot you'd normally only see on YouTube, SportsCenter or in your dreams.

With her team trailing Walled Lake Western, 36-35, and less than two seconds left, a triple-teamed Alaya Mitchell banked in a near-miraculous 14-foot, off-balance, off-thewrong-foot jumper while getting fouled to give Salem the lead with 1.5 ticks left.

Mitchell hit the ensuing free throw and the Warriors failed to get off a final shot as the Rocks won, 38-36, to capture their first WLAA tournament championship since 2004.

"It all happened like it was in slow motion," Mitchell recounted a few moments after her game-winning effort. "Everything was going crazy in my head. I can't even tell you how excited I was when I saw the ball go in.

"It was kind of like a play I'd do on the playground."

Tanya Meftah hit the front end of a 1-and-1 free throw opportunity to put the Warriors up 36-35 with nine seconds left. Her second attempt bounced off the rim and into the hands of Salem's Chelsea Davis, who called a heads-up time out while leaning out of bounds.

Salem coach Fred Thomann then drew up a play that put the ball in Mitchell's hands.

"First of all, it was a great

time-out call by Chelsea Davis," Thomann said. "We wanted to get the ball to 'Mitch', get two shooters spotted up and two rebounders

stationed down low in case the shot missed. If 'Mitch' was covered, the play called for her to give it up to one of the other two shooters. "But, of course," Thomann

'Mitch' wasn't about to give it Western coach Dave Walther said his team couldn't have defended the play any better

said, smiling, "we all knew

than it did. "We knew Mitchell would get the ball, so we rotated over to her," said Walther. "We figured she'd either take it herself

Please see ROCKS, B2

Game-winning shot was one for the ages

can see it now, 50-some years down the road, Salem senior point guard Alaya Mitchell will sit down in her rocking chair, a grand child on each knee, and proceed to tell them about Valentine's Day 2008 — the night she

banked in a 1-in-a-million shot to beat Walled Lake Western in the WLAA championship game.

She'll tell them how the clock was ticking down perilously close to 0:00, her team was behind by one point and when she finally pulled up to launch a shot after

a court-length rush with the ball, three Western players surrounded her so tightly that it was a wonder she could see the rim through their outstretched arms, let alone throw a ball through it from 14 feet away.

She'll tell them how one of the Warriors bumped her, knocked her off balance, and how she - with so much on the line - somehow managed to push off with one foot and release a shot that skimmed off the backboard and through the net from such a ridiculous angle that it's amazing the ball didn't hit the side of the backboard.

Timeless story

Ed Wright

As her grand kids' eyes grow to the size of quarters, she'll tell them how the gym suddenly grew library-esque quiet as everyone looked at the refs to see what they would call.

And how when the trailing man in stripes extended his index finger and made the motion of a ball going down into a hoop before mouthing the words "Count it," her ecstatic teammates gave her a group hug she'll never forget.

Never give up

Alaya will conclude the story with a lesson in perseverance. She'll tell her grand kids how she

Please see WRIGHT, B2

District hoop

All three P-CEP boys basketball teams will be participating in the Class A District tournament at Novi High School that will run Monday through Friday, Feb. 25-29.

The tournament will open on the 25th with Plymouth squaring off against Salem in a 5 p.m. game. Novi will take on Canton in the second game of the doubleheader, which is set to tip off at 7 p.m.

On Wednesday, Feb. 27, Novi Catholic Central will play the winner of the Plymouth-Salem contest at 5 p.m. Northville will then play the winner of the Novi-Canton game at 7 p.m. on the 27th.

The championship match-up is set for Feb. 29 at 7 p.m.

The District champ will advance to a Regional tournament the following week at Walled Lake Northern High School.

Basketball winners

Canton's Summit on the Park hosted the MRPA Hoop Shoot competition and a 3on-3 tournament on Feb. 9.

The winners of the Hoop Shoot were: Zack Gruczelak (boys 8-9), Mike Montgomery (boys 10-11), Scott Gring (boys 12-13), Ashwin Kumar (boys 14-15) and Nina Chen (girls 10-11).

The 3-on-3 champions were:

■ Boys grades three-four: the All-Stars (Obi Okoli, Christopher English, Preetam Shokar and Amanjot Sanghe);

■ Boys grades fivesix: the Wolves (Viet Nguyen, Jim Fiscus, Andrew Stevens, Joey Hewitt); and

■ Boys grades seven-eight: the Canton Lions (Devin Slominski, Scott Gring, Mike Boes and Nate Sass).

Golf leagues forming

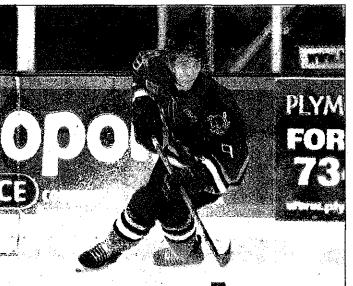
Golf leagues are currently forming at Canton's Pheasant Run Golf Club, located at 46500 Summit Parkway.

Pheasant Run will create leagues or it will accept alreadydeveloped leagues.

All levels of ability are encouraged to enroll.

Among the available openings are mornings; afternoons between 3-5 p.m. from Monday through Thursday; and Sunday evenings.

For more information, call (734) 397-6460 or visit www. leisure.canton-mi.org.



Plymouth Whalers forward Vern Cooper is making the most of his increased ice time this season as he's picked up 14 goals and 14 assists through the team's first 53 games.

Waswanipi's finest

FEBRUARY FRENZY

All three P-CEP girls

basketball teams will

open Class A District

at Livonia Ladywood

High School. Following

play Monday night

is the schedule:

Plymouth;

Novi;

■ Monday, 6 p.m. -

Canton vs. Ladywood;

7:30 p.m. = Salem vs.

Wednesday, 6 p.m.

winner vs. Northville;

Canton-Ladywood

7:30 p.m. - Salem-

Friday, 7 p.m. -

Plymouth winner vs.

Championship game.

Cooper has traveled great distances in search of OHL success

BY ED WRIGHT STAFF WRITER

Vern Cooper is listed at 5-foot-9 and 176 pounds in the Plymouth Whalers' official team program, but he's a lot bigger than that in his hometown of Waswanipi, Quebec. How big?

The top link on the village's official Web page reads, "Vern Cooper: OHL Champ."

Click on the link and you'll find a series of photos taken after the Whalers won last year's Ontario Hockey League championship in Sudbury, Ont., which, coincidentally, is the city Cooper's family relocated to when he was 10.

One of the link's photos shows a broadly smiling Cooper hugging his parents. It's hard to tell what's greater in the snapshot: Cooper's joy or his parents' pride. The 17-year-old quicker-than-

lightning skater has earned nearicon status in Waswanipi - and near-celebrity status in Sudbury

- because he's a tough, fast-moving forward who can zip around bigger defensemen like the roadrunner zips past the coyote — and because he's as likeable as he is talented.

"You can't walk down a street in

Sudbury with Vern without somebody recognizing him," said Pete Krupsky, the Whalers' director of communications. "He's a very popu-

lar figure there."

Cooper is flourishing in his second year with the Whalers. After serving as a self-described "fourthline energy player" last season, he's racked up 14 goals and 11 assists through Friday night's win over Saginaw.

"I had kind of a rough first half, but I've been picking it up lately," he said. "I'm on the PP (power play) and

Please see COOPER, B2

Stone tips scales Rocks' favor in 20T thriller

STAFF WRITER

If you like dramatic, buzzerbeating shots and down-tothe-wire excitement, the Salem gymnasium was the place to be Friday night.

The host Rocks outlasted Plymouth, 74-72, in a doubleovertime marathon that wasn't decided until a Wildcat long. three-point attempt fell just short at the buzzer.

"It was like two gladiators going to battle all night," said Salem coach Bob Brodie, whose team improved to 9-10. "They'd land a punch and we'd counter. Both teams played very well. It was just a matter of who ended

up with the ball last."

The game-winning points came on an offensive put-back by Salem senior Grant Stone, who finished with a careerbest-tying 36 points.

Plymouth slipped to 7-12. Plymouth led 11-8 after one quarter and 25-24 at the intermission.

The Wildcats extended their advantage to 43-38 with eight minutes to play, however, the Rocks rebounded to grab a 56-53 lead with the final seconds ticking down when Plymouth's Brandon Roberts picked up a loose ball following a mad scramble and calmly banked in a triple at the buzzer to send the game in the first overtime.

Salem trailed 63-61 during the closing seconds of the first OT when senior forward Ross Davis drained a turn-around jumper from the top of the key to force another four-minute

Davis finished with 15 points for the winners and junior forward Courtney Frazier added eight points.

Stone led all rebounders with 15 boards.

Roberts had a sensational night for the Wildcats as he poured in 25 points. Other key contributors included Garrett Rebain (15 points), Navraj Sandhu (14) and freshman Justin Moss (13).

The Rocks connected on 9-

of-17 free throws (52.9 percent) while the Wildcats swished 15-of-31 (48.3) from the charity

The same two teams met Feb. 7 at Plymouth with the Wildcats coming out with a 56-52 victory.

They'll meet again in the first round of the Class A District tournament on Monday, Feb. 25, at 5 p.m. at Novi High School.

The Rocks and Wildcats will conclude their regular season Tuesday night against opponents that were not determined as of Friday night's Observer deadline.

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



Salem's Grant Stone takes aim at two of the 36 points he scored in Friday night's 74-72 double-overtime victory over Plymouth.

GYMNASTICS RESULTS

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, February 17, 2008

CANTON 134.95 WALLED LAKE WESTERN/HORTHERN 139.85

WEDNESDAY AT WALLED LAKE VAULT: 1. Robyn Piwowar (C). 9.25; 2. Hannah Saarinen (WLWN). 9.15; 3. Cathy Huang (C). 8.95; 4. Kiley Tobel (WLWN). 8.55; 5. Mallory Hudak (C), 8.5; 6. Shannon Slayton (WLWN), 8.4.

UNEVEN BARS: 1. Hannah Saarinen (WLWN), 915; 2. Robyn Piwowar (C), 8.65; 3. Cathy Huang (C), 8.45; 4. Shannon Stayton (WLWN), 7.95; 5. (tie) Kali Pierce (C) and Kiley

BALANCE BEAM: 1. Hannah Saarinen (WLWN), 9.15; 2. Robyn Piwowar (C), 8.2; 3. (tie) Kali Pierce (C) and Shannon Slayton (WLWN), 8.05; 5: Cathy Huang (C), 7.85; 6: Mallory Hudak (C), 7.8.

Mallory Hudak (C), 7.8.

FLOOR EXERCISE: 1. Mallory Hudak (C), 9.55; 2. Robyn Piwowar (C), 9.1; 3. Shannon Slayton (WLWN), 9.05; 4. Kali Pierce (C), 8.4; 5. Hannah Saarinen (WLWN), 8.75; 6. Cathy Huang (C), 8.5.

CANTON'S ALL-AROUND SCORES:

CONTROL OF CONTROL OF

Robyn Piwowar, 35.20, Malfory Hudak, 33.80; Cathy Huang, 33.75.

WALLED LAKE CENTRAL 123.05

WEDNESDAY AT WALLED LAKE VAULT: 1. Robyn Piwowar (C), 9.25; 2.
Taylor Heredyk (WLC), 9.2; 3. Cathy Huang (C), 8.95; 4. Mallory Hudak (C), 8.5; 5.
Tatiana Palafox (WLC), 8.35; 6. (tie) Katelyn Rutherford (C), Kate Carroll (C) and Callie

UNEVEN BARS: 1. Robyn Piwowar (C), 8.65; 2. (tie) Tatiana Palafox (WLC) and Taylor Heredyk (WLC), 8.55; 4. Cathy Huang (C), 8.45; 5. Kali Pierce (C), 7.9; 6. Kate Carroll (C), 7.7. BALANCE BEAM: 1.1. Robyn Piwowar

(C), 8.2; 2. Kali Pierce (C), 8.05; 3. Taylor Heredyk (WLC), 7.95; 4. Cathy Huang (C), 7.85; 5. Malfory Hudak (C), 7.6; 6. Tatiana Palafox

(WLC), 7.5.

FLOOR EXERCISE: 1. Mallory Hudak (C), 9.55; 2. Robyn Piwowar (C), 9.1; 3. Tatiana Palafox (WLC), 8.85; 4. Cathy Huang (C), 8.5; 5. Kali Pierce (C), 8.4; 6. (tie) Taylor Heredyk (WLC) and Callie Zahuf (WLC), 8.2.

CANTON'S ALL-AROUND SCORES:

Charle Piwers 25; 20; Mallory Hudak 23; 20

Robyn Piwowar, 35.20; Mallory Hudak, 33.80; Cathy Huang, 33.75.

Chief cagers hold off late Northern rally

Canton repelled a valiant fourthquarter comeback by Walled Lake Northern and went on to post a 58-51 victory Friday night in the Chiefs' Phase III gymnasium.

The Knights erased all but one point of an 11-point deficit in final four minutes before the Chiefs turned in some clutch plays down the stretch.

The win improved Canton's record to 6-13. Northern slipped

Senior forward William Tidwell led Canton with 14 points and eight rebounds. Also excelling for the winners were juniors Dan Stoney (12 points and eight boards) and Joel Schwiebert, who netted eight points and six rebounds.

Leroy Jackson led Northern with 23 points - 16 of which came in the fourth quarter.

"Our inside guys played a fantas-

BOYS PREP HOOP

tic game," said Canton coach Dan Colligan. "We knew we had to get the ball inside to win tonight and they guys did a phenomenal job of doing that.

"Even though Leroy Jackson finished with 23, the guys who were guarding him — Kyle Biega, Kierre Daniels and Don Haron - did a great job defensively on him holding him to seven points through three quarters."

Canton roared to an 18-7 firstquarter lead and 28-16 halftime advantage. The Knights cut their deficit to 37-30 with eight minutes

Canton made 17-of-27 free throws (62.9 percent) while. Northern was 9-of-10 from the

CHRISTIAN 54: On Friday at Ypsilanti Calvary Christian, the Wolverines earned an impressive victory on "Homecoming."

The win improved Agape's record to 12-6 overall and 6-2 in the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference's Red Division. Macomb slipped to 6-12 and 2-6, respectively.

The Wolverines will battle for first place in the division with fellow co-leader Novi Franklin Road Christian Tuesday night at 7 p.m. in the Warriors' gym.

The winners broke open a tight contest by outscoring Macomb 29-13 in the second quarter.

We started pressing in the first quarter and I wasn't pleased how effective it was, so we switched to a man and a zone," explained Agape coach Keith Anleitner. "I sat down

my starters for a while after the first quarter and put the reserves in and I think it motivated the starters to play harder because when they got back in the game they really played well."

Ty Majeski led the homecoming triumph with 25 points. Mark Mullett added a career-high 23 points (15 of which were the result of five three-pointers), Donald Mullett chipped in with 10 and Jared Miller netted nine points and eight rebounds.

"Ty got a lot of his points on fastbreak lay-ups — he plays very well in the open court," said Anleitner.

Agape led 47-29 at the half and 66-43 with eight minutes left.

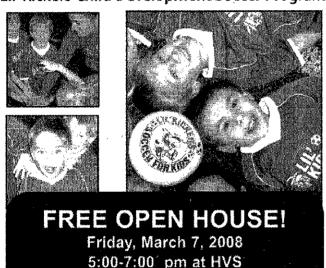
Joel Battjes paced Macomb with 21 points. Agape connected on 7-of-11 free throws (63.6 percent) while Macomb netted 6-of-14 freebies (43.0).

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PK (penalty kill) teams now, so I'm getting more opportunities to score and help the team."

His accomplishments are widely followed in Waswanipi, a hockeyloving Cree community of close to 1,200 residents located in central Quebec.

"Everybody is into hockey up there," said Cooper, who noted his hometown is a 16-hour drive from Plymouth. "Hockey is pretty much all there is to do where I grew up.

"A lot of good players have come out of Waswanipi, but most of them end up going back because they get homesick. I think a lot of people have respected me because I've been able to battle through it and keep going."

Cooper laced on his first pair of ice skates at the fearless age of 3. Before too long, he was battling

for loose pucks with his older broth-"My brothers were actually very good hockey players; they had

a lot of potential," said Cooper. "They helped me a lot when I was Cooper has been able to overcome his less-than=Chris-Chelios-

"I guess my speed has had a lot to do with my success," he said,

like stature with a skill that can't be

modestly. "I'm able to get around the bigger defensemen because I'm a little quicker than they are."

A student at Starkweather School in Plymouth, Cooper said the dual responsibilities of student/OHL

player can get demanding at times. "Probably the toughest part is when we're traveling because I still have to take care of my school work along with playing hockey," he said. "Just because we're on the road doesn't mean I can stop concentrating on my school work."

Cooper emulated former NHL star Pavel Bure as a kid.

"I always admired his speed and skill, plus he's a smaller guy like myself," said Cooper.

Cooper is already working toward improving his chances of getting drafted by an NHL team when he's eligible in June of 2009.

"My parents have hired a trainer for me, so I work very hard at off-ice stuff during the summers," he said.

When he gets back to Waswanipi during the off-season, Cooper enjoys playing golf with his brothers and accompanying his relatives on hunting excursions.

"I've never shot at anything yet, but I've been with people who have shot bear and moose," he said.

With his impressive combination of speed, determination and savvy instincts, it may not be too long before Cooper is taking a serious shot at stardom.

Whalers double-up Saginaw

Veteran Joe McCann netted a power-play goal and an assist to lead the Plymouth Whalers to a 4-2 victory over the Saginaw Spirit in an Ontario Hockey League game played Friday night before 3,613 at the Dow Event Center in Saginaw.

The Whalers won their second straight game and are now 31-21-2-2, good for 66 points and third place in the OHL West. Plymouth is currently the fifth seed in the OHL's Western Conference playoff race. Saginaw is now 26-22-4-2, good for 58 points and fifth place in the OHL West.

Besides McCann's 11th netfinder of the season, Patrick Lee (10th), Andrew Fournier (32nd) and Monroe's R.J. Mahalak (2nd) scored for Plymouth. Adam Comrie (7th) and Chris Chappell (12th) replied for Saginaw.

Plymouth won the battle of special teams, going 2-for-5 on the power play, scoring a short-handed goal and killing off all five Saginaw power plays.

Plymouth played the game without suspended defensemen Leo Jenner and Jozef Sladok; and injured defenseman Josh Bemis. To fill the vacancies on the blue line, the Whalers called up Anthony Donati from the London Jr. Knights and utilized McCann on defense. In addition, the Whalers were without right wing Ryan Hayes and head coach Greg Stefan, both suspended Feb. 10 due to fighting in the Whalers' 7-4 loss in Kingston.

The Whalers took a 1-0 lead on a power play at 7:12 of the first period when McCann tapped home a rebound from the left wing after Christian Steingraber's point shot was stopped by Saginaw goaltender Ryan Daniels. Saginaw tied the game at 14:12 when Comrie ripped a shot from the left point over the shoulder of Plymouth goaltender Jeremy Smith.

Plymouth took a 2-1 lead on another power play goal at 17:25 when Lee tapped home a loose puck in the Saginaw crease area.

Fournier gave the Whalers a 3-1 lead on a short handed goal with ten seconds left in the first period when Chris Terry skated hard right wing to the Spirit goal line and fed Fournier out in front.

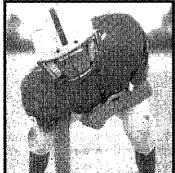
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ROCKS FROM PAGE B1

or pick-and-pop it to Davis, because she's a pretty good shooter.

"We rotated over to her well and I thought we might get a travel call, but the ref saw it

differently." Salem closed its regular season with an 18-2 mark and plenty of momentum heading into Monday night's Class District opener against Plymouth.

Western will take a 17-3 record into next week's Class A District tournament.

When we started the season, I thought we'd be decent, but I didn't know if we'd get this far," said Davis, who was the Rocks' MVP for the first 31 minutes and 58 seconds Thursday night. "Winning this proves that we've gotten better as the season has gone on and that we're playing together as a team."

Davis finished with 16 points and eight rebounds.

Drawing double- and sometimes triple-teams, Mitchell had a sub-par shooting night before her dramatic difference-maker as she connected on just 3-of-21 shots and 3-of-5 free throws for 11 points.

· Sophomore Sara Stone added nine points and 10 rebounds for the Rocks.

The Warriors' scoring ledger was as balanced as the Walled Lake Northern gymnasium floor the game was played on: Carly Zeitlin and Chelsea Hunter both contributed eight points; Meftah added seven; and Melanie Wilkerson and Lauren Williams both chipped in with four.

The girls played great - they did everything I asked them to do," said Walther. "They really sold out for this game. Salem is especially tough to guard, especially because we were out-sized. We had some rebounding issues that hurt us."

Western jumped out to a 13-10 first-quarter lead before the Rocks battled back to deadlock the game at 21-all at the half.

The biggest lead either team owned in the second half was Western's 31-26 advantage that came during the opening seconds of the fourth quarter on Meftah's back-door layup.

The Warriors grabbed a 35-32 lead with 2:51 left on a nifty up-and-under post move by Zeitlin.

Davis countered with a basket 30 seconds later to bring her team to within 35-34.

The Rocks drew even at 35-35 thanks to a Mitchell free throw with 10.7 ticks left. Meftah was then fouled with nine seconds to go to set up the dramatic conclusion.

goals (31.8 percent) and 7-of-12 free throws (58.3). Western connected on 14-of-39 shots from the field (35.8) and 7-of-11 freebies (63.8).

Both teams turned the ball over 13 times.

"I'm especially happy for 'Mitch' tonight," said Thomann, referring to his lone senior. "It's the first time she's won this tournament as a varsity player. Western has a heck of a

team. They were 17-2 coming in and they played right with us. And they play hard — oh my, do they play hard." LIVONIA FRANKLIN 45, W.L.

NORTHERN 24: The Patriots won handily in the WLAA tournament third-place game played Thursday night at Walled Lake Northern. Junior forward Briauna

Taylor had a huge game, netting 14 points, 16 rebounds, five assists and five steals. Her twin sister, Brittany, also shined, contributing 16 points, five rebounds and five steals. Ashley Price chipped in with seven boards and Senneca Scott added six points.

Brittany Gibson led the Knights with seven points.

Franklin (16-4) led 12-2 after one quarter, 22-8 at the half and 34-16 with eight minutes to play.

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couldn't buy a basket for most of the game that night - how the ball seemed to sit on the rim so many times before deciding to fall the wrong way

Then she'll tell them that despite the fact the basketball gods were frowning on her for most of that night, she didn't

give in, didn't get down. And how when her coach drew up the final play for her, she wanted the ball more than she's ever wanted it before.

She'll tell them to always keep their chin up, no matter what, because their team will be counting on them - just like her team was counting on her on Valentine's Day night, 2008.

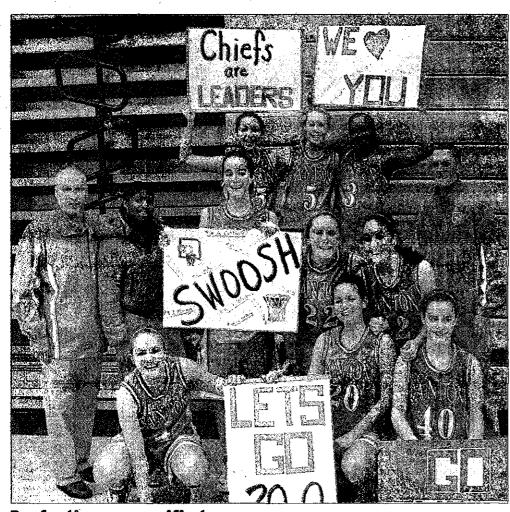
And I can see it now - her

grand kids will jump off her lap, grab their basketballs and run to the door that leads to the drive-way hoop court.

"Wait for me," she'll say, before picking up another basketball and spinning it on her finger as she follows them out the door.

Ed Wright is the Sports Editor for the Plymouth and Canton Observers. He can be reached at (734) 953-2108 or ewright@hometownlife.com.

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Perfection personified

Canton's junior varsity girls basketball team completed a 20-0 season Monday against Livonia Stevenson. Pictured are (top row from left) Yuki Krolicki, Lindsey Winters, Shelby Nolen, (middle row from left) head coach Bob Blohm, Ciara Williams, Kari Schmitt, Laura Kushner, Alyssa Cottrell, assistant coach Jason Priebe, (front row from left) Lauren Macuga, Kelly Larimore and Sara Schmitt.

SWIM RESULTS

SALEM 110 WALLED LAKE CENTRAL 76

THURSDAY AT SALEM 200-yard medley relay: 1. Salem (Matt Collingwood, Sida Chen, Cameron Dunn, Nathan Spala), 1:50.58; 2. Central (Ryan Miceli, Ben Baumgarten, Tyler James, Garrett Leidich), 1:52.26: 3. Central (George Smolkin,

John Molnar, Cory Casagrande, Tyler Esmacher), 1:57.44. **200 freestyle:** 1. Adam Seroka (S), 64.63; 2. Sean Riley (WLC), 2:00.33; 3. Max

200 IM: 1, Sida Chen (S), 2:13.33; 2. Ryan Miceli (WLC), 2:21.73; 3. Cory Casagrande

50 freestyle: 1. Nathan Spala (S), 24.78; 2. Paul Cherewick (S), 25.16; 3. Garrett Leidich

1-meter diving: 1. Kevin Smith (S), 171.50 points; 2. Tyler Esmacher (WLC), 147.35; 3. Paul Krutty (S), 140.45.

100 butterfly: 1. Sida Chen (S), 58.40; 2. Ryan Miceli (WEC), 1:00.28; 3. Cameron Dunn 100 freestyle: 1. Adam Seroka (S), 51.27;

2. Ben Baumgarten (WLC), 51.78; 3. Sean Riley (WLC), 52.64.

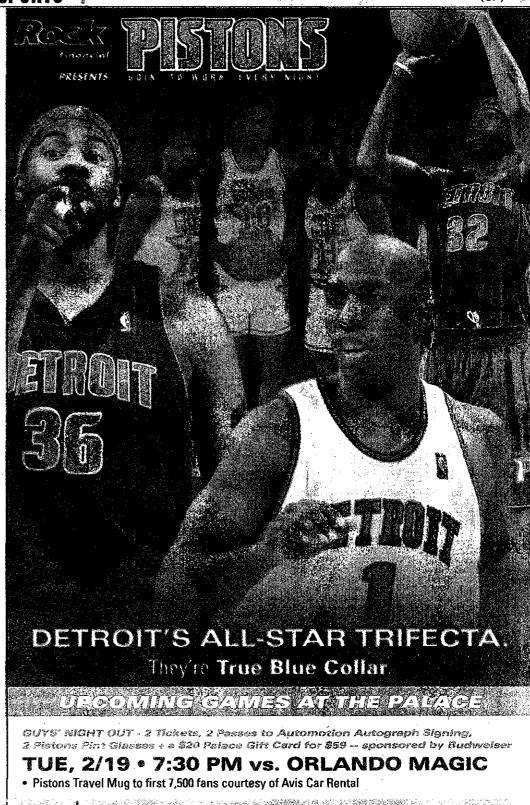
500 freestyle: 1. Matt Collingwood (S), 5:17.34; 2. Max Mills (S), 5:26.52; 3. Tory Tederington (WLC), 5:36.06. 200 freestyle relay: 1. Salem (Nathan Spala, Sida Chen, Joe Defassanyi, Adam

Seroka), 1:38.04; 2. Central (Tyler Esmacher, Matt Jannette, Garrett Leidich, Sean Riley), James, Dan Montgomery, Matt Funni), 1:45.77, 100 backstroke: 1. Nick Hoffmeyer (S), 1:03.59; 2. George Smolkin (WLC), 1:07.73; 3. Alex Suriano (S), 1:08.09.

100 breaststroke: 1. Ben Baumgarten (WLC), 1:11.34; 2. Eric Schendef (S), 1:14.99; 3. John Molnar (WLC), 1:15.33.

400 freestyle relay: 1. Salem (Adam Seroka, Casey Olson, Matt Collingwood, Nathan Spala), 3:38.04; 2. Central (Cory Casagrande, Ryan Miceli, Sean Riley, Ben Baumgarten), 3:49.32; 3. Salem (Max Mills, Chad Newton, Alex Suriano, Nick Hoffmeyer), 3:7.56.

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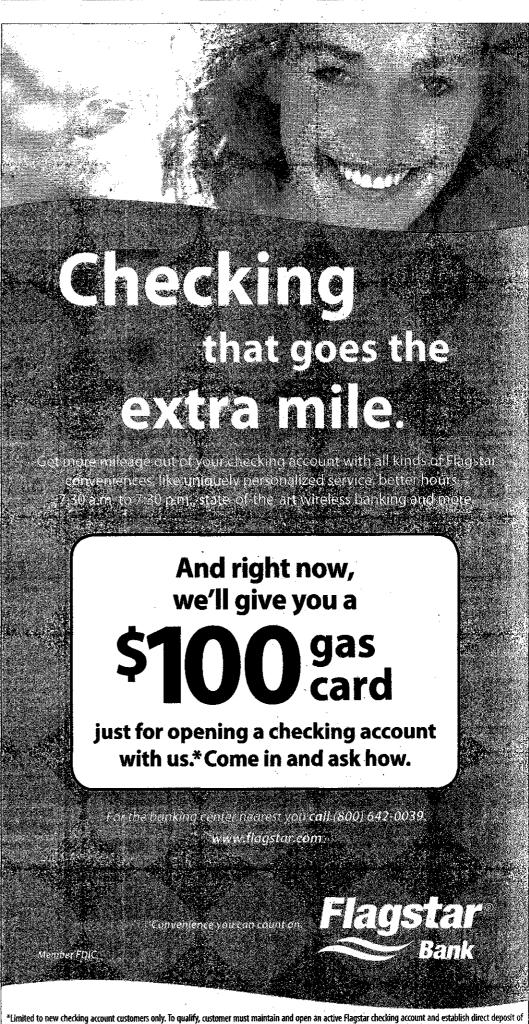
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Hugh Gallagher, editor . (734) 953-2149 . hgallagher@hometownlife.com

PKD: A life-threatening disease

Genetic disorder topic of educational seminar

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN

Alexis Alati looks like any 3-year-old ballerina except for her distended belly. The protrusion is the only clue the Troy girl is suffering with PKD, a life-threatening genetic disorder that causes fluid-filled cysts to grow on the kidneys.

While there is no cure for polycystic kidney disease and dialysis or transplant are the only treatments available for 50 percent of patients who eventually develop renal failure, research is ongoing. Once a year, Alexis and mother Melony travel to the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Md., to participate in a study. As of now Alexis' kidneys are fully functioning, but she has developed cysts on her liver as well.

"Her belly is distended because organs are twice their size," said Melony Alati. "Very early on we kept thinking something was wrong because her belly was so big. As a baby she would teeter on her belly."

Alexis' distended belly wasn't the only symptom when she was diagnosed at 9 months old. Her blood pressure zoomed to 160/130, and she was anemic and fussy. At the time Alati and her husband, Rob, knew nothing about the disease until calling the PKD Foundation which provides funding for research and patient education.

SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

On Saturday, March 8, four University of Michigan experts discuss PKD and the latest findings at a seminar presented by the Detroit Chapter of the PKD Foundation at Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak. According to the Foundation, PKD is one of the most common, life-threatening diseases affecting more people than Down syndrome, cystic fibrosis, muscular dystrophy, and sickle cell anemia combined. About 600,000 American children and adults live with the disease, 12.5 million people worldwide.

Rick Covault's been tested twice for PKD although to date has developed none of the symptoms which include constant or intermittent pain in the back or blood in the urine. Covault's mother died in September from complications of the disease at age 71. Patricia Covault was 45 when first diagnosed, a year older than Covault is now. After developing renal failure 10 years ago she was on dialysis five years before receiving a kidney transplant at the University of Michigan Hospital in Ann Arbor.

'A CHALLENGE'

"It's a challenge that every family member has to deal with if you have a history of PKD," said Covault of Canton. "What's interesting about PKD is there are two versions, adult ADPKD (autosomal dominant), children ARPKD (autosomal recessive). With the adult version you typically don't find out'you have the disease until later in the life. With the children's version, babies are born at birth with cysts on the kidney that restrict the ability for the kidney to filter the blood.

Dr. Ben Margolis is convinced scientists are close to finding a treatment.

Margolis is one of the speakers at the March 8 seminar along with Drs. Diane Cibrik, Silas Norman and Crystal Gadegbeku.

"We know the genes for the two types. I'm optimistic about treatment as we understand more about it.

PKD EDUCATIONAL SEMINAR

What: Learn about polycystic kidney disease from University of Michigan experts

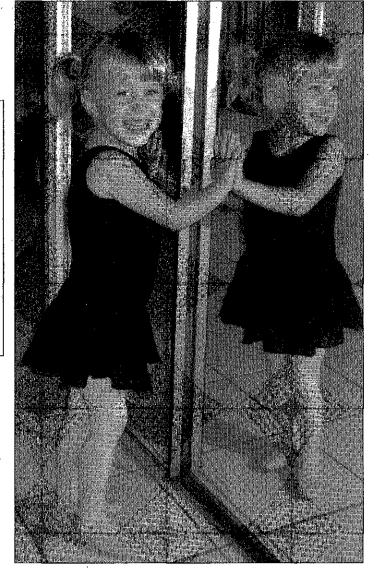
When: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, March 8

Where: Administration Building first floor auditorium, Beaumont Hospital, 3601 W. 13 Mile, Royal Oak

RSVP: Call (248) 761-9944 or send e-mail to Kathryn.Glynn@ cambridge-na.com. No charge and open to the public.

There are drugs in trials on the PKD Web site," said Margolis, a scientist and professor of internal medicine and biological chemistry at the University of Michigan where he is "looking at the structure in the cell cilia (a hair-like sensory antennae) that seem to be defective and cause the cell to divide too much" creating the cysts. He serves on the national PKD Foundation's Scientific Advisory Board.

"PKD was first described in 1757 when people first realized people could die. For many years we didn't understand much and had theories about what was going on. We were studying a lot of mice and figuring



Alexis Alati of Troy is suffering with PKD, a life-threatening kidney disease. The only outward clue is her distended belly.

out what genes were wrong. Today there are many new treatments being tested and we're hopeful one of these will be effective in slowing this disease, not a cure but

something to slow the progression."

For more information, visit www.pkdcure.org.

Ichomin@hometownlife.com

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

FEBRUARY

FEBRI Childbirth education classes

Let's Get Ready To Have a Baby 7-9 p.m. Mondays, Feb. 18 to March 17, or Wednesdays, Feb. 20 to March 19, at St. Mary Mercy Hospital, 36475 Five Mile at Levan, Livonia. Please use south entrance, off of Levan Road. There is a fee, Registration required. Call (734) 655-1162. Learn what to expect during pregnancy, tabor and delivery. Classes are based on the Lamaze Method and include exercise, relaxation, breathing techniques and comfort measures to assist moms through labor. Classes include information on anesthesia options, medication, nutrition, family adjustment.

Intervention workshop

A free presentation by internationally-known intervention specialists Jeff and Debra Jay 7:30-9 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 19, at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Education Center, 5305 Elliott Drive, Ypsilanti. For more details, call Dawn Farm at (734) 485-8725 or visit www.dawnfarm.org. The Jays describe their effective model for intervention with addicted loved ones. Learn how "Love First" is the way to help people find recovery.

Say goodnight to insomnia

Deadline for registration is Feb. 21 for class 6:30-8:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Feb. 26 and March 4, at Farmington Community School, 30415 Shiawassee. Cost is \$45. To register, call (248) 489-3333. If you have difficulty falling asleep, staying asleep, or waking refreshed, join health coach Sandy Baumann to analyze your daily routines to uncover common sleep robbers and implement simple ways to create a sleep-promoting bedroom. Discover 20 sleep-enhancing strategies to try at home and learn about 8 natural sleep supplements.

Asperger's lecture series

Nick Dubin, a national speaker and author who was diagnosed with Asperger's syndrome in 2004, conducts workshops on topics related to Asperger's syndrome 2-5 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 21 (Teaching to the Asperger's Spectrum: One Size Does Not Fit All) at the Judson Center, 4410 W. 13 Mile and Greenfield, Royal Oak. Each workshop costs S39. This program is approved by the Michigan Social Work Continuing Education Collaborative for Continuing Education Clock Hours. For information, visit www.judsoncenter.org or call (248) 837-2047.

Heart smart cooking clinics
In recognition of National Heart Month and the launch of

its trans fat-free menu, Entrée Vous of Canton, Northville and Troy are raising money for the local American Heart Association throughout February. The locations are hosting Heart Smart Cooking Clinics and dark chocolate tastings 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 21 (includes a couple's date night and costs \$48) and 11 a.m. Friday, Feb. 22, at Entrée Vous of Troy, 1969 W. Maple, Cambridge Crossings Shops. For \$30, each participant receives chocolate sampling and a lunch or dinner, your choice of one entrée (\$25 value) to assemble and take home and a demonstration of low-fat cooking ingredients and recipes. The AHA's presenting information, activity kits and checking blood pressure. Donations to the AHA can be made in the local kitchen or online at http://honor.americanheart.org/goto/entreevouscares. To register for clinic, contact Entrée Vous location. Tai Chi for Arthritis

St. Mary Mercy Hospital is offering fitness classes in Tai Chi, an ancient Chinese discipline combining agile steps, joint-friendly movement, relaxed breathing, and mental challenge to promote mobility and well-being 6:30-7:30 p.m. Mondays, Feb. 25 to March 31, (classes also available on Fridays) in the hospital's Classroom 10 on the 4th Floor of the Marian Professional Building at 36475 Five Mile at Levan, Livonia. Please use Five Mile entrance. Registration required, call (734) 655-8950. Enrollment limited. A registration fee payable to St. Mary Mercy Hospital is required prior to first class.

Divorce support group

Gaining financial control of your divorce and how to plan for your future with Jacqueline Gold-Rosesler 7-9 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 26 in the Women's Resource Center (room 225) of the McDowell Center, Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty, Livonia. Call (734) 462-4443.

Families in Action program

Presented by the National Alliance on Mental Illness the 10 week educational program is designed specifically for any individual with a loved one that has been diagnosed with a mental illness. The two hour weekly sessions cover topics relative to mental illness, facilitated by family members trained by NAMI- Michigan. Sessions begin 7-9 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 27, at St. Regis School Campus, 3695 Lincoln Rd. (14 1/2 Mile and Lahser), Bloomfield Hills. Cost \$20 per person, \$30 a couple. Call Mary Ellen, (248) 348-7196, or send e-mail to mejudd@comcast.net.

Health fair to offer free heart screenings for women

Each year, nearly twice as many women die of cardiovascular disease than from all forms of cancer combined. The good news is that in most cases, heart disease can be prevented by making simple lifestyle changes.

"The bad news is that heart disease kills one out of three American women," said Dr. Jennifer Jones, interventional cardiologist at the Detroit Medical Center's Harper University Hospital. "The good news is that women can lower their risk of heart disease by up to 82 percent by eating smarter, exercising and not smoking. Providing heart health screenings so that women can learn about their personal risk factors and how to reduce them is a key step in prevention and treatment.

Women in the metro Detroit area can get screened to learn about their heart disease risk factors and to receive a plan on how to reduce them when the Sister to Sister Foundation, a national non-profit based in Washington D.C., presents its National Women's Heart Health Fair 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday, Feb. 29, at the General

Motors Wintergarden in the Detroit Renaissance Center.

The fair kicks off with the Strides for Sisters Walk led by Peter Nielsen in the GM wintergarden and ieatures free heart health screenings with on-the-spot results and counseling from Detroit Medical Center experts. Women will learn about their cholesterol, triglycerides, blood glucose levels, blood pressure, Body Mass Index, waist circumference, and family health history from the screenings. The Health Fair also features presentations by medical experts including a keynote by Jones as well as demonstrations by experts on nutrition, fitness, stress reduction, and smoking cessation, all of which are designed to help women adopt a heart-healthy lifestyle. The Fair includes heart-healthy cooking demonstrations by Seldom Blues, Andiamo and Creative Gourmet, and fitness demonstrations by Curves, Tom Spring of Cardiovascular Training Specialists, and the Rehabilitation Institute of Michigan.

The Fair also features a wide

range of exhibitors as well as prizes and giveaways. The first 1,000 women screened at the fair will receive a certificate for a free bracelet from Miner's Den jewelers. To pre-register and for a schedule, visit www. sistertosister.org/fairs/detroit. php or call Donna Darrow at (877) 628-4257.

In 2007, Sister to Sister Heart Health Fairs throughout the United States screened almost 10,000 women, of which more than 40-percent found out they had two or more risk factors for heart disease. A significant number of these women were not aware that they were at risk for heart disease prior to the screening.

The Sister to Sister Heart Health Fairs occur annually across the nation. The Sister to Sister Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to preventing heart disease among women through free cardiac screenings. In addition, Sister to Sister provides women with resources to increase awareness about heart disease, to encourage healthy lifestyles, and to reduce risk factors for heart disease.

Reducing child's risk: Health of heart boosted by breast-feeding

Melissa from Sylvan Lake is pregnant and debating whether or not to breast-feed. She is wondering how good it is for her baby.

Melissa, studies have shown breast-feeding can reduce your child's risk of ear, stomach or intestinal infections, allergies and high blood pressure. Now a brand new study says breastfeeding may actually be good for your baby's heart too. A study of almost 1,000 people found those who were breastfed were 55 percent less likely to develop high cholesterol and had a lower BMI (body mass index). Those two factors can significantly reduce the risk of heart disease and stroke. That being said, breast-feeding is a personal choice that each



Principles

Peter Nielsen

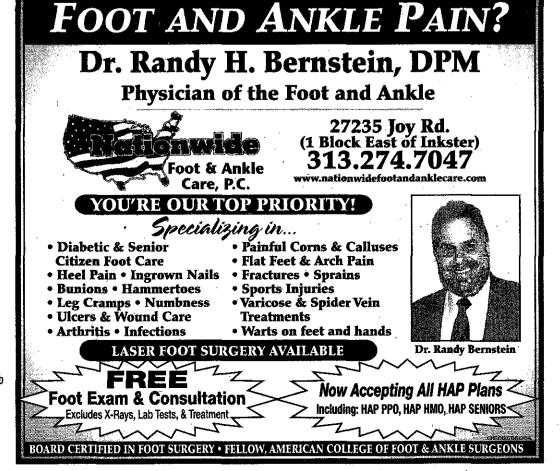
must make for herself. Tammy from Walled Lake e-mails that she heard some spices could help fight cancer. Is this true?

new mother

Studies have suggested curcumin, the yellowish component in

turmeric that gives curry its flavor, can suppress tumors. Experts even believe curry may help people become less prone to cancer. The problem is that curcumin loses its anticancer attributes quickly when ingested. Now scientists have developed two new synthetic versions of the curry ingredient to hopefully help fight cancer. They tested it already in mice with colorectal cancer and found it worked! In fact, it enhanced cancer-fighting abilities by up to 30 times greater than natural curcumin. They are now testing how it will work fighting other cancers.

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



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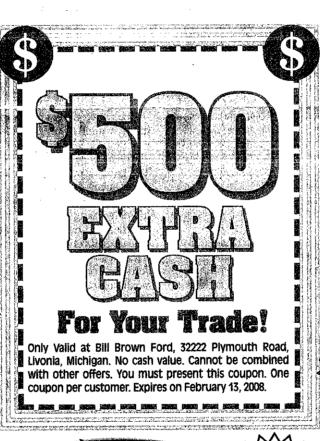




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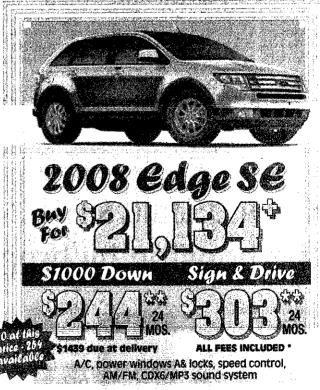






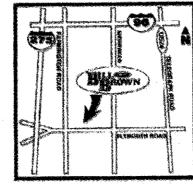






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imes are tough in our neighborhood, in neighboring neighborhoods, and in neighborhoods across the country. Locally, news of Big Three employee buyouts has become so commonplace that it seldom commands headline status anymore. GM's latest attrition effort extends to



Donna Rockwell

46,000 workers; or rather, 46,000 families feeling betrayed, despondent, displaced, and desperately in search of alternative employment.

Metro-Detroiter's hearts and minds are numb with job loss overload. Of course, this is also a national problem: the U.S. economy lost

17,000 jobs in January, the worst in over four years. Atlanta-based Home Depot recently announced a layoff of 500 of its 5,000 corporate employees, blaming current belt-tightening trends in customer spending. Starbucks, for goodness' sake, says it is dumping plans to open hundreds of stores, and even closing some.

From penny stocks to blue chips, companies are reporting earnings below expectations, and businesses across the board are reassessing projections downward; many businesses, small and large, are falling victim to the overwhelming undertow of this turbulent economic tide. As the word "recession" grows from a murmur to a roar, many Americans are finding themselves in need of fiscal and emotional life preservers.

On a personal level, it is depressing driving past empty storefronts, "For Sale" signs, and banners promising future developments, only to realize that years have passed and no buildings have yet risen on that spot. Evidence lies all around us: our area is in an economic funk. On grey days, a turnaround can seem improbable. But, on those beautiful, cold, crisp Michigan days, when the snow glistens in the bright yellow sun, you dare to believe in a comeback.

In State House offices, and planning committees across the state, leaders are exploring ways to engage new industries in innovative ways in order to lure capital back to our state. A thriving local economy is necessary to support our family-oriented, quintessential Middle American lifestyle, something surely worth fighting for. And there is reason to be optimistic that somewhere on the horizon a recovery awaits. Meanwhile, though, how can we get through this difficult time and still live happy, fulfilling lives? If we give in to a pervasive sense of melancholy, in the end, what good will that do?

It has become a cliché: the only constant is change. Though we know it, we still try and hold onto what we want to be true, rather than acknowledging what is true. Human beings are very resistant to change. That is why the fear of job loss is so deeply felt; it is beyond our control. While situations like retraining or relocation seem burdensome, they do, at least, allow us a hand in our own destiny, so important for self-esteem. By examining the link between reality and what we wish were true, we discover, in the intersection of these two points, how to stay grounded in this ever-changing world.

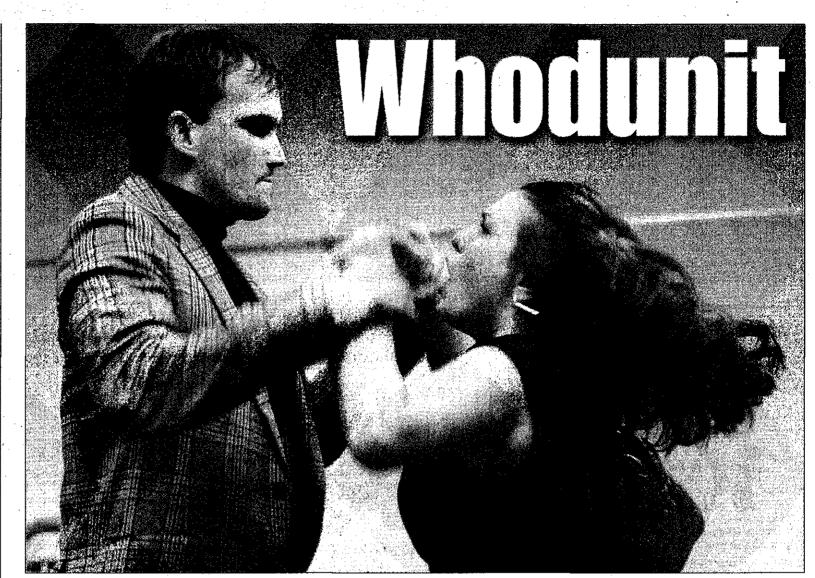
No matter how much fear we generate, it will not help us escape from the places in which we find ourselves: out of work, looking for work, or contemplating moving to find work. After spending a certain period thinking "what if," and "how did this happen," it might be time to make a plan.

Start by looking realistically at the way things are. Decide what you need to do to take care of yourself and your family. Hold to no limits or parameters; simply imagine the best-case scenario for your life and your family members' lives. With no restraints, envision how, together as a family, you could make this life-view come true. Chart out the small, manageable steps you could take to bring this plan to fruition. Think outside the box. By taking tiny steps, one day at a time, and not taking "no" for an answer — from others or yourself — life becomes a creative process as you build a new future. By making a plan and taking the steps to realize that plan, we reclaim ownership of our lives from a corporate conglomerate that may have held us under its spell, dependent and afraid.

Belief-in-self is the best way to break this spell. It is a cure for the affliction of fear, and a way to stay personally and professionally motivated. The Declaration of Independence proclaims as self-evident, "that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."

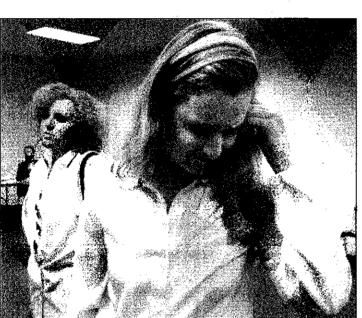
For information on ways to cope with job loss, and emotional, physical, financial, and career suggestions during work transition, go to the Michigan School of Professional Psychology Web site: www.mispp.edu and search: resource folder.

Donna Rockwell, Psy.D., is a professor and the Community Outreach Public Relations Liaison at the Michigan School of Professional Psychology in Farmington Hills.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

David Matthews' (Drew Martin) plans to seduce Monica Welles (Kori Bielaniec) fail and their argument turns violent.



The playwright's young assistant Sally Bean (played by Wendy Ascione) turns away after a cold greeting from Karen Daniels (Meg daPonte).

Playwright Alex Dennison (played by Steve Sedore) introduces his new play to Karen Daniels (Meg daPonte), Lloyd Andrews (Joe Cone), Leo Gibbs (Richard Holland), and David Matthews (Drew Martin).





Director Mike Cuba watches intently as the actors run through their lines.

Spotlight Players invite audience to solve crime

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN

he dialogue comes on like rapid fire once Steve Sedore pulls the revolver out of his briefcase at the beginning of the play. This is only a run-through, but the actors already have their lines down pat three weeks before Spotlight Players open Rehearsal for Murder Feb. 22, at The Village Theater of Cherry Hill

Director Mike Cuba says the mystery will keep the audience guessing as to who murdered the fiancee of the lead character played by Sedore. Playwright Alex Dennison has gathered the producer, director and actors from his show that flopped one year ago. It is the anniversary of Monica Welles' death which was ruled a suicide. Dennison is determined to

Please see WHODUNIT, C3

REHEARSAL FOR MURDER

hour before performance.

What: A murder mystery

When: 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Feb. 22-23, Feb. 29 and March 1, March 7-8, and 2 p.m. Sunday, March 2 and 9

Where: The Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill at Ridge, Canton Tickets: \$18 adult, \$16 youth/seniors age 60 plus, and \$15 for groups of 15 or more, and available at (734) 394-5460, www.spotlightplayers.net, and the box office one

Meet the First Ladies at Presidential Tea

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN STAFF WRITER

Sarah Polk was her husband James' biggest adviser long before Hillary Clinton proposed a national health care program during her husband's administration. In this election year, Linda Wiacek thought it would be interesting to hear more about the wives from the wives so she invited the Petticoat Ladies to don their Victorian dress for a Presidential Tea Saturday, Feb. 23, at Greenmead Historical Park in

Jackie Zopff of Plymouth performs as Polk, Debbie Eleson as Mary Todd Lincoln, Gini Miles as Julia Grant, and Gail Smalley as Ida McKinley. A total of nine women form the Petticoat Ladies who began giving presentations at Victorian Teas in 2003 as members of Garden City Presbyterian Church. Any donations they receive go back to the church. In addition to Presidential wives, they portray Women of the Old West, Vaudeville, and Mothers of Invention as well as Cranks and Charmers through history. Polk was First Lady in the mid 1800s when she came up with the idea of playing Hail to the Chief whenever the president walked into the room.

"Each researches our own history through books, the Internet," said Gail Smalley of Garden City. "There



Denise Salo (left front), Jackie Zopff, Wanda Jarvis, Louise Salvatore, and Debbie Eleson (back row), Gail Smalley, Vera Siefers, Rita Gibbs, and Gini Miles perform around town as the Petticoat Ladies. On Saturday, Feb. 23, Zopff, Eleson, Miles, and Smalley take on the roles of former First Ladies for the Presidential Tea at Greenmead Historical Park in Livonia.

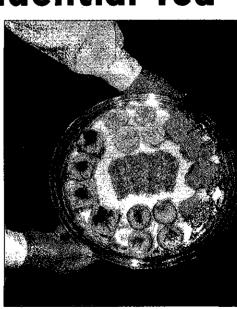
are a lot of behind the scene things currants, raisins and walnuts. we found out. Ida McKinley was an epileptic. It's something they didn't talk about back then. She lost both her children, was practically an invalid and her and her husband became

the center of each other's lives." In addition to listening to the former First Ladies and enjoying crab bisque, tea sandwiches and scones, guests will be treated to favorite cookies of the presidents. Afterwards guests receive a booklet with the recipes including one for Abraham

Lincoln's fruit cookies made with

"We'll have George Washington's Jumbals made with butter, sugar, salt and orange rind, a recipe from over 200 years ago when they didn't have all the ingredients we have today," said Linda Wiacek, Greenmead's recreation supervisor. "George W. Bush's Cowboy Cookies is more of a modern cookie and like a chocolate chip dough with oatmeal and pecans."

Please see TEA, C3



Finger sandwiches are some of the delights on the menu at the Presidential Tea.

PRESIDENTIAL TEA

When: 3-5 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 23 Where: Alexander Blue House at Greenmead Historical Park, 20501 Newburgh, south of Eight Mile, Livonia Tickets: \$25, advance sales only. All proceeds used to preserve and restore Greenmead.

For reservations, call (248) 477-7375

Concert shows off music faculty's talents

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN STAFF WRITER

Barbara Wiltsie agrees with Linette Popoff-Parks that in order to have a successful music program Madonna University faculty need to strut their stuff. On Friday Feb. 22, voice, piano, harp, flute, and guitar teachers take to the stage in Kresge Hall for their annual Faculty Allegro Series concert.

Popoff-Parks accompanies Wiltsie, one of Sopranos Three! along with Kimberley Dolanski and Karin White. As part of the voice faculty, Wiltsie directs The Lyric Theatre, a performance group composed of students and community members. They are currently rehearsing the updated version of Godspell

FACULTY ALLEGRO SERIES When: Concert begins 7:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 22 Where: Kresge Hall, Madonna University, 36600 Schoolcraft

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, February 17, 2008

at Levan, Livonia Tickets: \$10 general admission. \$5 faculty, student and staff. For information, call (734) 432-5709

for April 12-13 performances. 'We need as active performers to show our students what they need to strive for and how to handle themselves in a performance situation," said Barbara Wiltsie who recently performed at The Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton in November with Act II, a Broadway quartet. Wiltsie formerly toured with Michigan Opera Theatre.

Sopranos Three! is part of the Michigan Arts & Humanity directory performers booked throughout the state. They have selected to sing a trio from Der Rosenkavalier by Strauss, Three Little Maids from School (The Mikado), and Bosom Buddies (Mame).

"We're all trained in classical music as well as some Broadway. We mix operatic solos, duets, trios from opera to Broadway," said Wiltsie of Royal Oak. "We're giving them a little flavor of the three styles we do."

Popoff-Parks is proud of the diverse backgrounds of the faculty in the music department of which she is chairwoman. In addition to three piano teachers including Popoff-Parks, the faculty provides instruction in voice, flute, classical guitar, clarinet, trumpet, violin, cello, and harp. Dave Wagner, WRCJ radio's early morning classical music host, teaches organ.

"We also offer a music management major. As part of the program students do internships. This semester we have students working with Plymouth Symphony Orchestra and WRCJ radio station. They get experience and learn to serve the community which an important component of our music program," said Popoff-Parks of Plymouth. "Music is really a service career. Performers are providing an opportunity for people to enjoy music whether they're church majors, in education or management,



Kimberley Dolanski, Barbara Wiltsie, Karin White, and Linette Popoff-Parks enjoy a few laughs while rehearsing for the Madonna University faculty concert.

or preparing to work in arts organizations which also pro-

vide services to communities. "I think the faculty concert is a good service for students and community. Music is an art to be communicated. You

don't just do it in a vacuum, you share. Music is only alive when it's being performed live."

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"microphones" - the ears. If only one ear is functioning properly, you could have difficulty understanding speech in noisy environments and in locating the direction from which a sound is coming.

Have you seen anyone wearing a monocle lately? Chances are you have not. The monocle became obsolete long ago when we recognized the advantages of balanced vision and began to provide binocular sight corrections. Similarly, hearing help for both ears produces equally advantageous results for those with hearing impairment. Scientific results confirm that most people with a hearing loss in both ears would benefit from having two hearing instruments, even if the hearing loss is mild.





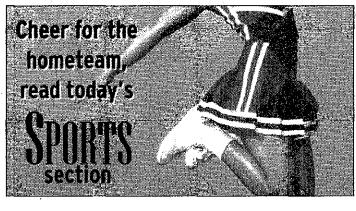
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DOING NOTHING

Most of the time, this column discusses the diagnosis and treatment of bone and joint conditions. By repeatedly discussing medications and options of care, I may create a wrong expectation: That for every condition there is a treatment.

However, in arthritis that rule doesn't hold. Instances occur when you will see a doctor and he will decide to wait and watch. That can happen when you had an injection and you are not responding as both you and the doctor have expected. Waiting is reasonable when you are under treatment for polymyalgia, and you still ache. The doctor may feel it is in order to give the present therapy a further chance rather than change you to an even higher

Waiting may be reasonable when you continue to ache and the diagnosis is uncertain, but the doctor has determined that delay will bring on impairment. However, watching what happens may reveal, in time, a feature that explains the problem.

Remember every treatment brings side effects and risks. And keep in mind that the body is a wide array of responses to fight an invasion of its integrity. Doctors learn to respec that aspect of medical practice.

When a physician examines and talks with you, and does not prescribe or change a dication nor order laboratory tests or x-rays, do not feel disappointed. That appointment

Using restraint is just as valuable as forging forward, observing rather than intervening

www.drjjweiss.yourmd.com

Bowlathon to raise money for books for blind children

WNIC celebrities will be featured at Seedlings' 21st Annual Bowlathon for Braille Books Sunday afternoon March 9, at Super Bowl Lanes in Canton.

Sponsored by Foresters, Community Choice Credit Union, and St. Mary Mercy Hospital, this event will help put braille books into the hands of blind children. There will be many great raffle prizes and the bowlers who raise the most pledges will be eligible for top prize packages. Help us bring the gift of literacy to blind children and reach our 2008 goal of 25,000 braille books.

New this year on Seedlings' Web site is online pledging and registration. Visit www.seedlings.org under special events to register or pledge a registered bowler or download a brochure.

Registration deadline is March 1, and the minimum

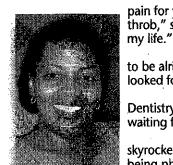
donation or pledges per bowler is \$50. Bowlers will receive three games, lunch, gift bags, and a free ticket for a chance raffle drawing. Tax-deductible door prize and lane or T-shirt sponsorships are still available to local businesses. Register now and reserve a spot at the

Seedlings Braille Books for Children is a nonprofit organization in Livonia dedicated to increasing the opportunity for braille literacy by providing high quality, low-cost braille books for blind children. Every \$10 earned at this bowl-a-thon will create one more book. Last year, bowlers raised over \$20,000 to provide blind children access to popular children's books in braille and to bring them the materials they need to read and succeed.

For more information, call (734) 427-8552.

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"As soon as I met the doctors, I knew everything was going to be alright," Deanna continues. "For the first time ever, I actually looked forward to going to the dentist."

Deanna received crowns and bridges and used Dream
Dentistry to alleviate her fears. "Parkside was the miracle I had been waiting for," she says. "I felt no pain and I was never afraid!" Since her treatment, Deanna says her self-esteem has

being photographed! I haven't felt this good in 40 years!" Deanna recommended Parkside Dental Team to all her family and friends and advises, "If you're suffering from dental pain, don't wait another minute. Give Parkside Dental Team a chance!"

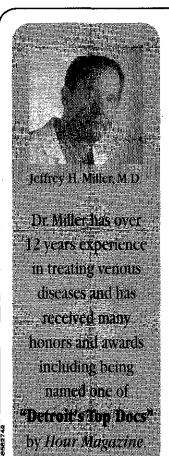


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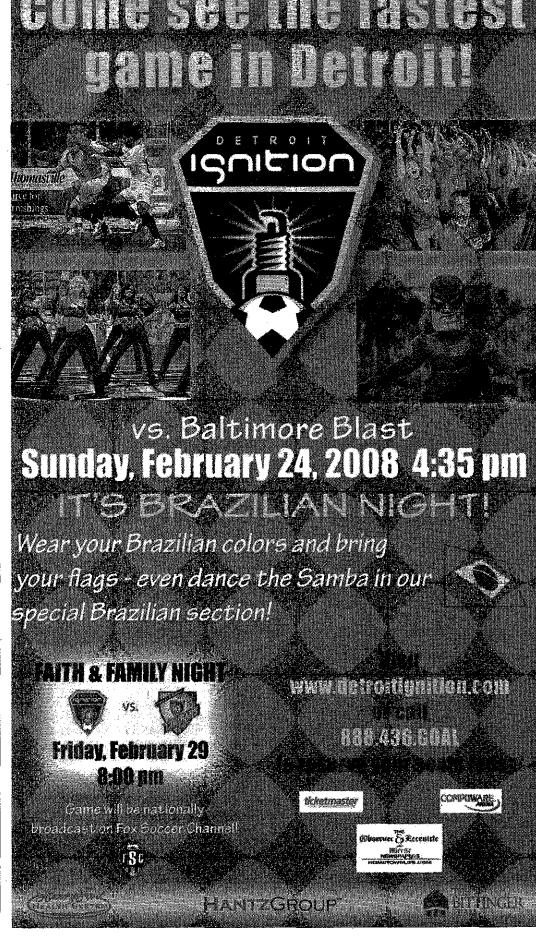
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prove it's murder. He has written a new play, Killing Jessica, which reveals motives for each of the characters who, one by

one, read their lines The work originally won writers Richard Levinson and William Link an Edgar Award from the Mystery Writers of America in 1983.

Cuba originally saw the teleplay starring Robert Preston, Lynn Redgrave and Jeff Goldblum in 1982. He's following in the footsteps of his mother Kelly who directed the play when she was a high school teacher in Missouri. Cuba is a retired high school chemistry teacher who's just getting his feet wet as a director. This is his second production in that role, but he's served as an assistant to directors twice before. As a Spotlight Players' board member, he proposed the mystery for the 2007-2008 season.

"Rehearsal is basically a whodunit," said Mike Cuba of the play. "The play is actually written about Monica not a fictional character. Three of five have alibis except for a former husband and wife. At the end of evening you're going to know who killed Monica Welles. Every piece of information is presented to you well before you have to sit down and figure out who did it."

Jon Milan's music adds to the mystery. The Westland resident writes especially for the Spotlight Players' production in the style of Bernard Hermann, the composer whose music set the mood for films including Taxi Driver and the Alfred Hitchcock thrillers Psycho and The Birds. A CD of Milan's score will be available at the performances.

"It's all minor key," said Cuba of Livonia. It provides a somber note. It's very haunting music."

Kori Bielaniec is especially spooky since she comes to life as Monica Welles in a flashback focused on her plummet from a 10-story building. Even though the 19-year-old Livonia resident studies theater at University of Detroit-Mercy, she had to take a lesson on how to fall from Julie Evans at Guardian Marshal Arts in Garden City.

"My death scene is a challenge," said Bielaniec. "My knées are pretty bruised. I had to learn how to fall without hurting myself.*

Sedore called on his years of studying German for his taxing role as the playwright who appears in all but two scenes. Sedore grew up in Canton but didn't start acting until a student at Albion College. He's done four plays with Spotlight Players including *Dial M for Murder*.

"I spent some time in Germany in a work study program so it's not as difficult for me because to speak German you first have to memorize all the words," said Sedore, a

Plymouth resident and German teacher at Edsel Ford High School in Dearborn.

Joe Cone says Sedore isn't alone when it comes to being on stage for much of the play. Cone of Canton plays the director. From 1999 to 2003 he worked in theater in England.

"It's a small enough cast where every actor has a major role. Each actor is important to the story," said Cone, a Spotlight Players board member. "It grabs you right away from the minute Alex pulls the gun out of his briefcase and puts it in his pants.

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FROM PAGE C1

Eating off of presidential china is sure to make the afternoon memorable as well. Greenmead owns reproductions of china used by 14 different

commanders-in-chief. "I think it's the most elaborate tea we do," said Wiacek. 'We'll have a cockade, a ribbon

that's sewn into a floweret with. streamers that's been around from Revolutionary War times to World War I. People wore them to show support to the troops. Soldiers wore them on their hats. Both North and South used them during the Civil War. The women would pin them onto their clothing like a brooch."

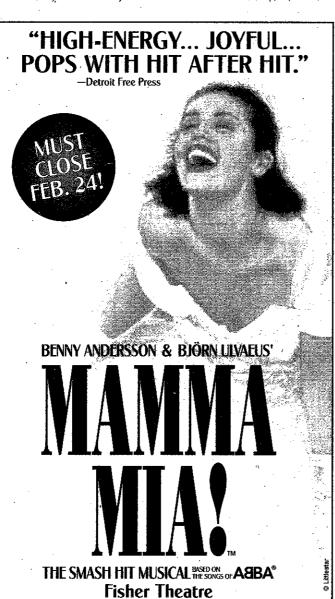
An exhibit highlighting Teddy Roosevelt carries through the

Security and flexibility.

red, white and blue theme of

"The food is generous. The atmosphere is wonderful. We have a lot of things going on," said Wiacek. "We're looking for it to be fun and patriotic all at the same time. We welcome democrats, republicans and independents but there will be no campaigning of any kind."

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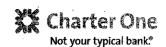
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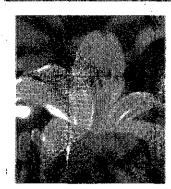
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Obituaries, Memorials, Remembrances

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BETTY M. BROOKS

Age 85, formerly of Birmingham, MI, died on Thursday, February 14, 2008 in John's Creek, GA. She was preceded in death by her first husband John Musto, and her second husband Wayne Brooks. She is survived by her three sons, J.N. Musto, HI, Ronald G. Musto, GA, and Richard B. Musto CA; grandchildren Katie, Steve, Jennifer, Alison, and Lindsay Musto Mrs. Brooks was a founding member of the Congregational church of Birmingham and the Beverly Hills Garden Club. Memorial Services will be at a later date at the Congregational Church of Birmingham. Donations may be made to the Michigan Heart Association in her memory. Northside Chapel Funeral Directors and Crematory, Rosewll, GA was entrusted with arrangements

www.northsidechapel.com 770-645-1414



CLARK D., JR. "MATT" MATTHEWS

February 14, 2008 Age 63. Beloved husband of Kirsten M. (nee Schmidt). Dear father of Jason C. and Andrew C. Brother of Marjory Jill Whelan (the late Buff), Linda Leonard (late Dwight), Melissa D. Matthews, and Hannah M. Terhune (Joseph) Uncle of Amy, Amanda, Kerry, Marny Lindsey, Megan, Shayla, Matt and Marya. Former husband of Sandra and Doreen. Services were held Saturday, Feb 16, 2008. In lieu of flowers family suggests memorial tributes to Beaumont Hospice, 3601 W. Thirteen Mile Rd., Royal Oak, MI 48073 View obituary and share memories at www.DesmondFuneralHome.com

DONALD A. PORTMAN

Age 71, of Indian River, formerly passed away Thursday 14, at Northern Michigan Hospital in Petoskey. Visitation will be held Friday, February 15, from 6pm-8pm, at the Lintz Funeral Home in Indian River. Visitation will continue on Saturday, February 16, from 10am until the time of the Funeral Mass at 12 noon, at the Cross in the Woods Catholic Church in Indian River.

FRANCIS A. BUTTLER

February 13, 2008, age 80. Beloved husband of Jewell. Memorial Tributes to Friends of the Troy Public Library, 510 West Big Beaver Road Troy, MI 48084-5254. A. J Desmond & Sons, 248-362-2500 View obituary and share memories at www.DesmondFuneralHome.com

HAROLD KERMIT COUNTS SR.

Age 86, passed away peacefully in Alpena, MI on Feb. 13, 2008. A resident of Livonia, MI for 42 years and Alpena for three years, he loved his time here. Born December 9th, 1921 on Nealy Ridge in Dickenson County VA. He was the second of four children of Lawrence and Maxie Counts His beloved wife Mayme Lee preceded him in death, as did his brother Lawrence, Jr, his sister Mabel Anderson (Doc) and his son (Lawrence Gregory). He is the dear brother of Fern Taylor (Herb) and the loving father of H. Kermit Counts Jr. (Karen), Garen Lea Foust (David) and Suzanne Adams (Steve). He has nine grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren He was a member of Alpha Baptist Church in Livonia, MI for 44 years. Harold was awarded the Silver Star for heroism during combat while in the 6th Armored Division during WWII. He will be greatly missed by his family and friends. A Loving father and devoted husband, he was a gift for all of us from our Savior The family would like to express their sincere thanks to the 2nd floor and ICU staff at the Alpena Regional Medical Center. Everyone was so kind and caring. Thank you to the E-wing staff at the Alpena Tendercare on Long Rapids Rd. in Alpena for your kindness and compassion during this difficult time. Services: Fred Wood Funeral Home, 36100 Five Mile Rd., Sunday, 2-17-2008 from 1:30 to 4:30pm. Services are at 4:30pm.

IRENE E. ADAMS

Age 80, of Plymouth, MI passed away February 9, 2008. Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington, MI

A. JOAN SHAW Of Fenton, formerly of Livonia, age 74, died Friday, February 15, 2008 at Genesys Regional Medical Center.Per Joan's wishes cremation has taken place and there will be no visitation or service at this time. Those desiring may make contributions to St. Jude Children's Hospital. Joan was born in Petoskey, Michigan on March 28, 1933, the daughter of the late Herman and Nettie Laubrich. Joan was a member of the Women's Pilot Organization the "99ers". She enjoyed traveling and spending time at the casinos. Surviving are son, Steven of Fenton grandson, Justin Shaw of Livonia twin sister, Mary Jean Tilk of Lambertville, MI.; several nieces and nephews. Joan was preceded in death by her husband Thomas, eldest son, Charles; 2 brothers, Col. Allen and William Laubrich. Your condolences may be shared with the family at:

swartzfuneralhomeinc.com

FRANK ROBBINS

CHAPMAN JR. Died February 1, 2008 at Veterans Home Bangor, ME. On October 23 1923 Frank was born in Harper Hospital, Detroit, Michigan to Frank Robbins Chapman and Lou Blackwood Chapman, his father, an architect, and mother. Frank, known within and without the family as "Bob", lived near the corner of Collingwood and 14th Streets in Detroit in early life and subsequently removed with the family to Chicago Blvd. in Detroit where he attended Doty School. In 1935 his father build a new house in the countryside north of Rochester, Michigan on Mead Road, Oakland county where Frank attended the Rochester schools through grade seven. He finished secondary training at Cranbrook School in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan graduat-ing in 1942 Yale University was the site for three degrees in architecture and city planning, BA '47, March '49, and MCP '54. He had also been accepted at Dartmouth, his father's institution, and the U.S. Navy Academy. His town planning theses was a design for the St. Lawrence Seaway and a-new town within it. Mr. Chapman was three years in the U.S. Navy during WW2. Following graduation Frank boarded a revamped C4 troop carrier in 1947 for Europe. He was accepted and completed a year's study of architecture and urban planning at Kungliga Tekniska Hogskolan in Stockholm, Sweden. Frank subsequently spend eleven years working in Sweden where he became a member of the Swedish Architects' Association (SAR) and The Royal Bachelor's Club of Gothenburg. He was employed also three years in Copenhagen, Denmark as an architect. He worked in Canada, Brazil, and in Botswana where he served as chief planner for the Ministry of Surveys and Lands and as an adjunct for the UNDP. There he married his Swedish fiancee, Barbro Haller of Gothenburg Sweden, in the year 1970. The pair returned to Sweden driving their short wheelbase Land Rover 14,000 miles through Africa and Europe. Crossing

04614. Condolences may be expressed www.jordanfernald.com.

the Atlantic the pair took up residence in Hilton Head Island, SC working

there, residing seven years on their 30 foot sloop. Suffering the "oil crisis" of 1975 the pair accepted another UN

post in Saudi Arabia where they remained until 1981. Frank first served

first as a councilman on the Hilton

Head Town Council and eventually was elected Mayor in 1993 and served

a single term. As mayor her resisted

further commercialization of Hilton

Head Island. In 1999 Frank and Barbro

sold the house they had built upon

return from Saudi Arabia and removed

to Deer Isle, Main constructing there

yet another house located on ocean

frontage. He is survived by his wife Barbro; sisters, Mary Lou Ingwersen

and Doris C. Hinds, as well as six

nieces and four nephews. Memorial

contributions in Frank's memory may

be made to Island Heritage Trust, 420 Sunset Road, P.O. box 42, Dear Isle

ME 04627. Arrangements by Jordan

Fernald, 141 South St. Blue Hill, ME



JOHN B. THOMPSON

Age 61 of Knoxville, TN suddenly afternoon passed Thursday away February 14, 2008 as a result automobile accident. John was born April 1st, 1946 in Escabana ("In the UP"), MI. He was a graduate of Michigan University and served as a pilot in the U.S. Navy John was preceded in death by his father Walter J. Thompson. He is survived by mother, Blanche Thompson and mother-in-law, Dora Jo Byrnside, both of Maryville, TN; wife Byrnside Thompson, Knoxville, TN; sister Yvonne and husband Brian Clark, of Sitka, AK; son. John Jr. and wife Nancy of Farmington Hills, MI; daughter Jennifer and hus band Ron Abner, of Howell, MI; step daughter, Joelle and husband Harvey Mitchell, of Bowling Green, KY; stepson, Byron and wife Shannon Walke of Keller, TX; stepdaughter Juliane and husband Jeremy Burdette of Helena, AL. "Papa John" was especially dedicated to his seven grandchildren Olivia, Caitlin, Marina, Emma Quinn, Merrick, and Amelia. He was the founder and the former owner of Future Pak Ltd., a pharmaceutical packaging company of Farmington Hills, MI and President of Southern Yankee Restoration. During his career John received several patents for packaging innovations. In retirement, John became an avid boater and fisherman who loved spending quality time on the water with family and friends. He was particularly proud of his ongoing research in the fields of horticulture and poultry. John will be remembered by those who loved him for his wit sarcasm and unwavering resolve to help anyone in need. In lieu of flowers the family requests all donations be made to Loudon County Habitat for Humanity, 298 Village Square Drive, #115 Loudon, TN 37774. Click

Funeral Home Farragut Chapel is serv ing the Thompson family. www.clickfuneralhome.com

MARIE E. HAKALA

Age 89, of Dearborn, MI passed away February 8, 2008. Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington, MI.



RICHARD D. (Richie) CRANE

Age 61, of Cape Coral, FL, passed way Wednesday, February 6, 2008 at his home surrounded by his family. Richie was the beloved husband of Deborah Crane and the dear father of Richard and Kelly. Ritchie was a life member of the VFW of America and a member of BOVA Engineers Post 19885. He will truly be missed and will live in our hearts forever. A Memorial Celebration of his life was held Saturday, February 9, 2008 in Florida An additional memorial will be held Saturday, March 1, 2008 between 1-4pm at the VFW BOVA Post #9885, 6440 Hix Rd., Westland, MI. In lieu of flowers the family request contributions be sent to the National Coalition for the Homeless Veterans, 333 1/2 Pennsylvania Ave. SE, Washington, DC 2003-1148 in memory of Richard Crane



WILLIAM JAMES COATSWORTH

Age 91 of Beverly Hills, died February 14, 2008, after a short illness. Bill grew up in Clawson and Royal Oak and attended St. Mary's of Royal Oak. After high school, Bill attended the Iniversity of Detroit and graduated in 1943 from Lawrence Technological Institute with a bachelors degree in mechanical engineering. He was a WWII veteran having served in the United States Navy and a member of the American Legion Post 253, Frank Wendland, Royal Oak. Bill retired from General Motors Truck and Coach in 1982. Bill is survived by his children, Greg, Sandy (Michael) Burke and Mary Sue Coatsworth and grandchildren, Brittany and Chris. He is preceded in death by his wife, Mary Stewart Coatsworth and son, William Coatsworth. Funeral at Fransfiguration Catholic Church, Ten Mile Road (Between Lahser and Telegraph) Monday 10am. Friends may visit at church beginning at 9:30am. Visitation at Lynch & Sons Funeral Home, 1368 N. Crooks Road (Between 14-15 Mile Rds.) Sunday 2-8pm. Prayers Sunday 4pm. Interment in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Southfield. Memorials appreciated to Transfiguration Catholic Church, 25225 Code Road, Southfield, Michigan 48034 or Rochester Lions Club, P.O. Box 80393, Rochester, Michigan 48308.



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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, symbols, etc.)

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734-953-2070 or Liz Keiser 734-953-2067 or toll free 866-818-7653 ask for Char or Liz



Happy 100!

Edna Cannizzaro (seated in blue) recently celebrated her 100th birthday with children Frank Cannizzaro (left), Mary Capoferi, Yolanda Fenech, Sylvia Ebens, and Joe Cannizzaro at Corsi's in Livonia. She has 20 grandchildren, 43 great grandchildren and 14 great great grandchildren. She also has two living brothers and a sister who are younger than her. She came to the U.S. from Sicily through Ellis Island when she was 5 years old. She has lived in Livonia more than 43 years.

WEDDING

Ouillette-Clayton

Tonya Ouillette and Nic Clayton of Gladwin were married June 16, 2007, in an outdoor ceremony along the Cedar River performed by Minister Don Wray at the Riverwalk Place in Gladwin.

The bride is the daughter of Robert and Robin Ouillette of Gladwin and granddaughter of Roy and Mary Lou Carter and Audrey and the late Ervin (Red) Ouillette of Garden City, and is employed at Kirtland Community College. She is a 2001 graduate of Clinton High School, and a 2003 graduate of Kirtland Community College. Her matron of honor was Laura (Noack) Baker of Tecumseh, friend of the bride; and her bridesmaids were Teri (Ouillette) Bailey of Brooklyn, sister of the bride; and Samantha Clayton of Clinton, sister of the groom. Flower girl was Kristie Wenk of Saline, friend of the bride. Ring bearer was Kyle Wenk of Saline,

friend of the bride. The groom is the son of Ted and Teresa Clayton of Clinton. He is a 2001 graduate of Clinton High School. He is employed as a heavy equipment operator in Harrison. His best man was Nathan Young of West Branch, friend of the groom; and his groomsmen were Christopher Lenton of Clinton, cousin of the groom; and Kevin Molesky of

Westland, cousin of the bride. The couple honeymooned in Cave City, Kentucky.

ENGAGEMENTS

Sarkisian-Bell

Dr. Edward and Anna Sarkisian of Northville announce the engagement of their daughter, Sara, to Morgan Bell of St. Charles, Ill. A July 2008 wedding is planned at St. John Armenian Church in Southfield, Michigan.

Sara graduated from

Northville High School in 2001. She received her bachelor's degree in the history of art and Armenian studies from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor in 2005 and is currently completing her master of architecture at the U-M.

Morgan, son of Reagan and Linda Bell of St. Charles, Ill., is a graduate of St. Charles High School and received his



bachelor of education from Aurora University in 2000. He is currently completing his master of education in reading at St. Francis University and is a fifth grade teacher in Plainfield, Ill.

Sara and Morgan met while staff members at the Alumni Association of the University of Michigan family camp, Michigania, near Boyne City, MI. They will reside in the Chicago area.

Riley-Rzetelny

William and Laura Riley of Romulus announce the engagement of their daughter, Kelly Ann of Livonia, to Randy Joseph Rzetelny Jr. of Livonia, son of Randy and Kim Rzetelny of South Lyon. The bride-to-be is a graduate

of the International Academy of Design and Technology of Troy. She is employed at Outback Steak House. The future groom is a gradu-

ate of Livonia Stevenson High School. He is employed by



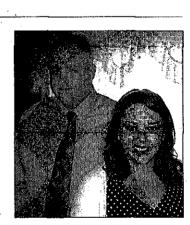
Formen Brothers Trucking. A Sept. 6, 2008, wedding is planned at Crystal Gardens in

Pytlak-Horn

Richard and Patricia Pytlak of Livonia announce the engagement of their daughter, Katherine, to Patrick Horn, son of John and Kathy Watson of Redford.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Livonia Churchill High School and UM-Dearborn. She is employed with a major insurance company.

The future groom is a graduate of Redford Union High School. He is employed with Waste Management.



A September, 2009, wedding is planned.

ANNIVERSARY



Foulks celebrate 50th

Bruce and Judy (Shafer) Foulk of Wayne are celebrating their 50th wedding anniver-The Foulks were married

Jan. 30, 1958, at First Christian Church in Meadville, Pa. They have lived in this area

for 47 years.

The Foulks have two children, Cindy (David) Schofield of Wayne and Jeff (Ronna) Foulk of Naperville, Ill They have six grandchildren.

Bruce is retired from Ford Motor Co. and presently owns and operates Norplex Associates, a residential management company. Judy is a homemaker.

The couple are members of Livonia Church of Christ where Bruce is a deacon and Judy is co-leader of the women's ministry. Bruce is involved in civic affairs and both enjoy traveling and spending time with family.

A celebration was recently held hosted by their children.

Mion-Meddaugh

Mr. and Mrs. Steve Mion of Tecumseh, formerly of Westland, announce the engagement of their daughter, Stefanie Lorna, to Christopher Daniel Meddaugh.

Stefanie attended John Glenn High School and after graduating in 2002 from Spanish River High School (in Boca Raton, Fla.), she joined the U.S. Navy from 2002 to 2006 and is now attending college to become a paralegal in San Diego, CA, while working at Paul Hastings Law Firm.

After graduating in 1999 from Maple Valley High School in Maple Valley, Wash., Christopher decided to join the U.S. Navy, which he served from 2001 to 2005. Chris



recently graduated with honors earning an associates of science degree and now works for Hamilton Sundstrand.

The two plan marry in July of 2009.

Kulczycki-Rickens

Ronald and Joyce Kulczycki of Livonia announce the engagement of their daughter, Kristen M. Kulczycki to Aaron W. Rickens, son of Walter of Mary Ann Rickens of White Lake.

The bride-to-be is a 2001 graduate of Livonia Stevenson High School and a 2006 graduate of Grand Valley State University. She is certified personal trainer in Wisconsin.

The future groom is a 2001 graduate of Lakeland High School and a 2007 graduate of Grand Valley State University. He is a physical education instructor.

A June 2008 wedding is



planned for Northville Hills



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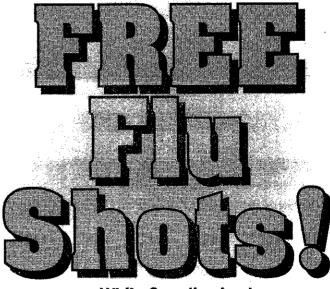
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WORKWISE

Mildred L.

muters praise their work arrangement. How do their noncommuting coworkers feel? Timothy Golden, assistant professor of Management at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

Most telecom-

in Troy, N.Y., tackles this question in Human Relations, a professional journal. He finds that telecommuting co-workers negatively impact the job satisfaction of co-workers who don't telecommute. How does that play in your company? Golden based his conclusions on research involving

240 professionals with an average age of 37 and solid work histories. Technical work isn't foreign to these subjects. Results indicate that office workers left behind feel burdened by: - lesser job autonomy and greater workload

because of work telecommuters should be doing but can't because they're off-site; decreased flexibility for having to adjust to telecommuting schedules;

- increased reliance upon secondary forms of communication, such as telephone and e-mail, rather

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than in-person conversations; - poor relationships; and

diminished productivity.

The office of Isabel Barrera, director of IT Recruiting at AT Recruiters International Inc. (AT Recruiters), in Corpus Christi, Tex., has five workers and two telecommuters. She's been thriving with telecommuting co-workers since July. "We see things very differently," she says, "offering a more balanced approach to recruiting. One of our telecommuters, Bob, specializes in engineering, about an hour away. I'm very technology-focused, recruiting by Internet and e-mail. He's very phone-oriented. He's really taught me how important it is to pick up the phone and contact people, as well as e-mail."

Kim Hare, researcher and administrative assistant at The Daniel Group, a strategic planning, research and training company in Charlotte, N.C., manages the office, including bookkeeping and payroll. Her office has three employees total, plus 21 who telecommute. After three years of working with telecommuters, she states that the arrangement "doesn't affect my work." CONTRADICTION

How can the contradiction with the academic research be resolved? Perhaps some employers are doing a better job of recruiting so that employees, telecommuters and not, are finding ways to work comfortably together. Consider what Barrera says. She

doesn't feel under siege because of overlapping responsibilities. "The telecommuters have very specific jobs different from mine," she notes, "and communicate with each other via the Internet and by phone. They work very well independently. We have the same goal . . . and are equally responsible and accountable." She further mentions that she fills the printer with paper and suspects that Bob does, too: "I don't think it's unbalanced at all.'

At The Daniel Group, monthly meetings with telecommuters alternate between in-person and teleconferencing. "That seems to solve that issue (of overlapping responsibilities)," Hare comments.
What about the problem of building and

maintaining relationships? Hare remarks that there is a foundation of familiarity as early as in interviews, because prospective employees come by word-ofmouth. Barrera observes that relationships are a concern in all organizations. She says that her boss has created a culture in which people "kind of shoot from the hip, because that's the kind of individual our boss is. She appreciates the honesty." SMART EMPLOYEES

These two employees don't feel put out by any of Golden's criteria. Furthermore, they don't envy their telecommuting co-workers. Barrera concedes that it can be difficult to catch them by telephone or e-mail, but she expects that when people are busy or have to



Isabel Barrera, who directs IT Recruiting in Corpus Christi's AT Recruiters International Inc., enjoy having telecommuting co-workers, in part because she learns from them. Her experience indicates that good recruiting by a manager makes the difference.

take time out for a doctor's appointment. If she's jealous about anything, it's the gas her co-workers save and the lunches they don't have to buy. However, "it's not enough to make me seethe for Bob." She believes that the office increases her professionalism, that working at home would be too distracting.

the really nice things about someone who has a job like this - working from home - is the tremendous amount of flexibility. That's the key thing for keeping good people (giving them what they want). I like the coming-in-to-work.

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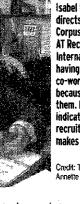
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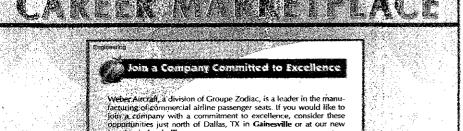
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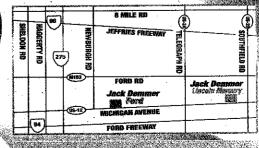
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New Affordable Homes With Luxury Features In Westland In The \$140's!

Danny Veri couldn't believe it when he crunched the numbers and saw a family with a household income of about \$40,000 could move into a home in Brookfield Village.

"This is just an incredible value," said Veri, a partner in Livonia Builders who teamed up with Tim Breault of Breault Homes to build the "neighborhood within a neighborhood" bounded by John Hix and Cherry Hill in Westland.

Brookfield Estates consists of 63 homes with 4 available floor plans starting in the \$140,000's.

"We set out to build affordable housing with exceptional standard features and people are responding. In just over 12 months we have sold approximately 80 homes

with theme features."

The Baymont, a colonial, measures 1250 square feet and boasts 3 bedrooms, 1.5 baths, a great room, and a second floor laundry for only \$148,900.

The Regency is a 3 bedroom, 2 bath ranch with a formal dining room, a great room, a first floor laundry, and starts at just \$159,900.

Veri said buyers can choose from different elevations for the colonials.

The average lot size for the homes is 60 x 120. There are many lots that are larger and lots that back to a thick wooded area. "It's a very inviting neighborhood," he said. Each home has an attached 2 car garage and full basement.

Veri said buyers will be even more amazed at the the homes' affordability when they see the upgrades and extra amenities he and Breault have built into the homes.

Guests are welcomed into the foyer by site finished oak floors which are also used in the kitchen and nook. Granite countertops, Merillat cabinets, designer pullout faucet, and undermount double bowl stainless steel sink comprise just some of the kitchen's amenities.

The cabinetry and Delta faucets are carried into the ceramic-tiled bathrooms with the powder rooms featuring a pedestal sink and oak floors.

Ceramic tile is also used in the laundry rooms and carpeting covers the great room, dining room, and bedrooms where ceiling lights illuminate the nighttime chambers.

Each room is surrounded by 4 ½ inch thick baseboard moldings and 3-inch door casing moldings finish out the two-panel interior smooth finish doors.

The homes are protected by a 90 percent efficient Comfort Maker furnace, a high-efficiency 40-gallon hot water tank, and R-30 insulation in the attic.

Options include a fireplace, air

conditioning, skylights, and sprinkler system.

Veri said the exterior is "100 percent maintenance-free".

The ranch is completely brick as is the first floor of the two colonials. The second floor of the colonials is finished in vinyl siding. Overhangs on all three models are either aluminum or vinyl trim.

Pella vinyl windows as well as glass block on the basement windows finish each home.

Other accoutrements include a limestone address block, sod, sidewalks and city water and sewer.

Coach lights outside the garage lend to the aesthetics as well as a clear view of the home and garage in the nighttime hours.

The homes also come with a one-year warranty.

Brookfield Estates is on the Canton border and very close to Ford Road shopping. It is in the Wayne/Westland school district and is nestled in Brookfield Village, an existing subdivision where home values range in the mid to upper \$200,000's, Veri said

Ford Road is a mere mile away and in close proximity is I-275 and local home improvement stores

tores. Veri said he can't get over the affordability of the homes.

"We worked on slim margins to keep working", he said "The main theme to this whole project was creating affordable housing with luxury features. With an hourly wage of \$19 per hour for household income, you can buy a house with all these features."

Veri worked with his in-house mortgage lender, Mortgage Concepts, and came up with a 5% down, 30-year fixed rate mortgage plan which includes taxes and insurance for about

\$1200 a month.

"We even have a program that has no outof-pocket closing costs," he said. "It's just a phenomenal deal for a first time home buyer or someone looking for more square footage."

"There's just nothing under \$250,000 with all of these outstanding features subdivision-wise in the Westland area."

Model homes are under construction. Call Danny Veri for brochure info at (313) 586-2559 or (734) 397-9140, or email him at

dannyveri@sbcglobal.net.





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Updated 3 Bdrm brick ranch,

Full bsmt, 2-car garage, immed. Occupancy! \$129,900. For more info call: Holly Phail 734-751-8900 Remerica Hometown III 459-9898

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WESTLAND OPEN SUN. 1-3 PM 7358 Central, #3 Beautiful 2 bdrm, condo many updates,

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Bloomfield

Sprawling 3 bdrm, 2 bath brick ranch on approximately 1 acre lot. Granite kitchen w/stainless steel appliances. Living room w/hardwood floors. 3 fireplace. Finished bsmt. Home warran

3105 Commerce

BEAUTIFUL 4 BDRM 2 bath brick ranch, 1 acre. Updated kitchen. Stainless steel appliances, updated bath, hardwood floors, part finished lower level, huge fenced yard, 2 1/2 attached car garage. Many other updates included. Walled Lake schools. \$224,900 #28012011

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right to Barrington Simply stunning, unsurpassed quality Gardella Homes built estate home awaits your fin-ishing touches. 1st floor mas-CENTURY 21 TODAY ter suite, offers his & hers baths, closets & sitting room. Custom chet's kitchen boasts COMMERCE TWP Wolf & stainless appliances 3 bdrm suites, up. Truly a must see! 4 bdrms, 6 baths.

SKBK Sotheby's Int'l 248-644-7000 **BLOOMFIELD HILLS OPEN SUNDAY 2-4**

237 Tilbury
N. off Maple, E. of Cranbrook
Great price for Bloomfield
Village! Kitchen is to die for! Cherry cabinets, granite, stain less steel appliances, hard wood floors thru-out Forma living room w/fireplace. Deep vard offers room for expan sion, newer roof, brick pave walkways. Invisible fence. bdrm, 2.1 bath. \$465,000 27183680

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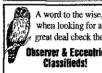
BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP OPEN SUNDAY 1-4
1000 W. Glengarry Circle
Glengarry Rd. South off
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Glengarry Circle Stunning hilltop Bloomfield Village coloniai w/abundance kitchen features granite, Viking and Subzero appliances, ver spacious rooms, freshly paint ed through out, double crown moldings, beautiful oak floors & so much more. 3 fireplaces Finished walkout lower level w/full bath. 4 bdrm, 3.5 bath. \$1,650,000 28017512

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kitchen updated w/newer appliances, baths, gutters, newer well & water softener. \$214,500 MLS 27045896

built home. Hardwood floors in 2 story foyer & dream granite island kitchen, nool w/maple cabinets & premiun appliances. Master bdrm has private bath w/jetted tub. \$450,000 MLS 27197737 (248) 855-2000 CENTURY 21 TODAY

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WELL-MAINTAINED 3 bdrm brick ranch w/newe roof, windows & furnace Large eat-in kitchen w/doorwall to patio. Spacious open bsmt. All appliances are included. 1035 sq. ft. \$150,000 MLS 27186451 (248) 855-2000 CENTURY 21 TODAY

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DETROIT 3 bdrm., 1 bath, bsmt., garage, fenced, new roof. \$95,000 313-531-0718

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THREE BORM, 2 BATH Farmington, Updated kitchen

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armington Hills

BRICK RANCH w/private backyard! Refinished wood floors in hall, bdrms & living room. Remodeled mas-Updated kitchen w/oak cabinets, ceramic floor, Corlar counters. 700+ sq. ft. deck w/above ground pool. \$159,900 MLS #28016025

HUGE CUSTOM BUILT sprawling 3 bdrm brick ranch w/2-car side entry garage, 3 full baths, 1st floor laundry. Spacious master suite! Hug-

MLS 28004701 (248) 855-2000 CENTURY 21 TODAY

Updated top to bottom! 3 bdrm, 2 bath, garage & finished bsmt. Walk to school & playground DENISE McGUIGAN

734-357-2032 REMERICA HOMETOWN III 6231 N. Canton Center Rd.

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THREE BORM, 2.5 BATH. Great room w/fireplace Kitchen w/large eat in area Great room Master suite w/walk in closet, full bath w/jetted tub. 3 car garage. \$295,000 MLS 28016990

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ic tile floor, windows, doors, roof, siding, plumbing & more! 2.5 car garage. \$195,500 MLS 27138287 (734) 462-9800 CENTURY 21 TODAY

GREAT FLOOR PLAN Large Kitchen, 1.5 Baths Finished Bsmt, \$129,900. CENTURY 21 - CASTELLI

UPDATED COLONIAL, all the right features w/master bath, formal dining, family room w/fireplace. \$229,900 MLS 28018687

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LOVELY COLONIAL. Over 2500 sq. ft. kitchen w/granite island + hardwood floors. 21 x 12 master suite w/watk in closet. Huge fin-ished bsmt w/Berber carpet Family room w/fireplace, Deci & gazebo. All appliances + yr warranty included. \$298,900 #28017449

MOVE IN READY

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Oak Park

SPACIOUS 3 BDRM, newer roof, garage, windows & carpeting. Furnace 1 yr old. Family room w/fireplace. \$184,900 MLS 27161995 everything! (27151248)

3140

Plymouth

8898 Corinne, S/ Ann Arbo (248) 855-2000 CENTURY 21 TODAY

family room & library, sits on hillside lot. \$215.000

Garden City BEAUTIFUL RANCH! MLS 27224313 (313) 538-2000

Livonia

10 rooms, Quad level brick, 2.5 garage. 33 x72 cement drive way. 20 x30 spa addition

EXTENSIVE UPDATES in this 3 bdrm, 2 bath brick Updates include kitchen, all appliances, ceram-

(734) 462-9800 CENTURY 21 TODAY

Northville FOUR BORM

3 1/2 bath 1998 colonial. 3,000 sq. ft. & finished day-light bsmt. 3 car garage. Over \$70K in updates & upgrades. \$429,900 MLS 27054506

Charming colonial, 4 borm, great 30 x 18 kitchen, 2 natural fireplaces, sun porch, won-derful picturesque grounds, \$549,000 MLS 26170333 (734) 462-9800 CENTURY 21 TODAY

(248) 360-9100 CENTURY 21 TODAY

colonial w/2-story foyer, vaulted ceilings in living room, updated island kitchen w/granite counters. Library large master bdrm w/walk in closet & private bath, walkout lower level. 1st floor laundry \$339,900 MLS 27062154.

1.5 bath brick ranch w/2 car attached garage on quiet culde-sac. Updated electric 8 car attached garage. Close to everything! \$179,900

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By Owner

Rd, W/ Main St. Great family home, 1 mile from down own Kellogy Park. This ranch style features 2300 sq. ft., huge great home cathedral ceiling, skylites stone fireplace, hot tub with new deck, 3 bdrm, 1st floor (734) 459-7192

Redford

BUILDER LOWEST blowout price! Just appraised at 175K! Brand new, quality built, on a quiet paved street. Large open floor plan, great kitchen, 3 large bdrm, 1.5 baths attached 2 car garage, full bsmt. \$144,900

CENTURY 21 TODAY UPDATED AND sq. ft. brick ranch. 3 bdrm, fully finished carpeted bsmt

All appliances stay. Newer root

finished carpeted bsmt

k furnace. 2 car garage. Patio 129,900 MLS 27209245

Royal Oak

BEAUTIFULLY MAINTAINED 3 bdrm ranch. Updates include: furnace, CA, roof, vinyl windows, kitchen, fresh Hardwood floors Sprinklers. Brick paver patio. \$155,000 (27201069)

CENTURY 21 TODAY DRAMATIC PRICE reduction! More than a starter home! 3 bdrm, all appliances included, master bdrm w/wood floor ^ walk-in closet, new roof. Oversized garage \$135,000 (27202676)

(248) 647-8888 CENTURY 21 TODAY Southfield/Lathrup

LATHRUP VILLAGE Price slashed! 3 bdrm, 2 bath Cape w/loads of charm! Oak floors, cove ceilings, fresh paint. Living room w/fireplace. Updated kitchen w/all appliances. Family room. Newer CA, roof. \$159,900 CA, roc (28019599)

(248) 647-8888 CENTURY 21 TODAY

SOUTHFIELD 3 bdrm, 1.5 bath brick colo nial offers family room w/fire-place, oak kitchen, living room, hardwood floors, vinyl windows. Two doorwalls to patio & backyard. Attached garage. \$149,900 (27109186) (248) 647-8888 CENTURY 21 TODAY

SOUTHFIELD pletely remodeled, beau-& spacious 4 bdrm, 2.5 bath home. Newer roof, win dows, CA, carpet, deck, more 2 car attached \$229,000 (27149211) garage

(248) 647-8888 CENTURY 21 TODAY SOUTHFIELD Delightful 4 bdrm, 3.5 bath colonial in Cranbrook Village. Birmingham schools. All appliances. New cherry kitchen. Remodeled top to bottom in '05! \$239,000 (27116543) (248) 647-8888 CENTURY 21 TODAY

3420 Walled Lake NICELY UPDATED 4 bdrm ranch on large cul-de-sac location. New kitchen ceramic floor, master bath oversized attached garage \$159,900 MLS 28018953 (734) 462-9800 CENTURY 21 TODAY

West Bloomfield

3440 BEAUTIFUL 3 BDRM. 2.5 bath home. 2 story great room w/gas fireplace & hardwood floors throughout. Master bdrm bath & walk-in closet. Eat-in kitchen w/al appliances. Beach & lake privileges on Cass Lake. \$260,000 MLS 28001088 (248) 855-2000 CENTURY 21 TODAY

CUSTOM HOME w/3 car garage. Glass stair-ways ralis to bridge overlook-ing great room. Kitchen w/arge island & many cabinets. Master w.2 walk-in closets & luxurious b \$520,000 MLS 27104174

(248) 855-2000 CENTURY 21 TODAY

West Bloomfield

FOUR BORM HOME, heart of Potomac Village Newer kitchen w/white cabi nets + appliances. Large famly room off kitchen w/natural fireplace. Doorwall off kitchen to large deck for entertaining Finished bsmt for more room storage. \$259,900

#27193843 (248) 360-9100 CENTURY 21 TODAY HOUSE PERFECT!

Updated. Fresh paint. Professionally decorated. Finished bsmt w/wet bar + Lush w/inground pool. Popular neighborhood. Walled Lake schools. Spectacular home. Must see, you won't be disap-pointed! \$369,900 #27184926 (248) 360-9100 CENTURY 21 TODAY

UPDATED RANCH! Remodeled kitchen w/new appliances. Ceramic floors, oak cabinets Updated bath w/granite & tile. Extra living space in finished bsmt. 2 1/2 car garage w/workshop. New electric (06) furnace (05). MOVE IN READY! Lake pprivileges all sports \$169,900 #28016152 (248) 360-9100 CENTURY 21 TODAY

Westland

BANCH BEAUTY 3 bdrms, full bsmt, updated & ready for you. Walk to Hamilton Elementary from home on dead-end street. All newer appliances stay, new DENISE McGUIGAN

3445

3450

734-564-4310 REMERICA HOMETOWN III 6231 N. Canton Center Rd. WESTLAND All the updates have been done

for you, just move right into this meticulously maintained 3 bedroom, 2 bath brick ranch in Westland Schools. \$135,000 #2713715 Laurie Buys 734-658-7168, 734-665-0300 Charles Reinhart Co. Realtors

White Lake

ALL SPORTS MAIN lakefront. 4 bdrm. 3 bath Custom built quad. Large fam ity room w/fireplace. Formal living room & dining room. Updated kitchen w/island, all appliances. Master suite w/door wall + balcony. Large custom deck. Huran Valley schools. \$329,900 #27141544 (248) 360-9100 CENTURY 21 TODAY

CUSTOM BUILT w/3+ car garage. Over 3500 sq. ft. Finished walk out lower Gourmet kitchen w/snack bar, great room w/fireplace. Located on private 1+ acre waterfront lot in desir able Whispering Meadows \$314,900 #27132195

(248) 360-9100 CENTURY 21 TODAY CUSTOM HOME. 2826 sq. ft. + 1400 sq. ft. in lower level. 4 bdrm, 3.5 bath. out. Architectural piliars, main level. Huge windows. Professionally landscaped, stamped concrete Gated community, \$348,500 #27112086

(248) 360-9100 CENTURY 21 TODAY WHITE LAKE TWP Beautifully decorated 4 bdrm 3.5 bath home located in Huron Valley School district. Features office, 2nd floor laundry, 3 car garage & finished bsmt. \$269,900

MLS 27215658 (248) 673-2211 CENTURY 21 TODAY WHITE LAKE TWP Gorgeous 4 bdrm, 2.5 bath home located on over 2.5 acres of woods. Features 2 story foyer, custom designed hardwood floors, gourmet

kitchen, stone fireplace and dining room. \$334,900 MLS 27206754 (248) 673-2211 CENTURY 21 TODAY Wixom-Commerce

3 BR.RANCH 1.5 bath, 2.5 car, finished w/o, Ig. lot w/lk. priv. \$169,000 248-624-5199 Genessee County

DAVISON TWP New construction at its finest Beautiful 4 bdrm, 3.5 bath home located in Davison School district. Sun filled great room w/2 way fireplace Library, dining room, daylight bsmt. \$700,000 MLS 26164314 (248) 673-2211

Vacomb County

MACOMB TWP Beautiful 3 bdrm, 2.5 bath home. Kitchen w/2 level island overlooking breakfast room w/bay window. Fireplace in great room, French doors to len. Professionally caped. \$249,900

3530

MLS 27072102 (248) 673-2211 CENTURY 21 TODAY

(3540) Dakland County INDEPENDENCE TWP

Vacation all year long in this wooded hilltop home w/breathtaking views. Deluxe bath w/Jacuzzi, private bal-cony w/hot tub & new carpet. Finished walkout. All appli-(248) 855-2000 CENTURY 21 TODAY

4 bdrm, 2.5 bath ranch. Brazilian cherry hardwood floors, cathedral ceilings, floors, ceramic Finished bsmt, 2 car attached

garage & brick paved patio \$210,000 MLS 27225709 (248) 673-2211 CENTURY 21 TODAY Private lakefront, 4 bdrm, 2 bath home located on cul-desac. Large kitchen w/oak cab-

inets, door wall off of dining

room leads to large deck overlooking Crystal Lake. \$159,900 MLS 27195326

(248) 673-2211 CENTURY 21 TODAY WOLVERINE LAKE Best value on lake. Main lake view. Very quiet location 241 acre all sports Wolverine Lake. Price reflects need for minor repairs & updating Owner wants this property sold! 1 year warranty includ ed. \$289,000 #27225404

(248) 360-9100 CENTURY 21 TODAY

357D

Wayne County

RIVER ROUGE Brick home w/bay window, coved ceilings & arched entryways. C/A fireplace, entryways. C/A fireplace, some wood floors, basement w/dry bar, 3-season room. Garage, brick patio, gardens. \$85,000. #2717278 Tanya Hill 734-330-4310, 734-665-0300

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604 W WASHINGTON

HOWELL 3BR 1BA 1,334s1+\-. OPENING BID: \$1,000

662 RED OAKS DR, HOWELL 2BR 1BA 1,056sf+\-. OPENING BID: \$1,000Properties sell: 8:00am Thu. Feb. 21 at 8508 SILVER LAKE RD, LINDEN Homes are open Sat or Sun before sale day, visit williamsauction.com for

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CANTON Charming upper ranch unit. Open floor plan, large master bdrm w/walk Laundry in unit. Great location. \$90,000 MLS 28016786 (734) 462-9800

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- drink) 46 Summerhouse 48 In hock
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56 Sweetle-pies 57 Last letter

- DOWN 1 Not on duty
- Serenade. maybe 3 Unsavory
- Grievous afflictions 5 Ego ending
- 6 Tenn, neighbor 7 Peer of the realm 8 Cringe at
- 42 "— a Lady" (Tom Jones **Answer to Previous Puzzle** 43 Zoo attraction 45 - tai (rum



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FED

- 9 Get smart
- (2 wds.) 10 John Wayne's
- 21 Wait in line 11 Yang 22 Lowest ebb 23 Watch pockets complement 25 Gush forth 26 Cabinet parts 28 Geometry symbol 29 Make shore
 - maybe 33 Note before mi 38 Glazed fabric

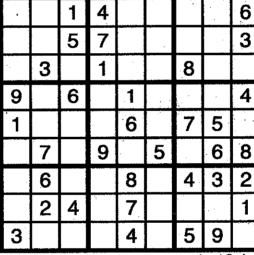
32 Sandbags,

EWOKS

16 Blank space

18 Panoply 20 Keys locale

- 40 Dwindled 42 Visited 44 Cameo. maybe 45 Provides staff 46 Schmooze
- 47 Malt beverage - annum 49 Afore 50 Pigment 53 Refrain



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PATELLA

more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

TARSUS **FEMUR** RADIUS TIBIA . RIBS **FIBULA**

THE WORDS READ UP, DOWN AND ACROSS.

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CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE 7 6 2 2 4 8 1 8

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JACK DEMMER

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(734) 453-2500 DEVILLE 2005, 3 to choose

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734-525-0900

powertrain, \$8,988.

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leather, moonroof, fully loaded low miles, from \$20,950.

leather, heat/memory seats CD, loaded, \$12,950. JOHN ROGIN BUICK

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COBALT LS 2007, only 1,500 niles, auto, air, CD, sharp! \$10.950.

Chevrolet



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CROWN VICTORIA LX 2001, JOHN ROGIN BUICK 734-525-0900 **Bill Brown Ford** (734) 522-0030

full power, leather, chromes sharp! \$15,995 EDGE SE 2008 **ALL NEW CROSS OVER** SIGN & DRIVE \$303 PER MONTH. (734) 721-1144 SEE OUR FILL PAGE

ESCORT 2002 2 dr. Coupe.

MALIBU'S, 4 to choose

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Leather, roof, loaded, very sharp w/only 54,000 miles. Cabaron Auto, Plymouth

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MONTE CARLO 2004, 3.8 V-6, auto, only 26K Lou LaRiche Chevrolet

PT CRUISER 2001 Limited

RedHolman_ (734) 721-1144

SEBRING 2005 Convertible Limited, loaded, 8/80 cert.

Fox Hills Chrysler-Jeep

SEBRING LXi 2001, 72k,

MUSTANG GT 2001 Coupe,

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Ford

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red, auto, air, 73K, \$5,995 **Bob Jeannotte Pontiac** (734) 453-2500 FIVE HUNDRED LIMITED 19K, \$14,998. AVIS FORD

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FOCUS, 2004 this little car in your drive & TYME AUTO 734-455-5566 FOCUS 2008 SE COUPE

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\$6,798. AVIS FORD (248) 355-7515 FOCUS SES 2007, 100 miles, speed, \$12,498. AVIS FORD

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FOCUS ZTW 2004 Wagon, full

FOCUS SE 2002,

Bill Brown Ford (734) 522-0030 FOCUS ZX4 2005, black extra clean, 70k

SATURN of PLYMOUTH (734) 453-7890 FOCUS ZX4 SES 2006 4 dr. 15K one owner, like brand

leather, 5 speed

SATURN of PLYMOUTH (734) 453-7890 **FUSION SE 2008** \$226 PER MONTH SEE OUR FULL PAGE

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Ford 734-721-2600

MUSTANG GT 1999 Convertible, 35th Anniversary, 15K, \$13,498. (248) 355-7515

leather, 5 speed, extra clean low miles, \$9,995. Bill Brown Ford

MUSTANG GT 2003 Convertible, triple black, low niles, \$16,995. 🕡

MUSTANG GT 2006 Convertible, 13K, 5 speed, \$24,998.

MUSTANG LX 2007 Convertible, silver or red, auto, like new! \$18,995 Bill Brown Ford

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2002, leather, full power 36K, \$10,450. Stk# Stk# FOCUS ZX3 2005, auto, air, \$19,860. Stk# 8C9017A FOCUS 2906, great gas, \$11,500. 7C1332A FORD ESCAPE XLT 2002, 8T9202A FORD FREESTAR 2007

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(Inped)

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TAURUS SEL 2007, leather, CD player, loaded, spend a lit-tle get a lot, \$13,998. Red.Holman_ (734) 721-1144

TAURUS SEL 2007, leather

on, low miles, \$13,995.

Bill Brown Ford (734) 522-0030 THUNDERBIRD 2005 Hardtop, 11K, \$26,998. AVIS FORD

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8510

JIMMY 2001 TYME AUTO 734-455-5566

8520 Honda CIVIC EX 2000 4 dr., auto, 86K, extra clean, \$7,050.

SATURN of PLYMOUTH

(734) 453-7890 CIVIC EX 2006 4 dr., auto, silver, exc. cond., one owner, serviced, \$13,990 SATURN of PLYMOUTH

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air, power windows/locks

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Fox Hills

\$16,988.

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LIBERTY, 2004

4X4. That's the one that looks like it has large eyes. \$8,899

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Jeep

LIBERTY 2006, black, 4x4, alloys, like new, 27K, very sharp looking, \$13,900 SATURN of PLYMOUTH (734) 453-7890

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Mercury

Bill Brown Ford (734) 522-0030 MILAN 2006 Premier pkg,

silver. 17K one owner, like

GRAND MARQUIS LS. 2004,

SATURN of PLYMOUTH (734) 453-7890 SABLE LS 2003, leather, moon, \$7,998. AVIS FORD (248) 355-7515

new, loaded, \$16,805.

leather, multi-CD, ABS, power seats \$9.450 SATURN of PLYMOUTH (734) 453-7890

SABLE LS 2003 premium pkg,

V-6. auto, power moon,

Mitsubishi ECLIPSE GS-T 1998, Spyder Turbo. auto, Extra Clean, \$8990.

(734) 453-7890 ECLIPSE GTS 2003 Coupe, Silver, leather, moon, 5 speed SATURN of PLYMOUTH

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Oldsmobile

ontiac

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ALERO 2002 4 dr., black, lov miles. \$5,995 with warranty. COLLINS MOTOR SALES WAYNE (734) 721-1616

BONNEVILLE GXP 2005, V-8

Bob Jeannotte Pontiac

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black, loaded, \$18,495.

Pontiac BONNEVILLE SE 2004 low

miles, \$8,998. (248) 355-7515 BONNEVILLE SLE 1998,

G6 2005, auto, air, hurry on

Red Holman_

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G6 2006-05, 12 to choose,

734-525-0900

G6 2006, auto, air, gray,

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some moonroofs, loaded, from \$11,950.

certified, 20K, \$12,595.

this one, \$10,495.

sharp, silver, only \$4,995 speed, \$3,795. COLLINS MOTOR SALES **Bob Jeannotte Pontiac** WAYNE (734) 721-1616 (734) 453-2500 VIBE 2005, Gray, auto, 36K. BONNEVILLE SLE 2004,

Pearl White, leather, one **Bob Jeannotte Pontiac Bob Jeannotte Pontiac** (734) 453-2500 (734) 453-2500

Pontiac

VIBE 2006, Red, auto, 31K. **Bob Jeannotte Pontiac**

SUNBIRD, 1999

Extra clean, leather, moon,

5 speed, \$2,250

SUNFIRE 1997, sport pkg, 5

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Red Holman

(734) 721-1144 8700) Saturn

ION 2004 4 dr., one owner. sunroof, silver, \$9,995. **Bob Jeannotte Pontiac** (734) 453-2500

ION 2004, Red Line Super Charged, 5 spd, one owner. Lke new, 30K, \$12,900 SATURN of PLYMOUTH (734) 453-7890

ION2 2005 Quad coupe, auto, silver, only 33K, extra clean. extra cool. \$10.790. **SATURN of PLYMOUTH** (734) 453-7890 L300 2002, V-6, auto, front

SATURN of PLYMOUTH (734) 453-7890 £300 2004, 51K, black, auto, ABS trac control, alloys, CD,

SATURN, 03 Auto, air low miles. \$5,999. Shop Tyme & save. TYME AUTO 734-455-5566

8710

moon, \$7,498. AVIS FORD (248) 355-7515 GRAND PRIX 2007, 6 to

Toyota

GRAND PRIX GT 2001, 4 **Bob Jeannotte Pontiac** (734) 453-2500 **Bob Jeannotte Pontiac** SOLARA SLE: 2001 25K,

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choose, SE, GT, ali models moonroofs, \$15,950 JOHN ROGIN BUICK 734-525-0900

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GRAND PRIX GT 2006, metallic blue, 32K one owner, extra clean, \$12,940 **SATURN of PLYMOUTH** (734) 453-7890

GRAND PRIX GT2.2004,

leather, moon, green, \$11,995

Bob Jeannotte Pontiac

(734) 453-2500

GRAND PRIX GT2 2005, bright blue. leather, moonroof, \$14,995. **Bob Jeannotte Pontiac** (734) 453-2500

GRAND PRIX GTP 2000 4 dr.

one owner, red, only \$5,495.

Bob Jeannotte Pontiac

(734) 453-2500

GRAND PRIX GTP 2004, all

Bill Brown Ford

(734) 522-0030



G6 2007 Hard top Convertible, wheel drive, power pkg, cruise, \$7,980. white, like new, 20K, Loaded, one owner. Awesome Price!

(734) 453-7890 G6 GTP 2007, silver, black extra clean, \$10,990. SATURN of PLYMOUTH (734) 453-7890

> Suzuki VERONA 2004, 4 dr., leather,

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