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Opponents give up on Corriveau recall

BY TONY BRUSCATO **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

State Rep. Marc Corriveau, D-Northville, won't have to worry about a recall vote on the Aug. 5 primary ballot after



Michigan Taxpayers Alliance leader Leon Drolet Thursday turned in more than 16,000 signatures to the Michigan Secretary of

State office for the recall of House Speaker Andy Dillon, D-Redford Township, but admitted the group didn't have enough signatures to recall Corriveau, whose 20th House District includes the Plymouths, Northvilles, a part of Canton Township and the city of Wayne.

"We just didn't have enough money," Drolet said. "The Democrats hired an army of blockers who surrounded petitioners at the local library, township hall or post office; intimidating people as much as possible and blocking them from getting to the petitioners.

We tried to avoid the blockers by collecting signatures door-to-door, but the blockers went to the doors ahead of us making allegations," he added. "It was really, really ugly and we didn't have enough resources to fight them on a number of different fronts.

MTA organized a rally Feb. 11 in Livonia to begin the recalls against Dillon and Corriveau for their votes in favor of an income tax hike Oct. 1 to balance the state budget. They needed more

Please see RECALL, A8



PHOTOS BY TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Salem High School seniors Riley Kennysmith, left, and Ted Wakar are named King and Queen during May Day activities held at the school Friday afternoon.

Happy May Day

Celebration follows months of research

BY BRAD KADRICH **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

After months of planning, research and hard work, humanities students at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park weren't going to let a little rain spoil their May Day celebration Friday.

When Mother Nature dropped the rain on the outdoor site of the annual celebration, the students simply moved inside.

The May Day committee started researching the customs of western cultures back in January, figuring out what kind of clothing to wear, activities to host, etc.

"We study the history of the western world," said humanities teacher Shelly Bates, who was also to preside over a



Students at Salem High School weave their way around the May Pole during May Day activities at the school Friday afternoon.

Elementary School Friday night.

"There is a lot of research that goes into it, and (the celebration) is the fruition of

The event featuerd the traditional May Pole (and corresponding May Pole dancing), activities such as juggling and jousting, and period costumes, all put together by the students following both on-

line and in-library research. The success of the resulting

renaissance festival at Bentley celebration provides a warm feeling.

> "When you try to plan something so different, you never know what it's going to look like," said 18-year-old Canton High School David Catalan, one of the coordinators. "The whole thing is a learning experience, because none of us has done anything like this before. So when it happens, it feels so good."

bkadrich@hometownlife.com (734) 459-2700

Dad: Not all facts came out at beheading trial

BY BRAD KADRICH **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Pete Letkemann isn't trying to make excuses for his son, and he knows nothing he says now, in the wake of his son's guilty plea to second-degree murder in the death and beheading of Daniel Sorensen, will change anyone's opinion about the case, or about his son, Alexander.

But those opinions are based on facts that came out during the trial of - and were used to convict - Jean Pierre Orlewicz of Plymouth Township of first-degree murder in the case.

The elder Letkemann believes there are other facts, which never came out during Orlewicz's trial, that paint a truer picture not only of Alex's involvement in the crime, but of Alex as a per-

And while he understands — and acknowledges — the seriousness of his son's crimes, he thinks judgments should be made with all the facts.

"There are some facts and opinions that would have come out had Alex gone to trial," Pete Letkemann said.

"I offer this ... as a dad. I believe those how know Alex will find my explanation easy to believe and (understand) those who do not know him may have some trouble."

The elder Letkemann wanted to expound on various points:

■ Much was made at trial of teens who heard Orlewicz talk just days before the murder about killing Sorensen. According to Letkemann, kids in that circle heard Orlewicz talk like that "all the time" and didn't take it seriously.

Opinions offered in some circles that teens who testified to hearing those statements — principally Levi Webb and Sean Gaikowski ~ could have done something to stop the murder are unfair, according to Pete Letkemann.

"They weren't keeping some deep, dark secret, Pete Letkemann said. "They heard (Orlewicz) talk like that all the time. It was only in retrospect the comments were important to anyone. The media has unfairly portrayed them as if they were

Please see TRIAL, A6



Alexander Letkemann of Westland, a former Livonia Churchill student, describes the killing of Daniel Sorensen during testimony in Wayne **County Circuit Court Wednesday.**

Canton prayer day draws a crowd

BY TIFFANY L. PARKS OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

In the same vein as other Christians all over the country. about 100 people gathered at the township's Veteran's Memorial Flagpole Thursday to offer their prayers for the nation.

"This is a good reminder of our relationship to God," said Tony Beckett, senior pastor of Calvary Baptist Church. "This lets us know that we have to work on helping uphold the standards of truth in our society.

In its participation in the

National Day of Prayer, the group said a prayer of repentance and then prayed for government officials, school districts, families and firefighters.

"We have nothing without you and we are nothing without you," said Ben Gutierrez, a WWII veteran, as he prayed for those serving in the military. "Lord, be with our serviceman.'

Although the township has participated in the National Day of Prayer in the past, Beckett said a group from his church that recently completed a program called The Truth Project decided

to take ownership of the event since it didn't have an official coordinator.

CBC member Jane Terkoski took part in The Truth Project and said she and the rest of the participants felt compelled to lead the township's National Day of Prayer activities.

"We had the feeling of How could we not do anything?'We want to grow the community back to God," she said, adding that she was grateful for the day's pleasant weather. "God is so good and we are thankful that as soon as we started, we could see the sun coming through the clouds."

In between prayers, the group sang songs including America the Beautiful and God Bless America.

During the moments of spontaneous prayer, one man's voice quivered with emotion as he began to pray for youth.

"It's so hard to see where many youth are headed," he prayed. "So many are lost but I pray that you send a touch, that you send a miracle and show them love beyond (how) they have been loved before."

When praying for the media, Mike Roberts of Canton, thanked



ceremonies during the **National Day of Prayer** event Thursday at Canton's Veteran's Memorial, while Iraq War veteran and Marine Mark Varney listens in.

World War II veteran Ben Gutierrez leads the

spirituality and family values and asked for blessings for the journalists overseas covering the war.

"Keep them safe with our troops," he prayed. "Give them the courage to report things that are truthful and honest without agenda."

God for freedom of the press,

prayed for reporting that features

The local event included people of all ages from Canton as well as neighboring communities and Beckett said he hopes the day's activities will continue to grow. "This has been very encouraging and it's very positive to see Canton officials here," he said.

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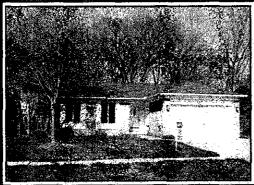
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INDEX

D3

D5

C11-D6

APARTMENTS

AUTOMOTIVE

CLASSIFIED

Coming Thursday

comes to Hart Plaza

Gassed for a great finish

High school team meets, beats college racers

BY TONY BRUSCATO **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Students enrolled in Plymouth-Canton Educational Park's Advanced Automotive Technology class had their work cut out for them when they were asked by Eastern Michigan University to take a used, gasoline-powered go-cart and turn it into a sleek-looking competitive racing machine powered by E-

The catch: Complete the project within a month and race it against seven teams composed of college students from Bowling Green State University — most of them engineering and physics majors — in a 16-mile Grand Prix road race.

There were long hours dedicated by P-CEP auto tech students to hand-molding metal and fabricating supports, configuring the exact amount of E-85 fuel for the 5.5-horsepower Honda engine and painting the salvaged go-cart.

Entering the alternative fuel race was supposed to be enough expectation for the high school students, but somebody forgot to tell them otherwise. On April 12, the P-CEP team surprised their college-age counterparts in winning the race convincingly by eight lengths — followed by a BGSU driver throwing his



Driver Ken Holman takes the cart for a spin outside the auto shop at Canton High School.

together an EMU racing team.

O'Connor, Tessmer — only four

weeks before the race — asked

struct a competitive racing cart.

if P-CEP students could con-

Knowing the odds, Tessmer

really just wanted an EMU

entry, even if it finished last.

Tessmer got much more when

EMU student Ken Holman fin-

ished second in time trials and

toughest things I've done, espe-

cially with the time constraints,

said Brian Sawle, 18, of Canton,

who remembers working some

nights until 10 p.m. to finish the

go-cart. "We didn't have all the

parts at first, so we had to order

Sawle helped fabricate the

chain guard and weld it on the

go-cart, paint it and work with

carburetor (mixing fuel with air

teammates on "jetting" the

them."

then crossed the finish line to

capture the checkered flag. "It was probably one of the

Through his friendship with

helmet in disbelief.

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, May 4, 2008

"It was a good whoopin'," said Jim O'Connor, who teaches the high school class with Michael Duff. "If you empower kids and teach them skills and attention to detail, they can do anything. We all stepped up to the plate.'

The challenge was put forth by Al Tessmer, technology education professor at Eastern Michigan University's School of Technology Studies. Tessmer worked one year at Bowling Green and helped start the Grand Prix tradition to bring attention to alternative fuels. BGSU officials wanted to involve other schools this year, and invited Tessmer to put

accept the E-85 fuel, which is 85 percent ethanol and 15 percent gasoline, derived mainly from "We were testing it right up to the last day, but I was confi-

dent it would make it through the race," Sawle said. "I was surprised we beat out college students, considering they are engineering students. It was just a great feeling."

Trent Shelton, 18, of Canton said he was confident they would meet the challenge, but he also wanted to be proud of the EMU/P-CEP entry.

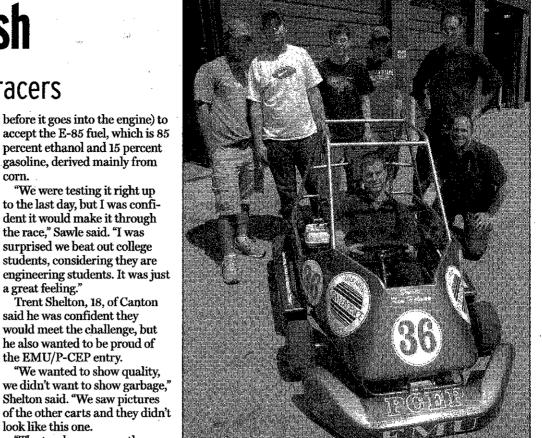
"We wanted to show quality, we didn't want to show garbage," Shelton said. "We saw pictures of the other carts and they didn't look like this one.

"The teachers gave us the guidance and we did it ourselves," he added. "I knew we'd run out front, but I was surprised we won. It was a huge confidence boost."

O'Connor said it was difficult finding the right mixture to convert the gasoline-powered go-cart to one which ran on the E-85 blend.

"The fuel lines and seals needed to be E-85 convertible, but it was mainly figuring out what a gasoline engine wanted in regards to the E-85," O'Connor said. "If you were to put E-85 into something that was set for gasoline, it would run way too lean and it wouldn't have any

"The kids had their hands into every part of this car. We (teachers) just directed what was needed to be done next,"



Some of the crew that worked on the E85 cart are Trent Shelton, Brian Sawle, Kevin Stahl, Nick Thompson, teachers Mike Duff and Jim O'Connor, and driver Ken Holman.

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David Medley, ADA Coordinator

Charter Township of Canton, 1150 S. Canton Center Road

Canton, MI 48188

he added. "The college kids had three years to perfect their cars, so you would think they would build this incredible powerhouse

they would win." Duff said P-CEP students had to use much of their classroom knowledge in readying the gocart for competition.

of technologically superior cars.

I think they took it for granted

"There's a ton of physics, engineering, math and science planned out to meet the goals and objectives," Duff said. There's thinking involved, and hand and eye coordination, to develop it.

"(The college students) are a

little more conceptual than what we have, but they lack the building skills we have," he added. "They're screaming in industry for people who can do both."

Tessmer was obviously pleased the go-cart — which is on display at EMU — won the race. But equally as important are the lessons learned about alternative energy.

"Our whole intent is to get the U.S. free of gasoline while developing more alternative sources to drive prices down," Tessmer said. "If we can get kids to think about alternative energy, in the process they'll find the solutions we need."

Observer

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Clerks round up seniors

BY TONY BRUSCATO OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Several hundred high school seniors at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park took the first step in voicing their opinions this November in the presidential and local elections.

Municipal clerks and their representatives from Plymouth, Plymouth Township and Canton Township spent several hours at each of the three high schools this past week registering seniors to vote. "In our office we always have issues with high school kids going off to college and then trying to find out how to register to vote and receiving an absentee ballot at school," said Linda Langmesser, Plymouth clerk, who organized the effort. "If they sign up in person, they can get an absentee

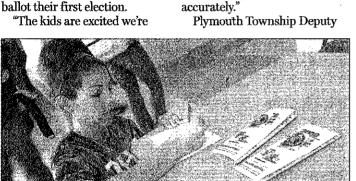
giving them the opportunity to register and they don't have to go elsewhere to do it," she said. "I think this election, because of how controversial it is, might encourage kids to get out there and voice their opinions."

Being able to voice her opinion is why Erica Caudillo, 17, of Plymouth registered to vote.

"I think it's important because we're the future," said Caudillo. "I'm looking forward to voting, though I'm a bit unsure because I don't know everything that's going on. But, I try to follow it."

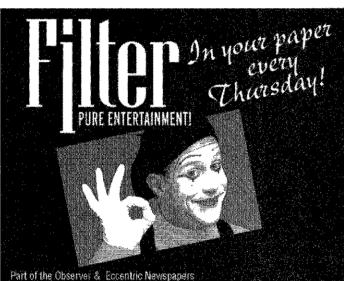
Eric Piwowar, 18, of Canton Township, is aware of the low voter turnouts in most elections.

"I think everyone should vote and express their opinions," said Piwowar. "It's appalling to see how many people you know who don't vote. I try to inform myself as much as possible so I can vote accurately."



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Gina Giordano registers to vote in Plymouth Township.



Clerk Joe Bridgman said those registering were asking a lot of good questions about voting and absentee ballots.

"Many aren't aware they can register at 17 1/2-years-old," Bridgman said. "As long as they turn 18 by November they can still vote in the general election."

Jackie Shamus, representing the Canton Township clerk's office, said she was surprised by the number of students who registered to vote.

"The last time I did this 2-1/2 years ago I had about three kids fill out the form in 2-1/2 hours," Shamus said. "This time I had about three kids in 10 seconds. Definitely the kids are more

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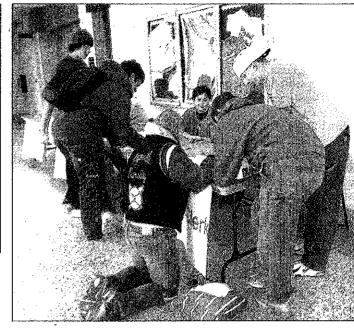
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Seniors who registered to vote got a sticker like the one held by Plymouth Township deputy clerk Joe Bridgman.

interested this time, and that's nice to see."



Students Eric Franka, Jackson Vaughn, Jessica Cicirelli, Andrew Inagni and Kyle Sanders register to vote with Canton Township's Jackie Shamus.

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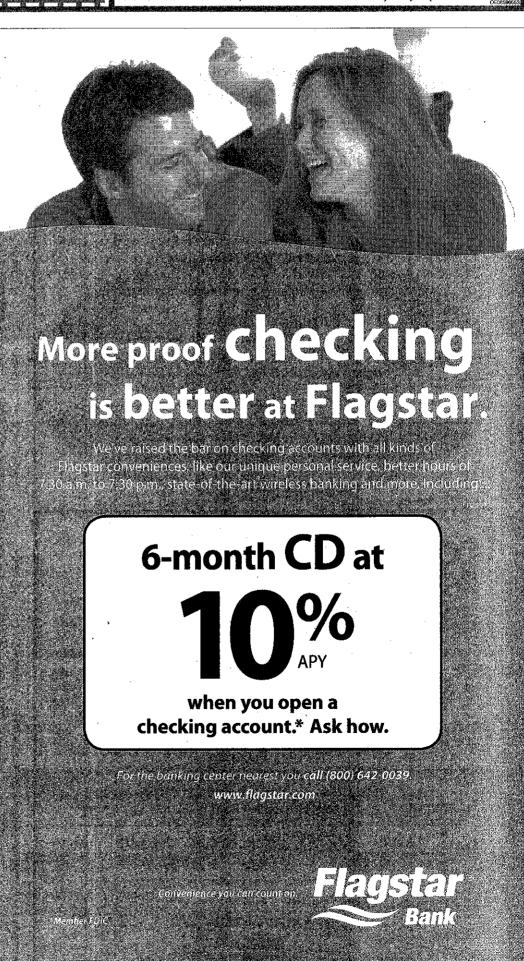
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Chamber luncheon

The Canton Chamber of Commerce will hold its next networking luncheon at 11:30 a.m., May 14 at Summit on the Park in Canton. Guest speaker will be Dave Wieme, communication director of Palace Sports & Entertainment.

Cost of the lunch is \$20. Reservations are required by Friday, May 9, and can be made by calling the Chamber office at (734) 453-4040. The luncheon is being sponsored by TDS Metrocom and Schoolcraft College.

Women wanted

The Canton Business & Professional Women (BPW), who promote full participation, equity and economic self-sufficiency for America's working women, will hold their next monthly meeting from 6-8:30 p.m., May 12 at Palermo's Restaurant, 44938 Ford Road in Canton (located in the strip mall behind Murray's Auto Supply on north side of Ford Road- east of Canton Center Road). The guest speaker will be Laura Fawcett, adult services librarian at the Canton Public Library.

Tuesday

May 13, 2008

6:30 p.m.

For more information please contact June Nicholas at (313) 610-2561 or junenicholas@ comcast.net. Please RSVP for this meeting.

Explorer unit excels

The Canton Police Department's Explorer Unit recently competed in the 28th Annual Governor's Cup competition held in Alpena. **Approximately 30 Explorer** teams from around the state competed in four categories including crime scene investigation, domestic violence scenario, felony traffic stop and building search. Canton's team won first place in crime scene investigation and second place in building searches, and finished 6th overall in the competition.

The Canton Police Explorer Unit is made up of students ages 14-20 who are seriously interested in exploring a career in law enforcement. The program provides serious, realistic exposure of the law enforcement career. Explorers in the program train bi-weekly on a wide variety of topics. Explorers are taught the procedures used by officers and learn the basic elements of the

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subject matter. Explorers must also maintain the physical, moral and scholastic standards required to be a member in the program.

Canton's Explorer program is funded through private donations and community fundraisers. For more information about the program or to make a donation, contact Sgt. Robert Sidor at the Canton Police Department, (734) 394-5400.

Mother's Day luncheon

In honor of Mother's Day, Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano will visit the Canton Senior congregate lunch on Wednesday May 7, from 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. The luncheon will be held in the Maple/Oak room at Summit on the Park, located at 46000 Summit Parkway. There will also be bingo and door prizes.

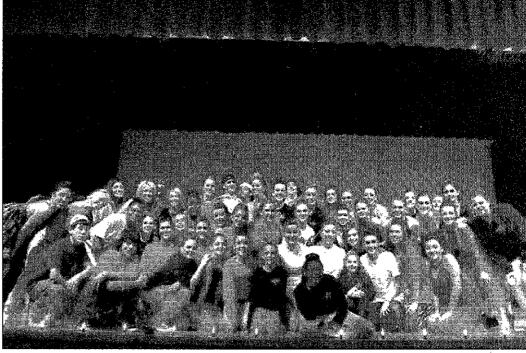
The lunch menu will include ham with fruit sauce, peas with mushrooms and sweet potatoes. Reservations for the Mother's Day luncheon are required and must be made by noon, May 6 by calling the Senior Desk at (734) 394-5485. There is no fee required to attend this luncheon for participants 60 and older, but a

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'Top Studio' recognition

The students of the planetdance dance studio in Canton recently competed at the KAR Dance Competition at Farmington Mercy High School and the studio was awarded "Top Studio." More than 500 entries were at the local competition. Planetdance has students that compete in jazz, tap, ballet, lyrical, musical theatre and hip hop. The team consists of 80 students that are from Westland, Canton and Livonia. "These kids have worked so hard all year long and it was great to see their hard work and dedication pay off. I'm so very proud of each and everyone of the dancers," said Jen Toby, owner/director of planetdance, which is located at 7281 N. Lilley Road. For more information about the studio, call (734) 414-0641 or visit www.planetdancestudio.com.

donation of \$2.25 is suggested. The luncheon fee for those not yet 60 years of age is \$4.

Mother/son dance

Moms, aunts, and grandmothers can treat the special young men in their lives to an evening of fun and dancing at Canton Leisure Services' annual Mother/Son Dance on Friday, May 9, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. in the Grand Ballroom of the Summit on the Park, located at 46000 Summit Parkway.

Light refreshments will be served and a professional photographer will be at the dance to take souvenir photos for an additional fee.

This is an event especially organized for boys of all ages and the special mother figure in their lives. The evening will, be topped off with a special balloon drop.

Tickets for the event go sale Wednesday, April 30 and are just \$8 for adults and \$6 for children.

For more information, visit leisure.canton-mi.org or call (734) 394-5460.

Relay for Life

This year's Relay for Life of Canton will be held at Heritage Park on May 17-18, and offers everyone in the community an opportunity to participate in the fight against cancer.

This year marks 10 years for Relay For Life of Canton, featuring a new Fight Back Ceremony at 10:45 a.m. on May 17. While the Luminaria and Survivor Ceremonies offer time to remember those lost to cancer and celebrate those who have won the battle, the Fight Back Ceremony gives everyone a chance to make a personal commitment to how they're going to take action against cancer.

If you are interested in starting or joining a team, log on to www.relayforlife.org and follow the links to the Relay For Life of Canton page. If you're not able to join a team, simply log on to make a donation. For more information, call Jamie Chapman (248) 663-3419.

Canton Lions anniversary

Come and celebrate Canton

Lions Club's 40th Anniversary at a dinner dance on Friday, June 6, at 6 p.m. It will be held at the Cady/Boyer barn behind the Bartlett Travis house at 500 N. Ridge Road.

The anniversary party will include a catered dinner, pop/ coffee, raffles and 50s and 60s music by Canton's own Fairview featuring Ron and Albert Muniz on guitar and lead vocals, Chat Atwell on bass and Karl Zarbo on drums.

The Canton Lions Club is involved in many note-worthy local and world-wide community service projects such as: Liberty Fest and Relay for Life Pancake Breakfasts, August's Corn Roast, White Cane sale and collecting glasses for Third World Countries. All donations will be given back to the community and/or to the blind and hearing impaired.

To secure your reservation, please make checks payable to the Canton Lions for \$25 per person and mail to Nancy at 42764 Woodbridge Road, Canton, MI 48188 by May 15. For more information, please call (734) 981-0486 or e-mail nrybar@yahoo.com.

Make Mother's Day Special! Sunday, May 11, 2008

Enjoy a relaxing Mother's Day Brunch set in a Tropical Garden Atrium with Cascading Waterfalls at the Embassy Suites Hotel Livonia. Executive Chef Michael Stewart has designed a fabulous menu including a delightful array of desserts that is sure to please the entire family!

~ Breakfast Station ~

Three Cheese Scrambled Eggs • Cheese Blintz with Assorted Fresh Fruit Topping Crispy Hash Browns O'Brien • Fresh Sausage and Crispy Bacon Have it Your Way Omelets • Make it Your Way Waffles

~ Caving Station ~

Slow Roasted Honey Chipotle Turkey Breast served with Pineapple Relish Dijon Crusted Dry-Aged Prime Rib served with Rosemary Au Jus and Horseradish Sauce

\sim Hot Entrees \sim

Barbeque Pork Loin with Cherry and Sweet Onion Chutney Baked Cod Creole • Penne Rigate Primavera Roasted Potatoes Provencal • Green Beans Almondine Saffron Infused Basmati Rice • House made Macaroni & Cheese

~ Hors' D'ocuvres Station ~

Montage of Fresh Fruit and Berries • Farm Fresh Vegetable Display International and Domestic Cheese Display Smoked Fish Assortment • Peel and Eat Shrimp Cocktail

~ Fresh From the Garden ~

Cheese Tortellini with Sun-Dried Tomatoes and Artichokes Marinated Tomato and Cucumber Salad • Southern Style Coleslaw Tri-Color Rotini Pasta Salad • Crispy Romaine and Fresh Tossed Salad with All the Makings for the Salad of Your Dreams

~ Sweets Endings ~

A Lovely Assortment of Fresh Bakery Items Pies, Cakes, Cookies, Miniature Pastries Chocolate Fondue with Dunkable Delights • Also Featuring Sugar-Free Desserts

> Adults...\$32.95 Children 6-12...\$13.95 Children 5 & Under...FREE

Seating Times Available: 11:30 - 12:30 - 1:30 - 2:30 Make your reservation today...734.462.6000



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Detroit - Livonia/Novi • 19525 Victor Parkway • Livonia • 734.462.6000



You're invited to come and hear...

Frank and Cathy Tanana Mother's Day May 11 at 10:45 a.m.

Calvary Baptist Church

43065 Joy Road, Canton (between Main Street and Lilley Road) 734-455-0022 www.cbcjoy.org

Since retiring from Major League Baseball in 1994, Frank (former pitcher for the Detroit Tigers) and Cathy have been active in ministry in their home church and community. Cathy is Director of Women's Ministries at Highland Park Baptist Church in Southfield, and Frank has many opportunities to share his love for Jesus Christ through speaking engagements here at home and around the country.

Frank and Cathy will be speaking in the morning service. You are invited to join us for this special morning celebrating moms!



-Planned Activities

-Incontinence Management -Beauty & Barber Shop

8121 Lilley, Located between Joy & Warren Roads

'Sunset at the Zoo' set for June 20

The Detroit Zoological Society's annual Sunset at the Zoo fund-raiser takes place 7-11:30 p.m. Friday, June 20.

Presented by General Motors and Saturn, the year's wildest party features a strolling supper, zoo-themed martinis, live entertainment, dancing, and live and silent auctions. The event is held rain or shine, and the zoo closes at 2 p.m. that day in preparation for the festivities.

More than 2,000 zoo supporters are expected to attend the 2008 Year of the Frog-themed event. A strolling supper offers tastes of signature dishes from 40 of the area's finest restaurants, the Jerry Ross Band entertains throughout the evening, and guests have access to the zoo's award-winning animal habitats as the sun goes down. Attire for the evening is "elegant summer chic."

The live auction includes "zoonique" items such as a gourmet dinner for 12 with the polar bears at the zoo's Arctic Ring of Life, a behind-the-scenes tour for four with the zoo's night staff, the Ultimate Zoo Birthday Party and Overnight Experience for 20, and a custom piece of zoothemed jewelry from Jules R. Schubot Jewellers.

Tickets for Sunset at the Zoo range from \$125 to \$500 per person. A Benefactor Party will be held on Tuesday, May 20, at the Bloomfield Hills home of Jennifer and David Fischer for those purchasing \$500 tickets. A VIP Reception will be held at the zoo's National Amphibian Conservation Center 6-7 p.m. Friday, June 20, for those purchasing \$500 and \$250 tickets. Tickets can be ordered by phone at (248) 541-5717, Ext. 3750, or online at www.detroitzoo.org.

Sunset at the Zoo is also supported by Comerica Bank, Crain Communications, Dining in the Wild!, Jaffe Raitt Heuer & Weiss, P.C., JP Morgan Chase, Sue and Alan J. Kaufman, Strategic Staffing Solutions and Unique Expressions. Co-chairs for this year's event are Beverly Bantom of Farmington Hills, Margaret Ogden of Grosse Pointe and Lois Shaevsky of Bloomfield Hills.

2008 Year of the Frog is a global public awareness campaign to focus attention on endangered amphibians and the critical work being done by zoos and aquariums to save them. The Detroit Zoological Society is supporting the worldwide initiative with special events, fund-raising activities, educational opportunities and community outreach efforts throughout the year.

The Detroit Zoological Society is a nonprofit organization that operates the Detroit Zoo and Belle Isle Nature Zoo. Situated on 125 acres of naturalistic exhibits, the Detroit Zoo is located at the intersection of 10 Mile Road and Woodward Avenue, just off I-696, in Royal Oak.

The Detroit Zoo is open daily 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. April through October – with extended hours until 8 p.m. Wednesdays during July and August - and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. November through March. Admission is \$11 for adults 13 to 61, \$9 for senior citizens 62 and older, and \$7 for children ages 2 to 12; children under 2 are free. For more information, call (248) 541-5717 or visit www.detroitzoo.org.

The Belle Isle Nature Zoo is open daily 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. yearround and provides educational programming with interpretive staff support from the Huron-Clinton Metroparks.

For more information, call (313) 852-4056.

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CANTON 42447 Ford Rd. (corner of Ford & Lilley Rds.; Canton Corners) 734-844-0481

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Fairlane Mall (3rd floor next to Sears) 313-441-0168 DETROIT 14126 Woodward

(Model T Plaza) 313-869-7392 (level 1 between towers 200 & 300) 313-567-4055

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248-393-6800 LIVONIA (at Middlebelt)

MONROE 2161 Mall Rd

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(lower level, Sears court)

(across from Summit

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3035 S. Rochester Rd.

31941 Woodward Ave.

(lower level play area)

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734-513-9077 (in front of Kohl's) 734-241-4099

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(Twelve Oaks Service Dr. north of Sears) 248-305-6600

1913 E. Big Beaver Rd. (Troy Sports Center) 248-526-0040 Oakland Mali

(inside main entrance,

next to food court) WARREN 5745 Twelve Mile Rd., Heritage Village

586-578-0955 WESTLAND 35105 Warren Rd. (southwest corner of Warren & Wayne Rds.) 734-722-7330 OR VISIT THE **VERIZON WIRELESS**

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co-conspirators in some way, and this is wrong. They were doing their best to put a killer behind bars.

"I know of at least a half-adozen other kids who heard the same thing (Orlewicz talking about killing). Pete Letkemann added. "Everyone's been to a party and heard someone talking crap and they said, 'Yeah, right."

■ While drugs were always on the periphery, there really wasn't much testimony about drugs during Orlewicz's trial. However, Pete Letkemann acknowledges, Alexthad "started doing some serious drugs." In fact, the elder Letkemann said, the \$100 debt Alex was trying to clear by helping Orlewicz clean up after Sorensen's murder was drug-related.

According to his father, Alex Letkemann thought humoring Orlewicz by going along with his plan would buy him some time to pay back the \$100. When Orlewicz aborted the initial plan (Tuesday, Nov. 6), it cemented the idea in Alex's mind that Orlewicz was "talking more crap like he always did," Pete Letkemann said.

■ The murder happened the next day. Letkemann testified he'd been drinking and said he "froze" when Orlewicz began stabbing Sorensen. In a statement he gave Canton police that was videotaped - which was played at the preliminary hearing in December, but not at Orlewicz's trial — Letkemann professed fear. "I was afraid

to turn my back on him ... he had just done this to someone he'd known for years, what would he do to me?"

"(Alex) was messed up, there's no doubt about it," Pete Letkemann said. "I know through his friends he had been doing some (drugs) at the time. That night, when it was going on, he was deathly afraid, absolutely."

■ The day after the murder, Alex Letkemann first declined, then agreed to help Orlewicz dispose of evidence. While his father believes "this is the only crime Alex committed; some of you will disagree," he thinks Alex at that point was just trying to "make it go away."

On Friday, Nov. 9, the younger Letkemann's mind began to clear, according to his father, and the enormity of what he'd done began to sink in. According to Pete Letkemann, his son was worried Orlewicz might "do it again," because of talks Orlewicz had about "mistakes he'd made ... he wouldn't make again."

Letkemann wound up giving three different statements to police and, according to his own testimony in Orlewicz's trial, was untruthful in all three of them. It wasn't until he got his plea deal in April that Letkemann told law enforcement the entire truth, even though he had helped police find Sorensen's head.

Still, the Letkemann family bristles at the idea Alex testified to "cop a deal and save himself." In fact, according to Pete Letkemann, Alex had wanted to testify long before the April 1 plea arrangement.

"The entire time Alex was in jail he said he wanted to



Alex Letkemann (center) with dad Pete and mom Diane.

testify to make sure JP could never hurt anyone again," Pete Letkemann said. "We convinced him to wait (for a deal).

Defense attorney Raymond **Cassar of Farmington Hills** — who Pete Letkemann said "did a wonderful job" - said his client wanted to put everything right from the beginning.

"Every time I went to visit with Alex, he indicated to me how sorry he was," Cassar said. "Alex always wanted to do the right thing. What I'd hoped the judge would have done, was not to judge Alex by the misdeed, but by the corrective measures he took afterward. I would hope she'd give him more credit than that."

At sentencing, Judge

Annette Berry criticized Letkemann for his inability to come up with an appropriate answer to her lone question: "Why?" But the victim's parents, James and Kimberly Sorensen, forgave Alex during their statements and even offered to speak on his behalf when he comes up for parole.

It was a gesture filled with meaning for Letekmann's family.

"I knew (the Sorensens) were good people ... I still didn't know ... what they really felt," Pete Letkemann said. "When they saw the work we did trying to get the 'real' Alex out there, they began to understand these weren't two peas in a pod cooking up some sinister plot in the basement. I'm grateful they were able to see that. I can't tell

you how much that means. It means everything."

With the trial and sentencing behind them — Berry imposed the 20- to 30-year sentence prosecutors and Cassar agreed upon — Pete Letkemann said the family's focus is on the future. He said his talks with Alex don't center much on the case, but on staying focused.

"I've got a daughter, Amanda, who is having a hard time with this, even though she's a strong person and has a strong group of friends," Pete Letkemann said. "With Alex, it's getting him focused and keeping him upbeat and working toward the future. He plans on going full-tilt for any educational opportunities he can grasp. He understands at some

of Medicine to Jennifer Anne

Plymouth Salem High School

Family Medicine at Oakwood

Foess is the daughter of

David and Barbara Foess of

Scholarship winners

Three Canton students were

among the first group of 2008

winners announced this week.

standing high school seniors

National Merit Scholarship

Approximately 1,100 out-

have won National Merit

Distinction

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Michigan in

2003 with a

bachelor of

science degree

in anthropol-

ogy-zoology.

She is a first-

year resident

from the

and graduated with High

IN ALEX'S WORDS

"Every day I wish I would have made better choices. I was in a terrible situation and made the worst decision possible. I take complete responsibility for my actions. When somebody asks why I was involved at all I say, 'I don't know' because I honestly can't think of a reason. I really don't think there is an acceptable explanation, but I will say this: The whole scene went to the extreme in seconds. I was overwhelmed with shock and fear. My mind was clouded by intoxicants and instead of doing something, I froze. I know I should have done everything differently and I will forever be in debt to my conscience. I hope that some will remember that in spite of my incredible lack in judgment, I went to the police and cooperated in giving them information, helping to solve the case. I then testified, not for my own piece of mind, but for that of the Sorensen family. I am so grateful for their forgiveness and I admire their courage and strength. I made a very severe mistake, but I was glad to be able to insure proper justice and closure to this case. I know I did the right thing. In doing so, I was given another chance at life, with which I will show everyone I can be the person they know I am. I plan to do everything to help others in any way possible."

places he's going to be able to work on his music (he writes music and plays guitar), and he's excited about that."

bkadrich@hometownlife.com



ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS CITY OF PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN

Notice is hereby given that the City of Plymouth will accept sealed bids until 2:00 PM, EDT on Thursday, May 22, 2008, at 201 South Main Street, at which time all proposals received shall be publicly opened and read aloud for:

Crowd Control Fencing

Specifications, bid documents, and proposal forms may be obtained from the office of the Purchasing Agent during regular office hours. The City Commission reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, in whole, or in part, and to waive any irregularities. Address bids to:

LINDA LANGMESSER, CMC/AAE PLYMOUTH CITY CLERK 201 SOUTH MAIN STREET PLYMOUTH, MI 48170

In a sealed envelope bearing the inscription:

Crowd Control Fencing For opening: Thursday, May 22, 2008

If you have any questions or if you would like to view the existing equipment, please contact:

Chris Porman **Assistant Director** Municipal Services Department (734) 453-7737

Publish: May 4, 2008

Notice is hereby given that on Monday May 19, 2008 Tate & Co. Auctioneers, Executive Administrator for Extra Space Storage, will be offering for sale under the judicial lien process by public auction, the following storage units. The goods to be sold are generally described as household goods. The terms of the sale will be cash only. Extra Space Storage reserves the right to refuse any and all bids. The sale will be at the following location: EXTRA SPACE STORAGE. 6729 N. CANTON CENTER RD., CANTON, MI 48187 AT 12:00 PM.

Alan Ray Brown

D153 10x20 Grinder, 11 Totes, 2 VCRs, Shop vacuum, Various Household/Garden Tools, Containers, 1 Gun Safe, Trail/Mountain Bike, 2 Lamps, 1 Fishing Rod, Large Tool Chest, Chest of Wicker Drawers, Quiver with Arrows

Center c/oBrian Basienke

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Cabinet, 16+ Boxes of Misc. Goods, 7 Board Games, Equipment Bag, 2 Bookshelves, 2 Standing Halogen Lamps, 30" Superman figure, Dish Network DVR.

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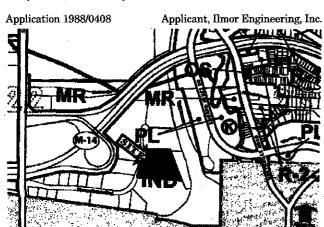
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH PLANNING COMMISSION

PROPOSED ACTION: DATE OF HEARING: TIME OF HEARING: PLACE OF HEARING: Request Approval of a Special Land Use Wednesday, May 21, 2008

7:00 P.M.

Plymouth Township Hall 9955 North Haggerty Road

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission of Plymouth Charter Township has received an application requesting Special Land Use Approval for Outdoor Storage in a Industrial District, (IND), on Tax ID R78-016-02-0014-303, pursuant to Zoning Ordinance No. 99, Section 19.2-9. The property is located on the east side of Plymouth Oaks Boulevard, south of M-14 Expressway, west of the CSX Railroad, and north of the City of Plymouth, at 43939 Plymouth Oaks Boulevard.



LEGAL DESCRIPTION: For parcel description, see tax records based on Tax ID No. R-78-016-02-0014-303

The application may be examined at the Plymouth Township Division of Public Services, Community Development Department, during regular business hours from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM. Written comments will be received prior to the meeting and may be mailed to 9955 N. Haggerty Rd., Plymouth, MI 48170 or call 734-354-3270, ext. 6. The meeting will be held in the Meeting Room at Township Hall which is located at 9955 N. Haggerty Rd., Plymouth Township, MI 48170.

PLEASE TAKE NOTE: The Charter Township of Plymouth will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at all Township meetings to individuals with disabilities at the meetings/hearings upon one week notice to the Charter Township of Plymouth by writing or calling the Supervisor's Office, 9955 N. Haggerty Rd., Plymouth, MI 48170. Phone 734-354-3201. TDD users: 800-849-3777 (Michigan Relay Service).

Publish: May 4, 2008

KENDRA BARBERENA, Secretary **Planning Commission**

Canton Ice Cream D155 10x10 Misc. Restaurant and Ice Cream Equipment Entertainment Center, Curio

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH PLANNING COMMISSION

PROPOSED ACTION: DATE OF HEARING: TIME OF HEARING:

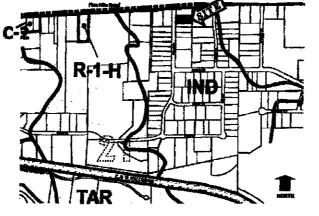
Request Approval of a Special and Use Wednesday, May 21, 2008 7:00 p.m.

PLACE OF HEARING: Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 North Haggerty Road

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission of Plymouth Charter Township has received an application requesting Special Land Use Approval for a Gymnastics Facility in an Industrial District, (IND), on Tax ID R78-009-01-0004-302, pursuant to Zoning Ordinance No. 99, Section 19,2-14. The property is located on the east side of Keel Street, south of Five Mile Road, west of Cleat Street, and north of Helm Street at 15180 Keel Street.

Application 1989/0408

Applicant, Euro Stars



The application may be examined at the Plymouth Township Division of Public Services, Community Development Department, during regular business hours from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM. Written comments will be received prior to the meeting and may be mailed to 9955 N. Haggerty Rd., Plymouth, MI 48170 or call734-354-3270, ext. 6. The meeting will be held in the Meeting Room at Township Hall which is located at 9955 N. Haggerty Rd., Plymouth Township, MI.

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> KENDRA BARBERENA, Secretary Planning Commission

Publish: May 4, 2008

OE08600350-2×8

ON CAMPUS

200 companies, foundations, Med school grad and other business organiza-Wayne State University School of Medicine pre-Daniel R. Jonik, who attends sented the degree of Doctor Catholic Central High School

in Novi, won the National Merit General Dynamics Foess. She is a 1999 graduate of Scholarship. General Dynamics, headquartered in Virginia, has leading market positions in business aviation, information systems, shipbuilding and marine systems, and land and amphibious combat systems. Jonik hopes to have a career in electrical

engineering. Xin-Kan Su, who attends Canton High School and hopes to go into biomedical engineering someday, earned physician in the Department of the National Merit Lockheed Martin Scholarship. The Lockheed Martin Corporation Foundation supports Merit Scholarship awards for children of Lockheed Martin employees located throughout the world.

Yuhan Zhao, who attends Salem High School, earned the National Merit Mckesson Scholarship. McKesson Corporation is the leading provider of supply, information and care management products and services designed to reduce costs and improve qual-Scholarships financed by about ity across healthcare.



CITY OF PLYMOUTH ADVERTISEMENT

Sealed proposals for the construction of the City of Plymouth 2008 Sidewalk Repair Program will be received by the City Clerk, City of Plymouth, Michigan, 201 S. Main Street, until 2:00 P.M. Local Time on Tuesday, May 27, 2008 at which time and place all bids will be publicly opened and read:

Major Estimated Quantities are:

4" Concrete Sidewalk 15,000 S.F. 5,000 S.F. 6" Concrete Sidewalk Driveway Approach or Ramp 1,400 S.F. 8" Concrete Pavement Replacement

12" Reinforced Concrete Pavement Replacement

3/4" Expansion Anchored Hook Bolts 700 EA. Specifications may be obtained from Dietrich, Bailey and Associates, P.C., 107 South Main Street, Plymouth, Michigan after

May 5, 2008 for a non-refundable charge of \$30.00 per set. Bid documents will be mailed for an additional charge of \$10.00. Specifications may be examined at the City of Plymouth Clerk's Office, 201 South Main Street, Plymouth, Michigan without charge.

Questions on the project may be directed to the City of Plymouth Municipal Services Department at 734-453-7737 Ext. 136. Each proposal shall be accompanied by a Certified Check in the amount of 5% of the bid, payable to the Owner, as security for acceptance of the Contract. A bid bond in the Michigan Standard

Form issued by an approved surety company may be furnished in lieu of a Certified Check. No bidder may withdraw his proposal within 60 days after the date set for the opening thereof.

The right is reserved by the Owner to reject any or all proposals, either in whole or in part, and to waive any irregularities therein.

> Linda Langmesser, CMC City Clerk

Publish: May 4, 11 & 18, 2008

1,000 S.F.

Hayes Jones talks about his passions - sports and SMART

OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Hayes Jones, the general manager of the Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation, knew he was at the Plymouth Kiwanis Club meeting Thursday to talk about the rising SMART bus ridership and an increasing need for suburban communities to opt back into the system.

But Jones, chosen as SMART's GM about a year ago, couldn't keep himself from starting his speech with some reminiscences about what he called his "first passion"

The 1964 Olympic gold medalist in the 110-meter hurdles took the opportunity to thank the Kiwanis Club, as he has done many times over the years, for helping him realize the potential he displayed on the playgrounds of Pontiac so many years ago.

Jones attributes his success to a program the Kiwanis Club started in Pontiac in the late 1940s, "Little Olympics," that gave children a chance to excel at football, basketball and

Jones said he didn't have the size for football or basketball, but he knew he had speed.

"Knowing I was the fastest kid in the neighborhood, I decided on track," Jones said Thursday. "That's where I was introduced to the Kiwanis Club, and they helped me find my God-given talent."

Jones said he'd qualified for the 1960 Olympics and had been favored to win the gold, but brought home a bronze instead, two weeks after getting married, a move he said his athletic director kiddingly

teased him, "Hayes traded gold for bronze."

Four years later, he said, he was again the favorite, but said he wound up hitting the tape at virtually the same time as countryman Harold Lindgren and Russian Anatoly Mikhailov. After 45 minutes of consultation, officials awarded the gold to Jones in 13.6 seconds (the silver went to Lindgren, the bronze to Mikhailov).

"That's when I knew my dream had become a reality, and I was the fastest hurdler in the world." Jones said. "As I stood there on the victory stand, and they played the national anthem in my honor, the only thing I could remember was someone in Pontiac telling me, 'You have a gift."

His passion now is running SMART, a system he said is getting more difficult to run because of the struggling economy and the decision by some communities, including places like Livonia, Canton and the Plymouths, to not be part of the system.

He said the system, created in 1976, now carries some 250,000 riders per week. The larger buses, which until recently had been averaging some 27,000 riders per week, have exploded to more than 42,000 riders per week as people for whom the system was designed - commuters, entry-level workers, seniors and people with disabilities — look for alternatives to spending nearly \$4 per gallon on gas.

"We're in a perfect storm," Jones said. "People are clamoring to use (SMART), but we don't have the money. The money we're supposed to have from Lansing and

Washington, D.C., just isn't there."

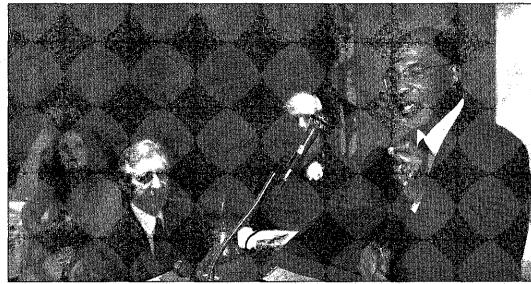
Jones said the decision by suburban municipalities to opt out has left SMART with "a checkerboard kind of service," because, for instance, people who live in Washtenaw County but work in Wayne County can't get a straight ride in because Plymouth and Canton don't have SMART.

"We're not providing the level of service we were mandated to provide," Jones said. "We can't have a strong regional system when the communities say, 'Let them

Jack Kirksey, Livonia's mayor who used to serve on the SMART board, pointed out Livonia was a part of the system for years, spending some \$2.8 million per year. He said the city got out because ridership in Livonia was low - "Most of the buses were empty or had only onetwo passengers," Kirksey said and city officials felt the money would be better spent elsewhere.

"We already had a community bus system for our senior citizens, so voters were asked whether they wanted to opt out and use those funds for more pressing needs," Kirksey said. "We now have about \$1.6 million for capital improvements ... money we've not had because of the way state finances have been, and we were able to do many positive things we couldn't do other-

Kirksey said Livonia "stands ready to opt back in" if a viable plan were presented, but only if the city were "a vital link" to a regional system that included the communities west of them, such as the



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

SMART general manager Hayes Jones speaks with Kiwanis Club members at Ernesto's in Plymouth.

Plymouths.

That seems unlikely, however, since the City of Plymouth and Plymouth Township partner on a senior transportation program and also have a van to transport those who are disabled.

'We'd have to re-evaluate it." said Plymouth Township Supervisor Richard Reaume. "But we've already got pretty good options.

Jones urged the Kiwanis audience to contact their community leaders and get them to reconsider participation in

"I'm appealing to you as business people to revisit your decision," Jones said. "It would help immensely in building a system that could serve the entire region. We sure could use you."

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Senate approves alternate insurance reform bills

Legislation to improve acces- insurer. The bill does not sibility and affordability in the individual health care market was passed Thursday in the Michigan Senate by a 23-13

The legislation is a substitute for HB 5282 and 5283 and was approved after a compromise was reached over competing amendments by Sen. Ton George, R-Kalamazoo, chair of the Health Policy Committee, and Sen. Jason Allen, R-Traverse City. The bills now go to a Senate-House conference

The bill differs significantly from legislation approved by the House in October and pushed by Blue Cross Blue

include a high risk pool, which would have provided insurance for consumers who have been denied or dropped from health coverage. Under the House plan, all health insurance carriers would have contributed to the fund, which Blue Cross would have administered and absorbed most of the losses.

The Senate bill preserves the oversight of the attorney general and the Office of Financial and Insurance Regulation and requires Blue Cross to file an annual report on meeting its social mission as a tax-exempt. not-for-profit corporation.

"Senate Republicans remain committed to ensuring the Shield, the state's largest health Michigan residents have access

to affordable, quality health care coverage in the individual health care market," said George in a press statement. "The George Allen substitute is about increasing consumer protections by making it harder to raise rates when people get sick, and it levels the playing field in the individual health care market.

Blue Cross issued a statement saying the legislation does not "bring meaningful change.

"While we are encouraged to see the legislative process continuing, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan is disappointed with the bills as they are now structured. We don't believe they bring about the meaning-

Get on the ball.

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ful change and protections that Michigan consumers deserve and expect," said Helen Stojic, Blue Cross director of public relations.

"Throughout the process one point has become clear. that more and more people are finding themselves in need of individual coverage, but the system does little to help them. As the bills go back to the House, we are hopeful that there will be meaningful solutions on this important issue."

The Senate did not address HB 5284 and 5285 which would allow Blue Cross' forprofit subsidiary, The Accident Fund, to offer other lines of insurance beyond workers compensation.



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than 10,000 certified signatures to put Corriveau up for recall; however, Drolet admitted they knew by late March the effort probably wouldn't succeed.

When Dillon and the Democratic Party cranked up their blocking machine, all we could do was make a decision. We didn't want to fall short in both," Drolet said. "The speaker (Dillon) was a very key figure, so we went after him. Corriveau will finish his term and we'll see what happens with re-election."

Corriveau said he pretty

PRICES

EXAMPLES*

much stayed out of the fracas during the recall effort.

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, May 4, 2008

"I stayed out of the situation completely. I never did anything but continue my job," Corriveau said during a telephone conversation from the House floor. "I understand the issues in Redford got ugly on both sides.

This was all about Leon from the very beginning," Corriveau added. "I'm out knocking on doors and I don't run into too many people who don't respect the fact I did my job and did what was in the best interest of the (20th House) district."

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Teen spotted driving across homeowners' lawn

Canton Police were dispatched to the 7300 block of Provincial early Wednesday morning after a homeowner called and reported that an unknown teenager had ran across his lawn and driveway.

The man said the teen, later identified as a 16-year-old Redford Township boy, got inside a parked vehicle. The driver of the car, an 18-yearold man, waited until the homeowner's motion-activated garage light went off before driving away.

The officer reported that as he was writing the initial report, the homeowner called back to say the vehicle had returned to his subdivision, which is off of Sheldon and Windmill. Officers initiated a traffic stop with the teens that said they were bored and just

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COP CALLS

driving around Canton. The 18-year-old said he was supposed to be spending the night with a friend but had decided not to. When asked about a third person that the homeowner reported seeing in the vehicle, the driver said that he ran into a friend in the subdivision but that he hadn't been in the car with them.

The two were advised to go to the younger boy's residence.

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WESTLAND LAWN & SNOW

Of the two mountain bikes stolen from his back porch, a township man has reported finding one but said the other

is still missing.
The man told police Wednesday that girl's mountain bike and a man's mountain

bike had been taken from his residence on the 8100 block of Honeytree sometime after 7 a.m. that day. Neither bike was chained or locked.

When he returned home at 8 p.m., he noticed the bicycles were gone and discovered the man's bike against a wall on the north side of his apartment building. The front wheel had been removed but there was no other damage.

A police search of the area for the girl's bike was unsuccessful.

Harassing calls

A 19-year-old Canton woman has reported to police that she's been the victim of telephone harassment.

Since April 22, the woman said a 28-year-old man has been calling her phone and threatening her new male friend. She said the threats are never directed toward her but reported that the man has suggested showing up at her home on the 43000 block of Creekview.

The man, who once called the township woman around 40 times in 24 hours, either hangs up when the call goes to voice mail or leaves her a message demanding that she pick up the phone.

False ID

A Dearborn Heights man was ticketed for presenting false identification when he attempted to buy a beer at Emagine Theater on Monday.

When the bartender questioned the authenticity of the 19-year-old's Wisconsin ID, the man replied, "If you think it's fake then just keep it" and left the concession stand and

went inside a theater. The man, who was pointed out to police by theater employees, admitted the ID was fake and said that he had recently got it from a novelty shop in Canada. He was ticketed and given a court date of May 13.

Cat escape

When a township woman attempted to capture the cat that had bite and scratched her Sunday, the animal escaped.

The woman, who lives on the 400 block of Georgetown, reported to police that she had seen the feline three times in 10 days and had previously petted it when it approached her Sunday, got upset and then attacked he

After cleaning her wounds, the woman called police who advised her that the animal had to be guarantined for 10

The woman found the cat and got it into a carrier but when attempting to transfer it to a cage, the cat ran away.

The woman said she believes the cat lives on Deepwood Drive but doesn't know who owns the animal.

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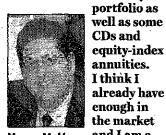
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Tax-free bonds may not calculate as best investment

Dear Rick: I have been sitting first quarter was certainly on cash for a period of time. I am a conservative investor. I have some stocks in my



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

already have enough in the market and I am a little nervous. It has been recommended that I invest in

tax-free bonds. Do you think tax-free bonds are a good investment?

I appreciate your concerns over the market. There is no doubt that many investors have been nervous as to the direction of the U.S. economy. The

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a shock to many investors. There are many investors who have cash and can invest that money, but because they are nervous, are leaving it in unproductive checking accounts or low-paying money market accounts. In those situations, considering tax-free bonds makes sense. However, like most things in the investment world, not all tax-free bonds are the same.

LOOK AT RETURN

It is important to determine whether a tax-free bond is the

proper alternative or does it pay to invest in a bond and pay the tax. The key is not the tax you pay, but rather what ends up in your pocket. For example, if the after-tax return on a tax-free bond is 3 percent, but you can make 5 percent on a taxable bond and net 4 percent (after taxes), it's obviously advantageous to invest in a taxable bond.

On the other hand, if the after-tax return was 2 percent on the taxable bond, then a 3-percent tax-free bond would be appropriate. The first issue is to determine whether a tax-

free bond makes economical sense for your individual situ-

FORMULA

There is a simple formula to determine what is best. Divide the tax exempt yield by one minus your tax rate. For example, if you are in the 25 percent tax bracket and your yield on a tax-free bond was 3 percent, the taxable equivalent yield would be 4 percent (1 - 0.25 =0.75) $(0.3 \div 0.75 = 4 \text{ percent})$. Therefore, if your yield on a taxable bond was 5 percent, you'd be better off to invest in

this bond and to pay the tax. If your yield on a taxable bond was only 3 percent, the tax-free bond would be more appropri-

CONSIDER COSTS

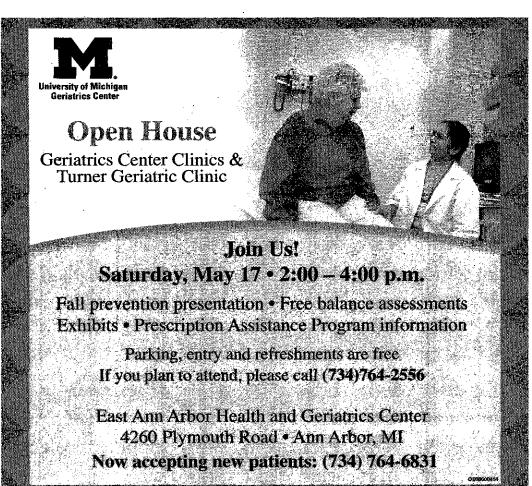
If you are thinking about purchasing a tax-free bond fund, pay particular attention to the costs involved. If you're only getting a 3- to 4-percent return, paying an extra 1 percent in fees can erode your return by a third.

In addition, if you end up having to pay commission to purchase a bond fund, you can lose nearly two years worth of returns. Therefore, avoiding high fees and commissionbased tax-free bond funds is the only prudent course of

action, particularly in today's interest rate environment. Vanguard and Fidelity are just two of the mutual fund companies which offer commission-free, low-cost invest-

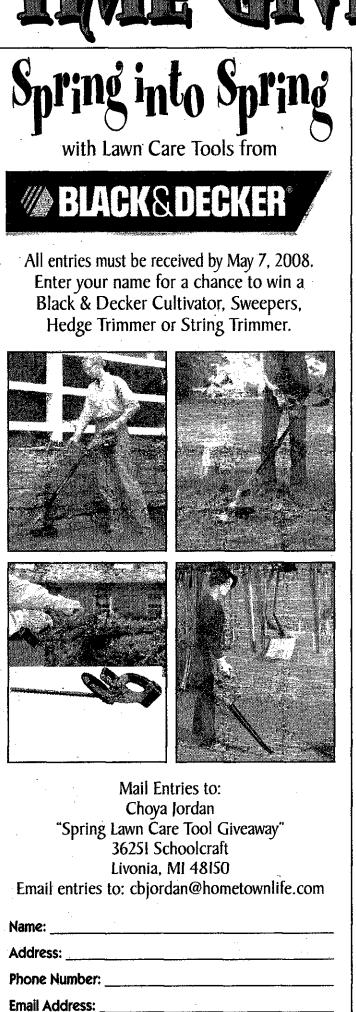
Tax-free bonds play an important part in diversifying a portfolio. However, before you buy tax-free, make sure that your focus is not on the taxes you save, but rather what ends up in your pocket.

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













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OUR VIEWS

Our picks for school board: Schofield, Finley

On Tuesday, May 6, voters in the Wayne-Westland Community Schools district will go to the polls to elect two members to the Board of Education. If the election is like past years, a small percentage of people will decide who will help determine policies and set objectives for the school district, which includes a large portion of southern Canton

But voters should take more of an interest in the election. Five residents of the district have expressed an interest to serve and each deserves fair consideration. Each candidate brings a different perspective of the district and the issues it faces, and each candidate offers different credentials. But they all have one thing in common — they care about the district and they care about its students.

Of the five candidates, only two will be elected. We believe they should be incumbent board member Cindy Schofield and newcomer Jennifer Finley.

Schofield has served on the board for eight years and has a firm grasp of the issues and problems facing the district. She is a proven leader and effective member of the board, which is apparent with her selection by her colleagues as the board vice president for six of her eight years. She also is willing to ask the tough questions and speak her mind.

She also is a parent and volunteer and is actively involved in the schools, including serving on the Zebra Parent Advisory Committee at Wayne Memorial High School.

Like Schofield, Finley is a parent who has experience working with educators and administrators on behalf of children. She has a good understanding of the role of the school board in setting policy and running the district and the importance of education, demonstrated by her five-year stint on the policy committee at the Stottlemeyer Early **Education Center.**

As the mother of several special needs children, she is knowledgeable about the special education process and the importance of maintaining lines of communication between parents and teachers.

Both candidates have what is needed to keep the district moving forward in difficult times. That's why we urge residents to re-elect Cindy Schofield and elect Jennifer Finley to the school board.

No matter who you support, let the candidates know you care by taking the time to vote in the Tuesday, May 6, elec-



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Going to college not Where are you going for a summer vacation? easy

I am very happy to have been admitted to Michigan State University and excited to begin my studies at MSU in the fall.

The graduating class of 2008 is the largest Michigan has ever seen. Graduating in such large numbers puts stress on the college application process. With such a large percentage of our graduating class competing for admission to a college or university, every student must work as hard as possible throughout their high school years in order to get accepted.

I have actively participated in the Plymouth AM Rotary Interact club for the past four years. It has been a pleasure working with Rotary President Beth Stewart and the AM Rotary in our community. The time and effort Mrs. Stewart has put into advising our club has made this our most successful year.

It has been a great experience and an honor for me to work with former State Rep. John Stewart. Mr. Stewart continues to help our communities by recommending students for admission to colleges. As former Chair of Higher Education Appropriations, I am grateful for the contacts Mr. Stewart has at Michigan colleges and universities.

I was privileged to attend a board of trustees meeting at Michigan State University and to meet President Lou Anna Simon. John Stewart's continued commitment to education has given me the opportunity to reach my initial goal of attending Michigan State University.

Morgan Franke senior, Plymouth High School

Canton



"I just got back from Florida." **Kelly Shaver of Canton**



"Orlando." Bernard Gladney of Redford



"I'm retired so I'm on a vacation every day." **Elaine Clair of Canton**

Politicians are owed nothing

This is in response to the editorial published on the opinion page of the Canton Observer on April 24, regarding "Committee's reversal on Supervisor's pay is certainly puzzling." It is not just puzzling, it is laced with various forms of falla-

Supervisor Tom Yack, among many others elected or appointed ruling authorities in the masses (people) of Canton need to work on their use of Standard English.

First is his flippant declaration of the first decision by the "committee" to be "illogical." If amongst other bases of knowledge, he should be able to clarify his scholarly competence as a logician using truth tables, deductive reasoning, and other intelligent devices to prove truth. Is he qualified

to judge others as senseless, or is the continuance of his governmental incontinence?

Most of the decisions of the trustees make no sense. They seem to "think" they are optimal, and can force any rule into the hearts of all others. No one owes a politician anything unless you ask. I have never met a political meritocracy.

Chartie Page Canton

Clean-up help appreciated

The Friends of the I-275 Bike Path would like to thank the following people for their donations to the recent clean up that we had between Michigan Avenue & Van Born Road in Canton:

Kurt Kuban of the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers for his story

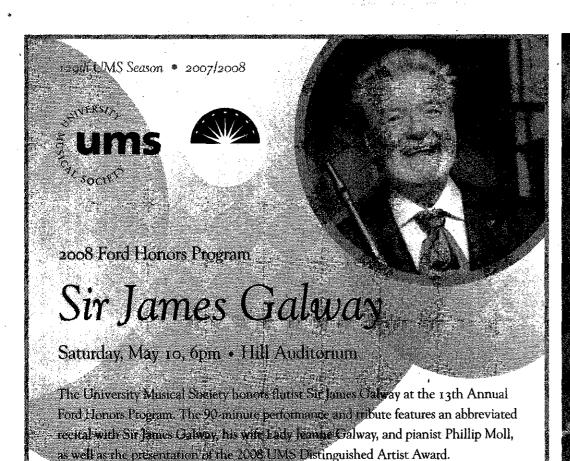
about it. Mitch Albom and his time to help volunteers. Paul at Vizzy's Pizza in Westland for feeding all of us. Fuzzy Stott and The Home Depot for their help every year.

The following businesses/organizations donated items for raffle prizes: The Livonia YMCA; Dream Dinners of Livonia; American Cycle & Fitness of Walled Lake; Rob Kelley and his students from the massage therapy program at Schoolcraft College; Leslie Briggs at REI; Manager Debbie Stewart of the Holiday Inn Express and her facilities employee John, where the event was held.

Without all of your kind donations and help, this event would not have been at all as successful as it was. Thank you so much!

Dave Duffield

director, League of Michigan **Bicyclists** Northville



The program includes:

Poulence Sonata for Flute and Piano

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Bazzini Doppler Chaminade La Ronde des Lutins, Op. 25 (Dance of the Goblins) Rigoletto Fantasy (with Lady Jeanne Galway)

Concertino, Op. 107

The UMS Advisory Committee hosts a gala dinner after the performance to benefit UMS education programs. Tickets to the dinner are sold separately.

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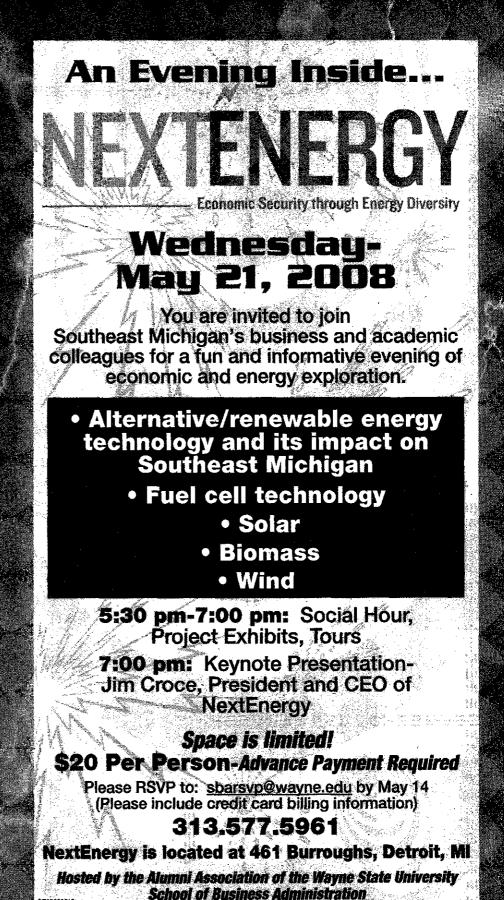
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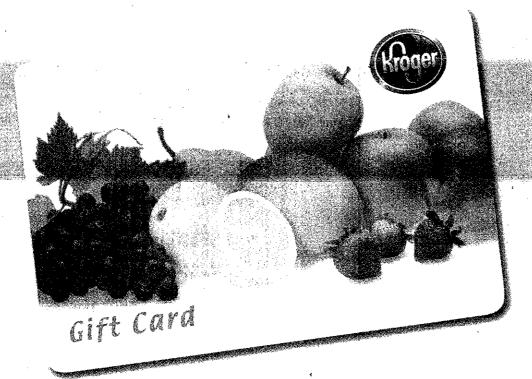


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Salem grid camps

The Salem High School football pro-

gram will be offering

a pair of camps this summer - one aimed

at youths and the other at women who

of the sport.

want to learn more

Football Academy,

which is set for May

rules and strategies

of American tackle

One-hundred

ceeds will to go

the Barbara Ann

Karmanos Cancer

adult and \$40 per

at 7:59 a.m. and the camp runs through

The annual Salem

Instructional Camp

July 12, from 9 a.m.

will be held Saturday,

PCEP varsity football

Participants will

receive hands-on

instruction in the

fundamental strategies and techniques

necessary to become

a successful football

The camp is open to all Plymouth and

Canton residents

between the ages of 7 and 13, regardless of where they will

attend high school. For more information on the camps, visit www.football.

salemrocks.com or

send an e-mail to

psstoo@comcast.net.

'Cat grid meeting

There will be an

incoming fresh-

men meeting for

the Plymouth High

School football pro-

gram on Tuesday, May 6, at 7 p.m., in

the Plymouth High

School cafeteria.

All interested

Plymouth freshmen

ents are encouraged

to attend.

players and their par-

The registration for participants who pay before July 7 is \$10; the cost is \$20 after

The cost is \$50 per

Registration begins

Institute's "First

Step" program.

girls under 13.

Youth Football

to 2 p.m. on the

3 p.m.

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program.

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The Salem Women's



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

BILL BRESLER STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

That's the advice of two senior soccer players who can teach all prep athletes a lesson in perspective

his is a story of broken bones, shattered dreams, priceless perspective and, ultimately, admirable accep-

Both sad and uplifting, it includes invaluable advice that should be heeded

by every sports-loving high school athlete who has occasionally dreaded going to practice or taken a game or two for granted.

It is a real-life tale featuring two incredible student-athletes - senior soccer players Lindsay Jewett and Eric Piwowar — who wish

like crazy they were merely reading this story and not telling it.

UNBREAKABLE SPIRIT

Ed Wright

Last Monday, late in the Plymouth girls soccer game against Wayne Memorial, Jewett, a senior forward, approached Wildcats coach Jeff Neschich with a modest request: "Put me in coach."

On the surface, Jewett's request séemed reasonable. The Wildcats were dominating 7-0 against an overmatched opponent and she hadn't played one second all season.

There was one catch, though: The bottom half of Jewett's left leg was encased in a hard cast and for the previous seven weeks she had relied on crutches or a wheelchair to get from point A to point B.

"I was egging coach on, telling him I wanted to play goalie," recalled Jewett, smiling. "Nothing was going on down on our end, so why not? I told him if they did get a shot off, I could just stick my crutches out, you know, left or right, depending on which way the shot was coming in, and block it."

Two months earlier, Jewett had lost something all the money in the world couldn't replace - her entire senior season of soccer - but she clearly hadn't lost her sense of humor.

GONE IN AN INSTANT

Jewett's life changed in a heartbeat on Feb. 29, just one week before the Wildcats' first official practice.

Playing in an indoor game against Walled Lake Northern at Total Soccer in Wixom, she was involved in a threeplayer collision while doing something that came naturally to the energetic forward — hustling after a ball.

When the dust had settled, the other two players pushed themselves off the artificial turf unscathed.

Jewett wasn't so lucky.

'I knew right away my leg was broken," she said. "The pain was unbearable and I could see how the lower part of my leg was facing the opposite direction than the rest of my body.

Three things immediately raced through Jewett's mind as she lay on the turf while Dan Hughes — a parent of one of her teammates - held her leg together during the close-to-an-hour wait for an ambulance.

"I thought about my senior season of soccer that I was looking forward to so,

Please see INJURIES, B3

Tidwell's the hero in Chiefs' 8-inning win over Rocks

BY ED WRIGHT

OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Eric Piwowar and Lindsay Jewett.

Where there's a Will, there's a And a win — at least that was

the scenario for Canton's baseball team Wednesday afternoon against cross-campus rival Salem. Chief senior Will Tidwell stroked a one-out, bases-loaded, pinch-hit

line-drive single up the middle off Rock reliever Justin Horger to plate Ben Vaughn with the winning run in the bottom of the eighth inning. Vaughn led off the frame by reaching on a two-base

After Dan Stoney was intentionally walked, Horger struck out the next batter, but Alex Dixon. delivered a solid single to center to

PREP BASEBALL

load the bases, setting the stage for Tidwell's heroics.

Tidwell also sparkled on the mound, limiting the Rocks to five hits over eight innings.

Both teams were left with 8-6 records following the down-to-thewire contest.

Tidwell and Salem starter Dave Hales locked up in a pitcher's dual over the first six innings, before Hales was lifted for a reliever due to his pitch count.

Tidwell yielded just one walk while retiring the final nine batters he faced. The hard-throwing Hillsdale College-bound hurler struck out a trio of Rocks to improve his record to 3-0.

Hales settled down big time after yielding a pair of first-inning runs. Overall, he gave up just five hits while striking out one in six innings.

Salem grabbed a momentary 1-0 advantage in the top of the first on successive two-out singles by Sam Ott, Joe Posler and Dana Lorber.

Salem, Canton battle to 0-0 draw

OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Friday night's annual showdown between the Canton and Salem girls soccer teams had to be moved at the last minute from the PCEP soccer stadium to the varsity turf field a couple hundred yards to the west due to a malfunctioning scoreboard.

As it turned out, the two rivals could have survived without a scoreboard after battling to a 0-0 draw on a perfect, 60-degree mid-spring night. The game may have been void of

goals, but there was plenty of end-toend action to make up for the scoring drought.

While Salem possessed the ball for most of the first half, the Chiefs

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rebounded with a strong second and would have scored one - if not three - goals if not for the heroic play of Salem senior net-minder Kristen Dondzilla, who did a good imitation of a human force field in front of the Rocks' net during the final 20

minutes. After hitting both the cross-bar and a post once in the first half, the Chiefs' best opportunity to score came with 32 seconds left when senior Hannah Mills controlled a free kick five yards in front of the net and launched a shot from the doorstep that Dondzilla managed to get both of her hands on.

Canton's Tracy Rymph momentarily controlled the loose ball, but her rebound shot in front barely sailed over the cross-bar to thwart

the scoring opportunity.

"Kristen made at least three game-saving saves on shots that I think everyone in the stadium thought were going in," said Salem coach Joe Nora. "On a couple of those at the end, I don't know how she came up with the ball. She played her heart out and I'm very proud of her."

Canton coach George Tomasso lamented his team's numerous golden scoring opportunities that ultimately came up empty in the second half.

"We were producing quality goalscoring opportunities, especially in the second half," said Tomasso, whose team will take a 6-4-3 record

Please see SOCCER, B3



Canton's Megan Staub, pictured firing a shot in a game earlier this season, created several decent scoring opportunities for the Chiefs in Friday night's scoreless tie with Salem.

Please see BASEBALL, B2

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

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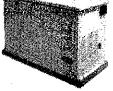
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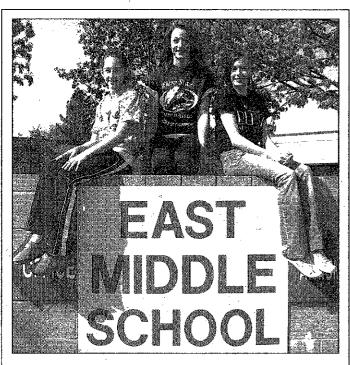
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Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, May 4, 2008

Three of a kind

Pictured (from left) are East Middle School Level 9 gymnasts Kayla Weber (eighth grade), Anna Genrich (eighth grade) and Kayla Spicher (seventh grade). All three train at different gyms and have qualified for the Level 9 National meet following outstanding efforts at the Level 9 Regional meet in Lansing April 25-27. Weber, who trains at Michigan Elite Gymnastics Academy in Farmington Hills, took first place in the Junior C Division All-Around: Genrich, who trains at EuroStars Gymnastics in Plymouth, placed fourth in the All-Around in the Junior C Division; and Spicher, who trains at Splitz Gymnastics in Canton, was sixth All-Around in the Junior B Division.

Wildcats nip WL Central

BY ED WRIGHT **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

The longest game in the history of the Plymouth softball program ended up as one of the most joyful as well.

On Wednesday, the Wildcats nipped host Walled Lake Central, 2-1, in a 14-inning marathon. The previous Plymouth record for longest game was 11 innings, set last season against Livonia Stevenson.

The victory improved Plymouth's record to 11-6. Senior right-hander Megan Patterson threw all 14 innings, yielding just

"Megan got stronger and stronger as the game went on," said Plymouth coach Val Canfield. "She was unstoppable. She had great movement and her experience was really a factor late in the game."

The Wildcats' game-winning rally started with the bases empty and two outs when Amy Bondy reached first on a drag bunt and Stacey Klonowski was safe on an error. Amanda

PREP SOFTBALL

to the fence that plated Bondy. Gina Giordano, Burnard and Beth Heldmeyer all had two hits for the 'Cats, who totaled 10 altogether.

"Gina got our first hit — a double in the second inning - that was huge because it showed we could hit their pitcher, Christy Hardy. Hardy is probably the best pitcher we've faced this year."

Central scored its only run in the opening frame. Plymouth knotted the contest at 1-all in the sixth when Heldmeyer singled and scored on Jill Brennan's linedrive triple down the right-field

The key defensive play for the winners unfolded in the 12th when with the potential winning run on second base, Plymouth third baseman Burnard dove to her left to deflect a line drive headed for left field. Klonowski, playing shortstop, grabbed the deflected ball and fired it to first to get the batter and end the

Burnard then ripped a long single ewright@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2108

TENNIS RESULTS

SALEM 4 LIVONIA STEVENSON 4 THURSDAY AT SALEM

No. 1 singles: Lindsay Hostetter (LS) defeated Tracy Lytie, 6-1, 6-1; No. 2: Laura Sims (LS) def. Alli Carpenter, 4-6, 6-2, 6-1; **No. 3:** Paige McNamara (LS) def. Liz McKinley, 6-1, 6-2; **No. 4:** Linda Ling (S) def. Carli Marschner, 6-3, 6-1

No. 1 doubles: Rachel Norman-Ariel Rojo (S) def. Katev Roberts-Katherine Morse, 7-5, 7-5; No. 2: Katie Fletcher-Kerry MacDonald (S) def. Gabriel Sabatini-Laura Gumpper, 6-2, 6-2; No. 3: Ashley Benvenuti-Shannon Dwight (LS) def. Emma Vanhoof-Emily Hayter, 7-5, 5-7, 6-2; No. Jagodzinski-Simona Enea, 7-5, 6-2.

SALEM 7 W.L. WESTERN 1

WEDNESDAY AT WESTERN No. 1 singles: Tracy Lytle (S) defeated Kelly Doherty, 6-1, 6-2; No. 2: Alli Carpenter (S) def. Jillian Bean, 6-2, 6-2; No. 3: Liz McKinley (S) def. Saki Masuda, 6-1, 6-0; No. 4: Linda Ling (S) def.

No. 1 doubles: 1. Rachel Norman-Ariel Rojo

(S) def. Michele Cha-Erica Osip, 6-0, 6-1; No. 2: Katie Fletcher-Kerry MacDonald (S) def. Emily Sklar-Nicole Jackson, 6-2, 6-3; **No. 3:** Vidya Sadasivan-Janani Sadasivan (WLW) def. Emma Vanhoof-Emily Hayter, 6-7(3), 4-6; **No. 4:** Amanda Emmons-Alex Lamb (S) def. Lauren Sleven-Ursula

PLYMOUTH 4 LIVONIA FRANKLIN 4

DUAL-MEET RECORDS: Salem, 6-2-1.

WEDNESDAY AT FRANKLIK No. 1 singles: Angelica Woods (LF) defeated Lauren Strahm, 6-1, 6-1; No. 2: Emily Wisniewski (LF) def. Kylie Mackenzie, 7-5, 7-5; No. 3: Emma

Stack (LF) def. Whitney Askew, 7-6, 6-0; No. 4: Chelsea Craig (P) def. Jessica Jagleo, 6-0, 6-1. No. 1 doubles: Ellen Mitchell-Shannon O'Guinn (P) def. Lauren Osiwala-Jennifer Neautu,

6-4, 6-3; **No. 2:** Michelle Thompson-Angela Tomassini (LF) def. Radhika Patel-Jessica Bracey, 6-1, 6-0; No. 3: Claire Marchesano-Gina Matai (P) def. Stephanie Belcher-Lauren Pennings, 6-0 3-6, 6-4; No. 4: Mahela Mashraf-Lauren Jeung (P) def. Crystal Henderson-Jennifer Rellinger,





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GIRLS TRACK RESULTS

LIVONIA FRANKLIN 78 **PLYMOUTH 59**

THURSDAY AT FRANKLIN **Shot put:** 1. Ashley Price LF), 36 feet, 5.5 inches; 2. Rvan Buchanan (P), 32-2: 3 Ryan Buchanan (7), 32-2; 3. Savannah Haig (LF), 30-4.5. **Discus:** 1. Ashley Price (LF), 45-4; 2. Savannah Haig (LF), 43-4; Ryan Buchanan

Long jump: 1. Kelly Tapella (LF), 15-11; 2. Stephanie Okolo (P), 14-9.5; Jill Morton (P), 14-3.75. High jump: 1. Liz Holloway (LF), 5-0; 2. Emily Quint (LF), 5-0; 3. Sam Culp

(LF), 4-8, Pole vauit: 1. Meghan Powers (LF), 9-6; 2. Emily Quint (LF), Beah Knisely

3,200-meter relay: 1. Plymouth (Molly Slavens, Ahearn, Etleva Mema, Kelly Hahn), 11:03.54; 2. Franklin

11:21.97. 100 hurdles: 1. Jen Muller (LF), 18.18; 2. Mandy McManus (P), 18.37; 3. Sam Campbell (LF), 18.52. 100 dash: 1. Stephanie Okolo (P), 12.75; 2. Monica Hardy (LF), 13.35; 3. Molly

800 relay: 1. Franklin, 1:50; 2. Plymouth, 1:59. 1,600 run: 1. Megan McPherson (LF), 5:27.58; 2. Kelly Hahn (P), 5:44.82; 3. Mallory Church (LF),

Hirst (LF), 13,41

3. Mailory Church (LF), 5:57.37. 400 relay: 1. Plymouth (Jili Morton, Mandy McManus, Walker, Stephanie Okofo), 52.24; 2. Franklin, 52.41.

Franklin, 52.41.
400 dash: 1. Ashly
Butkowski (LF), 1:03.2; 2.
Senneca Scott (LF), 1:03.63;
3. Bacha (P), 1:06.02.
300 hurdles: 1.
Shannon Niznik (LF), 52.78;
2. Mandy McManus (P),
56.69; 3. Senneca Scott
(LF), 57.46.
800 run: 1. Kelly Hahn
(P). 2:29.41; 2. Mallory

(P), 2:29.41; 2. Mallory Church (LF), 2:33.13; 3. McPherson (LF), 2:33.61. **200 dash:** 1. Stephanie

Okolo (P), 26.73; 2. Monica Hardy (LF), 27.76; 3. Walker 3,200 run: 1. Moliy

Slavens (P), 12,36,34; 2. Green (P), 13:14,3; 3. Lauren Ahearn (P), 13:16,24, 1,600 relay: 1.
Plymouth (Bacha, Saati, S.
Brown, Hahn); 2. Franklin.
DUAL-MEET RECORDS:

Franklin, 4-1 overall, 3-1 in the WLAA Western Division.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

BOYS TRACK RESULTS

INDIAL FRANKINI N 77

PLYMOUTH 65

Shot put: 1. Sam Richards (P), 45 feet, 8.5 inches; 2. Cory Gomoli (P), 43-3; 3. Nate Coleman (LF), 43-25. Discus: 1. Jarius Woolfork (LF), #15-8; 2. Nate Coleman (LF), #12-5.

Long jump: 1. Connor McKinney (P), 19-4; 2. Brandon Roberts (P), 19-3,75; 3. Isaac Cadet (LF), 14-3,25.

With jumps: 1. Tourism of LFE, Brandon Roberts (P), 19-3, 18-18.

High jump: 1. Tony Lawson (LF), 5-8; 2. Kevin Beadle (LFO, 5; 3. 3. Pawon Dahliwal (P), 5-3.

Pole vault: 1. Ben Ambrose (P), 12-6; 2. Nick Fenner (LF),

Pole vauft: 1. Ben Ambrose (P), 12-6; 2. Nick Fenner (LF), 12-6; 3. Kevin Beadle (LF), 12-0.

3,200-meter relay: 1. Plymouth (Kyle Wallath, Nuemann, Derek Lax, Justin Huey); 2. Franklin.

110-meter high hurdles: 1. Stuart Gregory (LF), 15.79; 2. Cameron Wiudyka (LF), 16.68; 3. Kevin Beadle (LF), 17.40.

100 dash: 1. Paul Voegele (LF), 11.20; 2. Connor McKinney (P), 11.20; 3. Darell Myree (LF), 11.37,

800 relay: 1. Franklin, 1:34.58; 2. Plymouth, 1:46.22.
1,600 runs: 1. Matt Lewandowski (P), 4:59.62; 2. Mike Kroatovich (LF), 4:44.59; 3. Evan Sirena (LF), 4:50.39.

400 relay: 1. Franklin, 4:376; Plymouth, 5:076.

400 relay: 1. Franklin, 43.76; Plymouth, 50.76.
400 relay: 1. Franklin, 43.76; Plymouth, 50.76.
400 dash: 1. Mike Hanchett (P), 52.75; 2. Tony Lawson
(LF), 55.35; 3. Ryan Tarhanich (LF), 57.10.
300 hurdies: 1. Stuart Gregory (LF), 42.24; 2. Cameron
Wiudyka (LF), 43.84; 3. Ken Lomske (P), 44.42.
800 runs: 1. Kyle Wallath (P), 204.6; 2. Matt Lewandowski
(P), 208.15; 3. Mike Krcatovich (LF), 209.63. **200 dash:** 1. Connor McKinney (P), 22.81; 2. Darell Myree (LF), 23.52; 3. Mike Hanchett (P), 24.09.

3,200 rum: 1. Justin Huey (P), 10:17.47; 2. Evan Sirena (LF), 10:24.97; 3. Warren Buzzard (P), 10:30:10.

1,600 relay: 1. Plymouth (Kyle Wallath, Ken Lomske, Connor McKinney, Mike Hanchett); 2. Franklin.

CANTON 87 WLL WESTERN 50

THURSDAY AT WESTERN

Shot put: 1. Rob Moores (C), 38 feet, 6 inches; 2. McKenzie (WLW), 36-1.5; 3. Shafow (WLW), 35-11.5. **Discus:** 1. Calo (WLW), 134-7; 2. Jason Foster (C), 121-4; 3. Shafow (WLW), 111-1.

Long jump: 1. Ocie Lewis (C), 21-0; 2. Byars (WLW), 19-8.5; 3. Kagges (WLW), 19-5.5. High jump: 1. Keith Zech (C), 6-0; 2. Ben Spreitzer (C), 5-8;

Kyle Blega (C), 5-6.
 Pole vautt 1. Chris McGinnis (C), 13-0; 2. Eddie Koelzer (C).
 11-0; 3. Gage Hermann (C), 10-6.
 3.200-meter relay: 1. Canton (Scott Zech, Keith Zech, Paul Rakovitis, Josh Hurst), 8:32-9; 2. Western, 8:40.6.
 110 high fuurdies: 1. Tim Befcher (C), 16.7; 2. Sherif Hassanien (C), 17.9; 3. Ross (WLW), 18.0.
 100 dash: 1. Doe (WLW), 11.2; 2. Eric Piwowar (C), 11.3; 3.
 Oriel Awis (C) 11.8.

BOO relay: 1. Canton (Ryan Randall, Sherif Hassanien, m Belcher, Eric Piwowar), 134,5; 2. Western, 136,2. 1,600 rum: 1. C. Schnaible (WLW), 437,4; 2. Derek Hoerman (C), 4:44.9; 3. Josh Hurst (C), 4:46.3. 400 relay: 1. Canton (Ryan Randall, Ocie Lewis, Adam omers, Eric Piwowar), 45.2; 2. Western, 45.6. 400 dash: 1. J. Schnaible (WLW), 51.5; 2. Sherif Hassanien

), 52.3; 3. Davion Stackhouse (C), 52.4. **300 hurdles:** 1. Tim Belcher (C), 41.1; 2. Kyle Breitmeyer , 43.6; 3. Ross (WLW), 44.4. 800 run: 1. Keith Zech (C), 2:05.8; 2. Mehringer (WLW); 3.

Creadle (WLW). **200 dash:** 1, Doe (WLW), 23.3: 2. Ryan Randali (C), 24.2; 3. Ocie Lewis (C), 24.6. 3,200 run: 1. C. Schnaible (WLW), 10:23.3; 2. Kyle Clinton

(C), 10:26.1; 3. Yajima (WLW), 10:28.9. **1,600 relay:** 1. Western, 3:37.6; 2. Canton (Josh Etim, ordan Wisniewski, Kyle Breitmeyer, Tim Belcher), 3:42.7. **DUAL-MEET RECORDS:** Canton, 5-2 overall, 3-1 WLAA;

BOYS TRACK LEADERS

Ed Merhi (Salem), 47-10.5 Dana Baltazar (Salem), 47-1.5 Sam Richards (Plymouth), 44-1 Adam Love (Garden City), 43-9 Nick Habbert (Garden City), 43-5 Cory Gomolf (Plymouth), 43-2 Rob Moores (Canton), 40-11.5

OBSERVERLAND BOYS TRACK LEADERS

DISCUS Cortney Frazier (Salem), 130-8 Dana Baltazar (Salem), 129-2 Nick Habbert (Garden City), 127-2 Jason Foster (Canton), 125-0 Adam Love (Garden City), 124-7 Mark Tucker (Thurston), 122-7 Keith Choma (Plymouth), 113-7 Corv Gomoll (Plymouth, 109-0 Rob Moores (Canton), 105-3

LONG JUMP Marcus Bennett (Thurston), 21-1 Ocie Lewis (Canton) 21-0 Jace Bearden (Salem), 20-8 Connor McKinney (Plymouth), 20-5 Adam Somers (Canton), 19-2 Brandon Roberts (Plymouth), 19-0 Michael Hines (Thurston), 19-0 Adam Payne (Canton), 18-11 Xavier Long (Garden City), 18-3

Scott Penive (Garden City), 17-10.5 Jace Bearden (Salem), 6-4 Zack Gaskell (Salem), 6-2 Keith Zech (Canton), 6-0 Ben Spreitzer (Canton), 5-8 Adam Payne (Canton), 5-6

Pawon Daliwahl (Plymouth), 5-6 Michael Hines (Thurston) 5-6 Leonard Wernette-Leff (RU), 5-6 Michael Nordby (Garden City), 5-6 Joe Krizanek (Canton) 5-3

Kyle Biega (Canton) 5-3 **POLE VAULT** Brandon Larsen (Garden City), 14-0 Chris McGinnis (Canton), 13-6

Ben Ambrose (Plymouth), 13-6 Brandon Larsen (Garden City), 13-0 Joe Massel (Canton), 12-0 Eddie Koelzer (Canton), 11-6 John Krutty (Salem), 10-6 Gane Hermann (Canton) 10-6 Phil Snyder (Garden City), 10-0 100-METER DASH

Eric Piwowar (Canton), 11.0 Connor McKinney (Plymouth), 11.2 Demetrius Wilson (RU), 11.4 Rico Tyus (Plymouth), 11.5. Devaunta Baker (Garden City), 11.5 Anthony Mullins (Salem), 11.5 Antoine Mitchell (RU), 11.5 Ocie Lewis (Canton), 11.6 Demetrius Wilson (RU), 11.6 Michael Hines (Thurston), 11.8

200-METER BASH Eric Piwowar (Canton), 23.0 Connor McKinney (Plymouth), 23.3 Devaunta Baker (Garden City), 23.5 Ryan Randall (Canton), 23.6 Pat Patin (Salem), 23.7 Malik Rich (Plymouth), 23.11 Ocie Lewis (Canton), 24.0 Jeremy Quillico (Canton), 24.1 Demetrius Wilson (RU), 24.5 August Garrett (Canton), 24.6 Adam Somers (Canton), 24.8

400-METER DASH Sherif Hassanien (Canton), 52.3 Mike Hanchett (Plymouth), 52.6 Stephen Telenko (Salem), 52.9 John Stoddart (Garden City), 53.1 Jordan Wisniewski (Canton), 53.3 Davion Stackhouse (Canton), 53,4 Ken Lomski (Plymouth), 53.9 Chris Jahoda (Canton), 54.0

Kevin Stephens (RU), 54.3 Davon Mullins (Salem), 54.4 800-METER RUN Kyle Wallath (Plymouth), 2:02.9

Ron Berger (Garden City), 2:04 Brian Chambers (Garden City), 2:04 Keith Zech (Canton), 2:05.8 Scott Zech (Canton), 2:06.2 Justin Huey (Plymouth), 2:06.4 Zack Gaskell (Salem), 2:07.5 Josh Hurst (Canton), 2:08.5 Brandon Tofinski (Canton), 2:08.7 Mike Charara (Salem), 2:09.4 Paul Rakovitis (Canton), 2:10.5 1,600-METER RUN

Kevi deBear (Salem), 4:33.0 Derek Hoerman (Canton), 4:36.9 Josh Hurst (Canton), 4:39. Mike Charara (Salem), 4:40.5 Matt Devey (Salem), 4:41.7 Duncan Spitz (Canton), 4:42.2 Zack Spreitzer (Canton), 4:47.3 Craig Cowing (Salem), 4:48.8 Alex Lang (Salem) 4:50.6 Dan Martin (Salem), 4:53.9 3,200-METER RUN

Kevin deBear (Salem), 9:58.7 Duncan Spitz (Canton), 10:03.1 Craig Cowing (Salem), 10:11.2 Jason Smith (Salem), 10:13.9 Matt Devey (Salem), 10:18.9 Kyle Clinton (Canton), 10:20.3 Zack Spreitzer (Canton), 10:27.1 Derek Hoerman (Canton), 10:31.0 Mike Charara (Salem), 10:38.5 Michael Nordby (Garden City), 10:57 110-METER HIGH HURDLES

Vanier Joseph (Thurston) 14.6 Marcus Bennett (Thurston), 14.7 Mike Giles (Salem), 15.5 Scott O'Connor (Salem): 16.5 Tim Beicher (Canton), 16.5 Sherif Hassanien (Canton), 16.8

Quentin Peterson (RU), 17.8 Shawn Calvey (Garden City), 18.0 Jordan Norton (Canton), 18.1 Brandon Pilligian (Plymouth), 18.9 300-METER INTERMEDIATE HURDLES Sherif Hassanien (Canton), 39.9 Tim Beicher (Canton), 40.1 Scott O'Connor (Salem), 41.2

Marcus Bennett (Thurston), 42.1 Mike Giles (Salem), 42.8 Kyle Breitmeyer (Canton), 43.0 Brandon Larsen (Garden City), 44.0 Jordan Wisniewski (Canton), 45.0 MacKenzie Barrett (RU), 45.1 Jordan Norton (Canton), 45.6 400-METER RELAY

Plymouth, 43.1 Canton, 44.6 Salem, 45.5 Thurston, 45.7 Redford Union, 46.3 800-METER RELAY Plymouth, 1:33.5 Canton, 1:33.7 Salem, 1:35.3 Redford Union, 1:36.0 Garden City, 1:39.0 1,600-METER RELAY Plymouth, 3:31.9 Salem, 3:35.2 Canton, 3:35.7 Thurston, 3:42.6 Garden City, 3:49.0 3,200-METER RELAY

Śalem, 8:53.5 *Coaches are encouraged to e-mail updates to Plymouth-Canton Sports Editor

Ed Wright at ewright@hometownlife.com.

Garden City, 8:29.7

Plymouth, 8:33.5

FROM PAGE B1

Canton responded in its half of the first with a pair of runs when Ryan Neu walked, Vaughn reached on an infield single and Stoney ripped a two-run single down the left-field line.

Stoney tried to stretch the hit into a double, but was gunned down on a perfect throw from left-fielder Posler.

The Rocks knotted the game at 2-all in the top of the third when Heath Parling led off with a single, stole second and scored on Ott's single two outs later.

Canton nearly regained the lead in the bottom of the inning, however, with the bases loaded and one out, Dixon's liner was speared by third baseman Lorber, who fired to second to complete an inning-ending double play.

The Chiefs threatened again in the fourth when Seth Tschetter led off with a walk and was replaced by pinch-runner Nick Sweda, who moved to second on Mike Madias's sacrifice bunt. When the next batter, Nick Tomilenko grounded out to short, Sweda attempted to advance to third. The throw from Salem's first baseman to third eluded Lorber, but Posler backed up the play and gunned out Sweda at the plate, despite a head-overheels swan dive slide by the junior speedster.

Vaughn was the only Chief with multiple hits, going 2-for-4 with two runs scored.

Parling (2-for-4) and Ott (2for-4, RBI) had four of the Rocks' five hits.

W.L. CENTRAL 8, PLYMOUTH 3: On Wednesday at Plymouth, the Vikings plated five second-inning runs and never trailed again on the way to posting an impressive WLAA crossover victory over the

Wildcats. Plymouth closed to within 5-3 with three third-inning runs, but Central countered with three of its own in the top of the fourth. Both teams' pitching staffs dominated the rest of the way.

Junior right-hander Brad Lineberry took the loss after yielding eight runs in 3.2 innings. Senior reliever Kyle Sanders shut the door on the Vikings over the final 3.1 innings, allowing just one hit while striking out a pair of Central hits.

Kyle Traver and Travis Mewton were the only two Wildcats to record two hits.

Lineberry and Matt Skubik registered RBI for the 'Cats, who were outhit 8-7.

"Central was able to jump on us early with a two-run single with two outs followed by a big three-run homer in the same inning," Plymouth coach Chuck Adams lamented. "When we were able to climb back into it in the third, Central answered with three more of their own.

"They did a good job of shutting us down the rest of the way with a couple of nice relievers. We will have to regroup and refocus from here. We want to have a big month of May, so now's the time to tighten the bolts."

PCA 10, ROEPER 0: On Thursday at Plymouth Christian, the Eagles soared to a five-inning mercy rule-shortened victory as senior pitcher Trevor Zinn fired a one-

Roeper's lone hit came with one out in the fifth.

The top three batters in the Eagles' line-up -- Trevor Zinn, Kevin Bottorff and Brent Zinn -- were a combined 8-for-8 with a walk and eight runs scored.

Brent Zinn put on a power surge, blasting a double, triple and tape-measure home run over the left field fence. The ball came to rest just short of Joy Rd.

The Eagles' dedicated the game to senior catcher Mitch Geracz, who will miss up to two weeks after suffering an injury. Geracz doubled before the injury.

"Mitch has been splitting time between baseball and golf, so we only get him about half the time on the baseball team," explained PCA coach Joe Bottorff. "We are a much better team when Mitch plays.

"He's a great player and even a better teammate, so we will really miss him."

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SPORTS BRIEFS

Senior health & fitness

The 15th Annual National Senior Health and Fitness Day will be held Wednesday, May 28, from 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the Summit on the Park, located at 46000 Summit Parkway in Canton.

Seniors 55 years and older will have the opportunity to enjoy a variety of senior health and fitness-related activities, including: a 5-kilometer fitness walk in beautiful Heritage Park; low-impact exercise classes such as Arthritis Foundation Tai Chi and Arthritis Foundation Land Exercise programs; free health screenings for individuals 60 and older; fitness center orientations and much more.

Most of the special events designed to promote healthy and active senior lifestyles are free, but participants are required to register by calling the Senior Center at (734) 394-5485.

Anyone interested in the congregate lunch, which is available for a small fee, must register by noon on May 27.

Participants in the 5K walk and the health screenings must also register at the Senior Center front desk. Seniors can also use the Summit facilities all day for

Visit www.leisure.cantonmi.org; or call the Senior Center at (734) 394-5485.

so much, and how I wasn't going to get to play," she said. "I thought about graduation. I thought about the prom..

"A couple of weeks before I got hurt, my mom and I were talking about how lucky I had been to play sports for 11 or 12 years and never get seriously injured. And then I'm almost through my senior season — a few days from tryouts and it happened."

ALWAYS THERE

Displaying amazing loyalty, Jewett hasn't missed a single Plymouth soccer game.

What she does miss are some of the simple things in life human nature convinces most high school athletes to assume will always be there tomorrow.

"I don't know if it can be put into words how much I miss the little things like participating in practices," she said. "Just to be able to touch the ball again would be, well...it's very hard to

When asked if anything good has come out of her misfortune, Jewett offered an inspiring

"A lot, actually," she said, smiling. "My teammates and parents have been there for me for everything. Even the littlest things like climbing stairs are tough, but they've helped me every step of the way.

"When something like this happens, you find out who your true friends are and who will support you through everything.

"And like a wise woman once told me," she concluded, glancing over at her mom, Debbie, "you can take the player out of the game, but you can't take the game out of the player. Soccer will always stay with me. I have a lot of great memories.'

Twist of fate

The two w's in Eric Piwowar's last name are pronounced like v's, which is appropriate because the Canton senior is v-ery, v-ery fast.

The speedster was one of the Canton trackand-field team's top sprinters as a sophomore and his talent transferred over quite nicely to the soccer field, where his spectacular sideline rushes would cause fans' jaws to drop and defenders' mouths to shout, "Oh, shoot!" - or something close to that — when he'd blow past them with his world-class wheels.

At least two Division 1 colleges - Northwestern University and Oakland University — were contemplating offering Piwowar a scholarship. Several DII and DIII colleges also expressed interest in the player Canton coach George Tomasso once said was faster with the ball than without it (and he was mighty fast without it).

However, in a cruel twist of fate, Piwowar's feet proved to be too fast for his own good during an indoor scrimmage game at Michigan State University last winter.

"I was playing a practice game with my club team, the Wolves," he reflected. "I was going in one direction real fast when the ball changed directions. I cut too hard and my foot collapsed."

Piwowar had broken the fifth metatarsal (the pinkie toe) in his foot, forcing him to miss his entire club soccer season.

"As far as the college-recruitment process goes, that was the most important time for me because that's when a lot of the colleges offer scholarships — in the spring of the players' junior season.

"I was devastated. It felt like the end of the world, but my parents (Allan and Gail) helped me get through it. They could feel my misery and they helped me get over it and helped me realize it wasn't the end of the world.'

Short-lived comeback

Thanks to a combination of hard work and patience, Piwowar recovered enough to renew his high school soccer career the following fall. At least temporarily.

"I was feeling pretty good," he said. "My foot ached and pained a little, but I could still play.

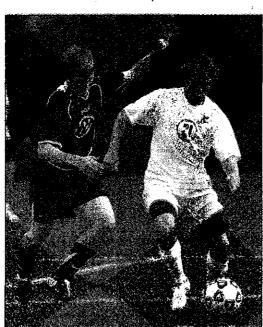
"Then in the first game of the season, my foot got stepped on and the bone broke again. The doctor told me it hadn't healed all the way from the first time I had injured it."

With his senior season of soccer wiped out, Piwowar refused to be swallowed alive by despair.

"The first time I got hurt back in February, I sulked a lot," he admitted. "But when I got hurt during the high school season, I decided to stay positive and try to help the team as much as I



Lindsay Jewett (left) is pictured battling for a loose ball with Canton's Sarah Thomas during her junior season on the Plymouth soccer team. She will miss her entire senior season after suffering a broken leg one week before the 2008 season officially started.



Eric Piwowar (right) attempts to outmaneuver Plymouth Travis Norris during a 2006 game. Piwowar missed all but the first game of the 2007 season with a broken toe.

According to Tomasso, Piwowar helped coach the Chiefs' freshmen team.

More importantly, he offered words of encouragement to his varsity teammates that no professional motivational speaker could have matched.

"It's special people like Eric that create special players," said Tomasso. "Whenever the rest of the team was down, he'd lift them up by saying, 'You think you have it bad? Look at me."

GOOD NEWS...FINALLY! Earlier this year, with his foot feeling better than it had felt in a long time, Piwowar laced up his track shoes and lined up for an indoor race

"I was pretty nervous, because I didn't know what was going to happen," he said. "Honestly, I didn't know if I was still fast or not.

"But after the starting gun sounded, it was like everything came back to be. Running was

like second nature to me." Piwowar placed sixth out of 60 runners in the

100-meter dash. But considering everything he'd been

through, he wouldn't have felt any better if he had won the thing. Since then, Piwowar has not only rejoined the Chiefs' track team, he's a pivotal member of it,

having already hit a blazing 11 seconds flat in

the 100 meters. While Piwowar will never get his senior season of soccer back, the lessons he learned through his ordeal may prove to be more beneficial to him if adversity rears its ugly head

later in his life. He's stared down the worst life has to offer and — like Jewett — has come out of it smiling.

If there's a moral to this story, it is this: Attack every practice and savor every second of every game like it's your last one.

Because as Eric and Lindsay can most assuredly tell you, it just may be.

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Canton boys victorious on 'Senior Night'

The Canton boys lacrosse team's inaugural "Senior Night" couldn't have gone much better Thursday night as the Chiefs pulled out a 7-3 victory over visiting Walled Lake Central in a game played at the PCEP junior varsity stadium.

Trevor Moore and Joey Underwood both notched a pair of goals while Scott Wisniewski, Jordan Emery and Brett Phillips netted one a

The victory improved Canton's record to 7-3 heading into Friday night's home game against Saline.

BRIGHTON 16, PCS LADY **WARRIORS:** On Thursday at Brighton, the Bulldogs broke a second-place league tie with

vincing victory. "Kudos to Brighton's speed, athleticism and stick skills,"

the Lady Warriors with a con-

said PCS coach Dave Medley. "Their years of playing lacrosse, the depth of their program and overall talent were far superior to us on this evening.

"This was probably one of their better games of the season, and I'd have to say we are a better team than what we showed in this game."

PCS's goals came from the sticks of juniors Chelsea Olson and Nicol Rottell.

GOLF RESULTS

LIVOHIA CHURCHILL 158,

SALEM 161

MAY 1 AT WHISPERING WILLOWS CHURCHILL SCORERS: Josh Proben, 38 (medalist); Kevin Robinson, 39; Adam Yarber,

SALEM SCORERS: Adam Powers, 39; Aaron Thompson, 40; Tyler Jeleniewski and Joel Cheesman, 41 each; Matt Smidebush, 47; Eddie

Mazorwicz, 49. **DUAL MEET RECORDS:** Churchill, 4-3 overall,

WALLED LAKE WESTERN 160 CANTON 163 APRIL 36 AT BAY POINTE COUNTRY CLUB **WESTERN'S SCORES:** Brad Stone, 37 (medalist); Sean Armstrong , 39; Hrjun Mahajan, 41; Blake Hunter, 43; Justin Zabkiewicz, 44; Dave

CANTON'S SCORES: Clark Albers, 39; Aaron Blase, 41; Jeremy Lindlbauer, 41; Andrew Rickerman, 42; Zach Conrad, 42; Brendan Muir,

DUAL MEET RECORDS: Canton, 3-5;

WALLED LAKE CENTRAL 152 SALEM 155

CENTRAL'S SCORERS: Chris Dodge, 37; Joe Storrs, 37; Shawn Coho, 39; Brett Abraham, 39;

Joel Cheesman, 39; Aaron Thompson, 40; Adam Powers, 40; Eddie Mazorwicz, 40; Alex Murray, 41. **DUAL-MEET RECORDS:** Salem, 2-3; Central,

PLYMOUTH 155, LIVONIA CHURCHUL 156

APRIL 29 AT FOX HILLS (WOODLANDS) PLYMOUTH SCORERS: Kyle Sanders. 37 (co-medalist); Kyle Eisiminger, 38; Andrew Overmeyer, 39; James Bryans, 41; Trevor Birdwell, 42; Ryan Bauer, 45.

CHURCHILL SCORERS: Dan Bostick, 37 (co. Adam Yarber and Kevin Robinson, 41 each; Ryar DUAL-MEET RECORDS: Plymouth, 3-2 overall

Mustangs' 'D' puts clamps on Chiefs

BY ED WRIGHT OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Trying to score on Northville's girls soccer team this season has been about as excruciatingly painful as filling up the gas tank in an SUV.

As a result, the Mustangs are sitting in the driver's seat of the Western Lakes Activities Association's

Canton found out the hard way how tough Northville's 'D' is Wednesday night when the Mustangs recorded their 10th shutout in 12 games in a 1-0 triumph over the hard-charging Chiefs.

The two teams played to a scoreless tie just two The victory lifted No. 1-ranked Northville to 10-0-

2 overall and 5-0-1 in the Western Lakes Activities Association's Western division, one game ahead of the second-place Chiefs.

The lone goal was scored in the first half by Samantha Mustonen, who was assisted by Kathleen

Sophomore Elana Ryznar notched the shutout thanks to a spectacular diving save mid-way through the second half.

"Elana rotates with another sophomore, Katherine Jansen," said Northville coach Ron Meteyer. "She's an ODP goal-tender who has a lot of size and athleticism."

LIVONIA CHURCHILL 3, SALEM 0: On Wednesday at Churchill, the Chargers scored three second-half goals to post the key WLAA Lakes Division victory.

The loss dropped the Rocks to 3-3 in the Division, two games behind Churchill.

"I thought we played very well in the first half," said Salem coach Joe Nora. "We were organized and made some nice plays. Kristina Klusek and Ariel Dews both had a few chances, but their shots didn't find the back

Nora praised the play of senior net-minder Kristen Dondzilla, who made three scintillating first-half saves to keep the game scoreless.

"In the second half, Churchill really came at us," Nora said. "There were a few occasions where we found ourselves out of position or a little unorganized and they took advantage.

"Lindsay Roy almost broke the shutout with a great free kick from about 30 yards out, but their keeper (Stephanie Turner) made a nice diving save at the near post to keep it out."



Plymouth's Kelly Dobbs (right), pictured above in a game earlier this season, scored a pair of goals in the Wildcats' 8-0 triumph over Livonia Franklin Wednesday night.

PLYMOUTH 8, LIVONIA FRANKLIN 0: On Wednesday at Franklin, the Wildcats posted their second consecutive victory to improve their record to 3-5-2 overall and 2-3 in the WLAA's Western Division.

Kelly Dobbs and Megan Quinlan both registered a pair of goals for the winners while Katie Moss, Emilie Guglielmo, Carlee Barackman and McKenzie Hengesh tallied single goals for the winners.

Freshman net-minder Marissa Williams recorded her second consecutive shutout.

The Wildcats led 4-0 at the half.

PCA 2, OAKLAND CHRISTIAN 0: On Wednesday at Plymouth Christian, the Eagles improved to 9-2 overall and 4-0 in the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference's Red Division with an impressive twogoal win over Oakland.

' Jalese Debiasi and Megan Polera scored the winners' goals, both of which were assisted by Brooke Williams. The Eagles return to action Tuesday at Ann Arbor Greenhills.

into Monday's cross-campus rivalry contest against Plymouth. "I don't know if it's bad luck, or bad bounces, or what it is - we're just not finding the back of

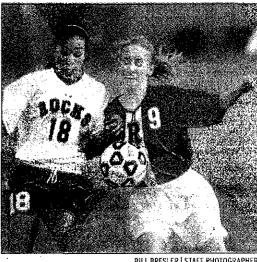
"I do know what we're going to need to work on in practice if we're going to succeed in the future. Overall, this was a great rivalry game like it always is with Salem."

The most dazzling save of the second half game with 12:10 left when Dondzilla went horizontal to knocked away a bullet off the foot of Lisa Pierce. "I was very happy with the way the girls played

tonight," said Nora, whose team stands at 4-3-3. "We played a great first half against Churchill the other night, but we got disorganized in the second half, which you can't do against a good team like Churchill. "Our goal tonight was to play an entire game. I thought we possessed the ball about 65 percent of the

time in the first half. I don't know what George said to his team at halftime, but they came out in the second half and really stepped up their game." Salem, which played without Katie Shull and

Lauren Booth, was bolstered by strong defensive play from Lindsey Roy, Sara O'Leary and Maggie Huls. Offensively, freshman forward Kristina Klusek provided a spark.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

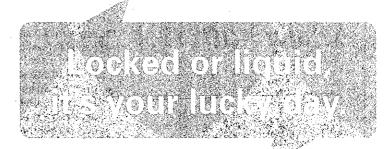
Salem's Ariel Dews (left), pictured in a game earlier this season, played a key role in the Rocks' 0-0 draw with Canton Friday night.

Bre Bellovary notched the shutout between the pipes for the Chiefs. Offensively, Canton was led by Pierce, Jessikah McClendon, Megan Staub, Rymph and Laura Daniels.

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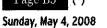
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The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

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



Event raises awareness about disorder

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN O&E STAFF WRITER

haron Ostalecki admits she was a Type A personality until her seven-mile a day runs were cut short by undiagnosed muscle pain and fatigue.

Twenty years ago, medical professionals wouldn't even acknowledge fibromyalgia existed. Ostalecki went from doctor to doctor who seemed to all come to the conclusion it was all in her head. Finally she found a physician who was willing to work with her to relieve the symptoms.

Ostalecki, a nutrition counselor, was so relieved to regain energy and resolve sleep problems she wanted to share the information so H.O.P.E., the educational support group for Helping Our Pain and Exhaustion, was born. The nonprofit organization regularly hosts Tuesday evening lectures at the Farmington Hills Public Library to update patients on the latest information about the disorder that affects more women than men.

"You need to find what helps you," said Ostalecki. "There's no standard protocol. Exercise is important. Everyone has to figure it out for yourself."

DECADES OF RESEARCH

Ostalecki's decades of research on the disorder led to the book, Fibromyalgia: The Complete Guide from Medical Experts and Patients published by Jones and Barlett, and presentations by medical experts in

conjunction with Fibromyalgia Awareness Day. The event takes place May 13 at the Courtyard by Marriott in Farmington Hills.

Dr. Dennis Dobritt leads off the evening talking about diagnosis and treatment. Dobritt is director of Tri-County Pain Consultants in Livonia, Farmington Hills and Royal Oak. Those in attendance will be able to speak as well with Dr. Joseph Meerschaert, a retired physical medicine and rehabilitation physician who specialized in fibromyalgia and chronic pain; Peter Ianni, a pain psychologist in private practice in Farmington Hills; dentist Ghabi Kaspo, TMJ and Orofacial Pain Management, Troy, and physical therapist Loren DeVinney of West Bloomfield.

"Fibromyalgia is starting to be recognized in the community. As an advocate and support group we try to raise awareness," said Ostalecki. "The event is open to the general public. We hope to answer questions and help people to see fibromyalgia is real. There's still misunderstanding. Even with awareness increasing we run into a medical establishment that knows little about fibromyalgia. We hope patients take some of this awareness back to their doctors. We want people to recognize it is a valid medical issue.'

Dr. Safwan Badr wrote about different sleep disorders in Ostalecki's book.

"Seventy percent of those with fibromyalgia don't go into the deep stages of sleep where the body repairs itself," said

FIBROMYALGIA AWARENESS DAY

What: Speakers on diagnosing, treating and understanding the disorder, yoga demonstration, chair massage available

When: 6-9:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 13 Where: Courtyard by Marriott, 31525 W. 12 Mile, Farmington Hills

Cost: \$10. Pre-registration encouraged. Call (248) 344-0896 or send e-mail to smo23915@ aol.com.

Ostalecki. "Sleep is the No. 1 thing that needs to be corrected and can cause cognitive issues, fibrofog (impaired brain function), the not sleeping problem, not being

Badr speaks about Understanding Sleep at 8 p.m. The West Bloomfield resident is chief of the pulmonary, critical care and sleep medicine division, Harper Hospital, and professor of medicine and associate chairman, department of internal medicine, Wayne State University. He usually only sees fibromyalgia patients referred for another disorder like sleep apnea on which he does

"Because the sleep symptoms are nonspecific: fatigue, sleepiness, most of the time it is kind of ignored," said Badr. "Patients work around it or ignore it.

"I'll be describing all the physiology of sleep in the sense of how much sleep we need. Sleep deprivation has significant adverse consequences on health, a big effect on job performance, alertness, motor vehicle accidents. It contributed to a good number

of highly famous spectacular industrial accidents like Three Mile Island, Chernobyl, Exxon Valdez.

"People with fibromyalgia have poor quality sleep. Patients know exactly what it means, patients who wake up tired, fatigued, just don't feel themselves."

TREATMENT PLAN

Badr's job is to unlock the cause and come up with a treatment.

"We don't have a comprehensive treatment for fibromyalgia," said Badr. "We try to look at what else is going on, is there snoring, sleep apnea, restless leg syndrome? There are all kind of things we look at and review the medication patients are on so we make sure there's no effect on sleep. Insomnia has to be added to sleep complaints of patients."

In the beginning Ostalecki was able to rest with medication but then began doing yoga and meditation. She rarely takes prescription sleep medication anymore since starting a routine consisting of yoga at night, aerobics in the morning. Ostalecki is currently co-authoring a book to answer 100 questions about fibromyalgia with Dr. Martin Tamler.

"Nutrition is really important," said Ostalecki. "Fibromyalgia patients need to stay away from refined carbohydrates. The problem is the sugars. It's comforting but the protein levels go down. They need beans, fruits, vegetables, whole grains, and then protein.

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MAY

MS Walk Keep us moving towards a cure by joining a team, raising funds, and/or volunteering in the Metro Detroit Northeast Walk MS at Troy High School on Sunday. May 4. To register or for information, visit www.nationalMSsociety.org/mig.

Volunteers needed

For Camp Discovery for children with epilepsy (June 29 to July 3), at Sherman Lake YMCA Outdoor Center in Augusta, northwest of Kalamazoo. Volunteer training from experts on epilepsy and camp procedures Saturday, June 28. Free room/board, For information/application, visit www.epilepsymichigan.org, call (800) 377-6226, option 1, Ext. 231, or send e-mail to sdarroch@epilepsymichi-

gan.org. CHADD meeting

Sari Solden, award winning author, will be speaking on Women and ADD (Attention-Deficit Disorder) 10 years later at the Monday, May 5 meeting

at Way Elementary School, 765 W. Long Lk, Bloomfield Hills. Registration begins at 7 p.m. Free for members and their families, \$5 donation for nonmember families, Call (248) 988-6716 or visit www.chadd.net/527.

Divorce support group

Group discussion; attorney Patricia Kasody-Coyle will also be available to answer questions in a private setting on a first come, first served basis, 7-9 p.m. Tuesday, May 13, in the Women's Resource Center (room 225), McDowell Center, Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty, Livonia. (734) 462-4443.

Thyroid workshop

Your Thyroid Does All That? Yes, & More! Find Out What You Need To Know To Stay Healthy, a seminar 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 7, with Dr. William Karl, D.C., on the third floor of the Livonia Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile, between Merriman and Farmington Rd. Visit www.KarlHolisticHealthCare.com for more information. To register, call (734)

MEDICAL DATEBOOK Fibromyalgia awareness day

Meeting 1-3 p.m. Thursday, May 8, at Merriman Road Baptist Church, 2055 Merriman, one block south of Ford, Garden City. For more information,

call Lucy at (734) 462-1768. Fibromyalgia lectures

Speakers on diagnosing, treating and understanding the disorder. yoga demonstration, chair massages 6-9:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 13, at Courtyard by Marriott, 31525 W. 12 Mile, Farmington Hills, Cost \$10. Pre-registration encouraged. Call (248) 344-0896 or send e-mail to smo23915@aol.com. Presented by H.O.P.E. educational support group.

Skin cancer screening

Free 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday, May 15, at the Marian Professional Building, 14555 Levan, Suite 410, Livonia. Call (734) 462-9499. By appointment only.

Art dash

To benefit the Arbor Hospice Foundation Thursday, May 15, at St. John's Golf and Conference Center, Plymouth, An evening

of wine, food, auction items, and fun. For tickets, call (734) 794-5152.

Asthma walk American Lung Association of Michigan Asthma Walk will be held 9 a.m. (registration at 7:30 a.m.) Saturday, May 17, at the Detroit International Riverfront. The walk will raise funds for lung health education, advocacy, asthma treatments and

research. Registration is free. Families, children, individuals, and teams are welcome to participate. For details and to register, visit www.AsthmaWalk.org or call 1-800-LUNG-USA

Hearing loss event

Day at the State Capitol in Lansing Wednesday, May 21, chartered bus leaves Tel/Twelve Mall (cost \$30), participants meet with their state representative and senator, and attend a session of the Senate and House, hearing access provided the entire event. For a registration form, call (586) 247-4053 or send e-mail to noibben1@ hfhs.org. A bus registration form may be obtained from the Hearing Loss Association of Michigan, P.O. Box 4808, Troy, MI 48099.

Race for the cure

17th Annual Susan G. Komen Detroit Race for the Cure® presented by Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer institute - 5K Run/Walk and One-Mile Walk 7-11:30 a.m. Saturday, May 31, at Comerica Park, in Detroit. In 2007, more than \$11 million raised from the race supported local breast cancer screening, treatment and education programs. In addition, nearly \$350,000 was contributed the national organization for breast cancer research, educational, scientific and outreach programs

Organizations can get involved through sponsorship opportunities or by hosting a team. For information on sponsoring the race, call (248) 351-1862. Online team registration runs to May 13, individual registration through May 29, at www.karmanos. org/raceforthecuredetroit. Cost is \$12-\$40 and varies by age, the time you register and online versus on-site registration. On-site registration will be available at May 30 Expo or on Race day beginning at 7 a.m. Komen Detroit Race for the Cure® Expo will be held 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday, May 30, at the Max M.

Fisher Music Center, 3711 Woodward, Detroit. The free event offers entertainment, merchandise, pink ribbons to honor loved ones and other special surprises. Visit www. karmanos.org or call (800) KARMANOS.

Recovery, Inc. The support group meets at 10 a.m., Walnut Lake Road and Green, West

Wednesdays at Prince of Peace Church, Bloomfield, Recovery, Inc. is an international, non-profit, self-help community based organization that helps people with nervous and emotional disorders reduce their suffering and improve quality of life. Call Martha Paul at (248) 682-9362 or send e-mail to marthapaul@ sbcglobal.net.

The self-help meetings in Livonia run 7:30 p.m. Monday St. Matthew's Methodist Church, 30900 W. Six Mile; 1:15 p.m. Thursday, Mt. Hope Congregational Church, 30330 Schoolcraft, and 2:30 p.m. Sunday at Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church, 9601 Hubbard. Call (313) 561-2521 or visit www.recovery-inc. org. No charge, contributions collected.

Eat your veggies for better health

Gary from Sterling Heights emails asking what he could add to his diet to help keep him healthy?

Gary, that is a great question!

The answer

of color, in

the form of

fruits and

vegetables.

has shown

New research

is to add lots



Peter's **Principles**

Peter Nielsen

the more colorful your diet, the more antioxidants you get, which are key to

youthful skin, healthy bones, sharp memory and fighting and preventing disease. Each color has a different class of nutrients.

Yelow and orange fruits and vegetables such as

carrots and melon can reduce the risk of cancer. Green, such as spinach and broccoli can keep your vision sharp and clear.

Blue and purple, in your blueberries and blackberries can prevent tumors from forming and suppress their growth.

Red in tomatoes and watermelon can protect against cancer and heart disease. Finally, white, such as cauliflower can help fight off stomach and colon cancer. For the best benefit, mix and match these foods.

Ted from Detroit e-mails asking how important is it for him to lose weight? Ted, it is critical to slim

down and stay healthy. It could save your life. The World Cancer Research

Fund found a new link

to link six types of cancer to body fat, five more than in its previous report 10 years ago. Among the new types of cancer are colorectal and breast cancer. Researchers believe processed meats, red meat and alcohol are the big causes for the increased risk. They now recommend what I have been saying for a

between body fat and cancer.

It found convincing evidence

long time. Thirty minutes of exercise daily! Eat fruits and vegetables, lean meats and drink plenty of water.

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

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Sunday, May 4, 2008

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

www.hometownlife.com

Psychotherapy important for people with developmental disabilities

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

eople with developmental disabilities include those with Down's syndrome, autism, congenital mental retardation, learning disabilities and brain damage not acquired by trauma and the cause of which is often

One thing that all of these subgroups have in common is the presence of mental disabilities from birth onward. I recently read an article in The Annals of The American



Len McCulloch

Psychotherapy Association (Winter 2006 Edition) which runs a quarterly "Ask the Experts" section. In this volume, the question posed was: "Do you think that individuals with developmental disabilities have a need for psychotherapy? Why or why not?" It surprised me that the question was

being asked since I have been working with people considered developmentally disabled for three decades. I have found that mental/emotional treatment, in addition to other forms of interventions, have been

beneficial to the functioning of these people. I thought the experts would answer, "Of course it is helpful," and leave it at that. But instead, they went on to describe several areas of important benefits.

The article pointed out how such interventions can provide hope, empathy and direction. It stated that many issues arise from the inability of patients with developmental disabilities to understand how to change. It was noted that helping the individual to understand that they are more than their disability is very helpful.

The article went on to note that it can be most helpful for the individual to realize that he or she is more than a disability. He or she is a son or daughter, brother or sister, uncle or aunt, friend, etc.

Another issue of importance, which I have encountered in my work, is the experience of loss. Caretakers or staff who work with the developmentally disabled, particularly those who live in a group home, often move out of the individual's life due to a high employee turnover rate.

The authors point out that there is also the issue of the individual wanting the same lifestyle as other citizens in terms of a job, intimate relationships and creating a family,

The developmentally disabled population has a rate of coexisting psychiatric disorders two or three times that of the general population. Mood disorders including depression, phobias, and even psychosis are often seen. Interventions can lead to happier and more productive lives

We need to remember they go through the life cycle just as we do. They love, laugh, cry, wish and hope. Often, they need and can benefit from the personal connection which a good therapeutic relationship can accomplish.

In my experience, I see their needs for empathy. listened to, and for being understood. I have seen that the relationship between this type of patient and therapist can

have a predictable calming effect. Some of these people are the happiest which I have met. Their naiveté about how the world, beyond their immediate circle, can shield them from the "calamities of living" that the rest of us are aware of and often have trouble dealing with. Still, many cognitively impaired individuals are unhappy and need acceptance, direction, guidance and

advocacy. They can benefit from having a confidant who is willing to accept them as they are and help them to express their feelings to family members, case managers and peers in their lives. The role of the therapist in the lives of these people can also extend beyond the privacy, afforded them, of the therapy room — something which the developmentally disabled

person has never experienced. Another way to be helpful is through the formation of small groups of these challenged people in order to promote their socialization, self awareness and friendship among themselves. In my current work, I am forming a singing group made up of individuals with such disabilities as

Down's syndrome, mental retardation, autism, etc. In my work with individuals who have sustained traumatic brain injuries, choir therapy has proven itself over the past decade to be of great benefit to these individuals. They raise community awareness about their special needs and they encourage others to volunteer and get involved.

The new singing group will be forming from the population of the Macomb Oakland Regional Center which services approximately 4,700 developmentally disabled people. Adult and youth choirs are now being formed. Of course, good singing skills are not necessary and our product will not be one of a musical masterpiece, but will be "therapeutic" for all involved.

Len McCulloch is a Diplomate of The American Psychotherapy Association. He has credentials in mental health, substance abuse, brain injury and social work. His column "Our Mental Health" has been running continuously for six years in the Observer & Eccentric and other publications. He is co-founder of The Therapy Choirs of Michigan, see www.therapychoirs.org. He can be reached at (248) 476-9329.



Senior and Cadet Scouts Cayden Samuels, Danielle Findsen, Stephanie Heller, Alyssa Heller, Kelsey Heller, and Annie bergman of Troop 900 in Canton work on a team building exercise in Kellogg Park.

Good times for a good cause

BY BRAD KADRICH OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Three Plymouth parks were turned into bastions of community service last weekend when hundreds of Scouts from several different Girl Scout troops in the Huron Valley Council decided "Stepping Out for a New Beginning" was the right thing to do.

The Scouts divided their time and energy between Kellogg Park,



explains cats during a presentation and donations at 'Stepping Out for a New Beginning.'

Jaycee Park and Lions Park to benefit a variety of organizations, such as the Michigan Humane Society and pitals, and

for two shelters: First Step and LaCasa.

The four-hour event drew hundreds of scouts and even more visitors. It also helped the girls accomplish an even higher purpose: Community service.

"The could be working on a badge, or they might need community service time," said volunteer Debbie Linford. "This is the perfect place to do

The idea was to collect "wish list" items for the two domes-

tic violence shelters, and to attract visitors nine troops spread out over the three parks. The troops in Kellogg Park sponsored events such as sack- and three-legged races, ring toss games, balloon animals and Webkins. Troops in Lions Park played international games and made cards for veterans hospitals and overseas military units. In Jaycee Park, there was an obstacle course, a recycle bean-bag toss and an "Animal Rescue Relay."

Girls from Troop 1599 ran a booth to benefit the Michigan Humane Society, where they led a Doggie Dash game teaching about animal care, they also taught mini-presentations on animal care and animal safety and they gave out information for the MHS And the **Humane Society of Huron** Valley.

Before the Kellogg Park event, the troop had already contributed a number of items to help the animals, including doing a blanket drive, making over 200 "pupsicles," building some 30 kitty forts, and providing lots of supplies, such as food.

"They did a huge amount of work to earn their Bronze Award by making crafts for the animals and by collecting and donating a large amount of items to MHS," said Kim Korona, MHS's Community Humane Initiatives educator.

Troop 1225 from Smith Elementary has also been



Scouts from Girl Scout Troopo 1599 explain pet care to a crowd at their Jaycee Park booth.

working with the Michigan Humane Society, and their booth focused on that project.

Troop leader Julie Wickman of Plymouth said the troop focused on the Michigan Humane Society as a means of working on their "Pet Care"

"It's part of making sure we take care of the animals in our environment," Wickman said.

Girl Scout Richa Patel, 10. of Canton said the girls hoped to convince people to use the Michigan Humane Society, rather than retail pet outlets, to obtain pets.

"The Humane Society is a better place to get a pet," Richa said. "It gives the animal a home."

bkadrich@hometownlife.com (734) 459-2700

Salvation Army, post office partner for food drive



The 'Stamp Out Hunger' food drive is scheduled for Saturday, May 10.

The Salvation Army Plymouth Corps, in part- in northern Wayne County. nership with the National Association of Letter Carriers, is set to participate in the 16th-annual campaign to "Stamp Out Hunger," collecting nonperishable food items Saturday, May 10.

"Our carriers take great pride in knowing that this is the largest one-day food drive in the nation," said Dan Marek, a letter carrier coordinating the drive in Plymouth.

Residents throughout the Plymouth and Canton communities are encouraged to place food items in a bag by their mailboxes, allowing neighborhood letter carriers to collect the donations. The donated items will be brought to the Salvation Army in Plymouth, where volunteers will process the food for distribution to families

"The demand for food is high and donations tend to lessen after the winter holidays," said Captain Jim Irvine, commander of the Plymouth Salvation Army. "Summer is a critical time when school breakfast and lunch programs are suspended. This drive will help us to stock our food pantry through the summer and fall so we can help those in need."

The food drive is a part of The Salvation Army's "Doing the Most Good" week, which is being celebrated May 11-17, 2007, and is designed to call attention to individuals and groups, who through their actions and dona-

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AROUND TOWN

Gilda's Gala

The Chrysler Foundation sponsors Gilda's Gala 2008, a 10th-anniversary fund-raiser for Gilda's Club Metro Detroit, a nonprofit organization that provides emotional and social support to anyone impacted by cancer. Fox 2 Health Reporter Lila Lazarus will serve as emcee of this special event on May 15, 2008 at the Troy Marriott, 200 W. Big Beaver, Troy, 48084. Tickets are \$150 for the general public and \$100 for members. Price includes dinner, a martini luge, silent and live auctions and entertainment and dancing featuring Detroit's own Dr. Pocket. For reservations, call (248) 577-0800.

Saturday Night Laughter

The Council of Orthodox Christian Churches of Metropolitan Detroit (COCC) will hold a charity benefit 7 p.m. Saturday, May 17, at SS. Peter and Paul Orthodox Church, 750 N. Beech Daly Road, Dearborn Heights. Entitled "Saturday Night Laughter," the benefit will feature comedian Mrs. Hughes (http://www.mrshughes. com), musician Rennie Kaufmann (http://www.renniekaufmann.com), a silent auction and dancing. Tickets are \$30 per person in advance, \$40 at the door. Admission includes hors d'oeuvres, beer, wine and soft drinks. The COCC is also accepting donations of money and items for the silent auction: All proceeds will go to International Orthodox Christian Charities, the official international humanitarian organization of the Standing Conference of Canonical Orthodox Bishops in the Americas (http://www.iocc.org). To order tickets, donate money or auction items, or obtain

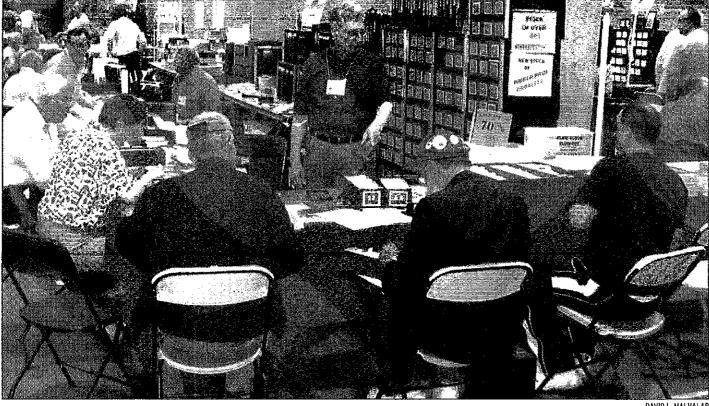
further information, contact COCC President Richard Shebib at (734) 422-0278 or paschabooks@ sbcglobal.net

Learn to gain inner peace

University of Detroit Mercy professor Mike Whitty will lead a talk and workshop to empower people to gain more inner peace at 7 p.m. Tuesday, May 13, at Unity of Livonia, on Five Mile Road. He'll be the guest speaker at the Citizens for Peace regular monthly meeting. All meetings are open to the public. A builder of regional, community, and human unity, Whitty offers free talks on peace, spirituality, economics, politics, ecology and business. He is the National Chancellor of the International Association of Educators for World Peace, and a member of Peace Action of Michigan and the Gray Panthers. Donations are accepted by the Citizens for Peace for use of the church facilities. For additional information, contact Colleen Mills, 7340-425-0079.

Suicide Loss Support Group

New Hope Center for Grief Support is offering an ongoing support group for those who have lost a loved one to suicide. This monthly group meets 7-9 p.m. on the second Thursday and fourth Monday of each monthat the First United Methodist Church in Northville located at 777 W. Eight



DAVID I . MALHALAB

Stamp enthusiasm

Stamps, postcards, first-day covers, supplies, all that is philatelic and much more were on display at Central Middle School in Plymouth Saturday at the 39th annual Plymouth show. The show, sponsored by the West Suburban Stamp Club and the USPS Plymouth post office, featured 39 stamp dealers from around the Midwest, who brought thousands of postal items and collectibles to this yearly show.

Mile Road. No registration is necessary for this monthly drop-in support group. For further information about this group or about the many other free, age and loss specific groups offered for children, teens, and adults, please call New Hope Center for Grief Support at (248) 348-0115 and visit at www.newhopecenter.net.

Gardeners meet

The Gardeners of Northville and Novi meet the second Tuesday of the month September through May at 6:30 p.m. Locations rotate between Novi Civic Center and the Northville Library, Visitors are welcome. For more information, call (248) 231-2334 or visit our Web site www.gardenersnorthville-novi.org

Heartland Hospice

Heartland Hospice, located in Southfield and serving the tri-county area, is looking for caring and compassionate individuals to register for volunteer training. Evening and daytime classes are available for anyone interested in being a support person for clients and their families during their end-of-life journey. Office support is also needed. To register, call Mary, (800) 770-9859.

Card party/luncheon

Victoria Chapter #290, OES, Livonia Masonic Temple hosts a card party/ luncheon noon to 3 p.m. the second Tuesday of each month. Admission is S6: event features table prizes and door prizes. The temple is located at 27705 W. Seven Mile in Livonia. For more information, call (734) 459-6063.

Hospice training

Heartland Hospice is looking for caring and dedicated people

with an interest in serving terminally ill patients and their families in Washtenaw, western Wayne, Monroe and Livingston counties. Volunteers provide a variety of services including companionship, light housekeeping, errand running, grief support and clerical services. For more information, contact volunteer coordinator Candice Jones, (888) 973-1145.

Literacy Council tutors

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

Toastmasters meet

Do you have a fear of public speaking? Do you need to do presentations at work and don't know where to start? Or are you terrified of the thought of standing in front of a group of people to present that report? If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, then Toastmasters is for you! Canton Communicators Club meets every Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. at the Canton Coney Island on Lilley, just south of Joy, in the Golden Gate Plaza, For additional information, contact Bonnie at (734) 646-2237.

New Hope Center for Grief Support is a Christian-based bereavement outreach and resource

Grief support

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

Post Polio Clinic

Easily fatigued? New, inexplicable physical complaints? History of paralytic or non-paralytic polio? Contact the Post Polio Clinic, 13850 E. 12 Mile, Warren, or call (586) 778-4505. The clinic sponsors support group meetings the fourth Saturday of every month (March through October) at 4328 Livernois in Troy. For more information you can also call (734) 765-8384.

CLUBS

Rotary A.M.

The Plymouth Rotary Club of Plymouth A.M. meets at 7 a.m every Tuesday at the Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer. New members are always welcome. Contact Beth Stewart, president, Rotary Club of Plymouth A.M., by calling (734) 420-4094.

Mosaic Mothers

MOSAIC Mothers' Group meets on the first and third Tuesday mornings of each month through May 6. Speakers, food, discussion time, social activities, Childcare provided, Contact Plymouth Baptist Church for more information, (734) 453-5534.

Gardeners meet

Gardeners of Northville and Novi meets September through May the second Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. Locations rotate between Novi Civic Center and the Northville Library. Visitors are welcome. For more information, call (248) 231-2334 or visit our Web site at www.gardenersnorthville-novi.org

Canton Newcomers

The Canton Newcomers meet the first Wednesday of each month (September-May) for an adult evening of socializing, a speaker or an activity. Additionally, the group hosts more than 20 events during the month including Book Club, Bunko, Playgroups, Creative Kids, Ladies Day and Night Out, Scrapbooking, Walking and many more. Request a complimentary newsletter at cantonnewcomers.org or call Jennifer at (734) 981-1715. You don't have to be "new" to be a Newcomer!

Kiwanis Club

The Plymouth-Canton Kiwanis Club meets every Tuesday at 7:15 a.m. at the Plymouth Cultural Center on Farmer. The Club invites you to their morning meetings to discuss community projects and activities. Be part of the solution and not just a spectator. For more information, call (734) 981-0460 or see the Web site (www. pckiwanis.org).

Plymouth Newcomers

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

Fibromyalgia/Chronic Fatigue The Great Lakes Fibromyalgia and Chronic Fatique Syndrome Association will meet 1-3 p.m. on the first Thursday of each month at Merriman Road Bantist Church on Merriman south of Ford. There will be a guest speaker at each meeting and a variety of topics will be covered. There is no membership fee but a small donation will be accepted. For information call Lucy Rowley 734-462-1768

MOPS meet

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

MOSAIC is a group where Moms come together to be refreshed and equipped for the important task of mothering. It presents speakers on child and family issues, has small-group discussion time, crafts and brunch. Child care is provided. It meets at Plymouth Baptist Church, 42021 Ann Arbor Trail, on the first and third Tuesday mornings of each month, September to May. Contact Plymouth Baptist Church for more information, 734-453-5534

Moms Club

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

The Sarah Ann Cochrane Chapter-Daughters of the American Revolution meets the third Monday of each month except January, July and August. A group with ancestors who fought in American Revolution. Members participate in community work involving veterans' hospitals, schools and community service. Call (734) 420-2775 for further information.

German/American Club of Plymouth

Meets on the third Thursday of the month at the Knights of Columbus Hall, located at 39100 Schoolcraft Road, Plymouth. Call Mary Ann at (734) 420-0857 for further information.

American Legion

■ Beasley-Zalesny Post 112 meets at the I.O.O.F. Hall on the third Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. All veterans that served during any of the wars are eligible. Contact (734) 459-7324 for further information.

The Plymouth American Legion Passage-Gayde Post #391 conducts its monthly meeting the second Thursday of every month at 7:30 p.m. at the Plymouth Knights of Columbus Hall on Mill (next to the railroad tracks) in Plymouth Township, All interested military veterans should contact Commander Mike O'Malley, (734) 459-7890, for more information.

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assessment is only half of the truth of a "negative" work-up. The other part is that the doctor knows what isn't wrong with you. He may not be able to say what is the cause of your problem but he can give you assurance that you don't have cancer or an immune condition such as Lupus or multiple sclerosis; he can say with confidence that you don't harbor tuberculosis or an unusual fungal disease Results from examination, laboratory tests, X-rays and scans often provide a basis for a

decision that unrestricted activity is in your best interest. With the information at hand, he usually can be sufficiently confident to say that your present problem will not lead to a crippling That your doctor found nothing, does not mean he has failed to help. The information gained

often can relieve, if not eliminate, your distress.

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Today's funeral traditions set during Lincoln's time

OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

One million people viewed Abraham Lincoln's corpse during a 20-day funeral procession from Washington, D.C., to his burial site in Springfield, Ill.

Without embalming, that wouldn't have been possible.

Lincoln was the first U.S. president to be embalmed, a practice that began during the Civil War so fallen soldiers could be transported home for burial, explained Jeff Bell, a funeral director from Plymouth's Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, who gave a talk on

Historical Society's meeting Monday. Many of today's funeral service traditions are derived from Lincoln's funeral, Bell said.

the history of funerals at the Livonia

His coffin - made of solid walnut and covered in expensive black fabric and lined with lead — was the most elaborate of that time: A replica was on display at the Livonia Senior Center on Monday. It will be back in Plymouth next February in honor of the 200th anniversary of Lincoln's birth.

In 1900, after an attempt to steal Lincoln's body, a select few had the



Jeff Bell, funeral director at Schrader-Howell Funeral Home in Plymouth, talks about the authentic replica of Abraham Lincoln's coffin, which has been on display at the funeral home.

chance to examine it again, and reportedly, his appearance had not changed much since his original burial.

Embalming replaces blood with a watered down solution of formaldehyde. The process cost about \$100 in the mid-19th century.

Civil War soldiers (privates were paid about \$13 a month) would set money

aside for this preservation technique. Another way to transport bodies home was to encase them in whiskey, said Livonia Historical Society President Gene Kramer, who is also a Civil War re-enactor.

In the pioneer days, when the average life expectancy was 42, people would plant trees on their property with the intention of using the wood for their own coffin, Bell said. Today, someone pointed out, caskets can be purchased at CostCo.

Families also used to hire photographers to take pictures of the dead to send to distant loved ones.

Some customs were based on superstition, such as moving a body out of the home feet first, so no one would follow the deceased to the grave, Bell said.

There are a few thoughts behind another custom, draping mirrors with black cloth.

Wayne State mortuary science student Mara Kimel said according to her Latvian mother, if the deceased's spirit can't see him or herself in the mirror, the ghost will realize someone is dead and move on.

Once a male-dominated field, Kimel, an Ann Arbor resident, said the great. majority of students in her mortuary science program are women.

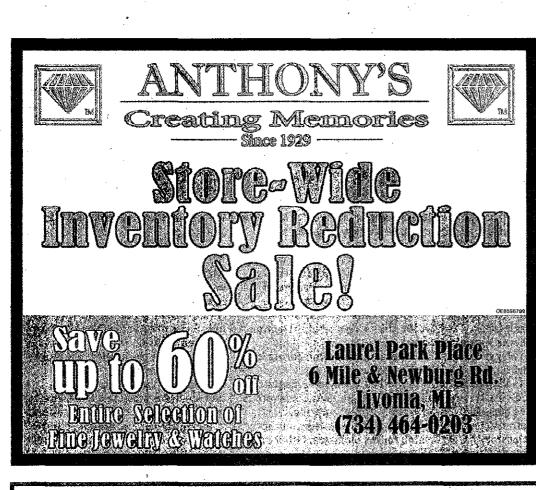
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tions are "Doing the Most Good" to help the communities in which they live and work.

"Doing the Most Good" is as easy as donating food for the needy, volunteering to sort food, or ringing the bell during the holiday season. To find out how you can join The Salvation Army in "Doing the Most Good," visit www.salmich.org for a listing of some quick and easy ways to make an impact on the lives of those around you.

At work in Michigan since 1887, The Salvation Army operates 180 facilities throughout the state. Annually, these facilities provide more than 3.4 million meals and 780,032 nights of shelter for the homeless. The Salvation Army uses \$.83 of every dollar raised to provide direct services to people in need each and every day of the

For more information about The Salvation Army, call (877) SAL-MICH, or visit www.salmich.org.

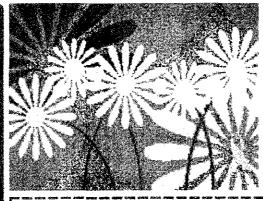




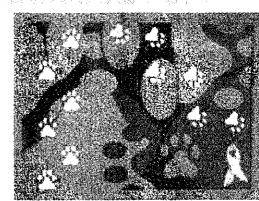


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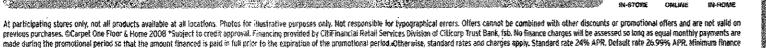
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That's... Bea

Wyoming man looks for information about family

BY SUE MASON **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

A Mills, Wyo., man is hoping that someone in Garden City can provide him with information about his biological father, a brother and other paternal relatives.

Rob Piotter's search for his biological family has spanned more than 20 years and covered five states. He has been able to locate his biological mother, grandparents and aunts, and is now looking for information on his father and brother.

"I'm hoping that someone will remember a vital piece of information," Piotter said in an e-mail. "I am in the process of trying to find my biological father who I was told lived in the Garden City area. I am also trying to find my younger sibling brother who was adopted out with me in 1967.

"I really hope this will help me locate information on finding them or relatives from my father's side."

Piotter began searching for his biological mother when he was about 15. His adoptive parents were always open about the adoption and gave him what information they had "which was very little." He wrote the adoption agency but was "stonewalled by sealed records."

At age 19, he moved West with friends and ended up in Mills, Wyo. During a return visit to Michigan in 1984 to see family and friends, he found information that led him to the last foster care family who cared

"I met with them and found they held a vital piece of the puzzle, information of my baptism and a kindergarten picture with my birth name on the back of the picture," Piotter said. "This was the missing piece that led me to an aunt in Westland who kept her maiden name listed in the phone book in hopes I would someday find her."

"From there, the rest of the pieces for my biological mother's side fell into place.'

According to Piotter, he was born Robert Shawn Staffig on June 29, 1962, to Darlene Diane Staffig. His mother, who went by the name of Diane and was 16 years old at the time, grew up in Garden City and attended Garden City High School.

His mother and father never married, but Piotter was able to find



This photo of Robert Staffig was taken in 1963 when he was 1½ years old.



A smiling Robert Staffig at age 3.

his father's name, Robert William Evans, on a Sept. 23, 1962, baptismal certificate from St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church in Plymouth.

Piotter isn't sure of the exact date, but sometime between 1964-65, his mother married Don Corman and had a son, Don David, born in September 1965. The family lived on Block Street in Garden City.

The marriage ended sometime in 1967 and his mother struggled raising her two sons on her own. She eventually gave her two sons up for adoption with Lutheran Child and Family Services in Detroit. Both children were adopted by different

Piotter recently learned that his biological mother died of cancer in October 2006.

In his search, Piotter has come up with the names of people he described as "prominent" in his biological mother's life between

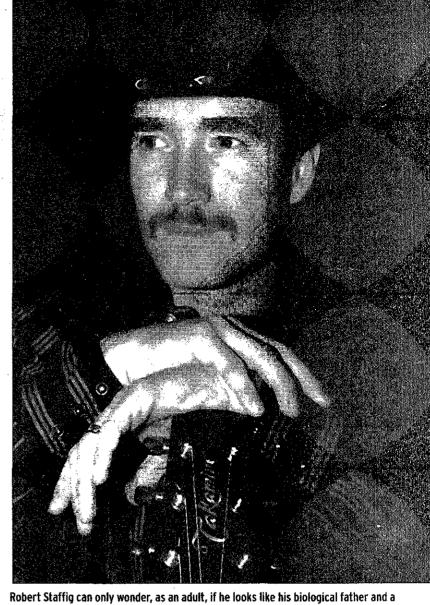
1962 and 1968. They include Ginger Rogers who baby-sat the two boys and Diane Paquin who was listed as a sponsor on his baptismal certifi-

According to Piotter, his biological mother also lived with a couple, Cletus and Paul Schnegg of Plymouth, before she married Don Corman. She also had a close friend named George Wyscoky.

And he has learned that after the adoption, his mother moved to Texas with a friend named Bridgette.

Bridgette's real name was Virginia Tucker and she lived on Haggerty between Cherry Hill and Ford in Canton before moving to Plymouth near her cousins, Darlene, Patty and Glenn Heinrich, in Plymouth, according to Edith Denton of Garden City, who saw the story about Piotter's search in the Garden

Denton also knows Paquin, "her



brother he is hoping to locate.

best friend," and has talked with her and with Piotter. One of the things Paquin has for Piotter is a box of baby photos, Denton said.

"When I talked to her, she said, 'Edith, this is a godsend,'" Denton

Piotter is elated with hearing from hos godmother.

"I've talked with Diane Paquin last night for about an hour," he wrote in an e-mail. "It was amazing."

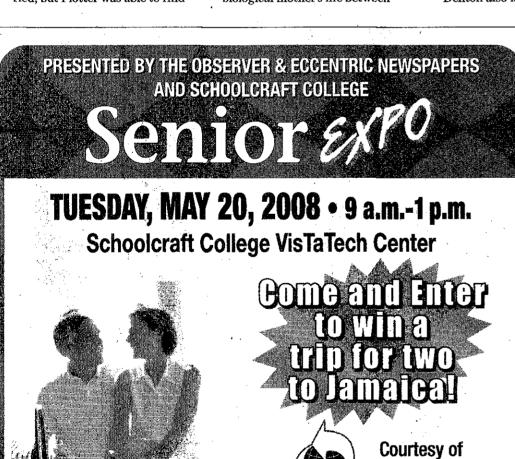
Piotter is concentrating on the search for his biological father and sibling brother.

"I've contacted the adoption agency in years past, updating my information with them in case my sibling brother or biological father ever contacted them, but the records remain sealed," he said.

Piotter added that his brother was only 3 years old at the time. He may not even know he was adopted or may not know the agency that processed the adoption.

People who may have information about his biological father and brother can contact Piotter by e-mail at biofamilysearch@hotmail.com or write to him at Rob Piotter, P.O. Box 2415; Mills, WY 82644.

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Zonta Club sponsors women's health night

The Zonta Club of Northwest Wayne County and Botsford Center for Health Improvement are hosting a night of fun, fitness, beauty and shopping.

"A Taste of the Spa" and Women's Health Night will be 5:30-8:30 p.m. Friday, June 6, at Botsford Center for Health Improvement, 39750 Grand River (just W of Haggerty) in Novi. The cost is \$30, Botsford Center

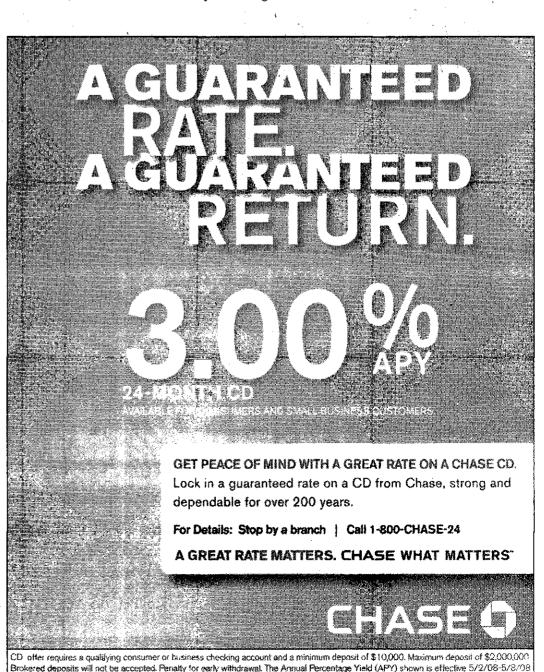
members can attend for \$15. Mother and daughter duo can attend for \$50.

The even will include use of the entire facility including pools, exercise equipment and indoor track; A women's health lecture; beginning weight lifting "Iron Maiden" class; free Blood pressures; chair massages; hand care by Body Shop; make-up by Mary Kay; Lia Sophia Jewelry and Beijo handbags.

Bring your swim suit and wear comfortable shoes and clothes.

Donations support our local projects which include scholarships through the Women's Resource Center at Schoolcraft College, Greenmead and the SE Land Conservancy

Call Sally Randall at (734) 464-3728 for Mother's Day certificates, tickets or more information.



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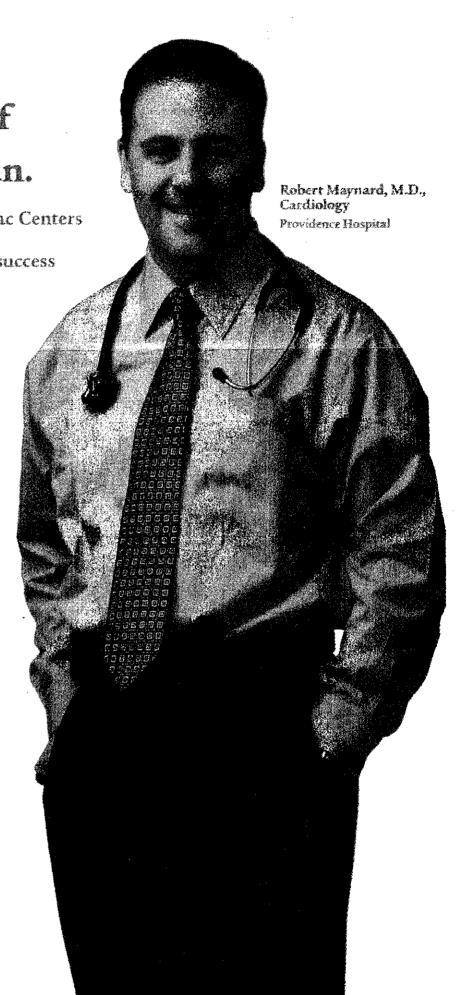
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Berkley High School Class of 1958

Planning a 50th Reunion, Sept 19-21, 2008. All members of January 1958, June 1958 and January 1959 are invited. At Somerset Inn., 2601 West Big Beaver Road, Troy. Events include: a Friday evening hospitality party, Saturday afternoon tour of BHS and lunch, dinner Party at the hotel on Saturday evening and brunch at hotel Sunday morning followed by a golf outing. Contact: csingerbhs58reunion.org for access to the web site: www.bhs58reunion.org or call Jackie Yorgen Castine, (248) 332-

Clarenceville High School Class of 1988

A reunion is being planned for the summer of 2008. Trying to reach as many classmates as possible. Send contact information to Dale Weighill at resource@afn.org.

Crestwood High School Class of 1968

A 40th class reunion Oct 4, 2008. For information, contact Gail Goodall Welch, (313) 937-3477 or e-mail CHS1968Sec@yahoo.com.au.

Dearborn High School Class of 1963

A 45-year reunion planned Aug. 1, 2008. Father Patrick O'Kellev Hall. Dearborn. Contact Betsy Cushman at (313) 565-5972 or ecushman@comcast.net.

Dearborn Edsel Ford Classes of 1958

The 1958 January and June Classes of Dearborn and Edsel Ford High Schools are having a combined 50-Year Reunion on Saturday Aug. 2, 2008 at the Dearborn Country Club. Judy Richards Goerke at (313) 562-9031, Judygoerke@yahoo.com or Shirley Chiado Peters at (248) 348-9443, Shirley.peters@villageford. net may be contacted for further

Dearborn Edsel Ford Class of 1968

information.

A 40-year reunion Aug. 2, 2008, at Patrick O'Kelly Knights of Columbus. in Dearborn. For more information, contact Janet Wszola Robbins at (313) 277-1418 or Susan Taylor Szalony at (248) 348-6692.

Dearborn Fordson Class of 1969

Planning a reunion. Please contact Kathy Nisun at (248) 363-5679 or e-mail: Kayninilu@aol.com or Kathy Shoebridge @ Klivingston@nu-core.

Class of 1958

A 50-year reunion on Aug. 2, 2008 at Park Place. Reservations only. For information, please contact Marsha (Duza) Movesian, (313) 277-5624, or Joyce (Anderson) Mechalko, (313) 278-4488.

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Detroit Cass Tech Class of 1958

REUNIONS

A 50-year reunion, Oct. 11, 2008. For details, call Isabelle at (313) 882-4626 and at casstech58.com

Detroit Chadsey High School Class of 1958

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, May 4, 2008

A 50-year reunion, Friday, Sept. 19, 2008, at Burton Manor, Livonia. \$55 per person. Contact, Mike Poterala, (248) 548-4829 or mspoterala@comcast.net.

Detroit Christ the King Elementary Class of 1963

A 45-year reunion is being planned for 2008. Searching for classmates. The reunion date has not been set. Contact Class of 1969 Dennis Place at (734) 354-0223 or email denplace@bigfoot.com.

Detroit Holy Redeemer High School Class of 1958

A 50th reunion on Saturday, Oct. 4, 2008 at O'Kelley K of C, Dearborn. Contact Mary Burns at (313) 937-3979 or burnsmary@aol.com for informa-

Detroit High School of Commerce Class of 1958 January, June and August

Planning reunion for Sept. 13. Call J. Wilkinson, (313) 861-0834, or B. King, (248) 547-1693

Detroit Western High School Class of 1978

A 30-year reunion is planned for Saturday, Nov. 29, 2008. For more info. contact Donna Willingham at (313) 605-0377 or e-mail western1978@att.

Garden City High School Class of 1960

Mini-Reunion Luncheons held the second Saturday of every month at 1 p.m. in the banquet room in the Plymouth Denny's on Ann Arbor Road, east of 1-275. Anyone interested in more information can call Gary Simon at (734) 751-4101 or send e-mail to GCHS.MCMLX@yahoo.com.

Class of 1989

Need classmates to register online with names, addresses and e-mail addresses to Paula at gchs1989reunion@hotmail.com and check out Web site at www.myspace. com/gchs20threunion. The reunion date has not been set yet.

Grosse Pointe North Class of 1991

Call (800) 677-7800, visit www. taylorreunions.com or e-mail: info@ taylorreunions.com

Jefferson Avenue Cooperative Nursery School

60th Anniversary The Jefferson Avenue Cooperative Nursery School (JACNS) in Detroit is celebrating its 60th anniversary this year. A celebration and silent auction are being planned Saturday, May 24. If you were associated with Jefferson Avenue Cooperative Nursery School at any time in the past, as either a student or parent, the school is seeking your memories.

For information, email gandjackt@ vahoo.com, or call the Shields family

at (313) 822-3211 Lincoln Park High School

Looking for members of Lincoln Park High School class of 1958 for 50 year reunion. Contact: Nancy, (313) 535-8777 or nc6897@sbcgloblal.net. Lincoln Park High School

Class of 1978

A 30-Year reunion June 28, at Ramada Inn of Taylor. Contact: Tracy Zimmerman at (714) 837-2191 Livonia Franklin

A reunion is in the pre-planning stages. For more information, contact Kathy Nisun at (248) 363-5679 or e-mail: Kayninilu@aol.com.

Livonia Stevenson

Class of 1978 A 30 year reunion, Aug. 16, 2008, at Marriott, 17100 N. Laurel Park Drive. Livonia, Includes DJ, cash bar, and strolling buffet. There will be information coming soon. For information, contact the Reunion Committee, Tim Oehmke at (734)637-1002 or superchargertest@aol.com

Milford High School Class of 1978

Planning a 30th reunion. Class members should contact the reunion committee as soon as possible. Email address is: milford78@gmail. com.

Plymouth High School Class of 1968

Searching for classmates for a 40th reunion on July 19, 2008. Only about 63 percent of the class have been located. Contact Sue (Keith) Johnson at (734) 451-1048 or contact phs40threunion@charter.net.

Plymouth-Canton high schools Classes of 1988

Plymouth Canton and Plymouth Salem classes of 1988 20-year reunion will be held on Saturday, Aug. 2, at Laurel Manor in Livonia. Contact cepclassof1988@yahoo. com for more information.

Royal Oak Kimball Class of 1988

A 20-year class reunion on Saturday, Oct. 4, 2008. For more information please go to www.kimball1988. myevent.com to register.

Wayne Memorial High School Class of 1988

A 20th reunion 6:30 p.m. to midnight Saturday, Aug. 9, 2008, at Fellows Creek Golf Club, 2936 Lotz Road in Canton (west of 1-275, north of Michigan Ave). Cost \$50 per person, including dinner, DJ, and open bar. Make checks payable to Connie Wright-Gregory and mail to 23217 Ennishore, Novi, Mi 48375. Or you can use paypal at tupper4u@yahoo.com and add \$2 per person to the cost per ticket. Payments need to be made by July 23, 2008.

Ford Freedom **Award kudos** set for May 6

Coretta Scott King and Dr. Dorothy Height will be honored for their achievements at the 10th annual Ford Freedom Award program on May 6. The daylong event includes both a scholar's lecture for invited middle schools in the morning at Orchestra Hall and a ticketed evening gala at 6 p.m. at the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History.

Coretta Scott King will receive the Ford Freedom Award posthumously; and Dr. Dorothy I. Height, chair and president emerita of the National Council of Negro Women, has been named the Ford Freedom Award Scholar. Kevin Frazier, weekend anchor and correspondent of Entertainment Tonight, and local TV host Chuck Stokes, WXYZ-TV, will again serve as masters of ceremonies of the evening gala.

The Ford Freedom Award program was created in 1999 to celebrate and recognize individuals whose achievements brought lasting and positive change for African Americans and the world. The program is underwritten by Ford, and funds raised are used to support the Charles H. Wright Museum of African-American History's educational programs, exhibits and community outreach initiatives. The Ford Freedom Award program is made possible by a grant from Ford Motor Co. Silver sponsors of the event are Chrysler and Comerica Bank. Call (313) 494-5800 or visit www. maah-detroit.org.

WEDDING



Webber-Hall

Dusty Hall and Jillian Webber were married Dec. 8, 2007, at St. John's Episcopal Church in Plymouth with the Rev. Robert Miller (Jillian's grandfather) and the Rev. Dorian McGlannan officiating.

The bride is the daughter of Robert Webber of Livonia and Janice Webber of Livonia. She is a 2000 graduate of Franklin High School in Livonia and a 2005 graduate of the University of Michigan-Dearborn with a degree in psychology.

The groom is the son of Harvey and Linda Hall of Livonia. He is a 2000 graduate of Franklin High School in Livonia and will graduate in May 2008 from Wayne State University with a degree in kinesiology

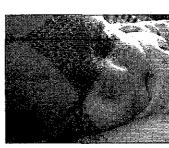
The bride was attended by Kelly Evanoff, maid of honor, Erin Webber, Karen Hall, Misty Butcher, Alexis Gay, Jennifer Schack and Elizabeth Raley.

The groom was attended by Brandon McCullough, best man, Bob Webber, Tommy Hall, Harvey Hall, Nick Evanoff, Danny Wright, John Diponio and Andy Wright. Tommy Miles was the usher.

A reception was held at Fox Hills in Plymouth. The couple honeymooned in Florida.

The Webbers are making their home in Novi.

BIRTHS



John Bohdan Wilson

Natalie and Daniel Wilson of Livonia announce the birth of their son, John Bohdan Wilson, on June 14, 2007, at Oakwood Hospital.

John has a sister, Audrey Wilson, 3.

His grandparents are Wiebke and Bohdan Hnatiuk of Livonia and Dolores and Jack Wilson of Ferguson, Mo.

Great grandparents are Anna Hnatiuk of Livonia and Lucia O'Donnell of Livonia.

ENGAGEMENTS

Whitney-Fuller

Bill and Peg Whitney of Wyckoff, N.J., announce the engagement of their daughter, Maggie Whitney, to Garrett Fuller, son of Dennis Fuller of Plymouth and Leah Lucy of Garden City.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Rampano High School in New Jersey and is employed by Creative Technology Services.

The future groom is a graduate of Garden City High School and is employed by Creative Technology Services.

A November, 2008, wedding in Wyckoff, N.J., is planned.

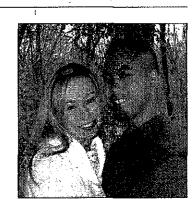


Milne-Odtohan

Kimberlee Ann Milne of Livonia and Richard Odtohan of Livonia are engaged to be married May 31, 2008, at Commerce United Methodist Church.

The bride-to-be is the daughter of Terri Brown of Commerce and Angel Gomez of Dearborn. She is a 2000 graduate of Walled Lake Central High School and a 2005 graduate of the University of Michigan-Dearborn with a bachelor of arts degree in English and communications.

The future groom is the son of Bianca and Nemesio Odtohan of Livonia. He is a 2000 graduate of Livonia



Churchill High School and a 2004 graduate of the University of Michigan-Dearborn with a bachelor of arts degree in economics.

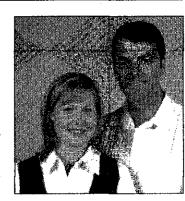
The Rev. Dean Wyllys will officiate at the wedding. A reception will follow at the White Lake Oaks Country Club.

Dolan-Thompson

Mark A. and Nikki Dolan of Marysville announce the engagement of their daughter, Megan Dolan, to Christopher Thompson.

The bride-to-be recently completed teacher certification and is a graduate of Oakland University. She is currently pursuing a master in education degree.

The future groom is the son of Larry Thompson of Livonia and Nancy Thompson of Livonia. He is employed as an electronics test technician



at Yazaki North America in Canton.

The couple plan an Aug. 9, 2008, wedding in Fenton.

Davis-Boulter

Henry and Ronda Davis of Elmira, Mich., announce the engagement of their daughter, Jessica Jo Davis, to Daniel R. Boulter, son of Dan and Janet Boulder of Redford.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Gaylord High School and a 2007 graduate of Ferris State University. She manages a tanning salon and works for Victory Camps and coaches cheerleading at Gaylord High School.

The future groom is a graduate of St. Agatha High School and a 2007 graduate of Ferris State University. He is employed as a developmental engineer with General Motors.



An Aug. 23, 2008, wedding is planned for St. Thomas Aquinas Church in Elmira.

ANNIVERSARY



Andrew Eugene Osborne II

Andrew and Amanda Osborne of Livonia announce the birth of their son, Andrew Eugene Osborne II, on April 8, 2008, at St. John Providence in Southfield.

Andrew weighed 8 pounds, 5 ounces and was 21.5 inches long at birth. Andrew has a sister, Addison

Osborne.

Grandparents are David and Linda Regelin of Monroe and Keith and Kathy Osborne of Coloma, Mich.



The Knittels were married

Knittels celebrate 50th

Dennis and Mary Knittel of Livonia are celebrating their 50th anniversary.

May 17, 1958, in Birmingham. They have seven children: Kathy (Doug) Heuer of Plymouth; Denise (Ken) Mahn of Brighton; Colleen (Mark) Price of Westland; Mary Jo (Kelly) Carley of Novi; Susan (Mike) Ellis of Northville; John (Kim) Knittel of Canton; and Patrick Knittel of Plymouth.



The Knittels have 14 grandchildren.

The couple plans to celebrate their anniversary with their children and grandchildren at Ernesto's in Plymouth.

Hiramis mark 55th Soichiro "Patrick" Hirami and

Cynthia Marie (Monroe) Hirami of Livonia are celebrating their 55th anniversary.

The Hiramis were married May 2, 1953, at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Denver, Colo. They have lived in Livonia for 49 years.

They have five children: Timothy Hirami, Gregory Hirami of Plymouth, Eileen Hirami of Seattle, Brian Hirami of Chicago and Ann-Nora Hirami of Plymouth. They have three grandchildren.

Pat is a native of Los Angeles and a graduate of the University of Colorado and Columbia University. He worked as a social worker at the Denver Department of Welfare and the Wayne County Department of Welfare. He retired in 1980.

Cynthia is a Detroit native and a graduate of Mt. Carmel Nursing



School in Detroit. She was a registed nurse at St. Mary Hospital in the emergency and recovery departments. She also worked at the Evening Medical Care Centers and Detroit Diesel Corp. She retired in 1992.

They have been active at Our Lady of Good Counsel Church in Plymouth and St. Edith Church in Livonia. They are active in social justice and peace issues.

On Friday they were to receive a special blessing and a Mass at Gesu Catholic Church in Detroit, followed by dinner at Mario's in Detroit and a play at the Detroit Repertory Theater.

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ISME

Local artist puts her own style into handbag gig

BY KIMBERLY MORTSON **OBSERVER CORRESPONDENT**

Aladdin may have been best known for his magic carpet, but for Michele Kramp it's her magic bags.

A textile artist from Canton, Kramp has been designing one-of-a-kind handbags since 2003 under the name The Magic Bag Lady. Unconventional designs, recycled fabrics and unique embellishments are all trademarks of her custom handbags.

Born in Redford, Kramp moved to Canton with her parents, James and Georgette Craig, when she was 10 years old. Kramp says both of her parents encouraged her creativity at a very young age.

"My mom taught us to knit, crochet and sew. She's a strong, self-motivated woman and took great pride in how her three daughters looked growing up. From our hair to all the clothes she made us - we always looked so neat and put together," said

When she was in elementary school, Kramp first tried her hand at sewing by making her own doll clothes. After graduating from Plymouth Canton High School, she earned a degree in apparel design and merchandising from Wayne State University.

"It was my dad who encouraged my love of drawing, which I refined in college," Kram said. "He allowed me to use his drafting tools and made sure my school projects were done well. He had high standards for all

his daughters. He would say, if you have the proper tools use them, no

In addition to drawing, Kramp took fine tailoring classes at WSU, where she learned all the old-school techniques such as welt pockets, handsewn buttonholes and draping.

"I became even more proficient when I used those skills everyday working for a couple of local tailors," she said. "Tailoring is much more mechanical and structural in nature but my sewing skills were so much better by the time I left."

A STITCH IN TIME

In 1997, Kramp and her husband Matthew gave birth to their daughter

"The first year of her life I made all of her clothes. I wanted to take the same pride in my daughter's appearance that my mom did for me and that I have done for myself," said Kramp. "At the same time I tried to make a go of designing and selling children's clothing at craft shows but it seemed like I never had the right size someone was looking for in something I sewed. So I made this little green bag out of fabric with fairies on it. It was perfect. So I made another and another and another."

Then in 2001, Michele and her family moved to Italy while her husband, a computer-aided designer, worked with an international company fabricating automotive door latches. Kramp says she became a "professional tourist" and immersed herself

in the Italians' love of fashion. "We went crazy buying clothes,

sunglasses and shoes," Kramp said. "It was fantastic."

While touring the countryside with a Canadian family they befriended, Kramp became known for carrying everything they might need while sightseeing in her handbag.

"My friend Lorraine started referring to me as 'the keeper of the magic bag," she recalled.

And the rest is history. Upon their return from Europe, Kramp revived her handbag designing and got to work improving the style, quality and structural integrity of her bags. Again, she tried craft shows as an outlet for her handbags but that didn't

"People at craft shows wanted to see 10 of the same bags so if their friend bought one they could walk in and buy the same one. My bags do have some little similarities but no two are the same," said Kramp.

It's that level of individuality that fuels Kramp's creativity. Her handbags are based on current trends but with "a little rebellion mixed in."

"I combine what's going on this season and funk it up a bit," added the Canton textile artist.

Kim McCord, a local pediatrician and internist, has purchased several handbags for herself and given them as gifts over the past 10 years.

'I don't know how to describe it but I like what she does on a lot of levels," said McCord, a Plymouth resident. "She's got a good business idea, if you

see her work you recognize it's very unique and I love that she recycles material. Her bags are fun, creative and artistic."

McCord's 4-year-old daughter has several pieces from The Magic Bag Lady's "Fairy" series, which includes a ditty bag, backpack and purse. The fairy material was brought back from Italy. Kramp cuts out the fairies and often embellishes the miniature winged creatures with beads.

"My daughter loves them and they're some of my favorite," added McCord.

A signature of Magic Bag Lady handbags is the integration of reused and recycled fabric.

"I get a lot of material from friends. Either sentimental pieces such as wedding dresses or neckties worn by someone's grandfather to the clothing my daughter is outgrowing. I'm cheap and I work with whatever I have. From an environmental standpoint - everyone has something they're not using. Instead of throwing it out they give it to me," said Kramp.

And if you look at the floor of Kramp's Canton studio it's easy to see she throws nothing away - even the smallest swatch of fabric has the potential to work its way into a Magic Bag Lady handbag.

Plymouth resident Diane Ulin initially met Kramp at The Plymouth Coffee Bean Company, first as a customer buying coffee, then Ulin says they became friends and now she's one of the biggest Magic Bag Lady admirers.

> leaving our print

Service Management, Inc.

Ulin, owner of a film and video production company, recently purchased a pair of handbags for her clients as

gifts. "Michele's bags are truly unique. Everyone is so label conscious and has the same thing," Ulin said. "To have Michele create something that's oneof-a-kind - in an affordable way - is

rare in and of itself."

Last fall, Kramp's friend and fellow artist Laura MacIntyre introduced her to Karen Thomas, the owner of Biddle Gallery (www.biddlegallery. com) in Wyandotte. Thomas opened the gallery in 1995 with her husband Ross. Original artworks by over 100 Michigan artists are available for purchase including jewelry, fiber, furniture, glass and more.

"Michele stopped by the gallery with another artist who was dropping offer her portfolio. The friend mentioned Michele made really cool handbags and was wearing one of her bags to prove it," said Thomas. "I love that the bags are made from recycled and sentimental textiles. Each bag is one-of-a-kind. Michele's handbags are functional works of art. The craftsmanship and attention to detail is outstanding."

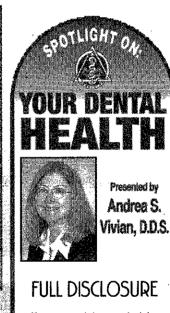
In addition to running her own business, Kramp is a substitute teacher in the Wayne-Westland School District and a member of HATCH - Hamtrack Art Collective (www.hatchart.org), a community of artists that come together to host group, solo and juried exhibitions at Café 1923.











If you want to see just how effective your tooth-brushing and flossing efforts are at removing plaque, the dentist can perform a simple test. Plaque is the bacteria-laden sticky film that forms and clings to teeth. If it isn't removed on a daily basis, plaque reacts with sugars and starches to form acids that harm teeth and cause

To see how much plaque remains on your teeth after you have brushed, the dentist can use a product that stains the plague on your teeth after it is swished around in the mouth and spit out. So-called "disclosing" tablets/rinses show areas that you might have missed with a brush and floss, enabling you to identify places that warrant extra attention.

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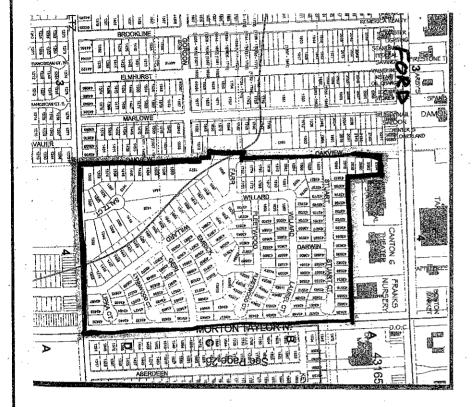
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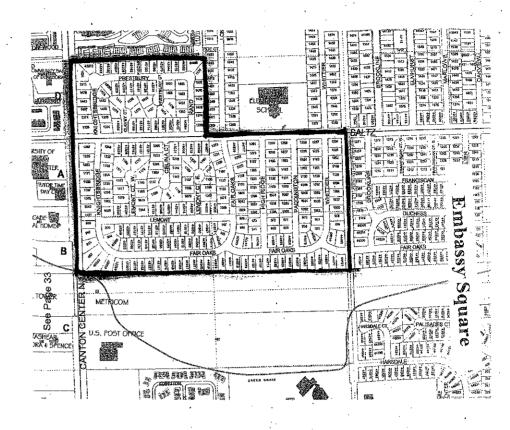
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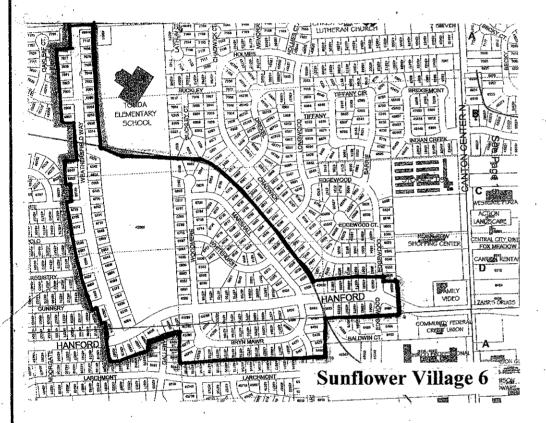
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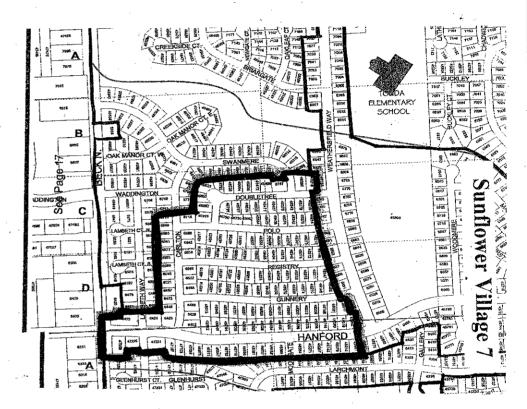
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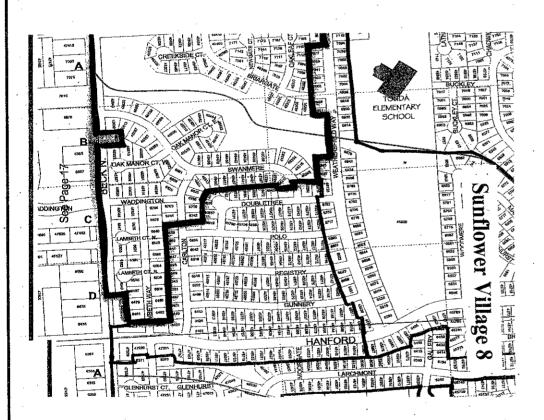


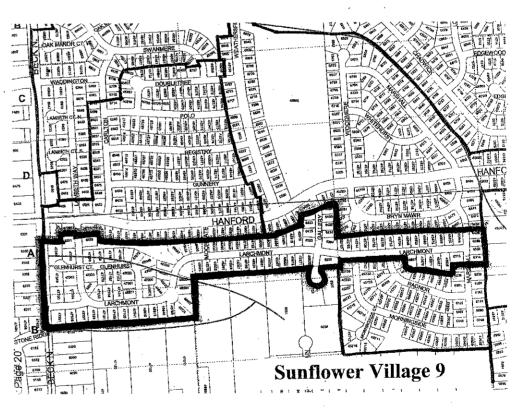
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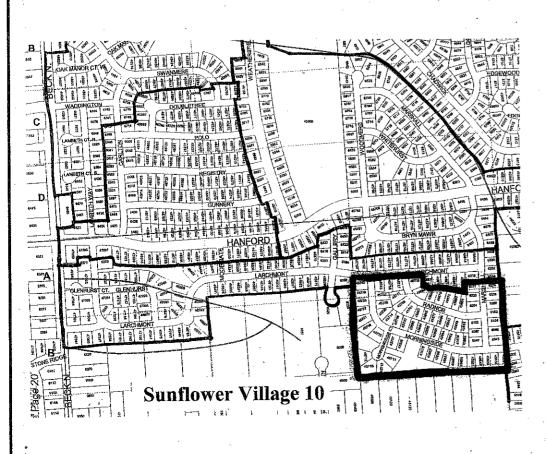


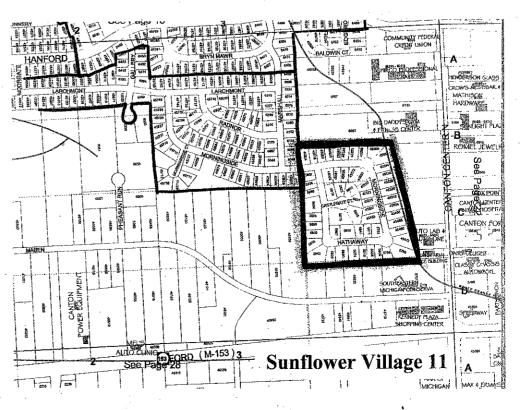












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JOB OPPORTUNITIES - HIDDEN OR IN PLAIN SIGHT



WORKWISE

Dig a little deeper; throw in a dash of imagination; Mildred L. and you'll uncover industries looking for workers, including

Read the job forecasts

and the best news you

aging baby boomers will

eave many jobs unfilled.

might find is that the

career changers. GOOD PROSPECTS Take, for example, the industry with a stereotype of "housekeeping or security, with facilities being cops and mops," according to Shari Epstein. She is associate director of Research at the 19,000-member of the International Facility Management Association (IFMA) in Houston. "It's beyond that, from managing construction projects to overseeing security, contingency planning, move management, asset acquisitions (including furnishings or 'chillers' - big air conditioning units). It's behind the scenes but it's never

Salaries are promising, averaging \$91,772 in a range of \$43,000 to \$144,000. Non-managerial people with a high school diploma enjoy a base salary of \$65,682. You don't have to wait for the baby boom generation to retire, because, Epstein says, "facility managers are retiring at 60 and 62, leaving positions unfilled, such as facility engineer or vice

demographics survey of 4,600 members spanned services, institutions, manufacturing, education and health care.

Then there's the field of management accounting. John Brausch chairs the board of regents for the Institute of Certified Management Accountants (ICMA), headquartered in Montvale, N.J. It has 60,000 accountants and other in-house finance professionals, of whom 30,000 are certified. Many are CFOs, deputy CFOs, treasurers and controllers. Brausch says that there is solid opportunity for people of any age with about four years of experience in public accounting who want to shift to internal work. The attraction: "Accountants in industry are much more concept-based than rules based," he says, "Those who are certified earn about \$10,000 more per year than their peers and, of course, longevity breeds higher salaries.

Salaries are also rising for members of the Society for Information Management (SIM), headquartered in Chicago, according to Jerry Luftman, who serves on the executive board. SIM's more than 3,500 members are largely CIOs and their direct reports, leading corporations and leaders in vending, consulting and academe. The society's annual survey of 100 members found that 51.9 percent of organizations plan to hire this year, up from 49.5 percent last year and 39.2 percent in 2006. Luftman estimates that "thousands of jobs are going unfilled and the gap is expected to become wider."

CAREER CHANGING

All three of these industries are receptive to career changers to some degree. Brausch says, "We love people who come from

them accounting, but we love when people come in with an operational viewpoint or something else, such as finance or marketing. They help us look at what we're doing differently. I look for problem solving, customer service, team work and initiative more than work history, although it's important. If someone has those characteristics from another discipline, I'm thrilled to have them. They usually have a basic level of accounting and we build them up."

IFMA's Epstein mentions that "many facility managers migrate, not having started in FM. Finance would take on a real estate function or HR or purchasing would take on administrative services,

such as mail room or food service operation, and move into management." Luftman says that his industry "is looking for the appropriate balance of technical and soft skills."

Talk of recession doesn't seem to be dimming prospects in any of these industries. Brausch says that in a declining economy, "people are looking for ways to shore up their resume and look back to make anything on the resume differentiate them from others. If they're in accounting, they look for accounting certification." Luftman notes that rising salaries are coming "even with the threat of the recession across the U.S.,"

PRIOR FIELD OF WORK BEFORE FIRST JOB IN FM Architecture/Design HR/Purchasing My first iob was in FM

Facility Management (FM) is booming, drawing employees from a wide range of disciplines, according to the International Facility Management Association (IFMA) in Houston.

and, contrary to popular belief, those jobs aren't going

Facilities management is "recession-proof," Epstein reports. "We look at forecasts for the need of facility managers, and the care and upkeep of the corporate assets they manage. In bad times, buildings still exist and still need to be maintained, operated, kept warm, cool and safe for employees and visitors. Facility management is still needed even in bad times."

(Dr. Mildred L. Culp is an award-winning journalist. Copyright 2008 Passage Media.)



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Auto dealership seeks full time Detailer/ Reconditioner New/ Used Department, Experience preferred, must have good driv-ing record. Competitive pay and benefits available. Please apply in person at: HINES PARK

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5000 Help Wanted-General

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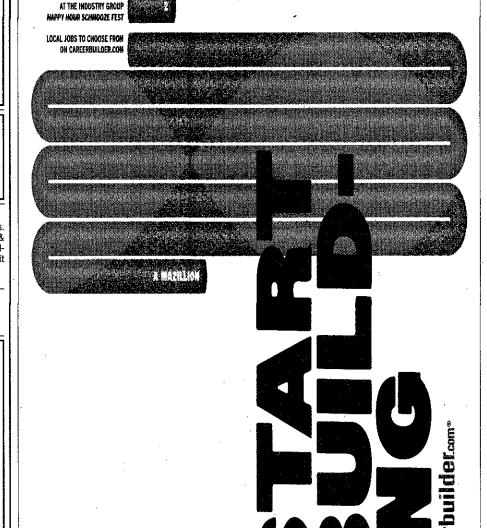
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Help Wanted-General

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5000

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5 to 7 years experience in: Institutional olumbing service Heating repair - steam and hydronic •Boiler repair •Medical gas systems •Backflow prevention •Multi-temperature

Hospital, high-rise, institutional service experience a

Electrical knowledge a plus Pay based on knowledge

Potential compensation package up to \$100,000 per year.

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Must have a commitment to life-long learning and personal growth. If you've got what it takes and meet he criteria, send resume to Guardian Plumbing &

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A small private school in SE Oakland County has full or part time September positions in Math and Science. Secondary certificate required. Additiona opportunities for candidates having administrative experi-ence. A separate clerical position is also available, experience preferred. Fax a letter of interest

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ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

For a growing insurance agency. Candidate must be self motivated, reliable, with one year office experience.

buties include, typing 40wpm, answering phones, and filing. Knowledge of MS word, Excel, e-mail, how to use all office equipment. 25-30 hrs a wk to start. Send resume and salary requirements to: CBS, 29445 Beck Rd., Ste A-209, Wixom, MI 48393

Administrative Assistant General office duties, confirming appts. & exc. phone skills Livonia. 734-347-1091

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5020

CUSTOMER SERVICE Part-Time, detailed oriented & exc. follow through habits Word & Excel required. Small non-smoking office Fax/email resume & salary requirements: 734-721-4000 jill@championsprinklers.com

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Farmington Hills technica society seeks highly organized individual to process semina registrations and publications and routine database mainte-nance. Must be detail oriented, have excellent data entry skills, and be proficient in Word, Excel, and the Internet Send resume and salary requirements to:

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Bloomfield Hills law firm seeks an Executive- Administrative Asst. We require highly skilled, intelligent, and motivated person w/ substantial exp. assisting on high executive level. Knowledge of some financial software helpful. Good computer skills and some legal secretarial or law office administrative exp. req'd. Exc. benefits. Salary commensurate w/ duties and exp. Inquiries treated confidentially. Please send detailed resume and explanation of experience and interest to:

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(code 1694)

and experience. Hines Park Lincoln Mercury seeks an individual for full time General Office Accounting position. Accounting exper ence is a must, dealership experience preferred. Seeking a team player w/ initiative Great pay and benefits available. Please send resume to

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LEGAL ASSISTANT for estate planning practice; must know all aspects of EP; heavy typing; great attention to detail; excellent customer service skills WordPerfect, Hot Docs and Time Matters. Available

Send resume, salary requirements and cover letter explaining your EP experience via email only ahillman@brmmlaw.com

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LEGAL SECRETARY

Farmington Hills, FT, Benefits Fax resume to: 248-406-8001 OFFICE ASSISTANT Plymouth Health Center

eption, scheduling, billing, data entry. Fax Resume: 734-414-7679 or email: info@breathingwaters.net

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Charter Township of Redford

For more information cal 313-387-2761 or visit our website at: redfordtwp.com/dept/hr

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Full-Time needed for busy West Bloomfield office. Wi offer medical, dental, eve and 401K benefit. Experience is required. Please fax resume to: 248-855-1323

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SECRETARY/

RECEPTIONIST Busy law office, Farmingtor Hills. Full-Time with benefits. Fax information to: 248-626-3231

Help Wanted-Dental

DENTAL RECEPTIONIST

5040

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DENTAL ASSISTANT Bloomfield Hills Endodontic office seeking highly motivated, energetic individual to join our team. Experience preferred but willing to train. Fax resume ATTN: Lisa at: 248-647-0576 Lisa at:

DENTAL ASSISTANT
PART-TIME
To join our small, but friendly

team. 21 + hrs. available. Must have exp. & X-ray certi-fication. Cerec exp. a plus. Fax or email resume to: 248-828-8030 gee.doc48@yahoo.com

Help Wanted-Dental 5040 Help Wanted-Medical 5060

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DENTAL HYGIENIST Are you kind, compassionate, people oriented, and motivat-ed to succeed? We have a fulltime position avail, at our Novi office. Call 248-465-6310.

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procaresystems.com

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derm-jobs@hotmail.com **MEDICAL ASSISTANT** 32 hrs/wk. Insurance knowledge needed. No weekends. Benefits. Bingham Farms area. lss0904@aol.com

Please email resume to

MEDICAL ASSISTANT With exp. for internal medicine practice in Livonia, PT, 6 hrs Mon, Tues, Thurs, & Fri. 24 hrs/wk. Fax resume:

MEDICAL BILLER CONTINGENT Experience a must for busy internal medical office in Troy.

Days and hours are based upon department needs. Fax resume to Del: 248-267-6791 MEDICAL BRIDER

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Kelli's phone: 248-932-1204 www.harperiobs.com MEDICAL

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RN, LPN or MA With Experience, needed for GROWING dermatology practice in Ann Arbor/ Plymouth area. Full-Time,

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operations of the clinical dept, manage the nursing staff, and ensure the quality of care our residents receive. RN license required. Senior housing experience preferred

package as well as advancement opportunities. Please apply online or email/fax your resume to: kschaefer@brookdaleliving.com Fax: 866-743-0910

www.brookdaleliving.com/jobs

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Needed at long term care facility. BSW or MSW; prior long term care experience preferred.

SOCIAL

WORKER

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(btwn. Civic Center Dr.

& 10 Mile Rd.

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Ample Bordine

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A covered front porch wraps around three sides of the Bordine (406-26) giving it an all weather sensibility and a classic, country appearance. The 3,250 square feet of living space are separated into the quiet sleeping quarters on the right side and the food preparation and family areas on the left.

The two-car garage has a depth that will allow a shop area in the rear. For ease of use, there is an extra set of stairs to the optional basement. Off the garage is a carport that runs the full length of the garage and part of the home.

A large study on the right of the entry has shelves built in to the back wall. There is room enough for a reading table, chairs, as well as a complete office layout. Directly in front of the study door, an open U-shaped staircase leads to the upper level and to the optional basement below.

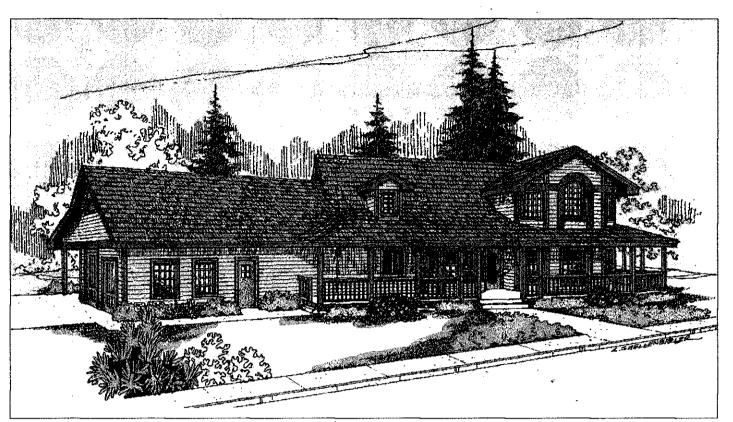
Beyond the vaulted formal dining room, the open kitchen design and nook area are convenient to the garage. Kitchen amenities include a large pantry, eating bar, and a built-in desk. The dormer above brightens this space. The utility room in this area has a sink, a drop-down ironing board, and a full bath.

From the nook, a sunroom with an optional spa provides an area for entertaining guests, as well as providing the family with relaxation

Open to the nook and kitchen. the vaulted family room has a patio door to the rear deck. A fireplace sits at an angle in the corner. In the master suite, an identical fireplace is mirrored on the same wall. Skylights and French doors brighten the rear of the suite, while two windows illuminate the bath. Double sinks and a large, two fixture shower with a bench complete the master bath. A sink is also located outside the main bath area for convenience to meet busy schedules.

after a hectic day. Heated with a wood stove, the cozy retreat also has a wet bar with an under-counter refrigerator, and a wine

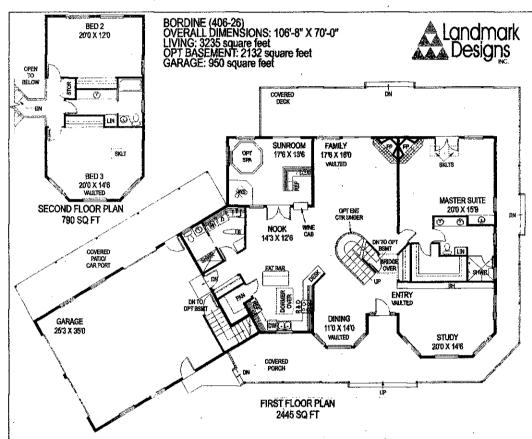
Open to the nook and kitchen, the vaulted family room has a patio door to the rear deck. A fireplace sits at an angle in the corner. In the master suite, an identical fireplace is mirrored on the same wall. Skylights and French doors brighten the rear of the suite, while two windows illuminate the bath. Double sinks and a large, two fixture, shower with a bench complete the master bath.



A sink is also located outside the main bath area for convenience to meet busy schedules.

Two generous bedrooms share a full bath upstairs. The bath is compartmental design with a pocket door separating the sink area with a linen closet from the rest of the bath. Both bedrooms have large closets with storage in the hall.

For a study plan of the BORDINE (406-26), send \$15, to Landmark Designs, 33127 Saginaw Rd. E., Cottage Grove, OR 97424 or call (800) 5562-1151. Be sure to specify plan name and number. Compact disks, with search functions are free of charge, to help you search our portfolio for your dream home (\$5 shipping and handling will apply). Or you may order or search online at www.ldiplans.com. Save 15 percent on construction plans using the code (LOE48) online, mailing, or calling (800) 562-1151.



Appraising and Sales

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

Mold in Homes

"Mold in Homes, Defensive Briefing" presented by Matt Bezanson, a professional home inspector, will cover how to separate fact from hype, how to protect yourself from liability. It is sponsored by the Real Estate Investors of Oakland 5:30-9:30 p.m. Thursday, May 8, at MSU Management Education Center, 811 W. Square Lake Road, Troy. Seminar free to members, \$20

Call (800) 747 6742 or visit www.REIAofOakland.com.

Homebuyer seminar

A free homebuyer seminar will be held 6:45 p.m. Thursday, May 8, at the Northville District Library 212 W. Cady St., Northville. Seating is limited, and RSVPs are needed. Whether you are a first-time home buyer or looking to buy up, you will learn about programs that can help you buy your first home, even if you think you may not qualify for a mortgage. Get answers to questions about the buying process ... including financing, efficient house hunting, market trends, and free take-home information to help you get started. Call Michael Fischer at GMAC, (734) 454-3600, or Brett Phillips at RE/MAX, (734) 459-7646. You can also send e-mail to BrettPhillips@ remax.net or Michael. Fischer@GMACM.com.

■ Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan (BIA) will pres-

ent "Recovery By Design" on Wednesday, May 7, from 8:30-11 a.m. at Emagine Theater, 44425 W. 12 Mile, Novi (Fountain Walk, Novi Road &

The presentation will cover what people can do as an industry to overcome the challenges of Michigan's economy. Topics include how to build a partnership with a design professional to create distinctive neighborhoods; how to give buyers a reason to move and minimize risk for builders: and an overview of National Green Building Standard and how they will impact Michigan.

Speakers are Dominick Tringali, AIA, NCARB, of Dominick Tringali Architects Inc. and Arn McIntyre of

McIntyre Builders Inc. Registration fees are \$15 for **BIA or Apartment Association** of Michigan members and \$45 for guests. For registration information, call (248) 862-

■ Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan (BIA) will present The ABCs of Collection" on Tuesday, May 13, from 8:30-10:30 a.m. at Association Headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, in Farmington Hills

The seminar will be presented by Ron Rich of Ronald B. Rich & Associates. Topics include: proper format for creating credit applications; collections process; making the phone call; when to initiate liens and when to go to arbi-

tration or court. Registration fees, including a continental breakfast, are \$10 for BIA or Apartment Association of Michigan members and \$25 for guests. For registration information, call (248) 862-1033.

■ Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan (BIA) presents

Green Built™ Training on Wednesday, May 14, from 9-10:30 a.m. at Association Headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100, in Farmington Hills.

Chris Pratt of Wake-Pratt Construction will instruct on the subject of Water Efficiency using materials and methods that result in Green Built™ certification. Building Green offers a change from selling cost per square foot to making an environmental state-

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

862-1033. **■** Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan's (BIA) Sales & Marketing Council (SMC) will host the ninth annual Sales & Marketing (SAM) Awards on Wednesday, May 14, from 6-9:30 p.m. at The Community House of Birmingham, 380 S.

Bates St. in Birmingham. The SMC will recognize outstanding achievement in sales and marketing efforts throughout Southeastern Michigan. The Million Dollar Circle awards will also be presented. A portion of each ticket sold will benefit Habitat for

Humanity. Registration fees are \$55 for BIA or Apartment Association of Michigan members, nonmembers and guests. For registration information, call (248) 862-1033.

■ Apartment Association of Michigan's (AAM) Property **Management Council** (PMC) will sponsor a Fair Housing for Maintenance Staff seminar on Friday, May 16, from 9 a.m. to noon at AAM Headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100, in Farmington Hills. Kathleen Mabie of Ann Arbor-based Success on Site will provide fair housing information specifically geared for maintenance and service personnel, housekeeping, grounds, vendors and part time staff. Situations encountered everyday will be

BRIEFS

the basis for the presentation. Registration fees are \$45 for PMC members, \$55 for **AAM or Building Industry** Association members and \$65 for guests. For registration information, call (248) 862-

1033. **■** Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan (BIA) will present 'Condominium Flexibility: Cleaning Up After The Flood" on Tuesday, May 20, from 8:30 a.m. to noon at Association Headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway

in Farmington Hills. The inherent flexibility of the Michigan Condominium Act makes it possible to reposition and reformat existing residential projects. Participants will gain an understanding of the risks and opportunities related to stepping into an existing

project. Topics include: using expansion, contraction and convertability rights to your advantage; developer retained rights; successor developer liabilities and rights; association administration in the stalled project; and escrow and lien issues peculiar to the Condominium Act.

Speakers for the seminar are Jim Babcock of Babcock Building, Bill Freeman of Freeman Cotton & Gleeson, PLC, Greg J. Gamalski of Giamarco, Mullins & Horton, PC, and Phil Seaver of Seaver Title.

Registration fees are \$10 for BIA or Apartment Association of Michigan members and \$25 for guests. For registration information, call (248) 862-1033.

■ Building Industry

Association of Southeastern Michigan (BIA) presents Green Built™ Training on Wednesday, May 28, from 1-4 p.m. at Association Headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, in

Farmington Hills. Chris Pratt of Wake-Pratt Construction discusses building with materials and methods that result in Green Built™ certification. Building Green offers a change from selling cost per square foot to making an environmental

statement. Topics in this training include building more energy efficient, more durable and more environmentally sustainable homes

The training is \$50 per person, or free if you join Green Built within 30 days. For registration information, call (248) 862-1033.

■ Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan (BIA) will sponsor a two-day "Green Building for **Building Professionals**" course on Thursday and Friday, May 29-30, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at BIA Headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, in Farmington Hills. The course is part of the National Association of Home Builders' Certified Graduate series and counts toward Certified Graduate Associate (CGA), Certified Graduate Builder (CGB) and Certified Green Professional (CGP) designa-

Chuck Breidenstein of **Builder Professional Services** Group will instruct attendees on strategies for incorporating green building principles into homes without driving up the cost of construction. Participants will learn how green homes provide buyers with better value, lower energy costs, lower maintenance, better indoor air quality and better long-term value.

Registration fees are \$200 for NAHBR Professional Remodeler members, \$225 for BIA members and \$300 for guests. For registration information, call (248) 862-1033.

Condo Association

Meisner & Associates law firm will present "Tools for Successfully Running a Condominium Association." It will be 7-9 p.m. May 6, 13, 20 and 27 at the Bingham Farms office. Cost is \$95 per person, \$85 for additional attendees from the same association. For registration information, call (800) 470-4433.

Topics covered include: assessment collection; legal aspects of budgeting and reserve analysis; bylaw enforcement procedures; introduction of the four necessary audits, legal, physical, financial and operational; how to avoid director liability and legal disputes; how to run an effective board meeting; protecting the attorney/client privilege before and after litigation; and review of the management contract.

Parade of Staged Homes

The second annual Parade of Staged Homes Event will be held 1-4 p.m. Sunday, May 4. Proceeds of the event benefit Ronald McDonald House of Detroit. Its purpose is to showcase exceptional houses and the Realtors who understand how to use home staging as a marketing tool, as well as provide an opportunity for the public to meet Accredited Home Staging Professionals that are helping to market and ultimately sell houses quickly in the Detroit metro area. Those who are interested in finding a quality home or learning about the staging process to sell their properties are encouraged to attend. Houses can be located by going to www. paradeofstagedhomes.com for map and addresses. Admission is free.

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Real Estate Auction

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ACROSS

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- 11 Polite cough 13 Glop
- 15 Viking letter
- 16 Mr. Serling 17 Trotsky's first name
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Answer to Previous Puzzle

TIARA AUF SIFT ETTA

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STERN YOUTH

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9-21 © 2007 United Feature Syndicate, Inc.

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22 Bark or yelp 23 Lobster-house

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- Rome 43 Engage
- Sacred bird of Egypt

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Fun By The

Like puzzles?

sudoku. This

mind-bending

Then you'll love

puzzle will have

you hooked from

the moment you

square off, so

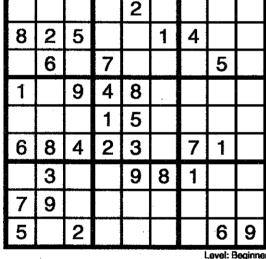
sharpen your

your sudoku

pencil and put

savvy to the test!

Numbers



Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row. column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

AND

FIND THESE WORDS IN THE PUZZLE BELOW.

ANKLE EAR **ELBOW** HEEL

NECK PALM SHIN

THIGH THUMB WAIST SHOULDER WRIST

THE WORDS READ UP DOWN AND ACROSS.

SELBOW WRI T H \mathbf{H} U M BOYSMQW HDXDEHAN W W R S B Ι T URWNECKYE

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| INTHUMBPWO |
| H (H D I H(I)(S) I V M |
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Beverly Hills

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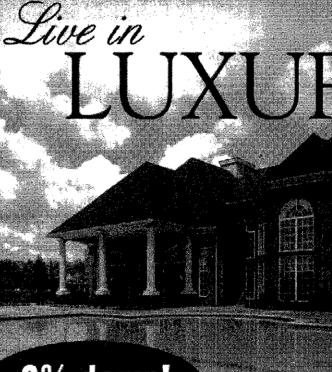
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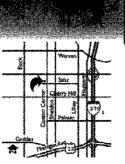
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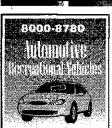
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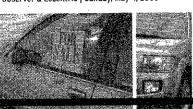
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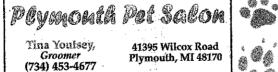
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