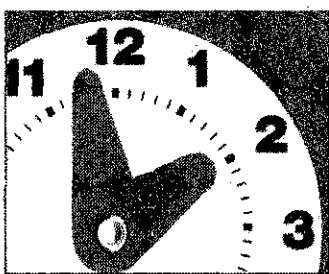


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Students step into the shoes of their heroes for project

BY TIFFANY L. PARKS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Tara Lipinski has probably never seen herself this way before: a felt face, false lashes, perfectly coiffed synthetic blonde tresses, a yellowish orange costume and a pair of sparkly pink ice skates.

Oh, and her body was fashioned from a plastic two-liter bottle.

The fourth-grade class at All Saints Catholic School, which is located on Warren Road in Canton, has completed a popular, two-month project that is known as "The Bottle People."

Each student was asked to come up with three choices for the biography project and then narrow it down to one person. In addition to creating a likeness of their subjects, the children also dressed up like their characters and wrote a report about their life.

"My daughter could hardly sleep last night because she was so excited," said All Saints librarian Shannon Birecki of her daughter, Katie, 10.

Katie chose Dr. Seuss for her project.

"I love his books and I wanted to find out more about him," said Katie, who worked on her bottle person for nearly a week.

Please see **STUDENTS, A3**



Sarah Bloem is astronaut Mae Jemison, Morgan Kelm is McDonald's founder Ray Kroc, Jacob Grady is Milton Hershey, Justin Murray is Pele, and Katie Birecki is Dr. Seuss.

Officials pay tribute to Yack at his final state of the township

BY TIFFANY L. PARKS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

In between tossing out numbers and facts, township officials cracked a few jokes and laid out several one-liners during the annual State of the Township Luncheon Wednesday at the Village Theater.

The address, which is hosted by the Canton Chamber of Commerce, was set up like a press conference and featured

community leaders in the audience with notebooks and prepared questions pretending to be reporters.

The presentation kicked off with a comic strip-like video that showed Township Supervisor Tom Yack summoning the assistance of Leisure Services Director Ann Conklin, Finance and Budget Director Rick Eva, Municipal Services Director Tim Faas and

Please see **YACK, A3**



BILL BRESLER
STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The steely gaze of Supervisor Tom Yack finds the next question at the mock press conference that was part of his final state of the township address Wednesday.

La Shish's demise could open door for others

BY TIFFANY L. PARKS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Since the closure of metro Detroit's 11 La Shish restaurants Saturday night, Darren Frankel has been a busy man.

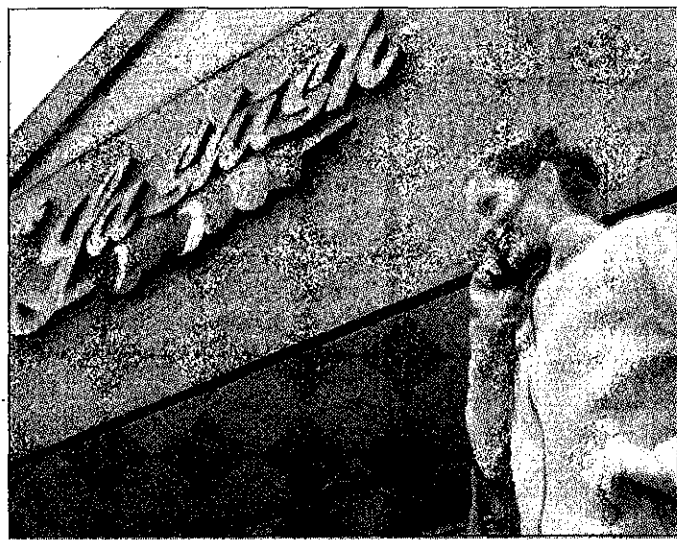
"It was just reported and I've already had calls from people interested in (taking over the eatery's locations)," Frankel said Monday. "I don't anticipate too much downtime."

Frankel's company, the Stuart Frankel Development Company, leases three of the Middle Eastern restaurant's locations, including one in the Centre Village Plaza at Canton Center and Ford roads.

The others are in Livonia and Farmington Hills.

"I had someone call that wanted all three," he said, adding that he believes the locations will be revamped under a new name.

La Shish had been in



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Kristine Quinn calls her boyfriend after stopping for lunch and finding the restaurant closed. She's also a former employee.

Canton since 1999 and Frankel said the company was a good tenant.

"We never had an issue," he said.

The well-known restaurant chain, which employed about 300 people, has faced a flurry of negative press in recent years involving its owner Talal Chahine, who fled his Plymouth Township home and is considered a fugitive in Lebanon. He has been accused of supporting terrorists.

A sign on the padlocked glass door of the Canton location thanked patrons for their "all along loyalty" for the past 19 years and called the closure necessary "due to the financial struggles."

According to published reports, the restaurants and their assets will be sold to recoup outstanding tax debts.

On Monday, Kristine Quinn, a 21-year-old Canton resident approached the eatery in anticipation of grabbing some lunch.

"What happened now," she gasped, adding that she used to work at the restaurant and knew about Chahine's legal woes.

"I didn't think they would close because that stuff happened years ago. (La Shish) was shady, but it was good food."

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Detroit police officer facing gun charges after domestic dispute

BY KURT KUBAN
STAFF WRITER

A Detroit police officer was arrested in Canton Tuesday afternoon after he allegedly fired three shots from his revolver during a domestic dispute with his ex-girlfriend.

Canton Police Sgt. Rick Pomorski said the officer is in his early 40s and a 10-year veteran of the Detroit Police Department. He got into an argument with the woman at her house in the Glegary subdivision on Canton's west side when she began to move some

of his stuff out of the home. Pomorski said the girlfriend is in her late 30s.

According to Pomorski, the man fired three shots from his revolver into the floor, and that the woman was not hit. The incident occurred about 1:30 p.m.

"I think this is one where his anger got away from him," Pomorski said.

Police did not identify the officer, pending his arraignment, which Pomorski expected to happen Thursday morning in 35th District Court. As of Wednesday afternoon, he was still waiting for the Wayne

County Prosecutor's office to hand down charges. Charges could range from assault to illegal discharge of a firearm. He was being held in Canton's jail pending his arraignment.

Pomorski said the victim wanted to press charges after the incident.

"She's doing OK, just complaining about some bumps and bruises," he said. "She does want to press charges and she is adamant of her fear of this man."

Pomorski said the woman refused medical treatment after officers responded at the scene.



PHOTO BY HEATHER FIEDOR

Picking a winner

With Canton Community Foundation President Joan Noricks looking on, Abby Stonerook pulls the winning number during a raffle drawing at the foundation's Winter Gala Friday night at Fox Hills Golf and Banquet Center. David Treadwell and Hussein Fawaz are in the background. The annual social event, which is the foundation's biggest fund-raiser, was attended by many of Canton's biggest names and supporters. For more photos and a story about the event, please see page A8. You can also see a gallery of photos at www.hometownlife.com.

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Coming Sunday in Health



Toxic homes: What's lurking
in your cupboards?

Liz Larin at the Village Theater

The Liz Larin Trio will perform at 8 p.m. on Friday, March 7 at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill



in the Biltmore Studio, which is an intimate setting for enjoying live music. All seats are \$10. A cash bar will also be available. A self-taught musician, Liz Larin's music has been described as blending elements of rock, pop, and R&B. Liz has received 22 Detroit Music Awards, including Outstanding Rock/Pop Artist,

Outstanding Rock Vocalist and Outstanding Rock Songwriter in 2007, and has fans around the world. Liz Larin has publicly stated that she believes music is powerful enough to change the world. To purchase tickets or for more information, visit www.canton-mi.org/villagetheater. Tickets can also be purchased

at Summit on the Park by phone at (734) 394-5460 or in person. To purchase tickets at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill box office, stop by during box office hours: Monday-Friday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Friday & Saturday, 7-9 p.m. and Sunday, 5:30-7:30 p.m. The Village Theater ticket office will also be open one hour prior to each performance.

Youth summer camp

Are you looking for a unique summer camp experience for your child or teen once school's out? Then don't miss Canton Leisure Services 2nd Annual Camp Fair on Saturday, March 8 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Summit on the Park Banquet Facility, located at 46000 Summit Parkway. Leisure Services will be showcasing its upcoming summer programs, which include camps for pre-school, youth and teen, as well as specialty camps for arts, sports and special needs.

Parents are encouraged to bring their children to this free event. Be sure to stop by and enter one of our free raffles, enjoy some treats, and take a turn on the inflatable bouncer. Guests can even try out a Nintendo Wii. If you'd like to guarantee your child or teen a spot in one of our several popular camps this summer, people will be able to register their child that day. For more information on Canton Leisure Services 2nd Annual Camp Fair, visit www.canton-mi.org or call (734) 394-5460.

Bentley variety show

Bentley Bobcat's Annual Variety Show and International Taste Fest will be held on March 7 at 7 p.m. in the Bentley Elementary School cafeteria in Canton. Bentley has students from many different backgrounds. To celebrate this diversity, Bentley's Festival of Cultures Committee has

organized an evening of ethnic and other performances, which showcase the kids' talents. Following the variety show is the International Taste Fest sponsored by local restaurants and by the parents of Bentley. It is being sponsored by TC Gators, Mexican Fiesta, Benito's Pizza, Marco's Pizza, McDonald's and HP Products Inc.

If you would like to know more about the show, or if any businesses would like to sponsor in this great evening, please contact the chairperson, Anu George at (734) 981-7854.

Historical Society meeting

The Canton Historical Society will host its first general meeting at 7 p.m., March 12 at the Cherry Hill School on the corner of Cherry Hill and Ridge roads. The guest speaker will be Society Trustee Marty Herschok, who will discuss "Railsplitters to Robber Barons." The presentation will explore the history of the Republican Party in the state of Michigan and its connection to the story of railroad development. For more information, contact the Canton Historical Museum at (734) 307-0088, or visit the Web site www.canton-historicalsociety.org.

Family cruise preview

The Canton Chamber of Commerce will host a Family Cruise Preview at 6 p.m., March 18 at Summit on the Park - Grand Ballroom (46000 Summit Parkway). Bring the whole family. A fun, fact filled introduction to cruising. Refreshments will be provided. Sponsored by AAA and Royal Caribbean. There is no cost for the event. RSVP by March 14 by calling (734) 844-5030.

Van Buren committee

The Van Buren Public Schools Parent Involvement

Committee will hold its Third Annual Parent Involvement Expo (PIE) on Saturday, March 8 at the Wayne County Community College - Western Campus (WCCC). Registration begins at 9 a.m. and events will run until 3 p.m. This event is free, lunch is included, and childcare is provided. Teachers can also earn 0.5 SBCEU's for a nominal \$10 processing fee.

The keynote speaker, Sara Grivas, will discuss how media is influencing our children. Some of the breakouts continue with that similar theme. The closing keynote speaker, Lucy French, teaches everyone the skills and importance of life-long learning.

Parents are also encouraged to bring their teens to learn how to better communicate with each other. Groups, individuals, and organizations are encouraged to participate in this event.

For more information, call Cathy Bandy and Kimberly Nofz from the Parent Involvement Committee at (734) 697-9123, Ext. 230.

Mark Maze show

Local comedian/musician Mark Maze will perform a show March 8 at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill.

show, which costs \$15, starts at 8 p.m. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. Maze's show is very audience interactive. He will be performing his sleight-of-hand

and comedy. His 15-year-old son, Jacob, will also be featured. Advance tickets can be purchased online at www.canton-mi.org/villagetheater, or by calling the box office at (734) 394-5300 (734) 394-5460. There will be a cash bar available.



Maze

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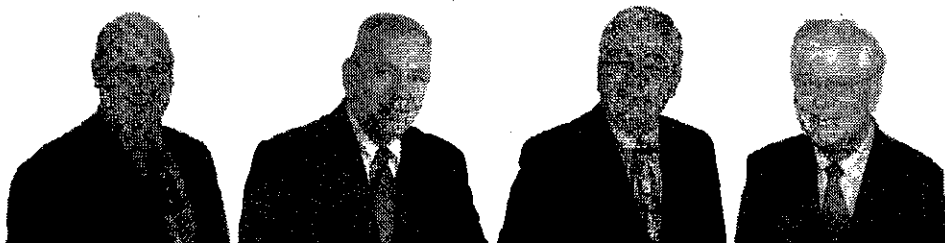


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Chiefette excellence

In a field that included more than 60 high school and collegiate pompon teams from throughout Michigan competing in the Junior Varsity, Varsity and Collegiate Divisions at the Mid-American Pompon 29th annual state championship at Eastern Michigan University, the Canton High School varsity team placed third in the Class A Varsity Division and Canton High School junior varsity earned second in the Junior Varsity Division. The routines featured athleticism, visual effects, rhythmic timing, showmanship and outstanding kicklines. Teams were judged on 10 categories by a select group of pompon experts. There was a guest performance by the Mid American Studio Senior All Star Team, comprised of elementary and middle school students.

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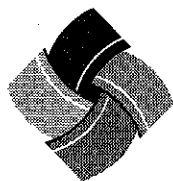


Top Row, l to r:

Albert Berrie, Retired Program Manager, Ford Motor Company
Floyd J. Burchard, Jr., Retired Business & Bank Consultant
Ronald Carlson, Mathematics Instructor, Eastern Michigan University
Philip Curtiss, Retired Information Technology Manager

Bottom Row, l to r:

Teresa A. Folino, Project Consultant - Casualty Claims - AAA Insurance - Auto Club Group
Dan Herriman, CEO, Herriman & Associates, Inc
Michele Kelly, Attorney, Kelly & Kelly PC
Denise E. Varner, Sports Photographer, FanFoto



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POSTAL PERIODICAL REQUIREMENTS

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STUDENTS

FROM PAGE A1

Other bottle people included football legend Barry Sanders, cookie giant Mrs. Fields and a horseback-riding John Wayne. A Cleopatra replica sported smoky eye makeup and a jeweled gold wrap, Jane Goodall's long, white locks were pulled back into her trademark ponytail and Carlos Santana seemed ready to work the stage in a bright ensemble topped with a pair of shades.

"Every one of these are so different and so unique," Birecki said, adding that the project's fun factor doesn't take away from its academic value. "They learn what a biography is, they learn outlining and then they have to prepare a presentation."

In addition to having their bottle person displayed in the



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Carlos Santana was made by student Nicola DePalma.

library, the children also had an evening presentation for their parents. The students lined the perimeter of the

school's gymnasium and gave their presentations to passers-by.

Taylor Smith, 10, chose Shirley Temple as her character and said she had been looking forward to the project since the start of the school year.

"I saw a Shirley Temple movie and I really liked it," she said, while cradling her bottle person, which featured yellow ribbon as the iconic child actor's famous spiraled hair.

As he proudly pointed to his Elvis bottle person, 10-year-old Ryan Magyar said he enjoyed learning about the king of rock 'n' roll.

"I like to play the guitar, too," he said, noting that his sister lent him one of her doll's leather jackets and that his father gave him a pair of jeans to cut for his bottle person. "This was a lot of fun."

Symphony seeks new director

BY TONY BRUSCATO
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

As the Plymouth Symphony Orchestra and Orchestra Canton seasons draw to a close within the next month, it will also end the three-year run for Jennifer Philpot-Munson as executive director of Plymouth Canton Symphony Society.

Philpot-Munson said she'll be leaving in June and moving to Indian Village in Detroit, where she and her husband, David Munson, plan to restore their new home, complete her dissertation from the University of Chicago and "hopefully start a family."

"It's been a very difficult decision for me because I love this organization," said Philpot-Munson, 36, who resides in Plymouth. "I couldn't say enough how much I appreciate the amazing board members I've had the opportunity to work with, the outstanding staff and our patrons and donors who are so generous and have made such an impact at a time when we've really needed their help."

Philpot-Munson, who has a background in anthropology and lived in Guatemala for two years, said she'd like to expand on her interest and experience in human rights.

"Maybe I'll use my Spanish and work with the immigrant community in southwest Detroit," she said. "I'll also work on my dissertation, which is on the effectiveness of the peace process in Guatemala."

Conductor Nan Washburn, who recently signed a three-year contract to remain with the orchestras, said she's sad to see Philpot-Munson leave, but thrilled she's getting a chance to move on to a new adventure. "She just made a huge impact on the organization and it's been wonderful working with her," Washburn said. "Her love of the community and the connections she's helped us make have been incredibly invaluable in



Jennifer Philpot-Munson (center), shown here at a "Friends of the Penn" event, will leave her post as executive director of the Plymouth Canton Symphony Society following the PSO's dinner auction next month.

THE PHILPOT-MUNSON FILE

Who: Jennifer Philpot-Munson
Age: 36

What: Executive director, Plymouth Canton Symphony Society

Started: February 2005

Final event: PSO Dinner Dance/Auction, April 25, Laurel Park Manor in Livonia

areas such as board development, donor development and audience development. The groundwork she laid will help in many more years to come."

Philpot-Munson became widely known in the Plymouth community for her efforts in starting Friends of the Penn to save the historic downtown theater from the wrecking ball.

"Public speaking was very foreign to me and I remember holding a Sharpie (marker) in my hand and it was shaking," Philpot-Munson said of the group's first meeting in February 2005 at the Coffee Bean, where 50 people showed up to listen. "Angels started falling from the sky. People with expertise in business plans, Web sites, designing and marketing came out to help. It was a community-

wide effort."

Plymouth Canton Symphony Society President Steve Alexandrowski of Plymouth said Philpot-Munson succeeded in keeping the symphonies moving forward, a task he called "enormous."

"It's the complexity, two orchestras, nine concerts and the educational program in Plymouth-Canton and Wayne-Westland schools," Alexandrowski said. "On the outside looking in, it doesn't seem like much to do. But when you have to coordinate all those programs, and have people in the right place, it's tough to do without a large staff. She did a great job and we are very sad to see her go."

Alexandrowski said the PCSS has already begun the search for a new executive director, which will be its fourth in the past nine years.

"Ideally, we'll have a candidate in the next couple of weeks," Alexandrowski said. "It takes a lot of energy to bring a new person up to speed. It's a steep learning curve the first year, which means the board and staff has to work that much harder to keep the organization running smoothly."

tbruscato@hometownlife.com

YACK

FROM PAGE A1

Public Safety Director John Santomauro. The four directors entered the auditorium through a cloud of fog and to a round of applause.

Calling 2007 "difficult and challenging" for some Canton residents, Yack touched on last year's small amount of new housing permits but said commercial development is still booming. He also highlighted the millage rate — 8.65 mills — as prudent and said it hasn't been this low since 1978.

While expressing his dislike of the state's revenue sharing formula and saying that Canton gets the low end of the funding stick, Yack said the township has succeeded at stretching its dollars.

"We keep our capital expenditures and full-time employees low," he said, noting that the township has about four employees per 1,000 residents.

When Yack opened the conference to questions, nearly a dozen mock reporters stood up and jockeyed for his attention.

The first question asked about the township's intersection improvement program and was directed at Faas.

After wiping his brow, Faas joked that he was relieved the inquiry wasn't about Wednesday morning's slushy conditions on Cherry Hill Road.

"You had me sweating," he said before focusing on past and upcoming intersection projects. In the spring, sections of Sheldon and Lilley Road are expected to be rehabilitated.

Conklin, who Yack jokingly called "Ann, the Magnificent," introduced a video segment about the first phase of the River Rouge trail opening in



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

"Reporters" Bart Patterson and Sean Fletcher try to attract Yack's attention.

June and answered one person's question about whether the township should devote resources to leisure services.

"People tell us time and time again that it's one of the reasons they chose to live here," she said.

When he was questioned, Santomauro detailed the Canton Police Department's accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies Inc.

"It's highly regarded throughout the nation," he said.

Santomauro, who was dubbed the "Enforcer," also relayed FBI statistics that solidified the township as a safe community.

After mentioning the township's quest to maintain a healthy water and sewer system, Eva said Canton hasn't floundered in Michigan's gloomy economy.

"Financially, we are in fairly

good shape," he said.

As the presentation concluded, the directors presented a tribute video to Yack, who is retiring this year.

Yack's daughter, Elizabeth Knoll, a township resident, said she enjoyed the longtime supervisor's final address.

"His retirement is bitter-sweet," she said. "He's earned it but he will be surely missed."

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Wayne-Westland schools lose 160 students

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER

The February student count didn't bring good news to the Wayne-Westland Community Schools, which lost an additional 160 students since the start of school in September.

"We know that 70 students have moved out of the state," said Superintendent Greg Baracy. "We have to determine how many moved in (with) relatives. We had students move to the Upper Peninsula and the upper Lower Peninsula."

The district, which has more than 13,400 students, showed an enrollment loss of 200 from the 2006-07 school year in September. That count as well as this month's count will be blended — 75 percent of the September figures and 25 percent of the February

count — for state school aid purposes.

According to Baracy, the loss of students "seems to be a trend" across the county and is tied to the state's economic problems. He added that for the first time, the state is acknowledging the loss.

At the January revenue conference, state officials said more than 25,000 students left Michigan and they expect the trend to continue through this school year and into next year, Baracy said.

According to the year-end balance estimates released in January, the state's ability to provide for per-pupil funding increases "has been significantly enhanced in recent fiscal years by a steep decline in the number of pupils funded." The report noted that the number of pupils funded statewide declined 86,267 students from fiscal 2002-03 to fiscal 2008-09.

"It's all about jobs and the economy, and I don't see those improving," Baracy said.

He added that the "state-of-the-art" William D. Ford Career Technical Center has the ability to provide retraining for unemployed adults. However, a cut in state funding has shrunk the adult education program from 2,000 students to just 200.

"We could give these workers the skills to find jobs," he said. "The state used to pay for that retraining."

He added that students are continuing to graduate, leave their families and leave to find jobs out of state.

"How does that help our economy? It doesn't," he said. "We'll continue to lose students as families leave Michigan."

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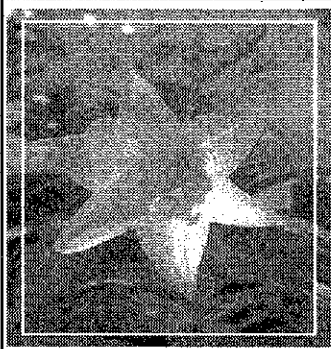
FRASER E. "BUD" POMEROY

Of Waterford, formerly of Birmingham. March 3, 2008 at 99 years of age. Born June 9, 1908 in Detroit to the late David C. and Mary (Coulton) Pomeroy. He married Margaret Trout on Thanksgiving Day, November 24, 1932. She preceded him in death in 1997. He graduated from Detroit Northwestern High School in 1925. Then, in 1928 he graduated from Detroit Commercial College. He then began a career that spanned 68 years at New England Life. He became the longest tenured employee/agent in the history of the company. He was involved in numerous civic organizations including being past president of the Birmingham Community House, past president of the Old Newsboy Goodfellows, Trustee of Kalamazoo College and was a member of Orchard Lake Country Club. Dear father of Kay (Donald) Beaudry, Mary Lu (Mack) King, David (Bonita) Pomeroy and Robert (Peggy) Pomeroy; also survived by nine grandchildren, seven great grandchildren and his nephew Ralph; brother of the late Robert and Luna May Pomeroy. Memorial service will be held at 11:00 a.m., Saturday, March 15, 2008 at the Chapel of Canterbury on the Lake, 5601 Hatchery Road, Waterford. Memorial contributions may be made to the Good Samaritan Fund at Canterbury-on-the-Lake. Envelopes will be available at the service. Arrangements were entrusted to Coats Funeral Home, Waterford. Send a private condolence: www.coatsfuneralhome.com and select Guestbook.



JEANNE TERRY SALICCIOLI

Suddenly, February 28, 2008. Age 67. Longtime resident of Bloomfield Hills. Beloved wife of Dr. Gino for 45 years. Loving mother of Gino (Meg), Amy Ostidick (Eric) & Cara Penzoza (Andy). Dear grandmother of Michael, Julia, Owen, Parker, Zachary and Leo. Sister of Maureen Guerrero and Renee Harris. Aunt of Anthony, Brian, Tricia & Lori. Funeral services and burial have taken place. Memorial tributes to American Heart Association, Karmans Cancer Institute or Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church. A.J. Desmond & Sons (248) 362-2500 View obituary and share memories at: www.DesmondFuneralHome.com



KATHLEEN H. FALLON

Age 76 went peacefully to be with her Lord and Savior on March 2, 2008 after a short struggle with pneumonia. Born in Detroit on 4-1-1931, she is preceded in death by her Mother and Father, Marion and Fredrick Close, her husband Eugene Fallon, her brother Fredrick Close II, her nephew Alex Brown, and her best friend Patricia Van Buren. She is survived by her 3 children Mary Fallon, Charles Fallon (Janice), Michael Fallon (Kathleen), as well as her grandchildren Jordan (Samantha), Joshua, Caleb, Gabriel, Christine, Micah, Elijah, Bridget (Eugene), Shannon, and April (Noah) and 7 great-grandchildren. Kathleen was a 1949 graduate of Immaculate High School in Detroit, and a graduate of the Providence Hospital Nursing program in 1952 where she became a registered nurse. She married Eugene Fallon in 1956 and lived in Lake Orion for 38 years. She was a devoted Mother, Grandmother, daughter, sister, and friend. Widowed for 32 years, she was faithful to the Catholic church and to her family. She loved to travel, have Sunday dinners with her family, walk the mall, go to her grandkids sporting events, and spend time with friends. She was lovingly known as "Mrs. Fallon" to the many patients she saw while working for Doctor White. She was well loved and will be missed by many. She had a good life. Services were held at the Sparks Griffin Funeral Home in Lake Orion on Wednesday March 5. Funeral services will be held at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Lake Orion on Thursday at 11 a.m. Friends may visit at 10 a.m. until the time of the service. Dinner will be served at the church after the service. Contributions can be made to The Cystic Fibrosis Foundation which held special meaning to Kathleen. Memorial reflections can be sent to: www.sparksgriffin.com

Passages

Obituaries, Memorials, Remembrances

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LOIS E. EARNEST (nee Means)

Of Farmington Hills, died March 2, at age 84 under the loving care of her son, Rick (Konna) Earnest, daughter Darlene Wolford, grandchildren Michael Wolford and Jordan Earnest, and son-in-law John Wolford. Predeceased by her beloved husband James, Nov. 1991. Dear sister of Rex (Betty) Means of Spring Hill, LA and the late Anna (Tom) Miller, and Rusty (Chris) Means both from her beloved state of Arkansas. She will be missed by many nieces, nephews, and friends. Born in Woodbury, Arkansas, on Sept. 4, 1924, daughter of the late Huey and Abbie (Porter). She graduated from Hampton High School as valedictorian in May, 1943. As this was during World War II and the government was in great need of typists and stenographers, she accepted a war appointment to the Pentagon. After she and James were married in Dec. 1945, they moved to Odessa Texas where their two children were born. In May, 1954 her family moved to Detroit, and subsequently to Farmington, Southfield, and then to Farmington Hills in 1992. In Aug. 1987, Lois retired with 30 years from Ford Motor Company, Dearborn. Arrangements made by McCabe Funeral Home, 31950 W. 12 Mile, Farmington Hills, with viewing Wednesday March 5 from 2-8 p.m. She will be flown to Hampton Arkansas, with viewing at Benton Funeral Home on Friday, March 7, from 2-8 p.m. with a graveside service at Means Cemetery on Saturday March 8 at 10 o'clock. Her faith in the Lord was ever strong. Memorial Contributions may be made to Hospice of Michigan.



MAJORIE H. HITCHCOCK

Age 89, of Livonia, Michigan, passed away on Monday, March 3, 2008 at the Wapello Nursing and Rehab Care Center. Funeral services will be held on Friday, March 7, 2008 at 10:00 A.M. at the Fred Wood Funeral Home in Livonia, Michigan. Rev. Mark Miller will officiate the services. Burial will be in Glen Eden Cemetery. Memorials may be directed to the Strike Foundation in memory of Marjorie. Sympathy notes may be left for the Hitchcock family at www.lewisfuneralhomes.com. Arrangements by the Geo. M. Wittich-Lewis Home for Funeral and Cremation Services of Muscatine, Iowa and the Fred Wood Funeral Home of Livonia, Michigan. Marjorie Hilda Haight was born on August 9, 1918, in Cortland, New York, the daughter of Floyd and Vivian (Potter) Haight. On August 17, 1941, Marjorie was united in marriage to Donald S. Hitchcock. Marjorie was a school teacher in the Detroit Public Schools for thirty-five years, retiring in 1981. She enjoyed traveling, going on vacations to the cabin in Michigan and watching the Detroit Pistons and CNN. Marjorie will be deeply missed by her two sons, Donald S. Hitchcock, Jr. of Livonia, Michigan; and Richard R. Hitchcock, Sr. and his wife, Louise, of Flint, Michigan; two grandchildren, Richard R. Hitchcock, Jr. and his wife, Audie, of Letts, Iowa and Jeffrey A. Hitchcock and special friend, Katie of Romulus, Michigan; four grandchildren, Alex, Olivia, Jeff, Jr. and Joey; and one sister, Betty Millman of Walcott, New York. She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, and two brothers, Jim Haight and Ron Haight.

SARAH ANN KAUFMANN HAAS

Age 91 of Munson Twp., OH., died March 4, 2008. She was a K-1 teacher in Plymouth, MI. for 27 years. Married to John Henry Haas on May 30, 1941 in Bement, IL., Sarah graduated from Fort Scott High in 1934, graduated from Fort Scott Junior College in 1937 received a B.S. in Commerce from Northwestern University in 1939, Masters in Education from Eastern Michigan University in the late 1950's, life member of American Association of University Women and several professional associations, instituted with others, many innovative programs for Plymouth, MI. area adults and children. Sarah, along with others, worked for the fulfillment of their dream that would one day become Schoolcraft Community College near Plymouth, MI. Survivors are Daughters: Barbara (M. Parkinson of Munson Twp., OH. Elizabeth (James) Marzonie of Littleton, CO. Brother: Mayer Day Kaufmann of Topeka, KS. Grandchildren: David Parkinson, Jennifer (Kevin) Kraus, and Mark (Karen) Marzonie. Great-grandchildren: Danielle, April, Megan, Makinzee, Spencer, and Mitchell. Great-great-grandchildren: Jakob and Cooper. Parents: Marx Mayer and Violet Audrey (nee: Day) Kaufman are deceased. Husband John Henry Haas died: April 10, 2004. The family has suggested donations be made to the Haas Family Memorial Fund, Corrine Dolan Center, University Hospitals, 12340 Bass Lake Road, Chardon, OH. 44024. Private family gathering. For more information please call: 440-285-2327

RUTH E. GRANDAHL

Age 78, February 29, 2008. Wife of the late Donald. Loving mother of Paul H. (Mary), Stephen T. (Joy) and Kirsten Grandahl-Wells. Dear grandmother of Angelica, Donald II, Neil (Zoe) Jones, John Jones, Courtney Wells and the late Donald Jones. Great grandmother of Olivia Jones. Arrangements entrusted to the Harry J. Will Funeral Home, Livonia. Burial at Parkview Memorial. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Emmanuel Lutheran Church or to the American Cancer Society in Ruth's honor. Condolences may be made to the family at harryjwillfuneralhome.com.



SR. LOUISE HIRNER, FSM

Died March 1, 2008, at St. Mary of the Angels Convent, Richmond Heights, MO. She was 96 years of age. Sr. Louise was born Louise Caroline on September 28, 1911, in Hannibal, MO, the fifth of seven children born to Melchior and Angelique (Becker) Hirner. She entered the congregation now known as the Franciscan Sisters of Mary in 1936. Sr. Louise (also known as Sr. Bonaventure) professed her final vows in 1942. She earned her RN nursing certificate from St. Anthony School of Nursing, Oklahoma City, OK, her BS in Home Economics from Marymount College, Salina, KS, and her Master's in Dietetics from Saint Louis University. Sr. Louise ministered at St. Anthony Hospital, Oklahoma City, OK, St. Elizabeth Hospital, Hannibal, MO, and at St. Francis Hospital and Health Services, and Mount Alverno Convent, Maryville, MO. Sister was a member of RAPT, the Renewal and Process Team who worked with both the OSF and SSM traditions through the process of the congregations' reunification/refounding. Sr. Louise is survived by one sister, Rose White, of Livonia, MI, and two brothers, Herman Hirner, of Paris, MO, and Paul J. Hirner, of Lewistown, MO. Visitation for Sr. Louise will be held Monday, March 3, 2008, beginning at 2:00 p.m. at St. Mary of the Angels Convent, 1100 Bellevue Avenue, Richmond Heights, MO. A wake service will be held at 7:00 p.m. The funeral mass will be held on Tuesday, March 4, 2008, at 10:30 a.m. at St. Mary of the Angels Convent, with burial to be held at Resurrection Cemetery. Memorials may be made to the Franciscan Sisters of Mary Tribute Fund, 1100 Bellevue Avenue, St. Louis, MO. 63117.

WILLIAM B. FLETCHER

Age 79, March 1, 2008. Beloved husband of Ruth. Loving father of Terry (Vivian) Fletcher and Dawn (Matthew) Black. Dear grandfather of Timothy and Tonya Fletcher. Brother-in-law of Loma Hanenburg. Funeral service at the R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, 31551 Ford Rd., Garden City, Saturday at 11 AM. Visitation Friday 1 - 8 PM.

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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, religious symbols, etc.)

Deadlines:
Friday 4:15 PM for Sunday
Wednesday 9:45 AM for Thursday

Obituaries received after these deadlines will be placed in the next available issue.

e-mail your obit to: oeobits@hometownlife.com or fax to: Attn: Obit c/o Charlotte Wilson 734-953-2232

For more information call: Charlotte Wilson 734-953-2070 or Liz Keiser 734-953-2067 or toll free 866-818-7653 ask for Char or Liz

RELIGION CALENDAR

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

MARCH

Lenten concert

Begin at 12:35 p.m. following Lenten Services of Holy Communion which begin at 12:10 p.m. Thursday, March 6, organist Kevin Bylsma perform music by Bach, Pachelbel and Vienne, at Mariner's Church, 170 E. Jefferson, in Detroit's Civic Center at the entrance to the Detroit-Windsor Tunnel. Free parking for services in the Ford Underground Garage with entrance on the median on Jefferson Avenue at Woodward. For more information, call (313) 259-2206.

Garage sale

Includes household items, tools, books, games, toys, electronic toys/games/equipment, clean, gently used children's clothing and baby items 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, March 7, and 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, March 8, Grab bag noon to 2 p.m. Saturday, at St. Aidan Activity Center, 17500 Farmington Road, north of Six Mile, Livonia. Admission \$1 per person. Garage sale donations accepted before and after masses March 1-2 in parish garage. No furniture, adult clothing accepted. No strollers permitted during sale. For information, call Ruth McCarthy at (734) 464-5973.

Spring concert

The Calvin College Orchestra kicks off its Spring tour with a concert 7:30 p.m. Friday, March 7, at Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile, Northville. Conductor Robert Nordling leads the 80 piece ensemble in a program featuring works by Beethoven, Strauss and Wagner. Admission free; an offering will be received. Reception to follow concert. Call (248) 374-7400 for information.

Lenten Fish dinner

5:30-7 p.m. Friday, March 7 and 14, in the activity center at St. Aidan's Church, 17500 Farmington Road, north of Six Mile, Livonia. Choice of baked cod or salmon with your meal. Cost is \$8 adults, \$4 children, under age 3 free. No dinner on Good Friday.

Fish fry

Our Lady of Loretto's Famous Fish Fry 4-7 p.m. all Fridays of Lent, in the family center, Six Mile and Beech Daly. Carry outs available.

Lenten fish dinners

St. Michael the Archangel Parish of Livonia invites everyone to it's All You Can Eat Lenten Fish Dinners, 4:30-7 p.m. Friday, March 7 and 14, in the cafeteria of St. Michael School, 11441 Hubbard, south of Plymouth Road, Livonia. The dinners feature a choice of hand-dipped fried or baked cod along with a large assortment of side dishes and beverages. Cost is \$8 adults, \$4 for children ages 3-11, free for age 3 and under. Carry-out orders available at \$7 each. For information, call (734) 261-1455, Ext. 200.

Single Place Ministry

Upcoming activities include dinner and movie 5:30 p.m. Saturday, March 8, at Grape Expectations Wine and Tapas Bar, Plymouth, call Bruce at (734) 459-7235. Single Place Ministry meets Thursdays 7:30-7:45 p.m. for social time, 7:45-8 p.m. opening, 8-9 p.m. program, at First Presbyterian Church, 200 East Main Street, Northville. Call (248) 349-0911 or visit www.singleplace.org. Cost is \$5 per person.

'Seven Last Words of Christ' sung

The St. Robert Bellarmine Choir presents "The Seven Last Words of Christ," a sacred cantata by Theodore Dubois at 7 p.m. Sunday, March 9, at the church, on the southeast corner of West Chicago and Inkster. Admission is free. For more information, call 313-937-1500.

Pancake breakfast

8:30-11 a.m. Sunday, March 9 and April 13, in the activity center at St. Aidan's Church, 17500 Farmington Road, north of Six Mile, Livonia. Cost is \$4 adults, \$4 children age 10 and under.

Bethany Suburban West

Lenten Mass 9 a.m. Sunday, March 9, at Madonna Chapel, Schoolcraft and Levan, Livonia. Please use the Newburgh entrance, breakfast to follow. Call Kathy for details, (734) 513-9479. Game Night 7:30-10 p.m. Friday, March 14, at the St. Linus Activity Center at the school. Cost is \$5 or bring a snack or dessert for at least 10 people or a couple of large bottles of pop (regular and diet), and we will supply the paper products and coffee. Play cards or board games for the evening. There will be prizes. Call Kathy for details and directions (734) 513-9479 or Michele (313) 996-8644.

Daniel, Darius & DeLions

A musical drama by the Voices of Praise Chorus 9:30 a.m. Sunday, March 9, during the Sunday School hour at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 39020 Five Mile, Livonia. For information, call (734) 464-0211.

Blessing of the fleet

11 a.m. Sunday, March 9, at Mariners' Church, 170 E. Jefferson, Detroit. Free parking in Ford Auditorium Underground Garage (entrance on the median strip of Jefferson at Woodward). For more information, call (313) 259-2206.

A guide to your spiritual journey

Discover the Seven Aspects of Spiritual Awakening 4-5:30 p.m. Sunday, March 9, at St. Irenaeus Church in Rochester. No charge. For information, call the church at (248) 651-9595 or Creative Books and Music at (586) 996-8660, or visit www.CreativeBooksAndMusic.com.

Concert

An evening with the Blackwoods 5 p.m. Sunday, March 9, at New Life Metro Church, 20320 Superior, Taylor. Cost \$10 advance, \$15 at door. Paid child care available. Pre-registration requested. Call (734) 287-8838.

Lenten services

Continue at 7:30 p.m. in the chapel every Wednesday through March 13, at St. James Presbyterian Church, 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford, (313) 534-7730. Maundy Thursday service will be 7:30 p.m. March 20, the Easter Worship Service at 10 a.m. March 23 in the sanctuary.

Prince of Peace Church

Recovery, Inc., meets at 10 a.m., every Wednesday at the church, Walnut Lake Road and Green, West Bloomfield. Recovery, Inc., is an international, non-profit, self-help community based service organization that helps people with nervous and emotional disorders reduce their suffering and improve their quality of life. Call Martha Paul at (248) 682-9362 or e-mail her at marthapaul@sbcglobal.net.

Divorce recovery

The winter/spring workshop meets 7-9:30 p.m. every Thursday until March 13, at Ward Church, Northville. Cost is \$30 in advance, \$35 at the door and includes materials and refreshments. Free childcare provided and financial help is available if needed. Deadline for registration for current session is Feb. 7, call (248) 374-5920.

World religions

Have you ever wondered why there are so many different religions? How should Christians view other religions? How is God at work in other religions? What is the fate of those who earnestly pursue God through other religions? Farmington First United Methodist Church offers a six-week, video-based study on Christianity and Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam, and Judaism. Classes began 6-7:30 p.m. Thursday Feb. 7, and 10-11:30 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 5, at the church, 33112 Grand River, Farmington. Call (248) 474-6573 for details.

Lenten programming

Soup and salad bar 5:30 p.m. Sunday, March 9 (\$5 donation to cover cost of dinner), followed by inspirational music by David Berriman at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 30900 W. Six Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 422-6038. Childcare available 6:30-7 p.m. A grand opening and dedication of the church's new Fellowship Hall is 5-8 p.m. Saturday, March 15. The community is invited.

Lenten services

Noon and 7:30 p.m. March 12, at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 27035 Ann Arbor Trail, Dearborn Heights. The Pulpit Theme is The Places of Passion. Holy Week services 10:30 a.m. Palm Sunday, March 16 with Confirmation; 7:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday, March 20; noon and 7:30 p.m. Good Friday, March 21 and Easter Sunday, March 23.

Wednesday Lenten services

7 p.m. Wednesdays preceded by Lenten dinners 5:30-6:30 p.m., at Hosanna-Tabor Lutheran Church, 9600 Leverne, Redford. Call (313) 937-2424. Holy week services 7 p.m. Maundy Thursday, March 20; 7 p.m. Good Friday, March 21, and 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Resurrection Sunday, March 23. Holy Communion second, fourth and fifth Sundays of month. Regular worship services 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sundays, Bible study and Sunday School at 9:45 a.m.

Lenten services

Mid-week Wednesday Lenten Services 7:30 p.m. March 12. Holy week services 10 a.m. Palm Sunday, March 16; 7:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday, March 20; Good Friday (March 21) Reflections on the Passion 12:30-2 p.m., Tenebrae Service at 7:30 p.m.; Easter Vigil 7:30-9 p.m. Saturday, March 22, and 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Easter Sunday, March 23, at Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church, 30650 Six Mile, Livonia. For information, call (734) 427-1414. Weekly or worship services 10 a.m. Sundays with nursery, Adult Learning and Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. No 6 p.m. Sunday services during Lent or Easter Sunday. All are welcome.

Mid-week worship

Continues 6 p.m. Wednesday, March 12, at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 39020 Five Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 464-0211. Evening begins with worship followed by a simple meal of bread and soup, and concludes with fellowship and mission projects.

Workshop

Liturgy of the Hours Workshop, learn about the manner in which the passage of time has been made sacred by Christianity, evening prayer experience takes place 7-9 p.m. Wednesday, March 12, at Bixman Hall (church building) at St. Aidan Parish, 17500 Farmington, north of Six Mile, Livonia. No charge. To register, call (734) 425-5950.

Special night of worship

With Men of Grace 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 12, at Risen Christ Lutheran Church, 46250 Ann Arbor Road, one block east of Beck at McClumpha, Plymouth. For more information or a map visit www.risenchrist.info. This free event offers an evening of spirituals, hymns, traditional and contempo-

rary, original music, and arrangements performed by Men of Grace from Grace Centers of Hope (Pontiac). Free will offering will be taken. They are a living example of how a life can be transformed from addiction, abuse and violence to one filled with meaning, hope and faith. The group has been honored to sing for President Bush, the Detroit Tigers, Gov. Jennifer Granholm, and featured at hundreds of civic, corporate, church and school events.

Vegetarian seminar

Nutrition and cooking seminar 2:30-5:30 p.m. Sunday, March 16, at Plymouth Seventh-day Adventist Church fellowship room, 4295 Napier, between Ann Arbor and Warren roads. Lectures by a physician and nutritionist will be followed by cooking demonstrations with recipes and menu plans. Suggested donation is \$10 per person. To register, call (248) 349-5683 or (313) 531-2179.

Easter season worship

9:15 a.m. and 11 a.m. Palm Sunday, March 16; 7:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday, March 20, and 9:15 a.m. and 11 a.m. Easter Sunday, March 23, at Newburg United Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia; noon Good Friday, March 21, at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 30900 Six Mile, Livonia and 7 p.m. Good Friday, at Clarenceville United Methodist Church, 20300 Middlebelt, Livonia (contemporary service), and 7 a.m. Easter Sunday at Greenmead Historical Park on Newburgh, north of Eight Mile, Livonia. For information, call (734) 422-0149.

Holy Week services

10:30 a.m. Palm Sunday, March 16; 7 p.m. Thursday, March 20 The Last Supper, and noon Good Friday, March 21, at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 30900 W. Six Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 422-6038. Easter services are 7 a.m. Sunday, March 23, at Greenmead Historical Park on Newburgh, north of Eight Mile, Livonia, and 10:30 a.m. at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church.

Holy Week schedule

The Last Supper, Revelation Along the Way 7 p.m. Maundy Thursday, March 20; Expiration Along the Way Good Friday service at noon and 7 p.m. Tenebrae Worship March 21; Easter Vigil 7:30 p.m. Holy Saturday, March 22, and Sunrise Service Celebration Along the Way at 7 a.m., and 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. Festival worship with Holy Communion and special music of Holy Trinity's various choirs and instrumentalists Easter Sunday, March 23, at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 39020 Five Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 464-0211.

Easter week services

7 p.m. Maundy Thursday, March 20, and Good Friday, March 21, and 10:30 a.m. Easter Sunday, March 22, at Historic Cherry Hill United Methodist Church, 321 S. Ridge, south of Cherry Hill, Canton. For information, call (734) 495-0035.

Clothing bank

Canton Christian Fellowship Clothing Bank is open 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, March 22, and the fourth Saturday of every month, at the church, 8775 Ronda Drive, south of Joy, between Haggerty and Lilley. The Clothing Bank is open to everyone in the community who is in need of new or like-new clothing. Donations are also accepted. For more information, call (734) 404-2480 or visit www.CantonCF.org.

Bethany Suburban West

Monthly breakfast 9:30 a.m. Saturday, March 22, at Leon's Family Dining 30149 Ford Road, south side (next to Tim Horton's), Garden City. All separated, divorced and singles welcome. For details, call Kathy (734) 513-9479.

Monthly dance 8 p.m. to midnight Saturday, April 5, at St. Robert Bellarmine, 27101 W. Chicago at Inkster Rd., Redford. Cost is \$10, refreshments included. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. DJ is Dick Gerathy. Call Diane for information (734) 261-5716.

Game Night 7:30-10 p.m. Friday, March 14, at the St. Linus Activity Center at the school. Cost is \$5 or bring a snack or dessert for at least 10 people or a couple of large bottles of pop (regular and diet), and we will supply the paper products and coffee. Play cards or board games for the evening. There will be prizes. Call Kathy for details and directions (734) 513-9479 or Michele (313) 996-8644.

Monthly breakfast 9:30 a.m. Saturday April 19, at Leon's Family Dining 30149 Ford Road, south side (next to Tim Horton's), Garden City. All separated, divorced and singles welcome. For details, call Kathy (734) 513-9479.

Spiritual healing

Free lecture on spiritual healing based on the teachings of Bruno Groening 7 p.m. Monday, March 31, at Church of Today West, 32500 W. 13 Mile, Farmington Hills. No charge. For information, call Arsen Darnay at (313) 882-7946 or Sabine Goltz at (248) 593-9091. To learn about Groening, visit www.bruno-groening.org/english.

UPCOMING

Blended family workshop

7-8:15 p.m. Wednesdays through April 2, at Ward Church, 40000 6 Mile Rd., Northville. Call (248) 374-5912. The Step-Family Doctor, Pastor Paul Clough, facilitates the group focusing on the issues pertaining to the blended family. Registration best but last minute

RELIGION

FROM PAGE A6

walk-ins welcome.

Sisters in Christ

Women's conference 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, April 19, at St. James Presbyterian Church, 25350 W. Six Mile, east of Beech Daly, Redford. Cost is \$40 pre-conference registration, \$50 at door. Call (313) 534-7730. This is an interdenominational conference to help women connect their Christian life to one another. Speakers are Brenda Josee who's been active in Christian publishing 25 years, and Nancy Moser who's published 17 inspirational novels.

Day of Reflection

Bethany Central Board is offering a Day of Reflection hosted by the Rochester Bethany 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, April 19, at St. Andrew's Catholic Church. This Mini Conference will have two topics: Social Security Benefits for Divorced People and the Catholic Annulment Process. There

is no cost for conference and lunch will be served. For details, call Audrey (248) 613-5461.

ONGOING**Reformed Protestant services**

A new series of sermons on the Doctrines of Grace is being preached by Rev. Sean Humby 3:30 p.m. Sundays at the Detroit Preaching Station of the Free Church of Scotland (Continuing), at Cherry Hill School, 50440 Cherry Hill, corner of Ridge Road, Canton. For more information, call Richard Waldecker at (734) 664-1815, visit www.westminsterconfession.org, or e-mail Humby at sean.humby@fuse.net.

Sunday services

Come to hear about the love of Jesus Christ for you 8:15 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. Sundays at Faith Lutheran Church, 30000 Five Mile, west of Middlebelt, Livonia. For information, visit www.livonfaith.org.

Tai chi and strength classes

Orchard United Methodist Church is hosting a Tai Chi class 7-8:30 p.m. Mondays in the Mac at the church, 30450 Farmington Road, Farmington

Hills. The cost per class is \$10 or \$40 prepaid for five classes. The strength class takes place 9:30-10:30 a.m. Monday and Wednesday. Cost is \$5 per class. Drops in welcome. For information, call (248) 626-3620 or visit www.orchardumc.org.

Church offerings

Riverside Park Church of God, Sunday worship is at 10 a.m., Wednesday bible classes (child through adult) at 7 p.m. Youth outings held monthly. The senior group (age 50 plus) has lunch together every month. The men get together for breakfast the first Saturday of the month plus we offer choir practice for all singers. All visitors welcome. The church is at 11771 Newburgh at Plymouth Road, Livonia. Call (734) 464-0990 for details.

Church services

Want a unique church experience? Join in Sunday mornings at 10 a.m. for a service that will lift your entire family, but be prepared for what will happen after just one service at Riverside Park Church of God, 11771 Newburgh (corner of Plymouth Road), Livonia. Call (734) 464-0990 for information.

Thursday fellowship dinner

All are welcome, 6 p.m. dinners catered by The Cookie Lady, Susan Navarro, at St. James Presbyterian Church, 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford. Cost is \$6. Call (313) 534-7730.

Thrift store

Open Wednesdays 9:30-11:30 a.m. and Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at St. James Presbyterian Church, 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford. Call (313) 534-7730.

Tai Chi class

Orchard United Methodist Church (30450 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills) is hosting a Tai Chi Class by Sam Purdy, Wu Style Tai Chi. This meditative form of Martial Arts is great for reducing stress and is great for over-all health memory and balance. Everyone is welcome from beginning to experienced participants at any time. Classes began 7-8:30 p.m. Jan. 14, and continue every Monday thereafter. Cost per class depends on number of participants. For information or to reserve your space, call (248) 701-1587 or (248) 626-3620. Visit www.orchardumc.org for updates.

Living Water series

Mark McGilvrey leads a 10-week video

series called H2O starting 6:30 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 13, at Memorial Church of Christ, 35475 Five Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 464-6722. The group is open to men and women who would like to review the basic teachings of Jesus who claimed to be living water.

Couple prayer series

St. Colette Church, 17600 Newburgh, Livonia, is offering a Couple Prayer Series (www.coupleprayer.org) for married or engaged couple, began 7-9 p.m. Friday, Jan. 4, in the Activity Center Hall. For registration information, call Mary Ellen at (734) 464-4435.

ENDOW

St. Michael the Archangel Parish of Livonia hosts two different sessions of the Archdiocese of Detroit's ENDOW program, a continuing women's study group focused on the dignity of women of all ages and faiths. Based on Pope John Paul II's Letter to Women, the group meets 9:30 a.m. Thursdays (began Jan. 10). The second session is called Different Times, Abiding Dignity and deals with a woman's inherent dignity at all stages

of her life from 0 to 100. The group meets 9:30 a.m. Tuesdays (began Jan. 8). Both groups meet in the convent basement meeting room. Women of all ages and faiths welcome. There is a \$60 charge for materials, but no woman will be turned away because of inability to pay. Register by calling (734) 261-1455, Ext. 207 or online at www.endowonline.com. St. Michael's complex is at 11441 Hubbard, south of Plymouth Rd., Livonia.

ENDOW

Educating on the Nature and Dignity of Women sessions 7-9 p.m. Thursdays, to March 6, (explores Pope John Paul II's Mulieris Dignitatem - On the Dignity and Vocation of Women), in Bixmal Hall church building at St. Aidan Catholic Church, 17500 Farmington Rd., Livonia. Second session is 7-9 p.m. Mondays to March 3, (explores Pope John Paul II's Letter to Women), in conference room in parish office. Registration required for both sessions. \$60 for materials for each session. Contact Michele Schmidt at (734) 367-0353 or send e-mail to mitschmidt@sbeglobal.net.

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For more information call 313-937-2233

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St. Genevieve School - PreK-8
29015 Jamison • Livonia • 734-427-6220
(East of Middlebelt, between 5 Mile & Jeffries)
MASS: Tues. 7 p, Wed., Thurs. 9 a, Sat. 4 p, Sun 11a

St. Maurice Roman Catholic Church
32765 Lyndon • Livonia • 734-522-1616
(between Merriman & Farmington Roads)
MASS: Mon. 8:30 a, Fri. 8:30 a, Sat. 6 p, Sun 9a

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33144 Cherry Hill, Garden City, MI 48135
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Meetings on Saturdays for:
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Parking lot is on N.W. corner of Levan & Schoolcraft • Nursery provided

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734-453-0970

For Church Directory changes and information regarding advertising in this directory, please call

Donna Hart (734) 953-2153 the Friday before publication.

To mail copy: The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150 or Fax to (734) 953-2121



The Canton Community Foundation's annual winter ball was held on Friday night, and was attended by Chris and Patsy Johnson, and Jim and Pam Plakas.

PHOTOS BY HEATHER FIEDOR

Mixing it up

Despite the economy, hundreds show up for foundation's glitzy winter gala

BY TIFFANY L. PARKS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

In shaking up its 14th annual Winter Gala, the Canton Community Foundation did it with 325 supporters.

"In light of the economy, I am happy," said CCF director Joan Noricks, adding that she received positive feedback about the decision to relocate the event from the Laurel Manor in Livonia to the Fox Hills Golf and Banquet Center. "We keep mixing it up."

Canton resident Deborah Krone was the evening's honoree and was awarded the Thomas J. Yack Founders Award.



The chocolate fountain was a popular spot.

In her presentation to Krone, a former chairperson of the CCF board, Noricks said she did "an awesome job" for the organization and that her young age provided board members with a fresh perspective.

"Canton is a big part of my life," Krone said, adding that the name of the award has special meaning because she grew up near Yack, Canton's longtime supervisor. "This means a lot to me."

Krone also said through the CCF she's learned how "a little bit of volunteering goes a long way."

"CCF is a true enhancer of our community," she said. "They make Canton a better place to live, work and play."

As in years past, the gala included music, fine dining, a dessert bar and dancing. Comedian Keith Ruff was

new to this year's event and got laughs with his jokes that centered about sports.

Township resident Jean M. Stenger attended the event as a founding member of Giving Hope, Women's Giving Circle.

"I am an active member of the Canton community and I support the CCF," she said. "And one way to support them is to be here."

Stenger said she was pleased by the changes in this year's gala.

"The rejuvenation is kind of nice," she said. "It adds an edge."

For more information about the CCF, call (734) 495-1200, or go to the Web site at www.cantonfoundation.org.

tlparks@hometownlife.com
(734) 459-2700

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON BOARD PROCEEDINGS-FEBRUARY 26, 2008

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton was held Tuesday, February 26, 2008, at 1150 Canton Center S., Canton, Michigan. Supervisor Yack called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Roll Call Members Present: Bennett, Caccamo, Kirchgatter, LaJoy, McLaughlin, Yack, Zarbo Staff Present: Director Eva, Executive Director Santomauro, Director Conklin, Director Faas Adoption of Agenda Motion by Bennett, supported by Zarbo to approve the agenda as amended adding G-13 Appointments of the Canton Tax Board of Review. Motion carried unanimously. Approval of Minutes Motion by Bennett, supported by LaJoy to approve the Board Minutes of February 12, 2008. Motion carried unanimously. Citizen's Non Agenda Item Comments: A number of citizens and parents spoke in support of the proposed expansion of the National Heritage Academies, Canton Charter Academy, 49100 Ford Road. Payment of Bills Motion by Kirchgatter, supported by LaJoy to approve payment of the bills as presented. Motion carried unanimously. **RECOGNITION:** 1. **RECOGNITION OF CATHERINE FOEGE.** Motion by Bennett, supported by Zarbo to adopt the resolution in recognition of Catherine Foegen. Motion carried unanimously. Catherine Foegen has served as an original member of the DDA since 1984 (24 years). Ms. Foegen was also past president of the Canton Chamber in 1985. Ms. Foegen is a lifetime resident of Canton and past business owner. **CONSENT CALENDAR:** Item 1. **BUDGET AMENDMENT POLICE - CARRY OVER 2005 JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT.** (PSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve the following budget amendment to carry over funds from the 2005 JAG (exp. 9/2008): Increase Revenues: Federal Grant-LLEBG/JAG #207-000-507-0000 \$2,720, Increase Appropriations: Capital Outlay-Equipment #207-301-977-0000 \$2,720. This budget amendment increases the Police Fund budget from \$15,257,327 to \$15,260,047. Increase Revenues: Federal Grant-LLEBG/JAG #207-000-507-0000 \$2,720 Increase Appropriations: Capital Outlay-Equipment #207-301-977-0000 \$2,720. This budget amendment increases the Police Fund budget from \$15,257,327 to \$15,260,047. Motion carried unanimously. Item 2. **SET PUBLIC HEARING DATE FOR TAKAO AMERICA CORP. INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES EXEMPTION CERTIFICATE FOR NEW PERSONAL PROPERTY.** (SUPERVISOR) Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to set the public hearing for March 25, 2008, to consider the Industrial Facilities Exemption application of Takao America Corporation for new personal property at their facility located at 7075 Haggerty Road. Motion carried unanimously. Item 3. **SET PUBLIC HEARING FOR SUMMITTECH ENGINEERING, INC. INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES EXEMPTION CERTIFICATE FOR NEW PERSONAL PROPERTY.** (SUPERVISOR) Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to set the public hearing for March 25, 2008 to consider the Industrial Facilities Exemption application of Summittech Engineering, Inc. for new personal property at their facility located at 47440 Michigan Avenue. Motion carried unanimously.

GENERAL CALENDAR: Item 1. **BUDGET AMENDMENT FOR THE CARRYOVER OF FY 2007 OPEN PURCHASE ORDERS.** (FBD) Motion by Bennett, supported by Zarbo to approve the budget amendments in the 2008 budgets for purchase order commitments carried over from 2007. Motion carried unanimously. Item 2. **HOUSING REHABILITATION - ROOF REPLACEMENT.** (FBD) Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to award a contract in the amount of \$4,630.00 (Affordable Housing Contingency, 274 666 972 2007) to Leak Pro for a new roof at the housing rehabilitation project on Bellingham. Motion carried unanimously. Item 3. **PURCHASE DIGITAL SCANNER, PRINTER, COPIER AND FAX MACHINE FOR FINANCE & BUDGET, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND ITS.** (FBD) Motion by Bennett, supported by LaJoy to approve the purchase of a Ricoh Aficio MP3500SPF in an amount not to exceed \$7,927 (101-223-977-0000 - Copier Replacement) from Ricoh through the US Communities Government Purchasing Alliance. Motion carried unanimously. Item 4. **UPGRADES TO IRRIGATION SATELLITE CONTROLLERS AND IRRIGATION HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE.** (CLS) Motion by Bennett, supported by LaJoy to authorize the purchase of four Toro LTC Satellite Boxes for Pheasant Run Golf Club from Spartan Distributors, 1050 Updyke Road, Auburn Hills, MI 48326 in the amount of \$9,975 to be taken from Account 584-756-971-0000, Capital Outlay-Land & Improvement. I further move to authorize the purchase of a Toro NSN three year service/equipment agreement for Pheasant Run Golf Club from Toro NSN, P.O. Box 3339, Abilene, TX 79604 in the amount of \$6,429 to be taken from account 584-756-977-0000, Line Item #4, Capital Outlay. Motion carried unanimously. Item 5. **AUTHORIZATION INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR AGREEMENT FOR THIRD PARTY SPONSOR SALES.** (CLS) Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to authorize the contract agreement for a term of one year with auto renews for up to two additional years with a sixty day non-renewal notice with Advantage Marketing located at 38777 Six Mile Rd, Suite 110, Livonia, MI 48152. Motion carried unanimously. Item 6. **CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE 2008 MUNICIPAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (CIP) FOR WATER, SEWER AND ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS.** (MSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve the 2008 Municipal Services Department Capital Improvement Program as shown in the Budget

Worksheets for 2008 and the projects tentatively scheduled for 2008. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 7. **CONSIDER AUTHORIZATION TO INCREASE PO 67216 TO BEST ASPHALT, INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$13,564.36.** (MSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to increase PO 67216 to Best Asphalt, Inc. in the amount of \$13,564.36 (account No. 246-750-970-0000, Community Improvement Fund - Pavement Management) for additional work performed for the Summit Sidewalk Entrance and Drainage Improvements. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 8. **CONSIDER PURCHASE OF MANHOLE ENCAPSULATION SYSTEM FROM HD SUPPLY WATERWORKS FOR SANITARY SEWER STRUCTURES.** (MSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to approve a purchase order in the amount of \$11,288 plus a 10% contingency of \$1,129 for a not-to-exceed amount of \$12,417 from Account #592-441-935-0000 to HD Supply Waterworks to purchase the manhole encapsulation system supplies for placement around the sanitary sewer structures being adjusted as part of the 2008 Sidewalk Repair Program. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 9. **CONSIDER AUTHORIZING AN INCREASE TO PURCHASE ORDER 61732 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$10,271.02 FOR ADDITIONAL WORK PERFORMED DURING THE CANTON CENTER/GEDDES INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS.** (MSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by LaJoy to increase PO 61732 in the amount of \$10,271.02 (account number 403-506-969-0000) to John Carlo, Incorporated for additional work performed for the Canton Center and Geddes Intersection Improvements. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 10. **AUTHORIZE AWARD OF BID TO THE SPRING 2008 TREE PLANTING PROGRAM.** (MSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by Kirchgatter to approve the award of bid for street tree planting and watering for the Spring 2008 Tree Planting Program to Cribb Nursery Inc. for a total of \$89,843.00 plus a 5% contingency for maintenance of \$4,492.00 for a total purchase order of \$94,335.00 (account 101-285-970-0000, Tree Fund Planting). I further move to approve the award of bid for trail tree planting and street tree mulching for 2008 to Nature's Garden Center for a total of \$14,700.00. **RESOLUTION OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES, CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON STREET TREE MAINTENANCE AND PLANTING ON COUNTY ROADS WHEREAS:** street tree maintenance and planting on county roads is a community priority; and **WHEREAS:** Wayne County has agreed to allow streetscape maintenance and improvements to be performed on county roads within rights-of-way provided the community agrees to maintain and indemnify Wayne County relative to installation of the plantings: **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT,** The Charter Township of Canton agrees to: maintain the tree planting at no expense to Wayne County; indemnify and save harmless Wayne County and its employees against all claims, suits and judgments of every name and description arising out of the operation. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 11. **CONSIDER AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF THE \$6,000.00 INVOICE FROM THE MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY FOR CANTON'S STORM WATER DISCHARGE PERMIT.** (MSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to authorize payment of the invoice in the amount of \$6,000.00 for Canton's Storm Water Discharge Permit from account number 101-445-928-0000, Storm Water Permit Fees. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 12. **CONSIDER CANTON FUTURE LAND USE TEXT AND MAP AMENDMENTS.** (MSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to accept the Planning Commission's decision to amend the Comprehensive Plan, including changes to the policies in the Future Land Use Element and changes to the Future Land Use Map, as depicted on the maps. 1. Amend Policy 1.2.1a and create Policy 1.2.1b relative to the establishment of the "Office Residential" land use designation in the Future Land Use Element. 2. Amend Policy 1.5.2 and Policy 1.5.3 relative to the "Mixed Use" land use designation in the Future Land Use Element. 3. Amend the Future Land Use Map for parcels currently designated as "Local Shopping-Office Recommended" to "Office Residential" as shown on Map 2. 4. Amend the Future Land Use Map on the south side of Michigan Avenue west of Haggerty Road from "Light Industrial" and "Community Shopping" to "Mixed Use" as shown on Map 3. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 13. **APPOINTMENTS TO THE CANTON TAX BOARD OF REVIEW.** (SUPERVISOR) Motion by Bennett, supported by Zarbo that the Canton Board of Trustees approve the appointments of Lindsay Marie Hill, Gordon Johnson, Norman Mackay and Natalie Mosher to the Canton Board of Review for a two-year term effective March 1, 2008 to expire March 1, 2010. Motion carried unanimously. **OTHER:** Supervisor Yack stated there will be a Study Session on March 4, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. in the Administration Building, First Floor, Board Room, 1150 Canton Center S., Canton, Michigan. The Canton Township Home Improvement Expo will be March 1 & 2, 2008 at the Summit on the Park. Hours will be Saturday, March 1, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. and Sunday, March 2, 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. **ADJOURN:** Motion by Bennett, supported by Zarbo to adjourn at 9:12 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Thomas J. Yack, Supervisor
Terry G. Bennett, Clerk

Copies of the complete text of the Board Minutes are available at the office of the Charter Township of Canton, 1150 S. Canton Center Rd, Canton, MI 48188, during regular business hours and can also be accessed through our web site www.canton-mi.org after Board Approval.

Publish: March 6, 2008



Jim Demmer enjoys the dessert bar.



Gary and Debbie Krone, Phyllis Redfern, Steve Redfern.

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I think I can: Conference for girls Saturday at Schoolcraft

BY JULIE BROWN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

If you're a girl age 9-17, or a parent of such a daughter, a Saturday conference is for you.

"Be the Girl You Wanna Be!" will be held this Saturday, March 8, at the VisTaTech Center of Schoolcraft College in Livonia. It will be held 9 a.m. to 2:15 p.m. for girls 9-17, moms, dads and professionals.

There will be a keynote speaker, two workshops, continental breakfast and lunch. Mistress of ceremonies is Fox 2's Fanchon Stinger. Keynote speaker is Gail Perry-Mason, first vice president of Investments, Oppenheimer & Co.

The conference is presented by Girls Matter, a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization that provides the annual conference for girls, their parents and professionals working with girls.

'I think there's something powerful in bringing that many girls together. It also reaches a lot of girls who otherwise wouldn't have an opportunity to come to something like this.'

KIMBER BISHOP-YANKE, co-chair

Kimber Bishop-Yanke of Birmingham is co-chair of the March 8 conference and president of Girls Empowered, an organization that provides program for girls on issues like self-esteem and communication. She's looking forward to the program.

"This is our eighth year," Bishop-Yanke said. "Last year, we had 900 parents, girls and professionals."

"I think there's something powerful in bringing that many girls together," she added. "It also reaches a lot of girls who otherwise wouldn't

have an opportunity to come to something like this."

The cost is \$25 for online registration, \$30 for walk-in per person. You can pay online with a credit card.

Girls will choose from a number of workshops, such as "Civilized Assertiveness," "How To Create the Life You Want" and "Managing Conflict."

"There's a leadership panel," Bishop-Yanke said, with women from different career tracks speaking to girls.

For parents, topics will include a session for fathers on daughters, along with "Turning Your Daughter Into a Solution-Seeker" and "Developing an Attitude of Gratitude."

"Basically it meets the mission of what I do," she said of the community outreach effort.

"We're expecting to get a record turnout again. It's just

a fun event for girls to learn about being themselves," Bishop-Yanke said.

To register online, go to www.girlsmatter.us. For questions, call (248) 598-9911.

In addition to her position as first vice president of

Investments at Oppenheimer & Co. Inc., keynote speaker Gail Perry-Mason is the founder of two financial programs for youth: Money Matters Financial Summer Camps and the financial literacy after-school programs in

Detroit Public Schools. She is a native Detroit and has written two books: *Money Matters for Families* and *Girl, Make Your Money Grow!*

Schoolcraft College is on Haggerty between Six Mile and Seven Mile in Livonia.

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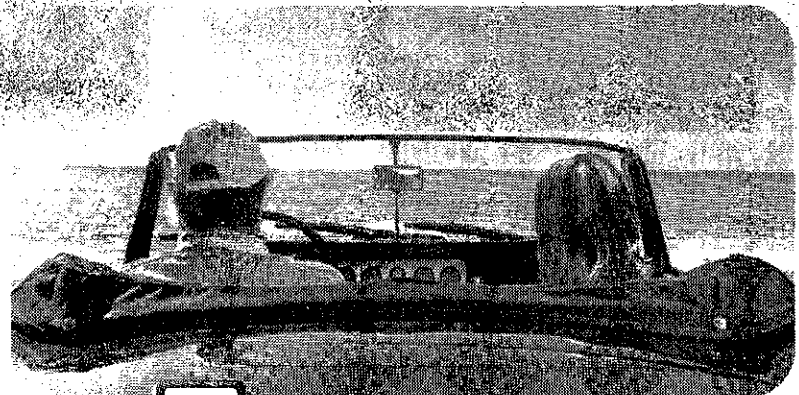
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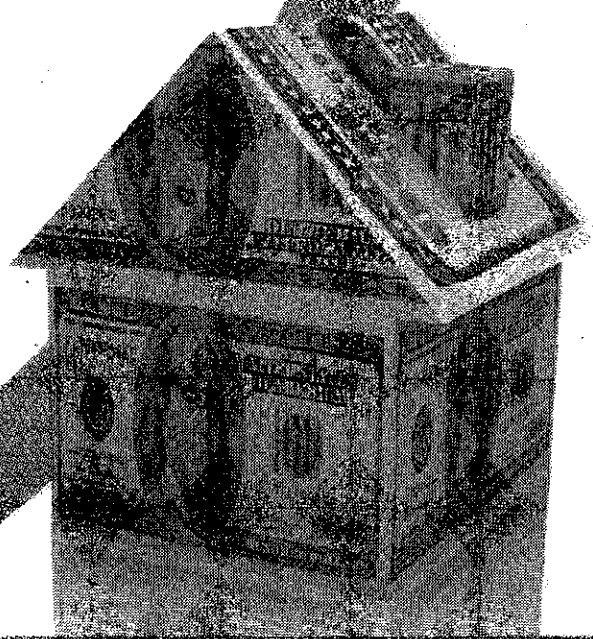
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OUR VIEWS

Don't misplace blame for bad news on taxes

Journalists know all about the phrase "don't shoot the messenger." It applies, sometimes, to the questions reporters ask and the stories that we write, when we need to remind people not to blame us just because the news isn't good.

The same can be said for the treasurer's office in Canton Township, which recently sent out residential property assessment notices. That office only delivered the assessment news, they aren't responsible for how bad that news is for some people.

While nobody wants to see home values decline — residential assessments fell in Canton just as they did across metro Detroit — that fact is surely not a surprise in this economy and with the falling sales prices. That bad news, however, was compounded for those of us who have been in our homes several years. For many in that category, the decline in property value also comes with a tax increase.

Seems hard to believe, but it's a quirk of the state's tax system, which voters approved as Proposal A back in 1994. That system, which also altered our school funding system, set up a taxable value alongside an assessed value for every residential homestead property.

While assessments can continue to go up and down based around half of a home's market value, the taxable value can only increase 5 percent or the rate of inflation, whichever is less. The idea was to cap property tax increases to a reasonable level from year to year, and thus keep people (especially senior citizens) from being forced out of their homes by exorbitant tax hikes in high-inflation areas. When a home sells, the two values reset back to the same level.

If you've been in your home some time, your taxable value — the part by which they multiply your tax rate to set your tax bill — is probably lower than your assessed value. The inflation rate of 2.3 percent is pushing your taxable value and taxes you pay up by about that much, despite losing real value on your home. That could also happen again next year if the taxable value is still lower than your assessed value.

Of course, community officials could and should try to cut into those tax rates. But they're facing both increasing costs to provide services, along with declining revenues.

Right or wrong, this is the tax plan we voters approved 13 years ago. So, if you feel like pointing fingers that your home value *dropped* and your taxes *still* went up, don't aim them at your township board or the treasurer's office. We voters did this to ourselves.

'Spring forward' to help save a life

The weather outside still may be screaming winter, but it is time to "spring forward" when we go to bed Saturday night.

Daylight-saving time arrives at 2 a.m. Sunday. And while it might take a few days for our bodies to adjust, that feeling of losing an hour of sleep will quickly be forgotten.

Local fire departments again are urging the public to use the "spring forward" reminder to change the batteries in their smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, an exercise that if forgotten carries much more serious consequences than waking an hour late Sunday.

Stories are reported every year both locally and across the country about lives lost in house fires. In many instances, a working smoke or carbon monoxide detector was all that stood between the homeowners' safety ... and life.

It may be a minor and temporary hassle to lose that hour of sleep Sunday morning, but taking the 30 seconds needed to put fresh batteries in our detectors will help guarantee we don't lose much, much more.



LETTERS

Johnson must apologize first

Planning Commissioner Greg Greene asks people to forgive Catherine Johnson and move on ("Forgive Johnson and move on," Feb. 28 letter). I would like to point out the question of forgiveness arises only after Johnson apologizes and asks for forgiveness.

To date I've not seen any apology or expression of remorse from Johnson. In fact, she has refused to apologize or step down voluntarily. When Supervisor Tom Yack was asked about it, he professed helplessness and said "I can't make her apologize." If Johnson really feels remorse for her words and apologizes, of course I would forgive her.

In light of this, Greene asking the Hindus of Canton to treat Johnson as a "family member" is both patronizing and presumptuous. It's obvious Johnson doesn't consider the Hindus of Canton as part of her family. If I offended a member of my family I would hasten to apologize to them and beg their forgiveness. One wonders why it didn't occur to Greene to ask Johnson to ask for forgiveness before asking us to forgive her.

Johnson should step down gracefully, and make room on the Planning Commission for people who are more progressive and more open to diversity and change. Canton is rapidly becoming a "global community" and deserves better than small-minded individuals who refuse to even acknowledge their mistakes.

Desi Namookaran
Canton

Housing ills

First the good news. What a great time to be a (housing) buyer. The smart money is buying right now. It does not get much better and one needs not buy at the lowest point or sell at the highest peak to be a winner. Just being near the top on a sale and/or close to the bottom on a purchase is important.

Now the bad news, if you own housing units in southeast Michigan. According to government statistics, the metropolitan area is suffering a 19.4 percent vacancy on nearly two million housing units of all types. For the first time in U.S. history, we have a housing excess. In SE Michigan, that means we have over 375,000 empty houses, apartments, manufactured homes and condominiums. That is why values have fallen and one cannot sell or rent that housing unit, at least not without big discounts from former values.

The statistics are these. From the U.S. Census Bureau estimates of American Housing Survey for the Detroit Metropolitan Area, there were 1,900,600 housing units in 2003. To that add the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments report on new permits for 2004 through 2008 of 42,975 and southeast Michigan has a grand total of 1,943,575 housing units.

Back to U.S. Census Bureau for the annual statistics 2007 and find that Detroit-Warren-Livonia has a vacancy rate in 2005 of 15.25 percent, with 2006 at a whopping 21.2 percent and 2007 (now) at 19.4 percent. The simple math of 19.4 percent on 1,943,575 is our 377,000

vacant housing units.

The inventory of excess housing has many ramifications, nationally, internationally, and most importantly, right where you live. All real estate is "local." When one talks to the social worker, the question is, "Why are there any homeless in a time of excess housing?"

When you talk to a developer of new housing, the question is, "Does your business plan included a demand/supply analysis for the final product?"

When talking to a lender, the question begs, "Why would you lend to a multi-family development of new units at a time when the lender's collateral asset is declining due to the oversupply?"

To the planning commissions, city councils and township boards: "Are we going to further detract from the value of our existing stock of housing by approving more housing stock to the excess inventory?"

To the new home builders: "Should you be looking at modernizing the existing stock of homes or revising your mission statement?"

Tom Goebel
Plymouth

Health care is an issue

I'd like to comment regarding the current list of political issues facing our presidential candidates. Though there are many serious concerns, my No. 1 issue this election year is health care.

Job loss? Yes, that's very important. Three in our immediate family have gone through that trial in the last four years. We feel for so many of our friends and neighbors trying to cope with serious financial difficulties.

But health care — that to me is the most basic of our human rights. When someone in your family is hurting, dealing with serious illness or facing rising medical bills, because they lack health care coverage or are inadequately covered, worry can be devastating. Statistics even show that a patient's level of worry can negatively impact their ability to heal.

On a personal note, one of my daughters has suffered off and on this past year with gallbladder- and pancreas-related issues. Over seven-eight separate trips to the ER since May of 2007 for pain episodes, post surgery complications or pancreatic attacks. We love St. Joseph Mercy in Ypsi, her main source of treatment. The care is great, the staff professional, the new addition is state-of-the-art, but the ER ... wow. Our average wait to be seen after triage has never been less than six LONG hours! She has insurance, it doesn't cover everything, but at least they don't turn her away. We truly are grateful for that fact.

It is quite an eye-opening experience to sit for hours and hours with a room full of sick people, many in visual pain. Your mind has a lot of time to think things over. What is going to happen when the baby boomers face increased needs for medical care? Something needs to be done, and I believe it is possible. If other countries can provide health care and find a way to pay for it, why can't we?

I remind myself and my family, that there are others worse off and we pray for endurance to deal with what's before

us. But, boy it's hard on a mom when one of her kids hurt and she can't make it go away (for good).

Even before my daughter got sick and had surgery, I donated time to a local group working to promote universal health care. Although my family had good insurance, made possible by my husband's UAW membership, I began to worry about what happens to our girls and other young people once they are off a parent's coverage.

The group is called the Michigan Coalition for Health Care Now! and by hosting events, we try to raise awareness and promote federal legislation, House Resolution 676 (HR676), introduced in Washington by Rep. John Conyers Jr.

A recent letter writer commented on having heard a local speaker talk about HR676, but the writer credited Congressman John Dingell as the author. While John Dingell supports universal health care and has been trying to get health care for all Americans since his first year in office, HR676 was sponsored by Rep. John Conyers Jr.

I encourage others to visit www.healthcare-now.org to learn more about this issue. With different health care proposals on the table, the topic can be somewhat overwhelming. Just remember the slogan, "Everybody In, Nobody Out." Now that's something to give any mom piece of mind!

Cheryl Graunstadt
Westland

What good is his support?

Are you kidding me? Obama sought out the support of Ted Kennedy? The same Ted Kennedy who is a serial adulterer, an alcoholic and arguably responsible for at minimum the negligent homicide if not outright homicide involving Mary Jo Kopechne?

If you don't recall, note that he purportedly crashed his car at 12:40 a.m. and did not report it to the police until after spending the night in his hotel room as well as after he found out the body had been discovered around 8 a.m. the next morning.

If this is the sort of person's support that you seek out to help you win the presidency, why would I vote for you?

Ed Johnson
Royal Oak

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

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QUOTABLE

"This show is worth nearly \$600 million to this region each year — the equivalent of five Super Bowls or 40 World Series games."

— Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano, commenting about the North American International Auto Show during his annual State of the County address last week, and the need to expand Cobo Hall to keep the show in Detroit

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

Granholt's latest budget again squanders a golden opportunity

The good news is that it doesn't look like we are going to have a knockdown, dragged-out, controversial fight over this year's state budget. But in a way, that's bad news, too.

I'll explain in a minute. But first of all — have you noticed a monotonous “hum” coming from Lansing? That sound is the Legislature chewing on the budget Gov. Jennifer Granholm sent it a few weeks ago. It covers the fiscal year that starts Oct. 1.

That's a ways off, true, but it would be nice for once not to have to put off finishing the budget until the last possible moment. Unlike the previous budgets the governor has sent to our divided Legislature, this one was greeted by mild approval. Most experts praised it for avoiding partisan conflict by being “rational” and “structurally sound.”

What the Legislature's priorities are was best expressed by state Sen. Ron Jelinek, R-Three Oaks, chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee: “We like no new fees and no new taxes.”

The total budget, including federal aid and non-discretionary spending, comes to \$44.8 billion. That's up about \$1.1 billion, or 2.5 percent, from last year. It relies on \$1.4 billion in increased tax revenue, the product of the new Michigan Business Tax and income tax hikes that were passed last year after months of fierce partisan warfare.

That's how much money the system will produce, in theory, anyway. (If there is a shortfall, look for more cuts to come.)

Budgets are much more than totting up expenses and income; they are statements of our government's priorities. Ideally, these should arise from an overall vision of the future. And, true enough, there are some things to like about Granholm's budget. But as a shaped and disciplined expression of a vision for Michigan's future, it falls sadly short.

Michigananders are increasingly realizing that much of our future depends on our willingness to invest in human capital, whether in our schools or our colleges and universities. The budget calls for increased spending on education, including a 3-percent increase in spending for higher education.

That's fine, as far as it goes. But Michigan has been leading the nation in the dismal and counterproductive exercise of cutting support for higher education. Even after the governor's proposed increases this year for our 15 public colleges and universities, we still are spending \$120 million less than we did in 2001, the year before she was elected.

Her fiscal 2009 budget proposes a \$50 million reduction in spending for state prisons, to be achieved by “reforms and efficiencies,” though it isn't clear what those might be. Corrections spending has gobbled up ever-increasing slices of state spending.

This budget ought to focus our attention on

one of our tragic disconnects in priorities: We are spending more these days on putting felons in the slam than on educating young minds. Indeed, Michigan spends nearly 40 percent more on prisons than our neighboring states, even though our crime rate is just about the same. Isn't it time for a series of public hearings on corrections costs and results, complete with testimony from other states? I'd bet we have a lot to learn.

Most of us who understand this state also believe strongly in the distinctive competitive advantages Michigan has. We are, in fact, the country's “North Coast,” a place of wondrous natural resources and a magnificent (and affordable) quality of life.

For the first time in years, Granholm's budget proposes to increase funding for the Department of Natural Resources and the Department of Environmental Quality. That's OK, especially given that the DEQ is virtually out of money, but it's hardly the compelling or bold step we need to assure our future.

But perhaps the worst consequence of this “non-controversial” budget is that it puts off serious action on the kinds of far-reaching structural reforms that were proposed by the Emergency Financial Advisory Panel the governor convened more than a year ago. That panel included some of Michigan's most distinguished citizens, including two previous governors.

Their report was among the best of its kind. It pointed to a long-term financial crisis facing state and local government. It called for reforms in the tax system, but concluded that we should not just tax our way to responsible state spending. It urged structural reforms in the ways government is organized. That included changes in the fringe benefits of public employees, and suggested benchmarking what we spend — and what the state raises — against what happens in other states.

This report was disgracefully ignored while the governor and Legislature faced a budget crisis last fall. Serious reforms usually require a crisis to concentrate political will. We didn't have that will last year; in ducking the crisis then, our political leaders in Lansing missed a once-in-a-generation opportunity for big-time reform.

The EFAP's conclusions are still a valid recipe for financial survival: We need serious reforms in the ways we manage our state. Without these, we'll face a steady stream of enormous, long-term structural deficits.

Yet financial survival, important as it might be, is not enough. We still need a compelling common vision for Michigan's future that can shape and discipline the workings of our state. This year's budget may offer a few baby steps in the right direction. But we need to see a big picture.

And this budget doesn't even pretend to offer that.

Phil Power is founder and president of The Center for Michigan, a centrist think tank based in Ann Arbor. The opinions expressed here are Power's and do not represent official views of The Center. Power welcomes reader comments at ppower@thecenterformichigan.net.

Candidate finds little enthusiasm for campaign against McCotter

Tom Spencer is frustrated.

Despite an unpopular war, a crumbling economy and a national trend favoring Democrats, Spencer is finding it hard to get support for his campaign against incumbent Republican Thaddeus McCotter in the 11th Congressional District race.



Hugh Gallagher

Spencer, 55, a Methodist minister and veteran of 20 years in the U.S. Air Force, briefly suspended his campaign to resolve questions over his pension from the United Methodist Church. He recently restarted his campaign, but is finding little enthusiasm.

“I'm not sure how it's going,” he said Tuesday. “The feeling I'm getting in the 11th District is that McCotter is so entrenched that people are not willing to provide the funding to fight him. Money is going to judges and county commission candidates.”

He said he has been frustrated to read that Gary Peters has raised \$400,000 and Nancy Skinner \$300,000 in their campaigns to unseat 9th District Republican incumbent Joe Knollenberg. (Skinner recently withdrew from that race.)

“I'm at zero. It makes it tough. I don't know how long it will last,” he said.

In November, Spencer was the first candidate to announce against McCotter. Former Novi City Manager Ed Kriewall, 66, announced his candidacy two weeks later.

Spencer said he doesn't think there is a strong support building for Kriewall, either. Kriewall is, however, more upbeat about his prospects.

“It's going well. I have my Web site up, I've been meeting with Democratic clubs in the area,” he said Tuesday.

Spencer and Kriewall both entered the race because of their opposition to the war in Iraq. McCotter has been a supporter of the war in principle, though he has been critical of how the Bush administration handled the aftermath of the initial invasion.

“Everyone wants a change,” Kriewall said. “It's good to make a change and I'm in tune with that.”

Spencer said he has been “plugging along,” going door-to-door for petition signatures, but getting little response. He said he doesn't even have a staff.

“At this point I should have a staff and more money than I have,” he said.

Still, Spencer thinks McCotter is beatable, despite the district's history of voting Republican, especially with many conservatives unhappy about Sen. John McCain's nomination.

“I think a lot of Republicans will just stay home,” he said.

Still, Spencer thinks McCotter is beatable, despite the district's history of voting Republican, especially with many conservatives unhappy about Sen. John McCain's nomination.

He said there is a strong feeling that McCotter “doesn't represent the people.” McCotter has been criticized for his aloof manner, his staunch conservative ideology, his strong support of the war, his vote against expanding the state Children's Health Insurance Plan and yet he has never been seriously challenged. He has “voted his district” on trade issues and auto industry issues. He has moved to a leadership position in the GOP House caucus and has national party support and frequent national media exposure.

The first time he ran, some pundits said he was running in a district that he helped carve for his benefit as a member of the Michigan Senate. It's a claim he vigorously denies. Still, the demographics have certainly been good for him over three elections. The first election was the only time he faced a well-known public official, then Redford Township Supervisor Kevin Kelley. In the last two elections, he has faced political novices, union leader Phil Truran and radio talk show host Tony Trupiano.

Certainly if there is a year when McCotter might be vulnerable, this is it. So why so little enthusiasm in the Democratic Party for taking him on?

Kriewall mentioned that he finally has his Web site up and running, kriewall4congress.com. Spencer has had a Web site for a while, tomspencer4congress.com. McCotter has both a campaign Web site and a congressional Web site, mccotter.house.gov and mccotterforcongress.com.

In the blogosphere, where apparently many people spend their time, two sites are devoted full time to “exposing” McCotter, madatthad.blogspot.com and mccottermonitor.blogspot.com. McCotter has his own blog site, repmccotter.blogspot.com.

It's a brand new world when it comes to politics, political discourse and even media coverage. Voters have an opportunity to surf the Web for every sort of fact and opinion on candidates. Project Vote Smart and the *Washington Post* both provide detailed accounts on how each member of Congress voted.

Check them out.

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

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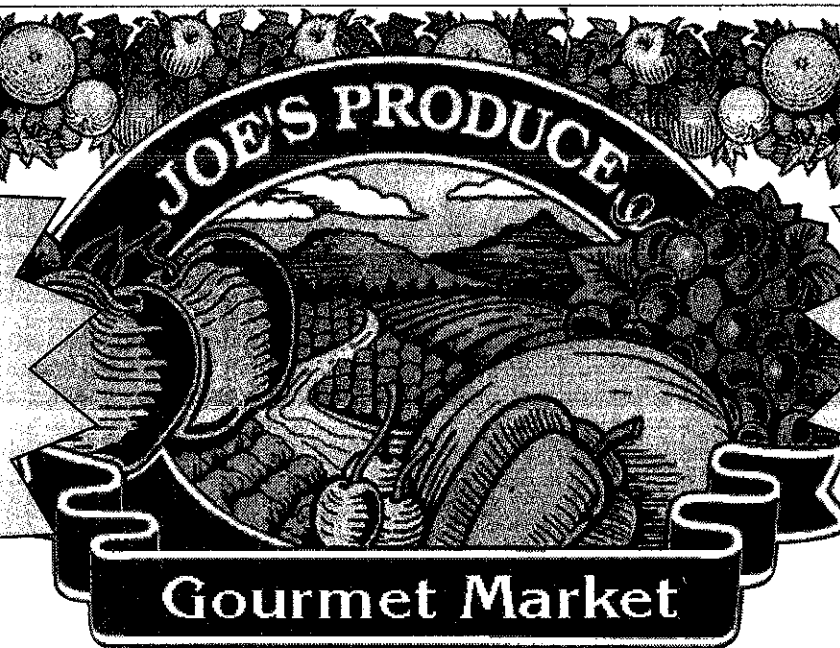
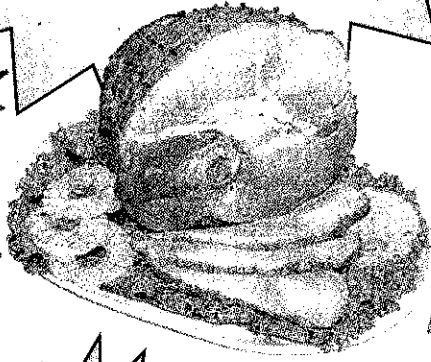
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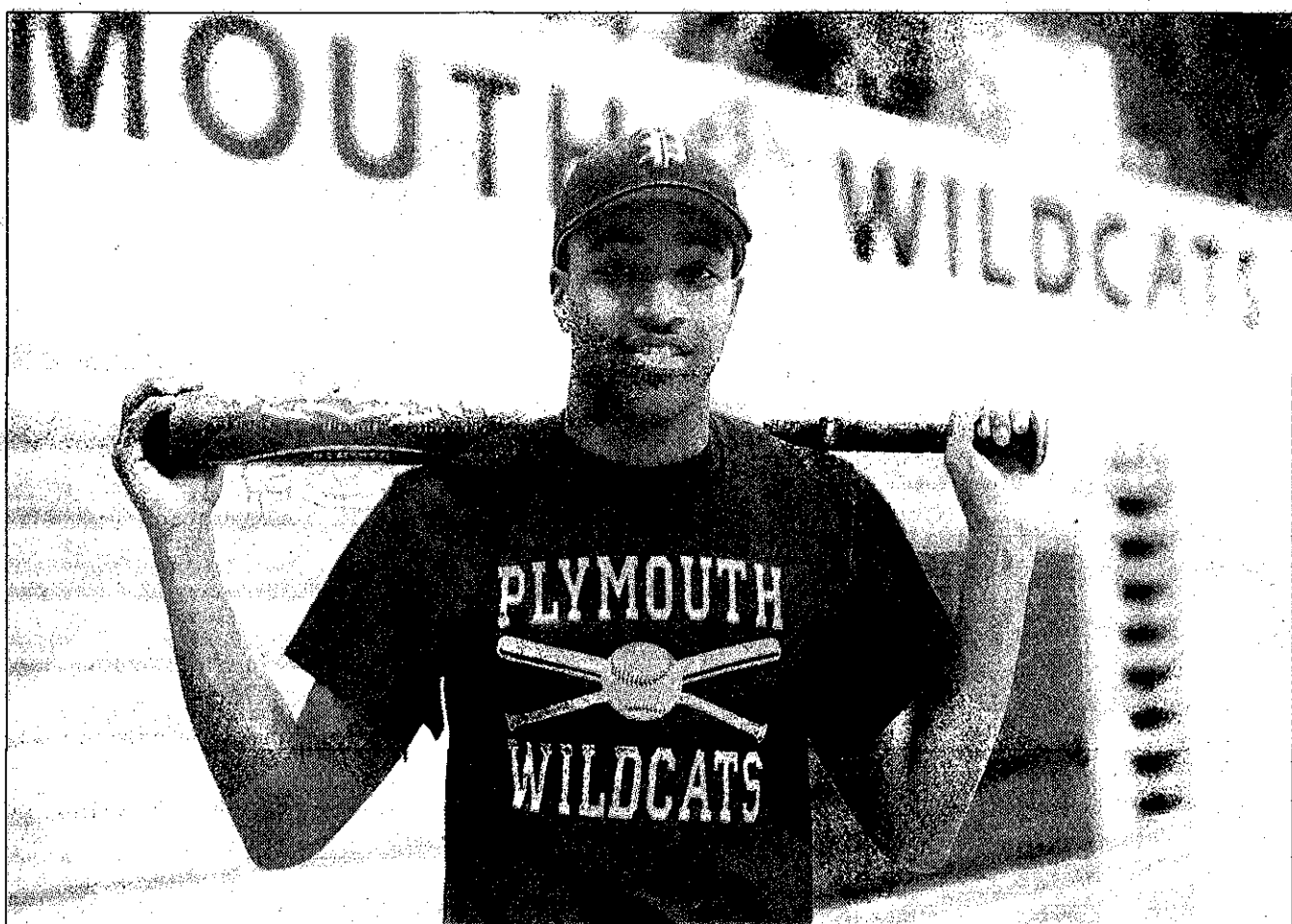
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Thursday, March 6, 2008

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth senior David Harvey has won a 2008 Michigan High School Athletic Association scholar-athlete award.

GRADE-A ATHLETES

Pair of Wildcats presented with MHSAA scholar-athlete awards

BY ED WRIGHT
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Not many high school athletes in Michigan perform the demanding and time-consuming academics-athletics juggling act better than Plymouth seniors David Harvey and Pam Bhullar.

On March 15 in East Lansing, the pair of Wildcats will be presented with the 2008 Michigan High School Athletic Association Scholar-Athlete Award Scholarship during halftime of the boys Class C basketball championship game.

Close to 2,000 students applied for the \$1,000 scholarship back in the fall, but only 32 were chosen — 14 from Class A schools — following a competitive selection process that took into account grade point averages, athletic achievement and a 500-word essay on sportsmanship each applicant was required to write.

The duo are the third and fourth Plymouth student-athletes to earn the honor the past three years. Chelsea Quinlan won last year while Alex

Mihelick received the award in 2006.

The honor was frosting on the scholarship cake for Bhullar, a cross country/track standout who has a 4.0-plus GPA. The day before she heard the good news from the MHSAA, the multi-talented Canton resident discovered she had been awarded the prestigious Air Force ROTC scholarship, which will pay for pretty much her entire college costs, including medical school.

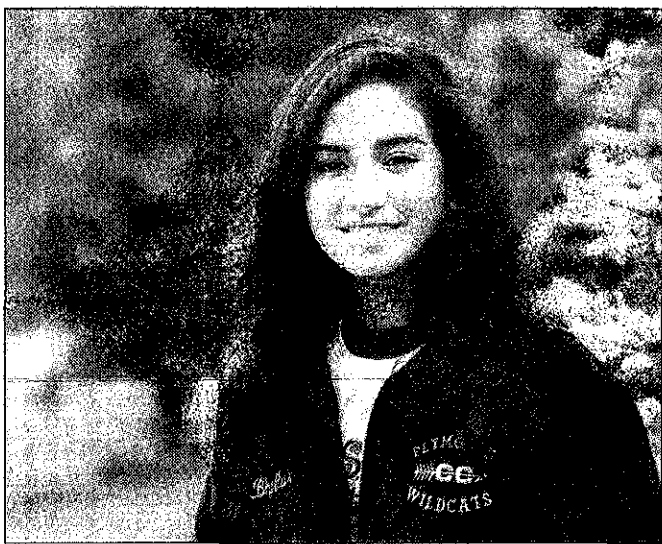
Bhullar's secret to academic success is multi-tiered.

"With all the extracurricular activities I'm involved in, things can get a little overwhelming," she admitted. "But I find that having faith, never giving up and finding a balance are the keys."

An established long-distance runner, Bhullar has earned seven varsity letters — four in cross country, two in track and one in gymnastics.

More importantly, she has logged more than 300 community-service hours — many spent talking to cancer patients at the University of Michigan.

Please see **HONOREES, B4**



Senior Pam Bhullar has made a positive mark both in the classroom and on the running trails at Plymouth High School. A 4.5 student, she recently completed a stellar four-year career for the Wildcats' cross-country team.

WORDS TO LIVE BY

One of the requirements for the MHSAA Scholar-Athlete Award Scholarship applicants was to write a 500-word essay on sportsmanship. Following are excerpts from Pam Bhullar and David Harvey's winning essays:

Pam Bhullar: "There is no quintessential definition of sportsmanship, rather it's a virtue that embodies all life is and all it can become with the right attitude."

David Harvey: "Sportsmanship is all about respect. On the field or off the field, you must show respect for your opponent, your teammates, your coaches, and most of all yourself. How you carry yourself is the first thing that gives off the impression of what kind of person you are."

High-flying Parkway ousts Agape

PCA falls to City; see Page B2.

BY ED WRIGHT
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Canton Agape Christian's boys basketball team didn't get outplayed by Sterling Heights Parkway Christian Monday night as much as it got out-jumped by the Eagles.

Doing most of the jumping for the victors in their 67-53 victory was junior forward Zurlon Tipton, an All-State running back with All-World hops.

Tipton netted 16 points, 16 rebounds and four steals to lead his team into Wednesday's Regional final against Detroit City.

"That young man looks like he has a 35- or 40-inch vertical jump," observed Agape coach Keith Anleitner, referring to Tipton. "A lot of times we'd stop them, but he'd go up, get a rebound and put in the put-back. It kind of put a dagger through our heart."

The setback, which capped the Wolverines' season at 17-7, couldn't put a damper on Anleitner's feelings toward his team, which worked its way into the school's record books with a solid regular season and spectacular postseason.

"The boys played their hearts out tonight," said Anleitner. "We gave it everything we had and as far as I'm concerned, as a coach, that's all you can ask for. We left it all on the court tonight, but the better team won."

"They're a little down right now, a little exhausted. This whole tournament thing — playing a game one night and leaving it all on the court, then practicing the next day for an hour or two before doing it all over again the next night — is physically, emotionally and mentally exhausting."

"I'm real proud of this entire group. They've accomplished more than any other team at Agape and they're just a great bunch of guys."

Ty Majeski led the Wolverines with 13 points. Terrell Pierce added 11 points and four rebounds; Daniel Walker netted seven points and six boards while Joel Ruffin and Jared Miller both contributed six points.

Tipton was far from a one-man show for the Eagles, who also received strong efforts from Larry Houser III (15 points and five rebounds), Joe Peters (14 points and nine caroms) and Patrick Lubek, who twined 10 points.

Agape battled from the out-
Please see **AGAPE, B4**

Sidelines

Compuware hosts prep puck finals

While the Ontario Hockey League's Plymouth Whalers are on the road this weekend, the Michigan High School Athletic Association will host the boys state high school hockey championships today through Saturday at Compuware Arena in Plymouth Township.

Ticket prices range from \$6 to attend the semifinal games on Thursday and Friday to \$7 to attend the championship games on Saturday. Fans can buy an all-weekend pass for \$25.

The Division 2 semifinal games will be held Thursday at 6 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. The Division 3 semis are set for Friday at noon and 2:30 p.m. while the Division 1 semis will face off Friday at 6 p.m. and 8:30 p.m.

Saturday's finals will unfold at the following times: Division 2 — 11 a.m.; Division 3 — 3 p.m.; and Division 1 — 7 p.m.

Wolfpack tryouts

The Plymouth-Canton Wolfpack 14U AAU basketball team will be holding tryouts for the 2008 spring and summer season on Wednesday, March 12, at High Velocity Sports in Canton.

The tryouts will run from 6-8 p.m. with registration starting at 5:30 p.m.

To be eligible, athletes must live within the Plymouth-Canton school district and have a birth date on or after Sept. 1, 1993. There will be a \$15 registration fee to participate in the tryouts. Registration forms and additional information can be found at www.plymouthcantonwolfpack.com. For more information, send an e-mail to cantonwolfpack@yahoo.com.

'Cat cheer team places 3rd

The Plymouth cheer-leading squad placed third in the WLAA Western Division Competitive Cheer League meet held Feb. 23 at Northville High School. The first-year squad consists of two seniors, three juniors, eight sophomores and 10 freshmen.

Track fund-raiser

The Salem girls track team will hold a 5K/10K fund-raising race 9 a.m. Saturday, March 15, on the P-CEP varsity track.

The race-day fee for the 5K race is \$25; the race-day 10K fee is \$30. Shirts are guaranteed for all participants who register before March 8.

To register online, visit www.secondwindrnm.com.

Tall order

Epley casts a long, impressive shadow on wrestling mat

BY ED WRIGHT
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A wave of memories is liable to wash over Salem's Jeremy Epley the moment he steps off a high school wrestling mat for the final time this weekend at the Palace of Auburn Hills.

When you dedicate four years of blood, sweat and summer vacations to becoming one of the best at your craft, it's hard not to get nostalgic when the end arrives.

Based on the senior standout's enviable work ethic and the remarkable senior season he's molded thanks to his impeccable technique and unparalleled mat smarts, the moment is likely to come sometime Saturday — very possibly in the early-evening's Division 1 Individual State Meet's 160-pound final — and the memories promise to be pleasant.

Towering target

At 6-foot-4, the angular Epley offers a tall target for his usually shorter, wider opponents. But it's a target that has been frustratingly difficult to catch as 41 of his 45 opponents this season have discovered.

Please see **EPLEY, B2**



Prep Profile

PALACE PARTY

What: Individual Wrestling State Meet;

When: Today through Saturday;

Where: Palace of Auburn Hills;

How much: Reserved seats are \$10; general admission \$9;

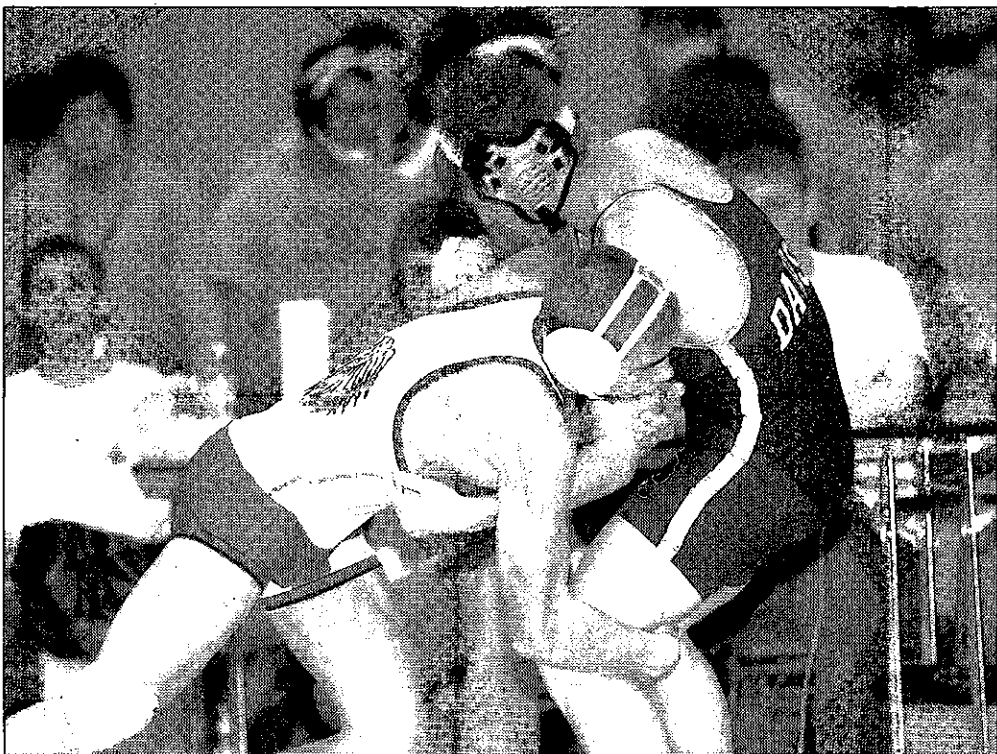
What time: Round 1 starts at 2:45 p.m. on Thursday; Round 2 8:30 a.m. Friday; Round 3 11 a.m. Friday; Round 4 2 p.m. Friday; Saturday's finals commence at 4:45 p.m.

Local connections: Following are the eight P-CEP grapplers' first-round pairings — 103-pound Waleed Faraj (Canton) vs. Gary Cicotte (L'Anse Creuse); 125-pound Donnie Watkins (Canton) vs. Tyler Bunting (Rochester Adams); 130-pound Kevin Hayter (Salem) vs. Josh Houldsworth (Holly); 135-pound Steve Cox (Canton) vs. Alex Ermatinger (Kalamazoo Central); 140-pound Brent Winekoff (Canton) vs. Richard Newbill (Utica Ford); 160-pound Jeremy Epley (Salem) vs. Mike Wranosky (Macomb Dakota); 171-pound Rodger Kropp (Canton) vs. Kyle Summerfield (Hartland); and 215-pound Dan Wanshon (Canton) vs. Jarrett Lintz (L'Anse Creuse).



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Salem's Jeremy Epley will take a stellar 41-4 record into today's Division 1 State Individual Wrestling finals at the Palace of Auburn Hills. The senior captain has 99 career wins.



DOUG BARGERSTOCK

Battle for leverage

Canton's Brent Winekoff, pictured above competing in last week's Division I Team Wrestling Finals, will be one of six Chiefs wrestling in the Individual State Finals set for today through Saturday at the Palace of Auburn Hills.

EPLEY

FROM PAGE B1

"Jeremy's never been the biggest kid, but he's overcome that with his technique and intensity," said Salem coach Greg Wochuk. "Size really has nothing to do with how well a kid does. It's all about hard work, technique and knowing what you're doing out there — all things that Jeremy excels at."

A victory over Macomb Dakota's Mike Wranosky in today's 160-pound first-round match would give Epley 100 career victories — a milestone not even approached by wrestlers who don't go above and beyond to achieve greatness.

Wrestling is imbedded in the Epley family DNA. Jeremy's dad, Randy, excelled at Livonia Franklin in the mid-'70s and his older brother, Randy, competed for four years at Salem.

"I've loved it ever since I went to the Salem wrestling room a couple times with my brother in eighth grade," said Epley, who carries a 3.6 grade point average into the waning days of high school. "I like the 1-on-1 part of the sport; knowing that you win or lose based on how well you execute."

"The hardest part about wrestling my freshman year was getting used to the longer season. It's five months compared to three for football, so I had to learn to stay focused over a longer period. I also had to learn how to come back after a loss."

Season to remember

Rebounding from losses hasn't been an issue this season as he's registered a 41-4 mark and top 10 ranking at his weight from *Michigan Grappler* magazine. Included on his 2007-08



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Kevin Hayter (left) and Jeremy Epley will be representing Salem at the Division I Individual State Wrestling Finals beginning today through Saturday at the Palace of Auburn Hills. Hayter wrestles at 130 pounds while Epley competes at 160.

resume are three tournament Most Valuable Wrestler medals, a first-place showing at the Observerland Tournament, a runner-up finish at the Williamston Tournament and a second at the WIAA Wrestling Championships.

"One thing about Jeremy is that a lot of times he'll come back and beat a guy that's beaten him earlier in the season," said Wochuk. "He learns from his mistakes and does a nice job of bouncing back."

Summer vacation?

Each of the past three summers, Epley has honed his skills at a series of demanding summer camps, including the renowned monthlong J Robinson Camp, which he attended prior to his junior year at Salem.

"It's 28 days long and very intense," he said. "The most important thing I learned there was that I was capable of doing more than I ever thought I was capable of doing."

Last summer, Epley attended a camp in Iowa that was run by legendary grappler Dan Gable. Included in the registration fee was a dinner at Gable's house.

"It was pretty cool," Epley said. "We took a tour of his house, got to see all his awards and everything. He has a wrestling room right in his house, which is neat."

Epley was a key member of the Salem varsity football program the past two seasons. He was one of the Rocks' most-productive receivers both years and an exceptional two-way player as a senior.

"Wrestling helped me a lot with football, especially the conditioning part of it," he said. "I know a lot of kids who thought football practices were hard, but they weren't that bad compared to wrestling."

A collegiate wrestling career is probably not in his cards, said Epley, who is planning on attending Michigan State University in the fall.

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Madonna baseball team ready to swing

BY TIM SMITH
STAFF WRITER

Madonna University head baseball coach Greg Haeger is excited about his 2008 squad, with a blend of power, speed and outstanding pitching that could make it one of the best in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference.

There are eight top-notch pitchers, including holdover right-hander Will Kennedy (Westland John Glenn, 1.15 ERA in 2007), vying for a six-man starting rotation.

"This is the best team we've had here," said Haeger, following yet another indoor workout at the Madonna Activities Center. "We have so many components."

Madonna went 34-20 overall and 15-9 in the conference in 2007, bowing out to Spring Arbor in the NAIA Region VIII regional championship.

Just like last season, Haeger said the 2008 Crusaders have the right stuff to contend in the WHAC and make noise in the postseason tournaments.

"We're very confident about what we can do," he emphasized. "We feel like teams are going to have a difficult time playing us."

Two big reasons for his excitement are the return of a healthy David Herrick (Westland/Livonia Churchill) and junior transferee Zach McMillin, a fast, defensive whiz who could become the leadoff batter and starting center-fielder.

"He's kind of like our Energizer Bunny," said Haeger about McMillin, who played at Lansing Community College last year. "He's a high-output kind of kid who is hard-working and a great team guy."

Herrick, a senior slugger, tore an anterior cruciate ligament early last year, ending a promising season that began with 17 hits in his 34 at bats (.500).

Following is a closer look at how the team stacks up:

CATCHER

Apparently healthy, Herrick will divide time between designated hitter, first base and catcher — which is the only position Haeger doesn't have a lot of experience at.

For certain, Haeger knows Herrick will be a big thumper in the middle of the lineup, regardless of where he plays.

"He'll be a very big part of our offense," the coach said. "We'll bat him in the middle of the lineup, he's a difficult out. He was having a great offensive year last year before he got hurt."

Haeger and his coaching staff, including Mike George (who is taking on more of a role to work with the catchers) decided to work Herrick into consideration at the position.

"As a staff we've been looking to make sure we have a little bit of age behind the plate," Haeger said. "So David's been getting some increased reps."

Freshman catcher Tarik Khasawneh (Canton, redshirted in 2007) likely will see a good amount of action, too, at least until hard-hitting sophomore Zack Flavin returns from injury. "Tarik has really improved this year, he'll have an opportunity to start a game down there (in Tennessee)," Haeger said. "Tarik's made great strides."

Other first-year receivers looking to earn a spot include Drew Adamiec (Walled Lake Central) and Matt Kondziolka.

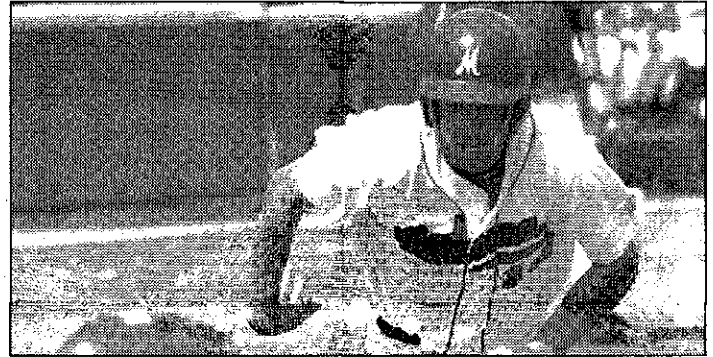
"He'll be a very big part of our offense. We'll bat him in the middle of the lineup, he's a difficult out. He was having a great offensive year last year before he got hurt."

INFIELD

Slick defense and plenty of extra-base power will be other plentiful traits of the 2008 Crusaders, at least if the players transfer their talent to the field.

Starting at third base will be senior transferee Pat Kenny (Saginaw Valley), backed up by freshman and Livonia Stevenson alum Nick Plinka.

"Defensively, he (Kenny) has great hands and very good arm



MU SPORTS INFORMATION

As a freshman, outfielder Rikco Rhoades provided an offensive and defensive boost to the Crusaders. He is one of several excellent fly-catchers in the fold for 2008.

strength," Haeger said. "And he has good gap-type power at the plate."

Kenny has such a great arm that he is being seriously considered to be the team's closer.

As for Plinka, he has garnered notice for his hard work in the training room, where he added about 10 pounds of muscle to his frame.

"Nick is getting stronger, he's got some offensive pop in his bat," Haeger said. "He has things to work on, as many freshmen do when they come to college. Right now, he's a bench player at this point."

Over at shortstop, the Crusaders will open with another transfer player — senior Levi Cheshire (Troy/Austin Peay University). Cheshire takes over the role vacated by the graduations of Kyle Fedorka and Matt Humenay, but he appears capable of doing just that.

"Levi's just got outstanding defensive skills, he's a very good baseball player," Haeger said. "He's got all the ingredients."

Promising freshmen shortstops with big-time potential are Northville's Dominic Benavides and Rochester's Mike Gansser.

Haeger expects both to chip in as utility players in 2008, but both are destined to start — somewhere in the infield — in 2009.

"As a staff, we're tickled pink with these two kids that they can play middle infield positions," Haeger said. "We're trying to figure out where they're going to suit this program best — not this year, but next year."

Returning to nail down the second-base job is junior Ryan Morrow (.344), who led Madonna in hitting much of last year and also provides "excellent defense with great speed."

When Herrick isn't playing first base, Farmington's Kevin Zerbo will.

The powerful Zerbo (6-2, 240) sparked as a Madonna freshman in 2005 with a .340 average and six home runs before leaving the program and playing at Henry Ford Community College.

"He's bigger and stronger than he was back then," Haeger said. "Between Kevin and David, you're looking at our first basemen or DHs."

Another backup infielder will be sophomore Drew Fry, who is continuing to improve. "Drew has been a very good baseball player for us," Haeger said.

OUTFIELD

Probably the areas where Madonna has the most competition will be outfield and on the mound.

McMillin has an early jump on playing center, a position nailed down in 2007 by then-freshman Rikco Rhoades (.260).

"This time around, Rhoades could start anywhere in the outfield or not at all — that's how outstanding the top candidates are, especially at flagging down anything hit their way."

"Rikco's a very good defensive outfielder already," Haeger said. "But he came on a lot offensively during the season and is another kid who is probably 15 pounds stronger than he was last year. He has impressed the staff with the bat."

West Bloomfield product Mike Cauzillo, a senior, is another dependable outfielder who is working to bounce back from a disappointing season at the plate (.212).

"But he (Cauzillo) had a good fall and he's had a real good winter, so we're hoping he can get some confidence," Haeger said.

Others pushing the top three are junior Scott Boyer (.313, three homers and 15 RBI in 32 at-bats)

and Canton's Shawn Little — a second-year freshman who was redshirted in 2007.

Boyer already has the attention of the always-dedicated coaching staff, which includes hitting coach Stu Rose, Ted Falkner, George (who started the MU baseball program in 1993) and Fedorka (as a graduate assistant coach).

But it is Little who could really amp up the discussion, after he recovers from a hamstring injury that will keep him from traveling to Tennessee.

"He (Little) is a very dynamic player," Haeger said. "He has great speed, great power and is a very strong kid."

The sixth outfielder on the depth chart is promising Adam Bailey.

PITCHING

Will Kennedy (5-1 last year) probably is the ace of what could be an outstanding, championship-type starting rotation. Eight juniors and seniors are in the mix for the six-man rotation.

"Will had a fantastic year, the third best ERA in the country at 1.15," Haeger said. "Going into his senior year he's only had three losses in his college career. He's been a great pitcher for us. We expect another great year out of him."

Left-hander Eric Wendling, a senior who went 6-3 with a 3.25 ERA in 2007, shared the top role a season ago with Kennedy. "He didn't have a single soft start. Those two'd lead our charge, I guess you'd say."

But Haeger also could slot any of six others into the 1-2 spots of his rotation, without any concern.

Newcomer Richard Lindquist (a senior righty from Mott Community College) throws in the low-90s. "Richard's got a great, powerful arm and great stuff."

Oxford junior southpaw Sean Maher, another addition to the squad, throws in the upper 80s and "has a great breaking ball."

Then there's Lansing Community College transfer Jeff Sonnenberg (a junior right-hander who was 8-2 last season), returning senior righty Ryan Bardoni, sophomore righty Keegan Beaton (a Crusader in 2006) and Northville freshman Bret Spencer (a right-hander who was player of the year in his conference in 2007).

"They're so even across the board," Haeger said. "It's a very competitive place to be."

Senior side-arming righties John McCracken and Carl McDevitt will be called upon to help close out ballgames. "We like both of them," Haeger said.

If Kenny shows he is able to throw strikes, he could be the closer — taking a short walk from third base late in contests.

"He'll stand on the mound and throw the ball in the low 90s," Haeger said. "We're teaching him how to pitch, but he has great arm strength and he's doing a pretty good job in here (gym). We'll see if he's going to materialize into a shut-down closer" or not.

Garden City junior Richard Hammer, a right-hander who was redshirted last year, could help chew up some innings with a solid curveball.

"Richard has a good curveball, he's done a good job (during the winter)," he said. "Richard's had a lot of success here in these (indoor) cages."

Surgery will sideline Ryan Brodowsky (Farmington), and freshmen Andy Omilian (Plymouth/Detroit Catholic Central) and Sean Sciba (Westland/Livonia Churchill) likely will be redshirted if it is decided there won't be enough work for them this season.

Crusader hitters struggle in Arizona

Still struggling at the plate Monday against Malone College (Ohio), the Madonna University baseball team managed to score just two runs while dropping a doubleheader Monday in Chandler, Ariz.

The Crusaders (3-4) lost 1-0 to Malone, spoiling a complete-game by Jeff Sonnenberg, who did not give up an earned run.

In the second game, Mayville State (Tenn.) earned a 6-2 triumph over the Crusaders, scoring three runs in the eighth to break open a close contest.

Madonna did take a 1-0 lead in the second against Mayville, on singles by Levi Cheshire, Rikco

Rhoades and a throwing error. But Mayville (3-2) tied the game in the third and went up 3-1 with two runs in the fifth against starter Ryan Bardoni.

Rhoades went 2-for-3, with other hits by Ryan Morrow, Kevin Zerbo (Farmington Hills), Mike Cauzillo (West Bloomfield) and Drew Adamiec.

Morrow, Zerbo and Cauzillo also tallied hits in the loss to Malone.

Meanwhile, MU split a pair of games last Saturday versus Malone.

The Crusaders dropped game one, 3-2, in extra innings after rallying to tie the game late. Will

Kennedy (Westland John Glenn) started and went the first seven innings, but took the loss.

Pat Kenny and Zach McMillin each posted a pair of hits to lead the MU offensive attack.

In the nightcap, the MU bats responded to the warm weather, posting a 12-2 victory.

Sean Maher picked up the win, moving to 2-0 on the young season.

Kenny launched his third homer of the season while McMillin and Rikco Rhoades each had a pair of hits and a RBI.

Freshman catcher and Canton product Tarik Khasawneh went 2-for-3 with a pair of RBI.

PCA gives Detroit City all it can handle before falling by twelve

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

The Plymouth Christian Academy boys basketball team's magical run through the post-season came to a screeching halt Monday night, but not before the Eagles played toe-to-toe with the fifth-ranked team in the state for more than a half.

Detroit City soared into Wednesday night's Class D Regional final against Sterling Heights Parkway Christian after it outlasted PCA, 72-60, in a game played at Bloomfield Hills Roeper.

The victorious Bears were led by 6-foot senior guard Ray Hill, who poured in 22 points, including a trio of dunks that defied gravity and the Eagles' improving help defense.

PCA, which finished 7-17, stayed within striking distance despite getting out-rebounded, 38-11, by the spring-loaded Bears.

Junior Brent Zinn led the Eagles with 18 points. His senior brother, Trevor, closed out a stellar high school career with 15 while Spencer Wiard contributed 11.

BOYS PREP HOOP

"I was very happy with our ball movement, especially in the first half," said PCA coach Mike Doyle. "We created and made a lot of wide-open shots because we were sharing the ball and playing as a team, which is what we've been preaching the past month."

"The Zinn brothers did a great job of penetrating, drawing the defense to them, then kicking it back out."

The Eagles actually led their taller, quicker foes 16-15 after one quarter before the Bears seized a 31-25 halftime advantage.

The Bears' biggest advantage came with 6:30 left in the game when Hill went LeBron James and took off from just inside the free-throw line for a majestic jam.

Joining Hill in the double-figures club for City were Hakeem Whitehead, who added 14 points and a team-high 12 rebounds; William Overton, who contributed 13 points, and Devin Patton, who added 10.

Reid Barber led PCA

reboun ders with four.

Both teams were dead-on from the free throw line: City hit 12-of-13 (92.3 percent) while PCA drained 16-of-18 (88.8).

Although the Bears were cold from the perimeter, they still shot 53.4 percent from the field thanks to a bundle of offensive put-backs.

PCA sank 21-of-51 field goal attempts (41.1).

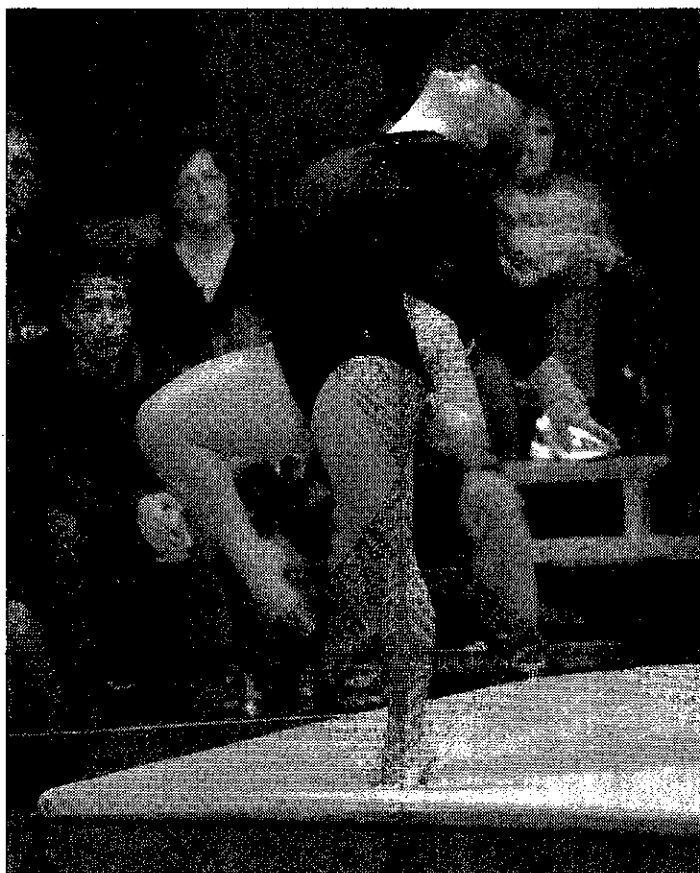
City turned the ball over 20 times; the Eagles had 16 miscues.

Despite the loss, Doyle was upbeat about the way his team overcame a 4-16 regular season to win its first District title since 2000 last week.

"I'm still numb from it," he said, smiling. "To be able to come full circle this season — we lost our first game of the year to Lutheran Westland and then beat them in the District final — shows how much this team improved as the year went on."

"I had people coming up to me that I don't even know congratulating me on what we did last week. It's been an incredible week."

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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton senior Jessie Murray, pictured above at a meet earlier this year, helped the Chiefs place second at Saturday's Division 1 Regional meet at Plymouth High School.

GYMNASTICS RESULTS

REGIONAL GIRLS GYMNASTICS MEET
March 1 at Plymouth H.S.
TEAM SCORES: 1. Livonia Blue, 145.625; 2. Canton, 143.70; 3. Northville, 141.975; 4. Livonia Red, 141.15.

DIVISION 1 RESULTS
Vault: 1. Paula Guzik (Red), 9.425; 2. Emily Quint (Blue), 9.4; 3. Robyn Piwowar (Canton), 9.3; 4. Katie Koetting (Salem), 9.2.
Uneven bars: 1. Guzik (Red), 9.55; 2. Makenna Pohl (Northville), 9.35; 3. Brittany Janis (Blue), 9.2; 4. Koetting (Salem), 9.1.

Balance beam: 1. Guzik (Red), 9.65; 2. Meghan Powers (Blue), 9.625; 3. Quint (Blue), 9.55; 4. Jessie Murray (Canton), 9.35.
Floor exercise: 1. Quint (Blue), 9.625; 2. Koetting (Salem), 9.55; 3. Piwowar (Canton), 9.475; 4. Murray (Canton), 9.45.

All-around: 1. Guzik (Red), 38.025; 2. Quint (Blue), 37.65; 3. Powers (Blue), 36.875; 4. Koetting (Salem), 36.70.

DIVISION 2 RESULTS
Vault: 1. Allison Kemp (Northville), 9.1; 2. Brittany Romatowski (Edsel Ford), 9.0; 3. Lauren Kriger (Grosse Pointe), 8.95; 4. Laura Nomura (Blue), 8.9.
Uneven bars: 1. Romatowski (Edsel Ford), 9.7; 2. Kelly Tapella (Blue), 9.05; 3. Nomura (Blue), 8.7; 4. Julie Davison (Northville), 8.675.

Balance beam: 1. Nomura (Blue), 9.3; 2. Brittany Young (Salem), 9.1; 3. (tie) Davison (Northville) and Margarita Lazarevska (Red), 9.0 each; 5. Amy Reynolds (Northville), 8.9.

Floor exercise: 1. Mallory Hudak (Canton), 9.425; 2. Romatowski (Edsel Ford), 9.325; 3. (tie) Young (Salem), Kriger (Grosse Pointe) and Kemp (Northville), 8.9 each; 6. Amy O'Brien (Northville), 8.775.

All-around: 1. Romatowski (Edsel Ford), 35.975; 2. Nomura (Blue), 35.55; 3. Young (Salem), 34.95; 4. Tapella (Blue), 34.775.

Plymouth Historical Society to host free baseball lecture

The Detroit metro communities have had a strong tradition of baseball excellence including national championships with perennial powerhouses Detroit ITM and Troy Jet Box.

Local players like Mike Jones, Anthony Grey, Al Moran, Larry Cutwright, Bill Freehan and Tom Paciorek all have shined in the professional and collegiate ranks.

Those are just a few local legends. What about Tom Ragland, Ted Simmons, Milt Pappas, Lenny Green, and Willie Horton? They all had great professional baseball careers.

Grey's baseball experiences carried him to a career in aviation and he is currently a 747 captain for Northwest Airlines.

Paciorek went on to a television career in Chicago; Jones changed directions and became a Hall of Fame swimming coach at Eastern Michigan University; Freehan was a two-sport star at Michigan and later coached the Wolverines' baseball team.

On Thursday, March 13, at 7 p.m., baseball will be celebrated with a free lecture at the Plymouth Historical Museum located in downtown Plymouth.

The lecture, sponsored by the Plymouth Historical Society, will feature two former baseball players with chronicled and humorous stories to share.

Raymond Rolak will be talking on the "Mystery of the Black Bat Trophy" and Bill Zepp, former University of Michigan pitcher, will be speaking on the history of town baseball.

Also, the museum's director, Elizabeth Kelley Kerstens, will be on hand to answer questions on the preservation and conservation of baseball collectables.

Another Northwest Airlines Captain, Bill Jenney, will be available to youth coaches to explain the successful model for travel teams. Jenney has been a longtime travel team coach in Northville.

The presentation will coin-

cide with the museum's new exhibit, "Batter Up-Generations of Baseball," running through June 1.

Some of the highlights of the display include memorabilia from Iltch Holdings and the Detroit Tigers Baseball Club.

Rolak, who played at Wayne State University for Coach Robert Samaras, will highlight other former WSU baseball players who were awarded the Hillerich and Bradsby Black Bat Trophy.

Hillerich and Bradsby are the makers of the famed Louisville Slugger baseball bats.

They present the prestigious Black Bat Trophy to all national championship teams, from Little League to the World Series winners. This special artifact is a full-sized black ebony bat with each team members name engraved in gold.

For group tours and exhibit hours, call (734) 455-7797 or visit <http://www.plymouthhistory.org>.

Whalers topple Spirit, 5-2

It's often said that for teams to be successful, they have to be led by their best players. That's what happened for the Plymouth Whalers Sunday afternoon in a 5-2 victory over the Saginaw Spirit in an Ontario Hockey League game played before 2,841 at Compuware Arena.

Plymouth is now 33-24-2-3, good for 71 points and fifth seed in the tightly packed Western Conference playoff race. Saginaw is now 31-24-2-3, good for 69 points and sixth spot in the Western Conference playoff race. Guelph — tied with Saginaw — lost Sunday afternoon in Brampton, 3-1, and remains tied with Saginaw, also with 69 points. Sarnia — currently the eighth seed in the Western Conference with 68 points — hosts Kitchener tonight and could move ahead of Guelph and Saginaw if they can pick up at least one point against the top-ranked Rangers.

Leading scorer Chris Terry led the Whalers attack with two goals and two assists at

the game's first star and now has 43 goals with 53 assists for 96 points, fifth in scoring in the OHL. Terry now has 74 goals with 116 assists for 190 points in 194 career games for Plymouth, moving to 13th on the Whalers' all-time list, ahead of former captain and current Chicago Blackhawk James Wisniewski (52-135-187). Overage center Andrew Fournier scored twice (33rd and 34th of the season) as the game's second star. Overage right wing Joe McCann — celebrating his 21st birthday — scored a goal (12) and an assist as the game's third star.

Kyle Tront (4) and Jack Combs (40) replied for Saginaw.

Plymouth used the power play to jump out to a 3-0 lead after one period of play. After Combs was sent off for elbowing at 0:17 of the first period, Fournier batted home a rebound from the right doorstep nine seconds later to open the scoring. McCann scored another power play goal at 6:03 of the period

when he redirected a rebound from the left doorstep past starting Saginaw goaltender Edward Pasquale. Terry then scored from center ice at 18:18 of the period when he wired a shot that handcuffed Pasquale.

Pasquale was replaced by Ryan Daniels at the start of the second period and Saginaw cut into the Plymouth lead on Tront's goal at 13:50 and Combs' re-direct of a rebound from a Ryan McDonough shot at 16:57. But Terry came right back give the Whalers a 4-2 lead at 18:17. Michal Jordan's shot from the right point was knocked down in front of the Saginaw net, but Terry pounced on the loose puck and beat Daniels. Plymouth led, 4-2, after forty minutes.

Fournier completed the scoring at 1:43 of the third period after accepting Terry's pass from behind the Saginaw net and burying the puck from the slot top-shelf past Daniels.

Saginaw outshot Plymouth, 38-35.



Victory crusade

The Our Lady of Good Counsel junior varsity girls basketball team recently completed an 18-1 season. Highlights of the Crusaders' remarkable season included a CYO West Division title and first-place showings at the St. Edith Thanksgiving Tournament, the St. Genevieve Christmas Tournament and the All Saints Post-Season Tournament. Team members include: Rachel Demarco, Alyssa Dillon, Bailey Fowler, Emily Hogan, Kayla Kavulich, Megan Leon, Marissa Ozo, Shannon Perry, Jenna Reinhold, Kylie Robb, Rachel Savastano, Brooke Senkbeil, Riley Tear, Mackenzie Tulloch and Rachel Winters. The team is coached by Ann Robb and Linda Reinhold.

VISIT HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

SPORTS BRIEFS

Northville recreation

Following are leagues offered this spring and summer by the Northville Parks & Recreation Department:

■Adult women's and co-ed softball leagues are set to begin Tuesday, May 6. The entry fee is \$445 per team for an 11-game schedule.

■An adult open morning softball league will commence the week of June 16. The proposed game times are 8:30

a.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday (game day has yet to be determined). The entry fee is \$445 per team for an 11-game schedule (based on an eight-team league).

■A men's spring basketball league is set to tip off April 21 (approximate). Games will be played on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. The per-team entry fee is \$375 for eight games.

For more information on all of the leagues, call (248) 449-9947.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON INVITATION TO BID

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Charter Township of Canton, 1150 Canton Center S, Canton, Michigan will accept sealed bids at the Office of the Clerk up to 3:00 p.m. Thursday, March 20, 2008 for the following:

STREET SWEEPING SERVICES FOR D.D.A.

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

TERRY G. BENNETT, CLERK

Publish: March 6, 2008

CE08093464 - 2d

CANTON POLICE DEPARTMENT 1150 S. CANTON CENTER ROAD CANTON, MI 48188

The following vehicles have been deemed abandoned and will be sold at public auction March 11, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. The auction will be held at Westland Car Care Towing, 6375 Hix Rd., Westland, MI 48185. The vehicles will be sold as is, starting bid is for towing and storage.

Year	Make	Model	Body	Vin#
1998	Dodge	Ram	P/U	2B7HB11Y0WK102414
1999	Dodge	Caravan	S/W	2B4FP25BXXR357968
2001	Chevy	Cavalier	2DR	1G1JC124417417768
1994	Chrysler	Lebaron	2DR	1C3EU4537RF305742
1992	Honda	Accord	4DR	1HGC87651NA126776
1996	Ford	Escort	4DR	3FALP65L1TM104907
2001	Ford	Focus	4DR	1FAFP33P91W312905
1997	Ford	Explorer	S/W	1FMDU34XXVD86216
2008	Ford	Fusion	4DR	3FAHP07Z38R127572
1992	Ford	Tempo	2DR	1FAPP31XXNK229116
1994	Mercury	Tracer	4DR	3MARMI047RR623302
1990	Mercury	Gr Marquis	4DR	2MECM75F6LX619665
1999	Mercury	Cougar	2DR	1ZWFT611X35652937
	Snowmobile	Frame		None
1994	Chevy	Lumina	4DR	2G1WL54T9R1112101

Publish: March 6 and 9, 2008

CE08093034 - 2d

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON ACCESS TO PUBLIC MEETINGS

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

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

Publish: March 2 & 6, 2008

CE08093000 - 2d

NOTICE

PLYMOUTH CHARTER TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS

If you experience an overflow or backup of a sewage disposal system or storm water system, you must file a written claim with the Plymouth Charter Township Department of Public Works within 45 days after the overflow or backup was discovered. Notice should be mailed to Plymouth Charter Township, Department of Public Works, 9955 N. Haggerty Rd., Plymouth, Michigan 48170. Failure to provide the written notice will prevent recovery of damages. Contact the Department of Public Works, 734-354-3270, Extension 3, for assistance immediately upon discovery of an overflow or backup.

PLYMOUTH CHARTER TOWNSHIP
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

MARILYN MASSENGILL, CMC
Clerk, Charter Township of Plymouth

Publish: March 2 & 6, 2008

CE08088620 - 2d

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton will conduct a public hearing on Tuesday, March 25, 2008 7:00 P.M. in the First Floor Meeting Room at the Canton Township Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road, Canton Michigan as part of its regular meeting.

The purpose of the public hearing will be to consider a request from Takao America Corporation for an Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate for new personal property for their facility located at 7075 Commerce Blvd, within the Northeast Canton Industrial Development District, the legal description of which is as follows:

12K1B2A.M1B1.011.B2A PT OF NE 1/4 E NW 1/4 SEC 12 T2S R8E DESC AS BEG N 02DEG 07M 49S W 85.50FT AND S 88DEG 45M 59S W 49.51FT AND S 02DEG 07M 49S E 10.08FT AND ALONG A CURVE TO THE LT RAD 549.50FT CHORD S 18DEG 58M 25S E 318.44FT AND S 35DEG 49M 02S E 96.71FT FROM N 1/4 COR SEC 12 TH S 35DEG 49M 02S E 103.29FT TH ALONG A CURVE TO THE RT RAD 450.50FT CHORD S 18DEG 57M 54S E 261.20FT TH S 02DEG 06M 46S E 9.19FT TH S 88DEG 45M 59S W 144.31FT TH ALONG A CURVE TO THE LT RAD 260.00FT CHORD S 75DEG 59M 21S W 115.00FT TH ALONG A CURVE TO THE RT RAD 200.00FT CHORD S 75DEG 59M 21S W 88.47FT TH S 88DEG 45M 59S W 761.21FT TH N 09DEG 08M 34S W 66.06FT TH ALONG A CURVE TO THE RT RAD 11356.16FT CHORD N 06DEG 02M 32S E 636.38FT TH N 88DEG 45M 59S E 933.54FT TO POB 9.14AC

Containing 9.14 acres of land and being subject to all easements of records.
Parcel # 046-99-0008-730

TERRY G. BENNETT
Clerk

Publish: March 6, 2008

CE08093463 - 2d

STOW & GO SELF STORAGE AUCTION NOTICE

Pursuant to state law, Notice is hereby given that a public auction will be held at STOW & GO SELF STORAGE, 41999 ANN ARBOR ROAD, PLYMOUTH, MI on MARCH 28, 2008 at 10:00 a.m., on past due tenants listed below. The entire contents of the following units will be auctioned and sold to the highest bidder on each individual unit. CASH ONLY! DESCRIPTION IS BRIEF SUMMARY OF ITEMS, MAY OR MAY NOT CONTAIN MORE OR LESS ITEMS.

UNIT #339-JAMES ALTER OF N.W.C. INC., P.O. BOX 512, DEARBORN HTS, MI 48127

Briefcase, Fax, Bags of clothes, approx. 28 boxes, and other misc. items.

UNIT #558-PAUL ACKMAN OF P.O. BOX 700283, PLYMOUTH, MI 48170

Chair, Plastic tubs, dresser, suitcase, grill, gas stove, fan, grinder, tool box, boxes, and other misc. items.

UNIT #561-GALE SHOWERS OF 49471 PINE RIDGE CT, PLYMOUTH, MI 48170

TV, (2) Bikes, basketball hoop, clothes, plastic tubs, luggage, Christmas items, and other misc. items.

SALE DATE IS MARCH 28, 2008 AT 10:00 A.M.

Publish: February 24 and March 6, 2008

CE08088078 - 2d

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton will conduct a public hearing on Tuesday, March 25, 2008, at 7:00 P.M. in the First Floor Meeting Room at the Canton Township Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road, Canton Michigan as part of its regular meeting.

The purpose of the public hearing will be to consider a request from Summittech Engineering, Inc. for an Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate for personal property for their facility located at 47440 Michigan Avenue, Suite 100, within the Canton Business Center Industrial Development District, the legal description of which is as follows:

Situated in the Township of Canton, Wayne County, Michigan, described as:

COM AT THE E 1/4 COR SEC 32
T2S R8E DESC AS BEG
S 00DEG 08M 18S E 1173.91FT
ALONG THE E LINE OF SEC 32
TH S 70DEG 29M 04S W 63.60FT
FROM THE E 1/4 COR OF SEC 32
TH S 70DEG 29M 04S W 1642.71FT
TH N 19DEG 34M 44S W 793.08FT
TH N 28DEG 20M 41S E 32.90FT
TH N 70DEG 25M 32S E 1582.94FT
TH N 27DEG 52M 11S E 3.60FT
TH FOLLOWING FOUR COURSES ALONG
THE SINES DRAIN
TH S 63DEG 16M 57S E 194.74FT
TH S 70DEG 03M 06S E 50.66FT
TH S 51DEG 54M 23S E 29.50FT
TH S 62DEG 04M 06S E 134.86FT
TH S 00DEG 08M 18S E 2.57FT
TH N 63DEG 05M 13S W 67.36FT
TH S 00DEG 08M 18S E 602.64FT
TO POB
32.59 ACRES

Parcel Area Calculation:
1,430,552.04 sq ft*

32.84 acres*

Parcel# 128-99-0004-704

Publish: March 6, 2008

TERRY G. BENNETT
Clerk

CE08093461 - 2d

AGAPE

FROM PAGE B1

set against Parkway, which advanced all the way to the Class D semifinals last year.

The Wolverines trailed 16-11 after one quarter, 35-26 at the half and 45-40 after three quarters before pulling to within 49-44 on a Mark Mullett triple and a single Pierce free throw with 5:09 to play.

Powered by a three-quarters-court trapping defense, the Eagles then reeled off a 9-2 run to seize a 58-46 advantage with 2:26 to play.

Anleitner said the key to his team's strong effort through the game's first 27 minutes was playing in the moment.

"What we concentrate on is that each possession is a game within itself," said Anleitner. "The key was not to think about the score, but to focus on winning each possession. By doing that, we stayed close until their big fella (Tipton) stepped up. We just couldn't stop him."

Parkway will take an 18-5 record into Wednesday's semifinal.

Agape closed its campaign with a 17-7 mark.

"It's disappointing to lose tonight, but it's important to remember that we did accomplish all of our goals this season," said Anleitner. "We won the MIAC Red (Division), we beat PCA twice, which was something we've never done before; we beat Inter-City and we won a District title, so it was a very successful season."

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



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Making a 'state'-ment

Plymouth senior Mike Conger will be competing at this weekend's Division 1 boys swimming finals at Eastern Michigan University. Conger will be making his second straight appearance at the talent-laden competition.

HONOREES

FROM PAGE B1

Hospital — and has served on the Canton Township Youth Advisory Council.

"Pam is the kind of kid anyone would want their daughter to be like when they grow up," said Plymouth girls cross country coach Mary Kerwin. "She has such a kind heart and she works so hard at everything she does, and she's so humble at the same time."

"Whatever she decides to do in the future, she'll be a success at." Bhullar was uncertain as of Tuesday where she would be attending college.

"I am supposed to hear back from 12 colleges by March 31," the future neurosurgeon said.

Harvey's numbers are equally impressive on the playing fields and in the classroom. A 3.8 student, he hit .350 for the Wildcats' baseball team last spring.

During the recently completed basketball season, the 6-foot forward was one of the Wildcats' top rebounders and defenders.

"It's exciting to be recognized for my academic success as well as my athletic success," said Harvey, when asked what the award meant to him. "Sports are a big reason why I've done well in school because I know if I didn't do well in school,

I wouldn't be competing in sports."

Harvey has his sights set on studying pre-medicine at Morehouse College, a school located just three miles from downtown Atlanta.

His plans include walking on to the school's baseball team, which would make him a future opponent of his older brother, Alex, who plays for Benedict (S.C.) University.

A member of the National Honor Society, Harvey has volunteered for the Plymouth High School youth baseball camp, the Ann Arbor organ donors and the Special Olympics.

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

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THIS MARCH DON'T MISS DOLLAR DAYS & GREAT GIVEAWAYS

Wings vs. Blues

Wednesday, March 5, 7:30 pm
\$1 popcorn for all fans.



Wings vs. Predators

Sunday, March 9, 3:00 pm

Less than 800 tickets left

Fleece Winter Gloves to all fans courtesy of Belle Tire. Plus \$1 hot dogs for all fans.

Wings vs. Blackhawks

Tuesday, March 11, 7:30 pm

Swedish Player Poster to all fans courtesy of IKEA. Plus \$1 ice cream sandwiches for all fans.



Wings vs. Stars

Thursday, March 13, 7:30 pm

Ladies night and \$1 soft pretzels for all fans.

Wings vs. Predators

Saturday, March 15, 1:00 pm

Less than 500 tickets left

Pencil Case featuring Chris Osgood and Dominik Hasek to the first 5,000 kids. Plus \$1 hot dogs for all fans.



Wings vs. Blue Jackets

Wednesday, March 19, 7:30 pm

Henrik Zetterberg Flag to all fans courtesy of AT&T. Plus \$1 popcorn for all fans.

Actual flag size is 3 ft. x 5 ft.

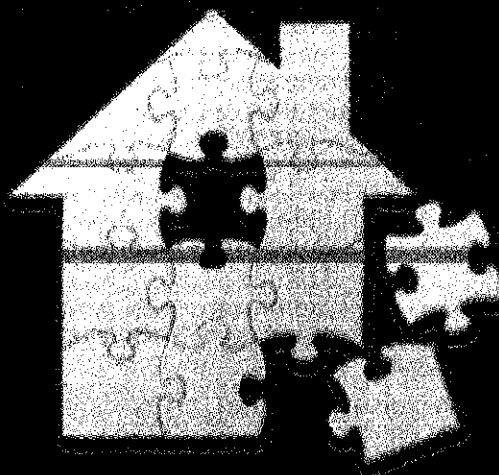
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Joe Louis Arena Box Office
ticketmaster
248-645-6666



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Donni's Door



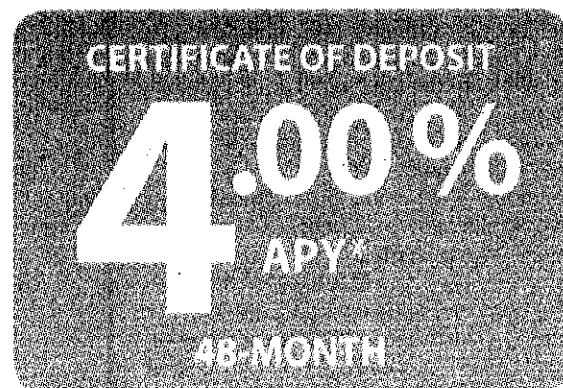
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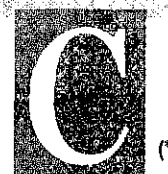


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Real Estate



Thursday, March 6, 2008

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

Julie Brown, editor . (734) 953-2111 . jcbrown@hometownlife.com

www.hometownlife.com

Cities, townships address foreclosure concerns

BY JULIE BROWN
STAFF WRITER

Foreclosures on homes are a growing concern for cities and townships, and officials are responding with programs to help stem the tide.

"Don't avoid the problem," said James Elrod, city assessor for Westland. "The way to battle foreclosure is through early detection."

That includes not letting bills pile up unopened, said Elrod, on the job nearly 20 years in Westland, during a recent Westland Rotary meeting.

Subprime loans are the main culprit he identified. "We're still not at the bottom, unfortunately, yet," Elrod said.

He's chairing a task force involving that city, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and the Michigan State Housing Development Authority to offer a seminar for city residents on avoiding foreclosures. Westland officials are also working with landlords to relocate displaced people into rental properties so they can stay in their community.

Counseling to avoid financial woes is a component as well. "You've got to approach this problem," Elrod said. "You can't just ignore it, it won't go away."

"Hopefully, we can make a big difference," said Elrod, who cited the city buying homes for \$1 each and either tearing them down or rehabbing them.

The average cost of a bank foreclosure is \$65,000, he told Rotarians, so banks have a vested interest in not foreclosing. Elrod has found tax foreclosures much less of a problem in his city than bank foreclosures.

Property assessment notices are going out now, and often assessed values have dropped even though tax burdens have not.

"It's going to be a statewide issue that I wish them luck," he added of the Michigan Tax Tribunal, with many people appealing their property assessments to that body. Local Boards of Review will also be busy with appeals.

Elrod agreed job loss is the most difficult issue, with many manufacturing jobs leaving our state.



"That's a huge issue," he said. "Nobody's figured that out yet."

The upcoming Westland seminar will be for residents of that western Wayne County city. In Farmington Hills, Dean Babb, city assessor, agreed foreclosures are a concern.

"Foreclosures are a problem areawide," Babb said. It's not only the foreclosed properties that are impacted, but also nearby homes.

"Anybody that's trying to sell a house right now has to compete with that market," said Babb, also on the job in his city for more than 20 years. Your house may sell for less than you'd like. "Trying to find somebody to pay it is a tough issue," he said of the asking price.

Maintenance of foreclosed homes is also a con-

cern, Babb said, citing such problems as copper theft. "Of course, you've got the problem of assessing the property."

Farmington Hills officials have also helped residents fight foreclosure, with information on the city Web site, www.fhgov.com. It's been up for a month or two, said management assistant Nate Geinzer.

"We just assembled a bunch of resources," including information from MSHDA and HUD. There are links to attorney general Mike Cox's Web site, he said, and others. Hard copies were made available at the libraries serving Farmington Hills.

"People have been taking them," said Geinzer, who didn't have exact numbers on Web visitors but knows the information is being used.

Beware of exclusive service provider pact

Q. My condo board signed an exclusive agreement with a satellite TV company. The community is now dissatisfied with the vendor because of poor service. Does the recent FCC order banning exclusive clauses apply to dish providers?

A. No, the order does not cover satellite TV companies and, therefore, exclusive

agreements between associations and satellite TV providers will remain. However, it is a bad idea, in my judgment, to enter into any type of exclusive service provider agreement with any particular company.

Q. We have a member of our association who is a part-time employee and, who has AIDS. We fear that this employee may be a health threat to our community. Can we fire the employee? What impact will this have on our association?

A. Your first mistake was to hire anyone who has an ownership interest in the condominium. Your second mistake is to try to fire an employee for having AIDS or HIV. Under the Americans with Disabilities Act, among many others, an individual who has AIDS is considered to be disabled and given protections. As a result, your employee is entitled to keep his job as long as he can perform his core duties with or without a "reasonable accommodation." A reasonable accommodation is any modification or adjustment to a job work environment which enables an employee to carry out his job's core duties. But you are not required to provide a reasonable accommodation if it would cause undue hardship to your community. Also, your board should not assume that because the employee has AIDS, that he is a direct threat to your community's health. You are best advised to consult with your association attorney who hopefully has experience with civil rights legislation.

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

Some resources to address housing concerns

Need help with foreclosure concerns? Your local public library has resources. The Plymouth District Library folks provided these resources, noting there are also several books on the subject, located at 346.04364, upper level nonfiction collection. Other public libraries also carry books on foreclosure and other real estate topics.

Here are some Web sites courtesy of the Plymouth library's staff:

■ www.michigan.gov/documents/ag/Avoiding_Foreclosure_Brochure_215948_7.pdf
A pdf file from Michigan's Attorney General Mike Cox titled: Avoiding Foreclosure — A Guide for

Michigan Homeowners.

■ www.michigan.gov/ag/0,1607,7-164--134533--00.html

Consumer Alert from Michigan Attorney General Mike Cox regarding Home Lending and Foreclosure Rescue Scams.

■ www.mshda.info/counseling/search
Michigan State Housing Development Authority - Homeownership Counselor Agency Locator by County.

■ www.hud.gov/foreclosure/index.cfm

From the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development, including links to state resources.

■ www.federalreserve.gov/pubs/foreclosure/default.htm

Federal Reserve Board foreclosure resources with links to tips and information from HUD, FHA, Federal Reserve, FTC, IRS.

■ www.homeloans.va.gov/paytrbl.htm
Foreclosure counseling from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

HOMES SOLD

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Nov. 12-16, 2007, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office, plus some from Oakland County. Listed below are cities, addresses and sales prices.

Canton

7914 Alton St	\$170,000
2355 Amber Dr	\$226,000
1840 Barclay Ct	\$270,000
2019 Bellingham St	\$155,000
4010 Brighton Ln	\$189,000
2241 Brookhaven Rd	\$200,000
7019 Copper Creek Cir	\$164,000
321 Country Club Ln	\$343,000
1215 Crownclade Ln	\$339,000
40843 Deer Pines Dr	\$315,000
4205 Elizabeth Ave	\$148,000
47441 Fox Run Dr	\$290,000
6960 Foxthorn Dr	\$92,000
7046 Foxthorn Dr	\$98,000
1272 Kennebec	\$325,000
42477 Lilley Pointe Dr	\$105,000
3271 Riverside Ct	\$219,000
48164 Royal Pointe Dr	\$323,000
42988 Ryegate St	\$185,000
43015 Ryegate St	\$210,000
1703 Stonebridge Way	\$395,000
43598 W Arbor Way Dr	\$110,000

Farmington

23072 Floral St	\$130,000
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Farmington Hills

23465 Barfield St	\$139,000
37720 Bradley Dr	\$289,000
30959 Country Ridge Cir	\$390,000
22806 Fox Crk	\$290,000
38780 Lancaster Dr	\$275,000
21820 Lundy Dr	\$129,000
3012 Muliland Dr	\$191,000
36046 Quakertown Ln	\$191,000
29943 S Stockton Dr	\$179,000
32288 W 12 Mile Rd	\$62,000

Garden City

32121 Donnelly St	\$126,000
670 Heien St	\$120,000
32149 James St	\$83,000
33216 John Hawk St	\$140,000
29510 Meadow Ln	\$137,000

Livonia

31659 Seven Mile Rd	\$159,000
33375 Eight Mile Rd	\$1,490,000
14604 Arden St	\$150,000
27630 Bentley St	\$163,000
14997 Cavour St	\$135,000
19201 Cary Ln	\$315,000
11785 Hartel St	\$55,000
11775 Hunters Park Ct	\$90,000
36553 Joanne St	\$183,000
31366 Mayville St	\$170,000
14399 Melvin St	\$221,000
32729 Norfolk St	\$209,000
33341 Norfolk St	\$160,000
29166 Oriole St	\$195,000

20264 Osmus St \$208,000
8977 Parent St \$129,000

Millford

964 Abbey Ln	\$205,000
781 Forestberry Ct	\$207,000

Northville

42110 Baintree Cir	\$223,000
50251 Cressnut Ct	\$335,000
21202 W Glen Haven Cir	\$120,000
19248 Northridge Dr	\$120,000
16935 Sycamore Ct	\$338,000

Novi

301 Duana St	\$288,000
30853 Golden Rdg	\$228,000
27961 Hopkins Dr	\$147,000
27967 Hopkins Dr	\$142,000
27975 Hopkins Dr	\$150,000
26966 Maxwell Ct	\$281,000
45748 Remington Ln	\$325,000
24451 Surfside Rd	\$178,000

Plymouth

50854 Chestwick Ct	\$356,000
49931 Cooke Ave	\$525,000
50521 Elmwood Ct	\$365,000
40307 Gilbert St	\$158,000
654 Leicester St	\$223,000
11686 N Hagerly Rd	\$104,000
42430 Parkhurst Rd	\$188,000
13983 Pleasant View Ct	\$351,000
9059 Quail Run Dr N	\$403,000

Redford

15455 Fenton	\$179,000
19903 Kinloch	\$125,000
15120 Lenane	\$107,000

9041 Laverne \$115,000
26147 Student \$152,000
17711 Sumner \$87,000
24424 W Chicago \$97,000
14219 Winston \$42,000
14219 Winston \$138,000

South Lyon

61155 Allen Dr	\$250,000
26582 Blackwood Ct	\$359,000
1161 Cartwright Ct	\$90,000
827 Huntington Dr	\$255,000
23516 Prescott Ln W	\$348,000
23676 Prescott Ln W	\$469,000
61071 Serene Ct	\$212,000
151 Singh Blvd	\$352,000
439 W Lake St	\$100,000

Westland

31559 Alpena Ct	\$75,000
8701 August Ave	\$169,000
39346 Avondale St	\$144,000
37570 Barkridge Cir	\$72,000
360 Brookfield Dr	\$142,000
7460 Central St	\$95,000
38513 Chestnut Ln	\$142,000
38508 Emerald Ln N	\$206,000
5639 Farmum St	\$55,000
8710 Fremont St	\$130,000
31038 Gladys Ave	\$173,000
30479 Grandview Ave	\$108,000
30147 Joy Rd	\$120,000
7547 Manor Cir	\$71,000
8726 N Middlebelt Rd	\$150,000
6020 N Newburgh Rd	\$125,000
1626 S Dowling St	\$170,000

BRIEFS

Investors

"Flip This House," a presentation by Than Merrill will be sponsored by the Real Estate Investors of Oakland 6-9:30 p.m. Thursday, March 13, at Rock Financial Showplace, 46100 Grand River. Novi. Seminar free to members. \$20 guests. Call (800) 747 6742. (www.REIAofOakland.com)

Oakland Builders

Get the help you need to pass the Michigan State builder's license examination with a 16-hour comprehensive seminar offered by Birmingham Community Education in cooperation with Oakland Builders Education Seminars. The seminar is scheduled for Monday/Wednesday, March 10, 12, 17, 19, from 6-10 p.m. at Berkshire Middle School, 21707 W. 14 Mile, Beverly Hills.

The course is for those who want to subcontract the construction of their own homes, real estate investors and developers

Please see BRIEFS, C4



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PRICED FOR QUICK SALE
 Fantastic curb appeal & great location. Large fenced lot, newer windows, newer doors, over 1600 sq ft, spacious layout, 2 car Garage, & more.
\$89,900 (C-245FO)



CUSTOM RANCH ON ACREAGE
 Newer custom built ranch feat: 4 bd, 3 baths, on 2 acres. Excellent storage in the 3 car Gar & 54x30 Pole Barn. Big open rooms w/ vaulted ceilings, finished walkout w/1000 sq ft. Add 5 acres avail.
\$350,000 (C-449RA)



INCOME PROPERTY
 Great investment on this 2 story brick home. 3 units total - 2 in main house & 1 in rear house. Some updates, must see.
\$68,000 (P-753RU)



PLYMOUTH CHARMER
 Walk to downtown from this beautiful home! Hwd floors, marble bathroom, new appl's stay, huge fenced yard, marble tile in Kit, & more.
\$190,000 (C-609HA)



CHARMING COLONIAL
 Make this your home! 3 bd, all brick colonial w/natural flrpl in LR, updated Kit, new porches, brick paver Patio, Garage, bsmt, updated windows & all appl's stay.
\$129,900 (C-515RO)



NOT YOUR ORDINARY FLOOR PLAN
 This unique floor plan has a formal LR/DR, large island kit, spacious fam rm w/frpl, master w/volume ceiling & spa bath.
\$318,900 (C-757CE)



ABSOLUTELY STUNNING
 Glamorous colonial w/huge lot & in-ground pool. Fabulous decorating t/o, finished bsmt w/full Kit, great location, & a 1 yr home warranty.
\$340,000 (P-415HA)



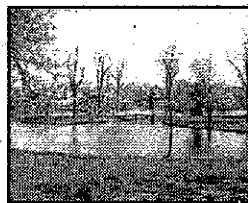
COME ENJOY NATURE
 Located on a wooded 1.5+ acre lot. Huge Great Rm w/gas flrpl, gourmet Kit w/ceramic & large island, finished walkout bsmt w/ Fam Rm, & too much more to list.
\$400,000 (C-620NA)



IT'S A GEM!
 This 2 bd, 1.5 ba ranch condo in popular Bradbury Park is a must see. Newer carpet, oak Kit, Master w/WIC, appl's stay, Carport, C/A, & short walk to pool & clubhouse.
\$129,900 (P-403ME)



WHY RENT?
 Own this lovely ranch on a corner lot. 1400 sq ft, huge new Fam Rm addition, Liv Rm w/frpl, appl's stay, excellent location. Garage, updated Kit, & more. A must see!
\$138,000 (P-754RE)



PRESTIGIOUS LAKE PROPERTY
 Spacious lake front living on all sports Rush Lake. Bring your own builder. Poss. walkout site, nature trails, common grounds w/Gazbo, picnic tables, playgrounds, & more.
\$220,000 (P-113SA)



COMMERCE LAKE RANCH
 Brick ranch w/3 bd, 2 full baths, large updated Kit, appl's stay, 2 car Garage, great Deck for relaxing w/pond view, & privileges to all sports lake.
\$152,500 (C-722SU)

**Vacant Land**

PRIME RESIDENTIAL LOTS
 Fabulous building sites in Wash County & Salem Twp. Wooded, walkouts w/water & stream, gated communities, underground utilities, more. Builders plans avail or bring your own.
Call For Prices (P-000VA)



GREAT INVESTMENT
 This multi family unit is priced to sell! Separate entrances, furnaces, hwh's, & more. Updated bathrooms, newer roof, & can be converted back to a single family home.
\$49,900 (C-132CH)



IN A CLASS BY ITSELF!
 Stately home backing to woods in desirable Green Oak Twp. sub. 2 story. Foyer, gourmet cherry Kit w/ formal DR, crown molding, French doors leading to Deck, & too much more to list.
\$330,000 (C-460CL)



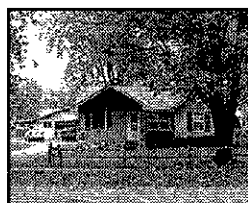
COUNTRY IN THE CITY
 Great setting for this 3 bd, 1.5 bath ranch w/1950 sq ft island Kit, hwd flrs, remod Bath w/Jacuzzi tub, 2 Garages, appl's stay, & 1 yr Home Warranty!
\$209,000 (C-145CO)



MOVE IN READY
 3 bd brick home w/large eat-in Kit, patio door, huge backyard, 2 full baths, LR/DR combo, custom window treatments, huge fenced yard, & convenient location.
\$189,900 (P-120DU)



WESTLAND COLONIAL
 Fabulous 3 bdrm home w/ gorgeous remodeled oak Kit w/ appl's, 19x11 Fam Rm w/nat flrpl, remod baths, fiberglass windows t/o, 2 car garage, large fenced yard & close to schools.
\$169,000 (P-515FA)



WOW
 If you desire privacy & a beautiful yard, this is it. Huge mechanic's dream Garage, newer roof, windows, 3 bedrooms, oversized lot, & convenient location.
\$139,900 (C-453FL)



NEW COLONIAL
 Transfer forces sale of home w/ over 65k in upgrades. Cherry Kit w/granite, plasma tv, new sod & sprinklers. You can't build a new home here for less than this price, let's make a deal!
\$355,000 (C-488LA)



HUGE HOME FOR SMALL PRICE
 2730 sq ft, 4 bd, 2.5 ba Cape Cod w/walkout bsmt, dramatic 2 story foyer, oak kit, 1st fl laund, fam rm w/built-ins, 1/2 acre fenced lot w/ pool & gazebo & full length covered porch.
\$189,900 (C-160MI)



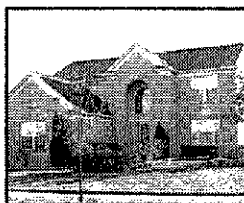
55+ COMMUNITY
 2 bd, 1 bath ranch condo w/many updates. Private adult community offers clubhouse w/activities & a pool. Private entry, carport, C/A, nice Kit, & great Plymouth location.
\$122,600 (P-352NE)



MOVE IN CONDITION
 Check out this Belleville beauty w/ dramatic entrance, 2 story Great Rm w/frpl, king size maple Kit w/ nook, spacious bdrms, full bsmt, 2 car Garage, & seller is motivated!
\$279,900 (P-797SA)



AFFORDABLE DREAM
 Enjoy the comfort of your own home w/this very affordable condo in Farm Hills. You'll love the large Liv Rm, bsmt storage area, comm clubhouse w/pool & picnic area, & fabulous location.
\$69,500 (P-739SH)



CANTON WELCOMES YOU
 Lovely 4 bd colonial w/neutral decor, open floor plan, hwd flrs, formal LR/DR, large Fam Rm w/frpl, brick paver Patio, close to ways & Summit Park. A must see!
\$269,900 (C-701SH)



CENTRAL PARK BEAUTY
 You won't be disappointed here! Gourmet island Kit w/hwd floors, spacious Fam Rm w/frpl, formal LR/DR, large Master w/WIC & fashion bath, 3 car Garage, & paver Patio.
\$334,900 (C-366SP)



WONDERFUL RANCH
 Fabulous 3 bd, 1.5 bath ranch in sought after Ridgeman Sub. Updated inc: siding, A/C, gutters, roof, furnace, & elec. Full bsmt, neutral decor t/o, updated Kit, & nice yard.
\$135,000 (C-851TE)



GREAT LOCATION
 Ready to move in to, located on a quiet cul de sac lot. Over 30k in upgrades, beautiful 4 bd home, 3 car Garage, Fam Rm w/frpl, formal LR/DR, bsmt, & motivated Seller!
\$279,000 (C-331WO)



GREAT OPPORTUNITY
 Brick ranch in Westland w/Livonia Schools. 3 bd, 2 bas, part finished bsmt, hwd flrs, newer roof, fresh paint, Garage, & appliances stay. Price to sell!
\$122,000 (C-570AL)



BRICK RANCH W/FLORIDA ROOM
 Sweet little ranch needs some help to make it special. Already has 3 bds, bsmt is ready to be finished, Garage, hwd floors, & large Florida Rm. Just bring some ideas & make it yours.
\$70,000 (C-136BR)



COUNTRY LIVING
 Lovely 4 bd home situated on 5+ acres. Open floor plan, large Master w/balcony, oversized Garage, many updates t/o, gorgeous views, & Huron Schools.
\$225,000 (C-765CA)



OUTSTANDING
 Stunning 4 bd, 3.5 bath colonial featuring a 2 story Great Rm w/frpl, Kit w/granite & butler's pantry, Master w/2 WIC's & glamour bath, 3 car Garage, brick Patio, & Trex Deck.
\$365,000 (C-335CO)



AFFORDABLE REDFORD RANCH
 2 bd ranch in Redford waiting for you, opportunity awaits! Bank approval required, needs to sell quickly, make an aggressive offer.
\$64,900 (C-301FA)



A MUST SEE!
 Cute Westland bungalow w/ updated furnace, C/A, hwh, finished bsmt w/drm & rec area, HUGES Garage, tiered cove ceilings, vinyl ins windows, & extra deep lot.
\$125,500 (C-725FA)



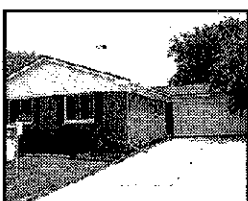
CUSTOM CAPE COD
 Beautiful wooded location on this 4 bd, 4 bath Plymouth home w/1st fl Master, guest suite or in-law quarters, fin bsmt w/Fam Rm & 2nd Kit, beautiful details t/o, & Ply-Can Schools.
\$419,900 (C-899LI)



NO PLACE LIKE HOME...
 Spacious 3 bd colonial in desirable Canton sub. Newer floor to ceiling windows in Great Rm, Kit w/abundance of cab's & counter space, large lot, new roof, home warr, & more.
\$190,000 (C-202LO)



WELCOME HOME!
 Beautiful 3 bd, 2.5 bath home w/ oak Kit & built in, Fam Rm w/frpl, Master w/vaulted ceiling & jetted tub, oasis-like yard w/stamped concrete Patio, & finished bsmt.
\$224,900 (C-562MA)



COME FALL IN LOVE!
 Totally updated brick ranch within walking distance to Flodin Park. Ceramic Foyer, updated Kit, LR w/frpl, Master w/bath, neutral decor t/o, updated baths, fresh landscaping, & Deck.
\$190,000 (C-388MO)



POPULAR MAYFAIR VILLAGE
 Spacious colonial w/over 2300 sq ft, 4 bd, 2.5 baths, new lead glass entry door, updated maple Kit w/ Corian, nook w/new drwl, Fam Rm w/frpl, & 1st fl laundry.
\$224,900 (P-556OA)



TOP SHELF!
 This ultimate condo is waiting for you! Brand new vinyl windows, prof decorated, finished bsmt, vaulted ceilings, impressive Master Suite, & great location.
\$189,799 (C-409PL)



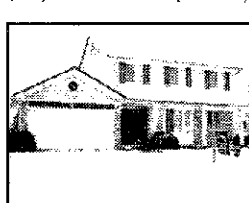
CONDO LIVING AT ITS BEST
 Stunning 2 bd, 2 bath end unit w/ views of woods from every room. 1st fl laun, private study w/French doors, gas flrpl, Master w/soaking tub, full bsmt, & 2 car Garage.
\$270,000 (P-865WE)



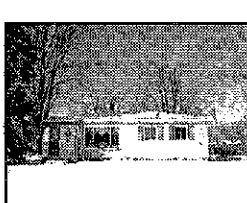
POPULAR NANTUCKET TOWNHOMES
 Spacious unit overlooks beautiful courtyard offering pool, clubhouse, & fitness center. Convenient location, dual Master's w/baths, 1st fl laun, & appl's stay. Also avail w/lease option.
\$109,999 (P-268AT)



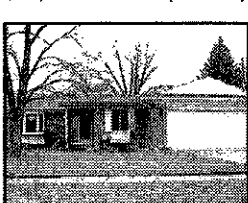
LIVONIA GEM
 Don't miss this one! \$30k gourmet Kit w/custom cabinets, stain steel appl's, & granite. Sunroom overlooking huge fenced yard, hwd flrs, & cove ceilings. Hurry on this one!
\$200,000 (P-325BE)



NEWER CANTON COLONIAL
 Spacious 4 bd, 2.5 bath home w/ open floor plan, fresh paint, newer roof, 1st fl laun, Master w/bath, cathedral ceilings, formal Dining, new tiled floors, loads of storage, deep private yard, neutral decor, & nice neighborhood.
\$220,000 (P-233BR)



UPDATED PLYMOUTH RANCH
 Great price & move in ready! Neutral decor, hwd flrs, updated windows, siding, bath, 2.5 car Garage w/workshop, double lot w/ beautiful trees, & home warranty.
\$159,900 (P-207BR)



SPACIOUS CANTON RANCH
 Great price plan offering 3 bdrms, 2 baths, updated Kit, Fam Rm w/frpl, formal LR/DR, 6 panel doors, updated windows & roof. Full bsmt w/ample storage, & motivated Seller!
\$199,000 (P-862BU)



MOTIVATED SELLER
 Bungalow in incredible condition! Excellent location, newer roof, siding, carpet, hwd flrs, tons of storage space, appl's stay, finished bsmt, & more.
\$185,000 (C-185CO)



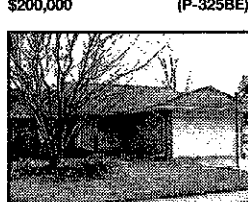
ULTRA CLEAN & WELL PRICED
 Appointed & updated broad front ranch. Updated oak kit, nook w/custom benches & table, finished bsmt w/bath, some hwd flring, & 1 yr home warranty.
\$129,500 (C-245DE)



PICTURE PERFECT
 3 bd ranch offers new vinyl siding & trim, elec service, 2.5 car Garage, newer roof, windows, furnace & C/A. Add to this a new privacy fence, super Deck, & home warranty.
\$89,900 (P-216DE)



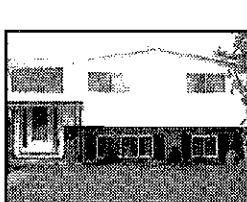
PREMIUM COURT LOT
 2116 sq ft 4 bd, 2.5 bath colonial w/great location in quiet sub. Fam Rm w/frpl & drwl to Deck w/hottub, part finished bsmt, newer CA, glass block, updated flooring, & more.
\$249,900 (P-061EL)



GREAT BRICK RANCH
 Great find on this home w/full finished bsmt, large yard, hwd flrs t/o, new windows, roof, 6 panel doors, Master w/bath, & Ply-Can schools.
\$190,000 (P-649EM)



WHY RENT?
 Move right in to this very well maintained Dear Heights home. Newer tiled floors, loads of storage, deep private yard, neutral decor, & nice neighborhood.
\$79,900 (P-306FE)



LOADS OF LIVING SPACE!
 Spacious 3 bd, 2 ba home w/ Library/Den, Fam Rm, large Kit, huge fenced yard w/oversized 2 car Garage, newer windows, furnace, A/C, & siding. Quick occup avail, call today.
\$139,900 (P-174FL)



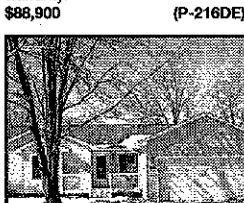
EXTRA LARGE LOT
 1337 sq ft home w/3bd, 1.5 baths, spacious Kit w/appl's, hwd flrs t/o, large Master w/vaulted ceiling, unique arch entryways, part finished bsmt, & updated roof.
\$85,000 (P-301FO)



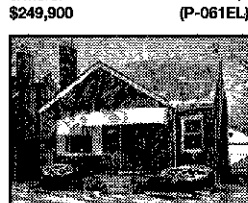
EXECUTIVE CAPE COD
 Premium brick exterior elevation backing to wooded preserve. Open floor plan, 5 generous sized bdrms, 4.5 baths, finished walkout bsmt w/frpl & sauna, & so much more.
\$549,900 (P-116FO)



HISTORIC ROSEDALE PARK
 Immaculate 5 bdrm, 3 bath tudor w/newer roof, leaded windows, loaded beveled French doors, updated Kit, 3 car Garage, part fin bsmt, & new cement. Tons more, call today.
\$198,900 (P-320GL)



BREATHTAKING LAKE VIEWS!
 You must see this one! Gorgeous views of lake from finished walkout bsmt w/bath & 4th bdrm. Vaulted LR w/frpl & drwl to Deck, Master w/private bath, & too much more to list.
\$190,000 (P-517GL)



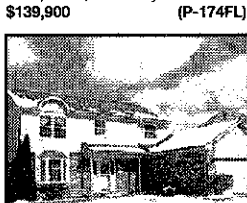
STOP, LOOK, BUY!
 Beautiful 3 bd, 1 bath bungalow feat: updated Kit, formal DR, large Master w/WIC, finished bsmt w/glass block, newer windows, custom blinds, elec, C/A, & more.
\$89,900 (C-298HA)



WAITING FOR YOU!!
 Lovely 4 bd bungalow feat LR w/frpl, formal DR, nice Kit, part finished bsmt, detached Garage, manicured landscaping, & immed occupancy.
\$98,000 (C-130KE)



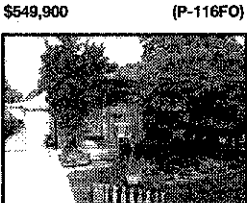
AMAZING VALUE
 Unique ranch w/inground pool & cabana. 3 bd, 2 baths, 1860 sq ft, office area, excellent location close to everything, & priced below market for quick sale.
\$169,900 (C-13KLI)



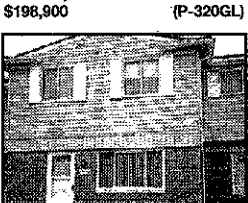
BEAUTIFULLY UPDATED COLONIAL
 Great price on this 4 bd, 2.5 bath home w/updated windows, roof, finished oak Kit w/extra large nook, 1st fl laun, beautiful Master Suite, & Ply-Canton schools.
\$219,900 (P-822LE)



ENTRY LEVEL CONDO
 This home features a Master w/ WIC, Kit w/dining area, spacious Liv Rm w/drwl to lovely yard, & lots of updates.
\$114,500 (C-538LI)



MRS. CLEAN LIVES HERE!
 3 bd, 1.5 bath brick ranch offers a stunning finished bsmt w/2nd Kit & bath. Dream backyard, thermal windows, C/A, 2.5 car Garage, quick occupancy, & home warranty.
\$149,900 (P-111LU)



LIVONIA SCHOOLS
 Why rent when you can own this fantastic condo offering 4 bd, spacious floor plan w/large P, eat in Kit w/drwl to Patio, updated roof & siding, full bsmt, & appl's stay.
\$79,900 (P-172MA)



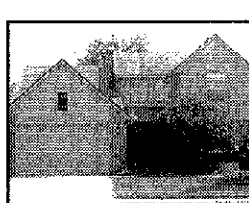
PERFECT LOCATION
 Open Kit w/oak cab's & all appl's. Large Fam Rm w/frpl & new drwl to beautiful Florida Rm, 1st fl laundry, updated roof & light fixtures. Come check this one out!
\$180,000 (P-645MO)



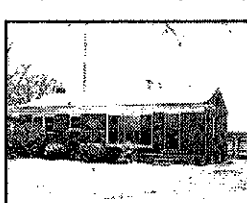
TERRIFIC BUY
 1219 sq ft ranch w/3 bds, updated roof, hwh, furnace, C/A, court location w/a large lot.
\$64,900 (C-441MU)



MOVE IN READY
 This well maintained colonial has an updated Kit w/oak & snack bar, updated thermal windows, updated baths, hwd flrs t/o, finished bsmt w/glass block, & nice location.
\$129,900 (P-901NO)



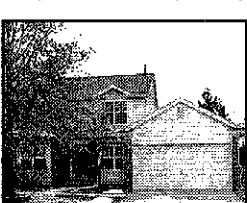
IDEAL CANTON COLONIAL
 In walking distance to parks & the Summit 2 story Foyer, hwd entry, 2 story Great Rm, huge Kit, 1st fl laundry, gas marble flrpl, new paint, 1st fl Master, & large bsmt.
\$280,000 (C-634NO)



UPDATED LIVONIA RANCH
 Great price & move in ready! Prof finished bsmt w/4th bdrm, large rec room, Fam Rm, & bath. Hwd flrs, updated windows, 2.5 car Garage w/workshop, convenient location, & home warr.
\$149,500 (P-924PE)



CHARMING
 Cute as can be w/designer paint & brushed nickel fixtures. This upper unit condo offers a Great Rm w/ views of nature, spacious Kit w/ dining area, Master w/bath, & Garage.
\$148,000 (P-042RA)



CLEAN & SHARP
 3 bd, 2.5 baths, 1613 sq ft w/open floor plan, Kit w/all appl's & pantry, nook w/drwl to paver patio, Master w/WIC & updated bath, finished bsmt, fenced yard, & 1st fl laun.
\$190,000 (P-925RE)



SOUTH REDFORD BUNGALOW
 Updated & move in ready! Gorgeous 3 bd home w/newer roof, large fenced yard, copper plumbing, home warranty, & located on a quiet tree lined street.
\$114,900 (P-123SA)



SUPER CLEAN & NEAT!
 Oversized Kit w/all appl's, LR w/ nat flrpl & cove ceil, formal DR, hwd flrs t/o, updated baths, Master w/crown moldg, finished bsmt w/wetbar, & tons of storage.
\$195,000 (P-442SP)



Real Estate

Observer & Eccentric

Classified

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4 easy ways to place your ad:

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Deadlines:

Sunday edition..... 5 p.m. Friday
 Thursday edition..... 11:00 a.m. Wednesday

Offices and Hours:

Eccentric office..... 805 E. Maple, Birmingham
 Observer office..... 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia
 Hours..... 8:30 - 5:00 Monday - Friday

POLICY
 All advertising published in the Observer and Eccentric Newspapers is subject to the conditions stated in the applicable rate card. (Copies are available from the advertising department, Observer and Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150 (734) 591-0900. The Observer and Eccentric Newspapers reserves the right not to accept an advertiser's order. Observer and Eccentric Newspaper sales representatives have no authority to bind this newspaper and only publication of an advertisement shall constitute final acceptance of the advertiser's order. When more than one insertion of the same advertisement is ordered, no credit will be given unless notice of typographical or other errors are given in time for correction before the second insertion. Not responsible for omissions. Publisher's Notice: All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 which states that it is illegal to advertise "any preference limitation, or discrimination". This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal housing opportunity basis. (FR Doc. 72483 3-31-72) Classified ads may be placed according to the deadlines. Advertisers are responsible for reading their ads the first time it appears and reporting any errors immediately. The Observer and Eccentric Newspapers will not issue credit for errors in ads after THE FIRST INCORRECT INSERTION. Equal Housing Opportunity Statement: We are pleased to the letter and spirit of U.S. policy for the achievement of equal housing opportunity throughout the nation. We encourage and support an affirmative advertising and marketing program in which there are no barriers to obtain housing because of race, color, religion or national origin. Equal Housing Opportunity slogan: "Equal Housing Opportunity." Table III - Illustration of Publisher's Notice.

3000's Real Estate

3000.....Homes	3376.....Royal Oak
3030.....Open Houses	3380.....Salem-Salem Township
3040.....Ave. Arden	3381.....Southfield-Lathrup
3045.....Auburn Hills	3382.....South Lyon
3045.....Belle Isle & Van Buren	3405.....Stockbridge-Unionville-Gregory
3047.....Berkley	3410.....Troy
3049.....Beverly Hills	3415.....Union Lake
3050.....Birmingham	3420.....Walled Lake
3055.....Bloomfield	3425.....Waterford
3060.....Belleville	3425.....Wayne
3070.....Byron	3430.....Westland
3080.....Canton	3440.....West Bloomfield
3090.....Clarkston	3445.....Westland
3095.....Clawson	3450.....White Lake
3100.....Cohasset	3460.....Whitmore Lake
3110.....Dearborn	3470.....Williamston
3115.....Dearborn Hgts	3475.....Westland
3120.....Detroit	3480.....Westland
3130.....Chelsea	3485.....Westland
3135.....Dexter	3490.....Westland
3140.....Farmington	3495.....Westland
3145.....Farmington Hills	3500.....Westland
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BRIEFS

FROM PAGE C1

and building trades people who want to work legally in Michigan. The seminar costs \$190 plus \$25 for the course textbook and sample questions to the instructor. Pre-registration with payment is preferred as classes may cancel. Please call Birmingham Community Education at (248) 203-3800 to register Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

■ Get the help you need to start and maintain a successful business with an eight-hour comprehensive seminar offered by Wayne-Westland Community Education in cooperation with Oakland Builders Education Seminars. The seminar is scheduled for Tuesday/Thursday, March 11 & 13, from 6-10 p.m. at John Glenn High School, 36105 Marquette, Westland.

This seminar is designed to help make sense of and remove the unknowns of purchasing, starting and maintaining a successful business. The class will teach you how to analyze a business from the financial development and marketing to implementing your plan. The cost is \$105 for residents plus \$20 for the course textbook. Pre-registration with payment is preferred as classes may cancel. Please call Wayne-Westland Community Education at (734) 419-2425 to register Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

■ Get the help you need to start and maintain a successful business with an eight-hour comprehensive seminar offered by Henry Ford Community College

in cooperation with Oakland Builders Education Seminars. The seminar is scheduled for Tuesday/Thursday, March 25 & 27, from 6-10 p.m. at Henry Ford Community College, Dearborn Heights Campus, 22586 Ann Arbor Trail, Dearborn Heights. This seminar is designed to help make sense of and remove the unknowns of purchasing, starting and maintaining a successful business. It will teach you how to analyze a business from the financial development and marketing to implementing your plan. Included are the important formulas to start and maintain a successful business. The cost of the seminar is \$105 for residents plus \$20 for the course textbook. Pre-registration with payment is preferred. Call Henry Ford Community College at (313) 317-1500 to register Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. On site registration with payment is acceptable.

■ Oakland Builders Education Seminars will offer a 16-hour seminar, How To Build Your Own Home on Saturday/Sunday, March 15 & 16, from 6-10 p.m. at the ConCorde Inn, 1919 Star-Batt Drive, Rochester Hills.

Designed for those who want to contract their own home construction as well as those who want to work with a builder, the course details each stage of construction as well as your rights and responsibilities. The course covers home financing, the building process, builders terms and contracts as well as building codes, insurance requirements and much more. The seminar costs \$230 and textbooks are included.

Pre-registration with payment is preferred. Please call (800) 940-2014 to register Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. On site registration with payment is acceptable.

BIA

■ Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan (BIA) and its NAHBR Professional Remodelers will present the ABCs of Remodeling for all interested homeowners. The event will take place at Doyle Center, 7275 Wing Lake Road in Bloomfield Hills on Tuesday, April 1, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. and is free to everyone. The Center is located just west of Telegraph and north off 14 Mile.

Homeowners will have an opportunity to speak directly with remodelers and to providers of related services. A panel of experts will discuss what homeowners need to know about major and minor remodeling for improvement projects such as kitchens and baths, home additions and insurance repairs. Also included will be information on energy efficiency, cost and financing and how to hire a professional contractor.

The panel of experts includes Mark Renn of H.J. Oldenkamp, John Maloney of BOA Construction, Don Pratt of Wake-Pratt Construction, Patty Shea of Shea Company Construction, Tim Smith of Countrywide Bank, FSB, Mike Gordon, A.I.A., of Moiseev/Gordon Architects and Don Bourdeau of Al Bourdeau Insurance. Each expert is a member of BIA and its NAHBR Professional Remodelers Council.

Exhibitors will be on hand to show their remodeling products and services,

including Advance Plumbing & Heating Supply, Affordable Spaces/Four Seasons, Andersen Windows, Carnovale Associates, Closets Plus, Inc., Hinkson Construction Co., Michigan Shelf Distributors, Newmyer Remodeling and Shea Company Construction.

The event is free to everyone. For further information, call the Association, (248) 862-1008.

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Primary Residence - Building Site - Summer Home or Hunting Property

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For Healthy Active Adults 55 & up
Retirement, Year round living
Vacation Home or Summer Home
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To Live - Play - Relax - Enjoy Life

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Prices from only \$54,000
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Visit chikaren.com

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OSCODA-TAWAS AREA

Tired of the gridlock? Looking for a slower pace of life? Canoe the AuSable River, fish, swim & boat Lake Huron or beautiful inland lakes. Hunt thousands of acres of State & Federal Land. Enjoy our golf courses, cross-country ski trails, miles of snowmobile runs, community theater, festivals & free weekly concerts on the beach. Retirees, second home buyers, vacationers, check us out. You'll like what you find! Call Karen, Real Estate One of Tawas/Oscoda 800-334-8028 or e-mail kuzum@oscodarealestate.com for area info.

Southern Properties

For information on how you can advertise on this page call: 1-800-579-7355

\$349,000 (50K under cost)
6220 Dorchester Way
Woodfield Community
Vero Beach, FL
3/2/2 1696 w/a. Lovely 2006 CBS home located on large lake-front lot in 55+ community. Amenities include granite, ss appl., maple cab., diag. ceramic tile, tinted windows, plantation shutters and screened patio.

Stephanie Pare
772-579-5269
www.PareRealty.com

\$205,000
5900 Spring Lake Ter.
Portofino Shores
St. Lucie County, FL
5/3/2 with 2465 w/a. 2 story on preserve lot. Separate LR/DV/FR. Lg. kitchen with breakfast nook. Coffered ceil. wlk in closets, roman tub. Gated community with clubhouse and full amenities.

Stephanie Pare
772-579-5269
www.PareRealty.com

\$269,900
336 Vista Ct
Vista Villas
Vero Beach, FL
Indian River County, FL
2/2.5/1 with 1780 w/a. Like new villa with golf/water view in much desired subdivision. Updated kitchen, w/ newer appl., granite and lg pantry. LR/DV combo, den, eat in kitchen, encl. porch and spacious loft.

Stephanie Pare
772-579-5269
www.PareRealty.com

FEATURE HOMES

LIVONIA

OPEN HOUSE 3-5 PM • March 9th
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Beautiful Rosedale Gardens. First floor master suite. Fireplace and hardwood in the living room. Upgraded master bath & laminate flooring. Two fireplaces. Finished basement, large lot & hot tub. Close to school and park.

Call: TOM KMET (734) 834-2985
EDWARD SUROVELL REALTORS (734) 484-1100

OPEN SUNDAY 1-4

1645 Buckingham, Birmingham
Desirable Poppleton area. Large lot, new granite kitchen & huge finished basement w/daylight windows. \$349,900

Linda Wittstock • 248.515.2148
COLDWELL BANKER SCHWEITZER
500 S. Old Woodward Ave • Birmingham

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CBSHomeSearch.com

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 <p>CANTON \$164,900 Imm Occ. Updated brick ranch w/fenced yard! New turn, new fr w/o, new kit cnts, hwd fr ba, new hwh, newer vinyl wndws, 2.5 car detached gar & deck! MLS# 27213614 248-347-3050</p>	 <p>CANTON \$250,000 Reloc Forces Sale Of Stately 4 BR Colonial On Almost 1/2 Acre Lot. Trad Fr Plan, Formal DR, FR W/FP, Foyer & Kit W/HW Firs, Lrg Mas Suite, Fin Bsmt. MLS# 28031084 734-453-6800</p>	 <p>DEARBORN \$175,000 3 BR, 1.5 BA ranch walking distance to Leva Good Park. Renovated in '02. Updates: kit, baths, roof & carpet. 1/0. Fin bsmt w/rec rm, laundry & wksph. MLS# 27224506 734-453-6800</p>	 <p>FARMINGTON HILLS \$189,900 Sharp Country Setting Close to Everything! Many Updates Incl Gutter, Porch, Elec, Mstr Ste & BA, Deck, Landscp, Kit & HWH. 2.5 Car Det Gar w/Big Yd. MLS# 28018516 248-347-3050</p>	 <p>FARMINGTON HILLS \$849,900 Magazine Quality! "Trillium Estates" cape backing to protected woods on priv cul-de-sac. Unbelievable fin w/o. Dramatic GR. Gmt kit. 1st flr master. MLS# 27223396 734-453-6800</p>	 <p>GARDEN CITY \$114,000 1st Time Homeowners Dream! Updated 1/0 incl: BA, Kitchen flr & cnts, carpet & paint 1/0, siding, roof, w/d, 2 car gar dr, new a/c unit w/transfer war. MLS# 27160002 248-347-3050</p>
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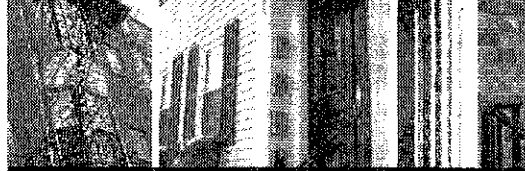
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SAD?
We are looking for volunteers
to participate in a research
study of an investigational
medication for depression.
Qualified participants receive
all research related care,
study medication, and office
visits at no cost. Please call
the Institute for Health
Studies at 1-877-908-CARE.
Ask about compensation
available for participation

**SALESPERSON/
DEMONSTRATOR**
P/T position for energetic
individual for Wholesale Club
Store. Exp. in food industry
an Asset and car required.
Fax 1-888-277-9733
apeters@brandventure.us

**SENIOR
COUNSELOR**
Canton is now accepting
applications for Senior
Counselor. Job descrip-
tion with complete qualifi-
cations is available on
the Canton Township
website at
www.canton-mi.org. EOE

Help Wanted-General 5000

SHEETMETAL
Modular Lab Building fabri-
cator in Canton, MI, seek-
ing 1 or 2 sheetmetal work-
ers for multi-task work,
both job-site installations
(inside) and plant manufac-
turing work. Previous
sheetmetal, welding, and
all around shop skills
required. Job requires a
combination of shop work
and on-site travel. Attention
to detail and attitude
important. OJT training.
Driver's license and good
record required for insur-
ance. Health, dental and
401K plan. Good opportu-
nity for the right person.
Fax resume with work skills
and references to:
Clean Air Technology Inc.
517-548-2049

Swim Teacher/Sales Staff
Want a job where you get paid
to have fun, and get experi-
ence in a field with fantastic
career potential? Part-time/Full
time positions available!
Call Goldfish Swim School
today! 248-644-1914

TEACHER
Rainbow Development
Center seeks experienced
Montessori Teacher for
our Canton location.
Requirements: Montessori
certified or previous experi-
ence with Montessori.
We offer a competitive
salary & benefits package.
Call 734-495-1580
Fax: 734-495-3169
or email:
canton@redci.com
E.O.E.

hometownlife.com

TELLERS P/T
Earn up to \$14/hr.
Credit Union ONE seeks
experienced, friendly, pro-
fessional tellers to work
flexible part-time hours
(approx. 25 per week)
including some Saturdays
at various locations in
metro-Detroit. Assess-
ments will be conducted at
selected locations on
Wednesday, March 19.
Apply online at:
www.cuone.org/
employment
(use position title
***Part-time Tellers)
to reserve your spot.
Qualified applicants must
include e-mail address so
we may notify you of your
time and place for assess-
ment. Medical/dental, 401k
and tuition benefits avail-
able. Teller experience pre-
ferred; minimum one year
sales and customer service
considered.
EOE

**TREE CLIMBERS/
SUPERVISOR**
EXPERIENCED ONLY
Must have valid drivers lic.
Heart of Oak Tree Service.
(734) 340-6155

Help Wanted-General 5000

**VIDEO INSPECTION/GROUT
APPLICATOR TECHNICIAN**
For a sewer rehabilitation com-
pany. Apply in person at: AUI,
38657 Webb Dr., Westland.

**WAREHOUSE
ORDER SELECTORS**
Vistar is currently in search of
several Warehouse Order
Selectors. 6-12 months job
related experience preferred.
This position is an on-call
casual which pays \$13.23
hourly. Warehouse located in
Belleville. Qualified candi-
dates, please call Kory at
734-397-3600 ext 5721

**WINDOW CLEANER
JOURNEYMAN (M/F)**
To become operation mgr.
Clean cut, aggressive. Good
pay, benefits. 1-866-570-7755

Help Wanted-Office Clerical 5020

**ADMINISTRATIVE
ASSISTANT**
For law office. 20-25 hrs per
week. Will train.
248-474-4000

AUTO CLERICAL
Phone & computer exp. a
must. Must be a self starter.
Salary, benefits & 401k.
Farmington Hills.
Send resume to 248-489-0986

CLERICAL
Wed-Sat. 5-11pm.
Apply in person, Mon-Thurs.:
KICKERS
36871 Plymouth Rd., Livonia
No Phone Calls, Please!

CLERICAL/RECEPTIONIST
Part time afternoons and Sat.
mornings, approx. 20 hrs. per
week. Email resume
johnaver5582@yahoo.com

CUSTOMER SERVICE
Buyer GM dealership looking
for an upbeat, high energy can-
didate for full time customer
service position. Duties incl:
• Cashiering
• Accounting
• Filing
• Receptionist
Do you have a natural smile
when you meet people? Your
personality, people skills and
previous exp. will earn you this
position. Send your resume to:
Box 1667, Observer &
Eccentric, 36251 Schoolcraft
Rd. Livonia, MI 48150

LEGAL SECRETARY
EXP'D. PT. 10-15 hrs/wk.
Very flexible. Southfield area.
Resume hjklawyer@gmail.com

LEGAL SECRETARY
Needed for small downtown
firm specializing in
debtor/creditor law. A working
knowledge and experience in
Electronic Filing together with
a minimum of 2 years of
experience with Microsoft
Word & WordPerfect is
required. Health and other
benefits are available.
Send resume with education,
work references, salary
requirement & contact to
dtw.bankruptcy@yahoo.com

Help Wanted-Office Clerical 5020

LEGAL SECRETARY
Full or Part-Time. Must be
familiar with Word. Prior exp.
a must. Call: 734-326-2889

LEGAL SECRETARY
With 2 to 3 years litigation
experience for busy AV Rated
Southfield area law firm;
hours 8:30 to 5:30. Only can-
didates with required litigation
experience need apply, with
salary requirement, to:
legalsecretarywanted@
hotmail.com

RECEPTIONIST
Part time receptionist for
Private Country Club. Must
work weekends. Wed-Sun, 9-
2. Fax resume 248-356-5255

**RECEPTIONIST
PART-TIME**
Weekdays. Long-term.
(734) 238-0556

RECEPTIONIST
PT. Mon-Fri. 8-3. Answer
phones, interact with internal
staff & visitors, assist with
clerical duties as assigned.
Exc. computer skills including
Microsoft office. Resume to:
jobs@teamaircenter.com
No phone calls please.

Help Wanted-Engineering 5030

Sales Engineer

Novi Mig Rep for electronic
components looking for SE to
call on OEM accts in metro
area. BSEE, good work ethic,
and high integrity needed. Exc
benefits with premier co.
Send resume to
careers@rathsburg.com

Help Wanted-Dental 5040

DENTAL ASSISTANT
Fast paced, multi-doctor, mod-
ern dental practice in Dearborn
Heights is looking for an expe-
rienced Dental Assistant of at
least 3 yrs. if you are an ener-
getic, self-starter and a quick
learner with an upbeat person-
ality please call to set up an
interview: 313-274-4042
www.cambridge dentalgroup.com

DENTAL ASSISTANT
Needed for Livonia
cosmetic practice.
Excellent communication
skills. PT. 10-15 hrs/wk.
All inquiries confidential
Fax resume Dr Terri Todorro
248-477-7546

DENTAL ASSISTANT
Part-Time, mature, exp'd
assistant needed with some
front desk exp. Able to work
some evenings and one week-
end a month. Fax resume to:
734-420-6304

Dental Front Desk Friendly
people person, motivated,
computer competent. 2 yrs.
exp. W. Dearborn. 4 days. Fax
resume: 866-515-3080

DENTAL HYGIENIST
Friendly & caring, to join team
in well established Livonia
office. 2-3 days. 734-427-4525

Help Wanted-Dental 5040

DENTAL HYGIENIST
Part time position for an exp.
dental hygienist for Dearborn
family practice. Focus on
comprehensive, oral and peri-
odontal health. Fax resume to
313-584-0550

DENTAL RECEPTIONIST
Business office. Part or full-
time. Customer Service profi-
cient. Must be positive,
upbeat, people oriented &
able to multi-task. Farmington
area office. Email resume to:
alman@umich.edu or fax to:
(248) 474-0052

DENTAL RECEPTIONIST
Fun, upbeat office in Lathrup
Village looking for exp'd per-
son. Hours & salary negoti-
able. Call 248-552-0076 or
fax resume to: 248-552-3050

DENTAL RECEPTIONIST
Positive, calm, mature, peo-
ple-person to manage front
desk. Skills include schedul-
ing, insurance billing, collect-
ing fees & exceptional cus-
tomer service. Must have
dental software exp. Dentrux
preferred. Knowledge of
chairside assisting helpful.
Part-Time, Farmington Hills.
Fax resume to: 248-932-7734

FRIENDLY & ENERGETIC
Dental hygienist needed. In a
modern state of the art dental
office in Novi. Part time. Fax
resume to: 248-675-0963

ORTHODONTIC ASSISTANT

Motivated team player for
state of the art orthodontic
practice in Farmington Hills.
Full time position with ben-
efits. Fun, friendly staff.
DrJusino@hotmail.com
Or fax to 248-476-3005

ORTHODONTIC ASSISTANT
Experienced, FT or PT.
Troy/Staring Heights area.
Ask for Sandy: 248-528-3308

Help Wanted-Medical 5060

**Acclaimed Home Care &
A&D Staffing**
RN Vent, Peds Infusion/Visits-
Hrly, LPN vent, Peds/Adult Hrly.
Charmayne: 248-352-0400

CLINICAL MANAGER
Full-time RN with dynamic
leadership abilities needed to
manage daily operations for
our progressive pain manage-
ment practice in Royal Oak.
The successful candidate will
have demonstrated supervisory
skills and a positive team
approach. No weekends or
holidays. Apply on-line at, or
send, fax or email a current
resume with salary history to:
Attn: Deanna TPCP, 844
South Washington, Suite 100,
Holland, MI 49423; fax to:
616-546-2678; or email:
EmploymentTCPC@
procraystems.com

**COLLECTION BILLER
SPECIALIST**
Busy orthopaedic office in
Garden City looking for an
exp. collector. Missys Tiger
computer system. Mon. thru
Fri., good benefits. Fax
resume to 734-422-6273.

Help Wanted-Medical 5060

**Dietary: ASSISTANT DIETARY
MANAGER**
For Beautiful Assisted Living
Community in Westland.
Fax Resume: 248-350-9686

**Farmington Hills
Drake House Seeking
DIRECT CARE WORKERS**
High-Tech Skills
LPN/RN's
Infusion & Wound Care exp.
For 1:1 Care
Full/Part-Time. Great Pay!
Anna at: (248) 352-0400

FRONT DESK POSITIONS
Full-time.
Experience needed.
West Bloomfield area.
Fax resume: (248) 855-1323

**Medical Receptionist &
Medical Assistant**
Full-time for suburban pedi-
atric office. Pediatric exp. pre-
ferred. Assistant also requires
phlebotomy & injection exp.
Fax resume: 248-788-2346

MEDICAL RECEPTIONIST
For small friendly office.
approx. 32 hrs per week, 12
Mile & Northwestern. Exp. &
knowledge of medical insur-
ance preferred. Fax resume to
248-352-9157

Medical Receptionist
Full-Time. Send resume to:
43422 West Oaks Drive, PMB
#167, Novi, MI 48377-3300

NEED IMMEDIATELY
RN's up to \$34 per hour.
Call Bonnie at Care One Inc.
734-480-0011

OPTICIAN
Do you have a passion for
helping people? Customer
service and sales ability must
be excellent. This is a unique
opportunity within the grow-
ing healthcare industry where
you can combine sale skills
with craftsmanship. Optical
knowledge and experience
helpful but willing to train the
right person with the correct
attitude and desire to learn.
If you are interested please
email your resume to:
suburbaneyecare@yahoo.com
or fax your resume to
(734) 525-0726 Attn: Kristin

**OR NURSES/
SURGICAL TECHS/
PRE & POST OP
NURSES**

An expanding multispecial-
ity surgery center, is offer-
ing great opportunities for the
experienced person
looking for a change.
Located in a newly con-
structed medical complex
in Novi. Competitive salary
and benefits.
Fax resume:
248-477-2218
Call: 248-477-2200

PHARMACY TECH
Experienced. Computer skills
required. Full time, days. Fax
resume to 248-540-0112

**CLASSIFIEDS
WORK!**
1-800-579-7355

Help Wanted-Medical 5060

**PHYSICAL THERAPY
ASSISTANT**
Full time. Orthopaedic physi-
cal therapy services, an out-
patient orthopaedic facility in
Westland. PTA exp. in manual
therapy a plus. Good benefits,
competitive salary, continuing
education. Fax resume to
Mike 734-422-1331

RN's & LPN's
A Premier Facility an Affiliate
of William Beaumont Hospital
Evergreen Health & Living
Center has full and part time
positions open on Days,
Afternoon, and Midnight shifts
for RNs and LPNs. If you are
a professional and dedicated
RN/LPN willing to work in the
State of the Art Facility that
offers a benefits package for
full time employment includ-
ing paid vacation, health, den-
tal, vision insurance and tuition
reimbursement. Please apply
in person at 18933 West 13
Mile Rd., Southfield, MI
48076 or call 248-203-9000
and ask for Galina Petlak or
Karrie Schmitt.

St. John Health Clinical
Pathology Laboratories

St. John Macomb-Oakland
Hospital, Macomb Center

**Medical
Technologist**

FT/PT/Contingent, Days/
Afternoons/Evenings/Nights.
Performs a variety of routine
tests and procedures, prepares
and standardizes reagents,
and performs routine quality
control. Bachelor of Science
Degree in Medical Technology
or equivalent with MT (ASCP)
certification or equivalent.
Basic knowledge and skills in
lab information systems is
desirable. To apply for any of
the above positions, visit us
at: www.stjohn.org/careers
Equal Opportunity Employer

SURGICAL SCHEDULER

For busy Royal Oak surgeon's
office. F/T. Email resumes:
jeanmarie856@yahoo.com

Help Wanted-Food/Beverage 5080

BARTENDER/ SERVER
Exp'd only. Apply at:
Pages Food & Spirits
23621 Farmington Rd.

BIKINI WAITSTAFF & COOK
FT/PT, days & nights. Apply in
person before 6pm, Plymouth
Road House, 34101 Plymouth
Rd., (734) 421-7744

**BOB EVANS NOW HIRING
ALL POSITIONS**
Benefits Apply within:
Mon. thru Thurs. 2-4
41190 Ford Rd., Canton.

**COOKS, SERVERS,
SNACK BAR**
Diamonds Bar & Grill
now hiring. Apply in person:
46555 Michigan Ave., Canton

Help Wanted-Food/Beverage 5080

**HEAD COOK
FULL TIME**
Ror retirement home in the
Northville/Livonia area. Must
be experienced and have good
people skills. Fax resume to
248-356-3509

**HOST STAFF,
BUSSERS**
Apply in person, Mon-Thurs:
KICKER'S
36071 Plymouth Rd., Livonia
No Phone Calls, Please.

HOSTESS & WAITSTAFF
Part or full time. Apply in per-
son & ask for Chris, Three
Brothers, 8825 General Dr.,
Plymouth. 734-416-3393

**INDEPENDENCE
VILLAGE
of Plymouth**
is now hiring!

We are currently seeking:
• Full-time hostess
• Part-time cook
• Experience preferred

Apply in person:
14707 Northville Rd.
Plymouth, MI 48170

SHORT ORDER COOK
Needed, Must have exp.
(734) 748-3685

Wait Staff & Bus Staff
PT/FT avail. Exp preferred for
Waitstaff Bus Staff: no exp,
starts at \$8/hr. Apply in per-
son, M-F, 10-4pm: Meadow-
brook Country Club, 40941 W.
Eight Mile Rd., Northville, MI
48167. Or email resume:
p.spencer5@my.chefs.edu

DINING ROOM MANAGER

• HOST/ HOSTESS
Unique positions for hospital-
ity professionals. Full benefit
pkg. incl. 401(k). Fax resume,
in confidence, 248-646-2892

220

220 Merrill St.
Downtown Birmingham

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YOUR
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classifieds!

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HAS A LOW

ROI

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Observer & Eccentric
HOMETOWNlife.com

Help Wanted-Sales 5120

A CAREER IN REAL ESTATE!
All Real Estate Companies Are NOT the Same
If you are serious about entering the business and profession of Real Estate Sales, you owe it to yourself to investigate why we are #1 in the market place and best suited to insure your success.
For confidential interview call
ALISSA HEAD @ (734) 459-6000
OR
LILLIAN SANDERSON @ (734) 382-6000
COLDWELL BANKER
PREFERRED REALTORS

AUTO SALESPERSON (M/F)
No prior sales experience necessary. We offer training, a fun environment and excellent income potential. Fax resume to Eugene at: 734-946-0094 or Call: 734-946-0011

Builder's Sales
Builder seeks a trained, motivated and organized individual, with strong computer skills for South Lyon site. Proven producer with strong track record in new construction. Email resume: kheder@msn.com

DOOR TO DOOR
Michigan's fastest growing window & siding company has immediate openings in the Canvassing Dept. Looking for clean-cut, responsible, motivated individuals. Base + commission. Full-time only. Only serious applicants apply. Dave Jones: (734) 271-5911 Brian Brooks (734) 748-9790

Help Wanted-Sales 5120

Earn ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS each day with tested, proven, easily duplicate "Three Step Success System" that is creating MILLIONAIRES! 24 hour info line 800-887-1897. Change your life. Call now.

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Attend A Free "Career Talk" Thurs at noon & 6pm

Real Estate One
217 W. Ann Arbor Rd
Plymouth
734-455-7000 ext. 105

Landscape Company
Needs:
Persons qualified in Sales/Estimating
Please send resume to: Cribb Nursery, Inc.
50145 Ford Rd.
Canton, MI 48187
(734) 495-1700
Fax (734) 495-1131

Sales Engineer

Novi Mfg. Rep for electronic components looking for SE to call on OEM accts in metro area. BSEE, good work ethic, and high integrity needed. Exc benefits with premier co. Send resume to careers@rathsborg.com

A word to the wise,
when looking for a great deal check the Observer & Eccentric Classifieds!

Help Wanted-Sales 5120

Stand By Generator Sales

Gen Power Products Inc., a leading Kohler generator distributor, in the mid-west has an opening for an aggressive outside sales person in the Wixom, MI office. Candidate must have good communication, computer & organizational skills. Benefits include competitive salary, commission & company vehicle. To qualify you must have knowledge of electrical/mechanical practices & sales experience.

Send resume to: gensales@genpower-products.com
Fax resume: 248-624-8940

TELEMARKETING
Auto dealership looking for F/T telemarketer to follow up and confirm appointments, etc. Must have exceptional phone skills. Salary, bonus, benefits.
Please call Ron Nakas, 248-302-7677

When seeking out the best deal check out the Observer & Eccentric Classifieds! 1-800-579-7355

Help Wanted-Part-Time 5200

AVON REP CAREER OPPORTUNITIES!
Needed now! Call Dist. Mgr. 866-838-AVON (2866)

LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE
Driver. Exp. or will train. Potential full time with benefits available. Call 734-679-0637

Job Opportunities 5310

Envelopes 1000-\$6000 GUARANTEED! Receive \$6 for every envelope stuffed with our sales material. Free 24 hour information. 1-888-834-0717 code 703

Americraft Cooking Systems seeking individuals/couples. Demonstrate/sell kitchen related items at Trade Shows/Expos. Must enjoy cooking, crowds, travel & sales. 1-352-483-0052 Apply: www.CookForLife.com/careers

ASSEMBLE MAGNETS & CRAFTS FROM HOME! Year-round work! Excellent pay! No experience! Top US company! Glue gun, painting, jewelry & more! TOLL FREE 1-866-844-5091, code 2

BODYGUARDS-COUNTER ASSAULT TEAMS Needed! USA AND OVERSEAS \$119-\$220K year. Bodyguards \$250-\$750 a day. 18 or older. 1-615-955-8950 or 1-615-942-6878 ext 773. www.CounterAssaultUSA.net

Job Opportunities 5310

DAILY \$334: Data entry positions available now. Internet access needed. Income is guaranteed. No experience required. Apply today. www.datahomeworker.com

Earn up to \$500 weekly assembling our angel pins in the comfort of your own home. No experience required. Call 1-813-944-2940 or visit www.angelpin.net

EARN UP TO \$550.00 WEEKLY Helping the Government PT, no experience needed. Call today!! 1-800-488-2921. Ask for Department 7-4

Envelopes 1000-\$7000 GUARANTEED! Receive \$7 for every envelope stuffed with our sales material. Free 24 hour information. 1-866-526-0078

CLASSIFIEDS WORK!
1-800-579-7355

Job Opportunities 5310

GOVERNMENT JOBS \$12-\$48/hr. Full benefits/Paid Training. Work available in areas like Homeland Security, Law Enforcement, Wildlife and more! 1-800-320-9353 x. 2002

Help wanted earn extra income, assembling CD cases from home. Start immediately, no experience necessary. 1-800-341-6573 ext 1395 www.easywork-greatpay.com

Movie Extras, Actors, Models! Make \$100-\$300/day. No experience required. All looks and types needed! Get paid and have fun! 1-800-340-8404 ext. #2956

MYSTERY SHOPPERS Get paid to shop! Retail/dining establishments need undercover clients to judge quality/customer service. Earn up to \$70 a day. Call 1-800-731-4929

Call to place your ad at 1-800-579-SELL (7355)

Job Opportunities 5310

NAT'L ORGANIZATION NOW HIRING Avg. pay \$20/hour or \$57K annually including Federal benefits and OT. Offered by USWA 1-866-483-5591

OFFICE CLEANERS OPPORTUNITIES. Start today. Part time/full time. Night-day week-end. Flex hrs. \$17.00 per call (1-900) 945-8900

Post Office Now Hiring. Avg pay \$20/hour or \$57K annually including Federal benefits and OT. Offered by Exam Services, not aff w/USPS who hires. 1-866-497-0989

POSTAL JOBS 2008 \$14 to \$59 hour + full federal benefits. No experience required. NOW HIRING! Green card OK. 1-800-913-4384 ext. 95. Closed Sundays.

SECRET SHOPPERS NEEDED for store evaluations. Get paid to shop. Local stores, restaurants & theaters. Training provided. Flexible hours. 1-800-585-9024 ext 6600.

Job Opportunities 5310

Sign on bonus \$500! Start today, seeking 5 guys & girls to join young-minded, rock-n-roll bluejean environment. Skateboards, X-Gen, Music lovers welcome. Call Diane 877-Paid Fun-Travel!

Position Wanted 5340

CAREGIVER Experienced, will stay overnight. Full or part time. 248-446-1729.

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Childcare Services-Licensed 5360

EXPERIENCED CHILD CARE PROVIDER Livonia area, CPR first aid certified, meals provided. 18 mos. & older. Full/part time. (734) 466-9772

Education/Instruction 5600

ATTEND COLLEGE ONLINE

from home. Medical, business, Paralegal, computers, criminal justice. Job placement assistance. Financial aid. Local job placement asst. financing available. Classes start now! 877-994-9904

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ACCESS LAWSUIT CASH NOW!!! As seen on TV. Injury lawsuit dragging? Need \$500-\$500,000+ within 48hrs? Low rates. APPLY NOW BY PHONE! 1-866-271-0463 www.cash-for-cases.com

CONSOLIDATE BILLS. Good/bad credit welcome. \$2500-\$200,000 no application fees. Save money now! SOLUTIONS FOR ALL YOUR FINANCIAL NEEDS. 1-866-951-2455 www.PaylessSolutions.com

FREE CASH GRANTS/PROGRAMS \$25,000+ 2008 NEVER REPAY! Personal, medical bills, business, school/house. Almost everyone qualified! Live operators. Avoid deadlines! Listings 1-800-785-9615 ext 239

GET LAWSUIT CASH NOW from Oasis Legal Finance. See us on TV, we're #1. Fastest cash advances on injury cases within 24hrs. APPLY NOW 1-866-353-9960

Business Opportunities 5740

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Business Opportunities 5740

ALL CASH CANDY ROUTE. Do you earn up to \$800/day? Your own local candy route. Includes 30 machines and Candy. All for \$9.95. Call 1-800-893-1185

ALL CASH VENDING! Incredible income opportunity! Candy, gumball, snack, soda...minimum \$4K-\$10K investment required. Excellent quality machines. We can save you \$\$\$\$ 800-962-9189

All cash! \$500-\$3500 DAILY No selling. No product. No explaining. No kidding!! Call now: 1-888-246-1617 www.freedominvitation.com/riches

Do you earn \$1K-\$5K/wk. Coke, Frito, Red Bull, i-Pod. GUARANTEED LOCATIONS! Call 888-200-3996

FINANCIAL SERVICES
Great opportunity-Earn extra income, work your own hours. Start part-time-We will train. jerryoffice30445@aol.com

FREE CASH GRANTS/PROGRAMS! 2008! \$700-\$800,000. Never repay! Personal bills, school, business/housing. AS SEEN ON T.V. Live operators. Listings 1-800-274-5086 ext 240.

Own a mattress sanitizing business. Earn \$200+hour. Cash in on the Great Movement. Dry chemical-free process removes dust-mites & harmful allergens. New to the USA. Key areas available. 1-888-999-9030 or www.hygienitech.com

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WHO DO YOU KNOW??? GERMANY and AUSTRIA will be open for commerce soon. Looking for MLM leaders/serious entrepreneurs to help promote the hottest product to hit the market in 40 years!! AS SEEN ON OPRAH!! Top producers average \$583,000/yr. Call 1-888-283-1398.

Work for yourself. Tired of living from paycheck to paycheck? No experience. \$400-\$700/week. 10 to 12 hrs PT building your business. 1-888-337-5211

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We offer a great work environment and excellent benefits.

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers is committed to diversity and is proud to be an equal opportunity employer.

Please submit resume and salary requirements, referencing job code ISR:

E-mail (preferred): employment@hometownlife.com

Mail: The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers
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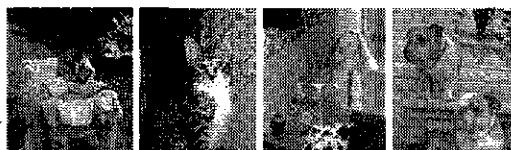
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INDUSTRY LOOKS PAST FEBRUARY SALES FOR SILVER LINING

Advertising Feature

CAReport



By Dale Buss

February was an awful sales month for the U.S. auto market. If the industry isn't in its own recession against the backdrop of general economic uncertainty, it's surely looking for the bottom. "Traffic was soft, business was tough all month," said Mark LaNeve, GM's vice president of North America vehicle sales, service and marketing. "Consumer confidence - or lack thereof - came into play."

But there were some bright spots. "This quarter is probably the trough of the downturn," said Mike DiGiovanni, GM's executive director of market analysis. Citing factors including the traditional uptick of selling in the spring, and the federal government's upcoming tax rebate, he predicted a "pickup."

Indeed, sales of subcompact cars soared 33%, and car sales overall dipped just 1%. So, last month's sales results did present some silver linings for automakers, their dealers and customers. Here are some:

General Motors: Many GM cars sold pretty well, and GM is actually in short supply of some of them. End-of-February car stocks were 27% of GM's overall inventories compared with 36% a year ago. Car sales were off only 1% in the month.

Recently launched cars led the GM highlight reel. The new Chevrolet Malibu notched February retail sales that were 62% higher than the old Malibu it replaced (though the high popularity of the previous version as a fleet vehicle held the new Malibu's overall sales increase to just 7%).

The new Cadillac CTS also burst out of the gate, with a 71% gain in retail sales in February compared with a year earlier, and a 68% overall increase. CTS's early momentum buoyed Cadillac overall. The division's sales are up 5% year-to-date.

Crossover vehicles fared relatively well, with GM's overall crossover sales up 8%. Sales of Chevy Equinox - a nifty CUV that has seemed forgotten recently - surged by 15% in February and increased by 28% year-to-date. The Buick Enclave, Saturn Outlook and GMC Acadia together accounted for more than 11,000 sales in February, up 94%. Acadia led the results, with sales up 39% in February, although it was the model's lowest sales month since August.



Ford Focus is enjoying a sales spurt in part because of Sync

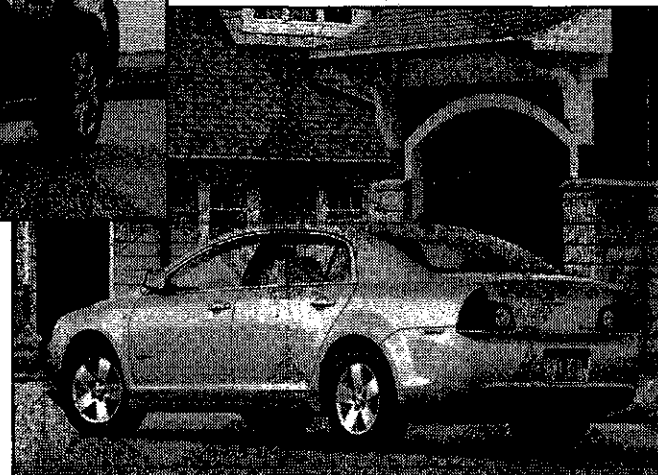
Ford: Like most others, Ford touted gains for small cars and crossovers, noting the 23% year-to-date sales jump for its restyled Focus compact car. Ford partly attributed Focus's gain to the availability of its sophisticated and inexpensive new Sync system that integrates control of numerous consumer electronic devices such as cell phones and iPods.

February sales of the Edge crossover jumped a significant 5% percent compared with last year, and the midsize Fusion also recorded a nice 13% gain. And the Ranger compact pickup - boosted by some effective regional incentives, said Jim Farley, Ford group vice president-marketing and communications - was the only Ford truck line (apart from Edge) to record a gain; Ranger boosted sales 27% percent in February and ran almost 24% ahead on a year-to-date basis.

Toyota: A couple of stalwart car models helped Toyota limit the damage. Camry, the nation's best-selling vehicle for several years running, held its own with a 4.3% increase (on a daily-sales-rate basis) in February, even better than its 3% year-to-date advantage. And sales of the tiny Yaris exploded, up 64% (on a daily-sales-rate basis) in February and 48% year-to-date. It sold only 1,135 fewer units than Prius, Toyota's hybrid darling.

The Tundra pickup keeps gaining ground a little more than a year after its introduction into the rough-and-tumble segment that always has been dominated by the Detroit Three. And unlike Nissan's counterpart Titan, Toyota's entry is carving out a berth for itself. Tundra sales rose 43% in February (on a daily-sales-rate basis) and 62% year-to-date - albeit with the help of very un-Toyota-like, huge incentives.

Chevrolet's new Malibu is sparking car sales for GM



Chrysler: Everybody's favorite whipping car, the Sebring, recorded a phenomenal 92% gain in February, to 11,056 units versus 5,744 the prior year. The usually maligned Chrysler Aspen enjoyed a hefty 31% gain in February and is up 25% for the year. And although the 1% gain for the new Town & Country was minimal, it was the industry's only minivan to improve sales for the month.

The Jeep Patriot and Dodge Caliber platform-mates also benefited from new pricing schemes: Patriot leapt to 5, 195 units, an astounding 707% increase - and not surprisingly, its best sales month ever. Caliber appears to be gaining momentum, with a 10% hike for February, and with 10,937 sales, the second consecutive month in which Caliber sales hit five figures.

Honda: The Fit subcompact could be the poster car for shifting consumer taste towards fuel-efficiency at an affordable price: February sales ratcheted up a hard-to-ignore 62%, and sales rose 88% for the year.

And Honda's reputation for fuel efficiency appears to be striking a chord, as the Honda division had its best February ever, selling 102,313 units.

Nissan: Nissan's completely redesigned Murano cruised right into the successful path of the first-generation model, selling 10,074 units in February for a handsome 19% gain. And like most subcompacts, the Versa was up in February, with a 7% gain, and is within sales-shouting distance of the larger and well-established Sentra compact.

The Infiniti premium division's new G Coupe is starting off the year with a bang, improving 80% in February and 90% year-to-date. And Infiniti's giant QX56 somehow eked out a 17% gain.

OE08890006



Automotive

Observer & Eccentric

HOMETOWNlife.com

Chevrolet (8400)

CAMARO SS 2002 35th Anniversary, auto, 10,746 actual one owner miles, never in snow or rain, "Rare find", \$23,900.

SATURN of PLYMOUTH (734) 453-7890

CAVALIER 2004 2 dr. coupe, alloy wheels, air, only \$5K, tan, \$7,395.

Bob Jeannotte Pontiac (734) 453-2500

CAVALIER 2005 4 dr., p/w, white, auto, \$8,495.

Bill Brown Ford (734) 522-0030

CAVALIER LS 2003 Sport 4 dr., chrome wheels, pwr pkg, rear spoiler, On Star, ABS, red, extra sharp, \$7,400.

SATURN of PLYMOUTH (734) 453-7890

COBALT LS 2007, only 1,500 miles, auto, air, CD, loaded.

JOHN ROGIN BUICK 734-525-0900

COBALTS 4 dr. Sedans, 4 cylinders, auto, great on gas. 3 to choose from. Priced to sell.

Lou LaRiche Chevrolet 888-372-9836

PT CRUISER 2006, black beauty, 4 cylinder, auto, only \$11,995.

Lou LaRiche Chevrolet 888-372-9836

SEBRING CONVERTIBLE 2000, Fully loaded, all options.

TYME AUTO 734-455-5566

Dodge (8440)

CHARGER RT 2006, 14K, navigation, \$23,998.

AVIS FORD (248) 355-7515

NEON SE 2005, low miles, \$6,998.

AVIS FORD (248) 355-7515

IMPALA 2007, GM Certified, as low as 2.9% APR, several to choose from.

Lou LaRiche Chevrolet 888-372-9836

MALIBU LS 2004, V-6, moonroof, CD, fully loaded, sharp!!

\$11,950

JOHN ROGIN BUICK 734-525-0900

MALIBU'S 05-04, 10 to choose, all are loaded, some moonroofs, save, from \$9,950.

JOHN ROGIN BUICK 734-525-0900

MONTE CARLO 2002 \$6,998.

AVIS FORD (248) 355-7515

Chevrolet (8400)

MONTE CARLO 2006, V-6, auto, low miles, hi ho silver. \$12,995.

Lou LaRiche Chevrolet 888-372-9836

Chrysler-Plymouth (8420)

LEBARON 1994 Convertible, 76K, \$3,995. Think Spring!

Bob Jeannotte Pontiac (734) 453-2500

SEBRING CONVERTIBLE 2000, Fully loaded, all options.

TYME AUTO 734-455-5566

Dodge (8440)

CHARGER RT 2006, 14K, navigation, \$23,998.

AVIS FORD (248) 355-7515

NEON SE 2005, low miles, \$6,998.

AVIS FORD (248) 355-7515

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\$11,950

JOHN ROGIN BUICK 734-525-0900

MALIBU'S 05-04, 10 to choose, all are loaded, some moonroofs, save, from \$9,950.

JOHN ROGIN BUICK 734-525-0900

MONTE CARLO 2002 \$6,998.

AVIS FORD (248) 355-7515

CONTOUR, 2000 Auto, air, Cute little car, great on gas, lots of room if you're not tall.

\$3,200

TYME AUTO 734-455-5566

ESCORT 2002 2 dr. Coupe, red, auto, air, 73K, \$5,995.

Bob Jeannotte Pontiac (734) 453-2500

ESCORT, 1993 4 door, Green 5 speed, 60K MI., rusted quarters, new clutch, convert-er. Runs great.

734-762-0956

FOCUS ZX4 2005, black, loaded, extra clean, 70K, moon, leather, 5 speed, \$8,000.

SATURN of PLYMOUTH (734) 453-7890

FOCUS ZX4 SES 2006 4 dr., 15K one owner, like brand new. \$11,840.

SATURN of PLYMOUTH (734) 453-7890

Ford (8400)

FOCUS SES 2007, 100 miles, 5 speed, \$12,498.

AVIS FORD (248) 355-7515

FOCUS ZTW 2004 Wagon, full power, very clean! \$9,495.

Bill Brown Ford (734) 522-0030

FOCUS ZX4 2005, black, loaded, extra clean, 70K, moon, leather, 5 speed, \$8,000.

SATURN of PLYMOUTH (734) 453-7890

FOCUS ZX4 SES 2006 4 dr., 15K one owner, like brand new. \$11,840.

SATURN of PLYMOUTH (734) 453-7890

FORD MUSTANG 2005 Black, 5 speed manual, 37,600 miles. \$12,500/best.

248-682-3356

FUSION SEL 2006, leather, moon, low miles, \$16,995.

Bill Brown Ford (734) 522-0030

FUSIONS 2007, 14 to choose, all colors, low miles, from \$14,999.

Bill Brown Ford (734) 522-0030

MUSTANG 2004 Convertible, dark blue, 22K, auto, \$13,495.

Bob Jeannotte Pontiac (734) 453-2500

MUSTANG 2006 Convertible, 10K, auto, \$19,998.

AVIS FORD (248) 355-7515

MUSTANG GT 1999 Convertible, 35th Anniversary, 15K, \$13,498.

AVIS FORD (248) 355-7515

MUSTANG GT 2001 Convertible, leather, 5 speed, extra clean, low miles, \$9,995.

Bill Brown Ford (734) 522-0030

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

Bill Brown Ford (734) 522-0030

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

Bill Brown Ford (734) 522-0030

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Observer & Eccentric

TAURUS 2007, 10 to choose, from \$11,995. All colors.

Bill Brown Ford (734) 522-0030

TAURUS SE, 2002 Fully loaded, all options.

TYME AUTO 734-455-5566

Ford (8400)

North Brothers

\$300 GIFT CARD ON ALL CERTIFIED VEHICLES

FOCUS SE 2007, great value, certified, \$11,980.

Stk #20153 SE

MUSTANG 2004, V-6, leather, loaded, 8K, like new, \$12,640. Stk# 873119A

HONDA CIVIC 2005 4 dr. LX, full power, \$11,750

FOCUS ZX3 2005, auto, air, \$10,860. Stk# 8C9017A

FOCUS 2006, great gas, \$11,500. 701332A

TAURUS SE 2006, certified, full power, \$10,450. Stk# P2040A

TAURUS SEL 2007, 6yr/100K warranty, \$10,900

North Brothers

734-524-1264

North Brothers

Value Lot

Great Selection of Budget Vehicles

FORD RANGER XLT 2003 Supercab, low miles, \$9,650

PONTIAC G5 2007, like new, yellow, \$13,740.

8C8250A

NAVIGATOR DVD 2003 Has it all! \$21,740. P20344

FOCUS SE 2003 4 dr., auto, air, \$7,950. Stk P20409

LINCOLN LS 2004, loaded, \$13,900

TAURUS SE 2005 Certified, nice! \$9990. Stk#P20325

DODGE STRATUS 2005, auto, air, great car, \$10,840. Stk# P20402

North Brothers

734-524-1318

TAURUS 2007, 10 to choose, from \$11,995. All colors.

Bill Brown Ford (734) 522-0030

TAURUS SE, 2002 Fully loaded, all options.

TYME AUTO 734-455-5566

Call to place your ad at 1-800-579-SELL (7355)

Ford (8400)

TAURUS SES 2000, fully loaded, \$4,995.

Bill Brown Ford (734) 522-0030

TAURUS, 2005 Auto, air, extra clean.

\$6,200

TYME AUTO 734-455-5566

THUNDERBIRD 2005 Hardtop, 11K, \$26,998.

AVIS FORD (248) 355-7515

GMC (8510)



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Brighton 248-437-3800

Stately Cap Cod! This open style home offers a 1st floor spacious master suite w/private deck and walk-in closets. Great room with fireplace and vaulted ceiling. Much more!

(28030905) \$334,900



Canton 734-455-7000

OUTSTANDING KITCHEN! 4BR Cape. Granite counters w/travertine backsplash in huge kitchen/hearth rm—made for entertaining! 10' ceilings; extensive hardwood; daylight bsmt. 3 car gar.

(27126507) \$375,000



Canton 734-455-7000

CUL-DE-SAC LOCATION! Over 2900 sq. ft. w/3.5 baths. Walk to Summit, parks & golf. Prof. fin LL, mstr ste w/fashion BA, Crown mldgs, hrdwd flrs, french doors. It's all here for you!

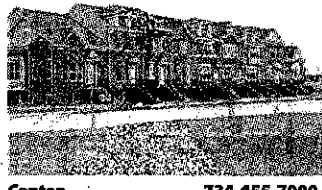
(28003754) \$289,000



Canton 248-348-6430

Instantly Appealing w/\$40k in Brand New upgrades! Kitchen has granite island w/built in range, 2 ceramic BAs w/jacuzzi, new 2 tiered deck, fin drywalled bsmt, HDW flrs, new win, crown molding & more!

(28027914) \$200,000



Canton 734-455-7000

UPTOWN CANTON VILLAGE! 46 upscale brownstone condo w/5 flr plans, 2-3 bedrms, 2-car garage, fireplace, balcony, and geo/thermal heating & cooling. Call for a reservation!

(27054660) \$193,900



Canton 248-348-6430

Wonderful Condo Ready to Move Right In! Elec FP in LR. Contemp KIT w/pickled oak cab and lam wood flrs. BRs have WIC. Great bsmt for ent, finishing, storing. Att'd garage. Close to Summit and x-ways.

(27219336) \$146,900



Canton 734-455-7000

ONE OF A KIND! Great buy on this 2BR, 1.5BA, Canton Condo w/bsmt. Needs work but has great potential. Two-story townhouse style, end unit.

(27205334) \$99,500



Canton Twp 734-455-7000

OUTSTANDING CUSTOM CAPE! Elegant 5BR on almost 1/2 acre, backs to woods. 2-way FP from Great Room nook. Dual staircase. 1st flr master w/jacuzzi. Beautifully appointed!

(28007580) \$395,000



Canton Twp 734-455-7000

AWESOME LOCATION! 3BR, 2.5BA, huge mstr ste, skylites and loft overlooking FR w/beautiful oak FP. Huge updated kitchen w/double pantry opens to FR w/doorwall to priv yd. Must See.

(28033336) \$244,900



Commerce 248-684-1065

Home w/ 254' of frontage-Lake Sherwood. Soaring GR off entry foyer. FR w/ 2 fps open to patios. New cedar roof. 2 furns & A/C units. Auto nat gas backup power.

(27092536) \$599,000



Commerce 248-684-1065

Immaculate builder's home on 1.67 acres. Wood windows/trim, GR w/ cath. ceiling, FP in den, FR w/ daylight windows, MBR w/ WIC. Great view from covered patio.

(28011365) \$290,000



Commerce 248-684-1065

Well maintained ranch on lg lot features open FR w/ fp & doorwall to priv. deck & pond. 3 bd, 1.5 ba & master w/ separate entry and ba.

(27211654) \$207,900



Dearborn 734-591-9200

An Absolute Must See! This Immaculate Spacious Tudor Style Home Has Hrdwd Flrs T-o, Stainglass Drs, Newer Kit, Appls, Newer Roof, Newer A/C, 2nd Flr Blncy, 2.5 Car Gar, Home Wrmry.

(28032084) \$189,900



Dearborn Heights 734-591-9200

3 bedroom brick ranch in Crestwood Schools. Updates throughout. New kit. cabinets & countertops, hardwood flrs, jacuzzi in fl. rm off mast. bdrm. Great buy!

(28009073) \$119,900



Farmington 248-348-6430

In the Heart of Downtown Farmington! Neat bungalow w/updates that incl: HWH, gutters, roof to boards '06, electrical, garage door, newer windows, 2 car detached garage, double lot.

(28026062) \$169,900



Farmington Hills 248-851-1900

DESIRABLE COPPER CREEK 5 BR, FINISHED LL 5 BR, 3.5 bath home features granite kitchen, finished lower level w/BR & bath. Great rm w/marble FP. 1st flr master w/glam bath. Private wooded lot. Also for lease.

(28003219) \$425,000



Farmington Hills 248-851-1900

2521 SF EXPANDED & REMODELED BRICK RANCH Very open floor plan. Spacious kitchen w/doorwall to large deck. Master suite w/WIC. Finished basement, 1st floor laundry. Walled Lake schools.

(28034260) \$235,000



Farmington Hills 248-851-1900

SOFT CONTEMPORARY Open floor plan & soaring ceilings. Spacious eat-in kitchen w/doorwall to large deck. Master suite w/WIC. Finished basement, 1st floor laundry. Walled Lake schools.

(27162613) \$219,900



Fenton 248-684-1065

Custom home on 10 acres! Gourmet kit, granite T/O, 1st flr mstr, dbl-sided stone FP. Fin. LL w/ bar, Den/exercise RM, Tile/stone flrs, Deck/patio. Finished basement, 1st floor laundry. Walled Lake schools.

(28010834) \$530,000



Hamburg 248-437-3800

Great First Time Home Buyer! Three bedroom family home with in med. occupancy. Dedicated access on All Sports Lake and Huron River Access. Double lot allows plenty of room for future growth.

(27217491) \$165,000



Highland 248-684-1065

Custom built ldrft home; 1.7 acres. Maple cabs & granite t/o 2 kits & baths. 2 story GR w/ gas fp. 1st flr mstr w/ ba & 2 WICs. Fin W/O; prof landscaping.

(28004735) \$599,900



Highland 248-684-1065

Lots of space for work and play. Remod in 2001. Huge 54x37' barn. Andersen windows, River rock FP. 1990s oak mantle FP; update kit, new cabs, wood flrs.

(28012840) \$229,000



Highland 248-684-1065

Pristine Dunham Lake privileges. Immaculate ranch boasts Andersen windows, california closets, oak kitchen, wired for surround sound. Inground pool w/ solar heat.

(27160580) \$200,000



Livonia 248-851-1900

MAGNIFICENT 4 BR BRICK & STONE RANCH. Gorgeous granite kitchen w/decorative island. Granite, marble mosaic in baths. Master bath w/shower & jacuzzi. Unbelievable landscape w/waterfalls, fountains, bridges.

(28023155) \$374,900



Livonia 734-591-9200

Search no more this is it! 3 bdrm brick ranch. Open concept from living rm to kit and fam rm. New kitchen cabinets and counter with a large dining area. Exceptionally large family room.

(27194937) \$224,500



Livonia 734-591-9200

Act Fast Popular 5 & Newburgh 3 br brick ranch w/ all the extras & updated from top to bottom. 2 car att garage, prof fin bsmt, family rm, sun rm, fenced yd, and more!

(28006991) \$189,900



Livonia 248-348-6430

Short Sale Subject to 3rd Party Review 4 bedroom brick ranch. Finished basement, all appliances stay. 1 car detached garage. Livonia schools. Bring all offers!

(27203574) \$109,000



Milford 248-684-1065

Impressive Custom-Blt 4 Bd/3.3 Bath Home on 3+ Acres w/ 3 Car Garage Plus Additional 4.6 Car Garage w/Water & Elec. 2-way staircase; 1st Flr Master Ste. Fin LL.

(28011519) \$499,900



Milford 248-684-1065

Custom cedar/stone paradise tucked among pine trees on 3+ acres w/ up-north feel. Gourmet kit w/ stone cntl Isl. opens to GR. Wrap-around cedar deck. Fin W/O.

(28015745) \$464,900



Milford 248-684-1065

On 2.5 wooded acres. Hrdwd flrs. Designer Thermanville hickory, granite & slate kit. 22x16 cedar deck. Covered front porch. New SS appls. 27x20 mstr. Lg WIC. W/O.

(28002971) \$349,800



Northville 248-348-6430

Reduced \$30K! Elegant custom home w/ gourmet kitchen, fam rm w/2 story fplc, master w/huge bonus closet, lower level w/home theater area, fplc, 5th bdrm, full bath.

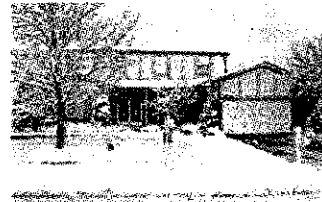
(27185765) \$569,900



Northville 248-684-1065

Beautiful Historical Home in Charming Northville. 4 Bdrms, 2.5 Baths, Hrdwd Flrs & Crown Moulding T/O; Cherry Kit w/Tin Cell; Master Ste; Lib; 2-Car Gar.

(28011442) \$460,000



Northville 248-348-6430

THIS IS A Winner! Open, Bright & Neutral Updates: Paint, Kit, Roof, Hwh, Sump. Ceramic Foyer, Kit, Pwdtr Rm, Fnsd LL, Walk 2 Schools, Common Areas w/playground & Tennis. Shopping & X-way.

(27190372) \$309,000



Northville 248-348-6430

Private Entry Condo w/Garage and 2BR, 2BA, 1 yr lease with custom KIT immediate occup. Pool, exercise rm & club house. Close to X-ways, schools, shopping & parks. No pets/smoking. Owner agent.

(28027561) \$1,100



Northville 248-348-6430

Sharp Condo For Sale or Lease! Ground unit, 2 BR, 2 full BAs. Master has BA & WIC. Newer furnace, KIT FL & sink, windows! Enclosed frnt porch. Neutral. Assoc has pool Northville schools.

(27220918) \$1,100



Novi 248-851-1900

POPULAR NEIGHBORHOOD, WONDERFUL AMENITIES Neighborhood elementary school, parks, playgrounds, convenience! Updates include windw treatments, paint, dbl oven, Indcpg, furnace, dishwasher, more! Enclosed

(27208461) \$239,000



Plymouth 248-348-6430

Desirable Plymouth Location Quality ranch home w/ coved ceilings, LR w/natural FP kit & DR, 3 BR w/big closets. Fin bsmt w/tile. Fenced yard, det 2 car gar; new carpet, fresh paint.

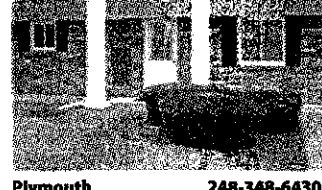
(27152693) \$175,000



Plymouth 734-591-9200

Looking to steal a house? Plymouth best buy-3 br brick ranch w/ fin bsmt, 2 car garage, sep liv and fam rms, updated roof, windows, elect & more! A must see!

(28009773) \$139,900



Plymouth 248-348-6430

2 Bedroom Ground Level Condo in Plymouth Short run or bike ride to EH Park! Updates incl. HDWD laminate fl in KIT, living RM, dining area & entry, bathroom fixtures, carpet & paint. Patio & storage rm.

(28019197) \$99,900



Plymouth 248-348-6430

Mint Condition Ranch unit, 1 bedroom, 1 bath, private basement includes storage & laundry area. Walking distance to grocery & pharmacy stores. Immediate occupancy.

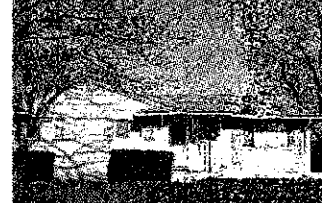
(27225528) \$64,900



Rochester 734-284-5400

SPACIOUS RANCH w/ LOTS OF POTENTIAL Nice family rm w natural fireplace, oak kitchen cabinetry, glass blk windows. Hardwood flrs, custom kit w/ s/s appliances, 2 pantries, formal DR w/ french drs.

(27187471) \$136,900



Rochester 734-284-5400

GOOD VALUE 4 THE MONEY is this 3 BD brick ranch w/ a full partially fin basement, updated kit w/snack bar, formal dining rm, newer vinyl windows, 1 1/2 baths and a 2 1/2 car garage.

(28024703) \$119,900



Rochester 248-348-6430

3 Bed Ranch Great Price Great location! Close to Van Buren Twp. New dimensional roof, win, furnace, Hwh, copper plumb, hwd floors, ceramic bath. Hurry!

(27154871) \$89,000



Rochester 248-348-6430

Fantastic Home with Updates! Wonderful quad, many updates! KIT has island & lots of cabinets w/ plenty of counter space! Newer siding/gutters, furnace 06. Fresh paint t/o. FR w/gas brick FP.

(27211898) \$250,000



Rochester 248-348-6430

Gorgeous Log Home on 11 Acres! Custom built white cedar log home. Sunroom with stone exterior, winding 3 story staircase. Finished walkout lower level, custom landscaping, horse barn and more

(27195630) \$625,000



South Lyon 248-437-3800

Reduced!! Wide open floor plan with 3 car garage and daylight basement. Home is drywalled and you choose the rest. Make an offer!

(27212000) \$295,000



South Lyon 248-437-3800

STUNNING!! This home has a very functional floor plan, finished basement, enormous room sizes and feels like it was just built. Don't let this one get by.

(27028337) \$209,900



South Lyon 248-437-3800

Sharp colonial in Eagle Heights! Home offers a large kitchen, spacious great room with soaring ceilings, finished sun room with skylights, large deck, sidewalks and more.

(27193962) \$194,900



South Lyon 248-437-3800

Luxury Condos New Construction! 2 BR, 2 BA ranches starting at \$174,900! 2 BR, 2 1/2 BA cape cods starting at \$184,000. Std features include hickory cabs w/42" uppers, granite cnttps, much more

(26015094) \$174,900



South Lyon 248-437-3800

Lots of Square Footage Updated 2 story home with nice sized yard features great room w/bay window, Kitchen has snack bar, large bedroom on entry level. Two large upstairs bedrooms!

(28030724) \$154,900



South Lyon 248-437-3800

Show spurs thoughts



Rainbow roses will be arranged by J Schwanke during seminars at the Home & Garden Show.

of flowers and gardens

MICHIGAN HOME & GARDEN SHOW

When: March 7-9
Where: Ford Field
Hours: Noon to 9 p.m. Friday; 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday; and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday.
Admission: \$9; \$4 for children 6-14; children 5 and under admitted free.
More details: Saturday, March 8 is Family Day where children 6-14 are admitted free from 10 a.m. to noon and special activities are available all day.
For information: visit www.FordFieldHomeShow.com or call (800) 328-6550.

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK STAFF WRITER

Think flowers. Think landscaping. Think color.

Homeowners can get ideas for the spring, summer and beyond at the Michigan Home & Garden Show, March 7-9 at Ford Field.

Gardeners can learn about plant care and garden maintenance at more than 20 free educational garden specific programs by Janet Macunovich, Nancy Szerlag, Jeff Ball and the staff of PracticalGardening.com. J Schwanke will demonstrate imaginative and creative flower designs for home and entertaining using rainbow roses.

Over 15 landscaped flowering garden displays, perfect for any home, will feature the use of lighting, brick walkways, retaining walls and patios. Water features will be in abundance, from reflecting ponds and fountains to waterfalls.

OUTDOOR ROOMS UNFOLD

Michael Southgate, senior landscape designer with English Gardens, expects homeowners will look at creating patio spaces as "outdoor rooms" in time for the warm



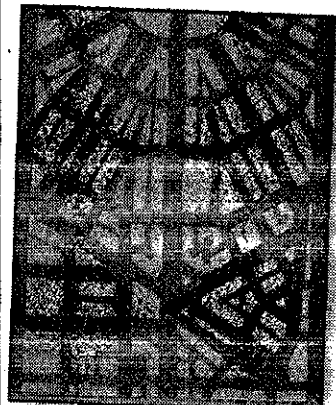
Water features will be in abundance at the Home & Garden Show, from reflecting ponds and fountains to waterfalls.

weather months, using shows like the Home & Garden Show as a reference point.

"When it comes to furniture, you see more lounges, benches, chaise lounges and small

Please see **GARDENS, D3**

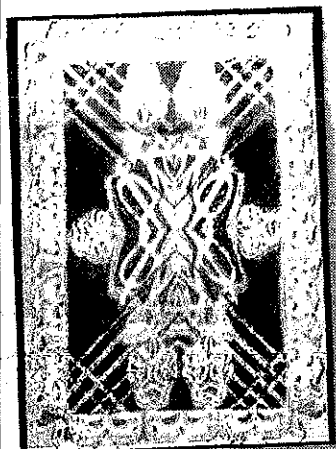
Accents



CCS Senior Lauren Moyer's first place rug design.

HAGOPIAN ANNOUNCES RUG CONTEST WINNERS

Hagopian World of Rugs recently staged its 19th annual Student Rug Design Competition with Detroit's College for Creative Studies. The competition provides an opportunity for students to earn scholarship money and see their work translated into a finished textile. This year's judges were John Wohl, TVI Designs, Birmingham; Shirley



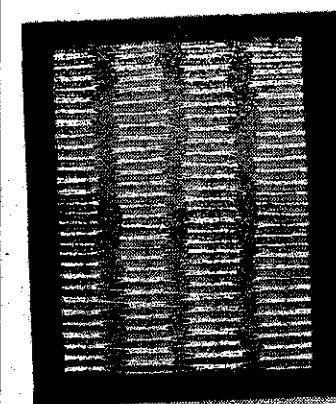
Second place in the Hagopian rug contest went to Virginia Peckenpaugh for this design.

Maddalena Edson, Maddalena Design, Birmingham; John Amato, Interior Design, Huntington Woods; Patti Kommel, Homework Interiors, Birmingham; Suzanne Hagopian, Exec. V.P., Hagopian World of Rugs; and Edgar Hagopian, Chairman, Hagopian Family of Companies.



CCS Senior Anh (Nicole) Phan's third place rug design.

Senior Lauren Moyer took both first place and honorable mention with her designs inspired respectively by the City of Detroit and autumn colors. Second place was awarded to Freshman Virginia Peckenpaugh for her design inspired by Persian rugs. Third place was awarded to Senior Anh (Nicole) Phan for her design called "Trail of Earth."



Moyer took honorable mention for this design as well.

Luciano Del Signore had a big truck built to help with his catering business out of Bacco Ristorante in Southfield. The truck features commercial refrigeration and induction burners.



Going mobile

Restaurateur's new truck caters to customers

Luciano Del Signore thought his Bacco Ristorante was too small for catering, so he expanded it last fall to include Bacco Saletta, a private dining facility.

Still, that wasn't enough.

Del Signore wanted more flexibility and a personal touch for himself, while catering meals at customers' homes.

So he decided to build a catering truck. A big catering truck.

He ordered a truck from Mercedes Benz, then had ABS Refrigeration in Detroit work on it after he developed a design. "It took six months to build it," Del Signore said.

Today Del Signore has a mobile on-site catering service, a "kitchen on wheels" in his new 20-foot-long Mercedes Benz truck, complete with work tables, assembly space, a commercially refrigerated section and climate-controlled areas.

Del Signore said about 48 square feet of area is dedicated to refrigeration. Another 8 by 6 foot area devoted to kitchen operations includes four double induction burners, warming units and countertop space.

The burners allow for sauce preparation, critical to any Italian pasta dish. The truck can cater

any size soiree, from a dinner party of 12 at a home, to 200-300 in a larger facility.

Black is the color symbolic of Bacco, so the truck was ordered in black. Bacco means the god of wine, Del Signore said.

"With the catering we were doing, you need different ingredients," Del Signore said. "In July and August, you can't just ice (food) down. That refrigeration unit will allow foods to arrive in perfect condition. We get the product in perfect condition and we want it to arrive at the home in perfect condition. That's because of the commercial refrigeration."

"We also do retail wine sales. If it has to be delivered at 55 degrees, (the truck) does it."

Bacco catering is able to accommodate smaller, intimate meals to large parties of up to 500 people.

"We do everything from casual barbecues to elaborate, large-scale parties complete with flowers and decorations. We can prepare signature eight-course Italian dinners with matching wines," Del Signore said.

Bacco Ristorante is located at 29410 Northwestern Hwy., Southfield. For information, call (248) 356-6600.

-Ken Abramczyk



This customized Mercedes Benz truck is a 'kitchen on wheels' for Bacco Ristorante in Southfield. The truck features commercial refrigeration and induction burners.

HOME CALENDAR

Art Van Seminars

Steve Piersall and Michael Kirby of Huntington House will share how to update a single room or entire house with the latest colors, styles and fabrics. 6 p.m. March 11 at the Warren store; and 6 p.m. March 12 in Royal Oak. Amelia Ellenstein, Art Van Furniture's Director of Visual Merchandising, will share trend information and design solutions for the season at 6 p.m. March 13 at the Novi store; and 6 p.m. March 27 in Westland. Refreshments will be served, and The Kids Castle will offer a free, supervised play area. Call (888) 619-2199 for a free reservation or visit www.artvan.com.

Cranbrook Seeks Docents

Historic Cranbrook House seeks docents to conduct tours of the 1908 home. Choose eight-week training sessions Tuesday evenings or Wednesday mornings beginning March 4. Separate sessions will be held for Garden docents only. The tour season runs from May through October. Cranbrook House and Gardens Auxiliary also welcomes vol-



Amelia Ellenstein

unteers for estate gardening, greenhouse management, the Wildflower Rescue Program and Gatehouse admissions center. Call (248) 645-3149.

GARDEN CALENDAR

If you have an item for the garden calendar, please submit it at least two weeks prior to the event to Wendy Von Buskirk at wvonn@hometownlife.com.

Vendors Sought

Vendors who sell fruits, vegetables, flowers, plants, herbs, organic produce, honey, maple syrup, candles, soaps and other natural products are being sought for this year's Southfield Farmers' Market, open 7 a.m.-4 p.m. Thursdays June 5-late October outside the Millennium Centre, 15600 J.L. Hudson Drive. Call (248) 796-5196 to apply.

Floral Photography

Paul Colombo will present a program on floral photography at The Metropolitan Rose Society's next meeting, 7:15 p.m. March 7 at the Royal Oak Senior/Community Center, 3500 Marais. Free. (248) 689-9529.

Garden Design Course

Waterford School District Continuing Education will offer the 3-week course Garden Design Made Simple, 7-9 p.m. March 6, 13 & 20 at Waterford Kettering High School. Layer your garden as if you were accessorizing your home to design a personalized extension of your living space. \$125, (248) 682-1088, www.waterford.k12.mi.us.

Passion for Spring

Spring will be in full bloom through March 31 in the Conservatory at Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Road, Ann Arbor. In the lobby, visitors can view displays created by Runciman Landscapes and receive a coupon for 10 free tulip bulbs from Downtown Home & Garden. Open Daily, except Mondays, 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m., \$3 suggested admission, free for MBGNA members.

Tropical Breezes

Tropical Breezes is the theme for the annual Flower Show Competition to be held within the Michigan Home and Garden Show at Ford Field in Detroit March 7-9. The Livonia Garden Club is one of 43 Michigan garden clubs participating in the competition. Admission to the show is \$9, adults; \$4 children 6-14; free, 5 and under, 1-800-328-6550, www.FordFieldHomeShow.com.

Cranbrook Greenhouse Sale

Cranbrook Greenhouse, 380 Lone Pine Road, Bloomfield Hills, will host a sale

of indoor plants 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, March 8. Find begonias, peace lilies, sanseveria, Boston ferns, orchids, cacti, succulents and more. Sales help support the facility. (248) 645-3149, www.cranbrook.edu/homegardens.

Monster Plants

The Michigan Cactus & Succulent Society will host Monsters, Crests and other Bizarre & Ugly Plants! at 1:30 p.m. March 9 in the Commons Room of the Unitarian Universalist Church, 38651 Woodward Ave., Birmingham. Free. (248) 790-9089.

Hostas 101

The Royal Oak Garden Club will present Hostas 101 at 7 p.m. March 10 at the Royal Oak Public Library. A Royal Oak gardener who has turned his backyard into a successful nursery business will explain how to propagate and cultivate hostas. Free. (313) 861-6579.

Orchid Show

The Michigan Orchid Society will host its 54th Annual Palm Sunday Show March 15-16. Formerly at Laurel Park Place in Livonia, the show will move to the MSU Management Education Center, 811 W. Square Lake Road, Troy. Programs for beginner, intermediate and casual growers of orchids; 30 vendors selling orchids, supplies and related items. Free. Hours, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday and 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday. Visit www.miorchids.com.

Designing with Plants

The St. Clair County Master Gardener Association will present Designing with Great Plants, 9 a.m. March 15 at Cornerstone Church, 4025 North Road, Clyde (just outside Port Huron). Noted author and lecturer Tracy DiSabato-Aust, will sign copies of her books, and three instructors from the Michigan School of Gardening will also speak. Tickets, \$70 by March 1, \$80 after March 1 and at the door, include lunch and Garden Bazaar. (810) 367-6667.

Winter Moths

The Southeast Michigan Butterfly Association will present Winter Moths at 7 p.m., March 19, at Nankin Mills Interpretive Center, 33175 Ann Arbor Trail, Westland, \$3. A field trip to Cherry Hill Preserve to look for moths will follow. Dress for the weather. (734) 326-0578, www.sembutterfly.org.

Don't be confused about digital TV conversion

Question: I've heard that Congress plans to pull the plug on analog television broadcasts starting in February, 2009. Will I have to buy a new TV?

Answer: This subject confuses the heck out of most people, but there's good news: It probably won't affect you in the slightest. If you're a cable or satellite subscriber, you're all set: The signal coming into your TV is already in a digital format.



Tech Savvy

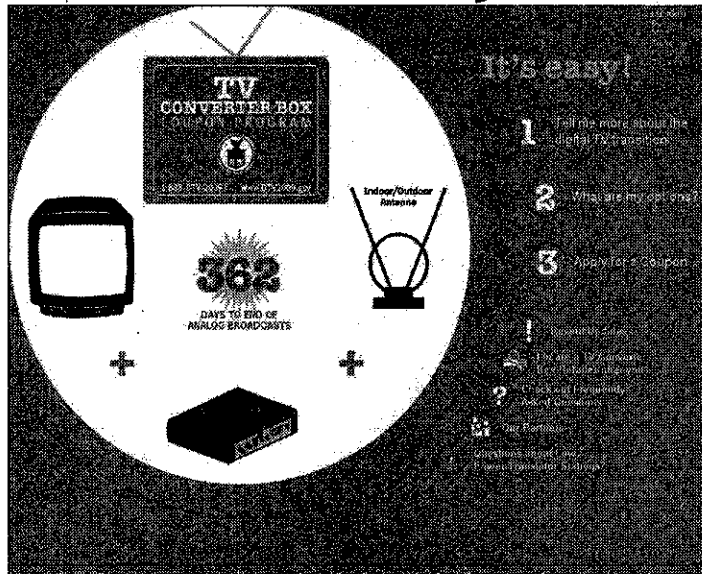
Rick Broida

(The exception is if you have basic cable without a set-top box, but even then you should be fine.)

If you have an HDTV and use an antenna to receive digital channels, you're all set: Your TV already has the necessary digital tuner.

However, if you have an older TV and use an antenna to receive programming, you'll need to take action. Two choices: buy a special digital tuner box or buy a new TV (one that has the tuner built in).

If you decide to go the box route, you can get a \$40 coupon from our very own government, enough to cover some or all of the cost. The boxes run between \$40-70; CircuitCity sells one for \$60, while Wal-Mart gets you out the door for around \$50.



The government-sponsored TV Converter Box Coupon Program Web site (dtv2009.org) lets you apply for a \$40 digital-tuner coupon and answers questions about the upcoming digital-TV switch.

Need two boxes? You can apply for up to two coupons. Learn more at the TV Converter Box Coupon Program Web site (dtv2009.gov).

WIRELESS PRINTING

Question: I'm sick of all the wires on my desk. How can I eliminate some?

Answer: If you're in the market for a new printer, check out the Brother HL-2170w (brother-usa.com). This monochrome laser printer connects to your Wi-Fi network for wireless printing, meaning you can stick it just about anywhere: a corner, a closet, or even another room. Though extremely compact,

it's a very quick printer, capable of spitting out pages at a rate of 23 per minute. It's compatible with Windows and Mac systems and has a list price of \$149.99 — though it's currently on sale at Best Buy for \$99.99. I've been really pleased with my demo unit.

Want to print in color? Try the Lexmark Z1480 (lexmark.com), a wireless inkjet. It retails for around \$70, though you can probably find a better deal online.

COMPUTER REPAIRS

Question: My computer needs repairs.

How can I find a local shop

that does good work?

Answer: Head to Google Maps (maps.google.com), click Find Businesses, and type "computer repair" in the first field and your ZIP code in the second.

You should see a number of listings; click the "more info" link next to any of them for contact information, directions, and so on.

Now it's time to pick up the phone and call around. As with auto repair, you should insist on a written estimate and complete description of the work that needs to be done.

If possible, make sure you have a current backup of your data before delivering your PC to a repair shop. And be prepared for a bit of sticker shock: You'll probably pay a minimum of \$50 for basic repairs and upwards of several hundred dollars for more extensive work.

Thanks to reader Sharon McGladdery of Farmington Hills for this question.

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

Viewpoints change with time on front load washers

I received e-mail from Joel, which starts out, "We were told by a friend that you would not recommend front load washing machines." And so, because of this note from someone who may not read this column or listen to my weekend radio talk show I go back to my original thinking on front load washers, which I have been repeating for the past 10 years.



Appliance Doctor

Joe Gagnon

Neptune front loader in our very own basement laundry room. My darling Valorie seems to get along with it with only the occasional comment on its performance.

So after a year and half of

twice a week operation it hasn't suffered any type of breakdown. It still looks brand-new and all the fancy lights still shine like a spaceship. Suits Val just fine.

Some 10 years ago I wrote my first column on this washer subject and gave readers the viewpoint of an old appliance repairman. Let me reiterate some of those thoughts. The front loader was jammed onto the consumer by an industry working with our government energy department that wanted to reduce water consumption and save on energy costs. This washer certainly does all of that.

With that said, I can still not believe that this front loader can wash clothes as well as a top loader. How can you wash your dirty hands in a teacup of water, it just won't do the job. But then again, as I argue within my own mind, the clothes washed may not be dirty enough to argue the point. This train of thought has not done much in changing the habits

of American consumers. Front load washers have been sold by the millions.

The most irritating part of washer sales today is the huge increase in price. It's no problem for those who can afford it, but what about the average guy who has just gone through a severe pay cut. A young couple just getting started in life may very well not be in the market for a front load washer and so I continue with my negative impulses. Buy a top loader for a lot less money!

The top loader is going to wash your clothes and in my way of thinking, do a better job. It may last as long or longer than a fancy front loader and cost a lot less for repairs when that time may surely come.

But, if money is no object and you are concerned about water and energy consumption, go for the front loader.

Now for the last issue on front loaders that it seems everyone across America knows about — the mold. It was a big prob-

lem for millions of homeowners when the first models were made back around 10 years ago.

This created a class action lawsuit, which more or less settled the issue. The problem no longer exists, even though I still hear complaints about odors every once in a while. Whirlpool sells a tablet to take care of odors or you can order a product on the Internet from smellywasher.com.

I trust that you can now shop for a washer and whatever you purchase, front or top, I wish you long life and dependability. Stay tuned.

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

Travel deals difficult during March Madness

Some people eat as an escape, others shop, me ... I travel. But with the economy being weak my spending habits have tightened.

I haven't traveled since a November trip to London (and it was too cold, so that doesn't count, I've justified), so I'm scouring for deals for a March getaway.



Travels with Lana

Lana Mini

My first choice was a quick trip to Vegas. The only flight under \$400 that I found was a 7 a.m. departure with a long layover in Phoenix that would've resulted in an 11-hour flight. Forget it.

For \$989, on American Airlines I found a seven-hour flight to Punta Cana, Dominican Republic and that includes seven days hotel, food, drinks and non-motorized water sports at the Tropical Alisios Bavaro Club All-Inclusive. This was a March 11 through March 18 trip.

I've stayed at the Bavaro Club hotels in Punta Cana with no complaints. Food is authentic, local musicians entertained us at night and the beaches are some of the best in the world. Punta Cana's waters are emerald green and calm. The sands are white and soft and this eastern tip of Dominican Republic, where coconut groves are abundant, is known for its constant, soft breeze.

Find Dominican Republic deals on Travelocity.com. Be willing to leave mid-week for lower rates.

In Punta Cana, beaches are the highlights. (Golfers like it too, but I never set foot on a course). As on all islands, tours are available to hike the forests, swim the rivers and see historical sites. But, if you want more action, and still a great beach, try the other side of the island at Juan Dolio beach just outside Santo Domingo. I found a seven-day trip leaving on March 25 that included it all: air, hotel, transfers, all meals, all drinks and snorkeling (\$1,206 through Expedia.com). The hotel is Barcelo Talanquera Beach Resort All-Inclusive. It's a clean, efficient resort. You can relax all day by the ocean and then take a 40-minute cab ride into the city for shopping, jumping nightclubs with live music and merengue, and a great art scene.

Or how about this — A week's vacation in the hap-

piest country in the world: Denmark.

Studies repeatedly reveal the people of Denmark are the happiest on Earth.

A flight on Thursday, March 13, plus seven nights at the Clarion Hotel in Copenhagen, is \$1,191 through Travelocity. Com.

The study, through the University of Leicester, compiled data from 178 countries and found Denmark is happiest: Zimbabwe and Burundi are the most unhappy. USA didn't rank very well, we're toward the bottom at 131.

We'll talk more about happiness and satisfaction in an upcoming column. Until then, let me know if you find hot deals to get us through winter. Happy travels.

Contact Lana Mini at imini@hometownlife.com.

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STEFK'S

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Chef cooks at home, garden show

Heart healthy and locally grown produce will be spotlighted in the salad creations at the Michigan Home & Garden Show at Ford Field, March 7-9, prepared by Chef Angus Campbell of the Secchia Institute for Culinary Education at the Grand Rapids Community College.

Campbell's guidelines will satisfy showgoers' need for healthier food and provide a low carbon footprint with food grown closer to markets.

Local sourcing is important to reduce the distance food travels as represented by "locavore," the 2007 word of the year by The New Oxford America Dictionary. Locavores try to build more locally based, self-reliant food economies to enhance economic, environmental and social health.

Free recipe cards will be handed out at each presentation.

Campbell was a senior lecturer at the Glasgow College of Food Technology and department chair of Food and Beverage Management at the Bahamas Hotel Training College. Campbell, also host of the PBS television show, "Cooking with Angus," has led students on international culinary study tours to over 20 countries on six continents, and co-wrote "Modern Garde Manger," a bestselling textbook on the culinary arts and 2007 IACP Technical Reference Category Award Winner.

Cooking stage presentations are scheduled Friday and Saturday at 1:30, 3:30, 5:30 and 7:30 p.m. with an additional morning show Saturday at 11:30 a.m., and on Sunday at noon, 2 and 4 p.m.

CAESAR SALAD WITH SHRIMP

1 garlic clove* (or 1 teaspoon finely chopped garlic)
Pinch kosher salt
Black pepper, freshly ground, to taste
1 anchovy fillet, crushed with a fork (optional)
2 tablespoons lemon juice, freshly squeezed
3 drops Worcestershire sauce
1 coddled egg* (or 1 pasteurized egg yolk)

6 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil
4 tablespoons Parmigiano Reggiano cheese, freshly grated
¾ cup bread croutons, crisp
1 head romaine lettuce, torn
24 medium shrimp, cooked and peeled

Combine the chopped garlic with the anchovy, lemon juice and Worcestershire sauce, and whisk briskly until combined.

Whisk in the desired type of egg, and add the olive oil gradually to form a thickened dressing.

Season with the salt and fresh ground pepper.

Add half the cheese, and combine well.

Toss the croutons in half the dressing.

Add the lettuce and the remaining dressing, and toss well.

Separate onto plates and top with the remaining cheese and the cooked shrimp.

**Coddling an egg is done by pouring boiling water over the egg, and allowing it to stand in the water for 1 minute. This causes the yolk of the egg to slightly thicken and warms it for the salad.*

**Garlic cloves can be used to rub the interior of the wooden salad bowl that is being used for Caesar salad. This gives the entire salad a fragrance of garlic rather than a salad having a strong garlic taste.*

CALIFORNIA TOWER SALAD

¾ cup garlic, roasted
¾ cup balsamic vinegar
¾ cup extra virgin olive oil
½ teaspoon salt
½ teaspoon black pepper, fresh ground

1 tablespoon shallots, finely chopped
1 tablespoon chive, finely chopped
4 slices daikon radish (or English cucumber), sliced long and thin

¾ head romaine lettuce
¾ head curly endive lettuce
¾ head radicchio
¾ head iceberg lettuce
2 grilled chicken breasts, cut in strips
¾ cup almonds, toasted

Puree the garlic, along with the vinegar, in a food processor. Add the oil slowly to create a dressing. Season with salt and freshly

ground black pepper, and add the finely chopped shallots and chive.

Wash the lettuce well, and dry thoroughly.

Lay the long slices of daikon together in a long strip, around three inches wide.

Arrange a few large leaves of romaine lettuce in a row on top of the daikon to form part of the structure for wrapping.

Place pieces of the other lettuces in the center of the romaine, being sure to fill its full length.

Place the chicken lengthwise on the romaine, and sprinkle with almonds.

Drizzle the dressing over the open salad.

Roll up the entire salad, using the structure of the romaine and the binding of the daikon to secure the tower. (Use toothpick if necessary).

Trim the bottom of the salad flat so it will stand up on its own (like a tower).

Stand or lay the bundle on the plate, and drizzle more of the dressing and chive.

FESTIVE FLAMING SPINACH SALAD

1½ pounds spinach; rinsed and stemmed

¾ cup olive oil
6 ounces bacon, diced
½ pound onions, chopped
¼ cup red wine vinegar
½ lemon, juiced
1 tablespoon prepared mustard
¼ cup sugar
2 dashes Worcestershire sauce
½ cup assorted olives
¼ assorted spiced peppers
1 ounce ouzo

Dry spinach leaves and place in flameproof bowl. Cook bacon in large sauté pan with oil until partially crisp.

Add onion to drippings in pan and cook until transparent. Add vinegar, lemon juice, mustard, sugar and Worcestershire, and blend well.

Add olives and spiced peppers, and blend well. Move ingredients to back of pan.

Add ouzo to front of pan, and carefully tilt pan towards flame to ignite the ouzo.

Quickly pour over spinach and toss lightly.

Divide salad between 4 plates, and serve.

GARDENS

FROM PAGE D1

tables, like coffee tables, for the outdoors," Southgate said. "It's casual entertaining, where you can sit down and relax."

The Michigan Garden Clubs, members of the National Garden Clubs, will present "Tropical Breezes." Over 150 creative displays, floral arrangements and designs in youth, horticulture and educational entries and exhibits are part of the 2008 Standard Flower Show.

The Flower Show is a juried competition. Entries will showcase creative usages of flowers in different and unusual artistic design interpretations including one themed "Voodoo Magic" staged in an 8-by-8-inch box; a buffet table setting named "Island Luau" and a designer choice award class called "Rain Forest." Other displays will be created in black lighted boxes, as miniatures, and on pedestals. The competition

also includes a broad range of educational exhibits from the National Garden Clubs' Blue Star Memorial Highway program to "What is a Rain Garden." The display will show how a garden can be designed to absorb storm water runoff from roofs and parking lots using perennial native plants.

SAGE ADVICE GROWS

Nationally renowned yard and garden expert Jeff Ball, garden columnist Nancy Szerlag, Janet Macunovich, co-founder of the Michigan School of Gardening and Practical Gardening Institute; and the staff from PracticalGardening.com will teach seminars with practical advice and instruction for planning, designing and growing gardens at the Garden Stage.

The show will be glowing with colorful displays.

SuperiorScape of Shelby Township will create the featured entrance garden filled with trees and spring flowers, new styles, textures, shapes and colors of brick

pavers, enhanced outdoor living spaces and pergola wood structures. TYME Landscape of Livonia highlights outdoor retreats using brick pavers, fireplaces and pergolas.

Other landscaped flowering garden displays, perfect for any home, will feature the use of landscape lighting, brick walkways, retaining walls and patios. Water features will be in abundance, from reflecting ponds and fountains to waterfalls.

Southgate expects to get a few new customers this year.

"Typically the people at this show may not go to a retail store," Southgate said. "The show is fairly successful in reaching and meeting those customers. I like the show, because I'm a people person and I can talk to them about their landscaping."

Visit www.FordFieldHomeShow.com for show information including complete schedule of gardening seminars, floral arrangement demonstrations and cooking stage times, downtown restaurant specials and ticket sales, etc.

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pink

Metro Detroit women break bread for Gleaners

BY WENDSY VON BUSKIRK
O&E STAFF WRITER

If breakfast is the most important meal of the day, the Gleaners Annual Women's Power Breakfast is the most important social event of the season.

That's according to long-time event supporter Mary Lou Zieve.

"I think without doubt this is one of major networking occasions in this city each year," said Zieve, of Bloomfield Hills.

This year's breakfast, set for 7:30 a.m. Wednesday, March 12 at the Detroit Institute of Arts, features Fox-2 anchor Sherry Margolis as emcee and Vicki Escarra, president and CEO of America's Second Harvest, as keynote speaker.

Honorary Co-Chairs include Governor Jennifer Granholm, Detroit's First Lady Carlita Kilpatrick, and Debbie Dingell, Vice Chairman of the General Motors Foundation.

Guests include Metro Detroit's top corporate, professional and civic women leaders.

"We get businesswomen. We get senators. We get local muck-a-mucks," Zieve said. "It has become a happening. It's



Rosenfeld

GLEANERS WOMEN'S POWER BREAKFAST

What: The 15th annual event raises awareness and funds to help feed local children, seniors and families.
When: Wednesday, March 12; networking begins with coffee and tea at 7:30 a.m.; breakfast served at 8 a.m.
Where: Detroit Institute of Arts
Tickets: \$100-\$1,000, with all proceeds benefiting Gleaners Community Food Bank of Southeastern Michigan
Information: Call (313) 923-3535 ext. 260, or visit www.gcfb.org

usually sold out."

The Women's Power Breakfast was launched by Bloomfield Hills resident Dulcie Rosenfeld 15 years ago as a way to raise awareness and funds for the Gleaners Food Bank of Southeastern Michigan.

Rosenfeld had plenty of experience supporting causes and serving on non-profit boards, including the Detroit Historical Commission and the Detroit Symphony Orchestra. At the time, she also helped organize the Detroit Institute of Arts' Under the Stars event.

"I came up with the idea for the power breakfast because men used to meet in New York and Detroit early in the morning to do business deals," she said. "Evidently breakfast is a good time to do that in the

business world."

Rosenfeld and her friends mined their Rolodexes and invited women of influence to The Detroit Club for the first breakfast. The event was a resounding success.

"I know about raising money from women from my involvement in Jewish community organizations," Rosenfeld said. "Women are a most powerful force because children learn not from what we say but what we do. Women hold up half the world. It's our responsibility to be a good example."

The Power Breakfast has been staged at different venues, including the Gem, Fox and Max M. Fisher theatres, as well as The Reserve in Birmingham. This year's event will give guests a glimpse of the newly-renovated DIA.

"The reason for having it in the morning is you have women who have to be somewhere," Rosenfeld said. "They can be out of there in time for their 9:30 meetings."

The morning starts with tea and coffee, and includes a light meal, but Rosenfeld insists the food itself isn't important.

"Guests are not paying \$100 for their oatmeal, they're paying it for Gleaners," she said.

Primary patron sponsorship from General Motors ensures that ticket sales directly benefit the food bank.

Founded in 1977, Gleaners works with more than 400 social service partners to distribute over 25 million pounds of food each year to the hungry. Children make up 51 percent of the people Gleaners feeds.

After 15 years of pouring her heart and soul into the Women's Power Breakfast, Rosenfeld is passing the baton to other organizers.

But she encourages everyone to continue their support of Gleaners.

"This is a cause I'm very passionate about," Rosenfeld said. "There's no reason a child should go hungry in this country."

pink picks

Wear It!

Gray — it's the new black

DO IT Wear It!

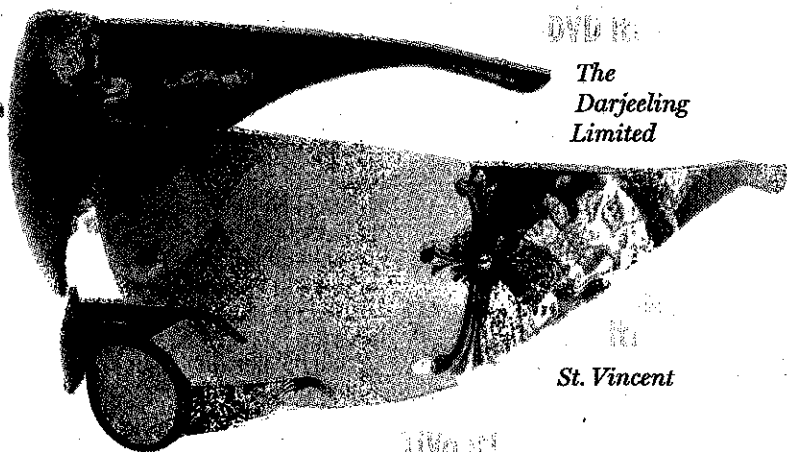
A ponytail to a fancy affair, unless you doll it up with hair jewelry

Face It!

Benefit Cosmetics Thrroob

See It!

Be Kind Rewind



THE
Darjeeling
Limited

St. Vincent

Accessorize It!

Ed Hardy Vintage Tattoo Eyewear, new at Oakland Optometry in Rochester Hills



Kiss It!

A.J. Valencini denim wedges with gold trim

Take It!

Cup Couture Sleeves at wishingfish.com

Oprah's Big Give

Eat It!

Irish Soda Bread and Hot Cross Buns special this month at Panera

Drink It!

Pineapple Stoli Dolis at Big Rock Chophouse in Birmingham

Try It!

Sudatonic Body Wraps at The New You in Utica (www.thenewyoubodywraps.com)

Click It!

www.ShopforMuseums.com — choose a local museum partner to benefit from your purchases

Malls & Mainstreets

If you have a news item for Malls & Mainstreets, please submit it to Wendy Von Buskirk at wvonb@hometownlife.com. Calendar listings must be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event.

Locals Featured in Ski Ad BIRMINGHAM — Don Thomas

Sporthaus, a premier retailer of ski and snowboard equipment and apparel, recently named Meshelle Melone of Warren and Nikki Sorgi of Shelby Township as Grand Prize Winners in the "New Face of Don Thomas" contest. As part of the company's grand opening/relocation celebration, Sorgi, 8, and Melone, 29, were selected from more than 50 applicants that donned Don Thomas apparel and posed for the camera at the shop this past fall. Ads featuring the young women are being shown through March at the Birmingham Palladium and Uptown 8 Theatre. Both are avid skiers.



Nikki Sorgi



Meshelle Melone

Visit Don Thomas Sportheaus on the Web at www.skis.com or call (248) 220-1999.

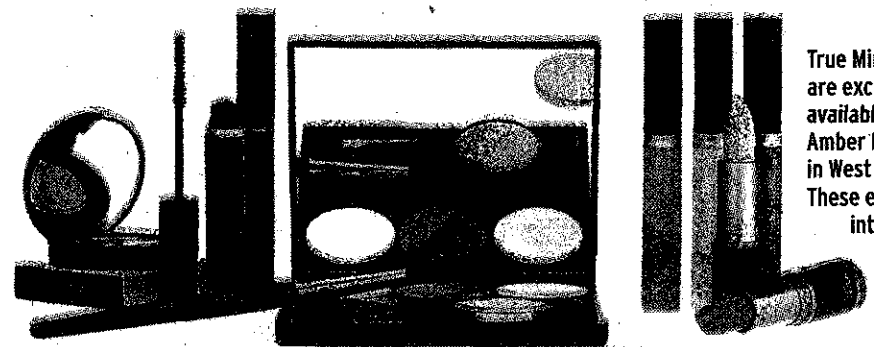
Astute Artistry Opens

LIVONIA — Makeup artist, national trainer and sales distributor Lisa Glickoff celebrated the grand opening of her newly renovated Livonia studio Astute Artistry with a party on March 1. Astute Artistry is a makeup training studio and boutique, where customers can shop, have their makeup done and take lessons or master classes in cosmetics application. Astute Artistry also incorporates a non-profit service where women with cancer, alopecia, visual impairment or disabilities can come in twice a year for free makeup lessons and discounts. Astute Artistry is located at 33033 Seven Mile Road. Call (248) 219-6286.

Want It! Trend Event

TROY — Saks Fifth Avenue and the Troy Chamber of Commerce Women's Business Forum will host a Want It! Trend Event on Thursday, March 13 in the Armani Collezione On Two at Saks Fifth Avenue, Somerset Collection, Troy. Celebrate the season's fashion must-haves, and the newest looks in beauty from Chanel with a wine and hors d'oeuvres reception at 5 p.m., and a Want It! presentation at 6 p.m. \$35 in advance, \$40 at the door, includes a \$25 SFA Gift Card. Reservations required. Call (248) 641-8151 or e-mail TheTeam@TroyChamber.com by Monday, March 10.

Save face during winter 'doll'drums



True Mineral cosmetics are exclusively available at Blue Amber Medical Spa in West Bloomfield. These easy-to-use, interchangeable shades for lips and eyes, and powders for coverage, include anti-aging properties.

Winter winds can wreak havoc on anyone's skin — no one knows that better than Dr. John Sosa, owner of West Bloomfield's Blue Amber Medical Spa and his staff. The cozy clean environment offers an array of services and products meant to seek out and treat skin damage and



Doll face

Stephanie Casola

to ward off the effects of aging. I stopped in last week to experience the Visia machine myself — with three close-up photos it mapped out areas of sun damage, broken blood vessels and, yes, wrinkles. It even replicates the potential aging process over the next five years.

Spa Director Laura LoCricchio noted that based on a person's skin type and results, a customized program can be crafted. The options range from photo-rejuvenation to laser skin resurfacing, microdermabrasion to laser hair removal. LoCricchio and Dawn Martin, both experienced medical aestheticians, named sun protection as the single most important aspect of skin care — in winter and any month of the year.

"Make it an important part of your morning routine," said LoCricchio. "(People) think 'if I'm not out in the sun, I'm fine.' But that's not the case.

"The sun is more intense and more reflective in snow," Martin added. Once the sun does its damage, the experts suggest microdermabra-

sion or a chemical peel, depending on skin type. Clients typically start seeking out such treatments around the age of 35 — when those new lines and spots begin to show up. Sosa said treating earlier can make a difference in maintaining a youthful, healthy appearance as you age.

To that end, Blue Amber is also an exclusive seller of True Mineral Cosmetics. The new line of powders, eye and lip colors is infused with anti-aging components called idebenone, and offers a sun protection factor of 17. That, combined with environmental protection in the form of antioxidants, Sosa said, "brings something more to protection."

He recommends always wearing sunscreen with at least an SPF of 30. Look for those with zinc and titanium oxide, Martin noted, which are better able to block out both forms of UV rays. And don't discount the importance of protective clothing like hats and sunglasses.

All the services offered at Blue Amber are non- or minimally-invasive. From Botox injections to Light Sheer hair removal to Intense Pulsed Light skin treatments that take about five days to heal, Sosa is always on hand. And all of the equipment is state-of-the-art, Martin said. For more, visit www.blueambermedical.com.

Stephanie Angelyn Casola happily obsesses over eye creams and sunscreen all year long. She writes Dollface each month covering fashion and beauty for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers and can be reached at (248) 901-2567 or scasola@hometownlife.com.

WEATHER THE WINTER CHILL

"The thermostat is turned up to keep winter's chill away, but the same heat that keeps you toasty dries out the air and, with it, your skin," said Marzena Hawkins, owner of Birmingham's Avalon Salon and Spa. She shared her top tips to weathering the coldest time of year.

Combat dry skin: "Facial skin is the thinnest of all, so it requires special care on a monthly basis," said Hawkins. She suggests moisturizing more frequently. Those with normal or oily skin can opt for a lotion, while those with drier skin should use a cream. She also recommends scheduling a Replenishing or Tourmaline facial.

Block out the sun: "Although you are usually bundled up from head-to-toe in the winter, it is important to use a sunscreen on areas of your body that are still exposed — your face being the most important," Hawkins said. "Choose a moisturizing sunscreen with a Sun Protection Factor of at least 15. Also be sure to wear a lip balm containing sunscreen."

Rethink your regimen: If you use products like Retin A or Renova, be sure to use a high SPF sunscreen, Hawkins said, as your skin will be more sensitive to UV rays. And take care to exfoliate dry skin. Hawkins suggests a Caribbean Therapy Body Scrub.

Hands and Feet: Take special care to moisturize the thin skin on hands, which is prone to drying, and exfoliate dead skin from feet to keep them soft and supple. Spa manicures and pedicures will do just the trick.

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