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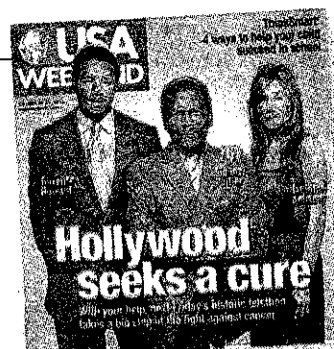


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CANTON Observer

SUNDAY August 31, 2008

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The award-winning Plymouth-Canton Marching Band, directed by Martin Montoya, practices for the 2008 season.

PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

New Meijer store for Michigan Ave. moves forward

BY TIFFANY L. PARKS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The Canton Planning Commission has put its stamp of approval on preliminary planned district development plans for a new Meijer store on Michigan Avenue.

Representatives for the 24-hour retailer went before the commission Monday night requesting approval to move forward with its proposed 156,000-square-foot store at the Morton Taylor intersection.

The 66-acre project, which will straddle the northwest and northeast corners of the intersection, will serve as a catalyst to continue development along Michigan Avenue, said attorney Bryan Amann, who is representing the Grand Rapids-based company.

"This area is one that certainly has a need," he said, adding that he disagrees with talk that the township doesn't need another Meijer. "Meijer will drive the daily traffic

(of the development). It will cause retailers to look twice."

Amann also said the store is likely to pull in Wayne residents who do their grocery shopping in Westland.

The development will include a gas station, outlots and a shopping center.

In her last meeting as a commissioner, Katherine Bovitz expressed some reservation about the embedded brick precast walls that Meijer has proposed for the exterior of the new store. Bovitz said the seams caused by the precast walls weren't attractive.

A Meijer representative said the brick panels are an economical choice for the company.

The preliminary PDD will now go before the Board of Trustees. If moved forward by the board, Meijer will then submit a final PDD request and site plans to the township.

Meijer has 182 stores in Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Ohio and Kentucky.

Getting their marching orders

With new director, band set to make some music

BY DIANE HANSON
CORRESPONDENT

The cadence of drums, the harmonious swells of music from brass and woodwinds, the mechanical beat of the metronome have all carried for miles into the Plymouth and Canton neighborhoods surrounding the Educational Park since the mid-August, weeklong home camp.

It can mean only one thing: The nationally acclaimed Plymouth-Canton Marching Band is on the move for the 2008 season.

"I'm really excited about this year's show," said enthused Plymouth senior Bruno Yoshioka, who plays primarily soprano and alto saxophones and will be playing a soprano sax solo in the second move-

WHERE THEY'LL BE

Here's the 2008 schedule for the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park Marching Band:
Sept. 13 - Novi
Sept. 27 - Trenton
Oct. 11 - Bands of America Regional at EMU
Oct. 25 - Great Lakes Invitational
Nov. 1 - State Championships at Ford Field
Nov. 13-15 - BOA Grand Nationals

ment. "I really like the music so far. The visual aspects are going very well. New members are catching on really quick and returning members are doing a lot better than they have in the past."

That's all music to the ears of

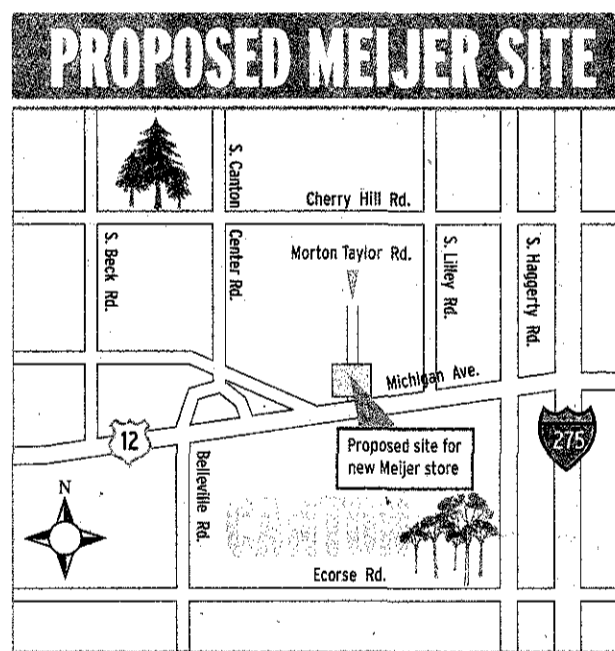


Kelcie Liubakka plays trumpet as the P-CEP Marching Band gets ready for the 2008 season.

Martin Montoya, just named the new director of bands. Montoya, who has served as a part-time assistant with the marching band for the past three years, replaces former director Marc Whitlock, who stepped down from the day-

time teaching position and the demanding schedule of the marching band for family reasons. Whitlock now directs the instrumental music program at Discovery Middle School in

Please see **BAND, A4**



Teen driver in fatal accident waves preliminary exam

BY KURT KUBAN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The Plymouth teenager charged with negligent homicide in connection with an April 22 fatal accident in Canton waved her preliminary exam Friday in 35th District Court. Elizabeth Ann Koet, 17, was bound over to the Third Circuit Court in Detroit, where she is scheduled to be arraigned on Sept. 12.

Koet, who is represented by Mount Clemens attorney Michael Cherry, has been charged with the two-year misdemeanor for her involvement in the April 22 crash that killed motorcyclist Diane Arlene Eickmeyer, 48. The accident took place at the intersection of Ford and Ridge roads.

Eickmeyer of Gregory, Mich., came in contact with Koet's minivan as the teen, who was traveling south on Ridge Road, attempted

to cross Ford Road. Police have said neither speeding, drugs nor alcohol were factors in the collision. Eickmeyer died of her injuries April 25.

Originally Koet's preliminary exam in 35th District Court had been scheduled earlier this month, but it was postponed until Friday so Cherry could meet with prosecutors to see if they could reach some kind of plea agreement. Koet remains released on a \$5,000 personal bond.



ANN ESPINOZA

Rekindling a lost art

Cathy Qualls spins wool into yarn. She is a member of Sisters of the Union, which participated in Canton's Village Faire last weekend in Cherry Hill Village. The event, which harkened back to the days when corn was king in Canton, featured plenty of historical demonstrations and displays, as well as the ever popular Canton Lions Club's annual Corn Roast.

For a story and more photos, please see page A3.

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Volume 34
Number 19

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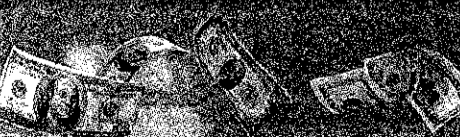
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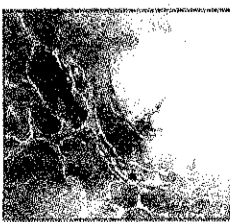
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INDEX

APARTMENTS	D3
AUTOMOTIVE	C8
CLASSIFIED	C6-D4
HEALTH	B3
HOMETOWNLIFE	C1
JOBS	C7
NEW HOMES	D1
OBITUARIES	C4
OPINION	A9
REAL ESTATE	D2
SERVICE GUIDE	D4
SPORTS	B1

Coming Thursday in filter



Art & Apples Festival

Mediator joins Wayne-Westland bargaining

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER

A state mediator has become involved in contract talks between Wayne-Westland school officials and its teachers union.

The Wayne-Westland Education Association requested the help of the mediator through the Michigan Employment Relations Commission Wednesday in hopes of avoiding a strike by the district's 900 teachers on Tuesday, the opening day of school.

"We're absolutely miles apart," said WWEA president Nancy Strachan. "We're trying to be reasonable and make reasonable offers."

Mediator Wanda Mayes met with both sides individually and together on Thursday and had scheduled another session for 10 a.m. Friday. Both sides planned to attend.

"We're encouraged by the use of a state mediator," said Superintendent Greg Baracy. "We will work in conjunction with the mediator to schedule as many meetings as necessary to reach a settlement."

"By using a mediator, it may be fruitful in helping us all reach a middle ground."

The teachers' contract expired Monday, the same day members overwhelmingly approved a strike, delaying start of school Tuesday.

According to Starchan, some issues have been settled, but the two sides are "far apart" on three issues - class sizes, health care and wages.

Evelyn Baran, Michigan Education Association field director, said Mayes can suggest alternatives to the two sides and insist they meet a reasonable number of times and places.

Both sides have exchange words over the course of negotiations with the union claiming the school district has failed to negotiate in good faith and refused to schedule new talks after Thursday in a press release issued by the Michigan Education Association late Thursday morning.

Baracy, however, said the press release was "not truthful" and reiterated a statement he made Tuesday that the "district is willing to go around the clock."

"We will continue to negotiate in good faith, this is now in the hands of the mediator," he said.

The school board met in closed session Thursday evening, and the union used it as an opportunity to rally outside the district's administrative offices on Marquette in Westland.

"I hope the school board can hear us and tell their team to get to the table Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday and wrap this up," Baran told



Wayne-Westland Education Association Nancy Strachan talks to teachers about contract talks during a rally Thursday evening.

a crowd of some 200 teachers who carried picket signs reading "Teachers deserve respect" and "All children deserve small classes." "We still have hope. We still have a couple of days and I hope with the board's support, we'll get a contract." "We want you back in school, we know that in your hearts that's what you want," said Strachan. "We want you back with a fair and equitable contract."

The rally came a day after the district sent a letter to teachers on Wednesday, stating that the board was "disappointed" to that the WWEA leadership may call a strike. The letter informed teachers that "whether the WWEA leadership calls an illegal strike, the board will expect all employees to report for work as scheduled."

It also stated that WWEA

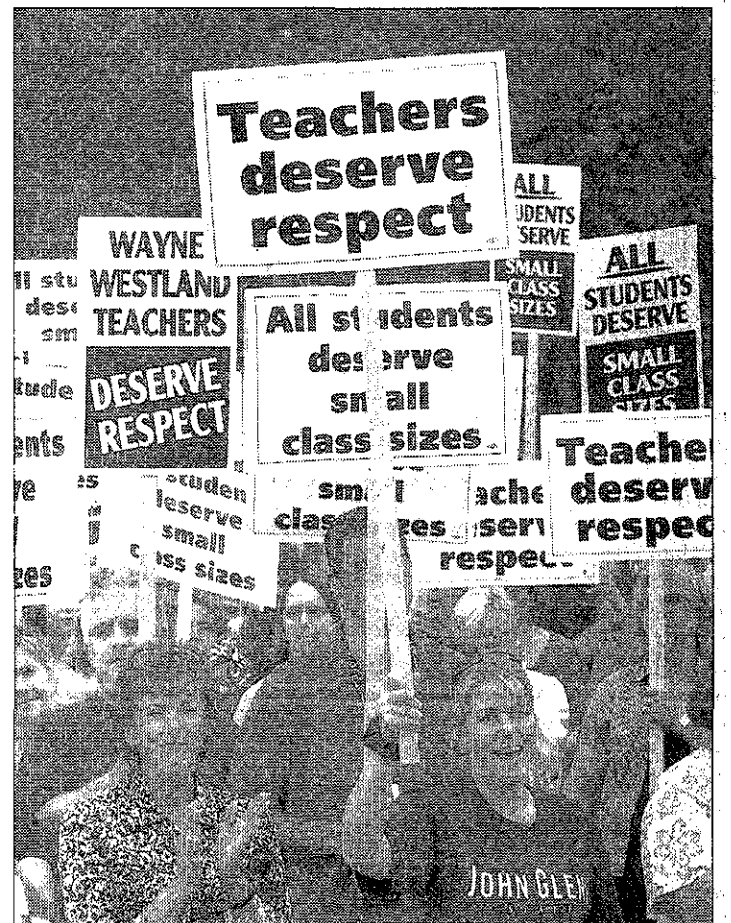
members who do not report for work or who report but do not perform all their duties will be "engaging in illegal conduct."

State law prohibits strikes by public employees, including teachers, who could face penalties ranging from fines to firing for breaking the law.

MEA attorney Bill Young told the teachers that the letter "was nothing more than what the union has seen in other places."

"It's just a letter, just a bully tactic," he said. "We want you in class on Tuesday with a fair contract."

Both sides also are using their Web sites to promote their cases. Thursday the school district posted a question and answer brief about negotiations on its Web site at www.wwcsd.net. The union is presenting MEA economist Ruth Beier's financial analysis



Wayne Westland teachers raise signs, calling for smaller class sizes and respect, in a show of support for Wayne-Westland Education Association negotiators during a rally at the district's administrative offices Thursday evening.

on the MEA Web site at www.mea.org/press.

Baran told the teachers that the union has the support of the UAW and were several handmade signs urging people to buy American-made cars.

"They (the UAW) made the signs. They're supporting us, and we appreciate that," said Sue Carlson, a Spanish teacher at Marshall Middle School.

Reminded of the school district's slogan, Baran told the teachers that "great futures

do start right here, not just for kids, but for the teachers."

"There's 900 of us, we'll all go out together, we all come in together," she said.

"We hope the board will tell its team to meet through the weekend," she added. "For sure, we know that if we don't bargain, we won't have an agreement by Tuesday. Our teachers want and agreement."

smason@hometownlife.com
(734) 953-2112

IN BRIEF

School supplies giveaway

Way of Life Christian Church is giving away free backpacks filled with school supplies. The picnic and giveaway will be held from 2-6 p.m. Aug. 31, at UAW 735, 48055 Michigan Avenue (west of Back Road). There will be refreshments and activities for children of all ages. Pastors Fred and Helen Canty and the Way of Life

congregation will be on hand and would love to meet your family. For more information, call (734) 482-0068.

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. 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.

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A stroll back through time

Good crowds turn out to see a bit of history at Village Faire

BY KURT KUBAN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A couple thousand area residents got to take a little glimpse at what life was like in Canton years ago when corn was king during last weekend's Village Faire.

The sixth annual event, which was put on by Canton Township, the Canton Historical Society and the Canton Lions Club, took place Saturday and Sunday in Cherry Hill Village and featured plenty of historical demonstrations, music and displays.

Actually, as it turns out, corn was king on Sunday, when the Canton Lions Club held its annual "corn roast" fund-raiser, an event Canton Lion Bob Boyer started several years ago. Canton Lion Charlie Mott, a former president of the club, said there was a good turnout for the all-you-can-eat meal that featured tasty grilled corn donated by Mary's Farm Market of Canton.

"It went pretty good. The turnout wasn't as big as last year, but that was probably because the event was two days instead of one as in the past. It went well, though, and the weather was perfect," said Mott, a longtime Canton resident.

On Saturday, there was an 1860s vintage baseball game between the Northville Eclipse and the Royal Oak Wahoos, which featured several shoeless players and 19th century rules. On Sunday, highlights included agricultural demonstrations with live oxen, a petting zoo with farm animals, and



PHOTOS BY ANN ESPINOZA

Fiddler Howard Schlegel played with the Heritage Minstrels.



Casey Bower learns how to turn fiber into rope from Tillers International. Casey, 10, lives in Canton.



Dodworth Saxhorn Band member Richard Rowe plays the baritone saxhorn for Canton resident Al Collins at the Village Faire.

Tillers International live demonstrations of rope-making and black-smithing.

In addition, the group Sisters of the Union provided plenty of living his-

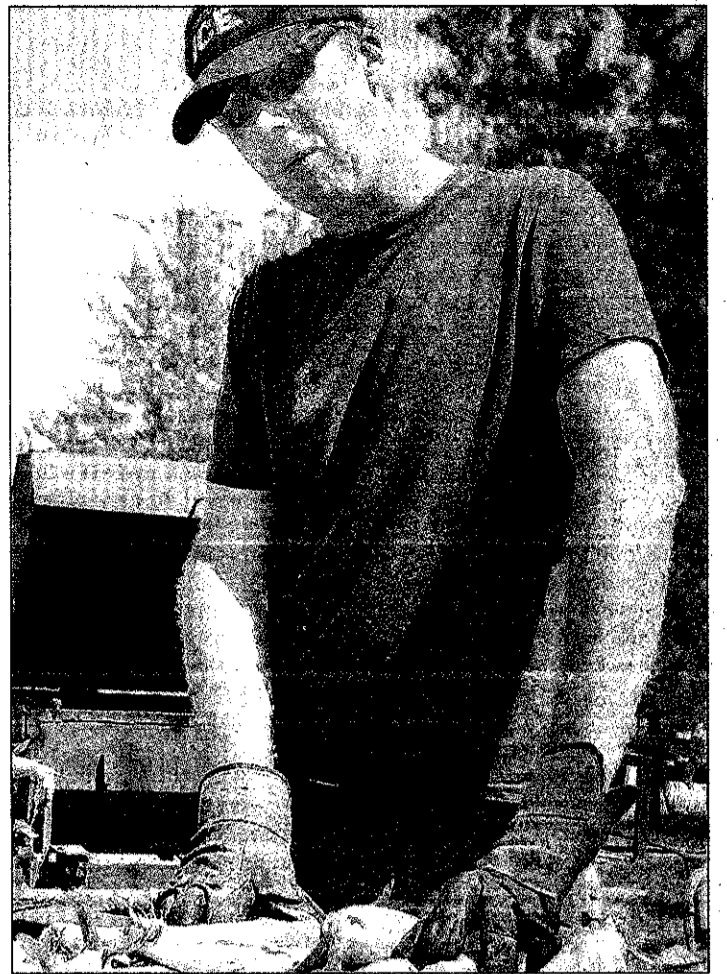
tory demonstrations, such as bees wax candle-making, soap-making, baking, and spinning.

Both days featured plenty of the kind of music that was prevalent when Canton was just a rural, agricultural township.


Canton Recreation Specialist Jennifer

Provenzano said the event went over great, largely because of its unusual demonstrations and activities.

"It's not the kind of stuff you see at most festivals. A lot of the activities were very hands on. It's a pretty unique event," Provenzano said.



Lions Club member David Smith roasts corn at the Village Faire on Sunday. The Corn Roast is on of the club's biggest fund-raisers and one of the big hits at the Faire.



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AROUND CANTON

Hazardous waste drop-off

Canton's annual Hazardous Household Waste Day will be held 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 6 at Canton's Division of Public Works Building, located at 4847 Sheldon Road. This event is open to Canton residents only and is an opportunity to make your home and environment safe by properly disposing of waste that is considered toxic, flammable, or corrosive.

Examples of acceptable waste being collected include, but are not limited to, fluorescent light bulbs, oil-based and latex paint, paint thinner, turpentine, bug sprays, floor-care products, expired medicine, computers and scanners, dry cleaning solvents, rat poison, household batteries, propane tanks, mercury waste, anti-freeze, brake fluid, diesel fuel, kerosene, motor oil, and acids.

Canton will be unable to accept commercial waste, construction debris, explosives or ammunition, fire extinguishers, firewood, radioactive

material, smoke detectors, and tires. To obtain a detailed list of what is and is not acceptable please call Canton Public Works at (734) 394-5150 or visit www.canton-mi.org.

For year round disposal of hazardous waste, Canton Waste Recycling (CWR), located at 42020 Van Born Road, will accept limited items on scheduled Fridays from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and on scheduled Saturdays from 8-11 a.m. Items accepted for drop off at CWR include, batteries, oil, antifreeze, and paint (limited to five one-gallon containers). CWR recycling dates can be found in your monthly Focus Newsletter under the community calendar or by calling CWR at (734) 397-5801.

Call for craffers

The Delta Kappa Gamma Education Society hosts its annual juried handmade-only Craft Show 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 18, at West Middle School in Plymouth.

Organizers are expecting some 1,500 customers for the show, which also features food and drawings. For more information, call Sandy Downs at (734) 340-4229 or e-mail Judy Stone at JBSTONE716@COMCAST.NET.

Head Start preschool

Plymouth Canton Head Start is now enrolling students in its free preschool program. There will be an ice cream social and fall kick off meeting from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Sept. 3 at Sheldon Head Start.

44649 Michigan Avenue, Canton. For more information or to enroll a student, call (734)326-6271.

Mom to mom sale

Connection Church in Canton is having a fall Mom-to-Mom Sale from 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 6. More than 75 moms will be selling their kids' clothes, toys, books/DVD's, baby equipment, etc., that their families have outgrown. There is a \$1 admission. Refreshments will be available. Strollers welcome. Connection Church is located at 3855 Sheldon Road, just north of Michigan Avenue. For more information, check out mom2momlist.com.

New music man picked to lead band

BY DIANE HANSON
CORRESPONDENT

Martin Montoya has been overwhelmed with the tremendous outpouring of support since Marc Whitlock, director of bands at the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park since 2003, asked him to serve as interim director of the award-winning Plymouth-Canton Marching Band.

Whitlock stepped down from the position due to family responsibilities and is now the director of the instrumental music program at Discovery Middle School in Canton.

"When I took the reins from Marc, I had an outpouring of e-mails and phone calls from parents of members, but also from alums of the program, parents of alums and former staff members," Montoya said. "It was really cool to see such community support, even long after their involvement with the program had ended."

Montoya, who grew up in Austin, Texas, was in marching band all four years at David Crockett High School there, as well as two years with the Cavaliers Drum and Bugle Corps and three years with the Texas State Marching Band. He received a master's degree in music performance



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Director Martin Montoya, here keeping time during a band camp drill, replaces Marc Whitlock, who stepped down after five years due to family circumstances.

from Michigan State University and it was during that time he assisted the Plymouth-Canton Marching Band a couple of days each week.

"I love the program and the kids," said Montoya, who helped out on a regular basis with the band during the 2007 season while employed at Spring Arbor University in Jackson. "(Whitlock) and I had been talking about me taking a more active role," recalled Montoya. "Then in May, when he had to make his decision, he asked me to kind of hold down the fort while the transition took place."

That transition for Montoya and other new staff members has been facilitated by

current staff members, Montoya said. He had special kudos for Jenifer Leseth, color guard director for the marching band.

Band booster president Scott Ragland said the program is fortunate to have Montoya. "You've got somebody in Martin who is very familiar with the kids," Ragland said. "They respect him because he delivers to them what they need, which is how to play their instruments better and how to be better at marching. Whenever there is change, that always breeds a little bit of anxiety among people. But this program has seen change a number of times and it has never slowed down the progress. I don't think this year will be any different."

BAND
FROM PAGE A1

Canton. "These are some of the hardest working people I have ever met," Montoya said of his 170 marching band students and his staff. "I've worked with a lot of different programs, but nothing like this. The work ethic is greater than anything I've ever seen before."

That work ethic is something that has paid off over the years for the band that has captured the Flight I State Championship title 21 times in the Michigan Competing Band Association's 28-year history, not to mention consistently placing among the top bands in the nation at the Bands of America Grand National Championships, marching off



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

It's time for a water break, so Matt Siedlik and Matt Wolfe rehydrate.

with the championship trophy in 1990, 1991 and 1999.

"This band has one of the longest-lasting national reputations out there," said Montoya. "Every year we go to Nationals in November and people always expect a great product. We're looking forward to another

great year."

This year's show is titled, "Kaleidoscope," an approximately 10-minute, fast-paced extravaganza of music and color in motion.

"The program is coming together nicely and the group has been working hard," said band booster President Scott Ragland. "I think everybody is excited about the show and how it is coming along. It's going to be colorful. It's going to be fast. It's going to be true Plymouth-Canton."

Montoya couldn't agree more.

"We've got a good start and we're all really excited about it," he said. "We think it's going to be a real crowd-pleasing performance this year."

Part of the reason for that good start, Montoya explained,

is due to the strong leadership skills band members develop over the years.

"This is my fourth year with the program so it's great to see some of the kids, who were freshmen when I started working here, taking the leadership role," he said. "One of the things this program does is, by the time the students get to that senior level, they're ready to take on the leadership role and help bring up the younger kids."

That's something Salem senior Stephanie Torok, one of this year's drum majors along with Caroline Williams and Kayla Ragland, takes personally.

"This is the year that you make your legacy," she noted about her last year with the band. "It's where leadership really takes place. You inspire the kids who are going to be the future leaders."

Salem junior Alex Rodriguez, a second-year flutist with the band, concurred.

"The section leaders this year are absolutely fantastic and they're stepping up to the plate," she said.

"Teachers can tell you to do stuff, but it's up to the kids to actually apply it. Band has taught me to lead myself and to get that encouragement from within myself, but also to help with other people. It's been a growing experience."

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BABYLON A.D. (PG-13)
12:20, 2:30, 4:40, 6:50, 9:00
FR/SAT LS 11:10
DEATH RACE (R)
12:15, 2:35, 4:55, 7:15, 9:35
FR/SAT LS 11:55
THE ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW (R)
FR/SAT LS 11:40
FLY ME TO THE MOON 3D (G)
11:05, 1:05, 3:05, 5:05, 7:05
STAR WARS: THE CLONE WARS (PG)
12:00, 2:20, 4:45, 7:00
MIRRORS (R) 9:45
TROPIC THUNDER (R)
11:45, 2:10, 4:35, 7:00, 9:25
FR/SAT LS 11:50
THE DARK KNIGHT (PG-13)
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Presented by
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Notice is hereby given that on Monday, September 15, 2008 TATE & CO. Auctioneers, Executive Administrator for Extra Space Storage, will be offering for sale under the judicial lien process, by public auction, the following storage units. The goods to be sold are generally described as household goods. The terms of the sale will be cash only. Extra Space Storage reserves the right to refuse any and all bids. The sale will be at the following location: Extra Space Storage, 6729 N Canton Center Rd., Canton, MI 48187 @ NOON.

Paula Garland E-186 10x10 TV, Couch, mattress, boxspring, dresser, headboard, footboard, blankets, 5+ tubs, 5+ boxes, chairs, tables, loveseat, wicker chair, art deco piece, luggage

Publish: August 31 & September 7, 2008

PLANNING COMMISSION NOTICE
CITY OF PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2008
7:00 PM
(734) 453-1234

A regular meeting of the Planning Commission will be held at the Cultural Center to consider the following:

Due to remodeling of City Hall, the meeting will be held at the Cultural Center located at 525 Farmer. A notice is posted at City Hall that includes a map to the Cultural Center.

1. PUBLIC HEARING FOR SPECIAL USE, SITE PLAN APPROVAL:

SP 07-07 Change of Use from Residential to Office
820 Starkweather
Zoned: MU, Mixed Use
Applicant: Joseph Philips Architect

All interested persons are invited to attend.

In accordance with the Americans with disabilities Act, the City of Plymouth will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audiotapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting/hearing, to individuals with disabilities. Requests for auxiliary aids or services may be made by writing or calling the following:
Maureen Brodie, ADA Coordinator
201 S. Main Street
Plymouth, MI 48170
(734) 453-1234, Ext. 206

Publish: Sunday, August 31, 2008

Airport prepares for opening of new North Terminal

BY HUGH GALLAGHER
STAFF WRITER

The Wayne County Airport Authority is ready to roll out the red carpet for Detroit Metro Airport's new North Terminal.

While not as splashy as the McNamara Terminal on the airport's south end, the North Terminal is a sparkling improvement over the aging Smith and Berry terminals it is replacing.

"The simplicity of this building is part of its beauty," Michael Conway, the airport's director of public affairs, said at a media tour of the new facility Wednesday.

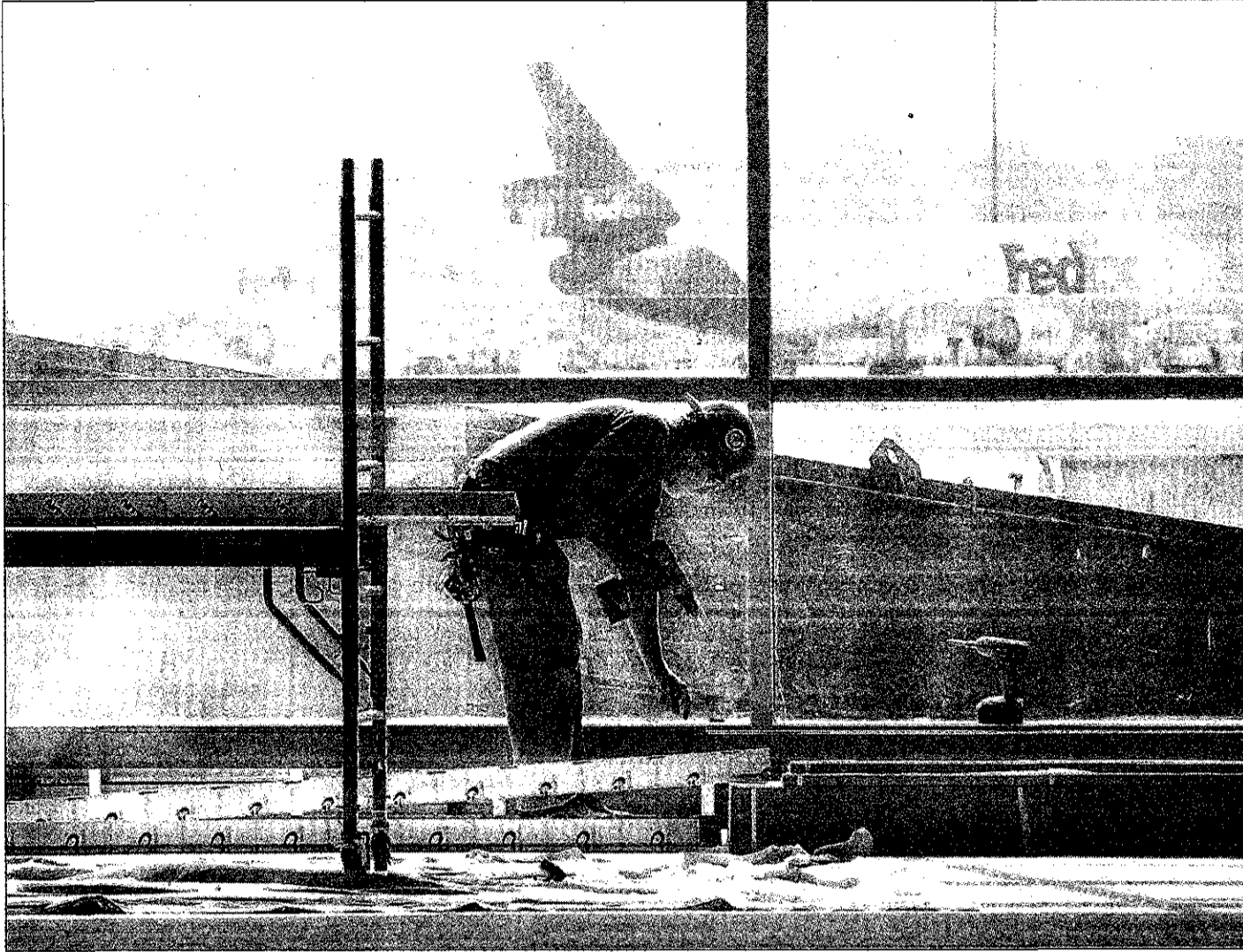
The \$431 million terminal is scheduled to officially open Sept. 17. Wednesday, construction workers were busy putting the final touches in place for a weekend of previews Friday-Saturday, Sept. 5-6.

"Detroit Metro Airport is one of southeast Michigan's greatest assets, and the Airport Authority is eager to share this new addition to our award-winning facilities with the community we serve," WCAA CEO Lester Robinson said.

Until the opening of the McNamara Terminal for Northwest Airlines and its affiliate airlines in 2002, Detroit Metro Airport was regularly criticized for its dated, aging and inefficient facilities. One critic said Detroit Metro ranked just ahead of the Calcutta airport as the worst in the world.

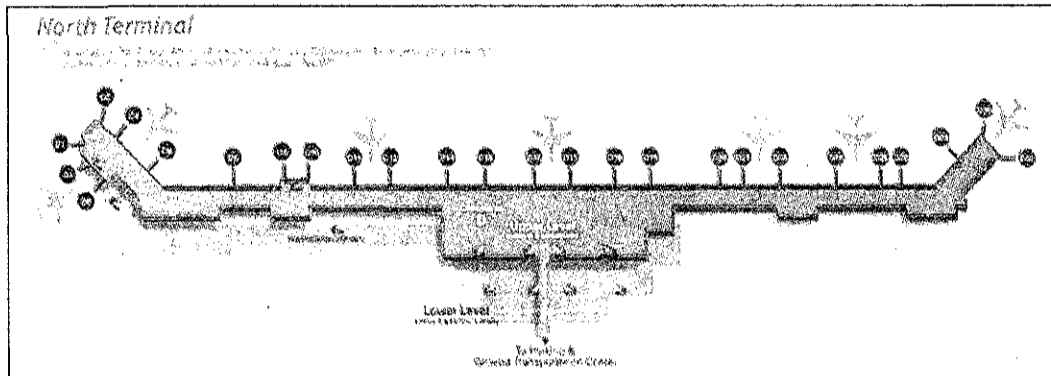
The sleek McNamara Terminal began to change the opinion of writers and fliers. The 26-gate North Terminal will serve the airlines not affiliated with Northwest: Southwest, United, Air Canada, U.S. Airways, Spirit, Frontier, AirTran and USA 3000. In addition, Lufthansa and Royal Jordanian will move from McNamara to the new terminal.

Conway said the Airport Authority set four major goals for the new building: safety, convenience, efficiency for air-



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

It won't be long before jets are pulling up to the new terminal.



The North Terminal will have a linear layout similar to the McNamara Terminal on Metro Airport's south side.

lines and expandability. The North Terminal's long, linear design replaces the old-

fashioned pier design of the Smith and Davey terminals, which caused delays as airliners

had to wait for other airliners to pull out. "In linear style, aircraft can

move in and out of gates independent of each other," Conway said.

The North Terminal will not have a people mover as at McNamara, but it will have a moving sidewalk. There will be restrooms at the end of each moving sidewalk and convenient to the gates. The gates will have sleek and durable Herman Miller seating.

"We get lots of compliments on gate seating and it's a Michigan company," Conway said.

Thirty concessions will serve the facility, including such name brands at Borders, Brookstone,

Champps, TGI Friday's, Ruby Tuesday, Hockeytown Cafe, McDonald's and Xpress Spa.

Conway said the new terminal doesn't have the rich detail of McNamara, but it will be more colorful and more light-filled.

"We did a lot with color; we didn't have a McNamara budget," he said.

But the airport did receive a Voluntary Airport Low Emissions grant of \$1.7 million from the Federal Aviation Administration. Funding from the grant was used for infrastructure to deliver fuel, temperature-controlled air and auxiliary electrical power directly to aircraft parked at the boarding gates. The equipment will cut down on emissions from mobile fuel trucks and the preconditioned air and electrical power units will reduce the reliance on on-board auxiliary power units and diesel-powered ground power units.

A ground transportation center will accommodate all commercial vehicles loading and unloading, such as car rental, taxi cabs, parking lot shuttles and limousines.

Demolition of the old Davey Terminal to make room for construction of the North Terminal began in 2006. Smith and Berry terminals will be decommissioned. Smith Concourse C will be demolished immediately to make way for gates. Concourses A and B need to come down to make room for a major deicing pad. The Smith terminal was opened in 1958, when airlines began to shift passenger service from Willow Run Airport.

No timeline has been set on bringing down the central Smith terminal, which is used for the Airport Authority's administrative offices.

Conway said the authority is considering the possibility of selling naming rights to the new terminal, as was done in naming Comerica Park and Ford Field. He said a final decision hasn't been made.



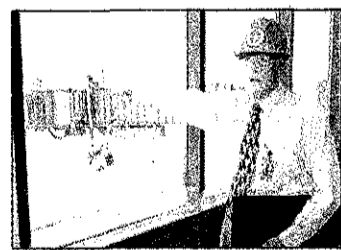
The new terminal's design isn't as flashy as the McNamara Terminal, but will be a major improvement over the aged Smith Terminal.

Public previews planned for terminal

The Wayne County Airport Authority (WCAA) will soon offer the public its first glimpse inside the new North Terminal at Detroit Metropolitan Airport (DTW) as it hosts a series of preview events in advance of the terminal's scheduled opening Sept. 17.

Events planned are:
 ■ VIP Charity Preview Event — Friday, Sept. 5
 A charity preview 7-11 p.m. inside the new terminal to benefit five local nonprofit organizations. This exclusive preview event will offer guests their first chance to see the new, 26-gate facility up-close before it opens to travelers in mid-September.

Guests will hear music from the Detroit Symphony Orchestra Quartet, enjoy a strolling dinner by Metro Detroit caterer, Forte Bellanger, as well as musical entertainment from "Alizma." Proceeds from the event will benefit the Charles H. Wright Museum of African-American History, First Step, The Salvation Army, Habitat for Humanity and Traveler's



Michael Conway, director of public affairs for the Airport Authority, describes a new system for fueling and providing air conditioning and ground power for waiting aircraft.

Aid Society of Metropolitan Detroit.

For more details regarding this charity preview event, charities and tickets, visit www.airportpreview.com.

■ Community Open House — Saturday, Sept. 6

All members of the public can visit the new terminal, free of charge, at a community open house 1-5 p.m. While participants explore the new North Terminal and learn about this exciting new addition to DTW, they will also enjoy music, dance, games, a scavenger hunt and prizes provided by Radio Disney. In

addition, the event will feature various high-tech interactive displays including flight simulators, Rock Band, Dance Dance Revolution, Dancing Heads and much more.

Attendees will have the chance to win several prizes, including a plane load of gas in gas cards, a trip to Disney World, several round-trip airline tickets and various other giveaways. Refreshments will also be served.

Although the event is free, reservations are recommended. For more information regarding this community open house and to register, visit www.airportopenhouse.com.

■ Family Day Preview — Saturday, Sept. 6

Prior to opening its doors to the public Sept. 6, the Airport Authority will first welcome the friends and family of all of its employees and those of its contractors and vendors who designed, built or otherwise contributed to the planning, design and construction of this new facility at a private event that morning. Details are provided at www.dtwfamily.com.

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Beware of the black bear coming near

Adaptive. Opportunist. Combine those words and we have a powerful catalyst for changing wildlife behavior. That is the way it often is when wildlife blends with the suburban fringe of wildness in this tale of woodpeckers and bears.

On the very same day I discovered a downy woodpecker in a near comical, yet successful attempt at half-hovering and half-perching on the slippery edge of my hummingbird feeder, the Michigan DNR confirmed a black bear rooting about a potato field in nearby Washtenaw County. Both creatures recognized opportunity and adapted to our behavior. And learned from it. The woodpecker returns every day for his sweet treat.

Wildlife biologist Julie Oakes of the Michigan DNR reminded me that several years ago a black bear was hit by a car on I-75 near Flint, another made it across I-69 and wandered about Lapeer County for awhile, and credible rumors of black bear surfaced earlier this year in Hadley Township on the Oakland County line. None of this should be surprising for black bears, espe-



Oakland Naturally

Jonathan Schechter

cially younger males, have great wanderlust. Bears are masters of opportunity, one the world's most adaptable carnivores. Their reasoning ability, long-term memory, omnivorous food habits, dexterity, speed and strength coupled with their ability to travel unseen along bushy roadside edges and waterways means it is time for us to Be Bear Aware. Aware, not panicked, for most of the time bears avoids humans.

Oakes is correct when she states, "Black bears are not aggressive like grizzly bears, they will usually turn tail and run, if you make noises and scare them off." Usually is a key word. There are well-documented accounts of defensive (protecting cubs) and predatory (they want you for dinner) black bear attacks (not in Michigan) and bear-human encounters are likely to increase.

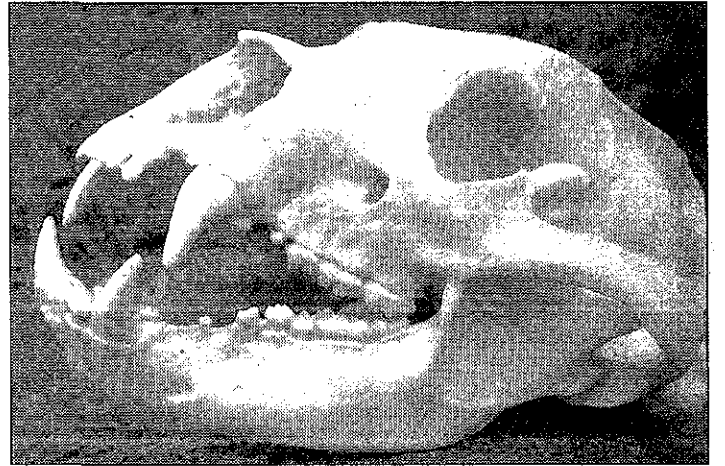
To keep the situation in perspective look to the Great Smokey Mountains. Nine million visitors annually. Approximately 1,600 black bears. Eighth bear attacks in a decade. Two fatal predatory attacks. The fact of the matter remains clear: Aggressive encounters between people and black bears are extremely rare. But once bears associate people with food, they lose their instinctive fear of humans and conflicts are inevitable. In the colorful new DNR brochure, "Preventing Bear Problems in Michigan" they changing dynamics are noted, "Black bears may be found almost anywhere in Michigan, but are most likely to be seen in the northern two thirds of the state." DNR tips to avoid problems include "Never feed bears" and "Keep garbage and odor at a minimum by removing trash." Yet, jump to on-line bear hunting regulations of the same DNR and we find a different story for a different audience: bear hunters. Hunters may use the following products without quantity restrictions to lure in bears, "dog food, bakery/confectionery prod-

ucts including jams, jellies, sweeteners, candies, pie filling and yogurts..."

Perhaps bear baiting is brew for conflict, for that is feeding bears. Human foods and bait piles increase the potential for bears becoming fearless and habituated to humans, a fact other states recognize. New Mexico (they had fatal predatory attacks) notes that 70 percent of bear-human conflicts are human-trash based. Whatever a bear (or nectar happy woodpecker) learned from its experiences will influence its behavior in the next encounter.

Here is your two-word primer if you find yourself face to face with a snarling mass of muscle, fur and teeth, a predatory black bear attack: Fight back. For if you play dead during a black bear attack the bear is likely to eat you. Better yet, avoid trouble in the first place. If approached by a black bear, never turn and run. If you act like prey, you become prey. Safety tips at www.bebear-aware.org. Now let's go camping and fire up the barbecue.

Jonathan Schechter writes on nature's way. Oaknature@aol.com.



JONATHAN SCHECHTER

This bear skull indicates just how powerful these creatures are.

Headstart offers series on relationships

Wayne County Head Start is offering a workshop series, Healthy Marriage/Healthy Relationships throughout Wayne County.

Couples participating in the workshops will be able to address problems in their relationships and single parents in serious relationships will be able to develop relationship skills needed to move toward marriage.

Grandparents are welcome both to receive guidance as they take on the task of raising grandchildren and to contribute their

wisdom in mentoring roles for newly married couples or couples contemplating marriage.

The series are scheduled to begin Sept. 8.

For more information directly contact the Head Start programs at these location:

■ Wayne and Westland - Stottlemeyer Early Childhood Center. Ron Barratt at (734) 419-2630

■ Wayne County Head Start - 30712 Michigan Avenue, Westland, MI 48186 Marsha L. Roberts, Assistant Director (734) 727-7617

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Public Notice
Public Auction of Tax Foreclosed Property

September 15, 16, 17*, and 18*, 2008
International Center Building
400 Monroe, 8th Floor
Detroit, Michigan

* If necessary

BIDDER REGISTRATION BEGINS AT 8:00 A.M.
AUCTION BEGINS AT 9:30 A.M. ON SEPT. 15
EACH DAY THEREAFTER THE AUCTION IS SCHEDULED TO BEGIN AT 9:00 A.M.

A \$1,000 **CASHIER'S CHECK** in U.S. funds is required per property bid payable to the Wayne County Treasurer. A **CASHIER'S CHECK** must be shown at registration. The Wayne County Treasurer, as the foreclosing governmental unit, under Public Act 123 of 1999, reserves the right to remove any property from the sale and to reject any and all bids. List of properties being offered and rules and regulations are available online after August 20th at

www.waynecounty.com/treasurer

Auction books will be available at the Treasurer's Office. Check website for exact date.

Call (313) 224-5990
RAYMOND J. WOJTOWICZ
Wayne County Treasurer
Office Hours:
Monday-Friday / 8 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.

TONIGHT 7:30PM

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Interim principal takes charge at Belleville High

BY KURT KUBAN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The Van Buren Schools Board of Education named Tim Ottewell interim principal at Belleville High School on Monday, less than a week after accepting the resignation of Sheila Brown, who took a job with Ann Arbor Public Schools.

According to district spokesman Paul Henning, Brown, who has been the principal at Belleville High for the last two years, received an offer from Ann Arbor to be the principal at the district's alternative education center on Aug. 15. She accepted the job the following week, and submitted her resignation on Aug. 19.

"Essentially she gave us a week's notice," Henning said.

Ottewell, who was serving as assistant principal at the high school, will be the top administrator at the high school for the rest year.

"The board agreed to either begin a search for a replacement in the spring, or they will ask Tim to do it if that's what he wants to do," Henning said.

Henning said the board is confident Ottewell will do a good job.

"He's been an assistant at the high school for a long time, at least 10 years. He's rock solid," he said.

On Monday, the school board also approved final language for two ballot proposals for the Nov. 4 election, including a \$79 million bond to rebuild Belleville High School. District officials are asking voters to approve the 30-year bond that

would cost taxpayers up to 2.98 mills per year to pay for remodeling and replacing portions of the current high school, as well as improving its technology infrastructure and reconstructing the athletic fields.

The other proposal will ask voters to continue a current sinking fund at a reduced rate for seven years through 2015. If approved, the district will be able to levy 1.13 mills to make needed repairs to school buildings throughout the district. The current sinking fund allowed the district to levy 1.3 mills to construct the cafeteria and music wings at the high school, as well as Edgemont and Rawsonville elementary schools. Because of growth in the district, those projects were paid off before the expiration of the millage.

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Ages 13+ 1-1:45 pm

Auditions for Singers

Ages 10-Adult 2-2:45 pm

Auditions for Gymnasts

Ages 10-up 3-3:30 pm

A non-refundable audition fee of \$10 is due at registration.

- Wear appropriate dance wear and footwear: tap, jazz and/or ballet shoes.
- Be prepared to learn a dance combination.
- Dancers will audition as a group.
- Bring a non-returnable photo of yourself
- Arrive 1/2 hour before scheduled audition time to register and warm up.
- Singers should bring a prepared piece of any holiday music, in CD format.
- Performers arriving late will not be permitted to audition.

Showdates: December 18th-21st, 2008
at the Luxurious Cherry Hill Village Theater
visit www.centralcitydance.com for information about the audition process

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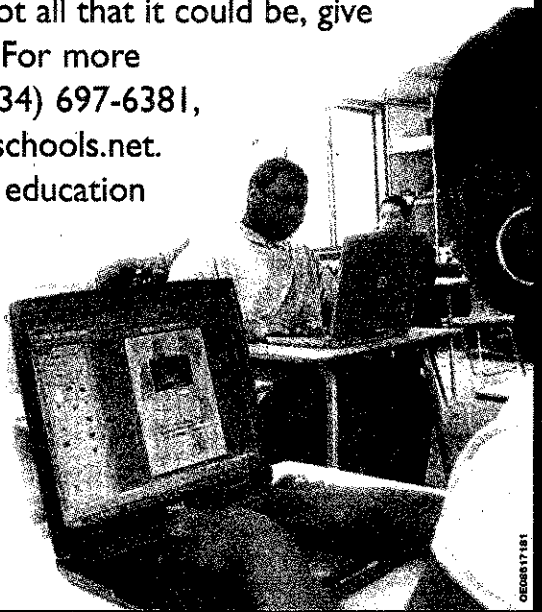
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OUR VIEWS

No easy resolutions for teachers negotiations

With the advent of state legislation in the 1960s, teachers began formally to organize labor unions, something previously prohibited for public employees. By 1967, dozens of bargaining units in the state marked Labor Day — and the start of school — by going on strike.

While strikes weren't — and still aren't — legal, school districts have had to go to court to compel teachers to return to the classroom.

More than 30 years later, some area school districts still see contentious negotiations. Teachers in the Wayne-Westland School District have called for a strike Monday, but both sides began Thursday meeting with a state mediator.

Other districts, like Plymouth-Canton, say they have found a better way. That district recently arrived at contract settlements with its nine unions, using what is called interest-based bargaining. That process uses a mediator in less adversarial discussions.

Regardless of the bargaining tactics, the woeful state economy and resultant small increases in state aid are having an impact on school districts.

"Things haven't gotten much better for Michigan school districts," Royal Oak Supt. Thomas Moline said. That district was able to give teachers "a very small" salary increase.

One district that has faced contentious negotiations is Southfield Public Schools, which is negotiating its first contract after privatizing bus, cafeteria and custodial jobs in the face of financial problems.

Unions in poorly funded districts know their bargaining chips are few. While discussion points have been exchanged in South Redford, both sides have agreed to delay serious bargaining until a small, \$88 per student increase in state aid is received.

That's interesting because finance officials in all districts report that salaries and benefits comprise the bulk of their budgets. Critics of teacher unions claim that state aid increases go toward salaries, not programs. Union officials counter, however, that teachers are responsible for delivering those programs.

The situation is far worse in the Redford Union district, where teachers have gone for three years without a contract. Top of the scale teachers have gone for five years without a wage increase, and unfair labor practices have been filed by both sides.

Union members are aware of the Redford Union district's plight, operating in a deficit, but the call for concessions leaves them bitter.

The better-funded Troy School District still is facing tough negotiations. Teachers have made some previous concessions, particularly in the area of health care. Their contract has been extended until Oct. 3, as bargainers negotiate everything from the school calendar to the financial package.

The contrasts show that challenging labor negotiations are experienced by districts both small and large, well-funded and not.

"We're absolutely miles apart," Wayne-Westland Education Association President Nancy Strachan said. "We're trying to be reasonable and make reasonable offers."

The problem is, what is reasonable? That will be for each district to decide, but perhaps equally important is finding a process that works well for both sides.

After all, 40 years of bargaining has shown contentious negotiations aren't productive.

The Plymouth-Canton district approach, in which both sides accept ownership for issues, may not work for everyone. But it's a place to start.

Rotary exchange offers a life-changing experience

In 1987, I was a young reporter working for a group of weekly newspapers Downriver.

One day, I was approached by a local city councilman I had come to know through covering his city, and he asked me if I was interested in taking part in a vocational exchange to Japan.



Joe Bauman

He explained that he was a member of the local Rotary club, and the organization offered these exchanges as a way of meeting the organization's goal of promoting world peace through better understanding.

At the time, I did not know anything about Rotary International, except for they sponsored an annual boat race on the Detroit River in Trenton. What I quickly learned was Rotary (www.rotary.org) is a global service organization of over 1.2 million professional men and women in more than 31,000 clubs who share the common goals of promoting peace and international understanding through service projects. At the time I was encouraged to apply for the trip, Mazda was gearing up to open its first U.S. manufacturing plant just down the road in Flat Rock, and the exchange offered an excellent way to better understand our new neighbors.

So, I applied for the exchange and, much to my surprise, was one of five young professionals selected for the 30-day exchange. The all-expenses paid trip was a life-changing experience for me, as I journeyed across Japan's main island absorbing the history, culture and politics of the economic workhorse, and writing for newspapers from Hiroshima to Tokyo.

Several years later, I started to repay my debt to Rotary for the experience when I became a member of the Birmingham Rotary Club shortly after joining the staff of the *Eccentric*. And several years after that, I had the chance to return the favor when the Birmingham Rotary Club sponsored one

of my young editors, who was selected for a four-week vocational exchange to Brazil.

This year, this area's exchange is with Australia, and the call has gone out once again to find a team of deserving and dedicated individuals to send to the land down under.

Rotary International is offering a month-long, fully paid educational and career development excursion opportunity to Brisbane in eastern Australia for four early-career professionals to travel on a Rotarian-led Group Study Exchange (GSE) team from Feb. 26 to March 28, 2009. Brisbane is the capital of Queensland and is Australia's fourth largest commercial center and port.

Applicants for GSE teams are selected from corporations, small businesses, community organizations, medical and educational facilities, government offices and nonprofit agencies. To be eligible, team members must be between 25 and 40 years old, and may not be a Rotary club member or be directly related to a Rotarian.

Anyone looking for a once-in-a-lifetime experience should check out the program by visiting the Rotary Foundation Web site at <http://www.rotary.org/en/ServiceAndFellowship/Fellowship/GroupStudyExchange/Pages> and to download application forms at http://www.rotary.org/RIdocuments/en_pdf/161en.pdf. Applicants must obtain an endorsement from your local Rotary Club.

Completed, signed applications must be submitted by 5 p.m. Sept. 26, to GSE co-chair Manish Mehta at manimehta@gmail.com or contact him at (734) 604-7989 with any questions.

So go ahead and fill out an application. You just never know if you will be the next young professional living the Rotary dream.

Joe Bauman is managing editor of the *Eccentric* Newspapers. He welcomes feedback at jbauman@hometownlife.com or visit his blog at www.hometownlife.com under the title The Wine Steward.

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Taking the cash best option when inheriting IRA



Money Matters
Rick Bloom

Dear Rick: I am going to receive an inheritance of about \$75,000. I was told I have a choice to either take cash or I can inherit an IRA. My wife thinks it is better to inherit the

IRA because we really don't need the money. I'm leaning toward cash. What are your thoughts?

It is a slam dunk. You should take the cash. The main reason is taxes.

The issue for you is the tax consequences on the inherited money. If you inherit the IRA, that \$75,000 is eventually going to be taxed as ordinary income. Therefore, of the \$75,000 that you receive, more

than \$25,000 would have to be paid in taxes netting you only \$50,000.

On the other hand, if you take the \$75,000 in cash you will pay zero income taxes.

When it comes to inheritance there is a lot of confusion about taxes. Part of the confusion is there are different taxes that enter into the equation. There can be income tax and estate tax consequences. In the typical situation,

when someone receives money from an estate there are no estate taxes. Estate taxes are levied on the estate itself and not the beneficiary. However, when someone does inherit money, there can be income tax consequences.

Dear Rick: About a year ago, I got suckered into buying a variable annuity and all it's done is lose money. I want out. I talked

to the person who sold it to me and he said if I sell I have to pay thousands of dollars as a penalty. I am outraged. Is there anything I can do?

Anyone who reads my column knows I am not a fan of variable annuities. They typically have very high fees, adverse tax consequences and substantial early withdrawal fees. In addition, they do not offer investors the flexibility

that they need in managing their portfolio.

That being said, once you're in a variable annuity, you have few options with regards to liquidation. You can choose to bite the bullet, pay the penalty and get out. I recognize that this is a drastic measure, however, you should recognize that in a variable annuity you pay high ongoing fees, high management fees and insurance costs.

There is, however, another option. If you believe the salesperson misrepresented the policy, you potentially have legal recourse. There have been many cases where financial salespeople have been held liable for misrepresenting investment products. If you believe there has been some misrepresentation, consult with an attorney.

If you do decide to consult an attorney, I recommend dealing with one who will take the case on a contingency fee basis. That means he/she gets paid only if you get paid. Therefore, you are not necessarily putting good money after bad.

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. Observer & Eccentric readers can submit questions at money-matters@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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Schoolcraft unveils Biomedical Tech Center

Schoolcraft College will hold an open house and tours for its new Biomedical Technology Center, 3-5 p.m. Friday, Sept. 5.

The 48,000-square-foot, \$12.5 million building will bring together the college's science, math, medicine and technology programs. The center will focus on the STEM and GRIN curriculum. STEM stands for science, technology, engineering and mathematics and GRIN stands for genetics, robotics, information systems and nanotechnology.

The building features four state-of-the-art laboratories, a learning theater and SIM man for demonstrating anatomy. The official ribbon cutting will take place at 3:30 p.m.

Refreshments will be served and music will be provided by Barton Polot, music faculty member and director of the Synthesizer Ensemble, and several students.

Attendees will have the opportunity to see demonstrations in cellular and molecular biology lab, the anatomy and physiology lab, the imaging and analysis lab, the biomedical engineering technology lab and the SIM Man in the Learning Theater.

Sustainability is an important feature of this new building and several displays and stops along the guided tours will point out several of these features.

Schoolcraft College is on Haggerty Road in Livonia between Six and Seven Mile. The new building is on the east side of the campus behind the Applied Science building.

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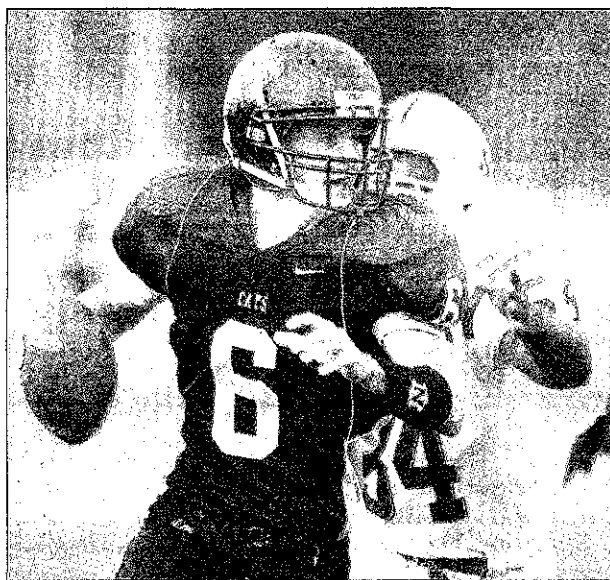
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2008 prep football season opens



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth senior wide receiver Connor McKinney leaves a pair of Salem players in his wake as he scores a second-quarter touchdown during the Wildcats' 47-7 victory Thursday night. McKinney later added another receiving TD and a rushing score. Plymouth quarterback Matt Skubik, pictured at right eluding Salem linebacker Christopher Watkins, threw four touchdown passes and ran for another.



AIR SHOW

Plymouth's passing game on target in 47-7 rout over Rocks

BY ED WRIGHT
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The mohawk was back in style Thursday night at the PCEP varsity football stadium and the guys wearing the retro haircuts were scoring a lot more than style points.

Fueled by a pin-point passing attack that piled up 287 yards and an everyone-to-the-ball defense that yielded just 44 first-half yards, Plymouth secured the Black & Blue trophy for another year after dismantling Salem, 47-7.

Wildcat quarterback Matt Skubik — one of several 'Cats who sported the freshly groomed mohawk look — shredded the Rocks' defense for 235 passing yards, four passing TD's and one rushing score before giving way to back-up Ryan Barrera midway through the third quarter.

"A bunch of us seniors decided to cut our hair as kind of a team pride thing," said Skubik, as he rubbed the two-inch-wide strip of hair that survived the clippers. "It's something we can rally around."

A modest Skubik credited everybody but himself for Thursday's prolific air show.

"It was great game-planning by the coaches and our line kept everybody off me," he said. "I didn't get touched the entire game. Everybody did their job and worked hard."

Skubik's favorite targets during his 7-of-13 night were seniors Zach Hamed (three catches for 127 yards and a TD) and Ronnie Goble, who also hauled in three spirals for 66 yards and a score.

Connor McKinney snared one Skubik aerial for a 21-yard TD. He also grabbed a 22-yarder from Barrera before scoring in the fourth quarter on a 55-yard run.

"I honestly didn't know what to expect coming in here tonight because Salem is so big — they're huge," said Plymouth coach

OPENING-NIGHT STARS

There were no opening-night jitters Thursday for several local high school football players who made their mark early for their respective teams. Listed below are six players who rose to the occasion in their 2008 debuts:

■ Plymouth quarterback **Matt Skubik** threw for 235 yards and four TD's and ran for another score in the Wildcats' 47-7 win;

■ Canton running back **Kiere Daniels** dashed for 112 yards on 10 carries in the Chiefs' 21-12 triumph over Brighton;

■ Plymouth running back **Terrance Guthridge** rushed for 131 yards on eight carries and scored on a 61-yard jaunt;

■ Canton running back **Adam Payter** compiled 99 yards on 12 carries and scored on a 65-yard burst up the middle;

■ Salem running back **Anthony Mullins** picked up 70 yards on 12 carries and added a 13-yard TD run; and

■ Plymouth wide receiver **Zach Hamed** hauled in three passes for 127 yards, the longest an 83-yard scoring strike.

Mike Sawchuk. "But we're so fast, especially on defense. Their secondary was playing up on us, which is something we felt we could take advantage of. They were leaving the middle of the field open and Matt did a great job of finding the seams and getting the ball to his receivers.

"We still have a lot of work to do. I'm sure we'll break down the film and see a lot of stuff we have to fix. It only gets tougher with Brighton and Canton the next two weeks. If we don't get better every week, we're not meeting our goals."

Please see **PLYMOUTH, B4**

Chiefs muzzle Bulldogs, 21-12

A dominating first-half performance paved the way for Canton's season-opening 21-12 victory over Brighton Thursday night on the PCEP junior varsity football field.

The Chiefs built a 21-0 half-time advantage before the Bulldogs struck for a pair of touchdowns — one in the third quarter and one in the fourth.

Senior running back Kiere Daniels had a dazzling debut for the Chiefs, rushing for 112 yards on 10 carries. He opened the scoring with a 6-yard scoring run nine minutes into the contest. Dan Stoney's extra point made it 7-0.

Canton doubled it's lead to

14-0 just under nine minutes later when junior fullback Adam Payter ripped off a 65-yard TD run.

Payter finished with 99 yards on 12 carries.

Senior Nick Sweda closed the scoring for the winners when he found paydirt from two yards out with 30 seconds left in the half.

Brighton scored on a 49-yard run and a 78-yard pass.

The Chiefs outgained the Bulldogs 300-216 in total yards and doubled up their visitors in first downs, 11-5.

Junior running back Rohn Gaudi added 31 yards on eight carries. Junior quarterback

Kevin Delapaz was 1-for-5 passing for 17 yards.

Canton's defensive effort was paced by David Wilcox and Pat Madish, both of whom recorded seven tackles. Junior linebacker Alex Dixon also had a productive night, registering 4.5 tackles.

Canton junior linebacker Dakota Dark-Bird picked off a pass for the Chiefs while Sweda recovered a fumble.

Brighton won the time of possession battle, 25:02-22:58.

Canton returns to action Friday when it hosts Lakeland in a Kensington Lakes Activities Association cross-over showdown.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton running back Rohn Gaudi drags Brighton's Mark Cialone during the second half of Thursday night's 21-12 Canton victory.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton neighbors Matti Kilpelainen (left) and Andre Johnson both excel in Masters Division athletic competitions. Kilpelainen is a pole vaulter and Johnson is a weight lifter.

Common bond

Neighbors share passion for Masters athletic competition

BY ED WRIGHT
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Whenever Canton neighbors Matti Kilpelainen and Andre Johnson spot one another from opposite sides of Hanford Road, they'll exchange waves and pleasant greetings before the conversation inevitably shifts to their common bond.

And, no, it's not lawn care. "I'll ask him if he has any injury-recovery tips I can use," the 62-year-old Kilpelainen said, chuckling.

"Or we'll ask each other what competitions the other one has coming up," Johnson said, smiling. "It's nice to have a neighbor who can relate to what I enjoy doing."

The thing Kilpelainen and Johnson both enjoy doing is competing in Masters age group athletic events, which are open to athletes who are 35 years old and older.

While their respective sports couldn't be much more diverse — Kilpelainen is a pole vaulter, Johnson, 48, is a weight lifter — their passion for excelling can be found in the same neighborhood, so to speak.

So far this year, Johnson, who is a pilot for Northwest Airlines as well as a fighter pilot instructor for the U.S. military, has earned a pair of bronze medals at national and international weight-lifting tournaments.

Earlier this month, Kilpelainen, a retired

Please see **NEIGHBORS, B2**

Sidelines

Learn to skate

Open registration for Fall 2008 Learn to Skate classes presented by the Arctic Figure Skating Club is currently ongoing at the Arctic Edge Ice Arena in Canton for kids between the ages of 4 and 12.

Learn to skate classes being Sept. 20 and run every Saturday through Nov. 8 from 10-11 a.m. Classes are grouped by age and ability.

The Arctic Figure Skating Club and Arctic Edge Ice Arena will also be offering TOT classes for children between the ages of three-and-a-half and 6 years old. Two classes are being offered, one starting Tuesday, Sept. 16, and another that will run from Thursday, Sept. 18 to Nov. 6 from 12:15 p.m. to 1 p.m.

All classes will be 30 minutes of instruction with 15 minutes of free time.

For more information, including levels of instruction, registration, private lessons, teams and competitive opportunities, call Arctic Edge Ice Arena at (734) 487-7777.

MHSAA Network

set to launch

The Michigan High School Athletic Association and Comcast announced Thursday the launch of the MHSAA Network, a new cross-platform endeavor that will deliver Comcast digital cable customers unprecedented coverage of local high school sports on TV, On Demand and online.

When We Were Young Productions will be responsible for the production of the content for the MHSAA Network, which will include over 400 hours of programming during the fall sports season alone.

"This is a partnership that will capture the true flavor of high school sports, providing coverage of all MHSAA tournament sports, from all sizes of schools from all parts of the state," said MHSAA Executive Director John E. "Jack" Roberts.

Fathead adds a Tiger

Livonia-based Fathead, the number one brand in sports and entertainment wall graphics, has added Detroit Tiger Curtis Granderson to its roster of offerings.

"To have such a young, dynamic player added to the Fathead MLB roster reinforces our commitment to fans to bring them the very best the MLB has to offer," said Brock Weatherup, Fathead's CEO. "Granderson's game-face attitude and athleticism brings a tremendous excitement to the Fathead line. Add the fact that he plays for the home team and we're talking grand slam."

THE WEEK AHEAD

PREP FOOTBALL
 Friday, Sept. 5
 Lakeland at Canton, 7 p.m.
 Brighton at Plymouth
 at PCC JV Stadium, 7 p.m.
 Salem at W.L. Northern, 7 p.m.
PREP BOYS SOCCER
 Tuesday, Sept. 2
 Franklin at Canton, 7 p.m.
 Salem at Northville, 7 p.m.
 John Glenn at Plymouth, 7 p.m.
Thursday, Sept. 4
 Canton at Church Hill, 7 p.m.
 Plymouth at Franklin, 7 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 5
 Plymouth at Dexter, 4 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 6
 Salem at East Lansing Invite, 11:15 a.m.
GIRLS PREP SWIMMING
 Thursday, Aug. 28
 Plymouth at Tecumseh, 6:30 p.m.
 Salem at WSU Warrior Relays, 5 p.m.
PREP VOLLEYBALL
Saturday, Sept. 6
 Plymouth, Canton and Salem at Madonna
 Invitational at Plymouth, 8:30 a.m.
GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY
Saturday, Sept. 6
 Canton at Dexter Invite, 7 a.m.
 Salem at Brother Rice Invitational
 at Kensington Park, 9:30 a.m.
 Plymouth at Bath Invitational, 8:30 a.m.
BOYS CROSS COUNTRY
Thursday, Sept. 4
 Plymouth at Ypsi Early Bird Invitational
 at Ypsilanti H.S., 4:15 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 6
 Salem at Brother Rice Invitational
 at Kensington Park, 8:30 a.m.
 Plymouth at Detroit Titan Invite
 at Cass Station, 10:25 a.m.
BOYS TENNIS
Saturday, Sept. 6
 Wildcat Invitational, 8 a.m.
WOMEN'S COLLEGE VOLLEYBALL
Thursday, Sept. 4
 Flint Mott CC at Schoolcraft, 7 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 5
 (Julie Martin Memorial at Madonna)
 Madonna vs. Davenport, 3 p.m.
 Madonna vs. Cedarville (Ohio), 7 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 6
 (Julie Martin Memorial at Madonna)
 Madonna vs. Spring Arbor, 1:30 p.m.
MEN'S COLLEGE SOCCER
Monday, Sept. 1
 Madonna vs. Bellevue (Wash.)
 at Pt. Loma Nazarene (Calif.), 10 a.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 3
 Schoolcraft at Owens CC (Ohio), 4 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 5
 Schoolcraft at Suffolk CC (N.Y.), 2 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 6
 Schoolcraft at Nassau CC (N.Y.), noon.
WOMEN'S COLLEGE SOCCER
Friday, Sept. 5
 Schoolcraft at Elgin CC (Ill.), 5 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 6
 Schoolcraft at DuPage CC (Ill.), 11 a.m.
 TBA - time to be announced.

PLYMOUTH

FROM PAGE B1

The outcome was a sobering experience for Salem coach Parker Salowich, who figured an encouraging, enthusiasm-filled off-season would carry over to the regular season.

"I'm usually a pretty positive person, but I didn't have one positive thing to say to the kids after tonight's game," said Salowich. "We have one of the best weight rooms in southeastern Michigan, we have a wonderful booster club and great parental support — and we're not winning. Tonight we didn't even compete, which is embarrassing. All we have is window dressing. We look good on the surface, but there's no depth."

"What went wrong tonight was when (Plymouth) scored on a long run the third play of the game and our kids' chins went into their chests. All of a sudden it felt like last year again. We've fought so hard the past 10 months to not do that, and yet it happened."

It took the Wildcats just 43 seconds to strike paydirt as senior running back Terrance Guthridge sprinted 61 yards to the end zone on the third play of the game to make it 6-0.

Salem's offense showed some early spunk, moving the ball to the Plymouth 35 on the ensuing drive. However, the drive stalled when senior quarterback Heath Parling was sacked on a second-and-



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth defensive back Jacob Zawaski brings down Salem's Shawn Lyons during the second quarter of Thursday night's 47-7 Wildcat triumph.

11 play by Wildcat sophomore defensive end Brennan Byer.

Plymouth jumped ahead 13-0 with 10:37 left in the first half when Skubik snuck over from 1 yard out. The TD was set up three plays earlier when Skubik and Goble hooked up on a 23-yard pass on a fourth-and-10 play.

The Wildcats seized the momentum for good on the second play of their next possession when Skubik lofted a long pass down the north sideline to Hamed, who raced 83 yards for six points. Kyle Brindza's second of three extra points made it 20-0.

Plymouth led 26-0 at the

half thanks to a 23-yard Skubik-to-Goble strike with 1:56 left.

A pair of McKinney TD catches — one from Skubik from 21 yards out and another from Barrera from 22 — and a two-point reception by McKinney after the first score, made it 41-0 with 8:12 remaining in the third quarter.

Salem's lone TD came on Anthony Mullins' 13-yard run five minutes later.

McKinney capped the scoring with a 55-yard run at the 5:19 mark of the fourth.

Overshadowed by the proficient passing attack was a big night from Guthridge, who racked up 131 yards on eight carries.

McKinney finished with 61 yards on three attempts while back-up running back Tommy Whitlow added 26 on five.

Parling completed 9-of-16 passes for 67 yards. Shawn Lyons caught four passes for 40 yards.

Plymouth's defense was paced by middle linebacker Connor Martin, who was credited with 12 tackles. Junior defensive lineman Darrell Cohn also played a huge role in disrupting the Rocks' spread offense.

Salem's defensive highlight was a third-quarter interception by linebacker Austin Root.

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Zebras' rally falls one stripe short

Overtime eluded Wayne Memorial by a half-yard in Thursday's season football opener at Waterford Kettering as the host Captains escaped with a 14-7 victory.

Back-up quarterback Nick Mills, who replaced starter Nick Kostora after he was injured early in the third quarter, hit brother Matt Mills on a pass, but Wayne receiver was stopped just shy of the goal line as time expired.

The loss spoiled the coaching debut of Wayne's Kevin Weber. Kettering quarterback Lee

Jerritt scored on a 1-yard run with 9:49 left in the first quarter to cap a six-play, 61-yard touchdown drive. Ryan DeCovich added the first of his two extra points for the Captains.

Wayne tied it up with 2:51 left in the opening period as Kostora scored on a 28-yard run followed by Jesse Dorow's extra point. The drive covered 62 yards in nine plays.

In the third period, Kettering marched 80 yards capped by Jerritt's 6-yard TD run.

Wayne couldn't take advantage of four Kettering turnovers as C.J. Johnson picked off a pair of passes in the second quarter and

Jake White recovered a fumble in the opening period. Parnell Holliday also had a fumble recovery in the fourth quarter.

Kettering had a total of 270 yards to Wayne's 216. The Captains also had 15 first downs to the Zebras' nine.

John Williams led the Captains and all rushers with 131 yards on 19 carries.

Richard Haley paced Wayne with 61 yards on 14 carries. Kostora and Mills were a combined 12-of-30 for 107 yards and two interceptions.

Keith Agee, who was in on 13 tackles, spearheaded Wayne's defense.

John Glenn falls, 7-0

It was a defensive standoff Friday as Waterford Mott came away with a 7-0 victory at Westland John Glenn, ruining the debut of Rockets varsity coach Tim Hardin.

The two teams combined for only 13 first downs and 165 yards in total offense, 85 by Glenn and 80 by the Corsairs.

Marc Pressley's 52-yard interception return for a TD and Kyle Kittel's subsequent extra point with 1:39 remaining in the first quarter proved to be the difference.

Glenn had just 32 yards net rushing.

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Unplug your microwave before changing its fuse

Two readers posed the same question recently:

George wrote: Our GE microwave oven just stopped working — one second it worked, the next it did not. It made a zap noise, and then went blank. I went online and followed the suggestions on the GE Web site, i.e. checked the breaker, checked the plug, etc.



Appliance Doctor

Joe Gagnon

Nancy wrote: I have a Litton microwave that is 20 years old and has never given us one ounce of trouble. Today it just stopped working completely; there isn't even a light inside when I open the door. I made sure there is electrical power on the wall outlet. Is it time for me to go shopping for a new one?

Some years ago I'd hear the same question with the same problem several times a day.

I would tell the callers to see me at my little service shop and I would show them how to change the internal fuse inside their microwave ovens. The fuse cost \$5 and I sure made a lot of friends.

Today, service companies do things differently than I did back then. It seems most of them are afraid to show you how to do things yourself, such as repairing your own microwave. There may be a good reason for that such as injury or a lawsuit.

But if I still had a little service shop I would still be showing consumers how to change the fuse in a microwave oven. There is an internal fuse in a microwave oven that my grandmother could replace if I showed her how to do it. The hardest thing today is getting someone to show you where it is located and how to get to it. There is no doubt that you can get permanently hurt in changing the fuse if you are a complete fool or are trying to commit suicide.

The big trick is to unplug the microwave or simply put, unplug the cord. Never touch anything such as a wire while it has electrical power going to it. The fuse looks like the old style car fuse and is fitted into a little receptacle and it just pops out. A few of them are soldered in place. It is very easy to replace but the hard part is getting someone to show you how and where it is located.

Make sure you don't touch any other wires in there. There is a capacitor in this maze of electrical stuff which we call loaded. If you touch any other wire like I've just instructed you not to do, I can assure you that voltage will enter into one finger of one hand and come out the other hand.

I used to tell my customers about a guy who tried to fix the microwave, touched a hot wire and burned himself so badly that after they removed his body from the kitchen, the bottom of his feet were burned into the hardwood floor. This story is true. I worked for the Amana Corporation in the 1970s and we had pictures of this happening. I used to carry them around with me and when I was training service technicians around the country I would show them the pictures to emphasize how dangerous it is to work on a microwave oven. I never lost one service technician!

Stay tuned.

Joe Gagnon can be heard at 8 a.m., Saturdays on WAAM 1600. His phone number is (734)971-1600, ext. 28. Do you have a question about an appliance or have a problem with one? E-mail it to wvomb@hometownlife.com and it will be forwarded to Joe Gagnon.

Treasure hunt

Flea Market boasts variety of odds and ends



Earphones, a crystal radio, and silver serving set are among the items Carol Brichford will be bringing to the Greenmead Flea Market.



The Brichfords and Barretts will be bringing a wide selection of items to sell at the Greenmead Flea Market.



Carol Brichford, left, and Judy Barrett go over some of the items they will sell at the upcoming Greenmead Flea Market.

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
O & E STAFF WRITER

FLEA MARKET

What: Annual Livonia Historical Society event to raise funds for the restoration of Hill House at Greenmead Historical Park
When: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 7
Where: Greenmead Historical Park, 20501 Newburgh at Eight Mile, Livonia
Details: Cost \$2 adults, children under age 12 free. Village open for tours noon to 3 p.m. For information, call (248) 477-7375. The Village Painters show coincides with the Flea Market. For details, www.villagepainters.net or (734) 753-5232

Carol Brichford likes to tease her husband Tom about accumulating a house full of odds and ends at estate sales over the years, but admits she's just as bad when it comes to collecting. The Farmington Hills couple is looking forward to cleaning out their living room by selling some of the items at the Livonia Historical Society's annual Flea Market at Greenmead Historical Park in Livonia on Sunday, Sept. 7.

They're sharing three booths with Judy and Verlon Barrett of Farmington Hills and several members of The Questers. Both couples belong to chapters of the international antique study group dedicated to restoring and preserving historic places such as Greenmead.

The Brichfords are planning to bring glassware, jewelry, a radio with a receiving set from the early 1920s, a child's Victrola from the late 1930s, vintage dolls, sewing baskets and materials, a child's roll top desk, and an antique phone with handset.

"We have everything he ever got," jokes Carol Brichford about Tom, who collects mostly old iron and metal. "He collects anything that moves — cars, trucks, tractors — but they never move out."

It's their sense of humor that has kept Carol and Tom married 51 years, not collecting items at estate and garage sales and antique malls.

"No, collecting hasn't kept our marriage together," said Tom. "Our marriage has stayed together in spite of it."

"Our stuff is all around our living room that I call our warehouse," added Carol, a volunteer at Greenmead. "We

Please see **GREENMEAD, C3**

Decorative painting show coincides with flea market

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
O & E STAFF WRITER

Maureen VanBuhler couldn't be more excited about the Village Painters Treasure Chest Craft Show coinciding with the Livonia Historical Society's Flea Market 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 7, at Greenmead Historical Park in Livonia.

Together, the events draw around 5,000 visitors.

The 12th annual Village Painters show is held in and out-

side of the Alexander Blue House while the flea market takes place in the village. Ten percent of the profit from the Village Painters show goes back to the club to provide seminars and community service.

"Village Painters is a decorative painting chapter and everybody brings what they like to paint," said VanBuhler. "We paint on tables, furniture, wood, tin, glass, fabric. We'll have a big vari-

Please see **PAINTING, C3**



The Village Painters Treasure Chest Art & Craft Show takes place in and outside of the Alexander Blue House at Greenmead Historical Park on Sunday, Sept. 7

Peace movement begins at home

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
O & E STAFF WRITER

Colleen Mills couldn't be prouder that A.T. Ariyaratne's first stop in the U.S. is the monthly meeting of Citizens for Peace in Livonia on Sept. 9. The internationally known leader of the Sarvodaya movement is coming from Sri Lanka where he has rallied the residents of 15,000 villages to build a better life for themselves by tackling projects such as constructing roads and digging wells. Over the years he has won the Gandhi Peace Prize and been nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize.

"Everyone is welcome. We

want to spark their interest and broaden their world view," said Mills, president of Citizens for Peace.

The meeting is just one of more than a dozen events Ariyaratne will attend in the metro Detroit area. The free seminar, A Better World is Possible: Integrated Approach to Peace, 1-4 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 16, at Schoolcraft College, is also open to the public. Two days earlier Ariyaratne speaks at the end of a 21-day prayer vigil for Detroit at Hart Plaza. His visit to the area concludes with ONE PEACE, an event to celebrate the United Nations International Day of Peace Sunday, Sept. 21, at Eastern

Michigan University. Mills is hoping to attract some 10,000 people to hear Ariyaratne and Michael Bernard Beckwith, founder of the Agape International Spiritual Center in Calif. and co-founder and president of the Alliance for Global New Thought.

"It's going to help heal the racial divide, religious divide, the whole culture, to bring everyone together without any barriers," said Mills of Livonia. "It's going to be the biggest gathering for peace in the country. It's an alternative way of thinking. We're getting people excited about the better world we're creating together. We're asking people

to wear white clothing, logo free, because we want everyone cheering for the human team and world peace."

Mills is doing her part to create a nonviolent environment through Citizens for Peace. She became involved after attending an Earth Day activity at Unity of Livonia where a petition was being signed to create the U.S. Department of Peace. Currently there is a bill before the U.S. House of Representatives to provide assistance to communities for programs focusing on nonviolence.

"It starts with inner peace," said Mills. "It's so easy to point fingers but if you want peace

ONE PEACE

What: A celebration of United Nations International Day of Peace with meditation and dialogue with A.T. Ariyaratne

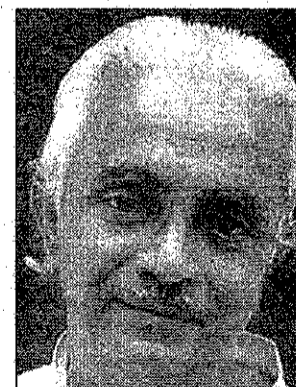
When: 1-5 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 21

Where: Eastern Michigan University Convocation Center (basketball arena), 799 North Hewitt Road, Ypsilanti

Details: No charge. Visit www.onepeace.us or call Colleen Mills at (734) 425-0079

you have to point at yourself first. You have to have peace in your own heart and family and then move it to your community, your own country."

Citizens for Peace was founded by residents of the



A.T. Ariyaratne speaks at the Citizens for Peace meeting in Livonia on Sept. 9.

11th Congressional District on Veterans Day 2003 to promote passage of the legislation as well as educate the community. So far members have provided

Please see **PAINTING, C2**

First Step to honor supporters at gala

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
O&E STAFF WRITER

Jennifer Hartke is counting the days to the first gathering to celebrate the 30th anniversary of First Step, the nonprofit agency dedicated to assisting victims of domestic abuse and sexual assault in western Wayne County and downriver.

But before the parties begin, she's looking for supporters to buy advertisements in a Tribute Book to honor the history of the organization and those that made the accomplishments possible. The deadline is Sept. 5.

"We're going to have 30 honorees. We're trying to focus on the 30 year theme," said Hartke, chairwoman of the Sept. 18 benefit in Canton. "We're honoring survivors and supporters, founders, supporters who have been with the organization for years. Organizations who have been supporters for years. We're excited to recognize them because these are inspiring

community leaders."

On Sept. 18, supporters such as Gail McKnight, who recently retired as a Judge for the 18th District Court in Westland; Justine Barnes, former city of Westland council member and state representative; Judy Ellis, First Step executive director; Brian Duggan, a Livonia realtor, and Nancy Diehl, Wayne County prosecutor, chief of trials, will be honored during an awards presentation at the benefit.

Over the years they have been instrumental in creating awareness about domestic violence and sexual assault and changing the system to hold offenders accountable.

"I think this is an important event because we want to educate the community about what First Step does," said Hartke, a Plymouth attorney. "This is an event about hope because there's been a lot done, but still a lot of work remaining."

The gala event on Sept. 18, is the first of two. A family gathering will be held on Oct. 23, in

30 YEAR CELEBRATIONS

What: Strolling dinner, silent auction and awards presentation to benefit First Step

When: 6-9 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 18
Where: Traditions Clubhouse, 1315 Waterside Rd., Canton

Tickets: \$100 each, \$150 per couple. Call (734) 416-1111
Free family gathering: 6-8 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 23, at Christ the King Lutheran Church, 16700 Pennsylvania Rd., Southgate. To RSVP, call (734) 955-3850, ext. 3807 or e-mail fsvolunteers@gmail.com

Southgate and is free.

For more information, call (734) 416-1111 or visit www.firststep-mi.org. To reach the 24-hour First Step Help Line for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault, call (734) 459-5900 or toll free (888) 453-5900.

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Annual show

The Livonia Artists Club holds its annual show Sept. 2-30, at Livonia City Hall on Five Mile, east of Farmington Road. About 25 members will display the paintings which are for sale. Pictured is Gordia, a watercolor by Al Weber of Canton. The work features a restaurant he visited near Caracas, Venezuela. Gordia is Spanish for fat lady which describes the owner who sat in a booth by the window and left no doubt about who was in charge.

Historic Birmingham home headlines tour

BY WENDSY VON BUSKIRK
O&E STAFF WRITER

Only five families have lived in the Edgar Lamb House since it was built in 1898, and all of them have been Democrats.

That fact is not lost on the historic home's latest owners, Bunny and Mel Shaw.

"We love it," quipped Bunny. "This house has fabulous history. We just get such a kick out of it."

The Lamb House, tucked away on Willets Street adjacent to the downtown, is among seven diverse homes that will be featured on the 21st Annual Birmingham House Tour from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 16.

The home's first owners were seamstress Mary Ann Lamb and her husband, Edgar, a harness maker. In her teens, Lamb was recruited by local Democrats to make one of the first machine-sewn American flags for Senator Stephen A. Douglas during his bid for the presidency against Abraham Lincoln.

The home was originally measured at 700 square feet. In the 1930s, a chimney and fireplace were added. In the 1970s and early 80s more was done, and it stood at 1,700 square feet when the Shaws purchased it in 1993.

The couple caused a stir in historic circles when they applied for permits and hired architect Victor Saroki to add 1,500 more square feet onto

the home, including a garage, kitchen and a wing with master and guest bedroom suites. They also converted the carriage house into a storage area and made other renovations inside.

But the Shaws have proven to be good neighbors, and the updates are consistent with the Victorian style of the original structure.

A scrapbook on the coffee table details the storied past of the home, as well as appearances in magazines like *Style*, *Better Homes & Gardens* and on the cover of *Garden, Deck & Landscape Planner*.

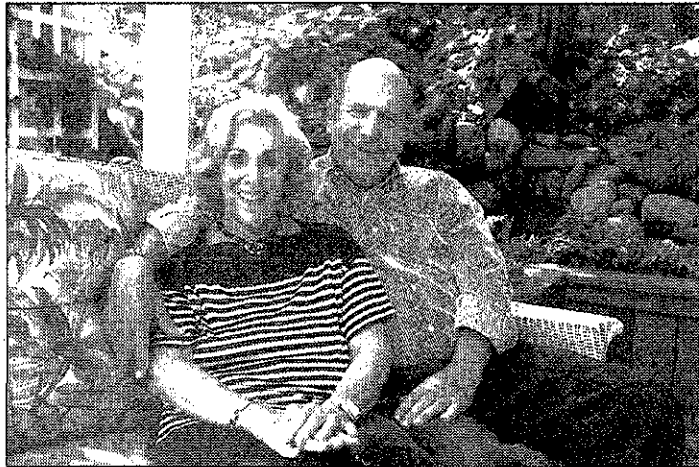
The Shaws have opened their doors to several home and garden tours, including The Community House tour in 1999.

PARK SETTING

Guests to their bright, airy home are greeted by an open floor plan. The living room window overlooks the adjacent public park and pond, along with the oldest Elm in the city, a giant tree that has stood sentinel throughout all the changes that have taken place at the home.

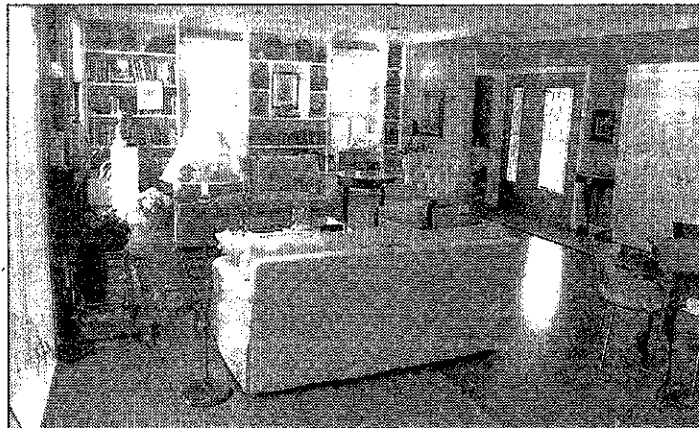
The kitchen features custom Heritage cabinets that camouflage the refrigerator and hide a pantry, washer and dryer. A single slab of verde marble was used to top the island, backsplash and nearby bar.

The home's three bedrooms include a first floor master suite, and second story guest suite and "green suite" complete



PHOTOS BY LAWRENCE MCKEE | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Bunny and Mel Shaw sit in the shady backyard of their Birmingham home, one of seven featured on The Community House Home Tour, Tuesday, Sept. 16.



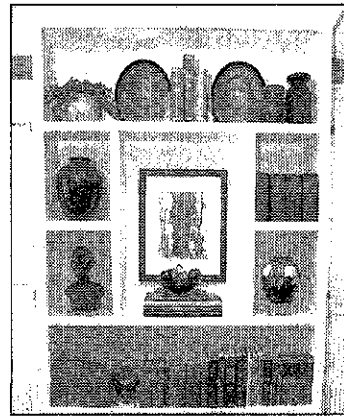
The living room of Mel and Bunny Shaw's Birmingham home is welcoming and comfortable.

with two beds and a crib, where the couple's 10 grandchildren take turns spending the night.

The home's furnishings range from antique and traditional to eclectic, and the decor consists

of a comforting array of books, framed family photos and cherished mementos.

An oil painting by Bunny, who studied art at Cranbrook, hangs over a mantle covered



Built-in shelves display artwork and books - many written by Mel Shaw and his electrical and computer engineering students at Wayne State University.

with greeting cards. Other touches include needlepoint pillows, Democratic memorabilia and old valises that formerly adorned the Polo shop on Woodward Avenue.

Although the couple sought help from local Interior Designer Bob Endres, much of the design is Bunny's own.

"It's never stodgy. 'We live in it and everything is ours,'" Mel said. "It's very personal."

Docents for the 21st annual Birmingham House Tour will take ticket-holders through the home and its impeccably landscaped gardens, as well as six other homes that vary widely in size and style.

All proceeds from the tour benefit The Community House's many outreach programs.

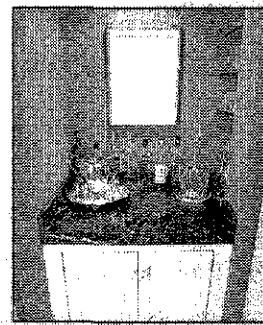
21ST ANNUAL BIRMINGHAM HOUSE TOUR

What: Presented by The Community House along with Hall & Hunter Realtors, the tour showcases seven unique homes ranging from traditional to contemporary. Each home will have a luxury car displayed in the driveway courtesy of Fred Lavery Company.

When: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 16.
Tickets: \$30, includes afternoon tea from 3-4 p.m. at The Community House; \$45 adds salad buffet lunch from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at The Community House.

Luxury Town Car Package: Features luxurious town car and driver for the tour, a reserved table and chef's appetizer at the luncheon, the tea and a thank-you gift, \$600 for four people.

Information: Visit The Community House, 380 S. Bates, Birmingham, or call (248) 644-5832.



Verde marble tops the bar nestled in a nook of the Shaw home in Birmingham.

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PAINTING

FROM PAGE C1

a Peace Collection of books for youth and adults at the Livonia Civic Center Library, started a film series at Madonna University, and published the Michigan Department of Peace Political Action Guide to assist residents in contacting legislators.

Although meetings are held at Unity of Livonia, the group is not affiliated with a church.

"The peace movement is growing. They're starting a Student Peace Alliance at Schoolcraft," said Mills. "A worldwide transformation is what we're working for. I've met hundreds of people who have been working so hard to make a better world."

"One of the goals is to get a

department of peace and non-violence in the government, but also to work on our inner peace, to educate ourselves and the public. We're proudest of The Peace Collection donated to the Livonia Civic Center Library, hundreds of books on peace, conflict resolution and heroes. We believe whatever you focus on will increase. We've made heroes of war, people who are killing. Now

we are educating to be aware citizens."

Citizens for Peace meets at 7 p.m. on the second Tuesday of every month at Unity of Livonia, 28660 Five Mile. For more information, visit citizensforpeace11.blogspot.com or call Colleen Mills at (734) 425-0079.

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PREPATELLAR BURSTITIS

The common name for prepatellar bursitis is "housemaid's knee." The term housemaid's knee came from recognition that maids' scrubbing kitchen floors in the way that work was done in the nineteenth century were at risk to prepatellar bursitis.

In the 21st century scrubbing floors on one's hands and knees is an unlikely occurrence. However, working vigorously and long on one's hands and knees continues. Risk for prepatellar bursitis occurs in laying carpet or linoleum, in working hours in the garden, or taking on any project that requires kneeling for a prolonged period.

In prepatellar bursitis, the knee feels hot, looks red, appears swollen, and hurts to the touch. The first impression of anyone seeing the knee is that the joint is infected. However, a person with prepatellar bursitis has no fever, and feels no pain except in a circumscribed area that outlines the prepatellar bursa. This bursa sits directly over the knee cap (the patella) and is where the inflammation resides.

Treatment for prepatellar bursitis includes draining any fluid that is responsible for the swelling, and injecting a steroid to prevent irritation from continuing. Medicine for pain also may be necessary. Of equal importance is identifying the activity that caused the problem and to either stop that activity or find padding that will permit kneeling without such consequences.

Time from diagnosis to resolution may take between two to three weeks, so patience is another requirement for recovery.

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Spotlight Players hold auditions for comedy

Spotlight Players will be hosting auditions for *You Can't Take It With You* 6:30 p.m. Monday-Tuesday, Sept. 22-23, at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton.

If anyone has questions about auditions, contact Mike Cuba at mikecuba@sbglobal.net. Cuba is directing the heart-warming comedy about a family that lives the credo "If you aren't having any fun, why do it?"

The play, written by George S. Kaufman and Moss Hart, won the 1937 Pulitzer Prize. It was made into a Frank Capra movie in 1939. It won Best Director and Best Picture at the Oscars, and was one of the first collaborations between Capra and Jimmy Stewart.

The story follows Grandpa who walked out on his banking job eight years ago and hasn't done a lick of work since. His daughter Penny writes and paints when the mood strikes her. Her husband Paul makes

fireworks in the basement with his friend, Mr. de Pinna, who dropped by one day and just stayed. Penny's daughter Essie makes candies and strives to become a ballerina while her husband plays the xylophone.

Essie's sister, Alice, is the only one in the family holding down a respectable job as a secretary to the son of a prominent banker. Add Reba, a live-in cook/housekeeper, and her boyfriend Donald, and you have the residents of this slightly off-kilter family. Now add Tony Kirby, Alice's boss and sweetheart, and his stiff blue-blood parents, and a dinner invitation that goes delightfully awry. Stir in the Internal Revenue Service and eight years of back taxes to thicken the plot. By the end of the evening you realize that while Alice's family may be crazy, the rest of the world is certifiably insane.

For more information, visit www.spotlightplayers.net.

Polish dancing activities starting in September

Radomanie will be celebrating 20 years of performing Polish folklore dances 6 p.m. to midnight Saturday, Oct. 18, at Sts. Peter and Paul Hall in Dearborn Heights. All former members of the Radomanie Polish Folklore Dance Ensemble are invited as well as the public. The evening includes cocktails, dinner, and dancing to music by New Brass.

Tickets are available only in advance. For more information, call (734) 525-2880.

Radomanie is accepting new members. Classes are held

7:30-9:30 p.m. Mondays at Simply Polish, 28841 Plymouth Rd., Livonia. For details, call (734) 525-2880.

Simply Polish will also offer classes in social dancing, tangos, obereks, waltzes, polkas, and line dancing 7-9 p.m. Fridays. Classes begin Sept. 12, and run through Oct. 24. The cost is \$40 per couple, \$30 singles.

Pilates, stretch classes, yoga, toning dancing as well as Polish language classes and an introduction into Polish dance for children starts the week of Sept. 15.

Italian language classes to begin

The Italian American Club of Livonia begins fall Italian Language Classes for adults and children in September at 39200 Five Mile.

The first adult class is 6:30-8 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 9. The cost

is \$75 plus books.

Children's classes begin 11 a.m. to noon Saturday, Sept. 13, and cost \$50 plus books.

For more information, call (734) 953-1137 and press option #2.

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PAINTING

FROM PAGE C1

ety, a lot of seasonal items like Christmas and Halloween, centerpieces, decorations, things for the walls."

VanBuhler painted wood chairs for the craft show.

The Canton woman has been doing decorative painting as a hobby for 35 years. She taught the art at Plymouth Reed & Cane, which has since closed.

"I'm going to have a Shaker chair. I'm going to take Shaker tape and weave the seat of it with a folk art fruit design," said VanBuhler. "Outside we will have a Learn to Paint tent we have every year with a project for those who have never painted before. They can paint a project and take it away. We've gotten several members that way."

"At the show we buy and sell to one another. We'll also have a craft tent to sell supplies we don't want. Our members live in Canton, Livonia, Plymouth, Northville, Trenton, Belleville. We're the biggest chapter in the state."

For more information, visit www.villagepainters.net or call (734) 753-5232.

ichomin@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2145



A variety of hand-painted items will be available at the Treasure Chest Art & Craft Show.

GREENMEAD

FROM PAGE C1

decided we got to get rid of things. We really enjoy the Greenmead show. Being right in the village with all the vintage buildings is magnificent."

The Barretts are bringing two ice cream chairs from a Tecumseh store that went out of business, a brass bucket, bird cage stand, vintage mirror, bentwood chair, garage items like tools, and a wicker umbrella basket. They have a booth at the Livingston Antique Outlet.

"I'm always looking at auctions, consignment stores, the Salvation Army. If it looks interesting I pick it up and then research it," said Barrett. "It's my entertainment to go to auctions, estate sales, where it's as much fun to get into and see the houses in Indian Village, Grosse Pointe."

The two couples have been doing the flea market for about four years, always in the same spot on the west end of the village between the fence and Kingsley House. In addition to vintage items, the Brichfords are bringing Mikasa English Countryside dinnerware.

"It doesn't have to be antique," said Carol. "It's a flea market."

Linda Wiacek likes to refer to the event as a glorified garage sale. This year 160 dealers sell a variety of vintage items and some antiques. The flea market coincides with the Village Painters Treasure Chest Craft Show in the Alexander Blue House

at Greenmead (see related story).

"There's no used clothing or guns," said Wiacek, Greenmead recreation supervisor. "People in the past brought vintage linens, china, crystal and silver. I've purchased tea pots and tea cups. My son's purchased sports memorabilia. I've seen people carry out vintage tables and chairs, books and magazines, old paintings. I purchased a picture of Lincoln. It's interesting stuff."

Livonia Historical Society member Gene Kramer is going to sell old musical instruments at the flea market, which started 10 years ago with about 20 to 40 dealers. Kramer recently met with the society's board, including acting president Bob Legel, at the Friends Meeting House to go over details of the event.

This year's proceeds will help restore Hill House, according to society member Sue Daniel. The event raised \$15,000 in 2007.

Not to be confused with the Livonia Historical Commission which co-sponsors the flea market, the Livonia Historical Society is a nonprofit group of volunteers which was founded in 1956 to preserve the area's heritage.

"Most of the people go home with things — hubcaps, old farm tools, dulcimers, old military items, furniture, antique bedroom and dining sets," said Kramer, who lives in Northville and grew up in Livonia. "I pick up musical instruments at garage sales, say I see a bugle if it's before 1900, I don't care if it plays or not."

Gary Pritchard says he knows dealers

who come to the flea market to buy.

"You can find sets of dishes for everyday if they want to furnish a cottage, a nice vase for a couple bucks," said Pritchard, a society member. "You can come across something valuable if you know what you're looking for. I've seen some stuff very underpriced."

Arlene Enders is bringing furniture from Dick's Upholstery along with toys and sleds. Enders is co-owner of the Livonia shop that reupholsters everything from antiques to modern furniture. She does the show with her husband William.

"It's something we always did. From the time we first got married we started going to antique shows," said Enders. "We'll probably bring a small chair for a den or library with Queen Anne legs, antique fabric from the '40s and '60s, Matchbox (toys), glassware."

Look for serving dishes, silver serving spoons and forks and a few pieces of furniture to fill the booth of Diann Dupuis of Livonia. Dupuis used to have an antiques booth at the Livingston Antique Outlet.

"I go to garage sales, estate sales," said Dupuis, a Greenmead volunteer. "I always have my eye out for linens and dishes. They're not from 100 years ago, but definitely collectible. I'll have a lot of linens and serving items. People love to look at linens, to rummage through them. They probably remember them from their grandmother's house."

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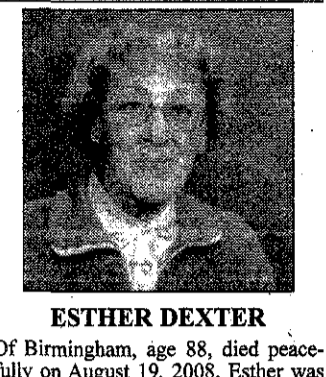
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Passages Obituaries, Memorials, Remembrances

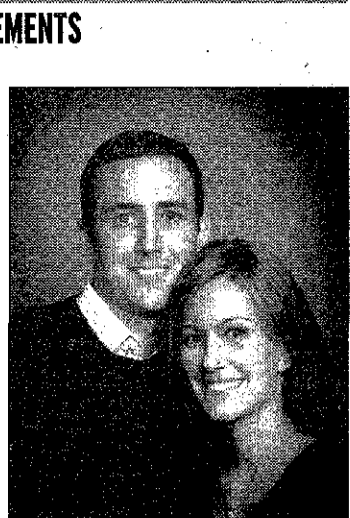
BEVERLY LAVOISNE (SIGNORELLI) Age 72 passed away on August 26, 2008.



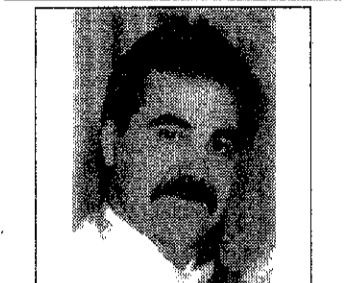
MAX S. HOLLAND, JR. Age 87 of Detroit. Beloved husband of Dorothy for 59 years.



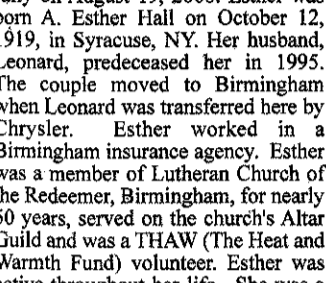
WEDDING Wolfe-Johnson Jerry and Kathy Wolfe of Livonia announce the engagement of their daughter, Barbara Lynn Wolfe.



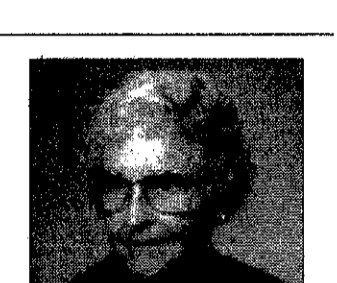
ENGAGEMENTS Vance-Vesey Bob and Cherie Vance of Livonia announce the engagement of their daughter, Jill Vance.



DANIEL A. WILK Age 51, of Farmington Hills. August 28, 2008. Beloved husband of 15 years to Alice.



JAMES A.R. MERNER Age 71 of Milford, and a former resident of Livonia died at his home on August 26, 2008.



WINIFRED MARTHA SUSIE ANN MATILDA JANE MYRIA DRAPER CARNEY When asked what her name was, Winnie would spool the above...

Henry O'Donnell Dean Henry and Nancy Robertson of Livonia announce the marriage of their daughter, Erin Robertson Henry.

Vance-Vesey Bob and Cherie Vance of Livonia announce the engagement of their daughter, Jill Vance.

Olsen Armand and Anna (Cummings) Olsen of Redford Township celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary last month.

Mathis Brad and Jennifer Mathis of Garden City announce the arrival of their son, Braeden William Mathis.

BIRTH Winnie enjoyed a life of good health, good friends, and was always ready to socialize with people.

Anniversary College before continuing on to earn his EMT license in 2005. For the past five years he has worked with the Farmington Hills Fire Department.

DENNIS DITTO August 29, 2008. Beloved husband of Margaret. Loving father of Kimborly (Brian) Ditto-Ehlert and Dean (Deborah) Ditto.

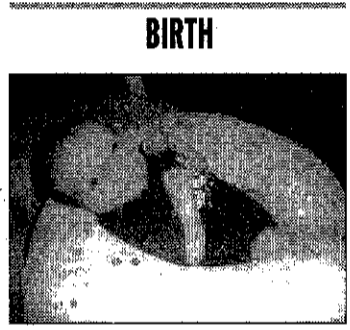
KENNETH LYONS Age 57, August 21, 2008. Beloved Husband of Cindi. Dearest Father of Melissa Lyons-Hoadley (Steve), and Bryan (Katie).

Kevin James Young Of Western Springs, IL, passed away unexpectedly August 22, 2008 while in San Francisco on business.

DR. WARREN PHILIP IVERSON Age 84, of Frederick, noted microbiologist died Tuesday, August 26 in Frederick.

Harriet B. Wells Age 80, on August 27, 2008 lost her brave struggle against a debilitating neurological disease attributed to the polio she had contracted as a child.

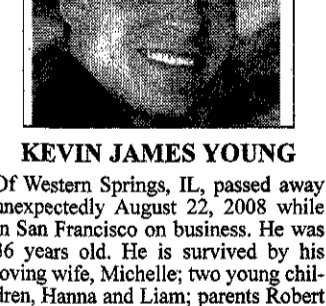
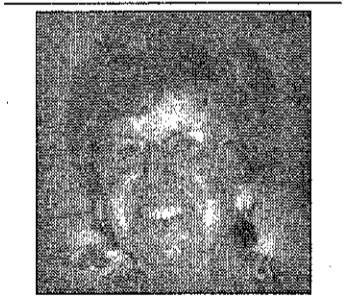
OBITUARY POLICY The first five "billed" lines of an obituary are published at no cost. All additional lines will be charged at \$4 per line.



ANNOUNCE YOUR WEDDING, ENGAGEMENT, BIRTH OR ANNIVERSARY To submit a form and photograph online: 1. Go to Hometownlife.com and click on Customer Service

GARDEN CALENDAR Gardening presentations Learn about fall planting during a series of free presentations at 7 p.m.

Success with climbing roses: 1 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 14; repeated 11 a.m., Monday, Sept. 15.



Her little great-granddaughters Lily (6), Celia (4) and Mia (2) say they will "miss Great-Grandma Winnie very much" and know she is happy in heaven with God.

ANNOUNCE YOUR WEDDING, ENGAGEMENT, BIRTH OR ANNIVERSARY To submit a form and photograph online: 1. Go to Hometownlife.com and click on Customer Service

GARDEN CALENDAR Gary Eichen of Mike's Tree Surgeons, Inc., talks about lawns and lakes in Bloomfield Township.

Success with climbing roses: 1 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 14; repeated 11 a.m., Monday, Sept. 15.

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2001 Plymouth, 4 dr.
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1G2FS21F8HN242508
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NEW 2009 FORD ESCAPE XLT!



Featuring...remote start, moon roof,
SYNC, power windows, locks, speed
control and tilt wheel.

5 AT THIS PRICE - 172 AVAILABLE

BUY FOR
\$20,787⁺ **\$1,000 DOWN** **SIGN & DRIVE**
\$260³⁶ MO **\$299³⁶ MO**
\$1,395 DUE AT DELIVERY* ALL FEES INCLUDED*

NEW 2008 FORD TAURUS X LIMITED!

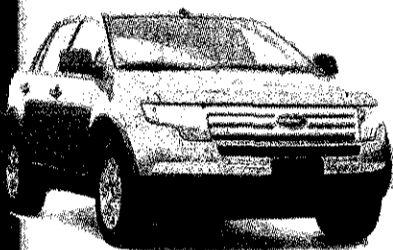


Featuring...remote start, leather, lmt.
conv. pkg., SYNC, power windows, locks,
seat, speed control and tilt wheel.

4 AT THIS PRICE - 26 AVAILABLE

BUY FOR
\$24,080⁺ **\$1,000 DOWN** **SIGN & DRIVE**
\$389³⁶ MO **\$436³⁶ MO**
\$1,637 DUE AT DELIVERY* ALL FEES INCLUDED*

NEW 2008 FORD EDGE SE!



Featuring...SYNC, conv Group, 18"
wheels, power windows, locks,
remote start.

3 AT THIS PRICE - 61 AVAILABLE

BUY FOR
\$19,936⁺ **\$1,000 DOWN** **SIGN & DRIVE**
\$264³⁶ MO **\$308³⁶ MO**
\$1,549 DUE AT DELIVERY* ALL FEES INCLUDED*

NEW 2008 FORD TAURUS LIMITED!



SYNC, leather, tilt, power windows & locks,
heated power seat, AM/FM/CDX6/MP3,
audiophile with subwoofer, remote start.

13 AT THIS PRICE - 64 AVAILABLE

BUY FOR
\$20,448⁺ **\$1,000 DOWN** **SIGN & DRIVE**
\$323³⁶ MO **\$368³⁶ MO**
\$1,596 DUE AT DELIVERY* ALL FEES INCLUDED*

NEW 2008 FORD EXPLORER XLT!



Featuring...SYNC, moon roof, SIRIUS
radio, power windows, locks, seat,
speed control, tilt wheel, remote start

3 AT THIS PRICE - 36 AVAILABLE

BUY FOR
\$18,406⁺ **\$1,000 DOWN** **SIGN & DRIVE**
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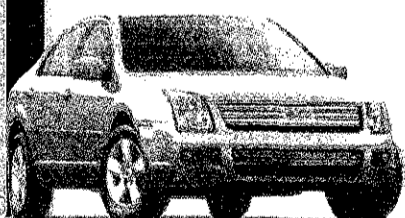


Featuring...remote start, sliding rear
window, power windows, locks, speed
control, tilt wheel

5 AT THIS PRICE - 102 AVAILABLE

BUY FOR
\$19,068⁺ **\$1,000 DOWN** **SIGN & DRIVE**
\$365²⁴ MO **\$415²⁴ MO**
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NEW 2009 FORD FUSION SE!



Featuring...SYNC, Moonroof, remote
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locks, speed control.

8 AT THIS PRICE - 249 AVAILABLE

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\$240³⁶ MO **\$278³⁶ MO**
\$1,344 DUE AT DELIVERY* ALL FEES INCLUDED*

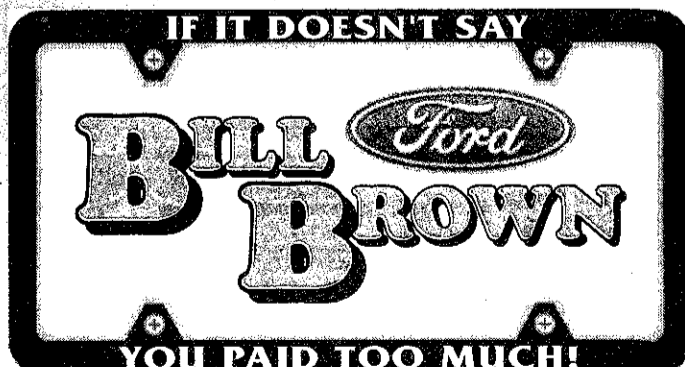
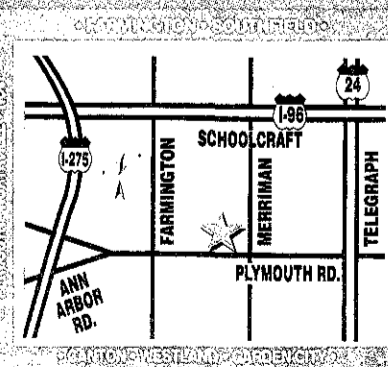
NEW 2009 FORD FLEX SE!



Featuring...SYNC, Remote start, Power
windows, Seat, Locks, speed control,
tilt wheel, reverse sensing system.

5 AT THIS PRICE - 107 AVAILABLE

BUY FOR
\$24,410⁺ **\$1,000 DOWN** **SIGN & DRIVE**
\$323³⁶ MO **\$362³⁶ MO**
\$1,463 DUE AT DELIVERY* ALL FEES INCLUDED*



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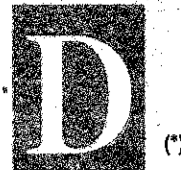
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New Homes



Sunday, August 31, 2008

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

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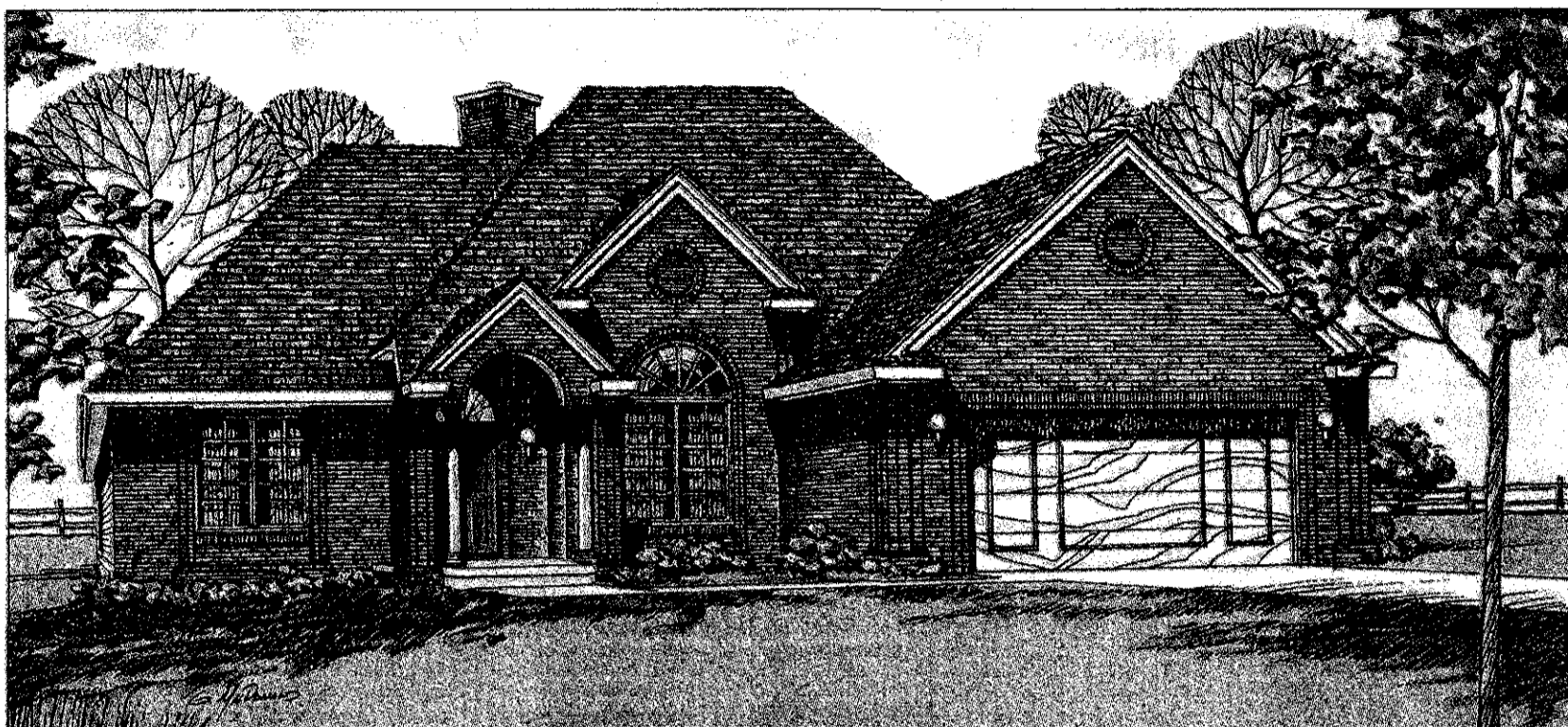
Sinclair combines several elements for a clean and distinctive look

Various rooflines combined with brick, windows, and pillars make a pleasing and clean looking façade for the Sinclair (D1748). Brick cornices on both the two-car garage and the front porch bring into distinctive focus the beautiful flow of this 1,911 square foot home.

The covered porch provides an elegant entrance into the Sinclair. The whole area is one great room with the dining room to the right of the entry and the kitchen and family to the rear along. The dining room has a vaulted ceiling and can be used as the formal dining room or a formal living room. Stairs to the 1,911 square foot unfinished basement separate this room from the kitchen and the great room.

The kitchen is comprised of two L-shaped counters. One contains the range and refrigerator, and the other one has a wall pantry, dual sinks, and an eating bar. To the rear is the family room. This has been divided into the breakfast nook with patio doors opening out to the backyard and a fantastic sitting room with a see-through fireplace. The fireplace acts as a divider between the sitting room and the great room. On the same wall is an entertainment center. Bay windows bathe the room in natural light. The vaulted great room is enormous, ideal for entertaining. It has three large windows for plenty of light. The fireplace is equally viewable from this room.

The left side of the Sinclair has two larger bedrooms with wall closets. Bedroom 3 has the option of French doors off the great room, making it into a den or library.

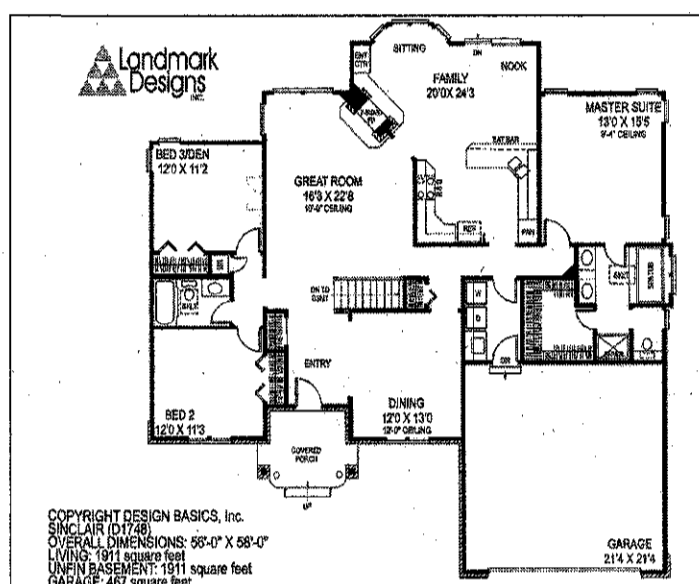


Between the two bedrooms is a full bath with a tub and a skylight

Completely separated from these two bedrooms, the master suite occupied the entire right side of the Sinclair. The main suite area is vaulted and has four windows strategically placed. The master bath has a large spa tub, dual sinks, a shower, and a huge walk-in closet. There is a skylight over the spa tub. Adjacent is the utility room with an entry into the garage.

For a study plan of the SINCLAIR

(D1748), 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.



Lombardo Homes to purchase Centex Homes' Detroit assets

Agreement

Lombardo Homes announced recently that it has entered into an agreement with Centex Homes, a subsidiary of Centex Corporation (NYSE: CTX), to purchase substantially all of its remaining land assets in the Detroit market. The sale included the purchase of finished lots, undeveloped land and model homes in 14 Southeast Michigan neighborhoods.

The companies have agreed that financial terms of the transaction will not be disclosed. The transaction was funded solely with private equity from a local investor.

According to Lombardo president Anthony Lombardo, "We are pleased to have entered into this agreement with a company as dedicated to its customers as Centex. We are eager to build out homes that maintain the integrity Centex has established and look forward to expanding our footprint in the Detroit market. In the coming years, the Michigan market will provide rich opportunity for growth and expansion to companies like ours — positioned on the upside of this current downturn. Locally owned and family run builders like us are well-suited to grow during the slowdown. To begin with, our sales pace is continuing to show strength in response to the unmatched affordability and the creative solutions we offer to a wide range of buyer profiles.

"As such, we are looking for even more acquisition opportunities while we continue to recruit the top talent in the industry, leaders who share our passion for growing the business."

With oversight from Centex, Lombardo will complete construction for Centex's customers with homes on order or in progress. Additionally, to preserve consistent architectural integrity, Centex has licensed to Lombardo the right to build the same house plans that Centex offered in these neighborhoods. This transaction substantially completes Centex's previously announced exit from the Detroit area as part of its overall strategy to concentrate resources in core competitive markets. Centex will continue to provide uninterrupted warranty support for its customers in the Detroit area.

According to *Crain's Detroit Business' List of Largest Homebuilders*, Lombardo Homes was ranked third by 2007 permits issued in Southeast Michigan. The company led all other builders in Macomb County and was the only builder in the top three that is privately owned and operated. *Builder Magazine* reported that Lombardo Homes was the 145th

BRIEFS

largest builder in the nation with 301 closings last year.

Currently the majority of Lombardo's development activity is concentrated in Macomb County. The acquisition will position the company to expand its horizons to include Oakland, Livingston and Washtenaw Counties with a total of 26 communities under active development. Lombardo Homes' COO Sebastian Lombardo emphasized that his family is "dedicated to growing in Michigan" and is "absolutely committed to customer service."

In 2005, Lombardo earned top honors for customer satisfaction among all homebuilders in Southeast Michigan from J.D. Power and Associates. The company was named 2007 Developer of the Year by the Southeast Michigan Building Industry Association (BIA). Last year Lombardo participated in ABC-TV's *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition* to benefit the Gillian family.

"For Lombardo Homes, and other homebuilders who can excite buyers with creative and affordable solutions, the future does indeed look bright. We are gearing up to offer a new three-bedroom home starting at less than \$90,000. With values like that in 26 quality neighborhoods, we feel that we have created an ideal blueprint for growth," said Sebastian Lombardo.

For additional information, visit lombardohomes.com.

Real Estate Agents, Appraising & Staging

Thinking about a career in real estate? Is working in real estate your dream? Keller Williams Realty is seeking experienced or non-experienced people in the real estate field. The candidates must be hard working and have a passion for learning.

There's a free seminar every week: Tuesday or Saturday, 11 a.m. to noon at 27555 Executive Drive (off West 12 Mile and Halsted), Farmington Hills 48331.

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 rmeisner@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. It's where you hang your hat, where you rest your head; it's a source of security, an investment in your financial future. More importantly, a home becomes part of the psyche that houses your most powerful memories. 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 buyers an 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.

Architects and building industry experts will judge the homes and award winners in several categories prior to the event opening. The judges will make their decisions based on the innovative use of space and design, aesthetic appeal of the home and value for the price.

A Parade of Homes magazine containing renderings, features and location maps is available at select CVS/pharmacy locations and at all model homes. Parade of Homes will also be featured at BIA's Fall Remodeling & Design Expo, Oct. 10-12, at the Rock Financial Showplace in Novi.

For additional information on the 2008 Fall Parade of Homes, please call (248) 862-1032 or visit www.builders.org. The program Web site, www.BIAParadeofHomes.com, features informative news stories on home ownership and economic issues as well as details on each home.

BIA will also sponsor a Parade of Homes event in the spring.

Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan (BIA) presents Green Built™ Training on Wednesday, Sept. 3, from 9-10:30 a.m. at Association headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100, in Farmington Hills.

In this third of five trainings, Chris Pratt of Wake-Pratt Construction discusses "Energy Efficiency" using materials and methods that result in Green Built™ certification. Building Green offers a change from selling cost per square foot to making an environmental statement.

The training is free for BIA members. Advance registration is required. For registration information, call (248) 862-1008.

Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan (BIA) and its Sales & Marketing Council (SMC) will present "Accelerating When The Market Stalls" on Wednesday, Sept. 10, from 8:30-10:30 a.m. at BIA headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100 in Farmington Hills.

Todd Hallett of TK Design & Architecture will present topics including planning for today's buyer, strategies for difficult lots, green building, capturing emotion with elevation, renderings, pricing strategy, and analyzing your product. The program includes a Plan Review Workshop for attendees to have their individual plans or elevations reviewed by the speaker. (Provide materials to Sheila Denstaedt at BIA offices

before Sept. 4.)

Registration fees are \$10 for SMC members, \$15 for BIA or Apartment Association of Michigan members and \$25 for guests. For registration information, call (248) 862-1033 or register online at www.builders.org.

Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan (BIA) and its NAHBR Professional Remodelers will sponsor a Certified Graduate Course: Sales And Marketing on Thursday, Sept. 11, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at BIA headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100, in Farmington Hills. This course counts toward prelicensure and continuing education competency for the State of Michigan. The course also counts toward earning the following designations: Certified Graduate Associate, Certified Graduate Builder, and Master Certified Sales Professional.

Chuck Breidenstein, CAPS, of Builders Professional Service Group will instruct on four essential topics to help you turn your business into a profitable, market-driven enterprise. You will learn how to research the marketplace, choose the optimal location, product and price, generate buyers through effective promotion, and close the maximum number of sales.

Registration fees are \$155 for NAHBR Professional Remodeler members, \$175 for BIA or Apartment Association of Michigan members and \$200 for guests. For registration information, call (248) 862-1033 or register online at www.builders.org.

Apartment Association of Michigan (AAM) will present an Economic Forecast And Legislative Update For The Multifamily Rental Industry on Friday, Sept. 19, from noon to 2 p.m. at PI Banquet Center, 28847 Franklin Road, Southfield. Registration and networking begin at 11 a.m.

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

Economic Forecast keynote speaker is David Littmann of the Mackinac Center for Public Policy. Market Update speaker is Kevin Dillon of Hendricks & Partners, sponsors of the event. Legislative Update speaker is Joseph Palamara of Karoub Associates.

Registration fees are \$20 per person for AAM members and \$30 for guests. For registration information, call (248) 862-1033 or register online at www.builders.org.



Real Estate

Observer & Eccentric HOMETOWNlife.com

Real estate listings grid with columns for 'Homes For Rent', 'Mobile Home Rentals', 'Rooms For Rent', 'Office/Retail Space For Rent/Lease'. Includes details for properties in Livonia, Farmington Hills, Westland, etc.

Home and Service Guide

Home and Service Guide grid listing various services such as 'Asphalt Sealcoating', 'Handyman M/F', 'Housecleaning', 'Painting/Decorating', 'Siding', 'Landscaping', 'Lawn Gardening', 'Drywall', 'Floor Service', 'Hauling/Clean Up', 'Home Improvement', 'Plastering', 'Roofing', 'Daylite Painting', 'Leak Specialist', 'Tree Service', 'J Romo Tree Service', 'Apex Roofing', 'Best Chimney Co.', 'Leak Specialist', 'Daylite Painting', 'Leak Specialist', 'Tree Service', 'J Romo Tree Service'.

HERE'S HOW IT WORKS: Answer an ad. 1. Note the number listed in the ad. 2. Call 1-900-950-3785. It's only \$2.39/minute. Must be 18+, OR: Call 1-800-510-4786, and use a major credit or debit card. 3. Follow the instructions to listen to the advertiser's voicemail greeting. 4. Leave a personal message for the advertiser. Place your own ad: 1. Call 1-800-506-5115. 2. Answer some simple questions to create your ad. 3. Record a voicemail greeting. 4. Learn how to pick up your messages - we'll let you know when new ones have arrived! Get more: Chat with local singles right now. Call 248-397-0123 to learn more. Need help? Some Tips? Call 1-617-450-8773.

Matchmaker plus

Brought to you by Mirror and The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

WOMEN SEEKING MEN. HOMEBODY SEES SAME. SF, 44, professional, hard-working, independent, enjoys church, shopping, music. Looking for a SPM, 44, employed, open-minded, warm-hearted and considerate, to share his life with. COULD IT BE YOU? SF, 44, professional, hard-working, independent, enjoys church, shopping, music. Looking for a SPM, 44, employed, open-minded, warm-hearted and considerate, to share his life with. TRADITIONAL VALUES. Well-educated DW, 5'8", dark blonde/green, full-figured, interested in finding friendship. Looking to meet with a WM, 30-50, to share life with. ARE YOU THE ONE? SWF, 42, 5'11", lovely Italian food, music. Looking for a SPM, 32-59, who is successful, financially secure, has a good job and his shoulders but also has a wild side. SPONTANEOUS WOMAN. Fun-loving, outgoing, honest, goal-oriented SBF, 36, plus-sized, with friends, would like to meet an understanding male, 28-49, for possible relationship. VERY ATTRACTIVE. SBF, 37, mother, looking for attractive, sexy, tall, dark-complexioned, employed, intelligent BM, 33-50, who is successful, financially secure, has a good job and his shoulders but also has a wild side. ZOOMER SEEK ADDED ZIP. SWF, 65, passionate about life, enjoys the outdoors, good political discussions, dancing, more. Would love to meet a man engaged in life. 55-70. SEEK SPECIAL PERSON. Romantic, fun-loving, open-minded woman, 61 years young, 5'3", seeks a man, 30-48, with the same qualities, who enjoys dancing, concerts, dining out, travel, long drives and more. BEAUTIFUL SBF. 37, seeks SWM, 30-50, who is spontaneous and enjoys how to have fun. Casual relationship first, maybe leading to more. BEAUTIFUL SBF. 37, seeks SWM, 30-50, who is spontaneous and enjoys how to have fun. Casual relationship first, maybe leading to more. GOOD SENSE OF HUMOR? WF, 48, 5'3", brown/brown hair, has cats, N/S, great sense of humor, looking for WM, 45-55, who likes dining out, museums, movies, reading and more to do things with. GREAT EXPECTATIONS. Good looking, intelligent, mature, spiritual, seeking a SM, 5'7" +, 40-50, physically fit, good looking inside and out, loving, who likes traveling, for friendship first leading to LTR. DOWN-TO-EARTH. Easygoing DW, early 50s, would like to meet a really nice WM, 50-65, with the same qualities, minimal baggage, to share the ups and downs of life. WARM SMILE. SBF, 21, N/S, looking for SM, 21-40, for friendship first, possibly more. Call me, let's talk and get to know each other. HARD WORKER SEEKS SAME. SBF, 44, N/S, mother, seeks old-fashioned BM, 28-40, N/S, homebody, to excite all life has to offer. I enjoy reading, kids, ideas, playing tennis. PERSONABLE AND SPECIAL. SWF, retired, talented, fun-loving, attractive, 132lbs, 5'5", blonde, seeks well-grounded gentleman, 65+, to share life and enjoy each other's company. GIRL NEXT DOOR. Sugar and spice and... attractive blonde enchantress, 5'8", 50s, enjoys cooking, travel, drives more, seeks soul-mate, call me. SEEKING SINCERITY. SBF, 64, 120lbs, likes parks, walks on the beach, outdoor activities. Looking for down-to-earth, family-oriented SWM, 40-50, with same interests. NURSE. Attractive SWF, 64, 5'11", 130lbs, dark hair, blue eyes, fair skin, looking for N/S, honest gentleman, 60-70, who has numerous interests including history, traveling, and home life. IN THIS BOX I CAN FIND... a 42-year-old SWF, ISO SWM, 38-45, for friendship and possibly more. I'm sociable, affectionate, 5'7", 120lbs, long dark curly hair, N/D, N/S, divorced, never married, no children, interested? BEAUTIFUL. BFB, 37, beautiful, classy and open-minded, looking for BF, 25-40, nice open, D/O free, HW proportionate. You must be confident with who you are. HEART OF GOLD. SBF, 39, 5'8", average build, smoker, enjoys crossword puzzles, old-school lifestyle, movies, dining. Seeking athletic, active BM, 30-45, 6'0", smoker, for friendship, possible romance. DOWN-TO-EARTH AND HONEST. SBF, 36, 5'10", N/S, short hair, no children, looking for SPM, 36-50, who enjoys activities, travel, spending time together. LET'S DANCE IN THE RAIN! Petite SBF, 36, 150lbs, brown eyes, mother of two, enjoys cooking, music, church. Looking for SM, 35-45, 5'8" +. SEARCHING FOR A MAN... 40-80, who's looking for commitment, love and laughter. I'm a 47-year-old white, bright, sunny and pretty. Only Jewish men please. MATURE MAN WANTED. SBF, 33, 5'4", 115lbs, caramel complexion, long, dark, short blonde hair, wears glasses. Seeking tall, muscular BM, 25-40, who enjoys bookstores, movies, dining, water. A NEW BEGINNING. SBF, 47, 5'4", fitness action movies, swimming, dancing, plays, outdoors, just having fun. Seeking SWM, 45-55, for friendship. ARE YOU THE ONE? SBF, 36, long brown/green, N/S, athletic build, pretty, animal lover. In search of attractive, fit, funny, easygoing SWM, 27-43, who is a child, fun, for dating, possible LTR with right man. HELLO OUT THERE. SWF, 39 years young, seeks SWM, who enjoys life simple pleasures, I enjoy dining out, computers, movies, the park, travel and life in general. Friendship first. ONE GOOD WOMAN LEFT. SBF, 47, 5'7", full-figured, N/S, likes roller-skating, dancing, exercise, theater, travel. Seeking a gentleman, 45-70, who is healthy, fun-loving, financially secure, looks decent. A POLISHED DIAMOND. Attractive, sexy BF, 31, seeks true gentleman. You won't be disappointed when we meet. EARTH BABY. DW, 62, 5'10", 200-lb, N/S, widower, many interests, family-oriented, honest, loyal, easygoing, optimistic, seeks friendship first, possible LTR with S/DW, 46-50. DOW-TO-EARTH. Asian woman, 5'2", 110lbs, slim, attractive, independent, loving, caring, enjoys movies, fine dining, travel, quiet times at home. Seeking very handsome W/M, 47-56, N/S, clean-shaven, HW proportionate, for friendship. KEEP COOL. SBF, 19, 5'3", looking for cool, down-to-earth, attractive SPM, 18-25, who keeps it real. HELLO THERE. Asian woman, 5'2", 100lbs, slim, attractive, health-conscious, vegetarian, N/D, N/S, enjoys dining, movies, quiet times at home. Seeking very handsome W/M, 47-56, N/S, clean-shaven, HW proportionate, for friendship. A WOMAN OF GLASS. SWF, 68, looks younger, in search of a SWM, 60-69, who is handsome, dining, theater. Is it you? GREAT SENSE OF HUMOR. SWF, 27, mother, enjoys swimming, walking, nature, being outdoors, seeking similar SWM, 28-45, for companionship. LET'S GET TOGETHER. SBF, 54, 5'9", N/S, enjoy life's simple pleasures. Seeking SWM, 48-62, N/S, for friendship or more. FUN & OUTGOING. SBF, 18, 150lbs, brown eyes, loves walks on the beach, movies, basketball. Seeking SM, same age, for friendship or more. STILL SEEKING. Very nice SBF, 57, 122lbs, interested in fit, good-looking, confident male, 46-59, N/S, intelligent, sincere, down-to-earth, who wants to commit to someone special. WHY NOT CALL? SBF, full-figured, seeks a SM, 37-80, for friendship, possible LTR. Call me, let's get together and get to know each other. READY FOR A FRESH START? DW, 47, 5'5", 120lb, long blonde hair, well-proportioned, energetic, attractive, self-employed. Seeking SWM, 45-57, 6'1", 220lbs+, good sense of humor, energetic, traveler, outdoorsman, adventurous, many pastimes. ONLY SERIOUS NEED REPLY. Voluptuous SBF, 42, would like to meet a nice, successful SWM, 35-50, who would like to become acquainted with a woman and who is ready, willing, and able to commit. ARE YOU SEEKING? DW, 63, 5'2", Italian, brunette, attractive, well-dressed, sincere, loving, optimistic, like theater, travel, dining, fitness. Wanting to meet N/S W/M, 50-70, financially secure, easygoing, good moral, loves family, for dating. COULD YOU BE THE ONE? Bright, playful SWF, 47, educator, outgoing, pretty eyes, wanting to meet a kind, Jewish man, 45-50, who's looking for commitment, love and laughter. GET TO KNOW ME. Loving, open-minded SBF, 60, 145lbs, attractive, enjoys music, dining, concerts, travel. ISO honest, compassionate SM, 57-65, N/S. Possible LTR. TATTOOED AND PIERCED. Sexy, full-figured SWF, 40ish, long blonde hair, looking for a man into art, music, movies, karaoke, volleyball area. LOADS OF FUN. Active W/F young 50s, good sense of humor, enjoys different music, travel, dining out, dancing, more. Seeking decent, kind, honest man for indoor and outdoor activities.

Meet Local Singles. 248.397.0123. SINGLES LINGO: A-Asian B-African American/Black C-Christian D-Divorced F-Female H-Hispanic J-Jewish M-Male N/S-Non-smoker N/D-Non Drinker N/Drugs- No Drugs P-Professional S-Single W-White LTR-Long Term Relationship

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