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SUNDAY
August 24, 2008

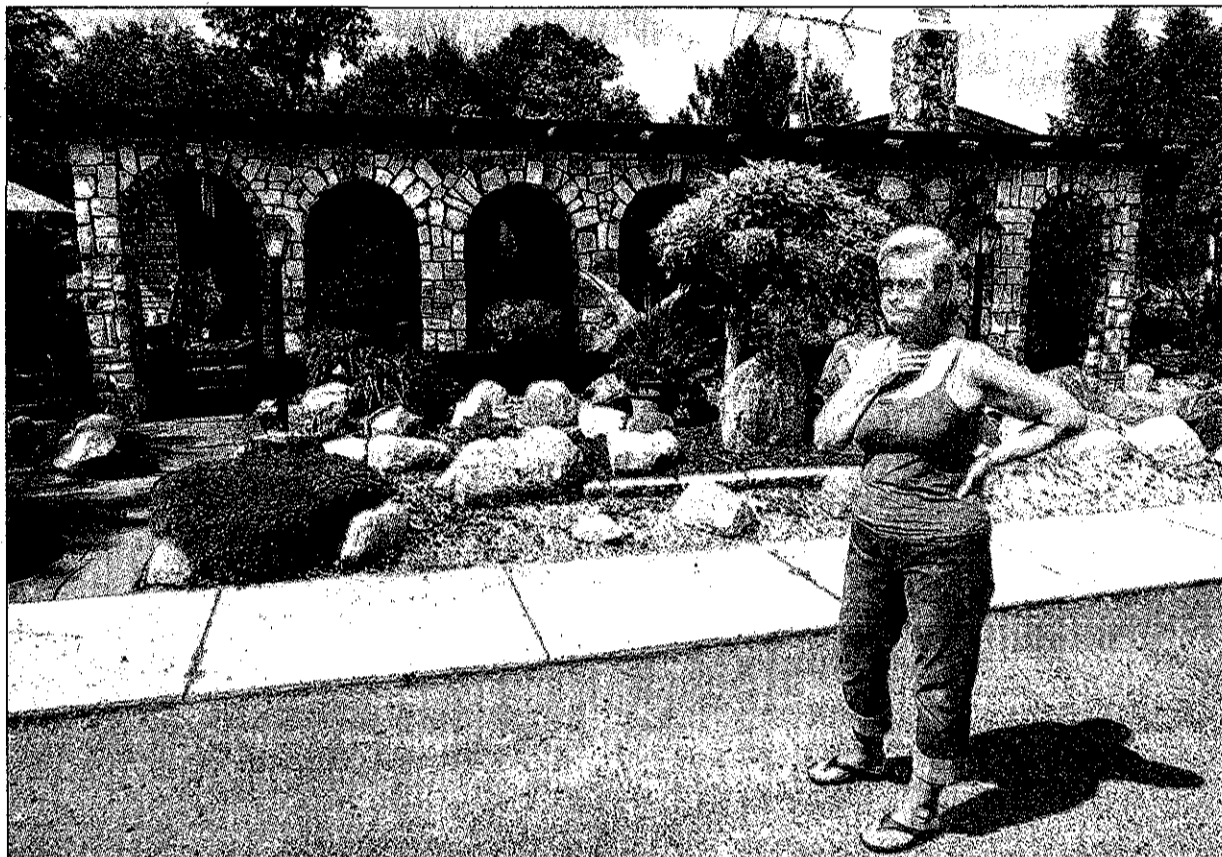
CANTON Observer

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The other side of Canton



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Lenore Stonerock and her late husband were attracted to Holiday Estates by the wide streets and spacing of the lots. She has lived in the Canton mobile home part for more than 30 years and has seen some big changes there.

Township ranks near the top in number of mobile homes

BY TIFFANY L. PARKS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

If you line up 10 people and ask them to describe one aspect about Canton Township, you may hear things like IKEA, good schools, Cherry Hill Village and tidy subdivisions.

One response you may not get is mobile homes. Back before Ford Road was booming with commerce or Canton had any sprawling, million dollar homes, the township was a haven for manufactured housing.

Please see **MOBILE, A4**



1. Academy Point
5201 Haggerty Rd.
2. College Park
51074 Mott Rd.
3. Holiday Estates
46000 Geddes Rd.
4. Royal Holiday
39500 Warren Rd.
5. Sherwood Village
41275 Michigan Ave.
6. Glen Ridge
4951 Haggerty Rd.
7. Wagon Wheel
51000 Mott Rd.
8. W. Point Manor
41021 Old Michigan Ave.



Brandon Hynes of Canton, a Hillary Clinton delegate at this week's Democratic National Convention, gets a hug from Chelsea Clinton at a campaign stop earlier this year.

Canton Democrat headed to Denver as Hillary delegate

BY KURT KUBAN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

While much of America will be tuning in to the Democratic National Convention in front of their televisions, Canton's Brandon Hynes will be on the raucous convention floor with all the other delegates and VIPs.

Hynes, 20, is the youngest voting delegate from Michigan. He will be among the state's 157 delegates who will attend the convention in Denver and witness the Democratic Party's coronation of Barack Obama — their presidential nominee.

However, Hynes will be attending the convention as a delegate for Hillary Clinton, who he campaigned hard for during the primary campaign. In fact, Hynes was chosen as a delegate at the recent district convention because of his unflinching support for Clinton. He said he is one of three delegates from the local 11th District (Carol Larkin and Dave Curson are the others).

The main objective of delegates, he said, is to choose a nominee, and also vote on a platform. Although he will be voting for Clinton, he said Obama will be the party's presidential nominee.

Hynes, who is currently managing the campaign of state representative candidate Dian Slavens, said the convention will be a healing endeavor for the party.

"After such a contentious primary campaign, it will be a way to bring unity to the party — to bring catharsis, as Hillary said," Hynes said.

BRANDON HYNES DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION UPDATES

Canton's Brandon Hynes will be on the floor of the Democratic National Convention, which gets under way tomorrow in Denver. Hynes will contribute a daily perspective of the events to our Web site at www.hometownlife.com. Please visit the site for his daily posts, beginning Tuesday.

Hynes said he is excited about the convention, which will be his first. He plans to attend plenty of events, including a party Clinton is holding for all her volunteers. Hynes campaigned for her in Nevada, New Mexico and Ohio — all states she won.

"I'm just looking forward to the whole thing. It's going to be a great opportunity to meet people from all over the country and Michigan," he said.

Hynes can't wait to hear Hillary address the convention on Tuesday night, but he thinks the highlight will definitely be Obama's speech on Thursday night, which is also the 45th anniversary of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s "I Have A Dream" speech.

"Barack is going to be moving, especially since it's going to be the anniversary of Dr. King's speech. It's going to be a special, historic evening. I'm just so excited to be able to be part of it," he said.

Early morning J.C. Penney deliveries frustrating neighbors

BY TIFFANY L. PARKS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A J.C. Penney official said the company is owning up to a ticket the store received Thursday morning for breach of peace.

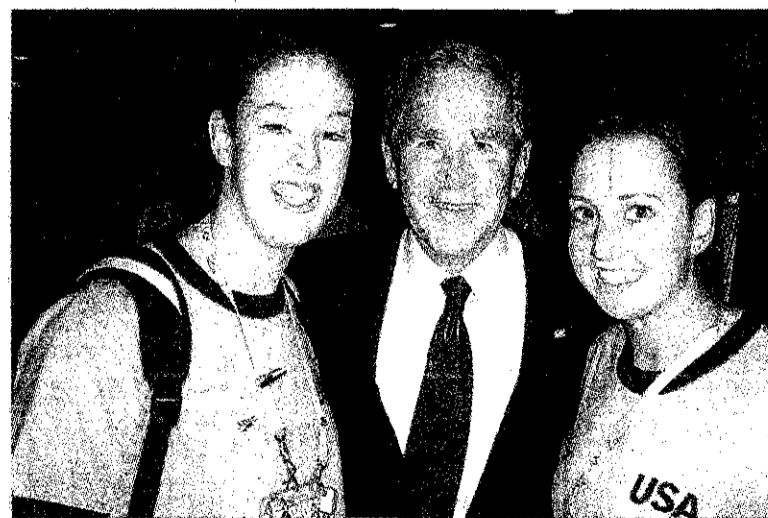
"We accept it," said store manager Erin Domeyer. "It was an oversight on our part and it won't happen again."

A Canton police officer ticketed the national department store after a township resident, Hosam Hassanien, called twice during Thursday's early morning hours to complain of an idling delivery truck. "During construction (of the store)

we had no problems but since they opened, I have had trucks wake me up numerous times," said Hassanien, who lives on Westminister Way in the Carriage Hills subdivision, which is just north of J.C. Penney. "I sleep light so it feels like there is a truck in my living room."

At 3:30 a.m. Thursday, an officer responded to Hassanien's call and found an unoccupied truck at the rear of the store. He then left the property and returned about an hour later and found that workers were unloading items into the building. The officer reported that he told

Please see **STORE, A6**



Week to remember

Canton swimmer Allison Schmitt enjoyed an unforgettable experience in Beijing, China at the Summer Olympic Games. Schmitt not only earned a bronze medal in the 4 x 200-meter relay, she met several newsworthy people. Schmitt (left) is pictured above with President Bush and teammate Rebecca Soni. She also crossed paths with members of the 2008 U.S. basketball team, including Kobe Bryant and LeBron James. For more on Schmitt's week, please see page B1.

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Coming Thursday in filter



3 Days in The D

CANTON PLANNING COMMISSION

The planning commission will meet at 7 p.m., Aug. 25 on the first floor of Canton's administration building. Items on the agenda include:

PUBLIC HEARINGS

- Canton Friendship United Methodist Church: Consider site plan and special land use amendment. Property is located north of Saltz Road, west of Beck Road.
- Michigan Avenue Marketplace/Meijer preliminary PDD: Consider preliminary

planned development district (PDD). Property is located north of Michigan Avenue between Sheldon and Lilley roads.

PLYMOUTH-CANTON BOARD OF EDUCATION

The school board will meet

at 7 p.m., Aug. 26 at the E. J. McClendon Educational Center, 454 S. Harvey, Plymouth. Agenda items include:

- Celebrating Success, a special recognition of Olympic swimmer Allison Schmitt
- Administrative reports

Construction update from Ken Jacobs

- Staffing/Enrollment update from Ray Bihun
- 2008-2009 budget update from James Larson-Shidler
- Additional administrative staff at Workman Elementary
- Consider approval of resolution to adopt the new course and textbook for high school Mandarin Chinese I
- Consider approval of resolution to approve administrative assistant at Workman Elementary School

Public hearing for consideration of final approval of the planned development district for Oakwood Health Care Medical campus

- Appointment to the Historic District Commission
- Consider special land use for National Heritage Achieve Academy Charter School
- Consider special land use for medical office for Beaumont Medical Center
- Approval of union contract for Local 2289 Of the International Association of Firefighters (IAFF)
- Approve bid for a server for township's Canton Community Television
- Approve price quote to install historical street lights at Cherry Hill School

CANTON BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The board will hold a regular meeting at 7 p.m., Aug. 26 at the Canton Administration Building. Agenda items include:



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Summit to temporarily close

Canton's Summit on the Park will be closing for annual maintenance beginning Monday, Aug. 25 at 8 p.m., and will re-open on Saturday, Aug. 30 at 6 a.m. Scheduled maintenance projects include: pool re-grouting; woodwork and front desk refinishing; window washing; carpet cleaning; and upholstery repairs. Other general interior and exterior repairs will also be completed. In addition, a complete facility cleaning is also scheduled to take place.

In addition, the Summit on the Park Aquatic Center will begin replacement and expansion of its existing water feature. This renovation will add extra elements to its current leisure pool. Guests will be able to enjoy activated water features in this cornerstone attraction that squirt, spray, and blast. Aquatic Center renovations will only impact the leisure pool. During renovation stages following the scheduled shutdown, limited space will be available for use in the leisure pool and no features will be available until renovation is complete, which is expected to be within 30 days.

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

October Consumer Expo

The Canton Chamber of Commerce and Canton Downtown Development



Going door to door for the troops

The local Vietnam Veterans of America chapter is about half way to reaching its goal of collecting 1,000 cell phones for the soldiers. Canton's Jack Foreman, 10, has been the group's best contributor. He went door to door collecting cell phones and the accessories and brought in 70 on his own. Jack, whose uncle (Craig McCarthy) recently returned from Iraq, is shown here with co-chair Bob Paul and all the phones he collected. The group will be accepting old cell phones at the VFW Hall at 1426 S. Mill Street in Plymouth through the last VVA 528 Car Show on Sept. 3. Each cell phone becomes a one hour calling card for deployed troops. For more information or to provide any names of local soldiers that could use the calling cards, call Gary at the post at (734) 459-6700.

Authority will present the bi-annual Consumer Expo from 5-7:30 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 23 at the Summit on the Park. Chamber members will be able to display products and services while networking. Booth space for an 8'x10' table is \$60. The 8'x20' is \$120. Electricity is available on request. Booth space is limited. The Expo, which is

being sponsored by Canton Computers and Martha M.

Snow PC, will feature more than 50 local businesses. Each vendor gives away a door prize, admission is free and the expo is open to the public. For more information e-mail eventscoordinator@cantonchamber.com or call the Chamber at (734) 453-4040.

Don Wilson fund-raiser

Friends and supporters of local resident Don Wilson are invited to participate in Buffalo Wild Wing's fund-raiser for Don's Stroke Rehabilitation Fund on Sept. 3 (all day).

A certificate can be downloaded from the Canton Chamber of Commerce's Web site at www.cantonchamber.com, which will donate 20 percent of your purchase for lunch, dinner or a snack that day to the fund. You will need to present the certificate to the cashier at the time of purchase. If you're not able to attend, but would still like to donate, please mail your check payable to Don Wilson Stroke Rehabilitation Fund c/o Community Financial, 6355 N. Canton Center Road, Canton, MI 48187.

Buffalo Wild Wings is located at 41980 Ford Road in Canton.

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Task force turning around park's 'downward spiral'

BY TIFFANY L. PARKS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Lenore Stonerock can remember a time when Holiday Estates was pristine.

Management was cautious about who was granted residency within the manufactured home community, lots were manicured, broken windows were unimaginable and seedy elements were nonexistent.

Fast forward three decades. "For a while there, it was really terrible," said Stonerock, who lives in a brick mobile home on an intricately-landscaped lot in the development located off of Geddes Road between Beck and Canton Center. "There were gangs and break-ins, but now that the new manager is here, things seem like they're changing. He is on the ball."

Scott W. Peterson, manager of the 551-lot Holiday Estates, has been on the job since February and says he's been "busting his tail" to lift the

standards of the community, but he's not alone.

For about a year, Canton has had a task force, which includes officials from Building and Inspection Services and the Public Safety ordinance department, focus its attention on the aesthetics of Holiday Estates.

"Declining attention to property standards brings about a circle of increased police runs and instances of crime," said Municipal Services Director Tim Faas. "It becomes a downward spiral."

Public Safety Director John Santomauro agreed and said the goal of the task force is to bring Holiday Estates in compliance with the standards set for other housing in the township.

"What you are seeing (in Holiday Estates now) is the aftermath of what was," he said, adding that a scorched trailer has been removed from the development. "In a subdivision this would not be tolerated

so why would we treat mobile homes as if they are any less important?"

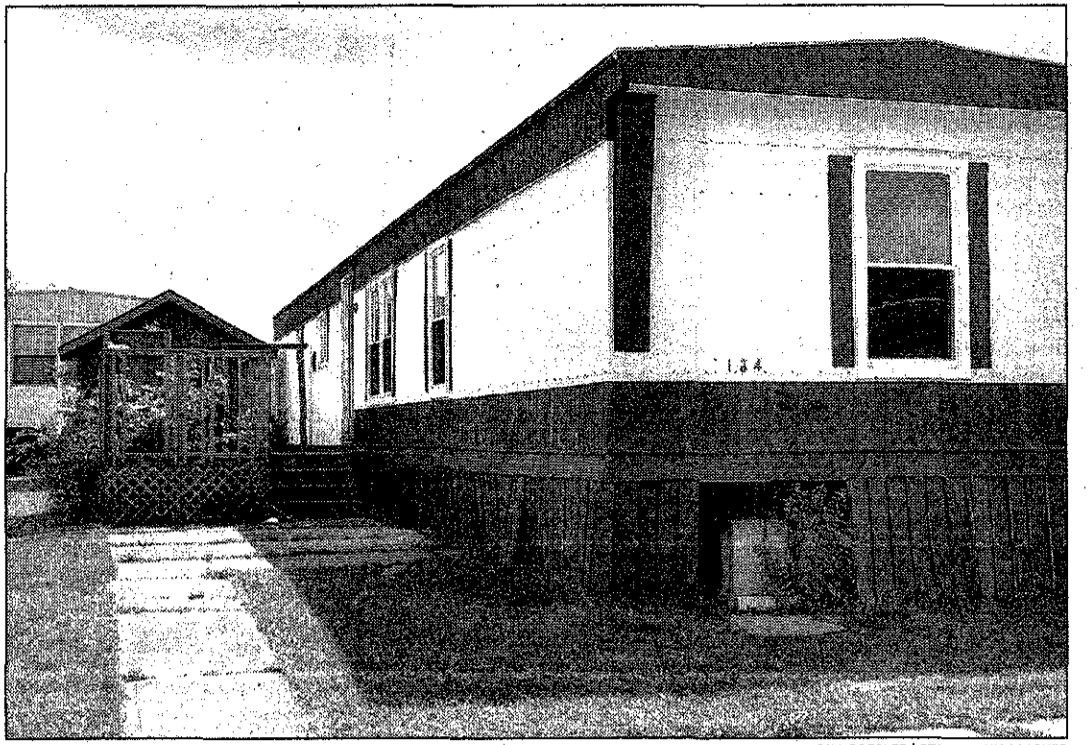
Faas said the owners of the housing community initially balked at the idea of the task force and said the township's guidelines didn't apply to Holiday Estates because it's a private development.

Canton recently scored a victory in the issue when the Department of Labor and Economic Growth determined that the Manufactured Housing Commission does not have authority over the township ordinance.

"So we are free to enforce our property standards as written," Santomauro said.

That sounds good to Stonerock, who said she has noticed improvement inside the mobile home park.

"They used to only mow the vacant lots occasionally, but now they are fixing them up," she said. "I keep to myself, but I'm glad things are turning around."



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Holiday Estates has many well-kept homes, but others that are empty and need much work.

Peterson said he wants to get "eyesore" trailers and sheds removed from the development and is focused on having the area "look like it's supposed to."

"When I got here, it was a mess so I grabbed the bull by the horns and started riding," he said, adding that he has a good working relationship with

the Canton Police Department.

In creating the task force, Santomauro said Holiday Estates isn't the sole focus. The township intends on taking a look at all of Canton's manufactured housing communities and apartment complexes.

"We have long believed there is a direct correlation between

property standards and crime (but) the fix won't come through Canton," he said, adding that the township is committing to working with the owners of the various parks. "We have to get the owners to buy into this because our strategy is compliance not enforcement."



Joe Fiueroa and Lizzie McPherson take a spin through Sherwood Village, which is located on Michigan Avenue near Haggerty.

MOBILE

FROM PAGE A1

Many people, even those that live in one of the township's eight mobile home parks, are surprised when they learn that Canton has one of the highest number of manufactured and mobile homes in the state.

"Really?" said Kelly Morrow, a resident of Academy Point, which is nestled beside three other mobile home parks off of Haggerty Road, south of Michigan Avenue. "I didn't know that."

The Manufactured Home Commission, which is part of the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth, could not provide the total number of mobile homes in Canton, but it is certainly in the thousands. There are more than 500 alone in Holiday Estates, which is off of Geddes Road between Beck and Canton Center.

Made popular in the '50s, mobile homes were marketed as an alternative to apartment living for those looking to save on the cost of building a traditional home. But through the course of time, the demand for new mobile home communities has dropped and the dense housing developments have often been stereotyped as substandard.

Morrow has lived in Academy Point for five years and said one lax resident can affect the repu-

tation of an entire park. "You can see who takes care of what," she said. "It doesn't look good if skirting is missing, garbage is sky high and grass is uncut."

While she and her husband are preparing to move from Academy Point, which is affiliated with the larger, older West Point Manor, Morrow said it's a sound community compared to some of the other parks.

"Our daughter lived in the one of the parks (closer to Michigan Avenue) and she moved because it was too wild," she said. "A lot of it is the park's responsibility, not Public Safety."

Still, Canton has devoted a task force to addressing ordinance violations within Canton's mobile home communities.

The group has been seeking compliance at Holiday Estates for about a year and will eventually move to all of the developments.

Public Safety Director John Santomauro said it's unacceptable to have mobile home residents live in an environment that wouldn't be tolerated in a traditional subdivision.

Dan Pfeffer, a resident of the Glen Ridge mobile home park, applauded the efforts of township officials.

"Anything that helps the area is a good thing," he said, adding that he moved into Glen Ridge because it was well maintained.

Glen Ridge, located off of Haggerty, just north of Academy Point, is a smaller development that features decorative street lamps and signage.

"We have a new manager so I have to give them a chance, but I'm afraid they are loosening up on the rules," Pfeffer said. Ann Summitt, Royal Holiday park manager, said some parks do fuel negative perceptions about mobile home communities, but said that her development, which is located off of Warren Road and is designed for seniors age 55 and older, has maintained the same standards over the past 41 years.

"Our residents have a lot of pride," she said. "We have our own little world back here."

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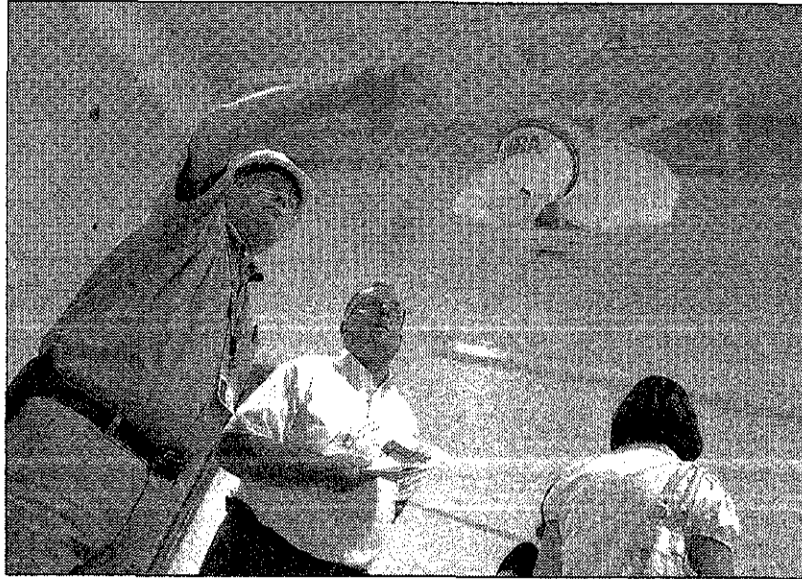
BY TONY BRUSCATO
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

It's become a commonplace theme for construction projects in the Plymouth-Canton school district: On time and under budget.

That theme appears ready to play out again this year as Deputy Superintendent Ken Jacobs said despite what it may look like at some of the buildings being renovated this summer, all will be ready for the first day of school Sept. 2.

"We come down to the last day and it usually all comes together, that's pretty typical of our projects," Jacobs said. "Some will be in a more complete stage than others, but we knew that coming in. Schools will be ready for the first day."

Jacobs said East Middle School may have some hallways and rooms which won't have tile, with work to continue on the second shift when most students are gone. Tanger Center is a bit behind schedule because of roofing and flooding



Fred Summerton talks about work in the Tanger School gym with school board member John Jackson.

with much of the work being completed earlier than scheduled.

"It's been a busy summer based on our conscious effort to escalate our construction schedule to take advantage of a favorable bidding climate," said Jacobs.

"We remain about \$5 million under budget."

That hasn't gone unnoticed by Judy Mardigian, president of the Board of Education, who is watchful of the bidding process for each project in the district.

"The 2004 bond the community gave the schools was an incredible gift because we've been able to renovate every building in the district, except those built after 2000," Mardigian said.

"We've seen some wonderful improvements such as Low E glass, high energy heating systems and the creation of additional classrooms."



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Construction manager Fred Summerton leads school trustee Dianne Gonzalez and other board members through Tanger School.

issues from heavy rains this summer. And, work at Canton High School continues to be sequenced until completion, much like last year

at Salem.

The renovations are among the projects from the \$109 million bond issue approved by voters in 2004,

tbruscato@hometownlife.com
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Dr. Yasser Awaad is a pediatric neurologist who was employed by Oakwood Healthcare, Inc. until 2007. Since Dr. Awaad left Oakwood, the law offices of Benner & Foran have been retained by a large number of parents who believe their children were misdiagnosed with epilepsy and/or seizures by Dr. Awaad. If you think your child or children may have been misdiagnosed with epilepsy/seizures by Dr. Yasser Awaad, please contact the law offices of Benner & Foran for a free, no obligation consultation.

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STORE

FROM PAGE A1

the store's night manager that the situation was becoming a "quality of life issue" for area homeowners.

Domeyer said she doesn't blame Hassanien for being frustrated.

"We are committed to working on our relationship with

our neighbors," she said.

In addition to calling the police, Hassanien said he has sent e-mails to township officials explaining that trucks have arrived at the store as early as 1 a.m.

"I'm trying to get to the bottom of this because we have to co-exist," he said. "J.C. Penney has been professional but they have to be careful because this is a residential area."

Man arrested in BB gun incident

A 19-year-old Canton man was arrested and ticketed Monday night after another township man, 59, called police to report that a BB gun was being shot at his home.

When an officer responded to the older man's home on the

49000 block of Poppleton Court, he was told that the pellets had been shot at his home previously and said that he believed the vandals were at a home that backs up to his property.

The officer was then making his way to the other residence when he reported hearing a loud popping noise. Upon running to the front of the home, he spotted

CANTON CRIME WATCH

the 19-year-old standing next to a car with a rifle in his hand. The car's window had been shattered and another teen was attempting to take the weapon from the 19-year-old.

The officer then confiscated the rifle, which was determined to be a pellet air gun, and handcuffed the man. When asked if he had shot the window of the vehicle,

which belongs to one of his neighbors, the man said yes and that "it was just a stupid thing to do."

The man was joined at his home by five friends, and two of them, both 19-year-old males, had been drinking alcohol and admitted to shooting at the 59-year-old man's property. They were ticketed for being minors in possession of alcohol and discharging an air rifle.

The officer then tracked down the owner of the vandalized car, who said that the window to one of his other vehicles was shattered last week.

Upon his arrest for malicious destruction of property and discharging an air rifle, the 19-year-old admitted that he also caused the damage to both of the vehicles. All three of the teens are expected to be in 35th District Court Sept. 9.

License plate stolen

A Canton woman reported to police Tuesday that her license plate had been stolen from her 2002 GMC Safari.

An officer learned that the plate belonging to the 48-year-old woman had been replaced with a license plate recently stolen off of another minivan in Westland.

There are no suspects.

Gun used to end disturbance

Police were called to the 7500 block of Windsor Woods early Tuesday morning after a Canton man, 30, reported that his neighbor, 27, threatened him and two friends with a gun.

The 30-year-old said that he was arriving home from a bar with his two friends when they parked outside his apartment and were saying their good-byes.

Admitting that the car's stereo was loud, the township man said that he was in the passenger seat and that a 33-year-old man, who had been riding in the backseat, had exited the car and stood outside the vehicle talking to the driver, a 32-year-old woman.

Soon after, the man's neighbor came outside, announced that he had a gun and told the group they had 10 seconds to leave. The man standing outside of the vehicle began to count backwards from 10 and the man who lives in the complex then opened the passenger-side door.

Upon doing so, the car's interior light came on and the 27-year-old man recognized his neighbor, apologized and said the noise was OK since he was a resident of the development.

The 30-year-old man's girlfriend later told police that the 27-year-old apologized to her for "pulling his gun" on her boyfriend.

Car stolen at Yazaki

A Canton woman, 29, called township police Monday to report the theft of a 1996 Plymouth Voyager from Yazaki.

The woman, who works at Yazaki on Haggerty Road, said that the minivan belongs to a 39-year-old man that she lives with. The woman also reported that her purse, which contained \$360 and several credit cards, was in the vehicle.

Yazaki officials are expected to review surveillance film of the parking lot and turn it over to police.

Upset man calls wife's online friend

An officer was dispatched to the 48000 block of Warren after a Canton man, 54, reported getting a phone call from an Iowa man, 30, who was angry at his teenage son for calling his home.

The township man told police that his 15-year-old son had begun talking to an Iowa woman in an online chat room three days earlier and that he eventually asked for her telephone number.

The teen told the officer that he tried calling the woman several times without hearing from her, but that he briefly spoke with her young daughter the last time he called.

The teen said he and the woman had a casual interaction. When the woman's husband called, he wanted to speak to the teen, but his father introduced himself and the man asked, "Why is your son calling and e-mailing my wife?" The township man replied that he was calling the police and the Iowa man hung up. After that, the father e-mailed the Iowa woman, who apologized for her husband's phone call.

The officer told the teen's father that no crime had been committed but advised him to monitor his son's online activities.

Tiffany L. Parks

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No meeting planned to resolve county budget dispute

BY HUGH GALLAGHER
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A heated dispute between Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano and Sheriff Warren Evans over a proposed 10-percent cut in the sheriff's budget may have to wait until after the Democratic National Convention to be resolved.

Evans said Friday that many county officials and staff members are attending the convention that begins Monday in Denver. He said he didn't expect any resolution on the budget until after the convention ends Thursday. He said he would not be attending the convention.

Ficano has proposed 10-percent cuts for all county departments. He is proposing a \$17 million cut in the sheriff's budget. Evans said that the cuts would force the closing of the Dickerson jail in Hamtramck and the layoff of 300 deputies.

The Wayne County Commission was scheduled to vote on the 2008-09 budget Thursday, but Wednesday the Ways and Means Committee voted to delay action so that Evans and Ficano could work out their differences. The new fiscal year begins Oct. 1.

"We need County Executive Ficano and Sheriff Evans to sit down together and work this out," said Commissioner Bernard Parker, who chairs Ways and Means. "Their individual staff members have been meeting on the budget for several weeks to no avail. Now it is time for the chief elected officials — Mr. Ficano and Mr. Evans — to resolve this situation."

The county is facing a \$34 million budget shortfall.

On Tuesday, Evans sent a press release proposing a change in the way medical services are provided at the jail. The sheriff said Wayne County spends about \$21 million to provide medical services to a daily population of 2,500 inmates, while Oakland County will spend only \$8 million to care for its population of 1,800 inmates.

The difference, according to the sheriff, is that Oakland County was able to negotiate a rate lower than Medicaid for prisoners and has a "lockdown" ward at a local hospital for inmates.

"Based on the average cost per prisoner, the CEO is overpaying for inmate medical services by \$10 million. If Mr.

Ficano will commit to following the Oakland County example, he can save a major portion of the funding needed to keep our jail open and keep 18,000 prisoners over the course of a year locked up," Evans said in the release.

On Friday, Evans said this is not a new proposal, but he never got "much response" from Ficano's staff when it was offered.

Vanessa Denha, speaking for Ficano's office, said Friday they have yet to see the sheriff's proposal.

"He continues to negotiate his budget via the media, which does not work for us," she said. "It is a bad way to do business. It is difficult to comment on something he has not shared with us and we have only read about in the media. He has to find ways where he can cut in his department."

PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY

On Monday, Azzam Elder, deputy county executive, said there were many areas where Evans could cut his \$131 million budget by focusing on his primary responsibilities for the jails, courts and county parks. He said other activities by the

sheriff are not mandated.

"Regrettably, we are in a difficult economy," Elder said. "If you look at the general fund budget, we are spending 75 percent on the sheriff, the courts and juvenile justice. We cannot manage without cutting the sheriff."

Evans said Friday that the other programs of the sheriff's department do not significantly affect the budget.

"They wish I would get out of police work, but it is jail and the courts where cuts have to be made to get to that \$17 million. What is the point of nibbling around the edges?" he said.

Elder suggested that Evans could close a police academy at Wayne County Community College and send his deputies to Schoolcraft College.

Evans said he didn't start the police academy, which has been in operation 20 years, and that its operations are not paid from the general fund.

"The cost is in replacing the 30-35 officers who have to attend," he said. He said moving to Schoolcraft wouldn't change that.

Elder said the sheriff's department has added 120

officers over the last four years. He also said the mounted unit has gone from 18 horses to 22 horses.

"He says he gets the money from private sources, but every horse has to have a deputy on it," Elder said.

Evans said the extra police officers are paid from grants and other sources outside of the general fund.

On the mounted unit, he said, "A bale of hay is not going to save \$17 million. They want me to stick to the jails and parks, but the mounted unit is the park patrol."

He said Ficano's office has asked for the services of the mounted unit 12 times this year. He said related costs are covered by private contributions.

"His priority is all the police activity he does and it's all extracurricular," Elder said. "Managing a jail is not sexy, but that is his main responsibility."

Evans' response is, "If it doesn't affect the general fund, why would they care?"

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Money Matters
Rick Bloom

Dear Rick: I don't need my life insurance policy and I talked to my insurance agent about selling it. He agreed it would make sense to sell the policy. He tried to sell, but was unable to because of the cash surrender value. He said I had a few options

such as keep it, cash out and pay the taxes or transfer the money into an annuity. I have about \$50,000 of cash surrender value in the policy and my agent said to cash out would cost about \$1,000 in taxes. My thought is to cash out and to pay off my

7 1/2 percent mortgage. I'm a conservative investor. Is this a smart move? It is a very smart move and one I recommend. Even when you factor in that your mortgage is tax-deductible, it is still costing at least 5 percent. If you invest in CDs, fixed annu-

ties or U.S. Treasuries, by the time you end up paying the taxes you net less than 5 percent. Therefore, cashing out the insurance policy and paying the taxes and then retiring your mortgage is not only conservative, but smart. Why pay for something that you don't need? The

cash surrender value is your money. Why leave it somewhere that is unproductive? One last note: beware of variable annuities. The typical variable annuity is stuffed with costs and hidden fees and makes no sense whatsoever for investors. They have adverse tax conse-

quences and do not provide the flexibility an investor needs.

Dear Rick: I have \$75,000 that I will need in about a year and a half. From reading your columns, I get the impression you would recommend a CD and shop around the country for rates. A friend of mine told me that CDs at banks outside the country are paying substantially more than U.S. CDs. Do you recommend using CDs issued by foreign banks?

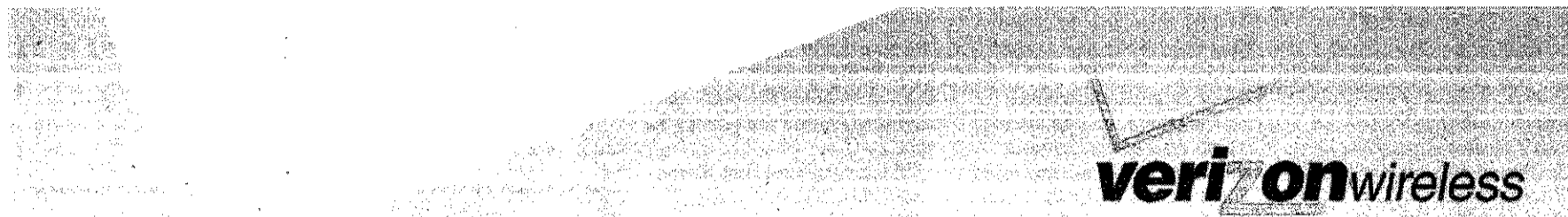
No. One of the reasons people buy CDs is for their safety. With FDIC insurance, no matter what happens to a federally insured bank, as long as you have less than \$100,000, your money is protected. When you deal with foreign banks, they do not offer the protection.

Many people have invested with foreign institutions and have found a variety of problems when it came to withdrawing money. In addition, many people have lost their money, especially in dealing with some of the off-shore banks. This can't happen when you deal with a federally insured bank.

Many people use foreign institutions to avoid U.S. income taxes. Our tax laws provide that as an American citizen, no matter where you earn money, it is subject to U.S. taxes. Many people think since foreign banks do not report to the IRS, they don't have to pay taxes. Again, this is not the case.

Taxpayers who use foreign institutions and who do not report their tax liability like to think of themselves as being smart when it comes to taxes. However, they are breaking the law and are nothing more than tax cheats.

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



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OUR VIEWS

Local produce is good for you and the economy

With food prices rising, in part because of higher gas prices, you can get more bang for your buck and help the local economy by purchasing fresh produce this fall at your local farmers markets. Because locally produced food is fresher, it lasts longer and doesn't turn moldy before you have a chance to eat it. According to Local Harvest, an organic and local food Web site, most produce in the United States is picked four to seven days before being placed on supermarket shelves, and is shipped for an average of 1,500 miles before being sold.

Besides lasting longer, local produce can be healthier. Some of the nutrients in some produce diminish after it is picked. Shopping at the farmers market usually shortens the time between picking and eating so the food has more of what your body needs. And, locally grown produce almost always tastes better.

Shopping at farmers markets also keeps money circulating locally. Says Dr. Susan Smalley, director of the C.S. Mott Group for Sustainable Food Systems at Michigan State University: "If you spend a dollar at the farmers market with a local farmer, he or she will invest some of that dollar back into the farming operation — helping to pay the mortgage, perhaps at a local bank, paying local people who work on the farm, purchasing gas for the tractor locally, etc. Some of your dollar will hopefully be profit — profit that provides the farm family with its income and keeps the land in farming. If you spend a dollar on food in the supermarket, only about 20 cents on average makes it back to the farmer."

For your health and the health of the local economy, enjoy produce this fall from these area farmers markets.

Royal Oak — The Farmers Market in Royal Oak, owned and operated by the city of Royal Oak, is open weekends all year and additional days May through December. The market is at 316 E. 11 Mile Road two blocks east of Main Street. Hours are 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

Rochester — Downtown Rochester Farmers Market runs 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays, through Oct. 25, at the corner of Water and Third Street in Rochester.

Southfield — The Southfield Farmers Market, sponsored by the Cornerstone Development Authority and Providence Hospital, will be held 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. every Thursday through Oct. 30 at the Millennium Centre, 15600 J.L. Hudson Drive, across the street from Northland Center.

Farmington — The Farmington Farmers & Artisans Market is 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. every Saturday through Oct. 25 at the Walter Sundquist Pavilion on Grand River, east of Farmington Road, in downtown Farmington.

Livonia — The Livonia Farmers Market, operated by Friends of Wilson Barn, is open 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturdays through Oct. 11 at the Wilson Barn on the northeast corner of West Chicago and Middlebelt.

Plymouth — The Plymouth Farmer's Market takes place 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturdays through mid-October in The Gathering on Penniman Avenue and around Kellogg Park in downtown Plymouth.

Canton — The historic Bartlett-Travis property in Cherry Hill Village, which includes an old house and restored barn, is the site of the Canton Farmers Market every Sunday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. through Oct. 26. The weekly event features entertainment, as well as vendors.

Garden City — The Garden City Farmers Market, sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce and Downtown Development Authority, is open 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesdays through October at Ford and Middlebelt just south of Kroger.

Northville — The Northville Farmers Market is 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursdays in the parking lot across from Northville Downs, Seven Mile and Center Street, through October.

Intersection priorities

Now that improvements to the intersection of Hanford and Lilley are under way, one would think that improvements would have been made long before this to the messy intersection at Warren and Lilley, which probably has ten times the traffic or better. It seems that decisions on setting priorities for this type of work are set somewhat mysteriously at best. Not too long ago the intersection of Saltz and Canton Center received right turn lanes, etc. — an intersection which is largely with a residential street.

With the heavy traffic in all directions at Warren and Lilley, right turn lanes, etc. would seem to have gone begging for a longer time than necessary from the Department of Public Works.

Tom Tipi
Canton

Frustrated with Oakwood

I am a resident of the Chatterton Square subdivision and president of our homeowners association. Like so many others, I will be directly affected by the upcoming Oakwood development. In the 33 years that I have resided in Canton, it has never been my experience to be this frustrated and disappointed in our officials. I have attended the two Planning Commission hearings as well as the Board of Trustees meeting regarding Oakwood's strong desire to develop the property located at Michigan and Beck. At each of these meetings, I have left with a feeling of confusion, wondering what will actually take place when construction begins.

Once all of the meaningless rhetoric is taken out of the mix, we are left with the reality that we have absolutely no concrete information. Plans for Phase "A" (the area behind our homes) consist of a laundry list of "could be" options. It was brought up at the Planning Commission meeting on Aug. 11 that it could even be a hospital as long as it didn't exceed the four-story limit. At what point did the four-story limit even become an option? At the first meeting, Commissioner Greg Greene suggested the

structures behind the homes should not exceed the height of our homes and gradually increase as they move closer to Michigan Avenue. During this past meeting, Katherine Bovitz stated that she thought the height limit in that area was three stories. Somewhere, behind the scenes, it grew to four stories.

We asked for the same 120-foot buffer-zone/greenbelt that is going to be allotted behind the Woodlands. The "standard" is 50 feet, but considering there is absolutely nothing "standard" about this massive, 12-year long development, we feel that extending the 120 feet allotment to all of us is quite frankly, the least they can do. Oakwood stated that they will "possibly" extend it to 75 feet depending on what type of building will be placed in each area. Again, no commitment — just more "could be's" to add to the list.

We asked for a Michigan Avenue entrance to alleviate some of the traffic pressure from Beck Road. Good neighbors that they are, we will get that entrance. However, there will be no signage marking it as such. I asked the commissioners for some details about the Resident/Oakwood Advisory Board. You guessed it, they don't know anything at this time. Despite all of this uncertainty, our Planning Commission unanimously approved Oakwood's proposal and it will now go before the Board of Trustees. The only thing that I know for sure is that Oakwood employees will attend all of the meetings proclaiming the glory of Oakwood and their excitement over what is to come. Keep in mind that, although every one of them are Canton residents, none of them live in the area and they will not be affected by what is to come. I would be excited too. Maybe I'm naïve to believe that my investment is as important as everyone else's is; that my right to a peaceful existence

matters; that the basic right to know the truth should not only be expected, but demanded.

So what is the answer for my family and all of my wonderful neighbors: Do we put our homes up for sale and take the loss caused by the current depressed housing market? Do we wait it out and hope for the best? What would you do Canton officials? Please advise!

Arlene Ladell

Canton

Not another Meijer store

I can't believe that there is a new Meijer store being considered for Michigan Avenue. Maybe we should rename Michigan Avenue to Ford Road-revisited. It doesn't seem like the community can support two of every store. Why can't they come up with something different than what we already have? I do not support the township telling property owners what they can or can't do with their property, but I really don't think we need another Meijer. The spokesman for Meijer, Frank Guglielmi, said that he was excited because the store would only be a mile and a half from his house. So that would make the other Meijer at Ford and Canton-Center what, maybe another five miles from his house? Why is that so far of a drive?

I think more shops on Michigan Avenue is great, let's just get some variety here.

Katie Ferencz
Canton

McCain is right

I love the new McCain ad that points out the lack of leadership with the Democratic candidate Barack Obama. I think the McCain campaign got it right. We have been watching the "rock star" treatment that Obama has

been enjoying for months without any challenge what he has been actually saying. The use of analogy and metaphor is a very effective technique. It efficiently communicates a message with a picture and gets people's attention. The ad correctly depicts Obama's position on offshore drilling and asks the question: Is this what we really want? It is up to the public to answer that question for themselves.

We need a leader in the White House, not someone who when challenged by a creative ad that is politically substantive, responds with made-up accusations that he is being picked on because he looks different than previous presidents.

The McCain campaign has never challenged him because he looks different. They are challenging his positions on significant issues and his lack of experience. To use a metaphor, the emperor is not wearing any clothes.

Jill Wilkinson
Birmingham

Ready to lead?

I write to add my two cents on John McCain's TV advertising campaign. I watch his TV ads criticizing Barack Obama. Unfortunately, all that I can see now is a man who cannot even take on Paris Hilton. John McCain always concludes his TV spots saying that Barack Obama is not ready to lead. Well, I just don't think a man who loses in the battle of wits with Paris Hilton is ready to lead America either.

I mean does John McCain really think Barack Obama is responsible for high priced gasoline? When two oilmen, George W. Bush and Dick Cheney, took residence in the White House, gasoline cost \$1.56 per gallon. It is quite a bit higher. I think George W. Bush and his followers, like Joe Knollenberg, are more responsible for the high price of gasoline.

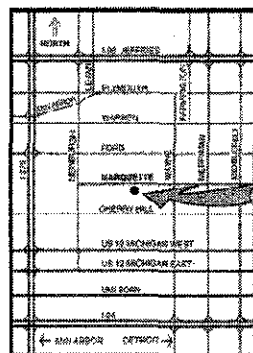
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Detroit Shock a winner to Orchards foster kids

BY SUSAN STEINMUELLER
STAFF WRITER

Eric Robertson, 8, had no trouble answering when asked whether it was more exciting to get a new school backpack stuffed with supplies or to meet and make a few free throws with Detroit Shock players.

"Meeting the Shocks and playing basketball," said Robertson, of Detroit, still bouncing a basketball on the makeshift court outside of Orchard Children's Services on a sunny Wednesday morning in Southfield.

Nevertheless, he knew the importance of the school supplies, donated by the professional women's basketball team.

"I'm looking forward to going to college and being a Piston and meeting the Shocks — the whole team, not just a few of them," he said.

Robertson was one of the foster care facility's clients who turned out for its annual Backpack Day.

It included a Women's National Basketball Association "fit clinic" with activities hosted by Year Round Hoops Director Aaron Smith; and hotdogs, fruit, vegetables, ice cream and pop.

Giving back

Shock player Taj McWilliams-Franklin, who attended with team member Deanna Nolan, said she finds it rewarding to give back.

"I love doing this. I love kids," she said.

The mom of three and Auburn Hills resident added "I know the challenge and importance of back-to-school shopping and how expensive it can be."

They had earlier shopped for the backpacks, along with team member Elaine Powell. They were bought at a discount



Shock players Taj McWilliams-Franklin, left, and Deanna Nolan unpack backpacks for donation Wednesday.

at Meijer, the Shock's presenting sponsor.

The Shock is currently on a break as team member Katie Smith goes for Olympic gold in China as a member of the U.S. women's basketball team.

Jamie Murdoch, Shock community relations assistant, said the donation of 240 backpacks will ease the budget for foster parents in a tough economic year when even school supplies cost more. Murdoch said according to a recent survey, parents spend \$600 on supplies for returning K-12 students and one-fifth of parents are using some of their economic stimulus check to pay for them.

Role models

It's the first year the Shock has hosted the agency's backpack day, although they've worked with them in other areas.

Michael Williams, president and CEO of Orchards, said "grateful is an understatement."

"The Shock players understand the value of education and show it by providing our

children and families with the necessary tools to start the year on a positive note," he said.

Among parents attending were Brenda Perrin, of Taylor, with her two adopted daughters, Kidesia, 14, and Kimberly, 17, and foster daughter Porshe Moss, 17. Perrin said the backpack received for Moss is a big help.

She also praised the Shock saying, "They are showing children that whatever they accomplish, they must give back to the community."

Shirley Davis, 54, of Detroit, said she was touched with Orchards' invitation to the basketball event, as she has transitioned from being a foster mom to the adoptive mom of eight daughters, ages 9 to 16. She is also the mom of four grown biological children and multiple grandchildren.

Her daughters were not eligible for backpacks, but they love the Shock team; They were all having a wonderful time, she said.

"I think the world of Orchards," added Davis.

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SPORTS

B (CP)

Sunday, August 24, 2008

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

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

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PHOTOS BY TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton's Allison Schmitt wears her bronze medal as she displays a USA Olympic flag that is decorated with signatures of her fellow U.S. swim team members. She was part of the U.S. women's team that took third place in the 4 x 200-meter freestyle relay. Schmitt returned to Canton Monday following a 13-hour flight from China.

Sidelines

Plymouth YMCA fall sports

The Plymouth Family YMCA is accepting registrations for its fall sports programs, which are filled on a first come-first served basis.

Fall soccer leagues are forming for children between the ages of 4 and 11. Practices begin the week of Sept. 15 and games start Saturday, Sept. 20.

There is one practice a week and one game a week. The cost is \$63 for members and \$95 for community members, and all participants need a YMCA Youth Sports reversible jersey, which costs \$15.

Girls Volleyball leagues are forming for children between the ages of 8 and 11. Practices begin the week of Sept. 15 and games start Friday, Sept. 19. There is one practice a week and one game a week. The cost is \$65 for YMCA members and \$97 for community members, and all participants will need to purchase a YMCA youth sports reversible jersey for \$15.

Volunteers, referees and anyone else needing more information can call (734) 453-2904.

Alumni soccer

All former Salem and Canton boys soccer players are invited to participate in the annual "Alumni Game" on Saturday, Sept. 13, at 7 p.m.

The alumni game will follow the Rocks and Chiefs varsity game, which is set to kick off at 5:30 p.m.

Former Salem players interested in playing should call Ed McCarthy at (248) 561-2846. Former Canton players should contact George Tomasso at (734) 812-2290.

O&E Men's golf

The 2008 Men's Observer & Eccentric Open 36-hole medal play event will be Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 20-21, at Livonia's Fox Creek and Whispering Willows golf courses.

The entry fee is \$95 (cart not included) with a maximum handicap of 20.

Entries close at 6 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 13.

Entries will be limited to the first 200 golfers.

(Starting times and pairings will be available after noon on Thursday, Sept. 18.)

For more information, call (248) 476-4493.

Bronze medal, golden memories

Olympic experience 'Like a dream come true' for Canton's Schmitt

BY ED WRIGHT
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

She posed for snapshots with LeBron, Kobe and George W. — all within the span of a few days.

She loosened her muscles in the same Olympic warm-up pool as swimming icons Michael Phelps and Darra Torres, both of whom she calls not only teammates, but good friends.

And to give you an idea how crazy wonderful last week was for Allison Schmitt, all of the above didn't even come close to claiming the No. 1 spot on her list of personal highlights.

When you win an Olympic medal, everything else comes in a distant second.

Hollywood has produced feature films that have had far less excitement than what the 18-year-old Canton resident soaked in last week at the Summer Olympic Games in Beijing, China.

The epic experience that included meeting basketball royalty (LeBron James and Kobe Bryant) and the most powerful man in the free world (President Bush) was elegantly capped when she earned a bronze medal as part of the U.S. women's 4 x 200 freestyle relay team.

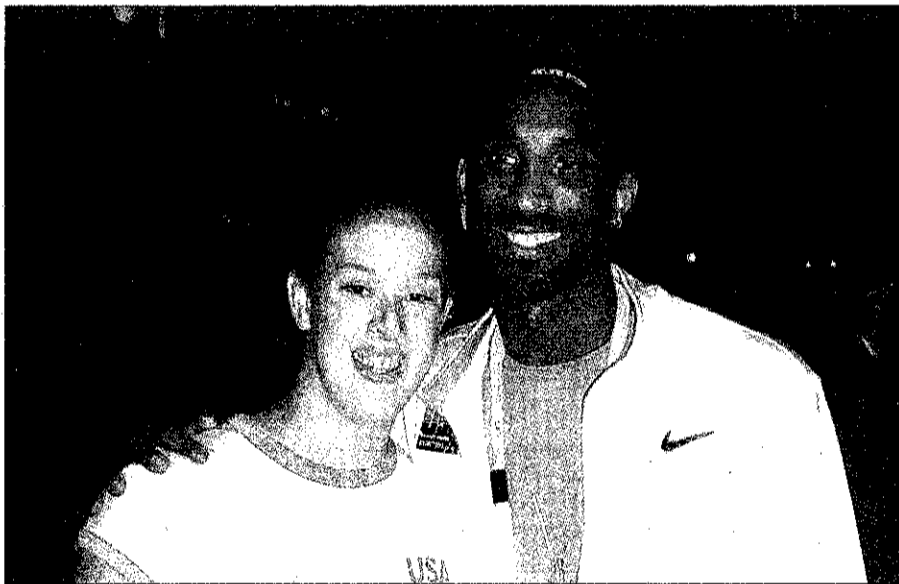
"The whole week was an amazing experience," Schmitt recounted Wednesday afternoon while sitting at



Allison Schmitt holds her bronze medal alongside the USA Olympic flag that holds the signatures of all of her U.S. swim team members.

the dining room table of her family's Canton home. "I will cherish every moment of it for the rest of my life.

"When we were standing on the podium for the medal ceremony, I couldn't stop smiling. It was like a dream come true. I still don't really believe it all. It was so cool just to be able to participate in the Olympics. To get a medal, too, was very special."



Schmitt is pictured with Kobe Bryant during a break at last week's Summer Olympics in Beijing, China. Bryant was a frequent spectator at the swimming events.

Home, sweet home

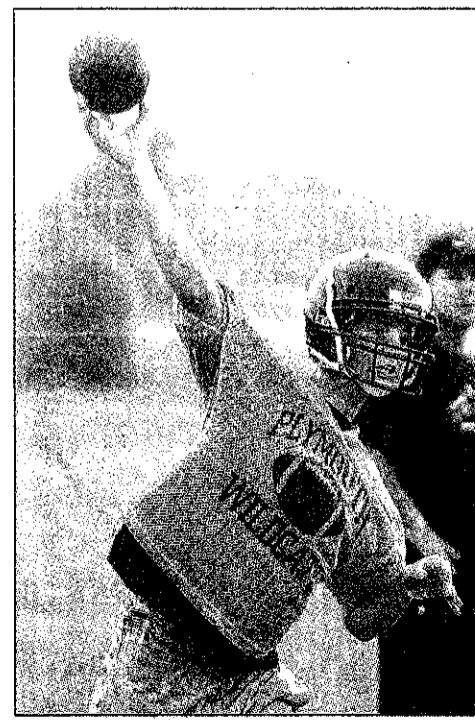
Schmitt left the Olympics last Sunday so that she could spend a few days with her family before she departs for the University of Georgia, where she'll be a freshman member of the Bulldogs' women's swimming team this fall.

"I've been gone for over two straight months, so it's definitely good to be home,"

said Schmitt. "I had mixed emotions when I left Beijing though because my teammates became like family to me. I'm going to miss being around them every day."

Over the past several weeks, Schmitt has gotten an opportunity to see a side of legends Phelps and Torres that the general public rarely gets to see.

Please see **GOLDEN, B3**



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth senior quarterback Matt Skubik unleashes a pass during a two-a-day practice last week. Skubick was instrumental last season when the Wildcats advanced to the playoffs for the second time in the past three years.

Poised to strike

Speedy Wildcats look to reach 'next level'

BY ED WRIGHT
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The last time we saw Plymouth's football team in action, the Wildcats were giving Livonia Stevenson all it could handle before losing, 26-20, in a 2007 first-round playoff game.

The last time we saw Livonia Stevenson in action, the Spartans were playing in the 2007 Division 1 state title game — a fact that reveals all you need to know about the direction Plymouth's up-and-coming program is headed.

Stocked with dazzling overall team speed and a number of returning starters at critical positions, the Wildcats are poised to reach the destination that is printed on the back of their official T-shirts: the "Next Level".

"We're way ahead of where we were last year at this time," said second-year Plymouth coach Mike Sawchuk. "Last year, the kids had to get used to a new system

and a new coaching staff. This year, they're a lot further along and they're more comfortable with what they're doing.

"Our strength is our team speed. We're fast on both sides of the ball, but especially on defense. Our defense has been swarming to the ball."

The Wildcats will be led this fall by senior Ronnie Goble, a two-way standout who is being recruited by several Division 1 college programs, Sawchuk said. The linebacker/tight end is a punishing blocker and tackler who also possesses advanced receiving skills.

"Michigan State and a lot of the MAC schools are looking at Ronnie," said Sawchuk. "He's 6-3, 225, and he power cleans 320 pounds. He likes to hit and he's a dependable receiver, too."

Goble will be the primary target of senior quarterback Matt Skubik, who gained valuable starting experience in 2007.

Please see **CATS, B2**

ALL ABOUT THE 'CATS

Head coach: Mike Sawchuk;

2007 record: 6-4

Returning starters: 15;

Key returners: Ronnie Goble, Sr.

TE/LB: Matt Skubik, Sr. QB: Terrance

Guthridge, RB/DB: Connor McKinney,

Sr. WR/DB: Connor Martin, Sr. LB:

Darrell Cohn, Jr. DL;

Coach's outlook: "We're way ahead

of where we were last year at this

time. Our strength is our team

speed. We're fast on both sides of

the ball, but especially on defense."

2008 SCHEDULE

(all games start at 7 p.m.)

Thursday, Aug. 28 - SALEM

Friday, Sept. 5 - BRIGHTON

Friday, Sept. 12 - @ CANTON

Friday, Sept. 19 - WAYNE

Friday, Sept. 26 - @ Churchhill

Friday, Oct. 3 - JOHN GLENN

Friday, Oct. 10 - @ Franklin

Friday, Oct. 17 - CROSSOVER

Friday, Oct. 24 - @ Romulus

'CATS

FROM PAGE B1

"Matt's a gamer," said Sawchuk. "He might not look real great in practice every day, but when he gets in the games, he gets it done. He's a great competitor — the kind of kid you want playing quarterback for you."

Skubik will be backed up by junior Ryan Barrera, who Sawchuk described as having "a cannon for an arm."

The bulk of the Wildcats' ground-game responsibilities will be handled by senior speed-burner Terrance Guthridge, who displayed flashes of brilliance as a junior.

"He's bigger and faster than he was last year and he was very fast last year," said Sawchuk.

Junior Thomas Whitlow is expected to get an ample number of carries, too, in relief of Guthridge.

If there's a question mark on the Wildcats' roster it's their young and relatively inexperienced offensive line, which returns just one starter from last season.

"If our young linemen step up, we'll be pretty good," said Sawchuk. "Up to now, they've been doing an awesome job — I couldn't ask for much more."

The 'Cats' O-line will be anchored by its lone returning starter — junior Jordan Birman, who should also see time on the defensive side of the ball.

Others who will be paving the way for the team's fleet of fleet-footed backs will be senior Jacob Gilbert, junior Keith Choma, junior Chris Belanger, junior Matt Priebe and sophomore Brennen Beyer.

Joining Goble on the receiving

'Matt's a gamer. He might not look real great in practice every day, but when he gets in the games, he gets it done. He's a great competitor — the kind of kid you want playing quarterback for you.'

MIKE SAWCHUK, *Wildcats head coach*

end of Skubik's aerials will be Alex Minch — who hauled in a long TD pass in last year's playoff loss to Stevenson — senior Connor McKinney and senior Zach Hamed.

When the offense stalls inside the opponents' 30-yard line, Sawchuk won't hesitate to send in sophomore kicker Kyle Brindza.

"Kyle is one of our biggest weapons," Sawchuk emphasized. "He's been kicking the ball through the end zone on kick offs and he can kick field goals from 50 yards and in."

"When he went to the University of Michigan kicking camp this summer, he was the only underclassmen (Rich) Rodrigue kept after to talk to."

A pair of defense-only linemen — junior Darrell Cohn and Joshua Kruger — will spearhead the Wildcats' defense. Cohn was a force as a sophomore last fall.

The team's line-backing crew will be led by Goble, senior Connor Martin and senior Travis Mewton, all of whom started last year.

The secondary also returns intact led by free safety Mike Rose, strong safety Matt Rosochacki and cornerbacks Kelly Waite and Guthridge.

Plymouth opens its 2008 slate on Thursday when it hosts cross-campus rival Salem at 7 p.m. at the PCEP varsity stadium.

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Plymouth coach Mike Sawchuk gathers his team together toward the end of a practice last week.



Plymouth senior Ronnie Goble, pictured running under an agility tent during a two-a-day practice last week, is being recruited by several Division 1 college football programs.

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THE WEEK AHEAD

<p>PREP FOOTBALL Thursday Aug. 28 Brighton at Canton at JV field, 7 p.m. Salem at Plymouth, 7 p.m. PREP BOYS SOCCER Monday, Aug. 25 Canton at Novi, 7 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 26 Lutheran Westland at PCA, 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 27 Warren DeLaSalle at Salem, 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 28 Canton at Ann Arbor Pioneer, 5:30 p.m. Plymouth at Salem, 5:30 p.m. GIRLS PREP SWIMMING</p>	<p>Thursday, Aug. 28 Plymouth at Tecumseh, 6:30 p.m. Salem at WSU Warrior Relays, 5 p.m. WOMEN'S COLLEGE VOLLEYBALL Friday, Aug. 29 Schoolcraft at Owens Classic, TBA. (Point Loma Nazarene, Calif. Invitational) Madonna vs. Ashford, noon. Madonna vs. Mt. Marty, 9 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 30 Schoolcraft at Owens Classic, TBA. (Point Loma Nazarene, Calif. Invitational) Madonna vs. College of Idaho, 1 p.m.</p>	<p>Madonna vs. Point Loma, 8 p.m. MEN'S COLLEGE SOCCER Wednesday, Aug. 27 Schoolcraft at Kelllogg CC, 4 p.m. Friday, Aug. 29 Madonna at Point Loma (Calif.), 3 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 30 Madonna vs. MidAmerica Nazarene at Point Loma Nazarene (Calif.), 10 a.m. WOMEN'S COLLEGE SOCCER Tuesday, Aug. 26 Madonna vs. Houghton College (N.Y.) at Livonia's Greenmead Field, 4 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 30 Jackson CC at Schoolcraft, 1 p.m.</p>
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SUMMER (Sept. 2-Oct. 30)
Reg. Deadline: Aug. 27

<p>SOCCER LEAGUES</p> <p>Adult Soccer Leagues 8 Games Team Fee: \$650 or Free Agent Fee: \$80</p> <p>New "Fun" Parent League on Saturday nights! Bring the kids, Inflatables are FREE & monitored!</p>	
<p>FLAG FOOTBALL LEAGUES</p> <p>FREE youth Basic Football Clinic with EMU players! Thursday, Sept. 4 7-8 pm for registered players. + 2 FREE tickets to EMU's Homecoming Game 9/27 Youth and Adult Free Agent Fee: \$80 Youth and Adult Team Fee: \$650</p>	
<p>DODGE BALL LEAGUE</p> <p>Adult Dodge Ball Leagues now forming! Team Fee: \$450 Teams play 10 aside with hi-density foam balls. 6 Games + End of Season Tournament</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">LIL' KICKERS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Now registering for the Fall Session soccer clinics. September 2-October 27</p> <p style="text-align: center;">\$100 for 8 classes</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Plus receive a FREE Uniform with fall registration!</p> <p style="text-align: center;">For a list of classes, dates, & times, call (734) HV-SPORT or visit www.hvsports.com.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">46245 Michigan Ave. in Canton (734) HV-SPORT www.hvsports.com</p>	

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Training camp on horizon for Whalers

The Plymouth Whalers' 2008 training camp is set for Aug. 26-29 at Compuware Arena in Plymouth Township.

The local Ontario Hockey League franchise will open camp Tuesday with off-ice testing. Wednesday and Thursday will feature a pair of Blue-vs-White scrimmages that are open to the public. Both days' scrimmages will run from 9-11 a.m. and 2-4 p.m.

Camp will conclude on Friday with a 10 a.m. on-ice practice that is open to the public.

The Whalers will play their first pre-season game Saturday at 2 p.m. against the Windsor Spitfires. Plymouth opens the regular season on Friday, Sept. 19, in Kitchener. The home opener is the following night against Erie.

Tickets for all Whalers home games can be purchased at the Compuware Arena Box Office by calling (734) 453-8400.

The Whalers, who finished 34-28-2-4 last season, bring back a full roster for the 08-09 campaign, including local players Jeremy Smith (Brownstown), Josh Bemis (Clarkston), R.J. Mahalak (Monroe), Beau Schmitt (Howell), A.J. Jenks (Wolverine Lake), Tyler J. Brown (Westland), Mike Yovanic (Highland), Austin Levi (Farmington Hills), D.J. Hastings (Grosse Ile), Brendan McLeskey (Pinckney), Myles McCauley (Sterling Heights) and Ali Dakroub (Dearborn).

GOLDEN

FROM PAGE B1

"I've been teammates with Michael on Club Wolverine since December, so we've become pretty good friends," she said, referring to the winner of a record-setting eight gold medals. "He's just like a normal person out of the pool. He's a lot of fun. We tease each other a lot and joke around.

"Darra's a lot of fun, too," she said of Torres, who won three silver medals at the age of 41. "She doesn't act like she's 41; she acts like she's our age.

"She knows how to get ready for a race. But she knows how to have fun and laugh, too."

Star-studded fans

Schmitt said the members of the U.S. men's basketball team were regulars at the Water Cube, the site of the Olympic swimming events.

"We got a chance to meet the whole team, which was pretty cool," she said. "They were very nice, very friendly. They probably came to four or five sessions, so they really got into swimming."

Schmitt barely missed an opportunity to double her medal total when she failed to qualify for the 200-meter freestyle finals by one-hundredth of a second.

"I was disappointed, but I wasn't devastated," she said. "I made it to the semifinals, so I couldn't complain. Plus, I had one more race to go (the 800-meter freestyle relay), so I had to get prepared for that."

Schmitt's life has definitely slowed down a notch or two since she returned to Canton, but it hasn't come to a complete halt. She's attended a string of ceremonies on her behalf, including stops at Xerox in Southfield, where her father Ralph works, and at Ford Motor Company in Dearborn, where her mom Gail is employed.

On Thursday evening — the night before she leaves for Athens, Ga. — she'll be honored at halftime of the Canton-Brighton high school football game that is being played at the PCEP junior varsity field, which is located just south of Plymouth High School.

Schmitt said she's already motivated to improve upon her performance at the next Summer Olympics, set for 2012 in London.

"Seeing what my teammates did in Beijing and watching Michael win eight gold medals, it really was a great feeling watching it all," she said. "I definitely want to work hard and get back to the Olympics and, hopefully, win gold in 2012."

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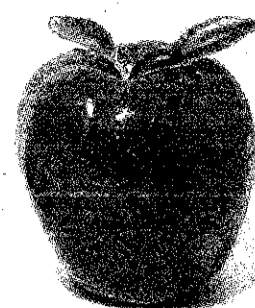
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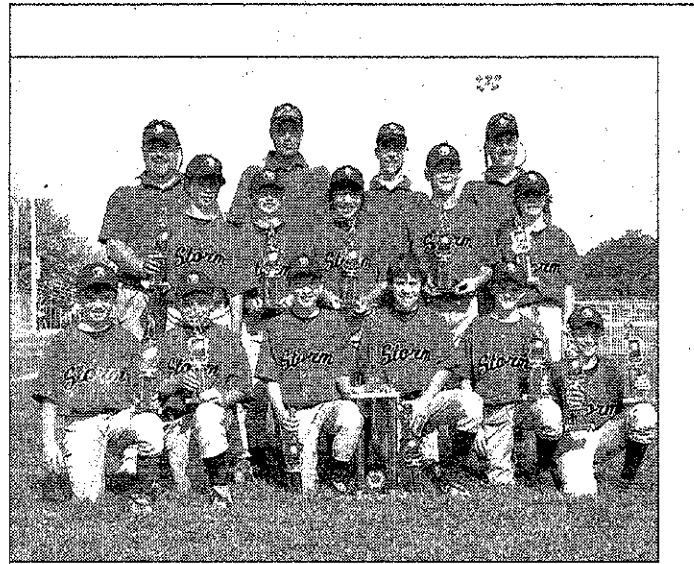
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Storm front

The Canton Storm 11U tournament team captured the Royal Oak Invitational earlier this month when it defeated the Oakland Raiders, 7-6, in the title game. The Storm went unbeaten in the four-day event. Pictured (front row from left) are Alex Zoltowski, Mike Noe, Josh Hejka, Kyle Bauer, Pete Carravallah, Matt Bocketti, (second row from left) Dante Toppi, Colin Staub, Ryan Watson, Tyler Brooks, Ty Robinson, (back row from left) coach Mike Noe, coach Pat Watson, coach Todd Robinson and coach Bryan Staub.

Ladywood's Gorski moving on to Concordia

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER SPORTS WRITER

Andrea Gorski, who had been fixture as the varsity girls basketball coach the past 12 years at Livonia Ladywood, is moving on to the collegiate ranks.

In a surprise move, Gorski stepped down as the Blazers' coach last month to take the women's head coaching position at Concordia University where she will succeed Joshua Steffen, who left for a similar job at Concordia (Ill.)-Chicago after posting a 14-17 mark in 2007-08.

Gorski guided Ladywood to an overall record of 184-99, including a 20-4 mark last winter, to go along with 11 district and two Catholic League A-B Division titles.

The former Bradley University (Ill.) standout guard and Dearborn Divine Child High grad will also work at Concordia as an assistant sports information director after leaving her marketing position with Valassis Corp. of Livonia.

"It was very hard to leave Ladywood because I've been there 12 years and I loved it there," she said. "But I'm excited about the new challenge and a full-time opportunity to be working in athletics. And it's a chance to coach kids at the collegiate level and it's good fit for me. I'm anxious to build a program, get more kids in there and promote the school."

In a related move, Ladywood athletic director Sal Malek announced that former Gorski assistant Pat Cannon, who spent the past season as the varsity coach at Livonia Stevenson, will return as the

Blazers' head coach.

Cannon went 4-17 in his only season at Stevenson.

"It happened pretty quickly," Cannon said. "Sal called me and asked me if I'd like to come back. For me it was a difficult decision because I had a good relationship with the people at Stevenson. The kids are fabulous, Lori Hyman (athletic director) was a great boss, and they allowed me the space to grow."

"But the way it came down, this (Ladywood) was my dream job. I was part of building the program under Andrea and it made sense for me personally."

Malek, meanwhile, is confident there will be a smooth transition.

"I'm delighted for Andrea, she did a great job developing our program," he said. "And Pat will do a great job. He was there for 10 years as both a JV coach and Andrea's assistant."

bemons@oe.homecomm.net | (734) 953-

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Madonna University's men's soccer team would love it if the 2008 season went full circle.

If it does, the Crusaders will happily make two trips to California. Madonna will open the schedule this weekend with three matches in San Diego. But should the Crusaders make the NAI national tournament for the second year in a row, they will be competing for all the marbles in Fresno.

That scenario would be more than fine with Madonna head coach Timo Scicluna — the 2007 Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference coach of the year after guiding the Crusaders to a title (14-4-2 overall, 10-1-1 in the WHAC). But he is only concerned about getting the current team up and running for the conference matches that begin Sept. 13 at Aquinas.

"We're using California as preparation for our regular sea-

California dreamin' Madonna kickers ready to head west

son," said Scicluna late last week. "I'm looking to get as many guys healthy and get all our guys ready to go."

Scicluna knows from the get-go that the Crusaders' lineup is going to have somewhat of a makeover after losing several key players.

Goalkeeper Kristofer Lyons, defender Darrel Quinn and midfielder T.J. Djokic all graduated and dangerous goal scorer Makes Lewis (a team-leading 11 goals) left the college.

Making up for the offense provided by Lewis will be one of the challenges facing Scicluna and his staff, but it's an issue he's dealt with before.

"No question that we're losing great, great players and great people," Scicluna emphasized. "But that's always been the case every single year. There's a turnover in senior leadership and you wonder how you'll fill those shoes. But (younger) players have been developing and improving every year."

The Crusaders do have

hard-nosed senior "grinders" Keith Sied (Livonia Stevenson/Schoolcraft) and Doran Drai at midfield, which could be a position of strength. Another midfielder who could be heard from is Eric Kiebert, a transfer from Auburn Montgomery (Alab.).

Players who could pose offensive threats include junior forwards Emilio Giorgi and Mark Pikula (both listed as midfielders last year), sophomore Daniel Amaya and junior Cody Pickren (Plymouth Christian Academy).

Junior and Schoolcraft College product Nick Dordeski will be a defensive mainstay, as will junior Dan Pichler (Livonia Stevenson).

One area pretty much set is goalkeeping, led by junior Steven Besk (Schoolcraft) and sophomore newcomer Anthony DeMarco who has a "pretty high pedigree."

Scicluna said Besk gained important experience late last season and during the postseason run, following an injury to Lyons.

PLYMOUTH TOWNSHIP

Beginning 9-2-08, the Charter Township of Plymouth Department of Public Works will start its fire hydrant winterization program. You may notice a temporary discoloration of your water. This should only be for a short period of time. Any prolonged problems should be reported to the DPW by calling 734-354-3270 x3.

Publish: August 24 & 28, 2008

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CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS AGENDA SEPTEMBER 11, 2008

Notice is hereby given that there will be a meeting of the Zoning Board of Appeals **THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2008 at 7:00 PM.** The meeting will be held in the Board Room at the Township Administration Building located at 1150 S. Canton Center Road, Canton, MI 48188. The following agenda will be discussed:

Pledge of Allegiance to the flag

Roll Call: Randy Blaylock, Jim Cisek, Craig Engel, Steven Johnson, Vicki Welty
Alternate: Dawn Zuber

Acceptance of Agenda

- John A. Gargaro, 33527 Seven Mile Road, Livonia, MI 48152, for commercial properties located at 255, 305, and 385 Lilley Road, north side of Cherry Hill Road between Lilley and Morton Taylor Roads, appealing Sign Ordinance Article 6A.00, Section 6A.15 to allow a multi tenant sign in the O-1 district; Sign Ordinance Article 6A.00, Section 6A.22 a variance of 7 sq. ft. over the 30 sq. ft. maximum size; Sign Ordinance Article 6A.00, Section 6A.25.2E for font size to allow 7 inch letters instead of 10 inch letters on a ground sign. Zone C-1, O-1 Parcels 055 05 0001 000; 055 05 0002 000; 055 05 0003 000; 055 05 0004 000; 055 05 0005 000; 055 05 0006 000 (Planning)
- Johnson Sign Co., Inc., 2240 Lansing Avenue, Jackson, MI 49202, for commercial property located at 44101 Ford Road (Bank of America), south side of Ford Road between Brookline and Elmhurst Roads, appealing Sign Ordinance Article 6A.00, Section 6A.25.2e.1, Ground sign size variance. Zone C-2 Parcel 057 01 0017 000 (Building)
- Johnson Sign Co., Inc., 2240 Lansing Avenue, Jackson, MI 49202, for commercial property located at 45850 Michigan Avenue (Bank of America), north side of Michigan Avenue between Beck and Canton Center Roads, appealing Sign Ordinance Article 6A.00, Section 6A.25.2e.1, Ground sign size variance. Zone C-3 Parcel 129 99 0001 707 (Building)
- Darryl Myers and James Mc Veigh, 2400 E. 14 Mile Road, Warren, MI 48092, for residential property located at 963 Foothill, north side of Palmer Road between Scottsdale and Millbrook Roads, appealing Zoning Ordinance Article 26.00, Section 26.02, rear yard setback variance for sunroom addition. Zone R-3 Parcel 096 03 0562 000 (Building)

Approval of the August 14, 2008 Minutes

All written comments need to be submitted to the Charter Township of Canton, Clerk's Office 1150 S. Canton Center Rd., Canton, MI 48188, prior to 5:00 PM on the date of the hearing.

Publish: August 24, 2008

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PLANNING COMMISSION CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

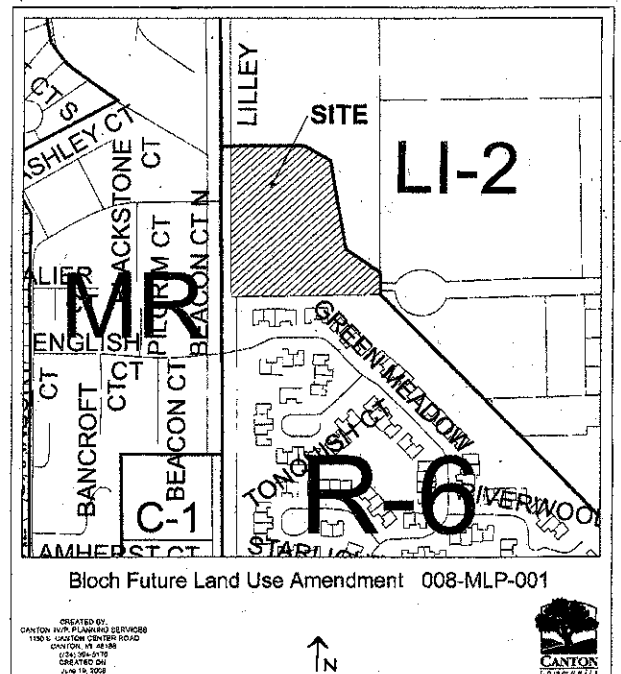
PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE FUTURE LAND USE MAP OF THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON, WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Public Act 263 of 2001 of the State of Michigan, as amended, and pursuant to the Comprehensive Plan of the Charter Township of Canton that the Planning Commission of the Charter Township of Canton will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, September 8, 2008 in the **First Floor Meeting Room of the Canton Township Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road at 7:00 p.m.** on the following proposed amendment to the Future Land Use Map of the Comprehensive Plan:

BLOCH FUTURE LAND USE AMENDMENT - CONSIDER REQUEST TO AMEND THE FUTURE LAND USE MAP FROM MEDIUM HIGH DENSITY RESIDENTIAL TO OFFICERESIDENTIAL FOR PARCEL NO.008 99 0001 707. Property is located north of Warren Road and east of Lilley Road.

Written comments addressed to the Planning Commission should be received at the Canton Township Administration Building, 1150 Canton Center S. prior to Thursday, September 4, 2008 in order to be included in the materials submitted for review.

Vic Gustafson, Chairman



Publish: August 10 and 24, 2008

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- DEATH RACE (R) 12:15, 2:35, 4:55, 7:15, 9:35 FRI/SAT LS 11:55
- THE ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW (PG-13) 11:20, 1:50, 4:20, 6:50, 9:15 FRI/SAT LS 11:40
- FLY ME TO THE MOON 3D (G) 11:05, 1:05, 3:05, 5:05, 7:05, 9:05 FRI/SAT LS 11:05
- STAR WARS: THE CLONE WARS (PG) 12:10, 2:30, 4:50, 7:10, 9:30 FRI/SAT LS 11:50
- MIRRORS (R) 11:55, 2:20, 5:00, 7:30, 9:55
- TROPIC THUNDER (R) 11:45, 2:10, 4:35, 7:00, 9:25 FRI/SAT LS 11:50
- THE DARK KNIGHT (PG-13) 12:30, 3:35, 6:40, 9:40

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Tech Savvy

Rick Broida

Then you could stock up on *Arrested Development*, *The Dana Carvey Show*, *Firefly*, and other criminally underrated shows to watch while traveling. Unfortunately, Hulu, Fancast, and similar video-on-demand services don't allow you to download their media. Instead, it's streamed in real-time, with nothing actually getting stored on your PC.

And because the services rely on Flash software for playback, you need a desktop Web browser. Sorry, iPhone owners.

Of course, if you're willing to put a little time, money, and effort into it, you can work around these limitations.

Applian Technologies Replay Media Catcher 3.0 (applian.com) can capture just about any streaming media and save it to your PC, where you can then watch it at your leisure (without an Internet connection) or convert it for viewing on a mobile device.

I used the \$39.95 program to record the Jim Carrey classic *Liar, Liar* from Hulu. It was incredibly easy—press the record button, then start and pause the video—but it took a while to finish. That's because Media Catcher records in real-time, so whatever the duration of the video, that's how long it'll take to capture.

The program stores files in a format called FLV, which can be viewed on your PC using an included player. However, if you want to convert them for, say, your iPod or iPhone, grab a copy of Videora iPod Converter (tinyurl.com/9stry).

This free utility easily converts FLV files to an iPod-ready format. But it, too, takes time: just over an hour for a 90-minute movie.

you can then watch it at your leisure (without an Internet connection) or convert it for viewing on a mobile device.

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This free utility easily converts FLV files to an iPod-ready format. But it, too, takes time: just over an hour for a 90-minute movie.

Question: I heard that Vonage just rolled out a new voice-over-IP service. What do you know about it?

Answer: Vonage Pro (vonage.com) is actually the same old Vonage service, but with a few extra features mixed in.

In case you're unfamiliar with it, Vonage offers inexpensive home-phone service via your broadband modem. You get unlimited local and long-distance calling, plus a boatload of services, for a flat monthly fee.

The new Vonage Companion software lets you make and take calls on your PC. Install it on your notebook, for instance, and you can make a call from a hotel room just as though you were calling from home. At the same time, you can receive calls directed to your home number even if you're traveling.

Vonage Pro also includes 25 "visual voicemail" messages per month. If someone leaves you a message, you can opt to have it transcribed and delivered to you via e-mail or text message.

However, because humans are involved in the transcription process, I have concerns about privacy.

Vonage remains an excellent home-phone service, but I don't think the new features justify Vonage Pro's higher price: \$34.99 per month, or \$335.99 annually.

Instead, stick with the Residential Premium Unlimited Plan, which runs \$24.99 per month.

Rick Broida writes about computers and technology for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. Broida, of Commerce Township, also writes the Cheapskate blog for CNET (blogs.cnet.com/cheapskate). He welcomes questions sent to rick.broida@gmail.com.

Attention



PHOTOS BY TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Mitchell Lamarand (right), 11, of Canton falls in line during a meeting of the Canton Young Marines at the Western Wayne County Conservation Association in Plymouth Twp.

Canton young marines command respect

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
O & E STAFF WRITER

Catherine Morris recently spoke to a crowd of 1,000 at a Memorial Day service in Belleville. That's quite a feat for any age but especially a 13-year-old.

Morris credits her public speaking skills to the Canton Young Marines program, which attracts boys and girls from ages 8 through high school from around the area. The youth group meets weekly to focus on character building, leadership, physical fitness, and a drug-free lifestyle. The nonprofit organization is not a recruiting tool for the U.S. Marine Corps but the focal point of its Youth Drug Demand Reduction effort. Morris does want to follow in her father's footsteps to join the U.S. Marine Corps when she's old enough.

"I like the discipline and the life lessons of the Canton Young Marines," said Morris, a student at Discovery Middle School in Canton. "It teaches you things you can use."

Many of the boys and girls join just for the fun activities and learning opportunities, like the firearms safety session with NRA certified instructor Don Gaines at the Western Wayne County Conservation Association in Plymouth Twp. last Monday. David Rumley, Canton Young Marines executive officer, says firearms safety is an important lesson for today's youth. It is one of many they learn at Monday evening meetings at the Summit on the Park recreation center in Canton. The next session or "boot camp" for the Canton Young Marines begins Sept. 22 and runs for 13 weeks.

"It's important that if they're at someone's house and see one, they know what to do because sooner or later there's going to be access for them," said Rumley, a Westland resident who served in the Marines 17 years, the last two as a drill instructor at Parris Island, South Carolina.

Charles Volker believes strongly in the mis-

Please see **MARINES, C4**

YOUNG CANTON MARINES

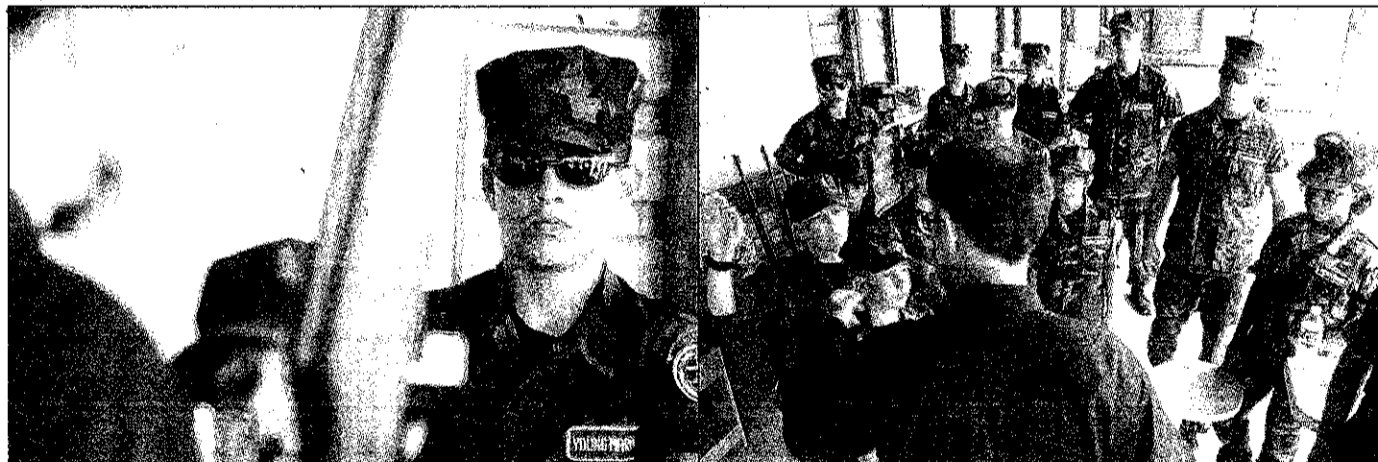
What: A youth education and service program for boys and girls ages 8 through high school

When: 5-7:30 p.m. Mondays beginning Sept. 22 for 13 weeks.

Parent orientation Sept. 15
Where: Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton

Fee: \$45 registration plus a \$125 charge for the uniform after 4 weeks.

For information, visit www.cantonyoungmarines.com or call (734) 981-5059



Fifteen-year-old Devin Stratton of Canton listens to instructions on safely handling a rifle during a meeting of the Canton Young Marines.

Members of the Canton Young Marines listen to Don Gaines, a NRA certified firearms instructor, before shooting on the range at the Western Wayne County Conservation Association in Plymouth Twp.

St. John's concert series spotlights variety of music

MUSIC AT ST. JOHN'S

What: Opens the 2008-2009 concert series with a performance by Scott Woolweaver, an internationally renowned violinist

When: 7 p.m. Friday, Sept. 12

Where: St. John's Episcopal Church, 574 S. Sheldon, Plymouth. No charge and open to the public. For more information, call (734) 453-0190

Scott Woolweaver opens the 2008-2009 Music at St. John's concert series Friday, Sept. 12.



BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
O & E STAFF WRITER

Scott Elsholz says the 2008-2009 Music at St. John's looks to be an exciting series and he isn't kidding. As artistic director he's planned to showcase internationally renowned violinist Scott Woolweaver, a spooktacular featuring ghastly and ghoulish organ music, a festival of lessons and carols, the Collegium Musicum baroque orchestra and choir from Eastern Michigan University, and The Saline Fiddlers at St. John's Episcopal Church in Plymouth.

The church staff has been conducting a weight loss challenge to raise money for the music series so there's no charge for all but the last concert by the fiddlers which is \$7. A free will offering will be taken for the rest of the programs.

This is the second season for the series since Elsholz became minister of music at St. John's in January 2007. The Canton resident earned bachelor and master of music degrees in organ performance from Eastern Michigan University in Ypsilanti. He is currently an adjunct professor of organ at EMU and a candidate for a doctoral degree in organ performance and literature at Indiana University.

Please see **SERIES, C3**



St. John's minister of music Scott Elsholz (center as The Phantom) together with members of the Eastern Michigan University organ studio and James Wagner (right), an EMU faculty member, formed a tag team to perform a Bach toccata at the Halloween Pipes Spooktacular last year. Teddy Dowswell (left) was the child Elsholz randomly chose from the audience to assist them.

VISIT HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Livonia woman leads way in supporting hospital

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
O & E STAFF WRITER

Roberta Palmer was looking for a special way to remember her mother when she learned the money raised by a 5K run/walk on Saturday, Sept. 13, at St. Mary Mercy Hospital helps uninsured and underinsured cancer patients.

Palmer's mother died at age 74 from colon cancer about 7-weeks after diagnosis. By becoming a Silver Sponsor of the race for \$1,000 the Livonia woman continues to support the hospital where she not only volunteers but has set up a living trust for cancer services. At the time of Palmer's death it's estimated the trust will amount to \$500,000. In recognition of the gift, the Image Recovery Center at the hospital was named after her mother Helen Palmer. The center helps cancer patients feel better about themselves by providing services such as prosthetic and bra fittings; medical manicures, pedicures and massage; information on problems patients incur during treatment



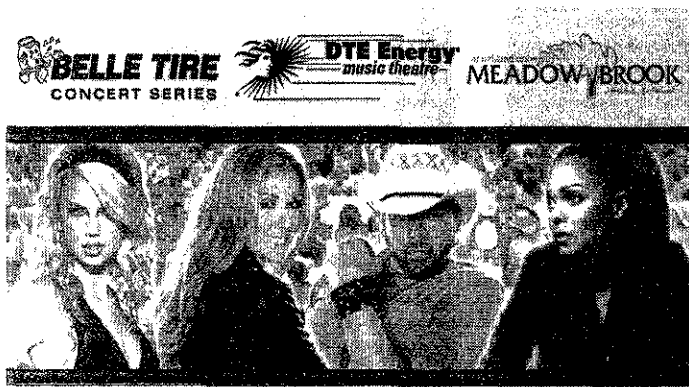
A 5K run/walk on Saturday, Sept. 13, at St. Mary Mercy Hospital helps uninsured and underinsured cancer patients.

"I was having to drive to Clinton Township. It would have been a lot more convenient to have this service closer to where we were," said Palmer. "St. Mary had been talking about building the cancer center for about 8 years. I had become a patient at St. Mary's when I heard about it so I started donating to it on an annual basis. I like that it's in this community."

Palmer isn't only donating money as a Silver Sponsor but participating in the Celebrate Life! 5K Run/Walk for Cancer which begins on hospital grounds and winds through a nearby neighborhood. She's been working out 3 to 4 times a week at home on her treadmill.

"I have an inflammatory type of arthritis so I'm going to be a walker," said Palmer, 58. "They're giving out awards for different age groups so I probably have a good chance of getting an award. Last year's was quite a nice event."

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SEPTEMBER

4 NEW RESCHEDULED DATE
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7 JUST ADDED
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BLACKFOOT / NAZARETH
with MANNY CHARLTON
DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATRE

7 BARRAGE G
"High Strung" Fiddle Fest
MEADOW BROOK MUSIC FESTIVAL

**9 JOURNEY wsg HEART X
and CHEAP TRICK**
DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATRE

12 NEW RESCHEDULED DATE
LOU GRAMM wsg PATTY G
SMYTH & SCANDAL
DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATRE

14 TOBY KEITH
wsg MONTGOMERY
GENTRY, CARTER'S CHORD,
MICA ROBERTS
and TRAILER CHOIR
DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATRE

20 RASCAL FLATTS
wsg TAYLOR SWIFT
THE PALACE OF AUBURN HILLS

21 LYNRYD SKYNYRD G
DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATRE

26 CELINE DION
THE PALACE OF AUBURN HILLS

27 JANET JACKSON
THE PALACE OF AUBURN HILLS

TONIGHT
THE HUMAN G 7:00PM
LEAGUE, BELINDA
CARLISLE, ABC, A FLOCK OF
SEAGULLS and NAKED EYES
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GET BACK! G 7:00PM
CAST OF BEATLEMANIA
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WEDNESDAY
THE ALLMAN X 6:30PM
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BOB WEIR & RATDOG
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FRIDAY
MARDON 5 / X 7:00PM
COUNTING CROWS
wsg AUGUSTANA
DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATRE

SATURDAY
THE MUSIC OF G 8:00PM
LED ZEPPELIN
A Rock Symphony
DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATRE

AUGUST

31 THE TEMPTATIONS G
REVUE featuring DENNIS
EDWARDS and THE
CONTOURS featuring
SYLVESTER POTTS
LEGENDS OF MOTOWN
DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATRE

such as mouth sores and nail discoloration, and Reiki, a form of hands-on healing. There is a charge for the services available to cancer patients no matter where they receive treatment, but the center also offers free head shavings and a celebratory styling when hair grows back after chemotherapy.

"This year would have been my mother's 90th birthday,"

said Palmer. "I was thinking of maybe purchasing gift certificates at the recovery center to give to patients in need and they told me they have the race to do that. Most of the money goes to the Helen Palmer Recovery Center."

Palmer first became interested in helping the hospital when her mother came to live with her while undergoing chemotherapy.

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Events support National Alliance on Mental Illness

The National Alliance on Mental Illness, Michigan holds its annual charity golf outing Tuesday, Sept. 16, at Western Golf & Country Club, 14600 Kinloch, Redford. Registration and continental breakfast begin at 8 a.m. followed by a 9:30 a.m. shotgun start, lunch at 11 a.m., a silent auction, and awards dinner. For more information, call Steve Savage at (313) 262-5100 or Marti Bush at (313) 263-2370. All proceeds go to the programs of NAMI Michigan, a grassroots mental health organization dedicated to improving the lives of persons with serious mental illness and their families since 1979. In addition to weekly recovery support groups for people with mental illness, NAMI offer a free 12-week course for family caregivers of individuals with severe mental illnesses. NAMI is also holding a walk Sept. 28, at Belle Isle. Visit <http://mi.nami.org>.

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Christian Cash (left back row) and Kimberly Adams, both Farmington natives; Drex Morton, Canton; Maureen Paraventi (left front row), Redford, and Erin Hildebrandt, Walled Lake present "Hello, Dolly!" at The Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton.

Spotlight Players say hello to Dolly

Spotlight Players, the resident adult theater company at The Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton, present the musical "Hello, Dolly!" 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Sept. 19-20, 26-27, and Oct. 3-4; and 2 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 28 and Oct. 5, at the theater, 50400 Cherry Hill, Canton.

Go to www.spotlightplayers.net to get a coupon code for a discount on tickets which is available online only. Regular ticket prices are \$18 adults, \$16 seniors and children under 18. The musical comedy tells the story of a gregarious wid-

ower and matchmaker, Dolly Gallagher Levi, who creates a stir wherever she goes.

While conducting her match making, she secretly harbors designs on one of her customers. Lyrics and music are by Jerry Herman.

Novi resident Barbara Bloom directs and choreographed the production. "Hello, Dolly!" was first produced on Broadway by David Merrick in 1964 and won a record of 10 Tony Awards that year including Best Musical.

For more information, call (734) 394-5300 or (734) 394-5460.

SERIES

FROM PAGE C1

"Our rector, Rev. Dorian McGlannan, wanted some fresh energy, wanted it to be musical outreach to the community and present a venue for good music and art," said Elsholz.

This season internationally known violinist Scott Woolweaver performs Friday, Sept. 12, to give a recital in memory of his teacher Peg Bunge who introduced him to the instrument in fourth grade in Garden City.

Elsholz takes the stage 6:30 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 26, for a Halloween Pipes Spooktacular. A dinner will be served at 5:30 p.m. The program includes Bach's terrifying Toccata and Fugue in D Minor and a monster medley with selections from the Pink Panther and The Addams Family.

"It's a blast," said Elsholz. "We had a spooky dinner last year. Our last two events we had artists within our congregation present their work so people could look at art before and after the events. We always have receptions. We always have food."

Connie McNutt applauds Elsholz's effort "to get kids interested in good music." She directed musicals at Garden City West High School where she was a counselor for many years.

"He's introducing classical music to children and they love it," said McNutt, a church



The Saline Fiddlers perform Sunday, May 17, as part of the Music at St. John's series.



The music ministry at St. John's Episcopal Church in Plymouth performs a Festival of Lessons and Carols on Sunday, Dec. 7, to prepare for the coming of the Christ Child.

volunteer who's organizing the concert by Woolweaver. "At Spooktacular they had such a ball last year."

Once the scary stuff is over the music ministry of St. John's prepares for the coming of the Christ child with a festival of Lessons and Carols 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7. The service

features the Parish Choir, SonShine, and the Handbell, Youth and Children's choirs.

"We have an eclectic music group called SonShine, a traditional choir with organ, a 5-octave handbell choir, youth choir for grades 3 to 6, and a children's choir for really young kids like a cherubs choir," said

Elsholz whose wife Melissa, a flutist, will also be performing. "We have a lot of soloists and instrumentalists. One of the tenors is in a barbershop choir."

Cantatas and selected instrumental works by Collegium Musicum welcome spring 6 p.m. Sunday, March 29. The early music ensemble, under the direction of Elsholz, perform music from the 17th and 18th century.

The season ends 6 p.m. Sunday, May 17, with The Saline Fiddlers (salinefiddlers.com) Founded in 1994, the ensemble consists of Saline Area High School students. Over the years the group has performed in 17 states and 5 countries.

"I first heard them on A Prairie Home Companion with Garrison Keillor (public radio program)," said Elsholz. "They play bluegrass type music but are very eclectic."

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BONE BRUISE

The phrase "bone bruise" is one you may have heard when someone is talking about an injury to a leg that occurred playing football or after being hit by a hockey puck. However, in medicine the term has a more precise meaning. Bone bruise or as the condition is sometimes called, bone edema, refers to specific changes in a bone when examined by Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI). In MRI, when a bone bruise occurs, the area involved shows up as white, while the normal bone appears dark. What the white area signifies is the site where injury has caused disruption of normal bone architecture.

The most common cause of bone edema is not from an injury such as a fall or a fight. Rather, the greatest incidence is in the elderly, and the edema seemingly comes on spontaneously. The feeling among doctors is that the cause of the edema comes from a slight fracture followed by weakening of the surrounding bone. However, many individuals experience bone edema at a time when their bone density test results are normal.

The most common area involved is the lower leg though bone edema can occur in the shoulder and hip. In the leg, the pain may move to the knee or down the leg giving the appearance of arthritis or a leg fracture. X-ray of the knee or leg shows no abnormality, prompting the physician to order an MRI. The expectation is that the MRI will reveal arthritis or a torn meniscus; instead, the imaging uncovers bone edema. Treatment consists of assurance and time; no splint or operation does better.

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Time to immunize

Vaccinations prevent infectious diseases

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
O & E STAFF WRITER

Just because four cases of measles were confined earlier this year to the Cadillac area 200 miles away, Pat Vranesich says there's always a fear the infectious disease could spread. As section manager of the immunization division for the Michigan Department of Community Health in Lansing, she's warning parents to make sure their children's vaccination records are up to date. There were outbreaks of pertussis (whooping cough), mumps, chicken pox, and measles in southeast Michigan in 2007.

Vranesich was able to see first hand the damage caused by these diseases while working as an R.N. at Children's Hospital of Michigan in the 1970s.

"Diseases are just a plane ride away although parents might not see these every day," said Vranesich of Oxford. "They're not really sure about these injections because they haven't lived to see these diseases. With haemophilus influenzae many of the kids lost hearing. There were rubella babies who were blind and children with mental disorders from measles. We have to be reminded that many of these diseases cause mental disorders."

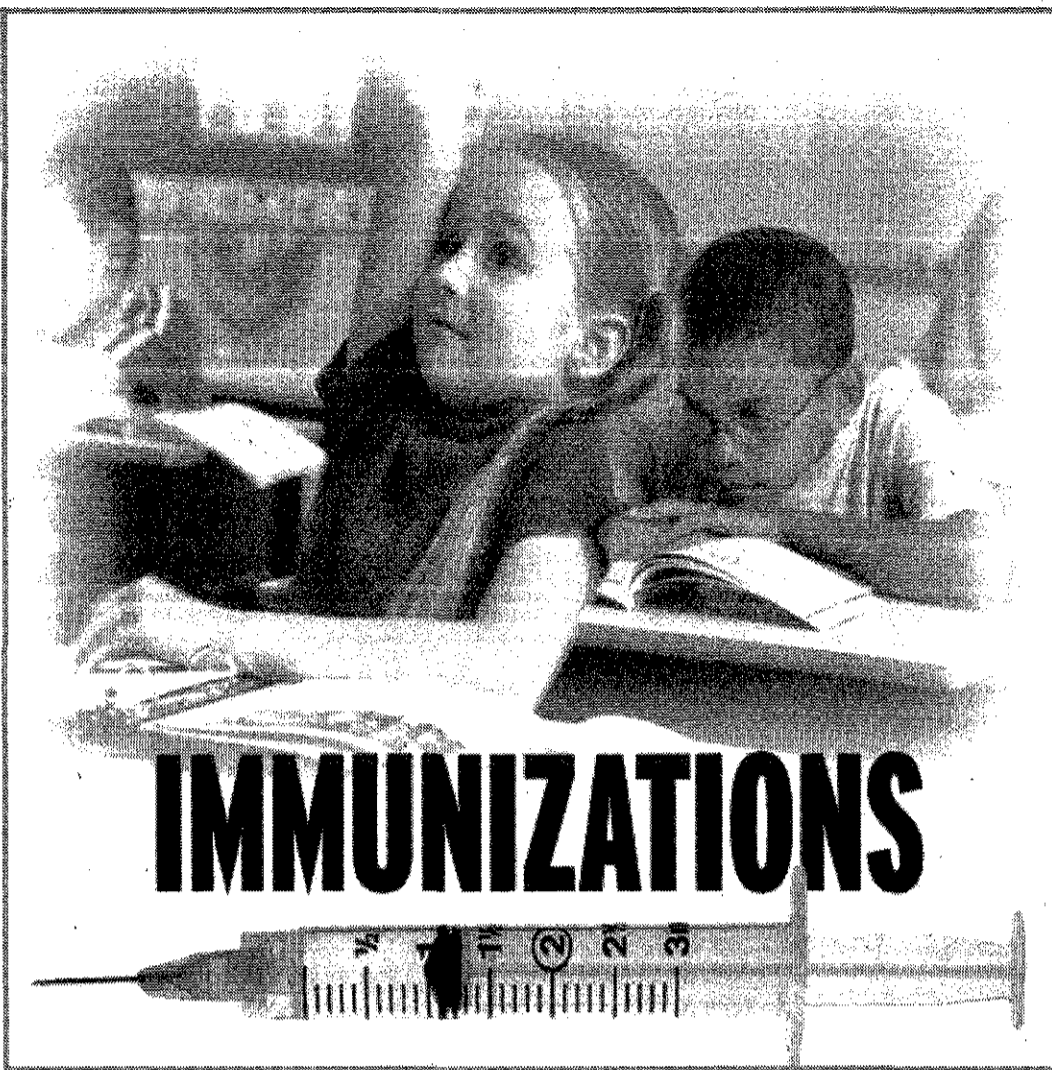
Bob Swanson, director of the immunization division is concerned as well that children aren't receiving the vaccines that protect against infectious diseases. The MDCH monitors schools and child care centers for immunization rates.

"We've seen an increase in child care centers for parents opting out of one or more vaccinations. It's setting us up for an outbreak in those areas," said Swanson. "The Olympics is an opportunity for spread because of less coverage. Measles has been an issue in China."

Some parents are anxious about a possible link between vaccinations and autism. How does a parent know what to believe? Sources on the Internet are not always reputable.

"Parents become concerned about the number of vaccines," said Vranesich. "We're exposed to so many different things that their immune system has to respond to. With the vaccines they're getting small amounts of antigens for their immune systems to respond. Parents ask how many shots does my child need. There's also a risk of leaving that office without the vaccine and going to the mall."

Sharon McMahon was surprised to see a case of measles diagnosed in the emergency room at St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia about a year ago. Like Vranesich she's troubled by the number of parents signing waivers not to vaccinate their children. The



state of Michigan requires children to be vaccinated unless a waiver is signed for religious or philosophical reasons.

"It's not a normal thing to see because of the vaccines and I've been doing infection control 20 years," said McMahon, an R.N. for 38 years. Currently she works in the infection control department at St. Mary Mercy Hospital. "Because travel is so common nowadays and parents are signing waivers if not vaccinated they can get disease. Vaccination is such a simple thing we found works. Why would someone not want their child to be protected? I'm sometimes leery when any drug is brand new. How do we know long term what any therapy will produce, but with the number of people who have benefited from these vaccines, who can argue?"

There is a lot of fear over vaccines being linked to autism and that has Dr. Bagir Malik more than concerned. Malik is a pediatrician on staff at St. Mary Mercy Hospital.

"We are alarmed the number of parents opting not to immunize their kids because of fear. There's a lot of misinformation out there. They're getting information from sources not based on scientific or medical

sources. I recommend parents go to the Web site cdc.gov or the American Academy of Pediatrics (www.aap.org) and educate themselves. As a pediatrician it's hard to convince parents in two to five minutes that immunization is safe because they've heard so much on thimerosal, preservatives and autism but there's no evidence that they can cause any harm."

Malik has two children and both have been vaccinated.

"I highly recommend vaccination and would not give it to my kids if it's harmful but they don't have to go just on my words. As a pediatrician I have very little monetary gain giving shots to children," said Malik. "They not only do this disservice to their child but put kids at risk around them. They need to learn, read and ask questions. Hepatitis B is a fatal disease and we can do very little to treat it. Polio there are cases in South Asia and Africa and you never know when it can fly to the United States and can be fatal. Measles can cause severe high fever, rash, skin lesions, neurological damage and death, or brain damage."

For more information, visit michigan.gov/immunize.

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WALK-IN IMMUNIZATION CLINICS

The Wayne and Oakland county health departments offer free immunizations for children without insurance.

CDC recommended immunizations for babies from birth to 15 months are HepB against hepatitis B; DTaP against diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis (whooping cough); Hib against haemophilus influenzae type b; PCV against pneumococcal disease; Polio; Rota against infections caused by the rotavirus; Influenza; MMR for measles, mumps and rubella (German measles); Varicella (chickenpox), and HepA against hepatitis A.

For pre-teens the CDC recommends Td booster for tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis; Meningococcal meningitis, and HPV for 11- and 12-year-old girls against human papillomavirus types that most commonly cause cervical cancer, and make sure hepatitis B is up to date as are MMR, Polio and Varicella (chicken pox). Adults might need hepatitis B, Influenza, MMR, Pneumonia, Hepatitis A, Tdap/Td, Varicella, and Zoster (shingles).

Oakland County Health Division provides immunizations for all ages in clinics at 1200 N. Telegraph, north of Elizabeth Lake Road, south of Dixie Highway, Pontiac, call (248) 858-1305; 27725 Greenfield at 11 1/2 Mile (Catalpa), Southfield, call (248) 424-7046, and 1010 E.W. Maple, east of Pontiac Trail, Walled Lake, call (248) 926-3361. For more information, visit www.co.oakland.mi.us/health. Hours are noon-8 p.m. Monday; 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday-Friday. Fees are charged to individuals who are not eligible for federal and/or state programs that cover vaccination costs.

Wayne County Department of Public Health, 33030 Van Born at Venoy, Wayne. Walk-ins 8-10:30 a.m. and 12:30-3:30 p.m. Monday and Thursday, and by appointment Tuesday-Wednesday and Friday. To schedule an appointment, call (734) 727-7100. For information on school immunizations, call (734) 727-7036. For general information, call (734) 727-7000.

Walk to raise awareness about food allergies

Metro Detroit area residents are joining together in the third annual Food Allergy & Anaphylaxis Network Walk to raise funds for education and advocacy, and advance research 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 20, at Kensington Metropark in Milford. Registration starts at 8:30 a.m.

More than 12 million Americans suffer from food allergies including 1 out of every 17 children under age 3, and 3 million school-aged children, with the numbers increasing at an alarming rate.

"Thirty years ago food allergies were almost unheard of, especially life-threatening ones. Now one in 25 Americans are affected," said Melissa Dalton of Waterford, walk co-chair. "The walk is definitely a step in the right direction to help inform the public of the seriousness of food allergies."

Unfortunately, Erik Morganroth of Birmingham had heard about food allergies 30 years ago. He has lived his life with allergies to peanuts, tree nuts, fish and shellfish. Morganroth knows first-hand the fears of having food allergies as a child. He also understands what parenting a child with food allergies means. Both of his children have severe life-threatening food allergies. Emma, 7, is allergic to tree nuts, peanuts, fish and shellfish. Max, 5, is allergic to tree nuts and peanuts. Although Max hasn't developed other food allergies, these can come on later in life. The peanut and tree nut allergies may stay with both of them for life just like their father. There is only a 20 percent chance either may outgrow these. Morganroth and his wife Andrea are serving as Ambassadors for the walk.

"Food allergies affect the entire family and multiple facets of every day life," said Morganroth. "Not only do we worry about what we eat, but for the children

we worry about their surroundings — what others have eaten and did they wash their hands, what are they eating at the lunch table, will food be used in the lesson plans at school, will the birthday party be safe, do teachers, administrators, babysitters and other parents understand and know what to do? It affects so much more than what's on your plate."

Eight foods account for 90 percent of all reactions in the United States: milk, eggs, peanuts, tree nuts (walnuts, almonds, pistachios, etc.), wheat, soy, fish and shellfish (lobster, shrimp, etc.).

Sesame allergies seem to be growing rapidly as well and more companies are labeling for this. Food-allergic reactions result in over 30,000 emergency room visits each year. It is estimated that 150-200 people die annually from anaphylaxis due to food, including children and young adults. There is no cure for food allergies and no one knows why food allergies are growing so rapidly. Complete avoidance of the allergy-causing foods, including any cross-contaminants and encounters through touch or smell, are the only way to prevent a reaction.

"With more and more Americans reporting food allergies, especially among children, there is an increased need for widespread awareness," said Dalton. "Of those two million children with a known food allergy, 600,000 are believed to be allergic to peanuts."

To sign up for the walk go to www.foodallergywalk.org or contact Melinda Miller or Melissa Dalton at mifaanwalk@yahoo.com.

Founded in 1991, The Food Allergy & Anaphylaxis Network is a nonprofit organization based in Fairfax, Va. Education materials and information about special programs are available at www.foodallergy.org, www.fankids.org, and www.fanteen.org.

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

AUGUST

Hatha yoga classes

From 5:15-6:30 p.m. Tuesdays beginning Aug. 26 to Sept. 30, in Classrooms 1 and 2 at St. Mary Mercy Hospital, 36475 Five Mile at Levan, Livonia. Hatha Yoga increases flexibility, energy level and strength at your own pace in a non-competitive setting. Class participants need to be able to move between a standing position to a hands and knees position with ease. There is a fee. Space limited. To register, call (734) 655-1162.

Total joint replacement

Educational seminar 6 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 26, in classroom 10 of the Marian Professional Building at St. Mary Mercy Hospital, Five Mile and Levan, Livonia. No charge. To register, call (734) 655-2400.

Divorce support group

Overview of divorce process with Connie S. Kelley, attorney 7-9 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 26, in Room 225 of the McDowell Center at Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty, Livonia. Call (734) 462-4443.

IBD symposium/update

For patients and family members, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 13, at the Inn at St. John's, Plymouth. Topics include medications, diet, emotional issues, and a lesson on the digestive system. Call (248) 737-0900 or (888) 737-2322. IBD Update for the Practicing Physician same date, time and place. Information available at samephone.com. Not open to public. Registration deadline Aug. 31. No charge.

UPCOMING

Charity basketball game

The Council of Orthodox Christian Churches of Metropolitan Detroit (COCC) and Wright & Filippis sponsor a charity basketball game 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 4, at Franklin High School, 31000 Joy, Livonia, to benefit Children's Hospital of Michigan. Teams will be the Amputee Spartans sponsored by Wright & Filippis and the Saints sponsored by COCC. Suggested donation is \$10 adults, \$5 for seniors and children ages 11-18, children 10 and under free. For tickets, contact Richard Shebib at (734) 422-0278 or paschabooks@sbcglobal.net, or Brad Shebib (248) 829-8327 or bshebib@wright-filippis.com. The Spartans are a team of amputees sponsored by Wright & Filippis. The Saints are volunteers from COCC member churches. COCC members interested in playing may contact (313) 770-3733 or fakhourm@cooley.edu.

THE Observer & Eccentric
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Remarkable Woman Luncheon

Thursday, September 18, 2008
Seating & Exhibitor Area begins at 11:15 am
Lunch & Program: Noon - 2 pm

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TICKETS
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Register Online: florineonline.com
Register by Phone: 1-888-3-FLORINE, ext. 1377

This is a non-profit event. Net proceeds will equally benefit:
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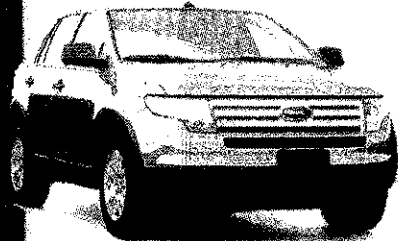


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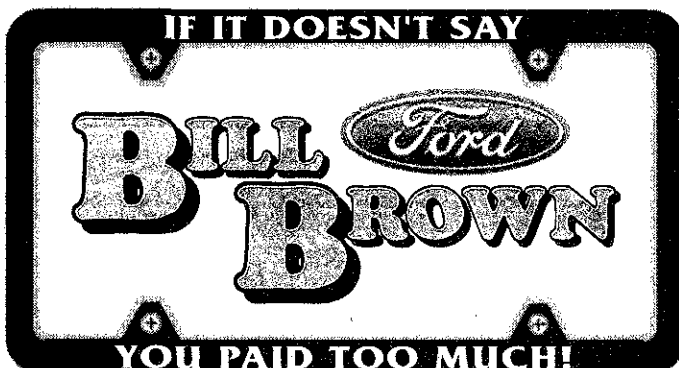
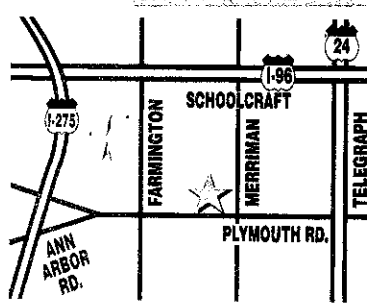
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2004 FREESTAR LMD 8C9133A Leather, Captains \$12,900	2007 FOCUS SE P20534 Certified Great MPG \$12,840	2005 ESCAPE XLT P20507 APR as low as 2.9% \$11,950	2007 TAURUS SE P20563 Certified 6YR 100k Warranty \$11,250	2005 JEEP CHEROKEE P20609 Budget Priced \$10,550	2004 BONNEVILLE P20567 Sport And Luxury \$10,350
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New Homes



Sunday, August 24, 2008

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

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

www.hometownlife.com



This Summers' breezy design will make you feel fine

The Summers (406-32) with 3,297 square feet of living space, is a two-story traditional Southwestern home. Many angles give the home a unique styling, while lending well to a lot of views. The main floor is set up for the home's living quarters while the sleep arrangements are upstairs.

An oversized three-car garage offers extra storage space, as well as a workbench area. A double door entry welcomes visitors to the Summers. A coat closet serves as a partition wall from the entry to the dining room, while the vast living room stretches to the right. This space is the heart of the home, where morning sunlight pours in next to the fireplace, and evening sunsets grace the rear views.

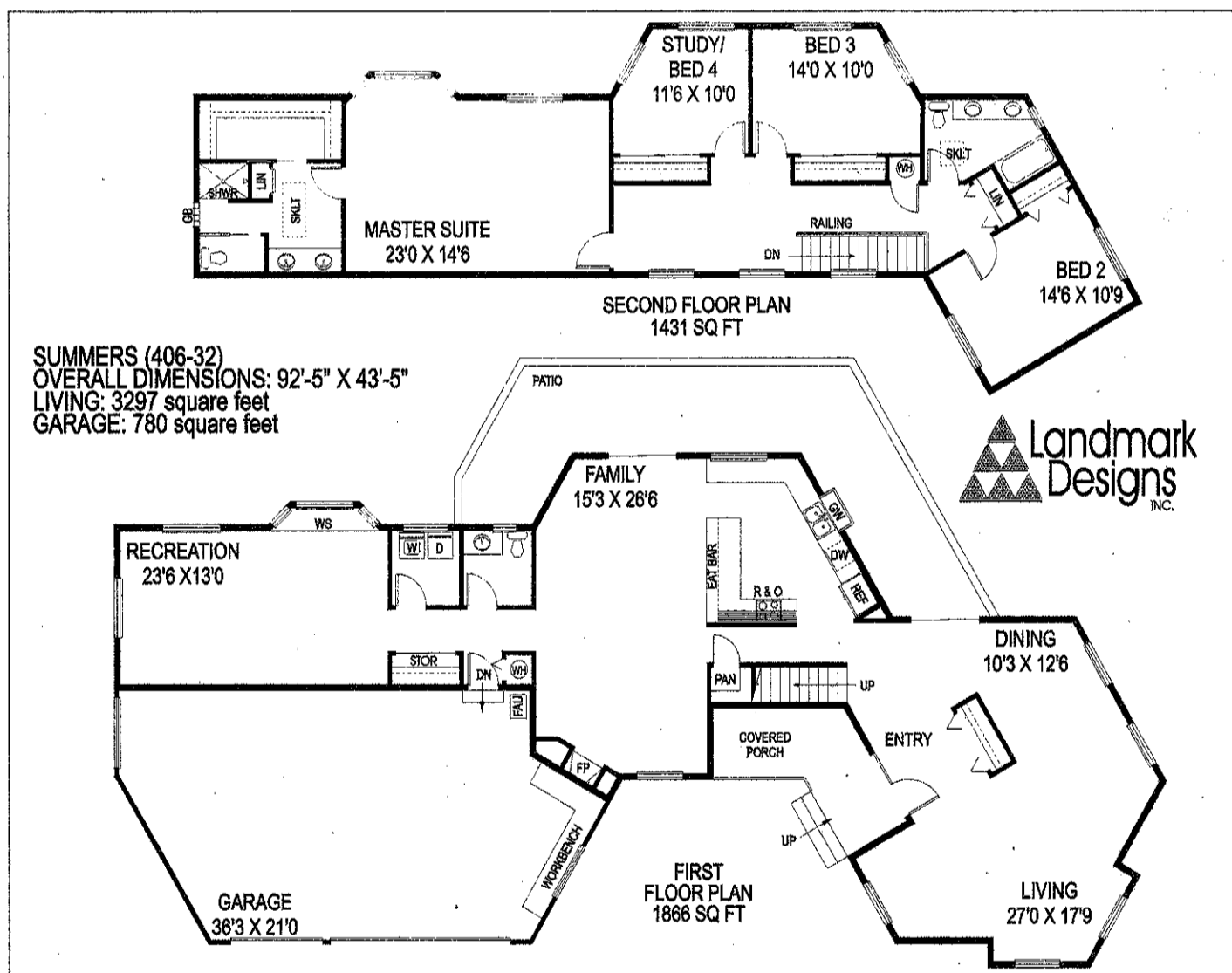
Accessible through sliding doors from both the dining room and the family room is a large wrap-around patio in the rear of the home. With the kitchen located between these two doors, it would be ideal for having outdoor feasts, using the kitchen counter as a buffet. Convenient to the kitchen is a pantry that lies below the stairwell in the hall.

From the unique shaped garage, the door opens into a hall with a large storage/linen closet on the left and a half bath and utility lie on the right. In the rear of the garage, still maximizing on the potential views, is a spacious recreation room complete with window seat.

On the second level, two bedrooms on the right of the home share a full bath and a linen closet. Another room sharing a common wall with the master suite could be a bedroom or a study. At the top of the stairs windows brighten a space large enough for a desk or armoire. Inside the master suite the open space is accented with a bay window in the rear. The bath has an enormous walk-in closet, a linen storage, and a skylight directly over the dressing area. The master suite has been designed to accommodate the normal furniture and still have room for a sitting area.

The Summers, with its blend of tile, brick, and stucco would fit in on a prairie, rolling hills, or the desert, with all the conveniences that makes life easy. It is ideal for large families who need room for all to live comfortably.

For a study plan of the SUMMERS (406-32), send \$15 to Landmark Designs, 33127 Saginaw Rd. E., Cottage Grove, OR 97424 or call (800) 562-1151. Be sure to specify plan name and number. Compact disks, with search functions are free of charge, to help you search our portfolio for your dream home (\$5 shipping and handling will apply). Or you may order or search online at www.ldiplans.com. Save 15 percent on construction plans using the code (LOE48) online, mailing, or calling (800) 562-1151.



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For more details, contact Steve Leibhan, (248) 553-0400, Ext. 2500.

Condo operation

Meisner & Associates will present "Introduction to Successful

Condominium Operation," a four-week course, 7-9 p.m. Oct. 7, 14, 21 and 28 at the Bingham Farms office, 30200 Telegraph, Suite 467.

The course is for those interested in serving on a board of directors of a condo, co-op or community association, as well as developers and managing agents who are assisting these boards.

All attendees will receive a copy of attorney Robert Meisner's booklet, "Condominium Operation: Getting Started and Staying on the Right Track."

Advance registration is required. For registration information, call (800) 470-4433 or e-mail bmeisner@meisner-associates.com.

Checks should be payable to Meisner & Associates, P.C. Cost is \$95 per

person, with \$85 each for additional attendees from the same association.

Homebuying

There's a free Homebuying Seminar 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 3, at 40600 Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth. Buying your first home is probably the most exhilarating material experience you can have.

Some of the topics covered will include: criteria for your home search, loan applications, how much home can you afford, advantages of a Buyer's Agreement, and nine great reasons to buy a home.

Call Heidi Anderson to reserve your seat at (734) 673-9265.

BIA

Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan and Bank of America will sponsor a Fall Parade of Homes event running through Sept. 14. Parade of Homes features ready-to-move-in homes as well as under construction and pre-construction homes throughout southeastern Michigan.

Fall Parade of Homes, the 14th annual fall exhibition of new model homes located across southeastern Michigan, opened on Aug. 15 and runs through Sept. 14. Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan (BIA) and Bank of America Mortgage are the sponsors of this public event.

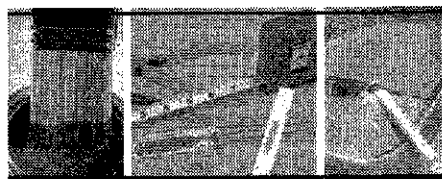
The Parade of Homes offers potentially homebuyers a unique opportunity

to visit the area's finest model homes, including condominiums and single-family homes, affordable housing and estate-sized homes.

Visitors to the homes will have an opportunity to see firsthand the latest trends in energy efficiency and green building, architecture, interior design, amenities and materials.

The 37 model homes range in base price from \$95,900 to \$1,999,900.

A Parade of Homes magazine containing renderings, features and location maps for all homes was distributed within select home delivery of *The Detroit News* and *Detroit Free Press* on Aug. 15 and available at select CVS/pharmacy locations in southeastern Michigan and at all participating model homes.



Home and Service Guide

Observer & Eccentric
HOMETOWNlife.com

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- Quad-beam halogen headlamps
- 3-bar chrome grille, rear spoiler and dual steel exhaust
- AdvanceTrac® with RSC® (Roll Stability Control™)
- 17" painted aluminum wheels

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16 CITY / 24 HWY
MPG WITH FWD



\$219
PER MONTH*
FOR 24 MONTHS

\$219 lease payment
with \$2,066 down
and \$2,285 due at
signing***



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- Personal Safety System™
- 18" painted aluminum wheels
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16 CITY / 24 HWY
MPG WITH FWD

\$299
PER MONTH*
FOR 24 MONTHS

\$299 lease payment
with \$1,868 down
and \$2,167 due at
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- 4-bar chrome grille, fog lamps and roof-rack side rails
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- Compass and outside temperature readout
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- Personal Safety System™
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MPG WITH I-4 AUTO

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- 4-speed automatic transmission
- AM/FM sound system with single CD-player, 4 speakers, audio input jack and MP3 capability
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- Safety Canopy™ System and front seat side airbags
- 16" aluminum wheels

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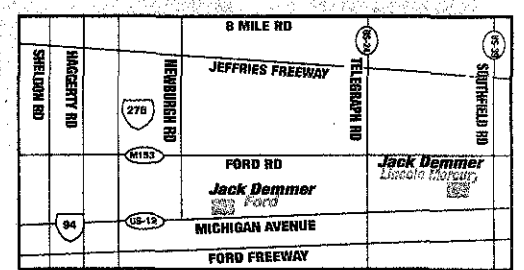
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- Heated/cooled front seats
- Dual auto temp control A/C
- Entry keypad
- Automatic transmission
- Aluminum wheels
- Power liftgate
- Cargo management system
- Auto dim review mirror w/ microphone

NEW 2008 LINCOLN MKZ



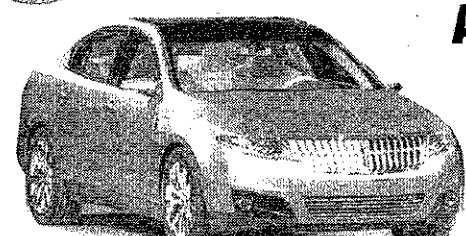
Stock #81220
VIN #3L8R635217

\$309
PER MONTH*
FOR 24 MONTHS

\$309 lease payment
with \$2,309

- All Wheel Drive • Leathers seats
- Floor mats • Fog lamps
- Hands free rearview mirror
- Message center • Side air curtain
- 6-speed automatic transmission
- Wood trim accent
- Wood/leather steering wheel w/speed
- Power moonroof
- 17" chrome wheels

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Stock #9W75
VIN #1L9G607316

\$396
PER MONTH*
FOR 24 MONTHS

\$396 lease payment
with \$2,396

- Premium leather
- Front floor mats, carpeted
- Rear floor mats
- Dual zone auto temp control
- Sirius satellite radio
- Automatic transmission
- Dual panel moonroof

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Stock #82163

\$285
PER MONTH*
FOR 24 MONTHS

\$285 lease payment
with \$2,285

- Leather seating
- Dual zone auto A/C
- 2-row safety canopy w/sensor
- Driver/passenger side air bag
- Heated seats, front
- Anti-theft perimeter alarm
- Automatic transmission
- Wood shift knob
- Sirius Sat. radio w/6 mos. service
- Reverse sensing system
- Adjustable pedals w/memory

NEW 2009 MERCURY MARINER



Stock #90139

\$211
PER MONTH*
FOR 24 MONTHS

\$211 lease payment
with \$2,211

- Cruise control
- Leather steering wheel
- Power mirrors w/manual fold
- Privacy glass
- Power moonroof with shade
- Mini-OH console w/map light
- SYNC voice activated system
- Steering wheel controls-SYNC
- Rear cargo convenience pkg.
- Interior cargo management sys
- Retractable cargo cover
- Roof rack with crossbars
- Power 6-way driver seat

NEW 2009 MERCURY MILAN



Stock #90024

\$184
PER MONTH*
FOR 24 MONTHS

\$184 lease payment
with \$2,184

- Automatic package
- 5-speed automatic transmission
- 16" aluminum wheels
- SYNC & sun package
- Power moonroof
- SYNC media gateway module
- Hands free rearview mirror

LINCOLN MERCURY
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