


**Graduation time**  
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**Pair of 'Cats earn All-State honors - Sports, B1**

**Automobile love affairs**  
- Inserted section



**THURSDAY**  
June 5, 2008

# CANTON Observer

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## Deal keeps two businesses from leaving

BY TIFFANY L. PARKS  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Canton's art of persuasion has won out once again. Poco Traffic Control Specialists, which is responsible for many of the orange construction barrels, barricades and signage on display in construction zones, and Sysco Food Services of Detroit are expected to stay in the township after

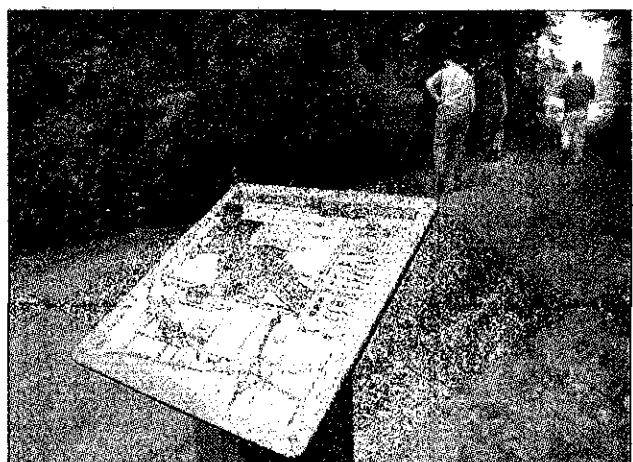
some intervention from Canton officials. In order to make room for Sysco to buy its 10-acre property at 42000 Van Born, Poco was preparing for a relocation to Van Buren Township. Poco, a family-owned company, has been at the same location since 1972 but hadn't given much thought to moving until neighboring Sysco, 41600 Van Born, inquired about its property. "They have expanded as far as they can

go without getting onto our (land)," said John Cleaver, Poco operations manager. "They've been seriously trying to buy our property for about two and a half years and we threw a figure at them thinking they wouldn't accept it and we went about our business." Sysco accepted Poco's offer nearly a year later.

Please see **DEAL, A6**



BILL BRESLER  
STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
**Frank Powelson, owner of Poco Traffic Control Specialists, will keep the business in Canton.**



Wayfinding signs are placed along the trails that will help guide users through the park.

## New recreation trail to be unveiled Saturday

BY KURT KUBAN  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

After much planning and work, Canton officials will hold a grand opening for the new Lower Rouge River Recreation Trail on Saturday. The event, which will coincide with Canton's annual Rouge Rescue/River Day celebration (see page A3), will take place from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. with a ribbon cutting ceremony at 1:30 p.m. The trail access point is off of Morton Taylor Road just north of Michigan Avenue. Construction crews have pretty much completed the first phase of the trail,

which runs along the Lower Rouge River between Sheldon Road and the ITC corridor just west of Lilley Road. Ultimately the main trail will run from Canton Center all the way to I-275. In addition to the 2.5 mile long main trail, there are several shorter loops, as well as some trails specifically for mountain bikers. Signs are placed along the trail to help users find their way. The trail is open to walking, hiking and biking. No motorized vehicles will be allowed on the trail, which dissects the Lower Rouge Parkway, one of Canton's



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Travis Roth, of Canton, bikes part of the new trail system that will be unveiled Saturday.

last wooded corridors. Canton engineer Anne Naszradi, the trail's project manager, said people will be amazed they are still in Canton, because of the woods and wildlife along the trail. "I'm thrilled with this project," Naszradi said. "I would like to see, with gas prices at \$4 a gallon, instead of going up north, families can come out here and enjoy

themselves. This is such a beautiful area." Saturday's ceremony will include several activities, including guided and interpretive hikes, bicycle safety demonstrations, a climbing wall and recreation station, and a scavenger hunt. For more information, call (734) 394-5360.

## All acting aside

John Corbett puts film career on hold to rock Liberty Fest

BY TIFFANY L. PARKS  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Whether you only know him as Aiden, Chris or Ian, John Corbett wants you to check out his band. The John Corbett Band is fronted by the actor made popular by his roles in the HBO series *Sex and The City*, the television show *Northern Exposure*, and the big-screen production, *My Big Fat Greek Wedding*. "A lot of people come to see the guy they saw on television," said Corbett, in a telephone interview from California. "And really, some come to see if I'll bomb, but by the second or third song, they are used to seeing me and then they start listening to what we're doing." Corbett's band will perform during the 2008 Liberty Fest at 8:30 p.m. June 14 in Heritage Park and at 7 p.m. June 15 at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill. Tickets for the Village Theater performance are \$25, or \$40 to participate in a meet and greet. In hitting the road with his band, Corbett took a two-year hiatus from acting and released a self-titled country music album in April 2006. The West Virginia native says he didn't bother getting advice from those around him, including his agent and

his manager, about whether they felt pursuing music was a good idea. "I don't ask anyone what I should do, I just do it," he said with a laugh, adding that others probably would have tried to talk him out of giving up the silver screen in favor of performing at a bar. "Acting (in a movie) is a group sport. There's not a lot of audience participation and no creative control. With music, I get to do what I want to do every night." Jennifer Provenzano, recreation specialist for Canton Leisure Services, said tickets are selling well for the band's performance at the theater and she is anticipating a nice crowd at the Liberty Fest performance, which is free. Backed by a five-member band, Corbett doesn't shy away from his acting career when discussing his music and believes his previous work is a tool to grab concert goers. "Whatever gets them in (the show) is fine," he said. "I need people to just come in. We are finding that the audiences are digging it. They are sticking around." For more information, visit [www.johncorbettband.com](http://www.johncorbettband.com). For more information about this year's Liberty Fest, which runs June 13-14, visit [www.canton-mi.org](http://www.canton-mi.org).



John Corbett and his band will headline this year's Liberty Fest.

## Dentist offering free work for a day

BY TIFFANY L. PARKS  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

If it's a choice between groceries, the mortgage, gasoline or getting a wisdom tooth pulled, Dr. Henry Pinkney is looking to assist in the decision making. The Pinkney Greenbaum and MacFarland dental office is having a free dental day June 7 at 42301 Cherry Hill Road.


"People are having trouble in this economy and even though we can't do for everyone, we can at least help some," said Pinkney, who has been in dentistry for 31 years and has been practicing in Canton since 1980. The office will offer exams, X-rays, cleanings, fillings, extractions and pain control. The services are intended for those that need dental care but can't afford the treatment.

"We will use a first come, first serve basis," Pinkney said, adding that the office will be staffed with two oral surgeons and four dentists for the day. "We are expecting a good number of people." The office, which won't accept appointments for the free services, has planned to treat the first 120 people that arrive and more if time permits. Patients must be 12

or older and accompanied by a parent or legal guardian if under the age of 18. "People are walking around in pain but they may not have the money (for treatment)," Pinkney said, referencing a calendar date that showed many of his regular patients were complaining about pain. For more information, call (734) 981-4040 or visit [www.cantondentists.com](http://www.cantondentists.com).


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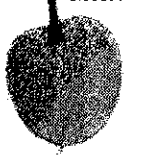
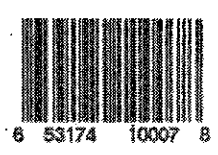


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**Coming Sunday in Health**

Studies show tart cherries may help prevent heart disease



# 'Do-gooders' restore the Rouge and have fun, too

BY HUGH GALLAGHER  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

"We're a bunch of do gooders."  
That's how Kathy Milberg, executive director of Friends of the Rouge, describes members of her organization and the thousands of volunteers who participate in programs to restore the Rouge River and preserve the 470-square-mile Rouge Watershed.

On Saturday, about 3,000 volunteers will turn out for the 23rd annual Rouge Rescue, from Rochester to Canton. They will haul junk from the river, pull out invasive plants along the banks, put in native plants, participate in nature walks and learn about the river's rich environment.

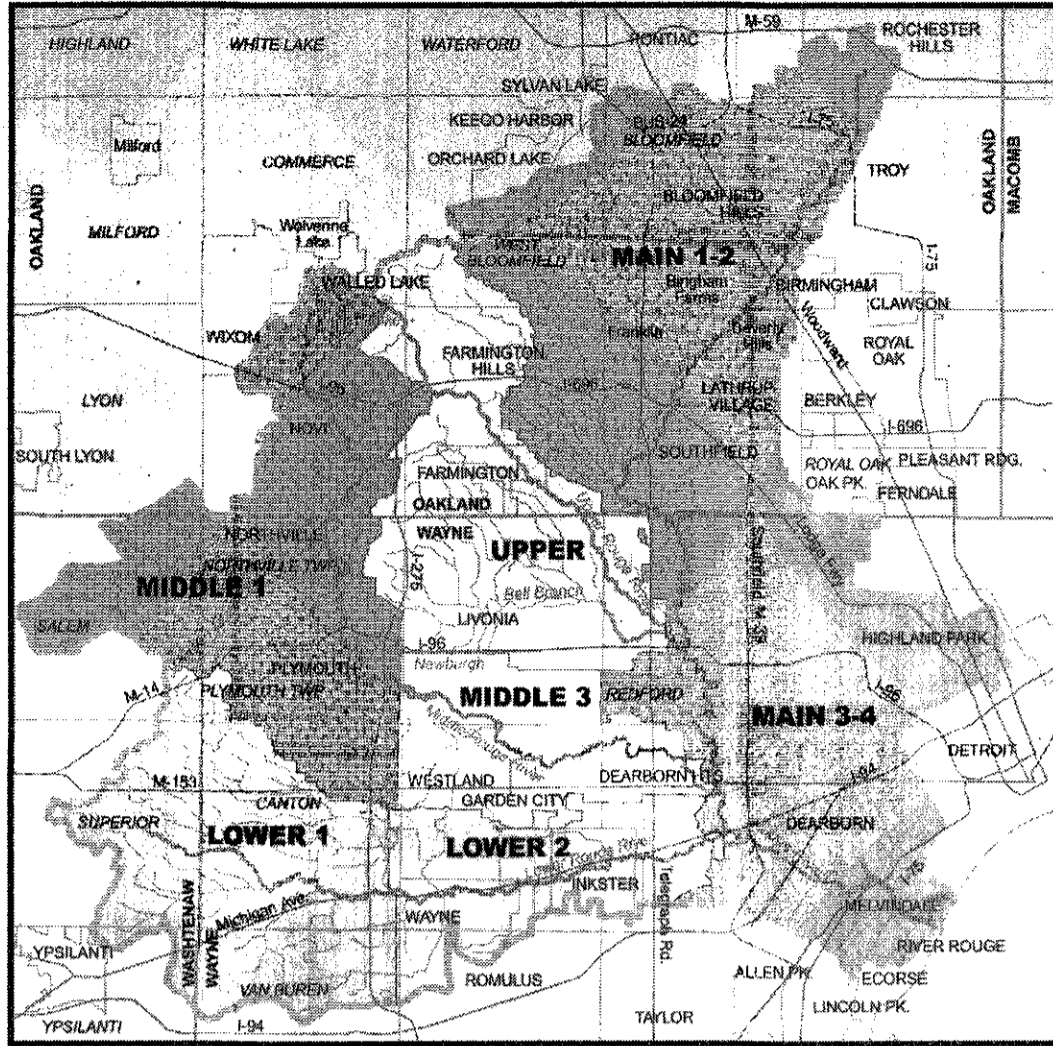
"Rouge Rescue is an event where people can come out for just a few hours and feel really good about what they've done," said Cynthia Ross, river restoration program manager for the Friends. "They see the results, that they are part of larger effort and that what they are doing has a positive effect on the river."

Zachery Gizicki, 16, who is finishing his sophomore year at Livonia Churchill High School, is one of those who will be feeling good about himself on Saturday. He and other members of the Churchill Environmental Club will be helping at the Holiday Nature Preserve in Westland.

"I've always been conscious of enjoying our ecosystem," he said. "I have lived next to Holiday all my life. I live in a forest and the environment is something I've always admired."

The Rouge Rescue is the most visible of many environmental and education programs sponsored by the Friends of the Rouge. These programs include the annual Frog and Toad Survey, the Rouge Education Project at 51 area schools, a new school yard habitat program at three schools, bug hunts and bus tours.

As the Rouge has become less polluted and the philosophy has changed to establish-



This map shows the Rouge Watershed that includes large portions of Wayne and Oakland counties along various branches of the river.

### ROUGE RESCUE

**Who:** Friends of the Rouge  
**What:** Annual Rouge Rescue Event  
**When:** Saturday, June 7  
**Time:** Work schedules vary by site, from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
**Where:** 36 work sites located throughout the 47 Rouge River watershed communities (Detroit and western suburbs)

ing a more natural environment, the Friends have begun to focus on education.

"We're trying to grow awareness that our everyday activities impact the water quality of the river," Ross said.

The Rouge Education Project involves students from kindergarten to 12th grade in helping test water quality

and learning about the river's ecosystem.

"The Rouge Education Project is based on getting kids outside with hands-on science and increase their awareness of the environment and the things they can do to affect it in a positive way," said Emily Hughes, program director.

The program recently changed to a safer chemical testing kit, making it easier for elementary children to participate. Hughes said in addition to the water tests, participants also note the changing contours of the river and the insect life.

Another program that involves about 600 volunteers a year is the Frog and Toad Survey. Volunteers are taught the various toad and frog calls and go out in the evening to listen and identify what they hear.

"It tells us about the wetlands which are critical to the health of the watershed," said Sally Petrella, volunteer monitoring program director. "It tells us a lot about diversity. The more different kinds of frogs we find, the healthier it is."

A similar program was started to monitor bugs in the wetlands.

Like other nonprofits in Michigan, the Friends of the Rouge is struggling to find ways to fulfill its mission. A federal grant of \$260,000 is a major but decreasing share of the group's \$642,228 budget, and although 3,000 will show up for the Rescue, the Friends membership is 670.

"It's joyful work we do," said Milberg. "As we move forward and the federal grant goes away, we're trying to figure out how to do it without new

## 2008 Rouge Rescue Sites

- Allen Drive Park, Novi Street at Allen Drive, Northville 9 a.m. to noon
- Beech Woods Recreation Center, Beech Road, south of Nine Mile, Southfield, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Berberian Woods, Streamwood Lane, south 12 Mile between Lasher and Telegraph, Southfield, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Canton Recreation Trail, along Lower Rouge River on north side of Michigan Avenue, west of Morton Taylor, Canton, 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Conventry Gardens, N. Hampshire St., east of Stamford, Livonia, 8 a.m. to noon.
- Dearborn Gateway Trail, Michigan Ave. and Brady, Dearborn, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- EL Johnson Nature Center, 3325 Franklin Road, Bloomfield Hills, 9 a.m. to noon.
- EL Johnson Nature Center/West Hills Middle School, Bloomfield, 9 a.m. to noon
- Farmington Founders Park, Eight Mile Road, east of Halsted, 9 a.m. to noon
- Fish Hatchery Park, south of Seven Mile Road, between Beck and Sheldon, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Fordson Island, Powell Street off Heidt, Detroit, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- George W. Kuhn Combined Sewer Overflow Facility, 1200 Ajax Drive, Madison Heights, 10 a.m. to noon.
- Goudy Park, 3355 S. Wayne Road, Wayne, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Henry Ford Estate, 4901 Evergreen, Dearborn, 9 a.m. to noon.
- Holiday Nature Preserve, Newburgh north of Warren, Westland, 8:30 a.m. to noon
- Jaycee Park, north of Long Lake Road between Rochester Road and John R., Troy 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Kosch Headwaters Preserve, 8383 Vreeland Road, Superior Township, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Linden Park, between West Lincoln and Linden Road, Birmingham, 9 a.m. to noon.
- Lola Valley Park and Bell Creek Park, 16201 Lola Valley, east of Beech Daly, Redford Township, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Meadows of Canton, Lotz Road, Canton, 9 a.m. to noon.
- Moelke Park, 19422 Lathers, north of Seven Mile, Livonia, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Oakland Community College, Orchard Ridge Campus, Farmington Hills, 8:30 a.m. to noon.
- Parkland Park, Ann Arbor Trail east of Outer Drive, Dearborn Heights, 9 a.m. to noon.
- Roeper School, 41190 Woodward, Bloomfield Hills, 9 a.m. to noon.
- Rotary Park, 2220 Roethel Drive, south of Nine Mile, Novi, 9 a.m. to noon.
- Rouge Park, Joy Road and Spinoza, Detroit, 8-11 a.m.
- Shiawassee Park, Power Road, north of Grand River, Farmington, 9 a.m. to noon.
- Tonquish Creek, 1160 Sheridan, Plymouth, 9 a.m. to noon.
- Trinity Church, 34500 Six Mile, Livonia, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- University of Michigan- Dearborn, 4901 Evergreen, Dearborn, 9 a.m. to noon
- Walled Lake, 1499 E. West Maple Road, Walled Lake, 8:30-11 a.m.
- West Bloomfield Woods Nature Preserve, 4655 Arrowhead Road, West Bloomfield, 10 a.m. to noon.

members." But Milberg is confident of support because people who help "have fun." "We did a survey and the number one reason to take of the responsibility of coordinating a site is that it's fun. That was very rewarding."  
hgallagher@hometownlife.com  
734) 953-2149

# Trial postponed for former teacher in sex case

The trial for Stephanie Ann Stein, the former Plymouth Christian Academy teacher accused of having sex with a former student, is expected to start June 12.

The jury trial was initially scheduled for Monday but was pushed back because of a conflicting case with her attorney Todd Flood.

"We're ready to go," said Wayne County Assistant Prosecutor Lora Weingarden.

Stein, 32, is accused of having a sexual relationship with a teenage boy she met while she was a teacher at PCA, which is located on Joy Road in Canton. The mother of two has been charged with two counts of third-degree criminal sexual



Stephanie Stein

felony; and one count of distributing obscene material of a sexual nature to a minor, a two-year felony.

Flood has said that Stein is maintaining her innocence. The teen, who is no longer a PCA student, has said he pursued the Canton woman and had sex with her at his house, her mother's house and at a hotel.

Stein previously rejected a deal from the state to serve 30 months to 15 years in prison if she pleaded guilty to one count of third-degree criminal sexual conduct.

The trial is expected to last two days.

Tiffany L. Parks

conduct, each a 15-year felony; one count of using the Internet to communicate with a minor to commit a crime, a four-year

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Caroline Jungquist, Brittany Adams and Joel Ruffin read scripture during Agape Christian's commencement ceremony.

## No more books

Agape seniors take next step on life's journey

The Class of 2008 bade farewell to Agape Christian Academy in commencement exercises Friday. Among the graduates:

- Brittany Ciera Adams
- Samantha Jordan Bucher
- Tyler James Conlin
- Kaitlin Jean Dorothy Forman
- Matthew Robert Glatfelter
- Caroline Marie Jungquist
- Kayleigh Elizabeth Lemon
- Michael Tyler Majeski
- Velita Nichole Martin
- Jared Scott Miller
- Mark James Mullett
- Temitayo Babalola Olojo



Co-valedictorian Kayleigh Lemon addresses her classmates and families.

- Terrell Reuben Pierce
- Brandon Joseph Pierson
- Kevin Allen Reith
- Byron Joel Ruffin

- Matthew Ryan Sampson
- Daniel John Walker
- Amber Danielle Weston
- Tabitha Monique Wyatt

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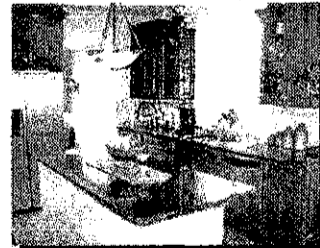
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## Do homework before hiring any contractor

Summer arrives later this month and many people will begin a variety of home repairs and maintenance. It is important to review some of the basics regarding the hiring of a contractor. After all, the purpose of this column is to make sure that you have more money in your pocket. A botched home repair, on the other hand, can take money out of your pocket.

It's important to review some of the basics.

If you decide to hire a professional for home repair, the most important issue is selecting the right contractor. The consequences of selecting the wrong contractor can be very expensive.

Before hiring a contractor, do an independent investigation. If the contractor supplies names of previous customers, do you think they are going to give you the name of someone who is not completely satisfied with their work? It's sort of like references on a resume. In the long run, they are not worth much.

Check out a contractor with



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

the Better Business Bureau. The BBB has been around for many years. The Better Business Bureau Web site, www.bbb.org is free and contains a wealth of information. One nice thing about the Web site is it has information on a variety of businesses — BBB members and non-members. In addition, business members of the BBB do not receive different treatment than a non-member business.

After selecting the right contractor, don't let your guard down. One of the most important considerations is the contract. Too many consumers assume that contracts are standard and they sign without reading. The contract sets forth the terms between you and the contractor.

The contract is essential. Items that should be covered are the down payment and any

installment payments. Down payments are standard and you should have no problem putting one down. However, I would be cautious as to how much the down payment should be. A 25 percent down payment, should be sufficient in most cases. In addition, make sure the last scheduled payment is when the job is done in full to your satisfaction. The final payment should be more than a nominal payment. After all, you want to assure that the contractor will complete the job.

A home is generally one's largest single purchase. Therefore, be cautious who you hire. To save time and aggravation, spend the necessary time before the project starts to make sure that you use the right contractor and negotiate a fair contract.

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

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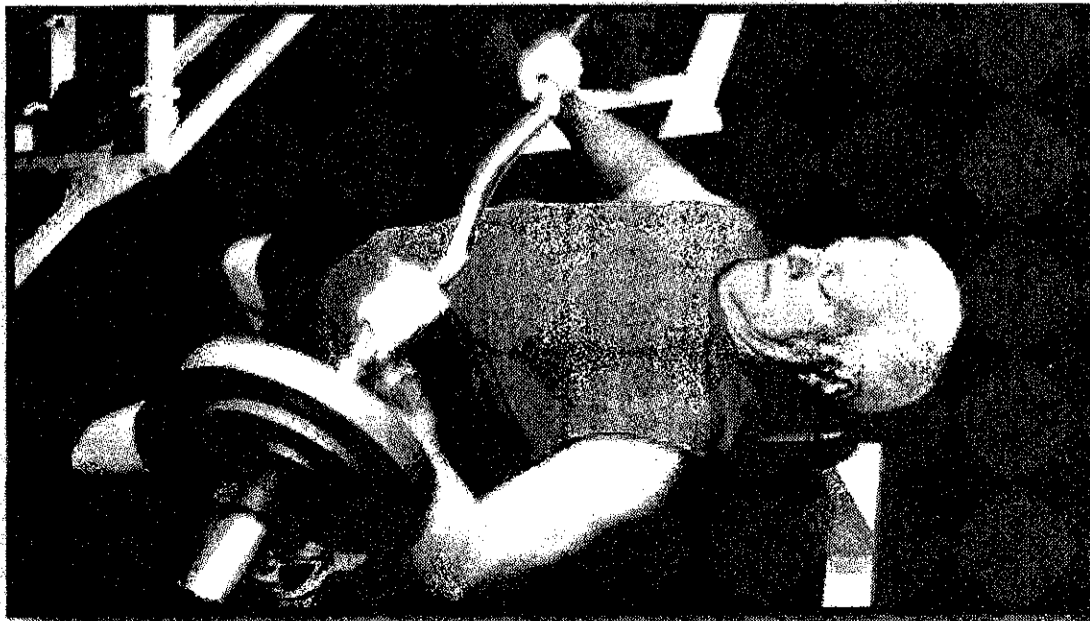
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**COP CALLS**

**Jewelry stolen from apartment**

A Canton woman reported to Canton police Wednesday that several pieces of jewelry and a camera had been stolen from her bedroom.

The woman, 43, lives in an apartment with her 12-year-old son and 9-year-old daughter and said she has a lock on her bedroom door and noticed it wasn't functioning properly. She then discovered that the items were missing.

The woman's son had lost his

key to the unit days earlier and said he knew nothing of the theft.

Upon arrival, the officer noted that there was no forced entry to the residence and that nothing was disturbed in the apartment.

He also reported that the thief chose not to take various other items that were in plain view.

The jewelry, which included two necklaces and earrings, was valued at \$500.

The camera and its charging base were valued at \$400.

**DEAL**

FROM PAGE A1

"It wasn't until then that we realized we had to figure out where we were going," Cleaver said.

By the time Poco selected a 15-acre parcel in Van Buren, Sysco began to face obstacles in its expansion efforts and contacted Canton Supervisor Tom Yack.

"They asked what could we do for them," Yack said, adding that Sysco threw out the options of moving to Indiana or Ohio. "This is a high-stakes game and we have to take (relocation talk) seriously."

After working to get Sysco a



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Poco is responsible for many of the orange construction barrels, barricades and signage on display in construction zones throughout Michigan.

tax deferral, township officials then went after keeping Poco in Canton. Their efforts ended with Poco buying a 62-acre parcel at 4850 Sheldon. The property is just opposite of the township's Public Works building.

Canton bought the land for \$260,000 in 1996 and sold it for \$555,000.

Cleaver said Poco, which is headed by Frank Powelson, is excited about its move and broke ground at the new site last month.

"I'm happy we are staying here," he said, adding that they hope to move in December.

"We had no complaints about being (in Canton)."

The company has already

mapped out plans for a large storage area, a sign fabrication area, locker rooms and a training space. During the summer, its peak season for business, Poco has about 50 employees. It scales back to about 25 in the winter.

"Each year, we've grown bigger and bigger and our space has dwindled so everyone is excited about moving," Cleaver said. "This property has served its purpose and it's time to move on. It's just like buying a new house, we're ready to get in there."

In addition to keeping Poco and Sysco in the township, it was announced last month that Canton will be the new home of Marimba Auto LLC.

The Belleville company had been considering a move to Tennessee. The township is looking at giving Marimba a 12-year tax abatement worth \$544,247.

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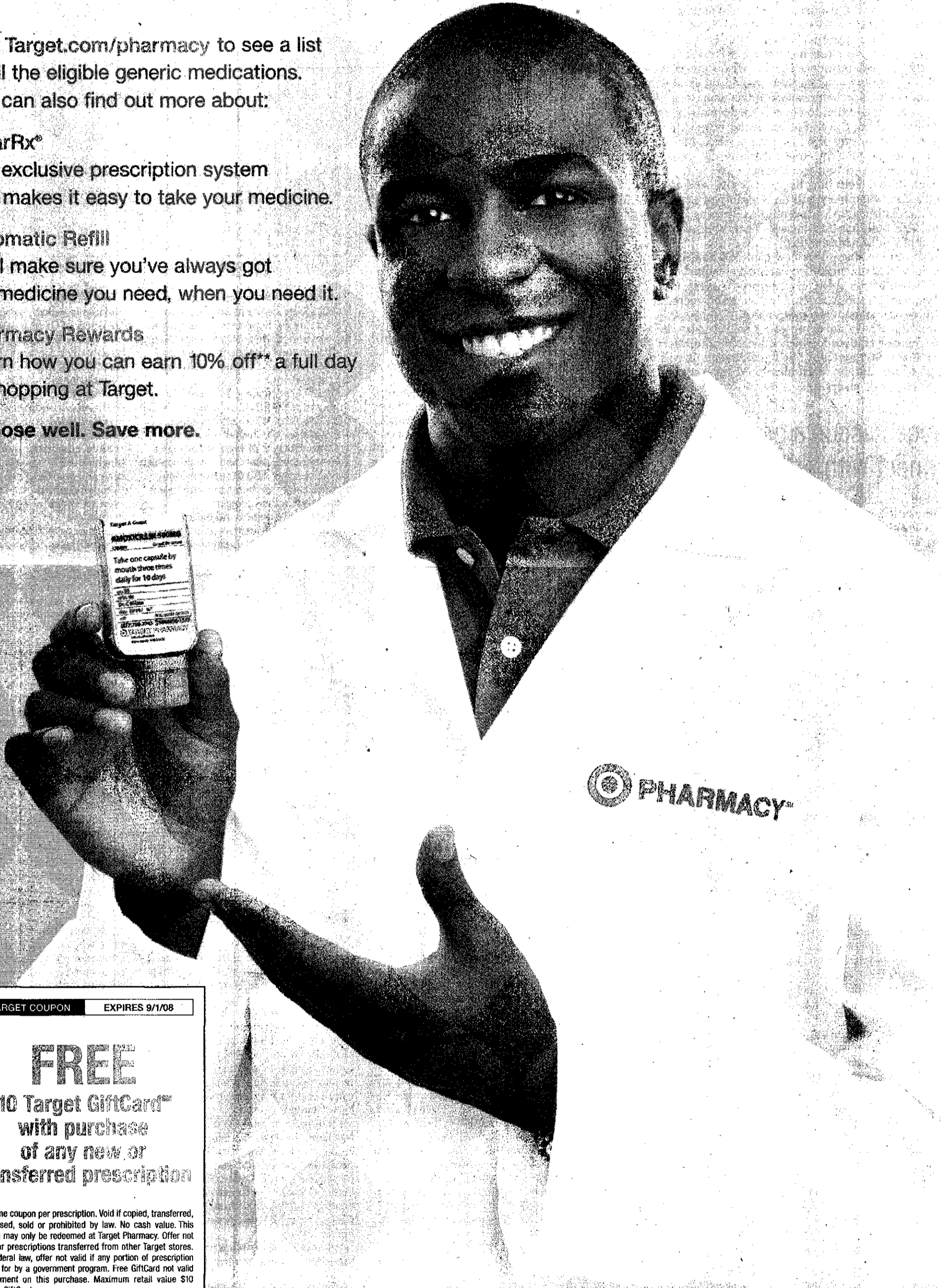
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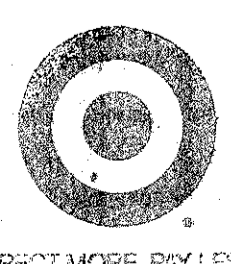
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### OUR VIEWS

## Trail offers a new recreation experience

Canton officials will unveil to the public the new Lower Rouge River Recreation Trail during a grand opening ceremony that will coincide with Rouge Rescue on Saturday.

Construction crews are in the process of putting the final touches on the first phase of the walking/hiking/biking trail that will ultimately run from Canton Center Road all the way to I-275. The first phase includes about 2.5 miles of main trail and several loop trails that will show off different natural features in the park.

Unlike most of Canton's other parks, which have groomed ball diamonds or soccer fields, the Lower Rouge River Recreation Trail is really all about nature. The trails are all within the Lower Rouge Parkway, which encompasses close to 300 acres of woods and wetlands within the township. The parkway, which actually runs all the way to Dearborn, is dissected by the Lower Rouge River, which is really the park's main feature.

In addition to promoting nonmotorized forms of recreation, the trail will introduce users to what Canton actually looked like before pioneers reshaped the land with saws and plows, and before subdivisions popped up like mushrooms. In addition to being home to many species of wildlife, including deer, fox, mink and many different birds, there are plenty of native plant species, including wildflowers and towering trees. Walking the trail, it is easy to forget you are in metro Detroit.

Rouge Rescue activities begin at 8 a.m. and run to about 2 p.m. Volunteers will do a variety of activities, including planting native vegetation, removing invasive plants, and building bird houses. There will also be a number of guided nature walks.

The grand opening of the new trail will be held from 1-4 p.m., with a ribbon cutting ceremony planned at 1:30 p.m. There will be guided and interpretive hikes, bicycle safety demonstrations, a climbing wall and recreation station, scavenger hunt and much more.

If you don't have anything going on Saturday, head out to the new trailhead, which is located off of Morton Taylor Road, just north of Michigan Avenue. It will be a great opportunity to learn about and clean up one of Canton's last wild places.

## Rouge Rescue a great way to connect with natural world

In 1985, a group of volunteers did the unthinkable — they waded into the Rouge River and began the process of cleaning up one of the most polluted waterways in the nation, and one of the largest pollution sources of the Great Lakes.

More than two decades later, Rouge Rescue, which always takes place the first Saturday in June, has grown into an annual celebration of "our" watershed, and is a testament to what a group of people armed with a good idea can achieve.

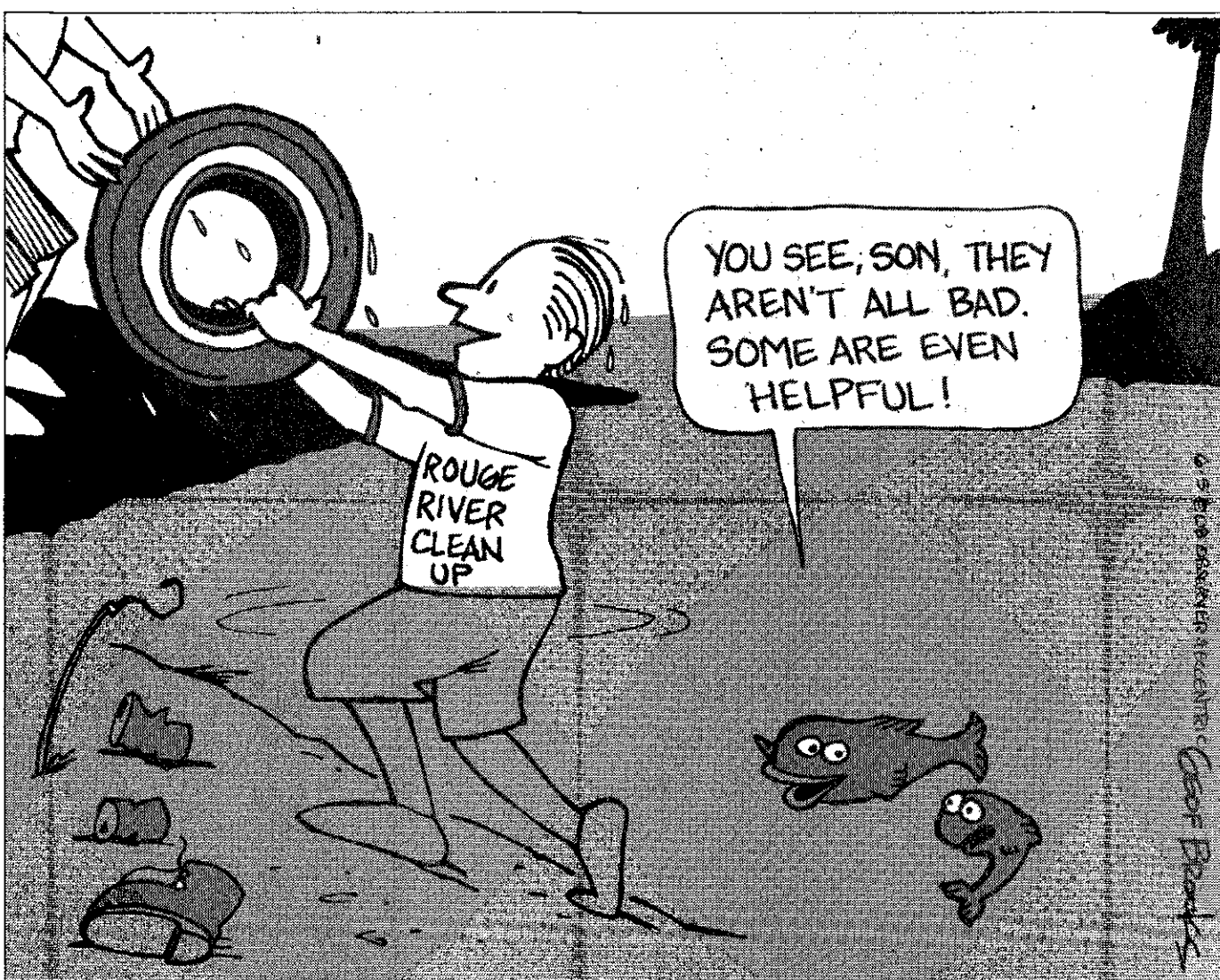
On Saturday, volunteers will take part at 36 different Rouge Rescue sites around the watershed — from Canton to Troy, from Detroit to Northville. Friends of the Rouge, the organization that helps plan the event, expects close to 3,000 participants this year. There's always room for more.

In the event's early years, volunteers would typically spend their time removing trash and debris from the river and surrounding park areas, including old cars, shopping carts and tires. In recent years, however, with much of the trash now removed, organizers have added a variety of activities, including nature walks, invasive species removal, woody debris management (opening flow, not removing log jams), planting native vegetation, bird box building and trail revitalization.

The event really has become a great way to introduce people not only to the Rouge River, but also to what is left of our region's natural areas, including the Berberian Woods section of Southfield, Holiday Nature Preserve in Westland and Canton, the E.L. Johnson Nature Center in Bloomfield Township, or even the Lower Rouge Parkway, which runs from Canton to Dearborn. "This reminds me of up north," can usually be heard when people visit these places for the first time.

Rouge Rescue has also helped change public opinion about the Rouge, which for far too long has been considered an open sewer. Unfortunately that's what it was — or, more correctly, what we turned it into. But recent efforts have had an impact, and while some downstream sections of the Rouge are still plagued by pollution issues, much of the headwater regions are pretty healthy. In fact, monitors have found trout, caddis flies and even a club tailed dragonfly — all very sensitive species that can't tolerate pollution.

So if you have a few hours Saturday, head out to one of the Rouge Rescue sites. Although you might get your hands a little dirty, the event is a great way to help restore one of our area's greatest natural resources, even though it hasn't always been treated like one. It's our river, and it is our job to protect it.



### LETTERS

#### Canton needs sidewalks

I would like to add my voice to your voice "Four-day work week would help ozone, fuel economy" (June 1), in suggesting ways to deal with the problem of rising fuel costs.

I, for one, would like to see Canton more sidewalk friendly, allowing those who wish and are able, to safely walk or bicycle to their various Canton destinations. We would not only save on fuel, but get some of that exercise we all know we need.

Janusz M. Szyszko  
Canton

#### DNC using unfair tactics

As a voter in the Michigan Democratic primary, I was appalled by the unfair tactics exhibited by the Rules Committee of the DNC and their biased and partisan ruling. I was also disheartened by the willingness of the Michigan Democratic leadership to compromise with this committee, thus ignoring the voices of Michigan voters. Thanks to Gov. Blanchard for being one of the only voices of reason.

Since it has been acknowledged by our Michigan leadership that this primary was flawed, and it was the intention that our votes would not be counted, I have a few questions regarding this issue:

If it was the intention of the MDP to hold a primary without counting our votes, why were we not informed of their intent? I believe that some progressive media outlets were putting that information out, but to my knowledge, it was not official.

Why, in a state in such a precarious financial situation, would the taxpayers be billed for a primary that was meaningless and unofficial? Why were we duped into voting if our votes did not count?

If the Florida primary date was changed by the Republican legislature of that state, why did the DNC rules committee penalize the Democratic voters? I find it unusual that the National Republican Party did not sanction their voters in that same primary.

It has become obvious to many of us that the Democratic Party, as a whole, is terribly flawed and will remain divided throughout this election cycle no matter who their candidate will be. As a life-long Democratic activist and volunteer, I have become very disillusioned with the tactics of my party and do not feel motivated to continue to volunteer. Why would any so-called rules committee member have the audacity or hubris to disenfranchise my vote and allocate it inaccurately?

Mary Young  
Canton

#### Get rid of DEQ

I read an opinion piece about funding the DEQ, which stated that the state lawmakers decided that the Michigan

Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) would be the main agency to protect our public waters. In fact, Gov. Engler created the DEQ after splitting it off from the Department of Natural Resources. He did an end-run around the Legislature.

The DEQ performs badly and is a duplicate of the DNR. In many ways, the DEQ has harmed our environment.

DEQ Director Chester is a lawyer by trade. His lack of understanding of environmental issues and simple science has caused the DEQ to stumble along through costly deliberations and to permit scatterbrained projects.

Waste, bureaucracy and danger to Michigan citizens has been the legacy of "streamlining" Michigan government by creating a duplicate of the DNR in the DEQ. The DEQ has proven to be an effective tool of corrupt local officials while providing assistance to foolish business practices.

The editorial states the Land and Water Management Division of the DEQ will need to turn its operations over to the federal government — that is the EPA. Already anything they do needs to be reviewed by the EPA anyway. The DEQ has hurt too many people. It is a waste of our federal tax dollars to fund the DEQ.

It was the DEQ that fueled and encouraged the garbage industry in Michigan and turned our sportsmen's paradise into a dump.

Would you like to enjoy clean water, fresh air and uncontaminated land again?

Alfred Brock  
Wayne

#### Noricks is a fresh voice

As the media hyperventilates over the latest flap d'jour in the presidential contest, it's easy to overlook what's happening politically right outside our front door. Literally.

It's time to open that door, step out and get involved. Our local elected officials have a responsibility to the residents who place them in office. A responsibility to run an open and honest government; a responsibility to have the integrity to do what's best for residents and not what's best to cling to power.

Canton Township has come a long way from the days where farmers sold corn from the back of their trucks in the Kmart parking lot. Indeed, many of these farm families still call Canton their home — along with thousands of residents of multiple faiths and ethnicities who embrace the fine services our community offers.

Yet as our township has grown, something hasn't changed much at all. The clubby atmosphere of the old guard is vigorously fighting any attempt to include a fresh voice in our local government for fear of breaking their tight-knit power base. Thankfully, someone who has dedicated years to grass-roots service is challenging the stale status quo and opening that door, stepping out and getting involved.

We finally have a fresh voice. Joan Noricks is seeking to become the next treasurer of Canton, assuming the position Elaine Kirchgatter (who is retiring) so ably filled for more than a decade. As president of the Canton Community Foundation since 1994, Joan has taken the lead in building a vibrant, eclectic coalition of residents whose hands-on service demonstrates the truest sense of community — businesspeople, religious leaders, educators, your friends and neighbors. She has volunteered countless hours on boards of nonprofit and educational organizations. And, yes, she was even a PTO mom when her kids were young.

Service to our community, in every sense of the word, is something Joan lives every day. She understands that elected office is not about showing up to ribbon cutting ceremonies and benefiting the few on the backs of the many. It's not about discouraging the involvement of Canton's diverse ethnic community.

I encourage you to check out who is supporting Noricks for treasurer. People who live and work in Canton; just plain folks of all faiths and all walks of life. Then, look carefully at the names of those backing the other candidate — political cronies, developers and others who stand to gain financially should she win.

You can bet the old guard is nervous at the prospect of a Joan Noricks victory. Which is why you will hear and see nasty innuendos, accusations and worse in the coming weeks. But instead of ignoring these attacks, take the time to check out the veracity of their claims. After you do, see what Joan has to say on her Web site, www.joannoricks.com, or ask one of the many people who have worked with her on professional, church or school projects.

Our community deserves a future treasurer who embraces the values of the residents she serves. A treasurer dedicated to an open, honest government. A person with integrity and optimism. It is a clear choice, and Aug. 5 we have the opportunity to vote our values. The residents of Canton — all of Canton — deserve no less.

Carole Levine  
Canton

### SHARE YOUR OPINIONS

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

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### QUOTABLE

**"If the Legislature wasn't looking at it, I don't think we would be actively pursuing it. It would be very difficult for us to afford."**

— George Belvitch, director of elementary education for Plymouth-Canton Schools, on the idea of offering all-day kindergarten, which he said would cost the district more than \$2 million for additional staff, equipment and training

CANTON  
**Observer**

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



# Political disconnect revealed on picturesque Mackinac Island

If you've never attended the Detroit Regional Chamber of Commerce's annual policy conference on Mackinac Island, know that the first — and overwhelming — impression is the amazing crush of people.

This year's conference drew around 1,800 participants to the fantastically beautiful porch of the Grand Hotel. For three days, I was one of them. The press of well-dressed people — talking, deal-making, business card exchanging, selling, buying and looking over shoulders for the next interesting person — was remarkable. One friend called the event "a world-class political mosh pit," but (fortunately) without the screaming teenagers a rock concert would bring.

Quite apart from the sessions, the Mackinac Conference is an extremely efficient way over three days to talk with a bunch of people you would normally have to wait three months to see — and even then would never see all in the same place. Everybody has an agenda or two, of course. But if you let yourself be bounced around like a molecule in solution, you're sure to run into people you've been wanting to see forever and take a stab at getting your business done.

Despite the intense socializing, the conference is meant to be serious business, with high-powered sessions devoted to finding solutions for statewide problems. And the overwhelming impression I took away this year was the enormous gap between what the politicians bicker about and what the state really needs.

That disconnect was the most obvious Thursday, when House Speaker Andy Dillon, D-Redford, House Minority Leader Craig DeRoche, R-Novi, Senate Majority Leader Mike Bishop, R-Rochester, and Senate Minority Leader Buzz Thomas, D-Detroit, gathered to be interviewed by TV and radio personality Tim Skubick.

They were on the same stage — but there was utterly no interaction. Each stood behind his designated podium, putting out their own spin on events, never coming together politically or even in body language. What they were bickering over was so trivial in a state so troubled! So full of insider baseball in a state where the unemployment rate is the highest in the nation, and most folks think the political system is pretty much broken. They argued over whether, for example, the legislation banning smoking in public places should or should not include the Detroit casinos. Puhleeze! In a state where our dominant industry is facing the worst times since the Great Depression, we're spending our time and energy worrying about whether gamblers should be allowed to smoke in casinos!

They argued over whether the state should

meet a capital outlay deadline from the feds. Evidently, federal law allocates to states a certain amount of money for airport construction, but the states have to file a plan with the Department of Transportation by a certain date in order to get the money. Republican legislators want to meet the deadline to get \$165 million for airports alone, while Democrats wanted to add other construction projects.

Once again, they are bickering over a deadline to get \$165 million for a state whose budget is chronically and structurally out of balance, sometimes by a billion dollars or more.

When they got done worrying those bones, it was on to: Should a state constitutional amendment to provide health care for all be put on the ballot? Was it insulting to the House for the Senate to send a bill back? (Or was it insulting to the Senate for the House to send a bill back? Somehow I couldn't remember — or care.)

Would Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick be well received by Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson?

Blah. Blah. Blah.

My first reaction was anger. But upon reflection, it's sadness. These leaders are able people. They work very, very hard. They ran for office intending to do the right thing, to help a state in a terrible jam. But somehow, they're found themselves trapped in a system that requires them to play tit for tat, and score political points rather than govern the state thoughtfully and seriously.

What's needed is planning for the long run.

Many of the programs at the conference were thoughtful, far-seeing, appropriate to the need for bipartisan common ground to get Michigan moving again. My own panel, for example, included Lou Glazer, president of Michigan Future, Inc., and Paul Hillemonds, the near-legendary former speaker of the house and now a senior VP at DTE Energy. Both were thoughtful, challenging, serious, responsible.

But in the back of the room, leaders of both political parties were cracking jokes, paying scant attention to the large measures at issue. As enablers of a dysfunctional political system that is serving millions of Michigan citizens very badly, they should be ashamed.

The unintended consequence of this year's Mackinac Conference was to reveal in full and stark detail the yawning disconnect between what the politicians chatter about and what Michigan really needs. I'm sure that's not what the organizers intended, but that's what emerged. And if you reflect a bit, it will tell you something very important about the state of our state today.

Phil Power is founder and president of The Center for Michigan, a centrist think tank based in Ann Arbor. The opinions expressed here are Power's and do not represent the official views of The Center. Reader comments are welcome at [ppower@thecenterformichigan.net](mailto:ppower@thecenterformichigan.net).

# Proposed smoking ban bill and debate are both flawed

The Senate's approval of a ban on smoking in public places has one Troy businessman huffing and puffing.

Daniel Jenuwine, owner of The Cigar Factory Outlet, called the measure "draconian" in an e-mail sent to media outlets throughout the state.

The e-mail has prompted at least one state legislator to seek changes in the bill, which was sent back to the House. The House and Senate versions could end up in a conference committee, or go up in smoke.

State Sen. John Pappageorge, R-Troy, said he has told colleagues that the Senate version is flawed, and he has a plan to fix what are unintended consequences.

Chief among those consequences is putting one of his constituents, namely Jenuwine, out of business. By banning smoking in public places, Jenuwine would no longer be able to host cigar parties, such as one that drew people from Canada and boosted the state's tax revenue by \$2,500, Jenuwine said.

"Where does the Legislature get the right to take away our freedom of choice?" Jenuwine asked rhetorically.

Choice reportedly had a lot to do with why the Senate passed the bill, after having seen a surgeon general's report on the cancer-causing impact of second-hand smoke. The thinking is that people who work in public buildings are unable to avoid by choice those who smoke.

Jenuwine argues that those who work for him know full well what they are getting into. He's joined in his concerns by the Michigan Restaurant Association, which is predicting dire consequences if the bill becomes law.

That could be a big "if," because the professed concern of senators could be a smoke-screen.

The bill also includes casinos, which the House version does not. Some pundits

The problem here is obvious. If, say, five miles is a good distance, then are restaurants that are 5.2 miles outside a casino likewise disadvantaged by those restaurants that are within a five-mile radius?

believe that was a tactical maneuver on the part of the Senate to effectively snuff out the bill by including a provision at which the House would turn its nose up.

Pappageorge says pointedly that Native American casinos are sovereign, and the state can't outlaw smoking in them. Which creates another problem, he said.

If casinos are allowed to have smoking, he explained, that places at a disadvantage those non-smoking restaurants that exist outside the casino territory.

Pappageorge's solution, however, could be just as unworkable as the original bill. The Troy legislator is calling for a system of permits, allowing some businesses, such as casinos and cigar bars, to have smoking.

The problem is, he would extend that permit process to those restaurants that are outside casinos which would otherwise be non-smoking. How far outside? Pappageorge said that was yet to be decided.

The problem here is obvious. If, say, five miles is a good distance, then are restaurants that are 5.2 miles outside a casino likewise disadvantaged by those restaurants that are within a five-mile radius?

Pappageorge would further use fees — oh, yes, there would have to be fees to pay for another measure of government supervision — to pay for smoking cessation efforts.

A nice try, but it looks like the whole mess is about to go up in smoke.

Jenuwine is right, the dispute is all about choice. But the problem itself is about lack of consideration for others. Solve that, and we won't need any legislative disputes.

Sandra Armbruster is editor of the Troy Eccentric. She welcomes your comments by e-mail to [sarmbruster@hometownlife.com](mailto:sarmbruster@hometownlife.com).



Phil Power



Sandra Armbruster

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Teams will be formed at all levels of playing ability, including a youth academy, recreation, select and premier, although the new club will continue a commitment to offering great value for the soccer dollar and a system that fosters a family-friendly and multi-sport atmosphere.

Select and premier-level teams will have an opportunity to compete at the highest state levels and will feature full-time, licensed coaches while enjoying year-round skills training and many other soccer resources.

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Carb-Nada Pastas 2/\$6.00

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# SPORTS

# B

(C7)

Thursday, June 5, 2008

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

Ed Wright, editor . (734) 953-2108 . [ewright@hometownlife.com](mailto:ewright@hometownlife.com)

[www.hometownlife.com](http://www.hometownlife.com)

## Pair of 'Cats earn All-State honors

### Sidelines

#### Salem hoop camp

The Salem High School girls basketball coaching staff will be holding a camp for girls entering 7th through 9th grades in the fall. The camp, which will be held in the Salem gym, will run from June 16-20 from 1-3 p.m.

The cost of the camp is \$70.

For more information, visit the Plymouth-Canton Community Education Web site at [www.pccs.k12.mi.us/community.ed.asp](http://www.pccs.k12.mi.us/community.ed.asp).

#### Wildcat volleyball

The annual Plymouth High School volleyball camp will be held Monday through Wednesday, July 28-30, in the school's gymnasium.

The camp, which will run daily from 1-4 p.m., is designed for girls entering fifth through 10th grades. The cost is \$65. For more information, contact Plymouth head coach Kelly McCausland at [mccausk@taylor.k12.mi.us](mailto:mccausk@taylor.k12.mi.us).

The Plymouth High School volleyball program needs a ninth-grade coach. Individuals who are interested in the position should contact Kelly McCausland at [mccausk@taylor.k12.mi.us](mailto:mccausk@taylor.k12.mi.us).

#### Chinese skaters at Arctic Edge

The Chinese World and Olympic pairs team of Hao Zhang and Dan Zhang will be training at Arctic Edge Ice Arena in Canton during the month of June.

They will be working with coaches Marina Zoueva and Igor Shpilband.

The Zhangs were the silver medalists in the 2006 Winter Olympic games in Torino, Italy and are two-time World Junior champions.

event earned All-State recognition.

"I think the key for both Stephanie and Ben was that they were relaxed and they enjoyed the moment," said Plymouth coach Kurt Britnell. "They both did a great job."

Okolo, who is headed to Western Michigan University in the fall with a track scholarship, placed fourth in the long jump with an effort of 17 feet, 8.25 inches.

Two events later, she registered a sixth-place showing in the 100 with a time of 12.3 seconds.

Okolo qualified for the 200-



Okolo



Ambrose

meter dash as well, but decided to skip it so she could focus on the 100 and long jump.

"It feels really good to end my high school career on a good note," said Okolo, who earned All-State honors in the long jump at last year's state meet. "Being All-State means even more to me this

year because I was injured at the beginning of the year (she missed the first month of the season with a stress fracture in her right foot).

"I was a lot more relaxed this year at the state meet than my first two years there because I competed in a few big national meets with the Michigan Accelerators last summer and the experience helped me."

Ambrose's vault of 13 feet, 9 inches was good for fifth place — pretty impressive considering he had the 22nd-best height of the state qualifiers going into the meet.

The four-year vaulter said the

strong cross-winds that swept relentlessly across the Rockford High School field may have worked to his advantage in a way.

"I convinced myself to not let the conditions get to me and I think the wind bothered some of the other guys," said Ambrose. "I cleared every height on my first attempt, which gave me confidence for the next height."

"Just being at the state meet was such an awesome experience. To be All-State is an unreal feeling."

Ambrose will attempt to walk on to the Michigan State University track and field team in the fall.

BY ED WRIGHT  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The bus that transported members of the Plymouth and Canton track-and-field teams to Saturday's Division 1 state meet in Rockford returned home with some precious cargo thanks to Stephanie Okolo and Ben Ambrose.

The Wildcat seniors both earned All-State medals at Michigan's elite high school meet of the season — Okolo in the long jump and 100-meter dash; and Ambrose in the pole vault.

The top eight finishers in each

### 2008 District Tournaments



ANDY RUBENSTEIN

Members of Canton's baseball team congratulate William Tidwell (32) at home plate after the senior pitcher helped his own cause with a two-run home run against Plymouth in Saturday's Division 1 District semifinal game. The Chiefs defeated the Wildcats, 11-6, before claiming the District title with a 5-3 win over Salem.

## Patterson leads 'Cats to crown

BY ED WRIGHT  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Plymouth senior pitcher Meghan Patterson had rival Canton and Salem's number during Saturday's Division 1 District softball tournament at Salem.

And that number was zero. Backed by an air-tight and nearly error-free defensive effort from her teammates, the strong-armed right-hander tossed a pair of shutouts to lead the Wildcats to their first District title since 2005.

Plymouth ousted Canton, 5-0, in a semifinal contest before out-dueling Rock freshman hurler Brianna Lee, 1-0, in the championship game.

Salem advanced to the title game by edging Livonia Stevenson, 2-0.

The Wildcats will take a 20-14 record into Saturday's 10 a.m.

Please see **'CATS, B6**

## LONG-AWAITED CELEBRATION

### Canton wins first District baseball title in almost 20 years

BY ED WRIGHT  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A few minutes after 6 p.m. Saturday night, members of Canton's baseball team partied like it was 1989 in front of their dugout on the Salem baseball field.

The Chiefs hugged, yelled, high-fived and flashed ear-to-ear smiles — things you'd expect from a group of teenagers who were celebrating the end of a District championship drought that was older than they were.

Canton (21-10) earned its first District trophy since '89 by knocking off its two Plymouth-Canton Educational Park neighbors — Plymouth, 11-6 in the semifinal game; and Salem, 5-3, in the title tilt.

The Rocks earned a spot in the final game by edging Livonia Stevenson, 9-8, in a thrill-a-minute, extra-inning semifinal barn-burner.

Please see **BASEBALL, B3**



Pictured is the Canton baseball team posing with its Division 1 District championship trophy.

#### SEEMS LIKE ONLY YESTERDAY...

Although a lot has changed since May of 1989 — the last time prior to Saturday that Canton won a District baseball title — some things are eerily similar. For instance, a guy named George Bush was president, an "Indiana Jones" movie ("Lost Crusade") was cleaning up at the box office, the Detroit Tigers were several games under .500 and people were

complaining about the high cost of gas (even though it was only \$1.12 a gallon).

Here are a few other notable items from 1989:

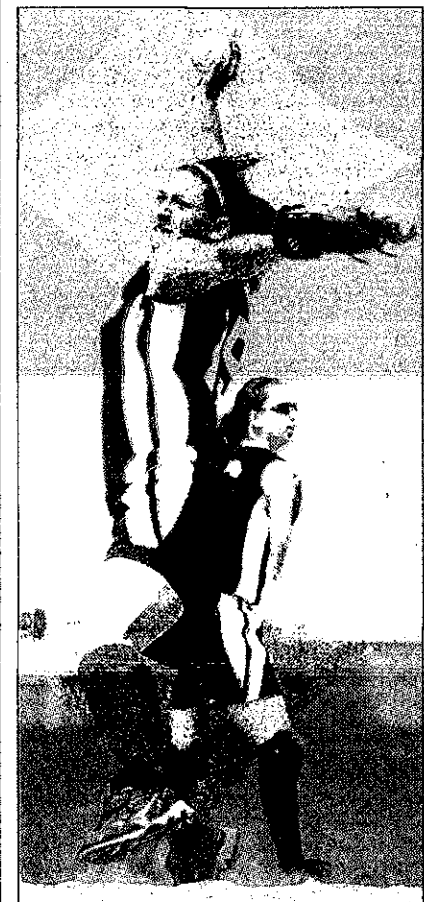
■ **No. 1 song:** "Don't Worry, Be Happy";

■ **Top grossing film:** "Batman";

■ **NBA champions:** Detroit Pistons, who swept the L.A. Lakers in the finals;

■ **World Series:** Oakland swept San Francisco; and

■ **MTV debut:** "Seinfeld".



ANDY RUBENSTEIN

Plymouth senior pitcher Meghan Patterson threw a pair of shutouts during Saturday's Division 1 District softball tournament at Salem.

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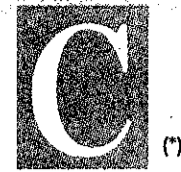








# Real Estate



Thursday, June 5, 2008

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

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

www.hometownlife.com

## Owning a home within means gives mental health boost

BY JULIE BROWN  
O&E STAFF WRITER

Owning a home means you have someplace all your own to come back to at the end of the workday.

"I would say that it adds a sense of permanence and consistency," said Kathleen Lynd, vice president of planning and communications for the non-profit Oakland Family Services. It is a private human service agency that provides prevention, education, support and treatment programs to families and individuals throughout Oakland County and southeastern Michigan.

Lynd, a licensed social worker with a master's degree in that field, sees benefits to long-term relationships with neighbors and a sense of community. "I think for children too it's particularly important," the West Bloomfield resident said.

If you own a home, you can "modify and decorate in a way that expresses yourself," she's found, giving a "place that belongs to them." Pet ownership, a concern for cat-lover Lynd, also is a consideration when you own, making that lifelong commitment much more feasible.

There are more abandoned pets now, with foreclosures climbing, noted Lynd, on staff of the Pontiac-based nonprofit United Way agency with three other offices throughout the county.

"More families are losing their homes or at risk of losing homes," she said.

When choosing a community, some look for night life, while others prefer a community geared more to young children. Demographics enter into those choices, Lynd said, and having freedom to choose is a plus.

"And too we choose on the basis of cool places to live," she said.

She agreed communities can change their identity. Royal Oak, for example, was one more of a family suburb but



now known more for night life: "Yes, they can transition their identity."

Family and religious interests, such as where your house of worship is, are factors tied into demographics.

"When people can afford to own a home, they benefit," Lynd said. If a home is beyond the owner's means, there's more stress.

"Thus, having affordable housing is an important thing for a community." The subprime mortgages of recent years have put some people into homes beyond their means, Lynd said.

Another proud homeowner is Dr. Lawrence Fischetti, a clinical psychologist with a Ph.D. in that field. Fischetti, a Pittsfield Township resident, is assistant director of Behavioral Science and Community Medicine in the Department of Medical Education of

Oakwood Healthcare System.

"I think that it's such a big marker in our society and has been for a long time," said Fischetti of homeownership, often known as the "American Dream." If you own a home, you can provide your children with a stable place to grow up.

"For kids, particularly very little kids, it's their whole world," he said. "It gives them that secure base." Children make friends in their neighborhood. Adults, if they have time, can befriend neighbors as well.

Fischetti likes that his Washtenaw County neighborhood is tremendously integrated. "So it's a great place to raise kids where they learn about people from different cultures." The neighbors work in their yards and enjoy each others' company.

Aside from the professional arena, where Fischetti works at the Westland-based Oakwood Family Medical Center, he enjoys home improvement projects. "Some of them are a little too big," he noted, but they can be stress-relievers and a diversion from work.

Fischetti used to work in the Royal Oak area and agreed with Lynd it's changed. "It was really quite different," he said of a more recent visit. His own community has been transformed from mostly farmland and is now growing and relatively affluent. He'd like to see it and the region "hopeful of emerging from this current economic predicament."

At the Westland clinic, Fischetti and colleagues work with many low-income families who don't own homes. They're subject to relocation and problems with rental housing. Clinic staffers have seen many affected by cuts in the auto industry, and paychecks going from \$25 to \$15 an hour.

There are extensive medical and emotional problems associated with that, Fischetti said. "I end up talking about finances a fair amount." Some people are in part-time jobs with limited futures or working "under the counter." He encourages them to seek employment with health benefits and retirement opportunities.

Budgeting's a big part of that, and some career/housing enhancement requires a return to school or other job training "to make a step up." The Oakwood professionals encourage people to further their education and help their children to do well in school so they too can advance.

Fischetti cited a recent survey by the American Psychological Association indicating some 50 percent of adults view housing as a stress source. The association Web site, www.apa.org, has information on managing stress and building resilience, said Fischetti, also an adjunct assistant professor in the Department of Family Medicine at Wayne State University.

## Court disallows double taxation

**Q.** A number of years ago I understand that there was litigation concerning the double taxation of condo associations by municipalities because they are being taxed for services which they do not receive. Do you have any additional information on this?

**A.** The 6th Circuit in Cincinnati disallowed the

claims brought by a condo association which would have prohibited double taxation. On the other hand, many groups are

interested in pursuing this matter politically and you are best advised to help organize, to the extent possible, as many associations as possible to present this issue to the state legislature and/or the governor as well as your local municipality. The more community associations that ban together to pursue this issue, with the aid of legal counsel, the better chance they have of prevailing.

**Q.** I hear that, in some states, the law allows the association to approve or disapprove tenants. What do you understand the law to be in Michigan? Do you think that criminal checks are OK?

**A.** Most condominium documents do not allow the association to approve or disapprove tenants and the problem, of course, is that association getting involved in this process can subject themselves to suits alleging discrimination under the Fair Housing Act. Moreover, criminal background checks do not catch all persons with criminal tendencies. I can envision a situation where the board approves a tenant who turns out to be a serial rapist or cat burglar who wreaks havoc in the community following his approval. In short, I recommend to our community association clients that the association not get involved in approving or disapproving tenants even if they have that authority in their documents.

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

### HOMES SOLD

These are the Observer & Eccentric-area residential real-estate closings recorded the week of Feb. 11-15, 2008, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office, plus some from Oakland County. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

Canton	
48900 Amelia Ct	\$170,000
7541 Andover Dr	\$380,000
48339 Antique Rd	\$390,000
50210 Black Horse Ln	\$165,000
47879 Cardiff Ave	\$133,000
6849 Carriage Hills Dr	\$162,000
39652 Cather St	\$145,000
502 Cherry Orchard Rd	\$175,000
323 Concord Dr	\$143,000

44668 Danbury Rd	\$241,000
4095 Elizabeth Ave	\$144,000
41744 Hanford Rd	\$179,000
2212 Hendrie	\$266,000
2228 Premier Ln	\$149,000
45717 Radnor Rd	\$258,000
45243 Rector Dr	\$180,000
7340 Stonebrook Dr	\$400,000
2181 Vanderbill Rd	\$183,000
353 Westbourne Ct	\$360,000
Farmington	
23488 Barfield St	\$75,000
37111 Birchwood Ct	\$318,000
21324 Jefferson St	\$160,000
31269 Verona St	\$345,000
Farmington Hills	
29946 Mayfair Dr	\$320,000
Garden City	
28549 Leona St	\$64,000
31324 Sheridan St	\$74,000

Livonia	
11315 Arden St	\$140,000
9145 Frederick St	\$197,000
29149 Grandon St	\$138,000
20682 Laurel Ct	\$452,000
9928 Marie St	\$105,000
29701 Nottingham Cir	\$122,000
34993 Parkdale St	\$165,000
36530 Sherwood St	\$183,000
18608 Sunset St	\$128,000
Milford	
3074 Berkshire Ct	\$275,000
2015 Lone Tree Rd	\$550,000
Northville	
20220 Beck Rd	\$484,000
48225 Binghamton Ct	\$630,000
48497 Binghamton Dr	\$600,000
44676 Broadmoor Cir N	\$450,000
44676 Broadmoor Cir N	\$397,000
605 East St	\$253,000

Novi	
25399 Buckminster Dr	\$153,000
47736 Cheltenham Dr	\$185,000
24879 Reeds Pointe Dr	\$400,000
Plymouth	
50457 Beechwood Ct	\$188,000
9760 Fellows Hill Ct	\$430,000
9030 N Hampton Dr	\$420,000
396 Pacific St	\$190,000
9168 Redbud Ave	\$183,000
14294 Village Ct	\$302,000
51122 Weston Dr	\$364,000

Redford	
24808 Ashley Ct	\$175,000
15489 Chelsea	\$55,000
15518 Fox	\$119,000
11371 Garfield	\$185,000
19166 Gaylord	\$136,000
14334 Mercedes	\$130,000
South Lyon	
60654 S Lyon Trl	\$240,000
Westland	
38592 Alma Ln	\$200,000
32756 Glen St	\$123,000
32659 Hazelwood St	\$128,000
30578 Hiveley St	\$115,000
6396 Hunter Pointe St	\$130,000
28262 Van Born Rd	\$44,000
8345 Vista Ln	\$329,000
6394 W Morgan Cir	\$123,000
2128 Wilshire St	\$190,000
31216 Windsor St	\$87,000

### BRIEFS

#### Golf event

Real Estate One (Farmington Hills/West Bloomfield office) will host its fourth annual Screen Door Open "fore" Special Olympics Michigan Charity Golf Outing Tuesday, June 17, at the Bay Pointe Golf Club in West Bloomfield. Golf and sponsorship opportunities are available. For information, call (248) 851-4100.

#### Real estate investing

"What Every Investor Should Know About Condominiums" by Robert Meisner, presented by the Real Estate Investors of Oakland 5:30-9:30 p.m. Thursday, June 12, at MSU Management Education Center, 811 W. Square Lake Road, Troy. Seminar free to members, \$20 nonmembers. Call (800) 747 6742. (www.REIAofOakland.com)

■ At Saturday, June 14, meeting, hear local insurance experts discuss the state of the volatile insurance

industry and answer your insurance questions. Presented by the Real Estate Investors of Oakland at 5:30-9:30 p.m. at MSU Management Education Center, 811 W. Square Lake Road, Troy. Seminar free to members, \$20 nonmembers. Call (800) 747 6742.

#### BIA

■ Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan (BIA) presents Green Built™ Training on Wednesday, June 11, from 9-10:30 a.m. at BIA 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. The training is free for BIA members. For registration information, call (248) 862-1033.

■ Building Industry Association

of Southeastern Michigan's (BIA) NAHBR Professional Remodelers Council will hold a "Barbecue Blender" industry networking event on Wednesday, June 18, from 6-8:30 p.m. at BIA Headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Farmington Hills. Attendees will enjoy networking, food and drinks with remodeling professionals. Registration is free for those involved in the remodeling industry. Advance registration required. For registration information, call (248) 862-1008.

■ Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan (BIA) will sponsor a builder's license preparation course on Friday, June 20, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at BIA headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100, in Farmington Hills.

Presented by NCI Associates, the course is designed to prepare students for the Michigan Residential Builder's License Examination. Material cov-

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

■ Apartment Association of Michigan's (AAM) Property Management Council (PMC) will sponsor an "A/C Trouble Shooting" course on Tuesday, June 10, from 8 a.m. to noon at Wilmar Offices, 23975 Research Drive in Farmington Hills.

The course provides a basic understanding of air conditioning components and functions, trouble shooting and preventative maintenance for professional maintenance staff.

Registration fees are \$45 per person. For registration information, call (248) 862-1033.

■ Apartment Association of Michigan (AAM) will present Economic Forecast and Legislative

Please see BRIEFS, C4



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**Garden City 3170**  
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**BRIEFS**

FROM PAGE C1

Update for the Multifamily Rental

Industry on Friday, June 13, from noon to 2 p.m. at PI Banquet Center, 28847 Franklin Road, Southfield. Registration

and networking begins at 11 a.m. Join AAM for its first annual Economic Forecast and Legislative

Update Luncheon. Attendees will be provided with information on our local and national rental markets, along with a status report on state legislative issues facing the residential rental industry.

Economic Forecast speaker is Kevin Dillon of Hendricks & Partners. Legislative Update speaker is Jack Schick of Karoub Associates. Registration fees are \$20 per person for AAM members and \$30 for guests. For registration information, call (248) 862-1033.

**Blitz support**

Despite the economic condition of the home construction industry, Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan's (BIA) Charitable & Educational Foundation is sup-

porting Macomb County Habitat for Humanity in its 2008 Builders Blitz. The foundation donated \$10,000 toward the construction of one new home in Roseville, as part of its mission to "promote and to improve the availability of housing opportunities for all persons." This was supplemented by a \$625 donation by the Women's Council of BIA.

The association also rallied BIA members to make donations of their building expertise, materials and services for the construction of the home during the week of May 31 to June 7. On Saturday, June 7, the home, located in Roseville, will be dedicated. LaTonya Edwards will be the new homeowner and will live there along with her two daughters, Takoyia, 4, and Ta'Laja, 8.

"Although the foundation's budget is significantly reduced this

year, our board believes it is our mission to continue to support housing-related charities to the extent we can," said Peter Burton, foundation chair, of Burton-Katzman Development. "Helping someone realize the dream of homeownership is one of the most valuable contributions we can hope to make to our community."

BIA builder members Palazzolo Brothers Construction and LC & Associates have teamed with DM Homes, Inc. to construct the home. "We are proud that our builder members have stepped up to fill this need in the community, even at a time when our own industry is experiencing the most difficult of times," said Burton.

Two of the volunteers at the building site will be Amber Lee, a student at Macomb County Community College and

Thomas Epps, a student at Marygrove College. These students are the recipients of the Building Industry Foundation Scholarship funded by BIA's Foundation and awarded by the Michigan Colleges Foundation.

Additionally, the Women's Council of BIA gathered subcontractors and suppliers to obtain materials and professional labor for the project. The council sponsored a kick-off party, hosted by BIA member CIOT-Detroit, for all BIA members and guests who are participating in the program. Through this event, the council raised \$625 for the program and presented the new homeowner with a mailbox and house numbers to affix to her new home.

For further information on making a donation to the program or the BIA Foundation, contact BIA offices at (248) 862-1008.

**FEATURE HOMES**

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**TOTALLY UPDATED VILLAGE OAKS COLONIAL!** 4 Bed/1.5 Bath, remodeled kitchen, new vinyl siding, new tear off roof, new paver walk/patio, landscaping, remodeled baths, new front door, new hieff furnace & c/a, new oak 6 panel doors, newer carpet, new electric service, clubhouse & pool in sub. \$225,000 (jggau)

**GREENOCK CAPE COD DEEP IN SUB!** 4 Bed/2.5 bath/over 3,500 sq. ft., backs to protected woodlands/wetlands, finished walkout w/fam. rm/study, totally remodeled kitchen \$50,000+ w/cherry cab's/granite counters/wet bar, new neutral carpet t/o, multi-tier deck, newer roof tear-off, big backyard. \$365,000 (jgroy) Call 1-800-946-4837 x-270



**PRIVATE CUL-DE-SAC BACKING TO WOODS!** 4 Bed/3.1 Bath, all bricks, updated kitchen w/granite, new sink & faucet, wet bar w/new granite, study w/built-in bookshelves, jack & jill bath, solid wood doors, finished ll w/recreation rm., bath, ext. use of crown molding, 3 1/2 car garage. \$460,000 (jgash)

**PREMIUM WOODED LOT IN WALDEN WOODS SUB!** 4 Bed/2.1 Bath, backs to protected woods, sides to commons area, new tear-off roof, exterior painted (2005), partially fin LL, multi-tier deck, patterned concrete walks, 3 car garage, h/dwd in kitchen, PFL, sidewalks in sub, cth cing in FR w/natural fip & gas logs, \$5,000 granite allowance. \$400,000 (jgarc) Call 1-800-946-4837 x-010

**IMPECCABLE BRICK RANCH** 4 Bed/2 Bath, sharp brick ranch with maintenance free exterior, newer roof, newer furnace, newer maint. free deck, newer central air, new patio, remodeled kitchen w/ limestone backplash, remodeled master bath, newer elec. service, fireplace in living rm., newer vinyl windows, new carpet t/o psmt. w/glass block windows. \$190,000 Call 1-800-946-4837 x-210

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 <p><b>CANTON</b> \$290,000 Impressive 2 stry entry, dual staircases, 2 stry GR w/ tp, h/dwd frs t/o fl, paver patio, island kit, mstr w/sep shower&amp;glam BA, DR w/step cldg, bay windw. MLS# 28081630 248-347-3050</p>	 <p><b>CANTON</b> \$284,900 Immaculate colonial 4 bdrm 2.5 ba w/prof fin bsmt, 2 car att gar new roof windw a/c, hwh, awesome kit w/updates lux mstr ste &amp; ba w/oc jac tub! MLS# 28087490 734-453-6800</p>	 <p><b>CANTON</b> \$269,900 Better than new 4BD 2.5BA, 03 BR Home. Fresh paint 170. H/dwd frs, island kit, lg mstr ste w/soak tub &amp; sep shower. Priv wooded setting. 2.5 car gar. MLS# 28083291 734-453-6800</p>	 <p><b>CANTON</b> \$187,900 Upper level 2bd/2bth condo w/ balcony off mstr &amp; living rm. private courtyard, tasteful decor w/ wood frs, upgrades lighting, park fished bsmt &amp; more! MLS# 28086810 734-453-6800</p>	 <p><b>CANTON</b> \$129,000 Beautiful condo, neut t/o, GR w/gas fp, kit w/all appls. DR w/dwall to lg deck 2 BRs w/jacuzzi, sep shower, ff indry, 1 car att gar, new cpt, imm occ! MLS# 28085357 248-347-3050</p>	 <p><b>COMMERCE</b> \$950,000 Wooded w/o, handlayed Italian marble&amp;gran, 3 tp, study w/wet bar, h/dwd fr, 2 story GR, grmt kit, 1st flr mstr, mahogany dr, 3cargar, 1.1 acre lot. MLS# 28084178 248-347-3050</p>
 <p><b>COMMERCE</b> \$135,000 LR w/soaring cigs &amp; gas fp, formal DR, 1st flr mstr w/ full BA, 2nd flr BR w/full BA, 2car tandem gar, 1st flr indry, pvt patio, alarm, near highways. MLS# 28085916 248-347-3050</p>	 <p><b>DETROIT</b> \$70,000 Updated eat-in kit. Newer doors, windw, electrical &amp; 2 1/2 car gar. Cement work in excellent shape. Home has central air, alarm system, nice carpet. MLS# 28085455 248-347-3050</p>	 <p><b>FARMINGTON HILLS</b> \$310,000 Beautiful Tudor on Priv Cul-de-sac! Mature Trees &amp; Lg Deck. Spac Kit w/Refin Hwd, Gran Tile &amp; SS. GR w/ Cath Cigs Full of Light. Mstr Ste w/Updated BA. MLS# 28085949 248-347-3050</p>	 <p><b>GARDEN CITY</b> \$109,900 This home sits on 2 lots &amp; has 2 gar &amp; its just perfect inside w/new windw, new roof, new furn &amp; A/C, new kit, new BAs new just about everything else. MLS# 28086916 248-347-3050</p>	 <p><b>LAKE ORION</b> \$334,900 Beautiful 4 bedroom colonial w/ two staircases, Greatroom w/natural fireplace and hardwood floors. Updated kitchen w/granite. Sunroom off kitchen. MLS# 30562059 Joseph Rich 313-386-4200</p>	 <p><b>LIVONIA</b> \$262,500 Sparkling maint tree colonial. Lg exp deep bsmt, huge eat-in kit, FF laundry, FR w/brick hearth. New carpet t/o. New flr in kit &amp; foyer, lg cedar deck. MLS# 28085290 248-347-3050</p>
 <p><b>LIVONIA</b> \$239,900 Newer 3BR brick ranch. GR w/nat fp &amp; cath cldg. Mstr suite w/full BA &amp; WIC. FF laundry. Prof fin full bsmt w/wet bar &amp; BA. Huge deck. Lots of updates. MLS# 28083161 248-347-3050</p>	 <p><b>LIVONIA</b> \$159,869 Charming home w/fg eat-in kit w/planter box windw, cook top &amp; built in oven, doorwall to patio, vaulted FR &amp; h/dwd frs t/o. Beautiful Yard &amp; Landscaping! MLS# 28084223 248-347-3050</p>	 <p><b>LYONS</b> \$500,000 9' cigs on 1st flr &amp; unfn daylight. Kit w/gran cnt, bonus rm w/dormers &amp; 2 closets over 3 car garage. Jacuzzi in mstr, 90+ furn, vaulted clyo. MLS# 28087891 248-347-3050</p>	 <p><b>LYONS</b> \$295,000 GR w/cathedral cldg&amp;tp, cathedral cldg in kit&amp;DR, fin w/o w/rec rm. FR w/wet bar&amp;study or 4th BR. Deck w/ paver patio, 1st floor indry, 2 car att gar. MLS# 28082730 248-347-3050</p>	 <p><b>NORTHVILLE</b> \$549,900 4 brm 3.2 bath col. grmt kit w/ 42" cherry cbnts, corian-granite, h/dwd frs&amp;ss appls. 2 story fr w/tp, mstr w/vltd cldg, daylight bsmt, wooded setting. MLS# 28087181 734-453-6800</p>	 <p><b>NORTHVILLE</b> \$500,000 Unbelievable value! Over 4400sq ft w/in lower level walkout, formal LR, gourmet kitch, master ste w/ glamour bath, prime cul-de-sac location &amp; more! MLS# 28083512 248-347-3050</p>
 <p><b>NORTHVILLE</b> \$465,000 10' cigs in LR. DR w/crown midg&amp;columns, remod kit w/gran cnts, built-in desk&amp;shelves in study, fin bsmt w/tp kit, GR BA, rec rm&amp;2nd office, 3car gar. MLS# 28057589 248-347-3050</p>	 <p><b>NORTHVILLE</b> \$375,000 Totally remod condo. Kit w/mousser cherry cabs, gran, tile bksp, SS appls; gutted BAs w/imported tile&amp;gran, 2 tp, loft w/cust built-ins. 2 level deck. MLS# 28086070 248-347-3050</p>	 <p><b>NOVI</b> \$650,000 Sensational custom built beauty w/grand 2 story foyer, 3 season sunroom, chef's delight kitch, finished lower level w/full bath, &amp; exquisite decking! MLS# 28085687 248-347-3050</p>	 <p><b>NOVI</b> \$550,000 Unsurpassed elegance! Formal living rm, gourmet kitch, stunning 1st flr mstr ste w/patio access, car buff dream gar, landscaped for a magazine cover! MLS# 28085589 248-347-3050</p>	 <p><b>NOVI</b> \$479,869 Nearly 3 acres w/in ll. New fr, updated kit, 1200sqft updated 3 Br/2 BA brick ranch w/in bsmt&amp; gar. Gran in kit, hwd frs, his/her BAs, sauna, wet bar&amp;marble atrium w/skylights, ingrdm pool, gazebo&amp;2 gar. MLS# 28086351 248-347-3050</p>	 <p><b>NOVI</b> \$400,000 Wooded lot! Fin w/o w/BR,BA&amp;GR w/wet bar. Gran in kit, hwd frs. Mstr ste w/cath cldg, jacuzzi&amp;steam shower. Deck w/paver patio, 1st flr indry, 3 car gar. MLS# 28081945 248-347-3050</p>
 <p><b>NOVI</b> \$395,000 H/dwd frs t/o 1st flr. Study w/cust drs. Cust lighting t/o, cathedral cldg&amp;tp in GR. 1st flr mstr w/cathedral cldg, pvt BA. Kit w/gran cnts SS h/dwd&amp;appl. MLS# 28072987 248-347-3050</p>	 <p><b>OSCEOLA</b> \$199,999 Well Priced! Lrg kit w/pantry, gas fireplace, private master bath. Partially fin bsmt w/daylight windw. Lots of extras. Lrg deck. Over 1 acre lot. MLS# 28078790 248-646-1800</p>	 <p><b>PLYMOUTH</b> \$1,795,000 2 for 1 unique opportunity! Custom 7000+ sq ft 4BR 4BA 4 car gar home in Plym Twp plus 2BR 2BA condo on Catavba Island. Lets deal! Awesome package. MLS# 28072038 734-453-6800</p>	 <p><b>PLYMOUTH</b> \$309,000 A high performance Colonial w/ a sensational setting, 4 BR, 3.1 baths, Lib, Formal Dr, Fr W/tp, Fully fin Walk Out LL, Appis stay important updates. MLS# 28087613 734-453-6800</p>	 <p><b>WAYNE</b> \$109,800 Updated 3 Br/2 BA brick ranch w/in bsmt&amp; gar. Updates: kit w/oak cabs, tear-off rf, windw, cpt 1/0, landscaping, tub liner, hwd in 2 BR+all appls stay. MLS# 28068649 248-347-3050</p>	 <p><b>WIXOM</b> \$199,900 Colonial on cul-de-sac &amp; lg treed lot. Lake access to Twin Sun Lk. Fresh paint, hwd frs, slate foyer, lg 4 season Fla Rm. Pvt deck off mstr. FR w/tp. MLS# 28085965 248-347-3050</p>

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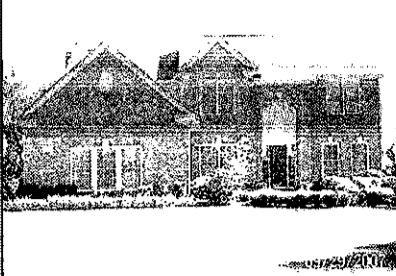
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**INDEPENDENCE \$515,000**  
Beautiful 3 bedroom, 2.2 bath lakefront home. 2 story great room w/ fireplace, dining room, living room w/ fireplace, finished walkout basement.  
MLS 28086150 248-673-2211



**ORION \$317,900**  
4 bedroom, 2.5 bath home. 2 story entry, formal living room and dining room, kitchen with breakfast area, family room with fireplace, and library/study.  
MLS 28089463 248-673-2211



**WHITE LAKE TWP. \$299,900**  
4 bedroom, 2.5 bath home on 2.5 acres. Custom hardwood floors, 2 story foyer, great room w/ fireplace, dining room, & finished walkout.  
MLS 27206754 248-673-2211



**LAPEER \$199,900**  
Completely updated 4 bedroom home on 4 acres. Large living room, family room with fireplace, beautiful eat-in kitchen, and finished basement.  
MLS 28079263 248-673-2211



**WATERFORD \$185,000**  
2 bedroom home views water and wooded island. All Sports Williams Lake. Updated kitchen. Newer bath with Jacuzzi tub. Formal dining room.  
MLS 26133314 248-673-2211



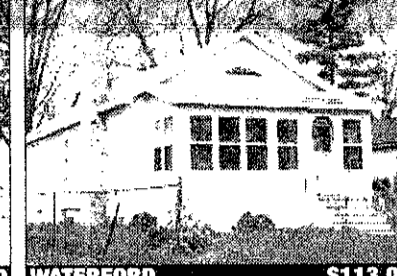
**AUBURN HILLS \$139,900**  
All new! 3 bedroom ranch on 1.65 acres. All new kitchen and bath, master bedroom with French doors leading to patio, hardwood floors throughout.  
MLS 28086190 248-673-2211



**WATERFORD \$137,500**  
Completely remodeled in 2008. 3 bedroom home backs to Park. Redone cherry hardwood floors, new kitchen w/new appliances, 3+ car garage.  
MLS 28089017 248-673-2211



**WATERFORD \$135,000**  
Completely updated 2 bedroom home with Williams Lake privileges. Living room, family room, finished basement, 3 car garage, and newer siding and roof.  
MLS 28085513 248-673-2211



**WATERFORD \$113,000**  
2 bedroom, well maintained home. Living room with fireplace, cathedral ceilings, large kitchen, dining room, full basement. Fenced backyard.  
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**WEST BLOOMFIELD \$275,000**  
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**NOVI \$289,900**  
Over 2500 Sq. Ft. Kitch w/Gran Isld + Hrdwd Flrs. 21x12 Mstr Ste. Fin Bsmt. Fam Rm w/Frplc. Lg Lot, Deck w/Gazebo. All Appl + 1 yr Warr.  
MLS 28084318 248-360-9100



**INDEPENDENCE TWP. \$258,900**  
3 BR, 3 BA Detach Condo. Gran Cntrs. Maple Cabs. Fin WO, dry wall ceilings, Reces Ligt. 1st Flr Mstr, BA, sep tub & shower. 2 gas Frplcs. Hrdwd Flrs.  
MLS 28077800 248-360-9100



**WEST BLOOMFIELD \$549,000**  
The View is Awesome. 3 BR, Priv Mstr Ste, 3 1/2 BA, GR Rm, fieldstone Frplc. Cath Ceil, open floor plan. Part Fin LL WO. W.I.Cs. storage over garage area.  
MLS 27114230 248-360-9100



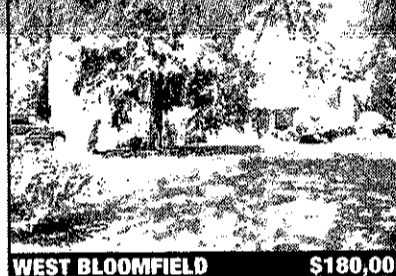
**WEST BLOOMFIELD \$390,000**  
Open Fir Pln, 3448 sq. ft. Grmt Kitch, Gran Isld, Bttr Prtry, 2 Stry Foyer, 4BR, 2.2 BA, 1st Flr Lbr, Fin LL, 2 Entert. Areas. Priv Lot, pool, hot tub, Paver patio.  
MLS 28082590 248-360-9100



**WEST BLOOMFIELD \$129,900**  
Ranch w/Walled Lake Schls. 1450 Sq. Ft. & 100 x 100 Lot. 3 Lrg BRs. Spacious Kitch. w/Hrdwd Flrs. 2 Car Side Entran. Gar. Lrg Rms. New Bath.  
MLS 28063296 248-360-9100



**TROY \$324,900**  
3BR, 1st Flr Mstr w/WC. Lrg loft overlooking GR Rm 1st Flr Lndry & Study. 2.5 BA, 2 Car Gar. Full Bsmt. Many Updates Incl. Windows, turnace, patio.  
MLS 28084926 248-360-9100



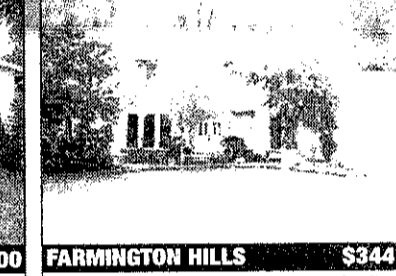
**WEST BLOOMFIELD \$180,000**  
Priced to Sell! Great Sub w/Middle Straits LK Priv. Beach for Sub. Lrg Fam & Liv Rms. Mstr w/BA & WIC. Open Kitch w/Din Area. W. Bloom Schls.  
MLS 28079559 248-360-9100



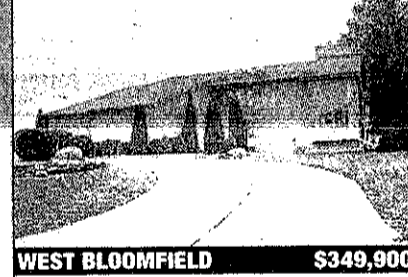
**WEST BLOOMFIELD \$450,000**  
Mstr Ste, Grmt Gran Kit, Fam Rm w/FP, Garden Rm leads to Paver Patio. Fin LL w/Bar, Billiard Rm & Lots of Storage. Many Updates. WB Schools.  
MLS 28092841 248-360-9100



**COMMERCE TWP. \$200,000**  
Beautiful 3 BR 2 BA brick ranch. Spacious fam rm w/fireplace. Mstr bdrm w/mstr bath. Finished bsmt w/lots of storage. 1st floor laundry.  
MLS 28042336 248-855-2000



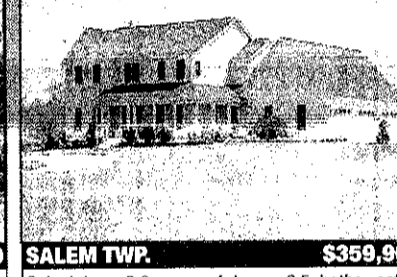
**FARMINGTON HILLS \$344,900**  
Large foyer, bridge overlooks 2 story family rm w/ fireplace, wood flrs. Master ste w/jacuzzi. Gourmet kit w/island, lg deck. Fin bsmt w/bed, bar & lav.  
MLS 28083579 248-855-2000



**WEST BLOOMFIELD \$349,900**  
4 lg bdrms, 2 story foyer, great rm w/2 way fireplace, lg gourmet kit. Master ste w/2 way fireplace, jacuzzi tub. Newer furnace, garage drs.  
MLS 28084817 248-855-2000



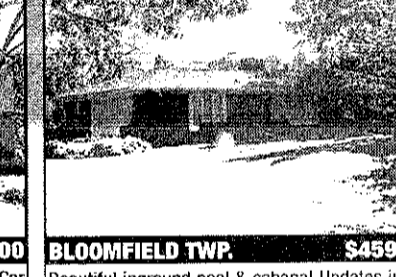
**FARMINGTON HILLS \$350,000**  
Entertain w/ heated inground pool, spa, deck & private yard. Eat-in granite kit, custom wood cabinetry. All appl's. MBR w/separate tub & shower.  
MLS 28077993 248-855-2000



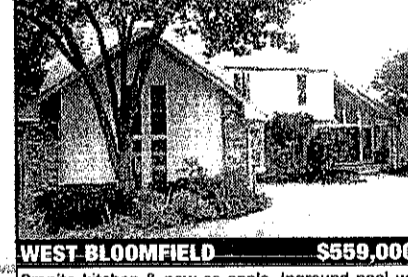
**SALEM TWP. \$359,900**  
Colonial on 2.6 acres, 4 brms, 2.5 baths, eat-in island kit. Offers circular drive, wrap-around porch, 2-story foyer, huge bsmt., insulated 3 car gar.  
MLS 27058352 248-855-2000



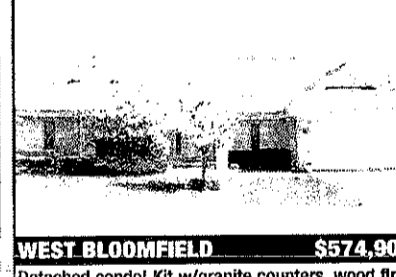
**FARMINGTON HILLS \$439,900**  
5 bdrms, 3.5 bath home. Updated T/O "2004". 3 Car Garage. Designer Kitchen. Updates Incl. Windows, Roof, Upper/Lower Furnaces. Mst Ste Retreat.  
MLS 28081132 248-855-2000



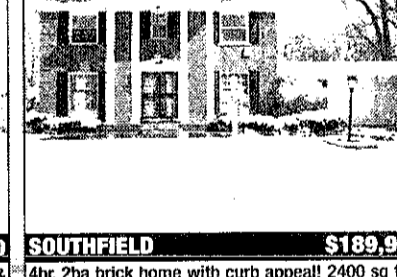
**BLOOMFIELD TWP. \$459,900**  
Beautiful inground pool & cabana! Updates include roof, gutters, siding, furnace, AC, light fixtures, custom plantation shutters, storage & Calif. closets.  
MLS 28080567 248-855-2000



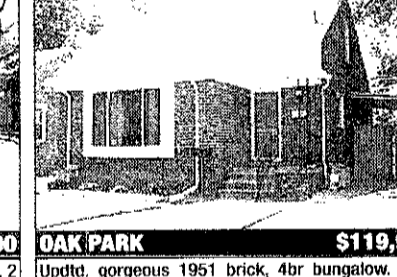
**WEST BLOOMFIELD \$559,000**  
Granite kitchen & new ss appls. Inground pool w/ view of Moon Lake. New roof, paver entry, circular dr, new windows & deck. Hrdwd. & ceramic flrs U/O.  
MLS 28060442 248-855-2000



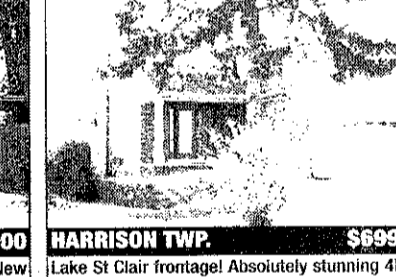
**WEST BLOOMFIELD \$574,900**  
Detached condo! Kit w/granite counters, wood flr & built in appl. Large foyer. Lg mstr bed w/built ins. Fam rm has built in entertainment ctr & game area.  
MLS 28080786 248-855-2000



**SOUTHFIELD \$189,900**  
4br, 2ba brick home with curb appeal! 2400 sq ft, 2 lavs, fin bsmt w/wet bar, C/A, & all appls. Newer vinyl windows & roof. Circular drive.  
MLS 28052111 248-647-8888



**OAK PARK \$119,900**  
Updt, gorgeous 1951 brick, 4br bungalow. New windows, furn, air, flooring, & gourmet kit w/new appls. Fin bsmt. Move in condition!  
MLS 28075996 248-647-8888



**HARRISON TWP. \$699,000**  
Lake St Clair frontage! Absolutely stunning 4br, 4ba home. Cherry kit w/granite & stainless steel appls. Much more!  
MLS 28085986 248-647-8888



**YPSILANTI TWP. \$229,000**  
3br, 2.5ba colonial bit in '04. Oak kit w/island. Hrdwd flrs. Living room, dining room, & home warranty. 2 car att garage.  
MLS 27146681 248-647-8888



**ORCHARD LAKE \$1,999,999**  
Spectacular Upper Straits lakefront! Marble floors, panoramic views of lake, mstr ste w/marble bath & fireplace, lower level game rm.  
MLS 28002053 248-647-8888



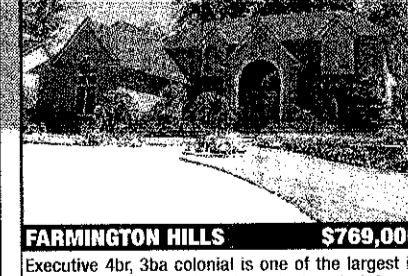
**WATERFORD TWP. \$184,900**  
Lake privileges & access on all sports Williams Lake! Wonderful 3br, 2.5ba raised ranch, recessed lighting, decks, & 2 car garage.  
MLS 28048548 248-647-8888



**SOUTHFIELD \$350,000**  
3br, 2.5ba home w/elegant décor, bft in 2000. Granite kit w/island. 4th bdrm is loft area. Finished bsmt is a dream! Brick paver patio & walks.  
MLS 28009202 248-647-8888



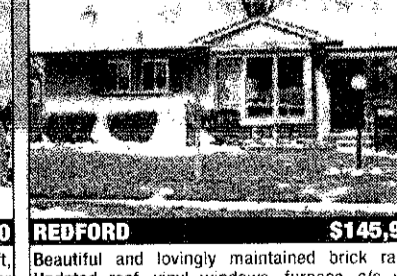
**SOUTHFIELD \$399,900**  
Custom! Custom! Custom! Spacious 4br, 3.5ba ranch on beautiful 1.27 acre lot. Gourmet kit w/ granite. GR w/marble frplc. Fin bsmt. Deck.  
MLS 28085727 248-647-8888



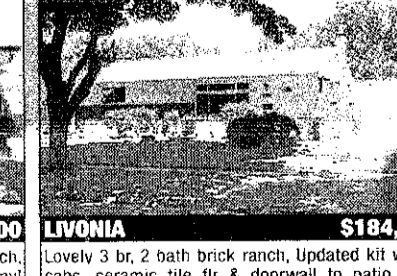
**FARMINGTON HILLS \$769,000**  
Executive 4br, 3ba colonial is one of the largest in the sub! Granite kit w/stainless steel appls & 2 way frplc. 2 lavs. Deck. 3 car garage.  
MLS 28071467 248-647-8888



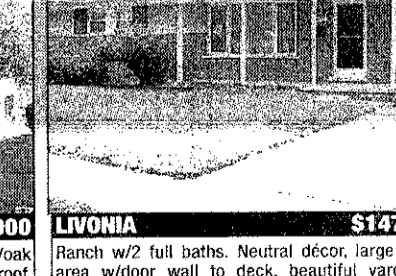
**NORTHVILLE \$600,000**  
Fabulous 1st fl master, large bedrooms w/loft, gourmet kitchen/cherry cabs & granite. Brick paver patio.  
MLS 28042292 734-462-9800



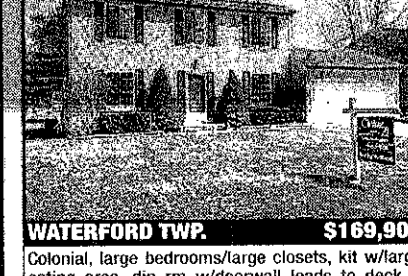
**REDFORD \$145,900**  
Beautiful and lovingly maintained brick ranch. Updated roof, vinyl windows, furnace, c/a vinyl siding on gar, copper plumbing.  
MLS 28083812 734-462-9800



**LIVONIA \$184,900**  
Lovely 3 br, 2 bath brick ranch. Updated kit w/oak cabs, ceramic tile flr & doorwall to patio, roof, siding & much more!  
MLS 28074898 734-462-9800



**LIVONIA \$147,900**  
Ranch w/2 full baths. Neutral décor, large eating area w/door wall to deck, beautiful yard, nice finished basement.  
MLS 28083440 734-462-9800



**WATERFORD TWP. \$169,900**  
Colonial, large bedrooms/large closets, kit w/large eating area, din rm w/doorwall leads to deck & nicely landscaped yard.  
MLS 28058274 734-462-9800



**WESTLAND \$149,900**  
Just move in! Nice big lr, fresh carpet & paint, updated kit w/table space, windows, baths, roof, fin basement, beautiful landscape.  
MLS 28050252 734-462-9800



**LIVONIA \$154,900**  
Spacious updated 3 br, 2 full bath ranch, newer kit cabs, add on fam rm w/wood burning stove, finished basement.  
MLS 28020919 734-462-9800



**REDFORD \$124,900**  
Remodeled to perfection! Custom kit w/quality cabs, ceramic tile flr & doorwall to patio, great yard, c/a updated turnace  
MLS 27220567 734-462-9800



**LIVONIA \$167,000**  
Updated ranch, kit, newer roof, windows, c/a & furnace, dw to private decked yard. Fin lower level w/full bath, hardwood floors.  
MLS 27208469 734-462-9800





# Apartments

Observer & Eccentric  
HOMETOWNlife.com

**Westland**

**Westland Estates "WOW"**

**1 Bedroom from \$495**

No fine print in this ad!  
- Heat/Water included -  
- \$20.00 Application Fee

**New Resident's Only 734-722-4700**  
Mon. - Fri. 9-7,  
Sat. Sun. 10-4

**Westland Park Apts.**

**LOOK**

**FREE RENT**  
1st month Free and Reduced Rate

**2 Bdrm, 1.5 Bath \$600, 936 Sq. Ft.**

**1 Bdrm, \$535 728 Sq. Ft.**

**Heat and Water Incl**  
(New residents only) with approved credit  
No Pets, C/A, Vertical Blinds, Intercom.  
Appliances include dishwasher.

Very clean Apartments  
Excel Maintenance  
**(734) 729-6636**

**Westland**

**S99 Sec. Deposit!**

**1 Bedrooms - \$435**

Separate Entrances  
Central air/heat  
**313-937-3319 EHO**

\*Some restrictions apply

**Westland**

**VENOY PINES APTS.**

**Rent Starting at \$549**

• 1 & 2 bedroom apts. with fireplace.

**(734) 261-7394**  
www.yorkcommunities.com

**WESTLAND CARPI APTS.**

**We Stand out in The Crowd**

**2 MONTHS FREE RENT!**

California Style Apts

- 1 Bedroom
- Water included
- Cathedral ceilings
- Balconies
- Carpet
- Fully carpeted
- Vertical blinds
- Great location to malls
- Livonia school system

**(734) 261-5410**

**Westland-LIVONIA SCHOOLS**

1 & 2 bdrm, 2 baths.  
Washer & dryer.  
Private entrance & balcony  
**(734) 459-1711 EHO**

**WESTLAND FOREST LAKE APTS.**

**RENT A 2 BEDROOM FOR LESS THAN A 1 BEDROOM PRICE!**

2 bdrms. - \$575  
Heat & Water included.  
**734-722-5155**

**Westland**

Private entrance,  
nice decor, util/cable, non-smoking  
No pets. 1-2/3/4 bed.  
\$420+ sec. dep. 734-634-0542

**BIRMINGHAM - DOWNTOWN**

1 bdrm apt, a/c, washer, dryer, new kitchen, no smoking, no pets. \$675/mo. 248-901-0425

**PLYMOUTH TOWNSHIP**

Cute upper level efficiency flat available. July 1st. \$495/mo. (248) 735-5464

**FARMINGTON HILLS - 10 Mile/Middlebelt**

3 bdrm, 2 bath, hardwood floors, \$975/mo + utilities, avail July. Leave message 248-672-2200

**PRIVATE WEST BLOOMFIELD LAKE FRONT**

Exquisite ranch, on private lake, with 3 bedrooms, 2 bath & laundry, all new interior. Non-smoking, no pets. \$1500/mo. Must have references. Contact Geoff 586-215-6869

**Lakefront/Waterfront Homes Rental**

**GLADWIN AREA** Lake Front all Sports Lake rental, sleeps 6. (810) 326-0974

**Living Quarters To Share**

**WESTLAND HOME TO SHARE**

3 bdrms avail, living rm, full kitchen, safe quiet area, no smoking. \$800, 734-421-3741

**FARMINGTON HILLS RETAIL SPACE**

Great Exposure. Last Available Space 1716 sq.ft. Excellent Rate. **CERTIFIED REALTY INC. 248-471-7100**

**BLOOMFIELD HILLS**

360 Concord Place, 2 bdrm, 1.5 bath, carpet, living/dining rm, appliances. Lease or sale 248-647-4235 or 586-709-6198

**BIRMINGHAM - 3 bdrm, 1 bath, all new int, 2 car garage, near rail district. No pets. \$1,400 incl lawn care/snow removal. (248) 909-4935**

**GARDEN CITY 3 bedroom brick ranch, fenced yard, garage, bsmt, no pets. \$850/mo + sec. 248-661-9052**

**REDFORD - 5 Mile/Telegraph. Updated 2 bdrm, a/c, deck, appliances, no Section 8. \$725/mo. 248-346-6108**

**REDFORD \$899/mo.**

3 bdrm, finished bsmt, garage, fenced, ac, appliances. 313-570-3700

**REDFORD TWP. 15826 Beech**

Daily - 3 bdrm, bsmt, 1 car garage. \$850/mo, security. 313-320-3324 248-427-1263

**LIVONIA NE Large Room, private bath, kitchenette, open area, share laundry, by park & pool. 4100/wk. 248-943-8610**

**LYON TWP \$499\* per mo.**

2 Bedroom, 1.5 baths. Immediate Occupancy. Call 248-290-5300 ext 333 \*First 3 months.

**CANTON - Efficiency apts for rent, free utilities, \$450/mo. sec deposit required. Call: (734) 722-9962**

**CANTON 4 bdrm., 2010 sq. ft., 2 1/2 bath, fireplace, 2 car attached garage, appliances, \$1395/mo. 248-344-8999**

**CANTON Condo 2 Bdrms, 2 baths, 1 garage, Central air, Clubhouse, Basement, pool. \$950. 734-673-3193**

**CANTON - Beautifully updated, finished bsmt, appliances, fenced yard, 2 car, school in. \$1,495/mo. 734-516-1107**

**CLAWSON**

3 bdrm, 1.5 bath, updated kitchen, bsmt, garage, fenced yard, pet friendly. \$1135/mo. (248) 642-0838

**DEARBORN HEIGHTS**

Attractive 3 bdrm ranch garage. Option. 2nd car OK. \$600/mo. (248) 788-1823

**REDFORD - 2 bdrm, 1 bath, bsmt, appliances, garage, great cond. No pets. \$750/mo. Sec 8 OK. (248) 773-1117**

**Westland 2 bdrm, w/3rd room in bsmt, bath, laundry facilities, basement. Fenced yard. \$760. 734-576-3434**

**WESTLAND-NORWAYNE**

2 bdrms, 1 bath, 31755 Arenac, \$650+ dep. No credit check, imm. occ. Call: 248-842-0679

**WESTLAND 2 bdrm brick home, bsmt, shed, c/a, no pets, non smoking, \$675/mo. Contact Gail @ 734-564-8280**

**WESTLAND Clean 2 bdrm, c/a, appliances, util. rm., shed, lig. Near Joy/Middlebelt. \$700/mo. 313-820-2255**

**WESTLAND/NORWAYNE**

Updated 2 bdrm house, new paint carpet, fenced, garage. \$685/mo. (248) 449-3307

**ROYAL OAK 2 bdrm, 1 bath, enclosed yard, with appliances, very clean. \$795/mo. (248) 388-9536**

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# Market Place

Observer & Eccentric  
HOMETOWNlife.com

**6000-6880**

**LOOK HERE**

**7100 Estate Sales**

**Absolutely Free**

**LANDSCAPE COBBLESTONE**

in buckets, ready for pick up. Bloomfield, Lahser Rd, Lone Pine area. 248-540-0618

**7100 Estate Sales**

**ANOTHER QUALITY ESTATE SALE BY DECORATIVE ANTIQUES FRI ONLY June 6-9-4**

29010 Lancaster Hills (Take Lancaster N. off 12 Mile 2nd light E. of Telegraph; 1st Building on the right)

**IMPORTANT:** Everything will be sold, and at 2-4pm Fri., whatever is not sold will be auctioned off.

**CONTENTS:** Everything was purchased at Gormann's. All like new contemporary art deco style furniture + curved high back couch + loveseat + 2 leopard over-sized chairs + great sky-scraper curlic cabinet + 2 tiered cocktail table + Chinese cabinets + nest of tables + large French posters + glass + chrome refractory dining table + chairs + mirrors + floor + table lamps + king mirrored bedroom set + art glass + 1960's items + linens + set + antiques + collectibles + household items + men's + women's fur coats + designer women's clothing + purses + top. costume + diamond jewelry + more.

**I'm buying gold in any shape or trade it. I give the best deals!**

When seeking out the best deal check out the Observer & Eccentric Classifieds! 1-800-579-7355

**7100 Estate Sales**

**ANOTHER ESTATE SALE BY IRIS Fri.-Sat., June 6-7 10am-4pm**

7208 Creeks Bend Drive in Fabble Creek Sub in West Bloomfield 48322 (N. off 14 Mile Rd., 2 lights W. of Orchard Lake.)

"Antiques, Mod & 50's & 60's Furniture & Accessories"

- Directional designer chests & tables • beautiful 50's desk • leather sofa • sectional sofa • dinette set • 50's pristine outdoor furniture
- Robert Kidd wall hanging • Ray Fleming huge painting • Reba Schwayer huge painting • lots of leather bound books • silver & crystal Spode, Wedgwood, Royal Doulton brilliant cut crystal • washer & dryer • TVs • stereo • and too much to mention!

**IRIS KAUFMAN 248-626-6335 JAMES ADELSON 248-240-3269**

Appraisers & Liquidators for 45 Yrs in Metro Area.

**7100 Estate Sales**

**ANOTHER FABULOUS ANTIQUES & ESTATE SALE BY ANTIQUES ON MAIN & ADRIANESALES.COM 248-705-9865**

**FRIDAY - SUNDAY, June 6 - 8, 10 - 4 260 CAYUGA RD. LAKE ORION**

W. of Lapeer Rd., N. off Indianwood Rd.

Complete contents of antique collector's lakelront estate - oak, pine, & mahogany furniture, antique clock collection, Spode china, jewelry, records, books, piano rolls, many garden pcs, '03 16ft. Starcraft pontoon boat, & much more!

**For directions, photos, & a complete list of contents, visit aomestatesales.com**

**BLOOMFIELD HILLS**

196 Strathmore, Thurs 1-7pm, Fri-Sat, 10-3pm. E. off Woodward, 1 blk N of 16. WWW.CLASSICSTATE.NET

**DEARBORN ESTATE/GARAGE SALE - 1740 North Rosevere, 3 bks E. of Telegraph Rd, just S of Ford Rd. Antiques, collectibles, etc. June 6-7, 9-5pm.**

**ESTATE SALE 724 South Minerva Avenue, Royal Oak June 5th-7th, 9:00am-4:00pm. Furniture, tools, clothing.**

**WEST BLOOMFIELD**

Furniture, household, art, appliances, electronics, treadmill, tools. 6109 Orchard Lake Rd. #102. N. of Maple. June 7/8, 9am-7pm. No Early Birds!

**Announcements & Notices**

**6200**

**Antiques/Collectibles**

**7020**

**ALWAYS AFFORDABLE**

Sale - 15-30% off  
May 22 thru June 30  
\$100 Gift Certificate Drawing  
Town and Country Antiques  
31630 Plymouth Road  
(Behind East Side Mario's)  
Livonia (734) 425-4344

**Auction Sales**

**7060**

**Sporting Goods**

**7520**

**Household Goods**

**7160**

**Appliances**

**7180**

**Birds & Fish**

**7820**

**Household Pets**

**7880**

**Announcements & Notices**

**6200**

**ON-SITE ESTATE AUCTION**

**Sat. June 7th - Noon**

18289 Winston St.  
Redford/Detroit, MI

Power Tools/Hand Tools/Tool Boxes Full  
1985 Plymouth Voyager  
Tractors/Motor Scooter  
Cash/MC/Visa  
AmEx/Discover  
Bank Debit Cards

No Checks  
5% Buyers Premium  
Viewing 11am  
J.C. Auction Services  
734-451-7444  
jcauctionservices.com

**When seeking out the best deal check out the Observer & Eccentric Classifieds!**

1-800-579-7355

**TO PLACE YOUR AD CALL...**

**1-800-579-SELL(7355)**

Observer & Eccentric

**Household Goods**

**7160**

**CHINA CABINET** lights up, beveled glass, mirror backing, originally \$1000, asking \$250. (734) 451-5077

Dining Room table w/4 chairs rod iron & oak, \$275 negotiable. Seilig living room 9 piece modular couch, \$400 negotiable. (734) 266-1750

Formal Dining Table Set 6 chairs, cherry wood, custom glass top. \$389. (248) 787-5226

Girls 4 Piece Bedroom Set headboard, footboard, rails, mattress & box spring, armoire w/6 drawers & mirror, light wood w/flower detail. \$350 Howell Area (313) 930-7524

KID'S BDRM SET WITH 2 TWIN BEDS Blonde wood, dresser, armoire, desk with chair and nightstand. Excel cond., \$500. (248) 851-2075

MATTRESS - \$65  
New queen pillow-top mattress, can deliver. 248-275-4385

ROYAL OAK FURNITURE WAREHOUSE SALE - High end furniture warehouse sale. Queen & King bedroom, dining room, some complete sets. Occasional pieces, including chairs and tables, antiques and much, much more. Great Prices! Friday, 6/6 9-4pm, Saturday, 6/7 9-2pm. 1300 N. Campbell, Unit D, Royal Oak, Michigan

**GE Washer & Gas Dryer**

Super capacity, 4 years old, \$150 each. WHIRLPOOL Side BY Side Fridge and Freezer, white, \$200. (734) 286-5333

**Exercise/Fitness Equipment**

**7215**

**CERAGEM BED** - Relaxing deep, smooth massage for the spine & back. Excel cond., like new, \$2100. (248) 763-9695

**Cats**

**7830**

**KITTENS** looking for foster home for 4 kittens, 4wks. old. Will assist in finding permanent homes. (248) 660-6004

**Pets of all Kinds Many Popular Puppies Great Values & Friendly Service**

**AMAZING PUPPY SALE**

6 MONTHS "SAME AS CASH" \*\*  
\*\*Petland Credit Card & Purchases over \$199

**\*Limited Time Offer**

Petland Across from Westland Mall (734) 367-9906  
www.petland.com

**Announcements & Notices**

**6200**

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**7020**

**ALWAYS AFFORDABLE**

Sale - 15-30% off  
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www.petland.com

**Observer & Eccentric**

WHERE GREAT DEALS UNFOLD!

**1-800-579-7355**

# Garage Sales

Look for These Garage Sales On The Internet!  
www.hometownlife.com

**Garage Sales**

**7110**

15600 Hunters Grove Cob, Livonia, 6/6 & 6/7, 9-3. Near 5 Mile & Newburgh. Sale is for all of Hunters Grove Subdivision!

**Garage Sales**

**7110**

**BIRMINGHAM** Thurs-Fri, June 5-6, 9-5. 1655 Henrietta, 14 Mile & Pierce, btwn Woodward & Southfield Rd. Furniture, clothing, household, etc.

**Garage Sales**

**7110**

**BLOOMFIELD** Thurs-Sat., June 7, 8am-4pm. 2610 Colby (S. of Sq. Lake/E. of Woodward). Excellent condition! top name baby, kids, adult clothing. Toys, household items, crib, glider.

**Garage Sales**

**7110**

**CANTON HUGE GARAGE SALE** - Friday and Saturday, June 6 and 7, 9am to 4pm. Cherry Hill United Methodist Church, 321 S Ridge Rd., just south of Cherry Hill, Canton, MI. Annual Trash and Treasure Sale and Bake Sale You need it We Got it except for clothes!

**Garage Sales**

**7110**

**CANTON sub-wide Sale** Fri-Sat, June 6 & 7, 9-5pm Pleasant Glen Sub, N side of Cherry Hill, just E. of Canton Center Rd. Generator 5000W, lawnmower, kerosene heater, tools, micro, furniture, patio set, home goods, much more!

**Garage Sales**

**7110**

**DEARBORN** - 23100 Oak St., S of Ford Rd, off Outer Dr, June 6 & 9-9pm. Brand new items, home & patio furnishings, int accessories, antiques, crystal, jewelry, fabrics, records, craft supplies, tools and more!

**Garage Sales**

**7110**

**FARMINGTON HILLS** Clean House Type Garage Sale - Friday, June 6 10am - 2:30pm. 25212 Carolton, Farmington Hills. A little bit of everything!

**Garage Sales**

**7110**

**LIVONIA Annual Sale** Burton Hollow Woods, NE 6 Mile/Farmington, June 5-8, 9-4p. Furniture, clothes, hostas, collectibles, QVC dolls, tools.

**Garage Sales**

**7110**

**LIVONIA DEER CREEK OVER 30 HOMES SUB SALE** Fri-Sat, June 6 & 7 9-4pm. Rain or shine. 1/2 Mile W/ Farmington Rd., S/ 8 Mile / N/ 7 Mile, W/ Galt. Some homes open Thurs. June 5.

**Garage Sales**

**7110**

**ANN ARBOR** 1015 Woodbridge Blvd., Fri-Sat 10-4:30. Entire house 40+ years, china, piano, furniture, electronics, power tools, kitchen, antiques, vintage camera equipment, & much more.

**Garage Sales**

**7110**

**BLOOMFIELD** - Sat. June 7, 9-5pm. 2781 Courville Dr, Hickory Grove & Telegraph. Crib mattress & bedding, Trakstand, bike nitch, bistro table & chairs, wine racks & lots more!

**Garage Sales**

**7110**

**BLOOMFIELD TWP** June 7 9am - 4pm. 6295 E. Surrey, Bloomfield Twp (W. of Telegraph, N. Maple, Foxcroft Sub). Furniture, Electronics, Household, etc.

**Garage Sales**

**7110**

**CANTON** Meadows Villages SUB SALE, Beck & Geddes Rds., Thurs-Sat., June 5-7, 9-5.

**Garage Sales**

**7110**

**CANTON** Vistas of Central Park S. of Cherry Hill W. of Beck. Sub-wide Sale June 5-7, 9am-4pm. Furniture, household, clothing, misc.

**Garage Sales**

**7110**

**FARMINGTON HILLS** Green Hills Sub, June 5-7, 9-4pm. S. of 9 Mile, btwn Halsted & Drake. Household, children's & many more items.

**Garage Sales**

**7110**

**FARMINGTON HILLS** Clean House Type Garage Sale - Friday, June 6 10am - 2:30pm. 25212 Carolton, Farmington Hills. A little bit of everything!

**Garage Sales**

**7110**

**LIVONIA** 11031 Melrose, Merriman & Plymouth Rd. area. June 5-7, 9am. Antiques, kids stuff, china, glass, old paper stuff, books, sheet music, etc, linens & lace, other misc.

**Garage Sales**

**7110**

**LIVONIA GARAGE SALE** June 7, 9-4pm. 9131 Adams, 275 & Ann Arbor Rd area. Many new items.

**Garage Sales**

**7110**

**BIRMINGHAM** 950 Harmon, Old Woodward & Oak Frn., June 6th Only! 9am-4pm. Children's toys, furnishings, furniture & housewares. All in good condition!

**Garage Sales**

**7110**

**BLOOMFIELD HILLS** - Garage/Moving Sale, June 6-7, 8-5pm. 1926 Hickory Bark Ln, Square Lak & Squirrel. Furniture, kid's clothes, carpets, etc.

**Garage Sales**

**7110**

**BLOOMFIELD** Thurs-Sat., June 5-7, 9am-4pm. 6295 E. Surrey, Bloomfield Twp (W. of Telegraph, N. Maple, Foxcroft Sub). Furniture, Electronics, Household, etc.

**Garage Sales**</

Garage Sales 7110

LIVONIA HUGE SALE! June 7-9, 9-5. 20080 Brentwood, 8 Mile, E Middlebelt. Adult & kid's clothes, baby furn, computers, house items & more!

LIVONIA Multi-Family Garage Sale - 36319 Hammer Ln., N of 6, E of Levan. Glassware, collectibles, adult/children clothing, toys, household & much more! Thurs-Sat, 9am-5pm.

LIVONIA Old Roseale Gardens sub-wide Sale S. of Plymouth Rd. btwn Merriman & Farmington Rds. Sat. June 7, 9am-4pm

LIVONIA SUB SALE East Merriman, btwn 7 & 8 Mile. Thurs. June 5-Sun. June 8, 9am-7.

MILFORD-HUGE SALE 150 W Summit, across from Rite Aid. 6:55-6:7, 9-4. Boy clothes, 0-5T shoes, baby gear, 3 in tent, exercise equip & more!

MULTIFAMILY June 5th-6th, 9-5 pm. June 7th, 9-1pm. 846 Redding, 48009. South of Quarton, west of Woodward.

NORTHVILLE Preschool Toys Sale - June 6 & 7, 9am-5pm. 17408 Oak Hill Dr, Northville.

NORTHVILLE Quail Ridge Sub S. of 8 Mile and W. of Meadowbrook. June 6 and 7, 9am-4pm. Whirlpool washing machine, brand new items, Wicker furniture, collectibles, plus lots more!

NORTHVILLE Stonewater Sub. Sale - Fri-Sun, 9am-4pm. Toys, clothes, household, new home center items, Enter off 7 Mile or Beck.

NORTHVILLE TWP. Woodlands South Condo Sub. SW Corner - 6 Mile & Sheldon Rd. - Aspen Ridge Dr., June 5, 6, 7, 8am to 5pm.

NOVI Bradford of Novi Sub Sale, S of 9 Mile, W of Tait Rd. Thurs. June 5th - Sat., June 7th, 8am-7. Quality children items, furniture & more!

NOVI SUB SALE CHASE FARMS June 6-7, 9-4pm. Off 8 or 9 Mile Rd, W of Meadowbrook. Lots of great items! chasefarms.com for list

NOVI SUB SALE Greenwood Oaks, N. of 10 Mile, W. of Beck. June 5-7, 9am-3pm.

OAKLAND TWP Knorwood Pines Subdivision Garage Sale. June 7 only! 9AM-5PM. Rochester Rd. south of Snell Rd. 248-651-4866.

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Garage Sales 7110

PLYMOUTH - Yearly park-wide yard sale. June 7-8, 9-5pm. 14201 Ridge Rd, Plymouth Hill Mobile Home Park.

PLYMOUTH - COMMUNITY WIDE GARAGE SALE June 5, 6, 7, 9am-4pm. W. of Beck Road, S. of Ann Arbor Trail, off Colony Farm Drive.

PLYMOUTH 9225 Elmhurst - June 6 & 7, 9am-5pm. Baby/kids' clothes & stuff, antiques, household.

PLYMOUTH GARAGE SALE Household items, antiques, furniture. June 5-6, 9-5pm. 11998 Appletree Dr, W of Sheldon, S of Ann Arbor Trail.

PLYMOUTH Garage Sale, Multi Family - June 7/8, 9am-5pm. 279 Irvin, N/William. New items! Sales-man's samples, garden items and Playtex baby. New birdbaths and pots. Some furniture and jewelry.

PLYMOUTH SUB WIDE SALE Plymouth Gardens Sub, 5 Mile & Bradner & Schoolcraft, near 5 Mile & Northville Rd. Thurs-Sat June 5-7, 9-5pm.

PLYMOUTH, 11734 Hunters Creek Dr. (Off Powell btwn Beck Rd. & Ridge Rd.) June 6 & 7, 9am-4pm. Furniture & Home accessories.

PLYMOUTH - Multiple families in DEER CREEK SUB. W/Off Beck, N/Off Powell. Thurs-Sat., June 5-7, 9am-3pm. Furniture, toys & more.

PLYMOUTH - Thurs June 5 & Sat June 7, 9-4pm. 130 N Holbrook, 1st st on the right past Tim Hortons. Trundle bed, table & chairs, antiques, etc.

REDFORD 18683 Indian June 5, 6, 7, 9:00-5:00. Antiques, furniture, pottery. Moving must downsize collections. Rain or shine! No early birds.

REDFORD HUGE ESTATE SALE - JUNE 5th, 6th, 7th. 15546 Winston, Redford, MI 48239. Everything is to go. The entire household! Call for info about appliances and furniture before 9pm. 810-832-5385. Clothes, tools, light fixtures, central air unit, tons of stuff!

ROCHESTER HILLS Hampton Sub Sale, Rochester Rd & Auburn. June 6th-7th 9-5. Furniture, toys, antiques, household items

Garage Sales 7110

ROCHESTER HILLS - Dual Subdivision Garage Sale! Quail Ridge & Rookery Woods. Fri, June 6th & Sat., June 7th. NW corner of Adams & Hamlin.

ROCHESTER HILLS- 99 & 105 Stone Tree Circle, Brookdale West Sub, Adams & Walton. Thurs & Fri, June 5-6, 9-1pm. Kid's toys & equipment.

ROYAL OAK - Antiques, garden art & cool stuff, benefits Humane Society. 4203 Arlington Drive. Fri-Sat, 9-3p.

ROYAL OAK Sat., June 7, 9am-5pm. Woodwardside Sub. S. 13, E. Woodward, N. Webster. Rain or Shine!

SOUTHFIELD - 17244 Pennsylvania, E of Southfield Rd & S of Ten Mile. Thurs-Sat, 8-6. Microwave, lamps, rugs, designer boy's clothes, misc.

SOUTHFIELD 25280 Code, 10 & Lahser, btwn 10 & Civic Center. Thurs-Mon., 9-6pm. Solid brass lamps, decorative pigs, porcelain dolls & more!

SOUTHFIELD - 25673 Mulroy Dr. N of 10 Mile, E of Berg. June 7-8, 9am-4pm. Misc. household items and furniture.

SOUTHFIELD ESTATE SALE Thurs June 5-Sat June 7, 9-5pm. Antiques incl furniture. Glassware, jewelry, organ and more. 29527 Chalmersford in Cranbrook Sub. off 12 Mile, W of Southfield. Cash only.

TROY Garage Sale: Clothing, furniture, household items, etc. 2168 Cumberland, Troy 48065. Friday and Saturday, June 6 & 7, 9am-4pm.

TROY June 5-7, 9am-5pm. 5521 Livernais, btwn 18 & 19 Mile on W. side. 4 households combined. Furniture, housewares, collectibles, clothing, TROY BUILT rototiller, misc.

W BLOOMFIELD 6 FAM SALE! June 7th&8th, 9-5pm. Potomac Towne Condos. NW Corner of 15&Farmington Rd. Furn, toys, antiques & more!

WATERFORD HUGE GARAGE SALE w/CATERING & KITCHEN SUPPLIES! Collectible Movie Posters! June 5-7, 9am-4pm. 1401 Forest Bay Drive, Waterford, 48328

Moving Sales 7130

FARMINGTON - 33138 Maplelun. June 9, 10, 11, 9am-5pm. Furniture, dining sets and more. Everything must go! 248-943-3133.

FARMINGTON HILLS 23200 Drake apt. 225, S. of Grand River. June 7-8, 11-4 or call for app. 734-578-5139. Dinette set, entertainment center, etc.

PLYMOUTH 10331 Millwood Dr. btwn Ann Arbor Rd & Ann Arbor Trail, E. of Beck. June 6-7, 10am-4pm. High end furnishings, pictures, misc.

PONTIAC Huge Estate Sale 96 Ogemaw, Pontiac, near M59 and Telegraph. June 5, 6, 7 from 9am-4pm.

SOUTHFIELD ESTATE SALE June 5-7, 9am-4pm. Furniture, China, Glass, Clocks, Antiques, Collectibles. 29230 PineTree, N of 12 Mile, 2 bks E of Lahser. 248-352-8627

WEST BLOOMFIELD THE GARAGE SALE OF ALL GARAGE SALES! AN ENTERTAINERS DREAM - HOMEWEAR, GLASSWEAR, BAKE WEAR, ANTIQUES, FURNITURE, TONS OF GREAT JEWELRY, MATERNITY, COLLECTIBLES, KIDS TOYS & FURNITURE - EVERYTHING GOES!!! 2201 LAWDALE AVE. NORTH OF WALNUT LAKE RD (OFF INKSTER RD. - 4TH ST. N. OF WALN. LEFT INTO SUB ON WYCLIFFE, LEFT RT. AT EASTMAN, LEFT LEFT AT LAWDALE) - JUNE 5, 6, 7 ONLY!

WEST BLOOMFIELD - Patomic Village #3 & Fox Run Green SUB-WIDE SALE! June 6-8. W/ off Farmington, btwn Maple/Walnut Lake, turn on Kingsfield or Forestdale.

WESTLAND Brookfield Village Assoc. Fri. & Sat. June 6-7th, 9am-5pm. NW Corner of Cherry Hill & Hix Rd.

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CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS 1 Possibilities 40 Makes a try 41 Knows how 43 Ken. neighbor 44 Border st. 45 Open, as oysters 47 Disco dancer (hyph.) 50 Similar 51 Talk on and on 54 Sorority letter 55 Tour of duty 56 Where Ipanema is 57 Be a thief 58 Dangles 59 "Thrilla in Manila" boxer

Answer to Previous Puzzle

BETAS INTRO CAMERA GIVENS USED CALLS SI BIN TOE ITD ACDC ROO ORAL ROAM SIEGE TRERE PALES AIRED MULE SNAP PAT DOTS SKY LEI XII ER LORDS JILT LAMEST PRIDES TOOTH AIMED

11x11 crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-59 indicating starting points for words.

SUDOKU

9x9 Sudoku puzzle grid with some numbers filled in. Level: Beginner

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!

SEEK AND FIND FIND THESE WORDS IN THE PUZZLE BELOW.

Word search puzzle grid containing words like BALL, BIKE, BLOCKS, DOLL, JACKS, SLED, SLINGSHOT, SQUIRT GUN, SWINGS, TEA SET, TOP, YO-YO.

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**GMC YUKON SLT 2001** 4x4, sharp! 74K, \$12,495. **Bob Jeannotte Pontiac (734) 453-2500**

**GMC YUKON XL 2003**, Black, one owner, sharp, only \$12,495. **Bob Jeannotte Pontiac (734) 453-2500**

**SPORT TRAC 2003-4X4**, low miles, \$8995 **Bill Brown Ford (734) 522-0030**

### Sports Utility 8290

**BUICK RAINIER 2002** Burgundy, 33K, Only \$11,495 **Bob Jeannotte Pontiac (734) 453-2500**

**BUICK RAINIER 2004** 8 to choose from, all leather, loaded, low miles, from \$13,950 JOHN ROGIN BUICK 734-525-0900

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**BUICK RENDEZVOUS 2006** Gold, 3rd seat, only \$14,995 **Bob Jeannotte Pontiac (734) 453-2500**

**BUICK RENDEZVOUS CX 2005**, 37K, \$12,995. **Bob Jeannotte Pontiac (734) 453-2500**

**BUICK RENDEZVOUS CX 2006** loaded, extra clean, only 23K, one owner, black \$16,690 **SATURN of PLYMOUTH (734) 453-7890**

**BUICK RENDEZVOUS CXL 2006**, leather, tan, \$17,495. **Bob Jeannotte Pontiac (734) 453-2500**

**CHEVY BLAZER LS 2002** 4x4, \$6,998. AVIS FORD (248) 355-7515

**CHEVY TAHOE LT Z71 2003** White, tan leather, Dual DVD in headrests, navigation, super nice truck & ready to travel \$15,500 **SATURN of PLYMOUTH (734) 453-7890**

**CHEVY TRAILBLAZERS 2006**, 05, 04, 03 10 to choose from, all models, all loaded, from \$12,950 JOHN ROGIN BUICK 734-525-0900

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**FORD ESCAPE XLT 2007**, 4 cylinder, auto, \$15,998 1 AVIS FORD (248) 355-7515

**FORD EXPEDITION EL LIMITED 2007**, all options, 4x4, \$33,998. AVIS FORD (248) 355-7515

**FORD EXPEDITION LIMITED 2006**, 4x4, 67K, white, \$16,995 **Bob Jeannotte Pontiac (734) 453-2500**

**FORD EXPLORER 2004** Sport Trac, 10K, \$14,998. AVIS FORD (248) 355-7515

**FORD EXPLORER XLT 2006**, V-6 4.0, 3rd row, showroom condition, 13K one owner, loaded, \$16,400. **SATURN of PLYMOUTH (734) 453-7890**

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**GMC YUKON XL 2003**, Black, one owner, sharp, only \$12,495. **Bob Jeannotte Pontiac (734) 453-2500**

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**GMC YUKON XL SLT 2003**, white, leather, power moon, 45K, \$15,995. **Bob Jeannotte Pontiac (734) 453-2500**

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**MAZDA TRIBUTE S 2006** 4x4, Leather, 27K, one owner, moon, gray, like new. \$16,490 **SATURN of PLYMOUTH (734) 453-7890**

**MERCURY MOUNTAINEER 2007**, 4WD, \$19,998. AVIS FORD (248) 355-7515

**SUBARU IMPREZZA WRX 2006**, Sport wagon, pewter, only 19k, pristine cond, 4000 in OEM ad on \$17,900 **SATURN of PLYMOUTH (734) 453-7890**

**TOYOTA HIGHLANDER 2007** V-6, 4x4, moon, alloys, ABS, 29K, one owner, silver or red \$20,990 **SATURN of PLYMOUTH (734) 453-7890**

**TOYOTA SEQUOIA 2006** Limited, 4x4, storm gray, leather, huge moon roof, JBL premium stereo, one owner 57K, like new, \$22,900. **SATURN of PLYMOUTH (734) 453-7890**

**YUKON XL 2006.05.04** SLE, SLT, Denali, all loaded, 9 to choose, 2.9% finance avail. JOHN ROGIN BUICK 734-525-0900

### Sports & Imported 8300

**BMW 2001 3 Series**, 4 dr, \$8,998. AVIS FORD (248) 355-7515

### Antique/Classic Collector Cars 8320

**FORD MUSTANG 1966** Powder Blue 2 door, 200 CI Engine, tan interior. New brakes, good tires and battery, no rust, 165,000 miles, third or fourth owner, parked/stored the past 25 winters. AM/ FM/ Cassette stereo. \$5300. Beverly Hills, 818-324-8700

### Jeep 8360

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**LACROSSE 2006 CX** Power everything, remote start, GM certified, full warranty. Must Sell! \$13,000. 248-909-2664

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**LUCERNE CXL 2006**, V-8 blue, loaded, \$19,395. **Bob Jeannotte Pontiac (734) 453-2500**

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**STS 2006** Leather, moonroof, chrome wheels, navigation, fully loaded only \$22,950 JOHN ROGIN BUICK 734-525-0900

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**IMPALA 2005** Moonroof, low miles, fully loaded, garage kept \$12,950 JOHN ROGIN BUICK 734-525-0900

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**IMPALA SS 2007** Indianapolis Edition, Black, moon, extra clean, with black leather, sharp. 63K **SATURN of PLYMOUTH (734) 453-7890**

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**MONTE CARLO SS 2004** Dale Earnhardt Jr. leather, moonroof, loaded \$17,950 JOHN ROGIN BUICK 734-525-0900

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**SEBRING LXI 2001**, Convertible, white, w/tan leather, 73K, exc. cond. one owner \$9,980 **SATURN of PLYMOUTH (734) 453-7890**

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### Ford 8480

**CROWN VICTORIA LA 2007**, \$14,998. AVIS FORD (248) 355-7515

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**FOCUS SE 2004** Auto, air, immaculate! \$5300 TYME AUTO 734-455-5666

**FOCUS SE 2005** auto, air, \$204 per mo. based on 60 months @4.9% (W.A.C.) **DEALER 1-800-586-3518**

**FOCUS SE 2007**, 6 yr, 100K warranty, \$259 per month based on 60 months @6.9% (W.A.C.) **DEALER 1-800-586-3518**

**FOCUS SES 2006**, 4 DR, \$13,998. AVIS FORD (248) 355-7515

**FORD 500 2005**, \$283 per mo. based on 60 months @4.9% (W.A.C.) **DEALER 1-800-586-3518**

**FORD 500 SE 2006** \$255 per mo. based on 60 months @4.9% (W.A.C.) **DEALER 1-800-586-3518**

**FORD TAURUS SEL 2003** 50,000 miles, loaded, very clean, still under extended warranty, gold, \$8000. Call: (313) 929-6366

**FUSION 2006**, V-6, leather, moon, \$15,798. AVIS FORD (248) 355-7515











## West Coast travel continues with some good finds

To continue with my recent escapade in Los Angeles ... I've made two trips there within this past month to see all worth seeing.

Both times, I flew Northwest Airlines. Once again, I tried to choose my seat, and once again Northwest puts its passengers in the last rows, middle seats, unless they pay an extra \$25-\$30 each way.

Lana Mini

We're not talking Exit Row. We're talking extra money just to avoid a seat in Misery Alley.

I opted for the misery this time. And opted to pay \$7 for a flimsy vegetable tray. My fault for not planning ahead - could have had the decent sushi in the Northwest terminal.

To save money in Los Angeles, I found a rental car through Thrifty - 10 days for \$250. Not bad considering it's peak travel season.

I also found (oh, do I want to share this secret? Sure, I will!) an amazing apartment/hotel directly on Venice Beach called Venice Suites (www.venicesuites.com).

For \$150 you can get an airy, fresh studio apartment with a full kitchen, hardwood floors, modern decor and a rooftop patio that includes lawn chairs and barbecue grill. Splurge \$100 more on the weekend (price varies) for ocean view.

Plenty of restaurants, beach street artists, bars, cafes and shops within walking distance.

The Venice Suites is, without a doubt, the best place to stay for the money in the Venice/Santa Monica area. The only downside is the parking lot is a few streets away, but a walk in LA isn't such a bad thing.

After my last visit there, I raved about Piccolo Restaurant, 5 Dudley Avenue, Venice, which I claimed as one of the best Italian restaurants in the country. My visit there wasn't as exciting this time - the menu is now unchangeable. Last time the chefs accommodated my vegan requirements and created a beautiful pasta with arugula. This time, they would only offer a salad minus Parmesan shavings. The fennel soup however, was great, but I wanted more for dinner than soup, small salad and a glass of Chianti for almost \$50.

Duke's in Malibu (although not intimate like Piccolo) is nice for its patio on the ocean's edge.

### HI, OJAI

The highlight was my pat-myself-on-the-back discovery in Ojai, California, located about 90 fast minutes north east of Los Angeles toward Santa Barbara. The mystical little town that means "Valley of the Moon" is known for its spas, spiritual atmosphere, vast green mountainous views and the quiet little art district. It's home to celebrities who want a quiet life blended with sophistication:

Reese Witherspoon, Tim Burton and Johnny Cash have all resided there.

The lovely hotel that I found, The Emerald Iguana Inn, is on my Top Five list of the most enchanting affordable places I've slept in worldwide. Visit [www.emeraldiguana.com](http://www.emeraldiguana.com). The rooms are listed by names rather than numbers such as the Grasshopper, the Lilypad and the Gecko. I stayed in the Raven cottage that included full kitchen, plush robes, two huge bedrooms, three queen beds, ceramic flooring, original works of art and furniture, Persian rugs, velvet curtains all surrounded by lush gardens, extensive stone work, crystalline spa and breakfast each morning by the pool. There were hummingbirds and butterflies outside my door. It cost \$380 a night to sleep three people, but rooms go as low as just \$149.

I ended my trip taking taxis, twice, from Venice to Hollywood at \$45 each way, so that I could have a drink at The Green Door, one of the city's current "you have to be someone to get in" nightclubs. Luckily my friend who knows the doorman is strikingly handsome. Sounds pretentious, but it's charmingly sexy with French accents and is a place for people who want low-key vibes rather than some of the louder Hollywood spots.

Lana Mini is a staff writer with the Observer & Eccentric and Mirror newspapers. She can be reached at (248) 901-2572 or [imini@hometownlife.com](mailto:imini@hometownlife.com).

### HOME CALENDAR

If you have an item for the home calendar, please submit it at least two weeks prior to the event to Ken Abramczyk at [kabramcz@hometownlife.com](mailto:kabramcz@hometownlife.com).

#### The Birmingham Showhouse

"An ideal home created from a woman's perspective." Sept. 18-21, benefits Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute, sponsored by Wellington Chase Homes and Michigan Design

Center, also open Sept. 25-28, 4,580-square-foot English Arts and Crafts style, developed by women with products exclusively from MDC, visit [michigandesign.com](http://michigandesign.com) or Showhouse Web site at [birminghamshowhouse.com](http://birminghamshowhouse.com).



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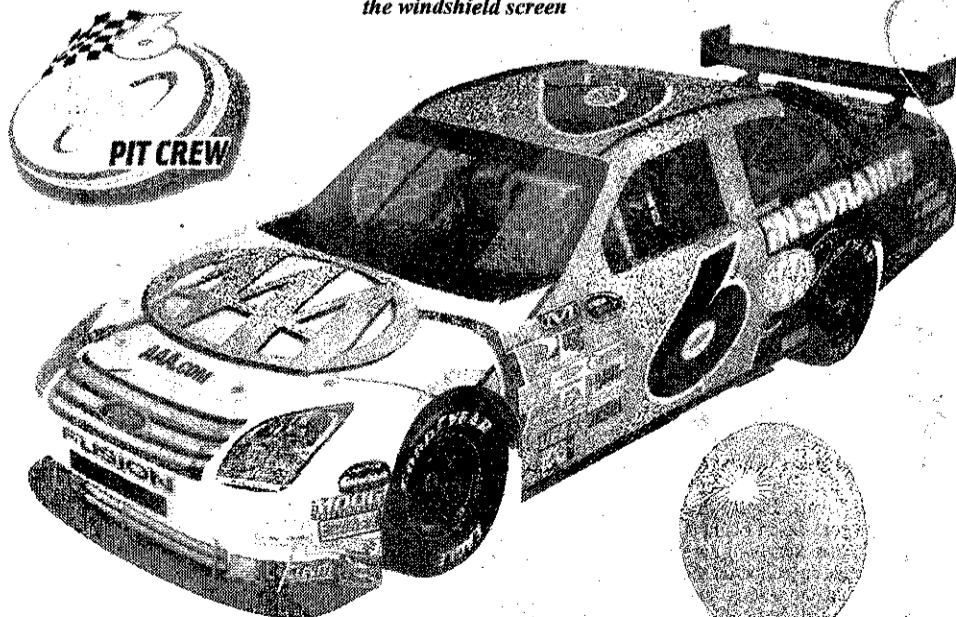
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\*No purchase necessary. You must be at least 18 years old and complete an entry form available at our office located at 8817 Sheldon Road, Plymouth, MI 48170 on June 5th, 6th, and 7th. One entry per person, per day. Odds of receiving a prize will be determined by the number of entries received. Winners will be notified by phone. Prizes are subject to taxes.





# pink

Wensdy Von Buskirk . Features Editor (734) 953-2019 . wvon@hometownlife.com

## pink picks

**Wear It**  
A paper-thin summer scarf

**Tote It**  
Magic Bag Lady Bags by Michele Kramp of Canton at Wyandotte's Biddle Gallery

**Kick It**  
Switch Flops at High Wire Girls — change the straps for brand new looks

**See It**  
Fortgetting Sarah Marshall at Magic Bag's Brew 'n' View on June 12

**Hear It**  
Narrow Stairs by Deathcab for Cutie

**Shop It**  
Moda Repeat in Farmington Hills

**Eat It**  
Rotisserie chicken from Hiller's

**Drink It**  
Homemade sun tea

## Fitness boot camp comes to a park near you

**FARMINGTON HILLS** — Boot camp classes are one of the newest trends to get in shape, build stamina and lose two to four pounds of body fat per week. Farmington Hills based Platoon 5 Xtreme Training is offering boot camp classes to people who want to get fit in a fun and challenging environment. Each session lasts four weeks with two to three 50-minute classes per week. Platoon 5 gives participants the opportunity to get into the best shape of their lives by incorporating "basic" training exercises such as push-ups, pull-ups and sit-ups with weight training and lots of cardio options. Owner and certified fitness trainer Mona Contardi takes her troops to the extreme by doing interval training with hills, stairs, ladders and cones.

She incorporates games and challenges to create a team environment and make the intense workouts fun and exciting. "There is no doubt that my workouts are challenging, but even new recruits leave feeling refreshed and energized. My goal is to get you fit and keep you fit," Contardi said. Although on the tougher side, Platoon 5 workouts are tailored to fit all fitness levels, providing modifications and substitutions when appropriate. Contardi's boot camp is a comprehensive fitness program specially designed to guarantee quick and lasting results — lose body fat, rev up metabolism, tone muscles and increase endurance. Platoon 5's results-driven boot camp takes workout results to the next level.



Contardi

Registration is taking place now for the June 9 session. Classes are offered at various days and times. For more information contact Mona Contardi at (248) 890-6702 or visit the Platoon 5 Xtreme Training website at [www.p5xt.com](http://www.p5xt.com).

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**DVD It**  
Grace is Gone

**TV It**  
Living Lohan or Denise Richards: It's Complicated

## Local expert offers lip tips

BY CARA BROOKS  
GUEST COLUMNIST

**CANTON** — Lipstick is the first kind of makeup I was attracted to — as a little girl I remember sneaking into my mom's makeup drawer and applying her red lipstick. The color was so bright that even though I tried to take it off before dinner, there I sat at the table with my bright red lips.

Later, my friends and I would sneak a tube of lipstick to school, put it on, and then wipe it off before we got home. Nowadays, I know women who say they feel naked without lipstick. The mouth is an immediate attention-getter and the effect lipstick can have is amazing. From provocative to conventional, selecting the right shade can be great fun. In addition to finding the right color, it's essential to apply lipstick to maximize its impact.

**LIP LESSON:**  
For the first step, prep your lips with a conditioning treatment like Merle Norman Luxiva Lip Revive. Next, line the lips, keeping to the natural lip line.

Then, fill in the entire mouth with the pencil. Next, take a retractable lip brush and fill in the entire mouth with color up to the same edge as the lip pencil.



Merle Norman Sheer Lip Liner Pencils

Finally, blot with a single ply of tissue. Re-apply and blot again — this absorbs excess oil yet leaves the pigment (good for a smudge-proof, long-lasting effect).

**LIP TIPS:**  
■ Putting powder over the top of the first coat of lipstick, then applying a second coat will help it to last longer. ■ Play with the balance of your face by using dark colors on the eyes, like Merle Norman Luxiva Eye Shadow in Chocolate, and light colors on the mouth like Merle Norman Age Defying Lip Color Pick Ice with SPF 15, or vice versa. See how it changes the proportion of your features. ■ Some prefer to line the lips with a neutral lip pencil, even if the lip color over that is a bright shade. This way the finished mouth looks more natural and if the color fades, the layer underneath is not a bright orange or red.

Cara Brooks owns Merle Norman Cosmetics Studio of Canton, 3100 N. Lilley Road. Call (734) 981-4776.



Samantha, Carrie, Miranda and Charlotte return to the fashion runways in "Sex and The City: The Movie," now in theaters.

## Fashion fans take a cue from 'Sex and The City'

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA  
O&E STAFF WRITER

As *Sex and the City* fans and fashionistas well know, the wardrobe, labels and accessories worn by our four favorite New York women were considered as much stars of the famed HBO series as Sarah Jessica Parker herself. And the long-awaited film, which opened May 30 in area theaters, carries on that fashion-forward eye candy attitude. For six seasons culminating in the 2004 finale, Carrie, Samantha, Charlotte and Miranda embodied four closer-than-close female friends all seeking love and loving life in Manhattan. And each of the women has been characterized by her own personal style. As Director Michael Patrick King brings us back to that familiar apartment window, where Carrie Bradshaw spins her tales on a sleek Apple laptop, we get a glimmer of where the girls now stand.

Carrie, sporting a body-conscious white dress adorned with a gigantic white and gold flower remains as cutting edge a fashionista as ever. And of course she's still in love with Mr. Big (Chris Noth). The question remains — will they or won't they get married? A gifted, gilded gown from Vivienne Westwood herself seems a promising start. Samantha Jones (Kim Cattrall), as brazen as ever, arrives on the scene in a red structured suit reminiscent of any frock Sue Ellen might've worn in Dallas. It signifies strength and independence, as she's still dating young Hollywood star Smith Jerrod (Jason Lewis) and has no intentions of tying the knot. The film splices in tell-tale one-liners from the show's successful reign, giving insight into each character. As such we find workaholic attorney Miranda Hobbes (Cynthia Nixon), stunning in a gold gown, balancing her job with motherhood and a troubled

marriage. And prim-and-proper Charlotte (Kristin Davis), donning a classically tailored red dress with cap sleeves, is still married to Harry (Evan Handler) and raising their adopted daughter Lily. According to Carrie "three books and three years later we still feel like those four single girls." Fashionwise, there is barely anything retro about the film at all, except for a brief montage of Carrie's frocks from the '80s. The wardrobe, her signature Manolos and Louis Vuitton bags are front and center, here and now. Bright colors pop. Samantha favors look-at-me yellow. Charlotte shines in pure white and earthy tones and layers give red-headed Miranda her edge. Meanwhile Carrie trots around Manhattan in hefty brown Grecian-inspired heels with a sparkling structured bag in the shape of the Eiffel Tower across her arm. She pairs a black leather studded belt with everything from

outfits to billowy coats to cinch her tiny waist. As fearless as ever, she's constantly sporting a long strand of pearls draped from her neck and she proves a racer back or even a backless dress is no reason to forgo a bra — as long as it's a cute one. Hairstyles range from tightly-coiffed buns to loose and tousled, sometimes adorned with a braided headband. Miranda's precision-cut fiery bob reflects as much about her analytical personality as Charlotte's long chocolate brown layers say about her girlish charm. In accessories, hoop earrings seem to be a staple in gold as do bangle bracelets — lots of them. As with the series, we have Costume Designer Patricia Field to thank for the fashion-infused look of *Sex and the City*. Love or hate the outfits, as always, they're sure to leave an impression.

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