

#### THURSDAY October 30, 2008

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## Township, police officers reach 3-year pact

**BY TIFFANY L. PARKS OBSERVER STAFF WRITER** 

Township officials approved a 3year contract for Canton's police officers Tuesday night.

The negotiations between the township and the Police Officers

Association of Michigan spanned about four months. The contract is for July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2011.

"We had various meetings," said Finance Director Rick Eva. "I think it's a reasonable contract for both the police officers and the township. There was give and take between the two."

Unlike past contracts, where a 3percent salary increase was pegged for each year, the new agreement calls for a 3-percent raise the first year, followed by a 2.5-percent raise the second year and a 2-percent raise the third year.

"It's the economy that is driving

that," said Eva, adding that another change calls for all new police officers to pay 5 percent of their health care costs.

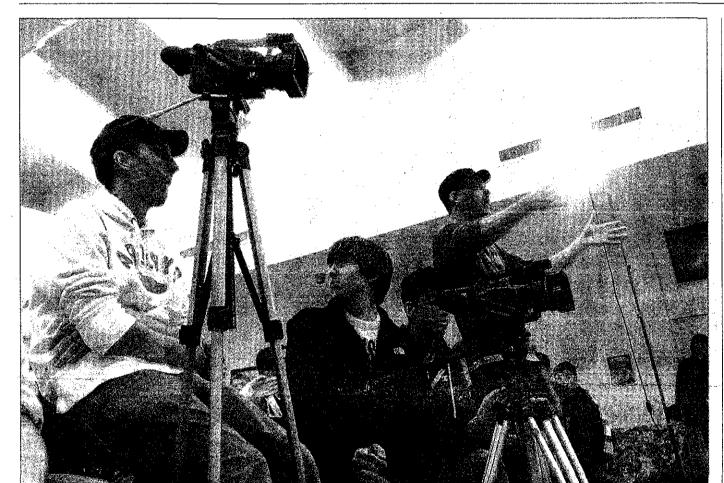
The police officer's agreement is similar to the new contract recently approved for Canton firefighters. Officials will negotiate the contract tlparks@hometownlife.com (734) 953-2170

for its clerical workers next.

entertainment

filter - D1

"It's an ongoing process," Eva said, noting that the township negotiates with seven unions, including two that represent command officers in the police department.



## Some of township's finest hang it up for retirement

**BY TIFFANY L. PARKS** OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

For the first time in 28 years, Sgt. Rick Pomorski will wake up Nov. 7 and not be a township employee. The same will be true for Sgt. Robert Sidor on Nov. 8, **Battalion Chief John Hunter** on Nov. 8 and Ed Olson, the township's fleet supervisor, on Nov. 15.

The four, along with Dianne Neihengen, former Canton Senior Center director, were honored by township officials Tuesday night for their years of service to the community.

"It feels like it's been

28 months instead of 28 years," said Pomorski, who joined the Canton Police Department in 1980 as a cadet. "Many people wake up and hate that they have to go to work but I get excited. Everyone has their days but for the vast majority (of my career), I've enjoyed it."

Pomorski, who has been active in nearly all of the department's special units, has spent 16 years in the detective bureau, initially as a detective before becoming supervising sergeant. During that time. he's worked a lot of who-done-it mysteries."

Please see RETIREMENT A2

Videographers Robert Luther and Kenny Carter, Sound and lighting worker Mohammad Nasser, and director Michael Horgan are ready to begin a scene.

## Nobody doesn't like Sara Lee

#### Middle schoolers make film for video contest BY TONY BRUSCATO

OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The Pioneer Middle School cafeteria was turned into a movie set this week to produce a 90-second video for a Sara Lee Foods contest that could result in a \$25,000 cash prize and lunch served by two High School Musical cast members.

Students in Jason Kay's eighth-grade media production class wrote storyboards and were the main actors in the video, which can only consist of K-8 students. The music for lyrics and technical work for the video - such as camera, lights and sound — is being performed by high school students in Janet Sutherland's video production class.

If they win, the money will be split between Pioneer and Sutherland's class.

'You will see a group of students who are excited about a Sara Lee bread product," Kay said. "(The main character) went to the doctor and, instead of being prescribed medicine, he was



Amber Cottrell, Victoria Kinsler, Laura Sieber and Mary Zelmanski look bored with their lunches.

given a loaf of whole wheat bread to turn his diet around ... and now he's healthy."

Emma Tardiff, 13, of Plymouth Township, was one of 30 students in Kay's class who helped write the storyboard.

"A lot of ideas went through our minds what we could do and the potential of this," Tardiff said. "Our whole class came up with a lot of ideas ... and many of them got used in some way."

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Hundreds of students were extras in the video. And, like any movie, it took several takes to get each scene just right. "You always are doing something like

playing with your food or talking with someone," said Laura Sieber, 13, of Canton Township, one of the extras. "It was fun being a part of this."

tbruscato@hometownlife.com (734) 953-2172

## Party will honor Yack, raise funds for arts

**BY TIFFANY L. PARKS OBSERVER STAFF WRITER** 

Township Supervisor Tom Yack's career will be celebrated Saturday at the Village Theater with a fund-raiser for the Partnership for the Arts and Humanities.

"Tom has a great passion for the arts and this is what he chose to do for his party," said Deborah Zevalkink, Yack's assistant.

"He doesn't like to think of it as something for him, but for the Partnership."

The celebration, which has been organized by the township and Partnership for the Arts and Humanities, will have a theater theme and will feature entertainment from The Grace Notes, the Spotlight Players, the Canton Concert Band and Destination Theatre. A silent auction will include 21 items, such as artwork, concert tickets and a "Tom Yack Momento Basket." The items have been donated by various residents and groups including the Cherry Hill Quilters, Charlie Mott, Orchestra Canton, Greg and Debi Greene and Ever After Productions. Several area businesses will donate food for the

event, including Main Street Catering, Holiday Market, Three Brothers Restaurant and Antonio's Cucina Italiana.



**Retiring Canton Supervisor Tom Yack** will be honored at a party Saturday at the Village Theater.

#### **TOM YACK'S RETIREMENT** PARTY

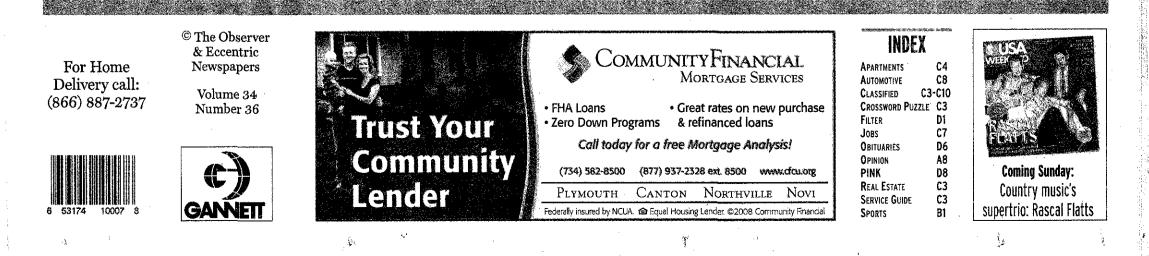
When: 6:30 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 1 Where: Village Theater at Cherry

For tickets: Call (734) 394-5185 by 5 p.m. Friday

Zevalkink said 300 people are already slated for attendance at the celebration, which is open to the public. Tickets are \$35 and proceeds will benefit the Partnership, a nonprofit, cultural arts organization.

For more information on the Partnership, call (734) 765-7061.

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PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER I STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

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#### www.hometownlife.com

#### RETIREMENT FROM PAGE A1

"Boy, we have had a lot of cases," he says, while glancing over a VHS tape that features footage of one of his cases that was shown on German television.

Pomorski, who decided on law enforcement as a career in the 11th grade, has a strong belief in the detachment of emotions until an investigation is over and has been driven by "catching the bad guy."

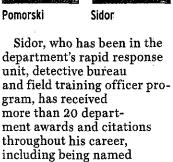
"I really feel Canton takes a professional approach to police work," said Pomorski, a married father of two sons. "We have a good bunch of guys here and it's bittersweet, but my time is up. I've got to go do something new." Sidor, who was hired one

day apart from Pomorski in 1980 and is known to everyone as "Rocky," said the township has been "a great place to work."

"I'm fortunate to be able to leave while I'm still happy," he said, adding that he's looking forward to spending more quality time with his wife, eight children and newborn grandson.

"I can't wait but I think it's going to be very strange not operating at the same level that I have for the past 28 years."

Simple Casket and



Officer of the Year. "When I was 18, I decided to (go into law enforcement) because it seemed like an interesting field and now, I can't see myself doing anything else," he said. "We have been well taken care of in Canton."

Like Sidor, Hunter says he's ready to spend more time with his wife and family.

"We've had to work birthdays and Christmas so I'm looking forward to this." he said, but added, "this has been hard because I'm not ready to sit in a rocking chair yet but it's time."

Hunter, who joined the fire department as a cadet in 1980, became a battalion chief in 2006. In one of many letters he has gotten throughout his career, one



was from a young mother who had overdosed on heroin and wrote Hunter to say that he had not only saved her life,

Hunter but had brought

new meaning to it. "I have been really happy with my career," he said. "The best thing is that I got out safe without anything traumatic happening, a lot of people can't say that.

As fleet manager, Olson oversees 171 on-road vehicles and hundreds of other pieces of equipment.

"I'm going to enjoy (retirement) and try to adjust," said Olson, who was praised as a "great role model" in township government by **Municipal Services Director** Tim Faas.

'I'm ready to go," Olson said.

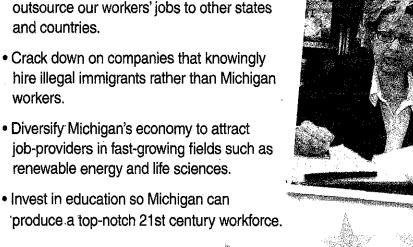
**Canton Executive Director** John Santomauro said while it's refreshing to see the retirements come after long careers, they are tinged with some sadness.

"When you lose this quality of people, it will be hard to duplicate," he said. "But it's good because we know how hard they have worked."

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#### **Canton Economic Club**

Wayne County Airport Authority CEO Lester Robinson will be the guest speaker at the Canton Economic Club luncheon on Wednesday, Nov. 5 at 11:30 a.m., at the Summit on the Park.

The luncheon is open to anyone who wishes to attend. The cost is \$20. Reservations are required and can be made by calling 394-5185.

The Economic Club hosts semi-annual luncheons with special guest speakers. The luncheons were developed with the purpose of introducing Canton's business and professional sector to leaders in the areas of manufacturing, government, entertainment, health care and economics.

#### Women wanted

The goal of the Canton Business & Professional Women (BPW) is to promote full participation, equity and economic self-sufficiency for America's working women. The group will host its next monthly meeting from 6-8 p.m., Monday, Nov. 10 at Palermo's Restaurant, 44938 Ford Road, Canton. The guest will be Deb Mulka from The Parent Talk System on Communications. The group is always looking for new members.

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

#### **Business Network** Professionals

**Business Network** Professionals, a local chapter of Business Network International, meets weekly from 7-8:30 a.m. at the Canton Coney Island at the corner of Lilly and Joy roads. Any person in business in the Plymouth, Canton and surrounding area is invited to attend as a guest and meet with other businesspersons, for purposes of networking, referrals, and supporting one another.

Contact Bill MacFarland, chapter president, at (734) 812-3845 for more information.

#### Salem sports fund-raiser

Salem High School wrestling and football teams are having a Texas hold-em poker fundraiser Nov. 6 through Nov. 9 at the Shark Club of Canton on Ford Road just east of Lilley

\$40 at the door. Tickets can be purchased at Holiday Market and the Canton Chamber of Commerce.

The event is sponsored by Holiday Market, Waltonwood at Cherry Hill and the Leadership Canton Alumni Association in cooperation with the Canton Chamber of Commerce and Charter Township of Canton. For more information, please call the Canton Chamber of Commerce at (734) 453-4040 or the Canton Supervisor's office at (734) 394-5185.

#### Seniors security seminar

The Canton Senior Safety Coalition and Canton Public Safety have scheduled their annual Seniors Safe, Sound & Secure seminar for Wednesday, Nov. 12, from noon-3 p.m., at Canton's Summit on the Park.

This year's event will include guest speakers from The Senior Alliance speaking on HIV/AIDS concerns for seniors, Medicare fraud, Senior Alliance programs such as adult day care, caregiver support, holiday meals program and legal assistance. Speakers will also talk about Single Point of Entry - a clearing point for seniors who need help deciding if at home or nursing home care is needed. Police and fire personnel will also speak and have handouts available.

This free event includes a pizza lunch For reservations contact the Canton Senior Desk at (734) 394-5485.

#### Salute to service

Canton will honor area servicemen and women who have served and who are currently serving in our Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard, National Guard, and Reserves from 2-4 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 9, at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill. The "Salute to Service" ceremony will recognize our military personnel in active duty and our veterans for their exceptional commitment and dedication.

Photos of Canton residents who are currently in our Armed Forces will be on display during this program. The public is encouraged to attend this free event, sponsored by Canton Township, Canton Community Foundation, and

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Canton Veterans Memorial Association. A short program will take place on the Theater's main stage at 3 p.m.

For more information please call (734) 394-5193 or visit www.canton-mi.org.

#### Sounds of Canton

**AROUND CANTON** 

The Sounds of Canton will perform a "We are the World" concert on at 7 p.m., Friday, Nov. 7 and 2 p.m., Nov. 8 at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill. The aged 55 and older singers will embark on a musical tour and pay tribute to our brothers and sisters around the globe with this cultural concert. Featured songs represent numerous cultures and countries, including songs such as "La Vie en Rose," "Somewhere My Love," "The Lion Sleeps Tonight," "Brazil," and "Scarborough Fair."

Ticket are \$10 for adults and \$8 for seniors and youth. For more information or to purchase tickets online, visit www. canton-mi.org/villagetheater. Tickets can also be purchased at Summit on the Park or the Village Theater box office. The Village Theater ticket office will also be open one hour prior to each performance.

The Sounds of Canton singers welcome anyone 55 and older with a love of music to join their volunteer group. Often the group sings for fellow senior clubs, nursing homes, community clubs and school groups throughout the metropolitan area. For details check out the Canton Discover brochure, which can be downloaded at leisure.canton-mi.org.

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For more information call (734) 394-5485, e-mail seniors@canton-mi.org, or visit leisure.canton-mi.org.

#### Hazardous waste collection

The Wayne County Department of Environment's Land Resource Management Division will be holding a Household Hazardous Waste Collection on Saturday, Nov. 8 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Westland DPS Yard located at 37137 Marquette, just east of Newburgh Road. This free event is open to Wayne County residents only and is an excellent 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 household paints, stains, dyes, floor wax, floor care products, carpet cleaner, furniture polish, bathroom cleaners, stain removers, solvents, nail polish, glue, fertilizer, lawn and garden chemicals, pesticides, antifreeze, motor oil, gasoline, automotive batteries and dry cell batteries, fluorescent bulbs, fire extinguishers, mercury fever thermometers, smoke detectors, computer monitors, printers, scanners, mice, keyboards, cell phones, fax machines, copiers, and televisions.

Items that will not be accepted include commercial waste, industrial waste, radioactive materials, explosives, ammunition, shock sensitive materials,



#### Bill Bynum & Co.

Bill Bynum & Co. will play the Village Theater at Cherry Hill at 8 p.m., Friday, Nov. 7 as part of the Village Theater's popular First Friday Studio Series. Songwriter Bill Bynum has been praised by music critics for his writing and performances. The band's core of guitar, dobro, fiddle, bass and harmony vocals can lean into bluegrass, veer toward country, or take listeners on a unique journey through Bill's original songs. Tickets are \$10. For ticket information visit www.canton-mi.org/villagetheater or call (734) 394-5300. To learn more about Bill Bynum & Co., visit www.billbynum.com.

household trash, 55-gallon drums, refrigerators, microwaves or other appliances, tires, vard waste and concrete. For information on how to dispose of these items, contact the Wayne County Resource

Recovery Coordinator at (734) 326-3936.

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For more information or to obtain a complete list of what will and will not be accepted, please call (734) 326-3936 or visit www.waynecounty.com.



#### The Diet with a Degree of Difference - a Medical Degree

Center he for Medical Weight Loss is the first national network of physicians to bring trained medical expertise to the field of weight loss. Founded in 2002 by Dr. Michael S. Kaplan, a specialist in bariatric

medicine, the center offers patients a long-term weight-loss approach managed with the full support of certified medical professionals.

According to Dr. Kaplan, "Treating people with weight problems isn't sim-

patients are suffering from severe health issues due to excess weight or merely looking to lose 15 to 20 pounds, all receive a full medical consultation with scientific measurement of their body mass and

basal metabolic rate and individual body composition analysis to accurately predict weight-loss results.

The center uses the latest techniques and medical data, and has access to high-quality nutritional products and the newest FDA-approved weight-loss medications that are available only to medical doctors.



in Canton. Call Don Turner at (734) 812-0504 if you have questions.

#### A Toast to Canton

A wine and food tasting event to raise funds for the Canton Rotary Club, elementary playground equipment and the Leadership Canton Alumni Scholarship Fund is scheduled for Friday, Nov. 7, from 7-9 p.m. at Waltonwood at Cherry Hill (42600 Cherry Hill Road).

There will be approximately 20 wine tables with a wide variety of red and white wines. A large assortment of hors d'oeuvres provided by Holiday Market is also included in the ticket price. Space is limited to 300 guests. Tickets are \$35 in advance, and, if available,



ply a matter of telling them to eat less and exercise more," he says. His research found that a central factor is addiction - to food - and an unhealthy pattern of eating. His primary approach, therefore, is to break food addictions and help patients reach a safe and healthy target weight quickly. Most importantly, the center's program teaches patients how to maintain their weight loss permanently.

"Unlike many consumer weight-loss programs whose staff requires no medical knowledge or training. The Center for Medical Weight Loss' physicians are certified professionals," notes Dr. Kaplan. "They fully understand the complex factors that are related to weight gain such as individual psychology and genetics, contributing The doctors at The Center

illnesses and prescription medication."

Dr. Kaplan's approach is based on individualized treatment. Whether

The average weight loss experienced by patients is 21 pounds in four weeks. In addition to the weight loss itself, health benefits include a decrease in dependence on blood pressure; diabetes and cholesterol medications, as well as lesser risk of chronic disease such as congestive heart failure, clinical depression and sleep aonea. Many successful patients refer to their experience at The Center for Medical Weight Loss as life-changing, and in many cases, life-saving.

To locate a center nearest you, call 1-800-MD-BE-THIN or

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Thank you for allowing me to introduce myself this campaign season. I have worked hard to earn your vote, not by offering misleading comparisons with my opponent, but by running a positive campaign emphasizing my merits. As election day nears, I will continue to work hard, but I will not invade your privacy with political telephone calls.

I am honored to have the endorsements of *all* of our former opponents; they have chosen to publicly support me because they understand the importance of choosing a judge who is not only experienced, but truly committed to <u>our community</u> and no other. I kindly ask for your vote to serve as your new 35th District Court Judge.

Sincerely,

## Joe Barone

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#### COUNTY NEWS

### WNIC personalities to host lunch at Buddy's

WNIC listeners are in for a treat because the winner of this month's Dining with the Stars will lunch with Lisa Barry, co-host of the WNIC Breakfast Club, and Kevin O'Neill, WNIC's weekday afternoon (2-7 p.m.) drivetime host.

Tell us in 100 words or less why you want to have lunch with Barry and O'Neill of WNIC-FM (100.3) at Buddy's Pizza in Farmington Hills. E-mail your entry to BuddysDiningStars@gmail. com by 5 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 12.

In addition to lunch with the WNIC radio personalities, the winner will be treated to a limo ride courtesy of Class Plus Limo, mini-makeover by Sebastian and Heba of I Design Salon and Spa in Dearborn, \$100 gift certificate from Reaver Diamond Co. in Southfield and dance exhibition by the Fred Astaire Dance Studio in Bloomfield



0'Neill Barry

Hills.

Barry, a lifelong metro Detroiter, grew up in Livonia and graduated from Bentley High School. She received a singing scholarship to Olivet College, where she graduated with a degree in communications. She started working at the campus radio station and has spent her entire career in Michigan and mainly Detroit on-air at news talk and country radio stations prior to

WNIC. Barry, who has two children - Benjamin, 17, and Parker, 13 — enjoys traveling, movies, shopping and eating out. She

is active in her church and in the community.

After her son, Benjamin, spent an entire month in Beaumont Hospital -- when a benign tumor was found on his spine — she selected The Children's Miracle Network at Beaumont Hospital as her children's charity of choice.

"During this time ... Buddy's was also nice enough to send over pizza to the hospital to cheer up Benjamin and share with the staff something that made my family forever grateful to the wonderful people at Buddy's," Barry said.

Staffers at WNIC describe O'Neill as "sweet, kind, funny and just a really nice guy."

O'Neill was born and raised in Cleveland and his mom knew that broadcasting was in his blood when, at the age of 6, she found him creating his own "radio shows" (Dick Clark-style) using a soup strainer for a microphone. The rest is DJ history.

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Throughout his career, O'Neill has worked at a variety of stations, including those in Cleveland, Akron and Oberlin, Ohio, as well as in South Bend, Ind., and Houston. He was offered a job at New York's premier oldies station WCBS-FM and declined because he had little

interest in becoming a New Yorker. Years later, O'Neill made it back to the Midwest and to the Detroit area he loves so much.

Becoming a part of the WNIC family on Labor Day weekend of 2004 was the "right thing to do," O'Neill said.

O'Neill's life would be changed forever - twice - when his son, Brendan, was born in 1982 and again June 11, 2007, when a quintuple bypass would save his life.

Dining With the Stars is cosponsored by Buddy's Pizza and the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers.

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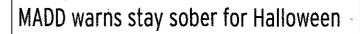
DEPARTMENT

Service changes & upgrades

Interior & exterior

West:

Detroit:



Mothers Against Drunk Driving warns that the three-day Halloween period can be deadly for drunken driving, especially with Halloween night falling on Friday.

From Oct. 30, 2007, to Nov. 1, 2007, 66 people were killed by a drunken driver with .08 or higher blood alcohol content, according to data from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

"We support enforcement efforts 100 percent in helping protect our children and our roadways this Halloween," said Richard Rondeau, executive director of MADD Southeast Michigan. "We want everyone to have fun, but drunk driving or providing alcohol to those under 21 can quickly turn a fun time into a very scary and terribly sad situation."

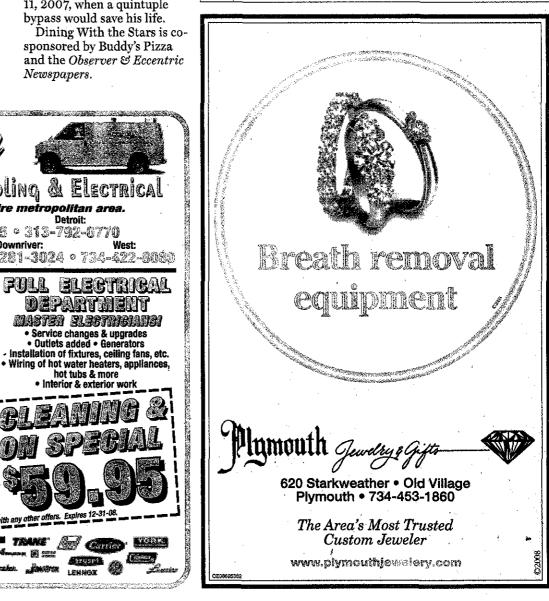
MADD has these tips to help ensure everyone's safety: Designate a sober driver before celebrations begin.

Never serve those under the age of 21 alcohol.

Plan safe parties, including providing non-alcohol drink options to guests and not serving alcohol the last hour of the party.

Be prepared to get everyone home safe in care your plans or individual circumstances change.

Recent government data show that 1840 youth aged 20 and under were killed in crashes involving a driver at or above the legal limit of .08 blood alcohol content in 2007.



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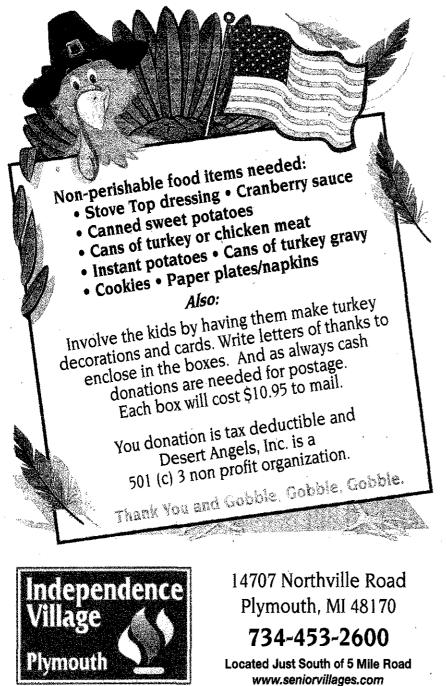
Livonia, MI 48152 COMPANY,



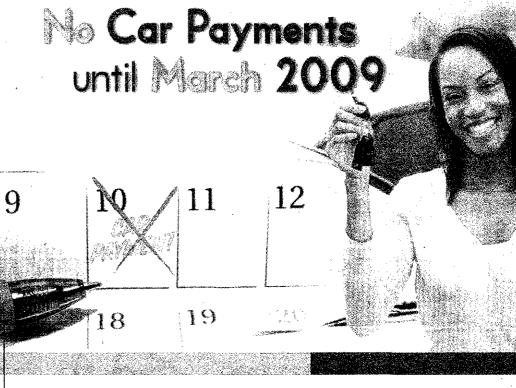
## **Turkey Trot for our Troops!**

Because we give thanks to our military for all our freedoms, please help us show that we care. Help "stuff" a Miracle Turkey Box that will trot over to our troops! It's our way of showing our support. Join all of us and Desert Angels, Inc. for this wonderful event!

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Canton

## Scott ready to be of service to WCCCD

#### BY DARRELL CLEM **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

With no challengers facing her on the Nov. 4 ballot, Sharon Scott appears ready to



clinch a sixyear term as a 9th District Wayne County Community **College** District trustee. Scott will replace depart-

ing Trustee

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Elizabeth Potter to claim an unpaid position once held for 12 years by Scott's husband, Ted, longtime WCCCD board chairman and former Westland fire chief. "I think I can be of service to our community and the Wayne

County Community College," Scott, 69, said. As the 9th District trustee, Scott will represent an area that includes part of Westland, Canton, Belleville, Romulus and three townships, Van

Buren, Sumpter and Huron. Scott formerly served as the Wayne-Westland school board president and as a Westland City Council member, a position she quit in 2000 amid threats she would be recalled for her role in the firing then-City Clerk Patricia Gibbons.

Scott has moved on, and she has continued to stay involved in her community as a board member for the nonprofit Westland Community Foundation and the city of Westland's Downtown Development Authority. She also has remained active in St.

John's Episcopal Church. As she represents a WCCCD area that includes the expanding Belleville-based campus, Scott said she hopes to get the word out that local high school students can apply for college scholarships through the Westland Community Foundation, which provides educational money every year.

Scott also vowed to work with WCCCD Chancellor Curtis Ivery, describing him as "a very capable chancellor who has got a lot of great ideas" for the 72,000-student, five-campus community college.

Scott's decision to seek a trustee seat marks a return to her involvement in education. She said she served over eight years on the Wayne-Westland school board before leaving in June 1991 and becoming a city councilwoman several months later.

"I enjoyed my tenure on the Wayne-Westland school board very much," she said. "Those were the best years of my polit-

#### **SHARON SCOTT**

#### Age: 69

Residence: Westland

Education: Wayne Memorial High School graduate, attended Henry Ford Community College.

Family: She and husband Ted have three adult daughters and five grandchildren.

**Community involvement:** Westland Community Foundation, Westland Downtown Development Authority, St. John's Episcopal Church, Wayne High Alumni Association, Westland First Citizen Award 1990, Westland Summer Festival co-chair 1976

#### ical career."

Scott also has personal ties to WCCCD. Her 19-year-old grandson, Theodore Scott Moore, attends the western and Downriver campuses.

Although she had supporters and detractors as a city councilwoman, Scott described herself as pleased by the reception

she received when she talked with people about seeking a WCCCD trustee position.

"It was very positive when I got out and started meeting people," she said. "The reception was very good,"

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## **Downtown Northville Bridal Fair** This Saturday, November 1st



Wedding



**BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER** 

#### The candy man is back

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Publish: October 30, 2008

## Style without the attitude

#### Sisters put their own touch into Hair Vibe salon

www.hometownlife.com

#### **BY TIFFANY L. PARKS OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

What do you get when you combine an "uptown Mayberry" barbershop with some slick styles and cuts? Hair Vibes.

The salon, located at 8589 North Lilley Road in the Golden Gate plaza, was taken over by three sisters in August 2007 and has began to take on a new identity under its new ownership. "I have worked in larger

salons with all of the drama and I am not having it here," said stylist Mel Quinn, whose sisters, Marianne Della and Kathy MacKenzie, have joined her in business. "We don't have any attitude here and we have a lot of fun together."

Quinn. who has been a stylist for 20 years, had been at the salon for about four years when the previous owners announced they were moving and wanted to sell the business.

"It had always been a dream of Mel's to have her own salon and I had been looking for business opportunities," said Della, who was working in the insurance industry. "Being that there were three of us, no one person had to bear the burden of the costs alone so the risk was not so great and we decided to go for it."

While Quinn, a Canton resident, overseas the dayto-day operations of the salon, Della, who lives in Westland, handles its finances. MacKenzie, a Flint resident, is largely a silent partner but drives down on weekends to pitch in.

"I never expected it to be



The crew at Hair Vibes: Carolyn "Red" Mitchell, co-owner Mel Quinn, Melissa Rosenberg and co-owner Marianne Della.

easy working with family but so far, so good," Quinn said, joking that the main disagreement she had with one of her older sisters was whether they should move the salon's front desk. "I thought we would have way more issues than we do."

Della, who has been coined the "go-to girl," left the insurance business to focus on Hair Vibes. The sisters are joined by two stylists, Carolyn "Red" Mitchell and Melissa Rosenberg.

Mitchell, a longtime stylist and resident comedienne of the salon, recently moved to Canton and said she went through four salons in 10 months because she couldn't find the right chemistry.

"I had to go through a few salons in order to find someplace that I wanted to stay," she said. "I don't do egos and it was easy to talk to (Quinn) so I said 'alright then.'

Rosenberg found Hair Vibes through an online listing in May.

'We do have a lot of fun together," said Rosenberg of Farmington Hills, as she joked that she needed a catchy name such as Mitchell's self-appointed "Hair Goddess" title.

KNOW THE SCORE: Check out the numbers in today's **sports** section

"Hey, it's on my business cards," Mitchell said.

In efforts to make the salon their own, Quinn and her sisters have put up artwork, mirrors, painted a couple walls and removed a batch of fake trees.

"It was like a hair jungle in here," Mitchell quipped.

In addition, the salon has donated its services to local groups and has partnered with other local businesses in an effort to survive the economic times.

"No one in small business wants to see another business fail," Della said the cross promoting.

Quinn agreed and said that while the hair industry has taken a hit, she sees promise with Hair Vibes.

"There has been a big swing in the industry with people stretching the amount of time in between cuts and colors but we are seeing good things happen even now," she said. "All of our hard work will be worth it and even though we work a lot of long hours, I'm not going home saying that I hate my boss."

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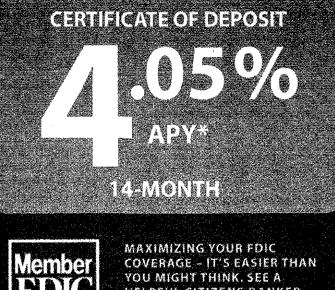
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The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

Page A8

Thursday, October 30, 2008

(C)

## Football success just tip of the iceberg

Plymouth takes on Canton in a prep football playoff game Friday night at the varsity football field at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park.

That shouldn't come as much of a surprise — the Chiefs have long been a perennial playoff contender (last year's non-playoff year notwithstanding), and the Wildcats have made it nearly half the time since the school opened for the 2002-03 school year.

Athletic prowess should come as no surprise to those who follow the Plymouth-Canton school district, because the sports teams are always top-notch and because they get the lion's share of publicity.

What should be no less surprising — but which may well be much lesser known — is all the other success students in the district have. It may be lesser known because those students toil in more obscurity than the athletes, who have their exploits splashed on newspaper fronts and talked about over water coolers.

Don't get us wrong — we try to get as much of those accomplishments into our pages as possible. We cover as much as we can; we do an Academic Achievers section every year, for instance. The sheer number of their academic accomplishment makes printing them all prohibitive.

There are many students who earn success on the Michigan Merit Exam tests every year, who earn scholarship money in the state's Michigan Merit Scholarship program. You may not have heard about the Plymouth-Canton students — Katherine Marion, Nikita Consul, Willa Chen, Kelly Determan, Linda Ling, Megan Ghastin, Monika Kothari, Ke Ding, George Muresan, Derrick Fu, Surya Deepak, Ryan Randall, Santosh Shanmuga and Amy Shen — who were named National Merit Scholar finalists. The student-run radio station annually earns a plethora of honors.

Plymouth-Canton students excel in everything from robotics to music, from academics to athletics. They're succeeding on the stage — in two different acting groups — and in the classroom, on the field and on the air.

So when you're at Friday's playoff game, turn to the student next to you and say, "Congratulations." There's a pretty good chance they've earned it.

## To avoid long election lines, vote absentee

In less than a week, our nation will renew itself once again and elect a new president and a new Congress. Many communities also have a plethora of local races that will determine everything from state representative and county executive to township board and district court judge. Unlike some places in the world, where such decisions are made by those already in power, in America, it is we, the people, who decide. We hold the power. Considering the various challenges facing our nation and state, the stakes will be higher for Tuesday's election than at any time in recent memory. Local and state election officials say the turnout will be massive. Long lines are expected, which means voting Tuesday could be a time-consuming process. However, for people who might be physically unable to wait in long lines or have other issues that would prevent them from heading to the polls Tuesday, there is still an opportunity to vote with an absentee ballot. To receive an absentee ballot by mail, you must submit an absentee ballot application to your township or city clerk by 2 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 1. You also have until 4 p.m. Monday, Nov. 3, to vote in person in your clerk's office. If emergency circumstances exist, the deadline for absentee voting may be extended to 4 p.m. election day. There are several reasons that would make a person eligible to obtain an absentee voter ballot, including being age 60 or older; physically unable to attend the polls without the assistance of another; expecting to be out of town on election day; in jail awaiting arraignment or trial; unable to attend the polls due to religious reasons; or appointed to work as an election inspector in a precinct outside your precinct of residence. For those of you who will be standing in those lines Tuesday, remember polls open at 7 a.m. and close at 8 p.m. (anyone in line at 8 p.m. will be allowed to vote). And remember to bring photo identification with you (it is required by law). The fact that there is so much interest in the upcoming election is proof that Americans understand what is at stake and a testament to the power of our democracy. Don't be one of those people left out of the process.

#### Signs, signs, signs

Congratulations to the candidates who have made it to the November election. While permission is needed to place their campaign signs on private property, according to a Canton elected official, "it is the rare candidate" who does so. He also stated that the township cannot regulate the placement of these signs. We are then stuck with hundreds of signs littering the side of our roads. Vacant lots are especially popular though I have spoken with business owners who are caught off guard by signs that suddenly appear on their property. I am amazed by campaign signs that cover the signs of stores, many of which are struggling every day in this economy.

The Canton DDA should be consider a plan to reduce the clutter along its Ford Road corridor. In the primary, I was determined to abide by the rules, but I also saw how easy it is to exploit the lack of enforcement. It is time for those who want respect and our votes to also respect us and our ordinances.

> Mike Andro Canton

#### Know your candidate

As the political climate heats up, political signs are populating our landscape. These are only a temporary blight to promote name recognition to the voting public. My wife and I admit responsibility for placing some of these signs on privately owned property with the permission of the owner. Municipalities have rules for these signs and can remove them from public property (that area between sidewalks and streets). Many candidates assume that if another candidate has a sign at a location that they can post theirs also. Hopefully each candidate has received permission from that property owner to place their sign at that location. No one, other than a municipality or property owner, has a right to move or remove them. There could be fines or misdemeanor charges for any others doing so. Parents advise your children.

Business owners, wishing to support a known candidate and realizing reduced sales, might be tempted to accept cash for political signage, or succumb to suggestions of patronage being purposely withdrawn. If I was a business owner and my business income was down, I might be tempted to accept pay for signage, but then I would have to think "Will I lose customers because I was favoring one candidate over another?" Hopefully no candidate would condone or endorse that a business owner remove on opponent's sign in favor of theirs or risk a boycott by that candidate's supporters. Business integrity is just as important as personal integrity. That's why I support the person, not the party. Know who you're voting for!

#### LETTERS

vote no on Proposal 2.

Barb Schmid

Canton

#### **Prop 2 is unfair**

As Election Day nears, voters are making up their minds on whether to support Proposal 2, the stem cell research proposal. I am voting no, and encourage others to do the same. There are several reasons why, and they are critically important.

First, it is important that we all agree that we all want cures to the many terrible diseases that afflict us or our loved ones. Any assertion that a voter opposing Prop 2 is without compassion is a false assertion, and is cruel and irresponsible.

One reason I oppose Prop 2 is that the language of the bill does not expressly prohibit public funding for stem cell research. True, it does not take public money now, but without a prohibition on public funding, you and I both know the tax and spenders in Lansing will come after your wallet. Just look at California, where they are stuck with a \$3 billion tax bond for the research. That state is in a budget crisis (sound familiar?) and is now coming to the federal government for a bailout. Who gets to pay for California's bailout? You. If we enact Prop 2, we will eventually be stuck with higher taxes and spending just like California.

The specter of public funding is even more offensive to the millions of Michigan residents who have strong moral objections to embryonic stem cell work. If we open the door with Prop 2, the push will be on to allow more and more areas of research that are morally offensive to many. It is not fair to go down this road.

Science should be encouraged to investigate non-embryonic stem cell research. What Michigan cannot afford, for multiple reasons, is to open the door to public funding and morally offensive research. Voting no on Prop 2 is the reasonable and responsible choice.

Jerry Vorva

Republican nominee for 20th District state representative Plymouth

#### Zarbo is best choice

You may know him as the current Canton Township Trustee (six years), whose re-election is endorsed by former Plymouth-Canton School Supt. Dr. Jim Ryan; a former planning commissioner, who brings 25 years of business and management experience; the longest standing board member of the Home one in response to the Telecom immunity bill and the other disagreeing with me on impeachment. While I did receive those letters, the dates you reported were not accurate. The claim that a letter was sent Sept. 25 could give your readers the impression that a response came before the article was written.

However, whether or not a form letter was generated is not at issue but that specific questions posed directly to the congressman's chief of staff, Andrew Anuzis, weren't answered. You can hear those questions by going to www. YouTube.com/erox07 and watching "McCotter & me: episode X." You will also hear Anuzis tell me that I would have answers in writing "rifled off" to me. It's been four months now. What caliber of rifle is the McCotter office using to send out letters these days?

On Monday, Oct. 20, I had the opportunity to meet with Livonia residents at the CCCA candidate forum. It was perhaps the only opportunity the public will have to see all of the candidates for this office in one place since McCotter has planned no public appearance before the election. McCotter could have been there, but left hours before the event to attend a hearing the next morning in Washington, D.C. At the forum he missed, McCotter's campaign manager, Chris Gravel, said that he answered my questions. If you watch "McCotter & me: episode XV" you will hear me ask him how we can hold the president's cabinet accountable if Bush extends executive privilege to them? You will hear Gravel respond, "I don't know." I don't know if that is really an answer.

Gravel later suggested that Anuzis was still composing that letter. I'm certain it will be a masterpiece. When asked if McCotter would be so forgiving of an Obama administration, Gravel conceded that the president had exceeded his constitutional authority to extend executive privilege to his cabinet. Sadly, Gravel is not running for Congress. McCotter is, and if we are to re-elect him, he must answer this simple question himself. I believe this to be a most modest

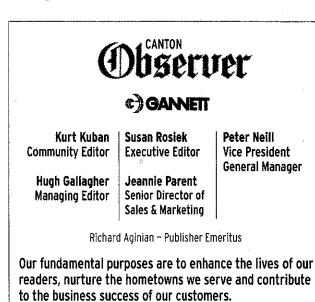
request.

#### **Erik Shelley**

Green Party candidate U.S. House of Representatives Michigan's 11th District

#### LaJoy owes favors

The Michigan Republican Committee is sending out their garbage slander about the Democratic candidate, Dian Slavens. They need to look at their puppet Todd LaJoy and the special interests that have contributed to his campaign. Todd LaJoy's special interest groups are those that his daddy wrote bills for while a state Rep. Todd LaJoy is bought and paid for by the Republican special interest network - pull up his finance report on: http://miboecfr.nictusa.com/cgi-bin/ cfr/com\_det.cgi?com\_id=513526. Look at all the PAC groups that have paid for his campaign - banking PACs, health care PACs, restaurant PACs, Motorcycle PACs, rental car PACs, DTE Energy PAC, UPS PAC, Real estate PACs, AAA PAC, MI Chamber PAC, Energy PAC, Insurance PACs, Consulting and employment services PAC, Waste Management PAC, MI Beer and Wine PAC, MHSA PAC, Builder and Contractor PAC, Farm Bureau PAC, Trucking PAC, AT&T PAC, Small business PAC, Auto dealers PACs, The Republican committee should be careful of what they accuse their competition of - it seems that their candidate, Todd LaJoy, is paid for by everyone ... not a good candidate to be putting into office and expect him to vote for the residents he represents - he owes a lot of corporate PACs some favors. Todd LaJoy is king of Lansing lobbyists and special interest groups - paid in full.



John L. Chew Canton

#### Vote no on 2

This is in regard to Proposal 2 — embryonic stem cell research — and the two articles pro and con (*Canton Observer*, Oct. 2). What's wrong with this picture? There is no mention of the results or either embryonic or adult stem cell research.

Furthermore, while it is illegal to destroy a human embryo for research in Michigan, it is not illegal to research that embryo's stem cells if the embryo was destroyed elsewhere. Human embryonic stem cell research is not illegal in Michigan. It has been ongoing since 2003 at the University of Michigan Center for Human Embryonic Stem Cell Research, which receives both federal (taxpayer) and private dollars. Proponents of Proposal 2, however, publicly claim that human embryonic stem cell research is illegal in Michigan and that jobs are leaving the state.

This research has failed to produce any beneficial treatments or cures since it began in 1998. On the other hand, there are 73 benefits of adult stem cell research including cancers, rheumatoid arthritis, multiple sclerosis, Parkinson's disease, acute heart damage, chronic liver failure, etc. Adult stem cell research uses stem cell from the placenta, umbilical cord blood, and living donors, and does no harm to the donor. Embryonic stem cell research uses stem cells from human embryos as research material and requires the destruction of those embryos. What gives the government the right to destroy the embryonic human being?

Also, contrary to the claims of its supporters, Proposal 2 does absolutely nothing to protect Michigan's ban on human cloning.

Please consider the facts carefully and

Owner's Advisory Council; the trustee who made the first phone call to IKEA; a volunteer chef who cooked pancakes along the Liberty Fest parade route; the "voice of reason"; the volunteer and master of ceremonies at last year's Plymouth-Canton Music Boosters Craft show; a Friend of the Library; a 2006 and 2007 Community Support Award recipient; a Partner of the Arts; a member of the Intersection Action Committee; the 2006 Canton Chamber of Commerce Excellence Award winner; and who is supported by both Democrats and Republicans alike.

I know him as fiscally responsible; he recently voted for his own, and other board members' pay cuts. I know him as a supporter of Leisure Services, who enjoys Canton's quality of life, and who worked side by side with me for Christmas in Action, an initiative that helps the elderly with free home repairs. I learned even more about him and the township when I participated in a community question and answer session he recently hosted.

To keep Canton's progress going, whether you are voting straight ticket, split ticket or mixed ticket I urge you to cast one of the up to four votes for Canton Township Trustee Karl Zarbo to be re-elected. Visit Karl's Candid Canton "live" at www.karlzarbo.com to get answers to frequently asked questions or just call him like I do at (734) 981-0486.

Randy L. Cook Canton

#### Candidate wants answers

Thank you for granting me an interview in the Sept. 28 edition of your paper. As you might imagine, it can be challenging for a third party candidate to get out his message without the advantage of a \$900,000 campaign war chest. Your article was fair and thorough, plus the on line version gave me the opportunity to interact further with concerned members of the community which I would have otherwise never had.

Towards the end of the article, you checked my claim that the McCotter office failed to respond to my questions and reported that I was sent two letters,

#### Leon Wakoski

Canton

#### SHARE YOUR OPINIONS

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

#### Mail:

Letters to the editor Canton Observer 36251 Schoolcraft Livonia, MI 48150

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#### QUOTABLE

"We've been taught how to spin a flag, rifle or saber; we have to know how to dance and put it all together and be able to march with the band and not hurt anybody."

- Megan Meddaugh, 18 of Canton, one of three P-CEP marching band members selected to perform with the U.S. Army All-American Marching Band on Jan. 3 during halftime of the Army's All-American Bowl in San Antonio, Texas, discussing some of the challenges they will encounter

## Legacy costs: E-mails tarnish Yack's record

fter 20 years as Canton's supervisor, Tom Yack is set to say good-bye.

Although he is due to stay on for a few more weeks, many of his supporters will gather this weekend at the Village Theater to say fare-



well and pay homage to him. From what I'm told this will be a first-class production about Yack's accomplishments over the last two decades. Township staff has worked hard to put this thing together to make sure Yack is remembered as he wants to be: The leader who led the town from its rural. dirt-road

Kurt Kuban

to be. The leader who led the town from its rural, dirt-road past to its current status as a shiny suburb on the hill.

And in many ways, that's who Yack is. Under his leadership, Canton has changed dramatically. While some old-timers would disagree, most in Canton today would say the changes have been very positive. Canton is one of the nicest places to live not only in Wayne County, but in the entire region. For his vision and persistence, Yack deserves a lot of credit.

But that's not the whole story.

Anyone who has read Yack's e-mails that a group calling themselves "Watchdog Canton" recently obtained under the Freedom of Information Act now knows there is another side to Yack. The e-mails make it quite clear Yack can also be a vindictive man who, if challenged, will hit hard without regard for whom or what gets damaged along the way.

Canton Community Foundation President Joan Noricks found this out the hard way. Noricks, you may remember, had the audacity to run against Yack's hand-picked candidate for treasurer, Melissa McLaughlin, who has been one of his most loyal supporters. McLaughlin trounced Noricks in the primary election, thanks in **no small** part to Yack's support.

The e-mails suggest Yack has run the township like his own little fiefdom. His use of the township's e-mail system for political purposes shows, I think, he has no clear understanding (or perhaps it's simply a disregard) of what is his and what is owned by the township. The line has been blurred for him, I think, partially because he has never received a real challenge from anyone for two decades.

Until Noricks came along.

It is clear from his e-mails Yack perceived her as a threat to what he has accomplished over the years. In his e-mail to Phil LaJoy, who is sure to succeed him as supervisor, Yack warns, once "she figures out that Canton is organized differently than the state statute prescribes" she would disband the township's finance department.

In another e-mail exchange with McLaughlin, they discuss the \$33 million the township is looking at in unfunded retirement health care. I think the latter issue will be another telling aspect of Yack's legacy.

Since Yack took office, the size of Canton's government has exploded – just like Canton itself. As development and the population increased, so did the township's services to keep up with the growth. The township has built some beautiful facilities, including the new administrative building, Summit on the Park, the library, Pheasant Run golf course, and the Village Theater.

Yack has also done a great job hiring a professional staff that is second to none when it comes to providing government services. The Public Safety Department is one of the most well-respected in the state and Leisure Services was recently honored as providing the best recreation programing in the nation for towns of similar size.

But all of these employees will retire some day and they are going to draw pensions and health care benefits, something Yack's administration really hasn't had to deal with. It will be Canton's future leaders who are going to have to deal with those costs. The question will be how will the services the town provides its residents be impacted.

The reality is most people in Canton don't really pay that much attention to who is running township government, and that is largely a result of Yack's success. They just know they like their community — their parks, their library, the retail options and their neighborhoods.

That's what they will be celebrating at Yack's party Saturday. And it is worth celebrating. But just remember, there's more to the story.

Kurt Kuban is the editor of the Canton Observer. He welcomes your feedback at (734) 953-2164 or kkuban@ hometownlife.com

#### LETTERS

#### Thanks for nothing

I read a recent article in one of the other newspapers in the area about the two skaters (Tanith Belbin and Ben Agosto) and how they missed the Canton area but feel that they made a good choice relocating to New Town Square, Pa., and then in another small article in the same paper, they talked about a street that was named after them at the Arctic Edge arena in Canton and how people were upset that their street sign had been removed. I guess people don't remember that we welcomed these two skaters to our area with open arms and actually made them the prince and princess of Canton for close to 10 years. After they had lose a few competitions, they decided to pack up and leave the township high and dry without even a thank you to the citizens that supported them in the area. If it were up to me, I would also remove their banners inside the arena and ship it to them along with the street sign and a letter saying "Thanks for Nothing."

#### **Robert Denstedt**

Canton

#### Barone is objective

I am supporting Joe Barone for district judge because, unlike his opponent, he has not sought the endorsement of Mike Cox, Kwame Kilpatrick or anyone else wrapped up in the reciprocal backscratching and favor-trading that is rampant in the Wayne County political machine. From what I can tell, Mr. Barone is truly an objective, impartial candidate, and all indications are that he would maintain that purity behind the bench. We don't need any "urban legends" in the 35th District Court.

**Christopher Roeser** 

Canton

#### **Supporting Williams**

I am writing this letter to endorse Pat Williams for Canton trustee. As a Canton business owner in a struggling local economy, I recognize the need for strong leadership. I am impressed not only with Pat's commitment to community but also the business knowledge and common sense approach Pat will bring to this position. In the past 11 years, I have witnessed Pat's commitment and dedication to community service groups and the endless hours he has unselfishly committed to our community. It is for these reasons that I support Pat Williams for Canton trustee.

> Doug Mans owner, Mans Lumber and Millwork

#### LaJoy has solutions

I recently had the opportunity to witness a candidate forum sponsored by the League of Women Voters. This well-organized event featured all three candidates seeking to represent Canton in the state House. While I applaud all the participating candidates for their commitment in this endeavor, I strongly urge my fellow citizens to support Todd LaJoy.

For the most part, all the candidates were able to identify the problems facing our state. Nonetheless, only Todd LaJoy was able to offer specific solutions to address the complicated issues facing the hardworking families of Michigan. I was particularly impressed with Todd LaJoy's plans to improve our roads, creates jobs, address government waste and increase access to affordable health care coverage. Unlike the other candidates running for office, Todd LaJoy's resourceful platform is fiscally responsible and protects the taxpayers.

The challenges facing our state will not allow onthe-job training and it is important to elect someone who is well-prepared to hit the ground running. Todd LaJoy's experiences as Canton Township trustee, small business owner and lifelong resident of Canton have obviously served him well.

On Nov. 4, please vote Todd LaJoy for state representative.

Robyn Novak Canton

#### Sweep out Republicans

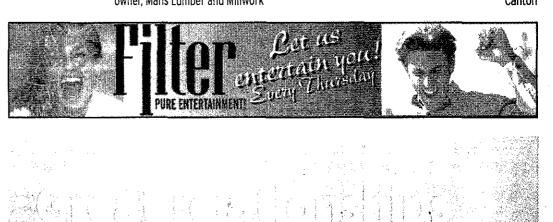
The economy is in a tailspin, millions are unemployed, retirement savings are disappearing, home values have plummeted and George Bush and the Republican Party have been asleep at the wheel as they have steered our country into an economic depression. The Republicans' anti-regulatory philosophy has been largely responsible for the mortgage crisis and stock market collapse, the health insurance crisis and the decline of the auto industry. The latter due to their stubborn refusal over the years to go raise the fuel efficiency standards of cars, which would have made the U.S. manufacturers more competitive with foreign companies as the gas prices rose.

The Republicans have failed miserably and it is time to elect a Democratic president and Congress to put this country back on the right track. This is the most important election since 1932 when Democrat FDR was elected and brought America out of the Great Depression and brought fairness and confidence to our economic system.

> Thaddeus J. Hejka Canton







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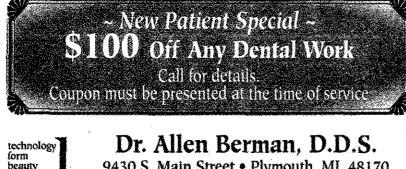


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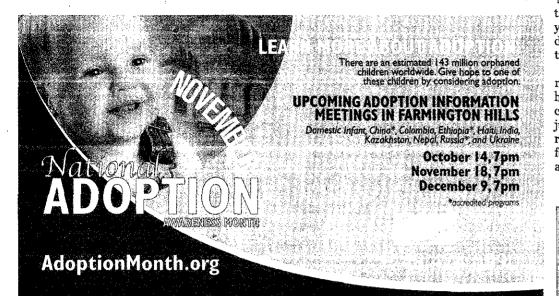
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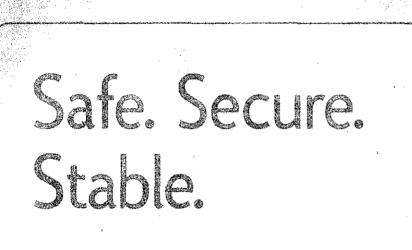
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#### COUNTY NEWS

Is Season

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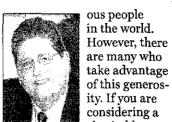
#### OUR CREDIT RATINGS S&P A+ MOODY'S AA3

MOODY'S AA3 FITCH DEPOSIT RATING AA

## Season of giving good time to evaluate charitable contributions

t's hard to believe there are a little over two months left in the year. There are important items to discuss before year's end and one of these deals with charitable contributions.

The holiday season is when many people open up their hearts and checkbooks to charitable organizations. In just a few weeks, we will start receiving various letters asking for money. Americans, by all accounts, are the most gener-



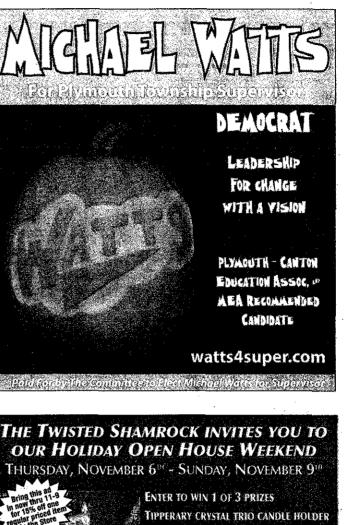
Money Matters charitable contribution, do

Rick Bloom on the organization.

your homework

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nizations that do good work with the money they receive. However, there also are a lot of organizations that do not effectively spend money on charitable purposes. In addition, there are organizations that out and out scam people out of money.

Many organizations sound very similar to legitimate organizations, but they are not. When you give to a charitable organization, you are giving money because you want to accomplish something good. There are a couple of Web sites, www.charitynavigator. org and www.give.org, that can provide you with a wealth of information about the charity you are considering.

One strategy used to maximize your charitable contribution is to donate appreciated securities. Donating a stock or an investment that you have a gain in means you can still deduct the full fair market value of the investment and avoid paying taxes on the gain. For example, if you paid \$1 a share for stock that is now selling for \$10 a share and you donate the security to a charity, you can deduct the full \$10 as a charitable contribution and avoid the capital gains tax. If you have losses on the security, then the better strategy is to sell the stock, deduct the loss for tax purposes and then donate the cash to a charity.

Not all charitable contributions are cash contributions. You also can donate clothes or household items. The key is to properly value the contribution and adequately document the donation. Whenever you make a charitable contribution, it is important to have the proper documentation. I have found

— particularly with clothing and household items — that taking a picture and keeping it with your tax records is sufficient. That doesn't mean you have to take a picture of each item, but you do want some sort of documentation.

If you donate cash, save your cancelled check and the receipt that you receive from the charity.

When it comes to taxes, one thing no one wants is a letter from the Internal Revenue

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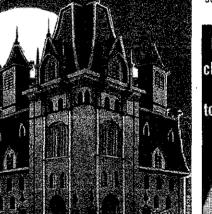
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Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. Observer & Eccentric readers can submit questions at moneymatters@hometownlife.com. For more information, visit Rick's Web site at www.bloomassetmanagement.com. You can hear Rick from noon to 3 p.m. Sundays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

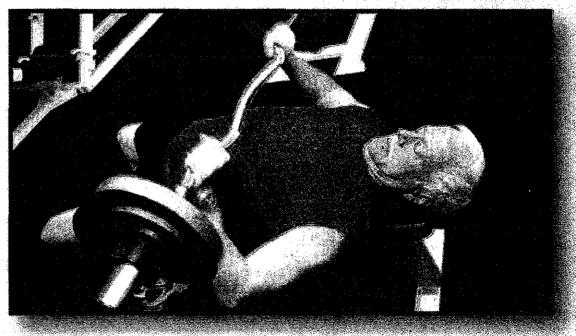


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Thursday, October 30, 2008

#### 2008 PREP FOOTBALL PLAYOFFS: PLYMOUTH VS. CANTON

## Martin makes his presence felt between the hash marks

For preview of Plymouth-Canton playoff game, see Page B2.

#### BY ED WRIGHT **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

The Plymouth football team's defensive scheme is designed to funnel all of its opponents' plays toward the middle of the field, which more often than not sets up the ball carrier with an upclose-and-personal appointment with Wildcat middle linebacker Connor Martin.

Off the field, they'd enjoy meeting Martin, a friendly, easy-going teenager who is an accomplished student (3.8 grade-point average) and lacrosse player.

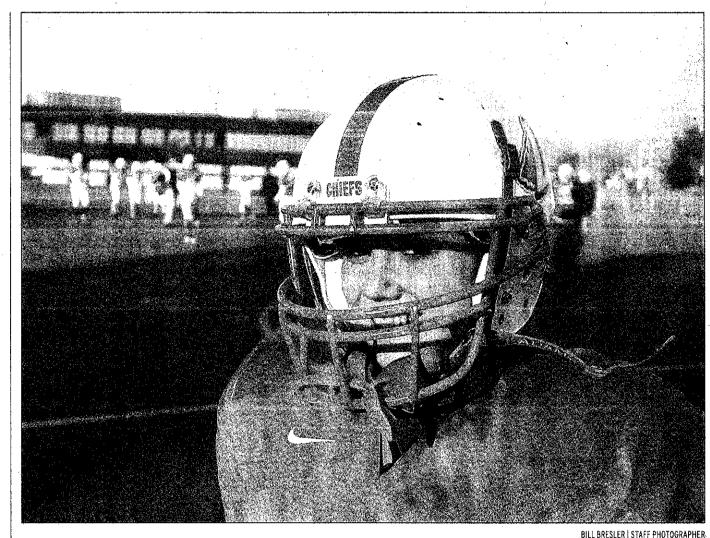
On the field, well, that's a different story, considering Martin hits with the force of a freight train and is drawn to the football like a bull is drawn to the color red.

Since getting promoted to the varsity as a sophomore, Martin has established himself as an ultra-reliable defensive anchor, racking up double-digit tackling statistics in nearly every game he's played.

Although not exceptionally fast or big (5-foot-11, 180 pounds), he possesses a fearless, old-school brand of tenacity that rivals that of Jack Lambert and Dick Butkus.

'Connor Martin was born to be a football player," said Plymouth coach Mike Sawchuk. "He's the type of kid that no matter what the

Please see MARTIN, B3



Canton senior fullback Nicole Douglas proved a freshman classmate wrong by not only surviving three years of high school football, but thriving at the sport.



#### Canton's female fullback earns respect of coaches and teammates

#### BY ED WRIGHT **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

The Canton football team's thirdstring fullback may occasionally wear mascara and fingernail polish, but, boy, does the 5-foot-5, 135-pound senior ever pack a wallop while running the 41 trap.

That wasn't "Nick" Douglas bull-dozing through the secondary for a 9-yard gain during the Chiefs' regular-season finale last Friday night - it was Nicole Douglas, perhaps the only girl in the

skeptical when Douglas approached him about joining his program prior to her sophomore year, but the skepticism soon turned into admiration.

"Nicole was in one of my classes, so I knew her," Baechler said. "She had a great personality and she was a hard worker, but gym class and high school football are two different things.

"I had a girl try it a couple of years before Nicole and she only lasted two or three days."

#### OK, but...

tioning goes," he said. "She's strong, too. She's not a great blocker and she can't catch real well, but she can definitely run the fullback trap. She hits the hole hard and fast."

Too fast and too hard, as far as a few opposing defenses are concerned. Although she only plays during the tailend of blow-outs, Douglas has ripped off gains of nine, nine and 18 yards during her two-year varsity career.

"Probably my favorite play was my run on Friday night," Douglas said. "Once I broke through the line of scrimmage,



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Senior linebacker Connor Martin has led Plymouth's defense in tackles the past two seasons.

#### state who plays high school football at a position other than kicker.

"One of my teammates likes to walk behind me when we shake hands with the other team after the game because he likes to see how many double-takes I get,' Douglas said, smiling. "The guys on the other team will look back toward me and say, 'Oh my gosh, it's a girl!'"

Yes, Douglas is a girl, but she's proven on a regular basis the past three years that she's also a pretty darn good football player.

#### Not a gimmick

Canton coach Tim Baechler was a little

Baechler gave Douglas the thumbs up, but with certain conditions.

"I told her she could play as long as she attended all the workouts like everybody else and if she genuinely wanted to be a football player, be one of us," Baechler said. "I'll tell you what, she has really earned the respect of the coaching staff and her teammates. I know a lot of her teammates root for her and they get excited when she gets in the game."

Baechler gave Douglas a solid scouting report.

"She's in great shape as far as condi-

I saw open field, then one of their linebackers hit me, but I kept going. It took about four of their players to bring me down."

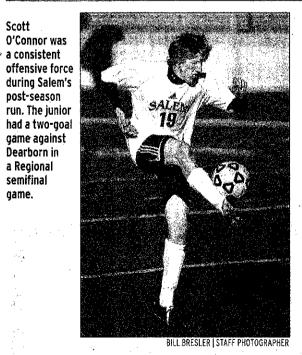
#### Meeting the challenge

Douglas' high school football career was sparked by an ongoing challenge that was delivered by a football player during her freshman year at Canton. "It started when a guy in my personal fitness class was messing around with

Please see FULLBACK, B3

Scott

dame.



## OT goal steals Rocks' state title hopes

BY ED WRIGHT **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER** 

Like a thief in the night, a perfectly executed corner kick robbed the No. 1-ranked Salem boys soccer team of an opportunity to move on in the state playoffs Saturday night in Saline. With 11:08 remaining in the

first 15-minute sudden-victory overtime period, Saline's Dan Kuehn roped a curving kick to the left post that Zach Walega rammed home to give the Hornets a 1-0 triumph on a windy, bone-chilling late-October night.

The Regional final setback proved to be the only blemish on Salem's 22-1-4 record.

The Rocks threatened to end the contest two minutes earlier when they lasered a shot that bounced firmly off what appeared at first glance to be the soccer goal's cross-bar and right to Lachlan Savage, who drilled the rebound into the lower right-hand corner of the net from 15 yards out.

The referee, however, ruled correctly that the initial shot hit the cross-bar on the football goal-post that was positioned just above the top of the soccer net, so the ball was ruled dead

at that point.

"It's devastating for all the players to get this far only to lose in overtime in such dramatic fashion," said Salem coach Ed McCarthy. "A lot of our guys were hoping for a goal kick on that play, but the linesman called it a corner and Saline executed it perfectly. It was very difficult to defend."

Both goalkeepers — Salem's Sasa Miskovic and Saline's Carter Beil - came up big when called upon during the game's first 83 minutes.

Of the many big saves Miskovic registered, one of the most impressive came with

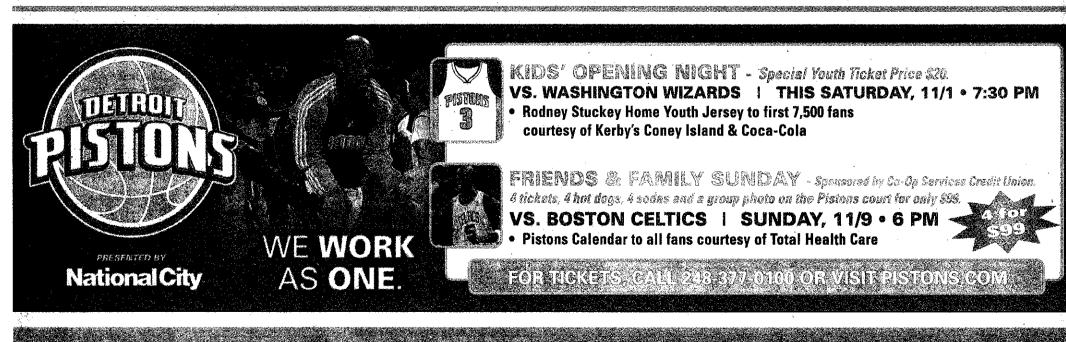
33:04 left in regulation when he smothered a sizzling 15-yard rocket off the foot of Saline's Kyle Mattson.

Salem's best chance to score came in the game's seventh minute when Josh Pascarella lined a free kick into the box that Jace Bearden headed into the cross-bar.

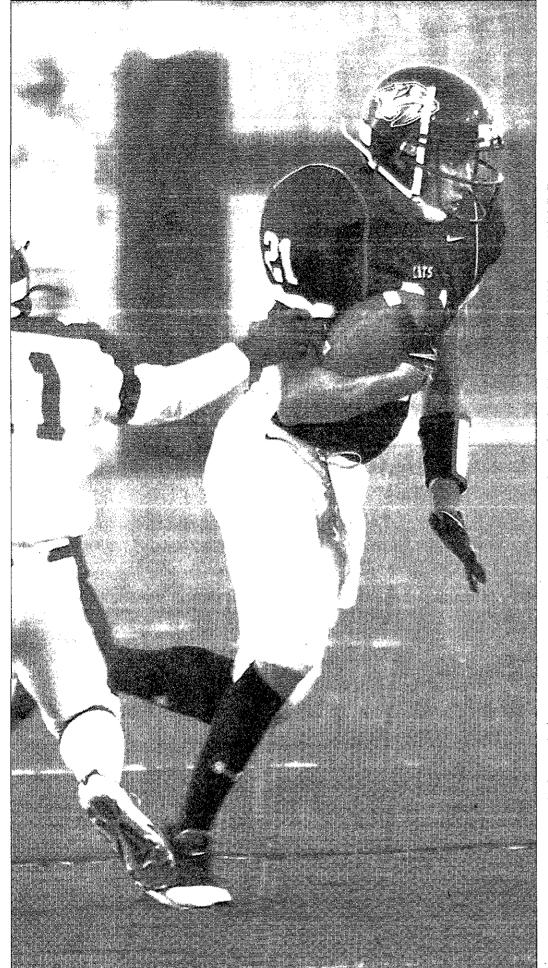
Saline's Mitch McLean drilled the cross-bar from 35 yards out 10 minutes later.

McCarthy said the loss in no way diminishes the pride he felt in his highly accomplished squad.

Please see ROCKS, B5



#### FOOTBALL



PHOTOS BY BULL BRESLER I STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth senior wide receiver Zach Hamed has been a favorite target of guarterback Matt Skubik.

## Stakes higher than ever for Friday night's Canton-Plymouth showdown

#### **BY ED WRIGHT** OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Of the 128 Michigan high school playoff football games set to kick off this weekend. few will be charged with a higher intensity level than Friday night's Canton-vs.-Plymouth clash.

Adrenaline has a way of peaking when two neighbors face off in a win-or-go-home setting.

Friday's game will be a rematch of a Sept. 12 encounter the Chiefs won, 26-16.

Both teams took diverse paths into the post-season. The 8-1 Chiefs won five straight games following a Week 4 one-point setback to Westland John Glenn to earn the top seed in their region. Plymouth dropped its final two outings to finish 6-3.

"I know the kids are fired up to play Canton again," said Plymouth coach Mike Sawchuk. "After they beat us earlier in the season, we told them that if we win out, we'd probably get to face them in the playoffs. Well, things didn't quite work out the way we wanted, but we're playing them anyway."

Canton coach Tim Baechler said his team has made marked improvements in some areas since the two teams last met on Sept. 12, but there are some areas that still need work.

"Our offensive line is playing better," Baechler emphasized. "I'm not sure I can say that about our defense. We played better defensively the past two weeks, but we're still not dominant.

Baechler said he expects to see a different Plymouth team Friday night than the one he saw on film losing its last two games to Livonia Stevenson and Romulus.

"I'm sure they'll have a great week of practice and come out battling Friday night," he said. "It looks like they have changed some of their personnel, but their core kids are still the same.

"Their running back (Terrance Guthridge) looks like he's running as well as ever."

The injury bug has been an unwelcomed visitor at



Canton junior guarterback Kevin Delapaz, pictured stiff-arming Churchill's Matthew Kowalis during a game earlier this year, has been a steady force for the Chiefs in his first season as a starter.

#### **SCARY-GOOD HALLOWEEN** MATCH-UP

What: First-round Division 1 playoff football game; Who: Plymouth (6-3) vs. Canton (8-1); When: Friday, 7 p.m.; Where: PCEP varsity stadium; What's at stake: The winner advances to next week's District final against the winner of Friday night's Saline-Ann Arbor Pioneer game; the loser turns in its equipment next week; Forecast: Clear skies, game-time temperatures in the low-50s; Players to watch: Canton's starting backfield of OB Kevin Delapaz and RB's Davion Stackhouse, Kiere Daniels and Adam Payter has been all but unstoppable this season thanks to an athletic offensive line that is gelling more every week. Plymouth running back Terrance Guthridge has been spectacular. running for close to 200 yards last week against Romulus. Wildcat middle linebacker Connor Martin is one of the best around.

nursing a wide range of injuries. Sawchuk said.

need some younger guys to step in and play well."

Engineered by junior quarterback Kevin Delapaz, Canton's offense has been running like a well-oiled machine. The Chiefs have only punted a handful of times all season thanks to a run-oriented offense that seems to feature a different back every week.

Four Canton players -Delapaz, Kiere Daniels. Adam Payter and Davion Stackhouse - have all run for over 100 yards in at least one game this season.

Plymouth's balanced offense is guided by senior Matt Skubik, who either hands off to senior speedster Guthridge, or looks downfield to Ronnie Goble, Zach Hamed, Travis Mewton or Alex Minch.

A pair of seniors anchor both teams' defenses. Two-year starter Bryan Gerst controls the middle of the field for the Chiefs while Connor Martin is the Wildcats' leading tackler.

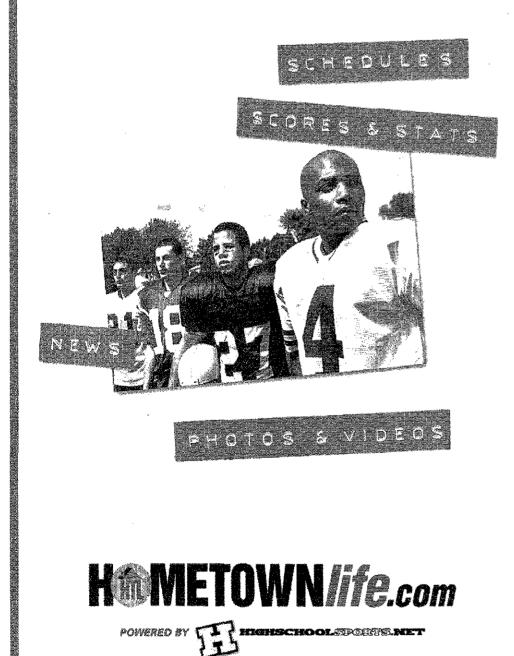
Both teams are armed with strong-legged kickers. Plymouth sophomore Kyle Brindza is dangerous from 45 yards in while Canton senior Daniel Stoney regularly booms kick-offs into the end zone.

The winner of Friday's game will be matched against the victor of Friday's Saline-Ann Arbor Pioneer showdown.

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Plymouth the latter part of the season. Several players are

We're pretty banged up Sawchuk said. "We're going to

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Publish: October 30, 2008

10134



PC gridders harness **Stallions** 

Plymouth Christian's firstyear football team closed its regular season in stunning fashion Friday night by corralling the South Washtenaw Stallions, 53-0, in a Christian Football League of Michigan game played at Whitmore Lake High School.

Jordan Early-Pitts led the Eagles' potent rushing attack.

Tim Pugh, Richard Truhn (two), Early-Pitts, Douglas Malcolm and Jordan Allen all scored TDs for the Eagles. Allen tossed a pair of scoring passes: one to Brian Beach from 34 yards out and the other to Pugh from 43 yards away.

Spencer Wiard converted one point-after touchdown for PC, who tallied two-point conversion runs from Matt Sauter and Blake Van Tiem.

Paving the way for the impressive ground attack were offensive linemen Frank Schroeder, Jimmy Murray, Jared Pitts, VanTiem and Eric Jipping.

Leading the defensive charge were Sauter, VanTiem, Wiard and Andrew Weaver. Jipping notched a sack and a fumble recovery.

The Eagles will open the CFLM playoffs on Saturday against the Troy Defenders.

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(CP)

## FROM PAGE B1

weather is like, no matter what kind of practice everybody else is having, he's going 100 miles per hour. He'll go in there on the scout team at practice and just blow people up - he does not care who you are."

#### From mid-field to middle linebacker

Martin's vast gridiron accomplishments are amazing considering he didn't pull on his first pair of shoulder pads until his freshman year at Plymouth.

"I played soccer growing up," Martin said. "Once I got to high school, I figured I could play soccer any time when I got older, but this would be my last chance to play football. I'm glad I decided to give it a try."

So is Sawchuk, who views Martin as an extension of the coaching staff on the field.

"He's our quarterback on the defense." Sawchuk said. "He knows all the checks. all the calls. Basically, he can coach himself out there.

"It's been a pleasure to coach that kid. Off the field, he's a gentleman, he never does the wrong things. He's what we like in Wildcat football players, that kind of person."

#### The '22' legacy

Martin's zest for football has helped enrich a tradition at Plymouth that was started by former linebacking standout Nick Rosochacki. Like Rosochacki before him, Martin wears "22," a number that is becoming a symbol for defensive excellence and will be worn by all future middle linebackers at the school, Sawchuk said.

"I love football," Martin said. "I like getting in there with the big guys and making tackles. It's a sport where you get to come out here every day and compete

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#### with your teammates and friends. I like it because it's a tough sport, too.'

#### No-lose situation

Martin said he is undecided about whether he'll pursue football or lacrosse at the collegiate level.

"I'm going to send some tapes out to a few colleges once the season is over and see what happens," he said. "If I do play college football, I may be a little undersized to play linebacker, so I'd probably have to play strong safety."

Sawchuk is not convinced of that.

"I think if he put a little weight on he could play linebacker in college," Sawchuk said. "I know this: When Connor leaves, we're going to have some big shoes to fill. There aren't many middle linebackers around who are as smart as him, hit like him and have his intensity.'

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me, saying girls couldn't play football," she remembered. "I'd say, 'Yes they can,' and he'd say 'No they can't.' It went on for quite a while, until I finally decided to prove him wrong and play. I talked to coach Baechler, then started going to the meetings and the summer workouts.

Not surprisingly, the plan received mixed reviews from her parents.

"My dad is a big sports buff, so he was like. 'Yeah, my daughter is going to be a football player!' At first, my mom, who lives in Florida. was like, 'High school football? I don't want to see you die!' After a while, she accepted the idea and she's been very supportive ever since."

#### Awkward adjustment

It took a while for Douglas' junior varsity teammates to warm up to her during her first season in pads in  $200\overline{6}$ .

"At first, they didn't know what to do," she

said. "They had never been on a team with a girl. It was awkward at first. They'd tackle me in practice and say, 'Sorry, are you OK?' I'd tell them, 'Don't ask me that again. I'm a football player, just like you."

Douglas has learned more about football the past three years than she ever thought she'd know.

More importantly, she's learned some invaluable things about herself.

"Thanks to playing football, I know now that if I set my mind to something, I can really do it," said Douglas. "It not only helps me now, but it will help me in the future.

"I have made so many friendships through football, too. A lot of my teammates are like

brothers to me. I'm really going to miss it." With the exception of a few bumps and bruises, Douglas has survived the experience

injury-free. "I thank God every day for keeping me safe,"

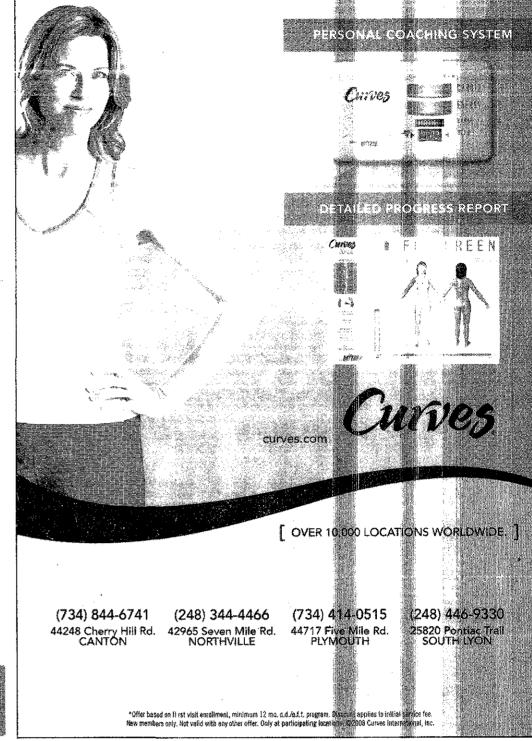
she said

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## JV Steelers post playoff win

The Plymouth-Canton Steelers junior varsity football team advanced to the second round of the Western Suburban Junior Football League playoffs Saturday by blanking Belleville, 20 - 0.

Center Matt Ramey was instrumental in the Steelers winning the battle of the trenches while Phillip Avramowski paced the defense. Kevin Justice sparkled on the right side of the defensive line for the winners.

Vincent Crespi led the Steelers in quarterback sacks while Jacob Marsh returned an interception for a touchdown. Joshua Morris hauled in a pivotal pass and nailed a kick-off that pushed the Cougars back to their 1-yard line.

The varsity Steelers were upended by the Lake Area Hawks, 27-6.

The freshmen Steelers suffered a heart-breaking 20-13 setback to the Redford Rangers. Offensively, Ben Kandah's blocking opened gaping holes in the Rangers' defensive front for Jacob Stephan, who tallied a long TD run. Cameron Stella played well on both sides of the

#### **JUNIOR FOOTBALL REPORT**

ball while Ben Smyth anchored the defensive line.

The Steelers junior freshmen wrapped up their season with a blue-collar effort against the Westland Comets. As usual, the Steelers were paced by stalwarts Lou Baechler, Evan Good and Rashawn Allen. Ryan Young and Jimmy Knittel hooked up on a long TD pass. Baechler returned a fumble 45 yards for a touchdown.

#### Lions JV squad falls

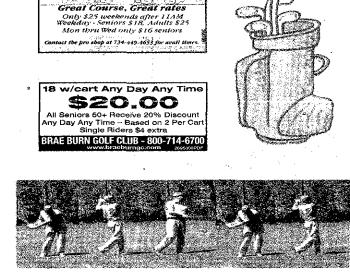
The Canton Lions junior varsity team dropped a 12-6 decision to the Farmington Rockets Saturday in a nail-biting overtime encounter.

Canton's lone score came on a 17-yard TD run by James Hall. The Lions were hampered by four fumbles.

Defensively, the Lions were bolstered by strong play from Forest Hall, James Hall, Daniel Kilgore, Charles Turfe, Daniel Jipping, Kenny Arnold and Allante Wheeler, who picked off a pass.



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## M&M girls (MacDonald, Merget) lead Rocks over Chiefs

BY ED WRIGHT OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Armed with a swing that's quicker than a mousetrap and a vertical leap that a few NBA players would die for, Salem senior outside hitter Kelly MacDonald plays volleyball like she's 6-foot-5, not 5-foot-6.

So it wasn't surprising that MacDonald rose to the occasion - literally - duringcrunch time of Tuesday night's Kensington Lakes Activities Association cross-over match against Canton, which the Rocks won 15-25, 25-15, 25-23 and 25-23.

The victory improved Salem's record to 30-10-3 while the Chiefs slipped to 32-8.

Three of MacDonald's game-high 22 kills pierced the Chiefs' defense during the waning moments of the final game, including an emphatic spike that ended the match.

Tuesday night's win plus an early-season victory over Plymouth gave the Rocks the unofficial distinction of "Kings of the Park" - a fact that put a smile on MacDonald's face.

"It's the best feeling to beat Canton and to be the Park champs," MacDonald said. "This is a very balanced team we have a great setter, great defense, great hitters and blockers. When we all play together, we play well.\*

MacDonald's resume also included 11 digs and two aces.

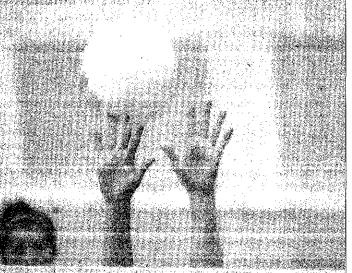
"Kelly played outstanding tonight," said Salem coach Amanda Suder. "Her hitting percentage - she only had two errors in 40 chances - was unheard of."

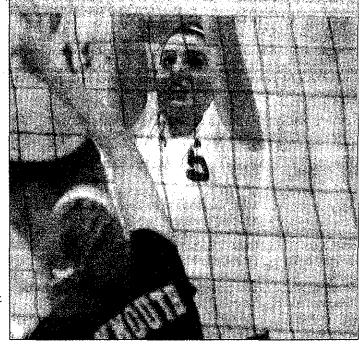
Sophomore Nicole Merget joined MacDonald in the 22kill club. Other Rock standouts included senior setter Jansan Falcusan, who netted 51 assists and 14 digs, and sophomore Kirsten Johnson, who racked up five kills despite playing just the final three games.

Sophomore Kerry MacDonald, Kelly's sister, dug

out 16 potential Canton kills. "We made a lot of errors

tonight, especially in the first





BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Salem's Kelly MacDonald, pictured in action last season, recorded 22 kills in the Rocks' four-game victory over Canton Tuesday night.

game, but we got better as the match went on," Suder said. "We missed 12 serves, which is something we usually don't do. I don't know if it was adrenaline or what.

"It's nice to be able to play a team like Canton late in the season because both teams have developed into what they'll possibly be in the postseason."

Canton rolled early, winning the opening game handily thanks to strong efforts from Jordan Kielty, Kristen Muir, Kacy Moran and Gina Waite. Kielty put the 25th

point on the board with a running kill from the back row that brought the Chief fans to their feet.

After the Rocks seized game two in equally impressive fashion, the final two games were nail-biters as both were knotted at 22-all until Salem prevailed with big clutch plays down the stretch.

"We didn't mesh well tonight, we didn't look ready to play for some reason," said Canton coach Jen Barnes. "Even the game we won the girls didn't look excited.

"I told them with Districts

#### **DISTRICT TOURNEY TIME**

www.hometownlife.com

All three Plymouth-Canton Educational Park volleyball teams will be competing in the District No. 25 tournament next week at Novi High School. Following is the schedule for the tournament: Tuesday, Nov. 4: Novi vs. Canton, 7 p.m.

Thursday, Nov. 6: Northville vs. Plymouth, 5 p.m.; Salem vs. Novi-Canton winner, 7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 7: Final, 7 p.m.

coming up, now is the time they have to play their best, but we haven't played a best game in a while.'

Kielty paced the Chiefs with 16 kills and 13 digs. Muir notched a double-double with 10 kills and 13 digs while senior libero Shelby Anthonty chalked up 117 digs.

Despite sporting a knee brace, Moran played well following a two-week layoff, recording 30 digs.

#### Chiefs: Semis-tough

Canton advanced to the semi-final round of Saturday's North Branch/Michigan Elite tournament before falling to North Branch, 25-13, 25-12.

Kielty racked up 68 kills, 48 digs and eight aces to lead the Chiefs. Also shining were Muir (35 kills, 60 digs and 10 aces) and Waite, who registered 112 assists and six aces.

"We started out strong in our first three matches and then slowly started to fall apart," said Barnes. "In our last three matches, our servereceive and passing were really off. In those last three matches, I felt like we never had control of the game."

The Chiefs went 3-1 in pool play, downing Warren Cousino (25-16, 25-12), Dexter (25-16, 22-25, 15-6) and Warren Woods Tower (25-16, 25-10) before falling to Macomb Dakota, 25-22, 25-20.

Canton advanced to the semis by ousting Grosse Pointe North, 25-21, 25-18.

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**B**4

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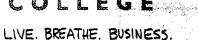
#### **Attend The** Walsh College Open House Thursday, November 6, 2008 at the Novi Campus from 4 - 7 p.m.

Meet with representatives from: Admissions and Academic Advising, Career Services, Financial Aid, and Student Organizations.

> Faculty members will be available to answer questions about specific degree programs.

> > Refreshments will be served.

For more information, go to www.walshcollege.edu or call 1-800-WALSH=02



## ROCKS

"To be ranked No. 1 all season and to go through the entire season up to this point - playing a very difficult schedule – and not lose until tonight, I couldn't be happier with the way this team played all season," he said. "Even though we lost, I was proud of the way the guys played tonight. They played hard from the opening minute."

McCarthy is convinced his team would still be alive if it would have had the services

FOR A VEHICLE FROM THE

of senior captain Jeremy Stoychoff on Saturday.

The Rocks' three-year starting mid-fielder, who will play collegiate soccer along with Bearden beginning next fall at the University of Detroit-Mercy, missed both Regional contests due to a leg injury suffered in the District final against Livonia Churchill.

There is no doubt in my mind that if Jeremy plays tonight, the result would be different." McCarthy said.

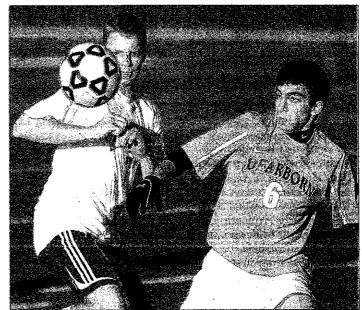
The Rocks thrived this fall in the inaugural season of the Kensington Lakes

Activities Association's Central Division - arguably the most competitive sixteam division in the state.

Among Salem's most noteworthy victories were an early-season 1-0 triumph over Warren DeLaSalle, a pair of wins over Northville and two triumphs against cross-campus rival Canton.

The game marked the end of the career of 10 senior Rocks, including All-Stater Kevin Cope, who is headed to Michigan State University to play next fall.

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Salem's Jace Bearden (left), pictured during last week's Regional semifinal contest against Dearborn, hit the cross-bar on a header during Saturday's 1-0 overtime loss to Saline.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

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**B**5 (CP)



## Whalers' finale at Windsor Arena a downer

The Plymouth Whalers' final game at the venerable Windsor Arena Sunday afternoon was less than memorable.

The Spitfires doubled up the Whalers, 9-4, before a crowd of 3,598 in Windsor. The Spits will be moving into a new facility later this year.

The loss dropped Plymouth to 5-7-1-0 while Windsor improved to 15-1-0-0.

Windsor led 3-0 after one period and 6-1 after two. Adam Henrique spearheaded the winners' offensive onslaught

with a hat-trick and a pair of assists. Chris Terry led Plymouth

with a pair of lamp-lighters

- his 10th and 11th of the season. Kaine Geldart and Tyler J. Brown scored single goals for the Whalers while Tyler G. Brown, Myles McCauley, Terry and Tyler J. Brown notched assists.

Andrew Engelage earned the victory between the pipes for Windsor, stopping 27-of-31 shots. Jeremy Smith took the loss despite making 32 saves. Matt Hackett played the final 20 minutes in goal for Plymouth, yielding three goals while knocking away 14 Spitfire shots.

The Whalers are in store for a busy weekend as they travel to London on Friday before returning to Compuware Arena to host Kitchener on Saturday. They hit the road again Sunday to take on Sarnia.

#### Terry selected

Plymouth captain Chris Terry has been selected to play in the 2008 ADT Canada Russia Challenge, a six-game series played throughout the Canadian Hockey League Nov. 17-27.

The 19-year-old Terry, a native of Brampton, Ont., was selected by the Carolina Hurricanes in the fifth round of the 2007 National Hockey League Entry Draft. He currently leads the Whalers with 11 goals and four assists.

Terry is 11th on the Whalers' all-time career scoring list with 86 goals and 124 points.



#### **Cubs win! Cubs win!**

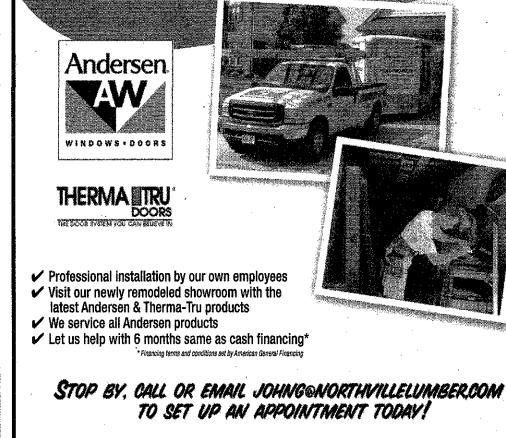
The Canton Cubs captured the Greater Canton Youth Baseball & Softball Association's fall tournament by defeating the Cardinals, 5-4, in the championship game. Pictured are (front row from left) Justin Berry, Mitchell King, Pete Carravallah, Ty Robinson, (second row from left) Adam Cousineau, Dante Toppi, Ryan Watson, Frankie Bellino, Kyle Bauer, (back row from left) coach Marco Toppi, Josh Penn, Tyler Brooks, Matt Carravallah and coach Pat Watson.

## 

**B6** (CP)

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#### These Sox rock

The Red Sox captured the Greater Canton Youth Baseball & Softball Association 10U title with a 9-0 record. Pictured (front row from left) are Alex Zygmunt, Jacob Aleva, Michael Kruskza, (second row from left) Ryan McAuliffe, Christopher Wenzel, Thomas Harvey, Max Korff, (top row from left) coach Pat McAuliffe, Alex Wilson, Kenny Topolovec, Gavin McAuliffe and assistant coach Rich Harvey. Not pictured are Ben Spencer and Chris Robbins.

#### **SPORTS BRIEFS**

#### Free throw contest

Canton Leisure Services will be hosting the annual Elks Free Throw Competition Saturday, Nov. 8, at the Summit on the Park in Canton.

Registration begins at 9 a.m. with the competition starting at 9:30 a.m.

Kids between the ages of 8 and 13 are eligible to compete.

This is a free co-ed event. Awards will be given to winners of each age bracket.

For more information, call (734) 394-5354.

#### Learn-to-Skate at Compuware

Compuware Arena will be offering a Learn-to-Skate program beginning the week of Oct. 28 through Dec. 20.

The seven-week session, which costs \$88, includes a 25-minute lesson and 25 minutes of supervised practice time. Instructors include Compuware Arena professionals and players and players from the Plymouth Whalers hockey team.

Classes are offered Tuesday and Thursday from 10:10 a.m. to 11 a.m. and 1:10 to 2 p.m.; Wednesday from 5:10 to 6 p.m.; and Saturday from 9:10 to 10 a.m. More more information, call (734) 453-8400.

#### Canton Wrestling

#### Club registration

Registration for the 2008-09 Canton Wrestling Club will be held Wednesday, Nov. 5, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. in room 305 of the Canton High School North building (phase III).

All participants should bring three copies of their birth certificate to the registration.

The club is a member of the MMWA and MYWAY wrestling organizations.

Last year's team included 27 state qualifiers, 10 state placers and four state champions.

The season runs from Nov. 17 to March 29.

OE08628852 - 2X3

For more information, visit www.chiefswrestling.com.

## Engholm-led Wildcat boys cross country squad set for state meet

#### BY ED WRIGHT **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Members of Plymouth's boys cross country team saved their best for when it mattered the most.

The Wildcats qualified as a team for this weekend's Division 1 state meet when they placed third at Saturday's Regional meet held at Willow Metropark.

Plymouth compiled 77 points to finish behind only Ann Arbor Pioneer (23) and Ann Arbor Huron (72) in the 13-team field.

The top three teams in each Regional qualify for the state meet.

"All of the guys really stepped up," said Plymouth coach Jon Mikosz. "Everybody PR'ed. It's the first time Derek Lax PR'ed since his sophomore vear.

"I couldn't ask more than what this team gave Saturday." Leading the Wildcat charge was junior foreign exchange student Elmar Engholm, whose second-place time of 15:56.5 set a school record. The old record was Anthony

Scarparo's 16:00.

"Elmar ran a very smart race," said Mikosz. "It was a windy day, so he ran behind a Pioneer runner and a Huron runner the first two miles to let them break the wind.

"After about the two-mile mark, he took off and nearly caught the first-place kid."

Mikosz said he wouldn't be surprised to see Engholm finish in the top 15 on Saturday. Pioneer's Dan Culbertson

won the race in 15:48. Lax's 16:31.4 was good enough for 11th place. Other

scorers for Plymouth included Warren Buzzard (19th in 16:45.3), Joe Porcari (20th in 16:46.4) and Matt Neumann (25th in 16:54.5).

Despite finishing fourth, Canton nearly qualified for the state meet thanks to a rule that sends teams to the big race if four of their runners finish in the top 20.

Three Chiefs did just that: Duncan Spitz (eighth in 16:23.4), Kyle Clinton (13th in 16:37.0) and Miles Felton (14th in 16:37.6)

However, Canton's fourth-

placer, Greg Reed, narrowly missed the top 20 despite eclipsing his previous personalbest time by 20 seconds, placing 23rd in 16:51.2.

"This was such a tough Regional," said Canton coach Bill Boyd. "It's a shame, because there will be a lot slower kids than Greg running in the state meet this weekend.

"Overall, the kids ran great. We had six of our seven guys PR. Unfortunately, we needed seven out of seven.

Felton didn't just break the Canton freshman record (17:14) — he blew it to smithereens.

"Kvle Clinton looked over at me after Miles finished, smiled and said. 'Wow! Where did that come from?" Boyd said. "That was an incredible performance by Miles.'

Spitz's 16:23.4 set a new Canton overall record.

Salem, which placed sixth with 154 points, will be represented at the state meet by Matt Devey, who finished 10th in 16:31.1.

DIVISION 1 Oct. 25 at Willow Metropark BOYS TEAM STANDINGS (top 3 qualify

for state finals): 1. Ann Arbor Pioneer. for state finals): 1. Ann Arbor Pioneer, 23 points; 2. Ann Arbor Huron, 72; 3. Plymouth, 77; 4. Canton, 86; 5. South Lyon, 139; 6. Salem, 154; 7. Livonia Churchill, 183; 8. Livonia Franklin, 230; 9. Dearborn Heights Crestwood, 245; 10. Dearborn, 270; 11. Westiand John Glenn, 341; 12. Wayne Memorial, 389; 13. Garden City 406. Individual winner: Dan Culbertson Individual winner: Dan Culbertson

B7

(CP)

(Pioneer), 15:48.3 (5,000 meters). Plymouth finishers: 2. Elmar Engholm, 15:56.3; 11. Derek Lax, 16:31.4; 19. Warren Buzzard, 16:45.3; 20. Joe Porcari, 16:46.4; 25. Matt Neumann, 16:54.5; 44. Derek Gielarowski, 17:41.2; 59. Stephen Balaze, 18:03.6

Canton finishers: 8. Duncan Spitz,

Canton finishers: 8. Duncan Spitz, 16:23.4; 13. Kyle Clinton, 16:37.0; 14. Miles Felton, 16:37.6; 23. Greg Reed, 16:51.2; 28. Paul Rakovitis, 17:03.7; 33. Mitch Clinton, 17:18.3; 37. Zach Spreitzer, 17:28.3. Salem finishers: 10. Matt Devey, 16:31.1; 27. Mike Charara, 17:02.8; 30. Jason Smith, 17:11.7; 41. Alex Lang, 17:35.5; 46. Neil Gerlach, 17:43.0; 61. Zach Maves, 18;15.6; 66. Jared Jones, 18:24.7. Churchill finishers: 17. Mark Waterbury, 16:44.5; 24. Nathan Wise, 16:53.4; 42. Matt

16:44.5; 24. Nathan Wise, 16:53.4; 42. Matt Szado, 17:37.6; 49. Mike Schmidt, 17:45.7; 51. Tom Windle, 17:49.6; 57. Quinn Osgood, 18:00.6; 61. Steve Zoski, 18:08.0;

Franklin finishers: 36. Austin Jones, 17:26.0; 40. Pete Walblay, 17;32.6; 43. Paul Hanni, 17:40.5; 53. Dylan Taylor, 17:52.7; 58. Nick Gherardini, 18:02.3; 60. Jason Riffel, 18:06.7; 68. Bobby Wilson, 18:32.2. John Glenn finishers: 39. Tim Boes,

17:31.6; 75. Eric Mylnar, 19:44.4; 76. Jeff Medel, 20:23.5; 77. Ruben Maya, 20:42.4; 78. Ryan Vichinsky, 20:51.3. Wayne finishers: 71. Tyler Gendron,

19:18.4, 72. Darry Ison, 19:26.7; 81. Brandon Tykoski, 21:37.7; 82. Jacob McClester, 21:40.7; 90. Darnell Glyhan, 25:06.9.

Garden City finishers: 79. Andrew Chambo, 20:53.7; 83. Moises Cruz, 21:49.6; 84. Josh Avery, 22:20.5; 85. Mason Mitchell, 22:57.7; 87. Kyle Watts, 23:30.1; 88. William Whitaker, 23:30.6.

## Plymouth girls narrowly miss state meet

Plymouth's girls cross country team suffered its second heart-breaking performance in as many years at Saturday's Division 1 Regional meet at Willow Metropark.

Like in 2007, the Wildcats missed qualifying for this weekend's state meet by the narrowest of margins, placing fourth with 103 points, four more than third-place Ann Arbor Pioneer.

Only the top three finishers automatically qualify for the state meet. On the bright side, two

Wildcats finished in the top

15 to qualify as individuals for the state meet. Senior captain Molly Slavens crossed eighth in 19:38.5 while Nicole Traitses placed 12th in 19:43.7.

Salem and Canton also turned in solid efforts, placing fifth and seventh, respectively.

Two Rocks will be headed to Michigan International Speedway Saturday: Victoria Tripp, who placed 10th in

19:40.6 and Jordyn Moore, who was 11th in 19:40.9. The lone Chief to qualify

for the state meet was Bianca Kubicki, who placed sixth in 19:19.7.

**GIRLS TEAM STANDINGS (top 3 qualify** GIRLS TEAM STANDINGS (Cop 2 yearing) for state finals): 1. Livonia Churchill 48 points; 2. Ann Arbor Huron, 86; 3. Ann Arbor Pioneer, 99; 4. Plymouth, 103; 5. Salem, 120; 6. Dearborn, 120; 7. Canton, 136; 8. Livonia Franklin, 154; 9. South Lyon, 272; 10. Westland John Glenn, 334; 11. Garden City, 339. Individual winner: Sara Kroll (Churchill), 17-59; 2(5,000 maters) 17.58 3

58.3 (5,000 meters). Other Churchill finishers: 4. Amanda Southwell, 19:09.8; 7. Alyssa Mira, 19:30.9; 13. Bethany Pilat, 19:45.8; 23. Emily Clairmont, 20:09.0; 25. Kayla Szado, 20:12.2; 50. Sarah Bauman, 21:43.3.

Bauman, 2:43.3. Plymouth finishers: 8. Molly Slavens, 19:38.5 (sq): 12. Nicole Traitses, 19:43.7 (sq): 18. Beth Heldmeyer, 19:58.8; 30. Kelly Hahn, 20:35.8; 35. Tricia Pniewski, 20:59.8; 36. Julie Forster, 21:01.7; 43. Adrienne White, 21:28.9. Canton finishers: 6. Bianca Kubicki,

19:197 (sq); 16. Rachael Rohrbach, 19:56.3; 32. Abigail Gorzalski, 20:52.5; 40. Chelsea Smith, 21:13.6; 42. Cassie Kramer, 21:24.9; 48. Emily Southern, 21:42.3; 49. Katelin David, 21:43.0.

Salem finishers: 10. Victoria Tripp, 19:40.6 (sq); 11. Jordyn Moore, 19:40.9 (sq); 28. Kelley Determan, 20:31.9; 33. Kelly Kerwin, 20:53.5; 38. Phoebe Vanhoof, 21:07.5; 47. Linda Ling, Salem, 21:40.5; 60. Kara Booms, Salem, 22:45.5.

Franklin finishers: 3. Megan McPherson, 18:58.3 (sq); 31. Tiffany Lamble, 20:44.5; 34. Brittany Dilley, 20:56.7; 41. Brittany Rouse, 21:19.3; 45. Kelly Walblay, 21:32:4; 53. Megan Wickens, 21:49.8;57. Shannon Niznik, 22:28.1.

John Glenn finishers: 61. Ashley Balley, 22:50.9; 64. Evi Cenolli, Westland John Glenn, 23:00.4; 70. Jaimie Medel, 24:07.5; 73. Megan Nikula, 24:57.0; 77. Michelle Levy, 26:559.9; 78. Audra Flores, 26:21.1; 80. Molly Robinett,

27:29.0. Garden City finishers: 63. Christina Milne, 22:54.3; 68. Rebecca Szczembara, 23:32.1; 72. Rachel Szczembara, 24:41.7; 74. Whitney Spencer, 25:15.9; 75. Brianna Chambo, 25:33.9; 76. Breanna Mize, 25:56.9; 79. Megan Pichia, 26:33.3. Wayne finishers: 59. Holland Boertje, 22:37.0; 6 62. Jennifer McCaffery, 22:52.4; 71. Chelsea Gilbert, 24:23.1.



**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON** 

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Charter Township of Canton, 1150 Canton Center S, Canton, Michigan will accept sealed bids at the Office of the Clerk up to 3:00 p.m. Thursday, November 13, 2008 for the following:

#### CANTON COMMUNITY RESOURCE GUIDE - PRINTING & MAILING

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

TERRY G. BENNETT, CLERK

Publish: October 30, 2008

#### CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON **INVITATION TO BID**

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

#### HOUSING REHABILITATION: 11 HOUSES (NOTE: EACH TO BE BID SEPARATELY)

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

TERRY G. BENNETT, CLERK

Publish: October 30, 2008

#### EXTRA SPACE STORAGE

Notice is herby given that on Monday, November 17th, 2008 TATE & CO. Auctioneers, Executive Administrator for Extra Space Storage, will be offering for sale under the judicial lieu process, by public action, 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.

Avelina Solis	A012 10x40	Box of John Deere tractor parts, Many Glass Shelves, Vacuum Cleaner, Drawers, Primestar Satellite Receiver, 6 Misc. Boxes of Household Goods.
Matt Bagnell	E192 10x10	Dishwasher, Washer and Dryer, Sony DirectTV receiver, Vehicle back seat, Office Chair, Laserjet, metal toolbox, tricycle, Advanced Logic Tonometer, many boxes of misc. household goods.

Publish: October 30th & November 6th, 2008

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## Plakas Is The Most Qualified & Most Endorsed Candidate For 35th District Judge.

	Plakas	Barone
Legal Experience (Years)	Prosecutor (13) Assistant City Attorney (13) Criminal Defense Attorney (13) Civil Litigator (13)	(0) (0) Criminal Defense Attny. (11) Civil Litigator (11)
Cases Prosecuted	Over 15,000	0
Judicial Endorsements	63 Judges (Including retiring 35th District Judge, Hon. John E. MacDonald)	3 Judges
Law Enforcement Official Endorsements	Kym Worthy Wayne County Prosecutor Mike Cox Attorney General Warren Evans Wayne County Sheriff	None

Police & Firefighter Endorsements None

Northville Township Professional Fire Fighters

**Canton Professional Fire Fighters** 

Police Officers Assoc. of Michigan

	MI Assoc. of Police Organizations Wayne County Sheriff Road Patrol	•
Newspaper Endorsements	Detroit Free Press Canton Observer Plymouth Observer Northville Record	Eagle/Journal
Women Lawyers Association Of Michigan Rating for Judge	"Outstanding"	Unrated
Detroit Metropolitan Bar Association Rating for Judge	"Well-Qualified"	"Qualified"
Years of Local Residency Western Wayne County Within 35th District	40 13	12 12

\*Barone information obtained from candidate website on 10/5/08.



## Jim Plaiking for 35th District JUDGE

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Paid for by Committee to Elect James A. Plakas Judge • 18013 Stonebrook Dr., Northville, MI 48168



## Alternative heat sources prompt safety concerns

The American Red Cross and the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) released results of a survey showing the majority (79 percent) of Americans are concerned about the rising cost of heating their homes, and many will use an alternative heating source to reduce their bills this winter. The survey identified additional behaviors related to appliance maintenance and cooking that could present home fire hazards this winter.

"As we head into what is likely to be a very costly heating season, these survey results and Fire Prevention Month provide a critical opportunity for us to remind people about the things they can do to prevent home fires and keep their families safe and warm this winter," said NFPA president James M. Shannon.

"Home fires can be just as devastating as any other type of disaster," said Glen Hendricks, director of emergency services for the Southeastern Michigan Chapter of the Red Cross. "The Red Cross is here to help anyone affected by a home fire, but also to provide information that helps people prevent and stay safer in a home fire.'

#### **HEATING AND COOKING FIRES:**

According to NFPA reports, cooking and heating are the leading causes of home fires. The survey revealed the majority of Americans are concerned about the rising cost of heating their homes (79 percent), and that 48 percent of households will use an alternative heating source to reduce their bills this winter. Alternative heating sources include portable space heaters, stoves, ovens and fireplaces. A third (36 perdent) of people with fireplaces reported they never cleaned or inspected their chimneys. The survey also found 23 percent of respondents did not consider it essential to make sure someone is home when food is cooking on the stove.

#### SMOKE ALARMS AND FIRE ESCAPE PLANS:

Respondents also revealed another unsafe behavior, which is disabling (37 percent) smoke alarms when they go off in a non-testing situation. More than half (53 percent) of the households surveyed have not taken any of three common actions in most home fire escape plans, which includes discussing with family members how to get out of the home, deciding on an outdoor meeting place and practicing the plan.

In conjunction with Fire Prevention Month, the Red Cross partnered with Home Depot to conduct family fire safety clinics. The clinics were developed with Red Cross expertise and are designed to educate community members about preventing and preparing for family fires. Conducted by Home Depot staff, the clinics are free and interactive. They provide the community with tips and how-to advice, as well as showcase appropriate equipment and materials. Clinics were held on Saturdays during October at local Home Depot stores.

NFPA and the American Red Cross offer these and other safety tips:

Stay in the kitchen when you are frying, grilling or broiling food. If you must leave, even for a short time, turn off the stove.



Give space heaters space by keeping them at least 3 feet from anything that can burn. Turn off heaters when vou leave the room or go to sleep. Install smoke alarms on every level

of your home, inside bedrooms and outside sleeping areas.

For additional fire safety tips visit www.firepreventionweek.org or www. redcross.org/homefires.

## Ponder file access carefully

Q: If a property management company has its doors locked by the IRS, how will the associations be able to get their paperwork (financials, ledgers, unit files, etc.) back?

A: That is a good question, and, you would probably

Robert Meisner

contact the IRS at that time to determine how you could get access to those files. Also,

have to

presumably, the management company would be in the position to contact the IRS and seek limited disposition of the records, although, there is no guarantee that same would be released. If you think your management company may have its doors locked by the IRS, get a new management company immediately.

Q: Our board occasionally shuts down our cabana which includes the pool bathrooms, hot tub, sundeck, etc. It is usually because of chemicals in the pool. Are they allowed to close off the entire area though? Do they have a right to restrict access without notice?

#### 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

by the Real Estate Investors Association of Oakland on Thursday, Nov. 13, 5:30-9:30 p.m. at MSU Management Education Center, 811 W. Square Lake Road, Troy. Seminar free to members. \$20 nonmembers. Call (800) 747-6742.

#### Leadership

#### BRIEFS

Held at The Royal Park Hotel in downtown Rochester, the Sunrise Pinnacle Award's breakfast will honor 22 winners that include local businesses, nonprofit organizations and outstanding community citizens. In its sophomore year, Sunrise Pinnacle has become one of the most encompassing and prestigious award ceremonies in the metro Detroit area. The winners will be announced that morning by WXYZ-TV Channel 7 anchorman Dave LewAllen. Founded in 1993 by Oakland County's resident Don Spencer, Bella Homes Inc. is a privately held company that has been designing and building exceptional residences and developments in Oakland County. Bella Homes is building in three Oakland County developments, Manchester

Knolls Phase II, the newest innovation in ranch homes in Rochester Hills; Butler Ridge in Rochester Hills and The Heights in Oakland Township. All of these communities offer the rare combination convenient locations, private settings and the highest quality in oldworld architecture.

#### Kudos

Robert J. Pliska of Bloomfield Hills, managing director, Sperry Van Ness, Birmingham, was honored at



the University of Michigan/ Urban Land Institute Real

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.

#### Investors

44808 Ridgefield Ro

Hear a panel of money lenders cover diverse options for financing issues. Sponsored

Bella Homes, Inc. recently announced it will sponsor the Leadership Award at this year's **Rochester Regional Chamber** of Commerce Sunrise Pinnacle Awards

The Bella Homes Leadership Award highlights a local business demonstrating excellence in leadership and innovation. Leaders from throughout the **Rochester Regional Chamber** have been nominated and on Oct. 30 the winner will be announced.

A number of homebuyers purchase property and need a custom builder to design and build their vision. Some purchasers buy an existing home for the lot and location. Bella Homes starts with the demolition of the home, co-designs with the homeowners and custom builds their ultimate home.

For more information on Bella Homes, call (248) 373-4142 visit www.bellahomesinc. com.

Pliska

held in Grand Rapids. He received a **Real Estate** Excellence Award for 2008, for the Sale of the Year involving the 414-acre Northville Township psychiatric hospital site. Pliska

learned of the state's problems and brought in the national Sperry Van Ness team to run

Please see BRIEFS, C2

				HOMES SO	LD	N			
These are the Oheenver C	F	42016 Saratoga Cir	\$154,000	6417 Hawthorne St	\$117,000	16931 Country Knoll Dr	\$225,000	51320 Northview	\$280,000
These are the Observer &		42717 Somerset Dr	\$138,000	28549 Leona St	\$140,000	46746 Merion Cir	\$615,000	41779 Onaway Dr	\$122,000
area residential real-esta	ite closings	2561 Stanton St 2734 Stanton St	\$278,000	30730 Sheridan St	\$180,000	16705 Sherwood Ln 17871 Stonebrook Dr	\$460,000	49000 Pinehill Dr	\$310,00
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		47796 Torrington Dr N	\$295,000	11325 Arden St	\$142,000 \$139,000	39515 Village Run Dr	\$175,000 \$255,000	43570 Serenity Dr	\$370,000
t the Wayne County Reg	ister of	2596 Woodcreek Ct	\$275,000	11408 Arden St	\$127,000	19300 Windridge Dr	\$270,000	37930 W Meadowhill Dr	\$225,000
eeds office, plus some f	rom Oakland	2000 WOUDCIEEK CI Farmington	3215,000	31556 Bridge St	\$100,000	444 Yerkes St	\$250,000	21637 Welch Rd	\$288,000
County. Listed below are		24181 Broadview Dr	\$132,000	28437 Elmira St	\$133,000	Novi	\$230,000	Redford	\$255,000
		21030 Laurelwood St	\$171,000	36124 Fairway Dr	\$250,000	22735 Beckenham Ct	\$575,000	9040 Brady	\$95.000
ddresses, and sales pric	es.	31533 Marblehead Rd	\$160,000	18510 Foch St	\$148,000	24747 Davenport Ave	\$295,000	13488 Croslev	\$110,00
Canton		23718 Whittaker Dr	\$252,000	28787 Grandon St	\$140,000	22514 Heatherwoode	\$195,000	25551 Deborah	\$139,00
7500 Bircklan Dr	\$397,000	Farmington Hil		14228 Hubbell St	\$155,000	23148 Heatherwoode	\$215,000	16554 Garfield	\$47,000
2609 Brookfield St	\$155,000	29191 Autumn Rdg	\$245,000	27942 Lyndon St	\$115,000	24723 Highlands Dr	\$240,000	26538 Glendale	\$75,000
580 Cherry Grove Rd	\$175,000	30805 Country Ridge Cir	\$350,000	19429 Merriman Ct	\$67,000	26448 Island Lake Dr	\$294,000	17397 Glenmore	\$120,000
1406 Delancy Cir	\$423,000	29043 Creek Bend Dr	\$209,000	29531 Minton St	\$80,000	25797 Mulberry Ln	\$290,000	15432 Lola Dr	\$78,00
45044 Fair Oaks Dr	\$196,000	27525 Doreen St	\$125,000	37448 N Laurel Park Dr	\$125,000	22806 Renford St	\$80,000	15001 Meadowbrook Rd	\$230,00
45965 Gainsborough Dr	\$222,000	31062 Evergreen Ct	\$296,000	38142 N Vista Dr	\$272,000	24451 Venice Dr	\$300,000	19925 Norborne	\$100,000
42315 Glencove Ct	\$218,000	32383 Farmersville Rd	\$185,000	16819 Quakertown Ln	\$205,000	44799 Yorkshire Dr	\$255.000	South Lyon	
48840 Greenwich Cir	\$266,000	35544 Forestville St	\$203,000	11753 Stark Rd	\$155,000	Plymouth		815 Westbrooke Dr	\$188,000
3126 Greenwich Ct	\$265,000	29423 Glen Oaks Blvd E	\$114,000	Milford		46610 Arboretum Cir	\$310,000	Westland	
43441 Hanford Rd	\$109,000	34182 Old Timber Ct	\$221,000	829 Panorama Dr	\$120,000	1071 Beech St	\$260,000	6570 Central City Pkwy	\$134,ÕOC
842 Harrison St 6923 Harvard Ln	\$197,000	26765 Plumgrove Ln	\$160,000	119 Teromi Trl	\$211,000	21116 Boulder Cir	\$152,000	1245 Denice St	\$130,00
50027 Jackson Ln	\$91,000 \$213,000	21176 Rensselaer St	\$53,000	666 Village Ln	\$134,000	21230 E Glen Haven Cir	\$100,000	613 N Parent St	\$120,00
44822 Leslie Ln	\$197,000	36748 Tanglewood Ln	\$250,000	855 W Buno Rd	\$325,000	9314 Elmhurst Ave	\$125,000	8267 Randy Dr	\$150,00
45110 Lothrop Ct	\$277,000	35070 Valley Forge Dr	\$215,000	240 Willow Tri	\$235,000	12026 Hines Ct	\$191,000	514 S Hawthorne St	\$88,00
45591 Michael Ct	\$188,000	31210 Westhill St	\$238,000	Northville		11734 Hunters Creek Dr	\$545,000	1102 Selma St	\$85,000
43865 Palisades Dr	\$190,000	Garden City		17393 Black Pine Dr	\$505,000	410 Larry Dr	\$184,000	1165 Shoemaker Dr	\$50,000
43000 Fansaues Di	3190,000	31690 Chester St	\$55,000	16726 Country Knoll Dr	\$195,000	11920 Lorenz Way	\$410.000		

16726 Country Knoll Dr

A: The board has a right to exercise a degree of discretion in regard to maintaining the common elements, which I presume is the case at your condominium, to the extent that they believe that it is important to close off the entire area to preserve security. It is their prerogative. Of course, to the extent that they can provide the members with notice that is appropriate, they may not always have that opportunity.

#### Robert M. Meisner is a

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

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## FROM PAGE C1

an auction on the property. This was the largest auction assignment in the state.

The sale generated over \$30 million in revenue for the state, returned nonproductive surplus state

property to the tax rolls and relieved the state of \$500,000 per year in annual maintenance and security costs. Sperry Van Ness, based 'in Irvine, Calif., has advised clients on billions of dollars in office,

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as well as mortgage options available to the first-time homebuyer. multifamily, retail, indus-Credit coaching, buying trial, hospitality and land a HUD home for \$100

15 Yr.

Pts

Other

down, and getting up to \$7,500 as an interest-free loan are other topics to be covered. This event is taking place at 1200 S. Sheldon, Plymouth. Dates are Tuesday, Nov. 11, at 6:30 p.m. or Saturday, Nov. 15, at 10 a.m. Call the 24-hour hotline to reserve a seat, (888) 776-3703 or e-mail Diane@ SMPrate.com. Sponsored by Success Mortgage Partners.

#### BIA

Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan (BIA) and its Sales & Marketing Council (SMC) will present "Goal Setting: Not Just A Dream - A Real Goal" on Wednesday, Nov. 5, from 8:30-10:30 a.m. at BIA headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100 in Farmington Hills.

Dave Tear. "The Sales Coach" of Sales Coaches' Corner, will show participants how to set S.M.A.R.T. Goals and how to stick to them.

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

Apartment Association of Michigan's (AAM) **Property Management** Council (PMC) will sponsor a "Leasing 101: The 2008 Tour" seminar on Tuesday, Nov. 11, from 9 a.m. to noon at AAM headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100, in Farmington Hills. Led by Kathleen

Mabie of Success on Site, the seminar will cover competitive analysis of what is being sold, setting up the close, telephone techniques, Internet and e-mail and meet-greet information. The seminar is valuable for newly hired leasing personnel as well as seasoned ones.

Registration fees are \$69 for PMC members, \$79 for AAM or Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan members and \$99 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 National Association of Home **Builders Professional** Remodelers (NAHBR) will hold a "Project Management" course on Friday, Nov. 14, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at BIA headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway. Suite 100, in Farmington Hills.

The course is part of the Certified Graduate Remodeler (CGR) series and counts toward **Certified Graduate** Associate (CGA) and Certified Graduate Builder (CGB) designations as well as the CGR designation. This course also counts toward prelicensure and continuing education competency for the State of Michigan. Chuck Breidenstein,

CAPS, of Builder **Professional Services** Group will present participants with the skills needed for successful on- or off-site production operations management. The course covers the three phases of a successful venture: planning, implementation and evaluation. Anyone in the the pre-construction or

construction process will benefit including owners, project managers, superintendents and sales

managers. **Registration fees are** \$155 for NAHBR members, \$175 for BIA members and \$200 for guests. For registration information, call (248) 862-1033 or register online at www.

builders.org. Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan (BIA) will hold a Lien Law seminar on Tuesday, Nov. 18, from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at BIA headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100, in Farmington Hills.

Marty Burnstein, of the Law Offices of Marty Burnstein, will discuss "What's New in Michigan **Construction Lien Law** Act."

**Registration fees are** \$75 for BIA members and \$125 for guests. For registration information, call (248) 862-1003 or register online at www. builders.org.

#### 'Pet' cause

Weir Manuel Realtors announced that almost \$1,000 was collected by animal rescue groups at their Dream Cruise community event. The Weir Manuel parking lot, located on Old Woodward Avenue in downtown Birmingham, provided three animal rescue groups with a prime venue to promote their causes.

Charities participating were Almost Home Rescue League (www. almosthomerescuegroup. org) and two greyhound rescues: Greyhound Expressions, (www.greyhoundexpressions.org) and Greyheart (www. greyheart.org). All three are strictly no-kill shelters.

"We strongly believe in supporting our community," said Kelly Sweeney, president and CEO of Weir Manuel. "The Dream Cruise provides us with a great opportunity to get the word out, and we're happy to allocate space to these great charities. This is an annual event for us."

To date, Almost Home has rescued close to 2,000 dogs, cats, kittens, and puppies. An example is Miracle, the only surviving puppy of a group that was tied together and set on fire in an abandoned building. Many thousands of dollars in medical bills were spent to save the badly burned animal, who is now healthy and was adopted by the veterinarian who helped save her.

In the case of the greyhounds, tens of thousands of puppies are born into the racing industry every year, thousands are cast aside just months into life.

Weir Manuel Realtors is a leading real estate company in southeast Michigan, with more than 150 professionals in three Michigan offices: Birmingham, West Bloomfield and Rochester. Its Web site, which includes "realtime" live assistance, is at www.weirmanuel.com.

#### Tours, classes

Free Foreclosure Tours are 1 p.m. Sunday. Call (248) 787-7325 or visit FreeForeclosureTour.com.

Real estate investors can learn from experts in a two-day class, \$99 includes classroom and field experience. Contact AddedValueRealty.com, (248) 787-7325.

Tours are Sunday at 1 p.m. Meeting place is the Home Depot parking lot at I-96/Telegraph.

LAKE VIEW

PRICE, CONDITION, 8

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Ameriplus Morigage Corp.	(248) 740-2323	5.875	0.25	5.625	0.25	JIA
BRINKS Financial	(860) 785-4765	5.625	1 25	5,25	1:25	JANYA
Central States Mortgage	(866) 580-3738	6	0	5.625	0	J/A/V/F
Client Services by Goldan Rule	(800) 991-9922	6.125	totto de l para ap <b>o</b>	5,875		J/AN/F
Co-op Services Credit Union	(734) 406-6113	6	0	5.625	- 0	riserie de la constante L
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Countrywide Home Loans	(800) 641-2364	5.875	1.875	5.625	5 2	J/A/V/F
Doarbom Federal Savings Bank	(313) 565-3100	6:125	0	5.875	0-1	· A
DFCU Financial	(800) 739-2770	5.75	2.25	5.125	2.25	J/A
Film Tind Bank	(800)792-6630	8.125	0.125	5,875		JNÆ
Gold Star Mortgage	(800) 203-1546	6.125	0	5.875	. 0	JANF
Golden Rule Mortgage.	(800) 991-9922	and and an an a	0.25	5.75	0.25	j:an/f
Group One Mortgage	(248) 282-1602	6.625	0	6.625	0	J/A/V/₽
Mostgages by Goldan Hule:	(800) 994-8922		9.25	5.625		JAN
Michigan United Mortgage	(810) 844-2222	5.75	1.125	5.375	1.125	J/A
National City Bank	(586) 825-0828	5.75	00000 2	6.625		JA
Northlawn Financial	(248) 988-8488	6	0	5.625	0	JANF
Northlawn Financial Shore Motgage	(248) 938-8488 (800) 678-6563	6 5.625	o Preisent	5.625 8 376	0	Jiain Jiain

Above Information available as of 10/24/08 and subject to change at anytime. Rates are based on a \$200,000 loan with 20% down & credit score of 740 or above. Jumbo rates, specific payment calculations & most current rates available Fridays after 2:00 P.M. at www.rmcreport.com. Key to "Other" Column - J = Jumbo, A = Arm. V = VA, F = FHA & NR = Not Reported. All Lenders are Equal Opportunity Lenders.

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boundary,

(574VA)

Wide buildable lot in an area of

great location just a few steps

away from Lawson Field &

CAREFREE LIVING

1200 sq ft, 2bd, 2.5 bath condo

just minutes from everything. Area

pool & tennis, fin bamt, walk in

closets. Patio w/privacy fence. &

built in gas grill. Assoc fee inc,

playground.

\$29,900

\$124,900

r 1400-1700 sq ft homes rear & western boundary

**GREAT PRICE** 

Motivated seller's offer a great dea

on this inviting home in Livonia. 1.5 baths, LR w/bay window &

fireplace, 2 car Garage, close to

everything, & addt lot next door

FANTASTIC VALUE

Beautiful West Bloom. Colonial in

prestigious Wyndham Pointe. New

carpet, dual stairs, huge Master w/

room, 3 car Garage, & more.

Jacuzzi tub, fin base

\$464,900

(415CA)

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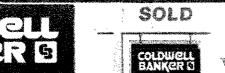
(253BE)

bath.

(620CU)

baths, LR

\$114,900



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C2 (\*)





er Kit, newer vs & roof, full bsmt. 2 ca lot, Garage, huge concrete Patio huge open floor plan, move in condition, & close to everything \$159,900 (013HE)



Turn key 2 bd, 1.5 bath or excellent Canton location. Huge w/WIC, open floor plan Master neutral décor, updated carpet, full bsmt, new windows, hwh, Patio, &



DESIRABLE LIVONIA LOCATION ouiet tree this spacious t for entertaining! Open fioo formal LR/DR, updated pian, maple Kit, Fam Rm w/frpl, bsmt, Garage, & much more.



PRICED FOR QUICK SALE Fantastic curb appeal & great location. Large fenced lot, newer windows, newer doors, over 1600

\$59,900



**NORTHVILLE/NOVI** 

. & fin basement

\$368 900









COMPLETELY REMODELED droom, 2 bath home w/over 1900 sq ft. Updates include: paint, baths, Kitchen, windows, & more, 2 car attached Garage, nice fenced yard, & close



BECOME A HOMEOWNER! Great Opportunity to own t areat home w/open floor plan own this vaulted ceilings, eat-in Kit, good size bedrooms, neutral carpet & décor, walk to parks & tennis, close to everything (907PA) \$48,500 (061ST)



(742BA)



the second second GREAT, FIND Nice quad level home in Willow Trall Sub. 3 bedroom, 1.5 ba, 1800+ sq ft, & on a large corner lot, Fam Rm w/frpl, bsmt storage, lattice covered Deck, &



248

MOVE IN READY double int Great home on Completely remodeled in '08. Carpet, windows, siding, doors, fixtures, furnace, C/A, & more. Bath w/granite,

oak Kit w/ poliances, & more \$179,900 (975Hi)

日日リアン

FARMINGTON

LR/DR, ons of storage \$60,000



NORTH CANTON CONDO

Great floor plan awaits you in this

spacious 3 bdrm condo w/large LR

& Kit w.dlning area. 1st fi laun, walk in closets, updated bath, & oak cabs. Great storage space, &

WHAT A DEAL!

Priced to sell, well maintained 2

floors, bonus space on upper level.

motivated seller says bring all

LOTS OF POTENTIAL

2 bedroom, 2 bath bi-level fixer

upper located on 9 acres. Sold in

as-is condition. Needs work but

**GREAT VALUE** 

3 bedroom, 2 bath home w/ finished bsmt, fireplace, hwd firing,

newer windows, fenced yard, glass

Kitchen, freshly painted interior, &

block windows, newer

so much more

\$84,900

has tons of potential

\$259,500

living room & dining

\$72,900

bath bungalow w/hardwood

room

(460GI)

(591BE)

in details

\$12,900

(602DE)

PLYMOUTH CONDO

Cute ranch condo w/large brick paver Patio, updated appliances &

location, & clubhouse activities

with heated pool, & home

THIS HOME HAS IT ALL

Located close to x-ways, this 4 bd

brick colonial offers a 3 car Garage, 2.5 baths, vaulted ceilings, gas fireplace, cherry cabinets, stainless steel appl's, & a

VACANT LAND

BUILD TO SUIT

3 lots with possible solit. Nicely

course & park. Call for furthe

located in sub just blocks fr

windows, pets

\$89,000

huge Deci \$158,000

allowed, good

(699NF)

(700CA)

m golf

(215EA)

\$210.000

#### PLYMOUTH'S

CRESTWOOD PARK Wonderfully maintained ground floor condo. 1 bd, 1 bath, spacious neutral décor, private bsmt, clubhouse w/heated pool, &

F21

WESTLAND/GARDEN CITY

SLICE OF HEAVEN Premium lot in the Enclaves of Central Park. Classic floor plan features formal LR/DR, 2 story

4922 HILLI

Fam Rm w/frpl, cherry Kit w/ appl's, nice bsmt, & more nice Deck, extra deep (951ST) \$134,900 \$369,900



CUTE & CLEAN This 3 bec ranch offers 1 bath, updated blinds, Kitchen flooring, windows, siding, & C/A. Full basement, fenced yard, & yard. porch. Move in & enjay,



SUPER PLYMOUTH CONDO Very privat Park. Tastefully dee LR/Dr combo, gas frpl, 2.5 baths spacious bedrooms w/extra closed space, appliances stay, & 1 car

PLYMOUTH

784) 459-6000

(800YO



(1135A)

quality

(191CA)

(431EL)

valkout bsmt, &

\$339,900

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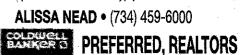


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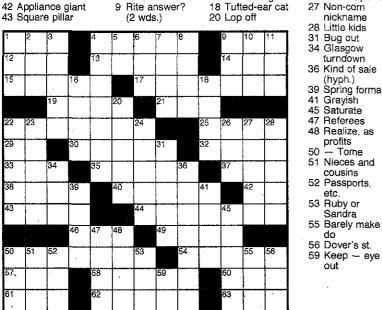
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GREAT EXPECTATIONS Good looking SBF, two, intelligent, mature, splittu-al, seeking a SM, 577 +, 40-50, physically fit, good looking inside and out, loving, who likes traveling, for friendship first leading to LTR, 13147056 COUNTRY GIRL

COUNTRY CIRL. Good-natured, classy, attractive, fun-toving, SWPF, 54, platinumblue, 5'5', HW-proportion-ate, enjoys travel, horseback, riding, exercise, dancing, Seeking SWM, 56-56, NS, NDrugs, for serious relationship. If you love motorcycles call me 17778945

VERY ATTRACTIVE SBPF, 37, mother, koking for attractive, sexy, tail, dark-complected, employed, intelligent BM, 33-50, for friendship possibly leading to LTR. 13282115

WARM SMILE SBF, 21, N/S, kooking for SM, 21-40, for friend-ship first, possibly more. Call me, let's talk and get to know each other! 12267187 PETITE AND CUTE SWF, 35, great sense of style, very friendly, would like to meet a SWM, 36-45, who will love

me for me. 2294943 SPONTANEOUS WOMAN Fun-loving, outgoing, honest, goal-oriented SBF, 39, plus-sized, with herpes, would like to meet an understanding male, 28-49, for possible relationship. 2288800

SEEKING STRONG BM Can you handle me? SBF, mid 40s, healthy and beautiful, seeks strong, bald BM, 40-62, who knows how to handle his own business. I'm lak-back, gentle, soft. 12295568

HONEST & DOWN-TO-EARTH Cute, outgoing woman, 40, ioves animals, the outdoors. Seeking honest, clean, honorable, compassionate gentieman, 40s-early 50s, for friendship, dating, possible LTR. 12295421

call. 27982305

SEEK SPECIAL PERSON

GOOD SENSE OF HUMOR? GCOD SENSE OF HUMOR? WF 48, 5'3', brown/brown, has pats, N/S, great sense of humor, looking for WM, 45-55, who likes dining out, museums, movies, reading and more, to do things with. \$280581

MUSICAL GIRL Christian WF, 19, enjoys playing guitar, singing, going to church and more. Looking for SM, 19-25; who enjoys the same things. T292258

CLASSY LADY 1 am in my early 60s, 5'2', brown/brown, I enjoy dancing, outdoors, and travel. Seeking a com-panion, 60-70, and maybe a relationship, Please and maybe a relationship, Please

THAT SPECIAL ONE SBF, 39, enjoys movies, welks in the park, pic-nics, just chilling. Looking for SBM, 39-45, for possible relationship. 12:295026

Romantic, fun-loving, open-minded woman, 81 years young, 53', seeks a man, 50-68, with the same qualities, who enjoys dancing, concerts, din-ing out, travel, long drives and more. 3289125

ONE GOOD WOMAN LEFT SBF, 47, 57", full-figured, N/S, likes rollerskat-ing, canoeing, exercise, thester, travel. Seeking a genterman, 45-70, who is healthy, fun-loving, financially secure, tooks decent. 22287305 swered. 223367 A POLISHED DIAMOND Attractive

A POLISHED DIAMOND Attractive, sexy BF, 34, seeks true gentleman. You won't be disappointed when we meet: 22287057 **ONLY SERIOUS NEED REPLY** Voluptuous SBF, 42, would like to meet a nice, seenous SBM, 35-50, who would like to become acquainted with a woman and who is ready, will-Voluptuous SBI

ing, and able to commit. 22273603 A NEW BEGINNING SBF, 47, 5'4", likes action movies, swimming, dancing, plays, outdoors, just having fun. Seeking SBM, 45-55, for friendship or more. 22289151

COULD YOU BE THE ONE? Bright, spunky, pretty SF, 47, educator, outgoing, pretty eyes, wishing to meet a kind Jewish man, 45-60, who's locking for commitment, love and laughter. 2230694

I NEED A LOVE .. to keep me happy, Attractive, classy, delightful, charming WF, 49, no kids, seeks SWM, 45+, no kids, N/S, fun, loving, caring. 75568059

GET TO KNOW ME Loving, open-minded SBF, 60, 145lbs, attractive, enjoys music, dining, concerts, travel, ISO hon-est, compassionate SM, 57-65, N/S. Possible LTR. 23 963760

READY FOR A FRESH START? DWF, 47, 55°, 120lbs, tong blonde/blue, well-proportioned, very feminine, attractive, self-employed. Seeking SWM, 45-57, 6'1'+, 225lbs+, good sense of humor, energetc, traveler, outdoorsman, adventurer, manly gentleman. Tr692549

HELLO THERE Asian woman, 5'2', 180lbs, slim, attractive, health-conscious, vegetarian, IVD, N/S. Enjoys dining, movies, quiettimes. Seeking clean-cut, fit, attractive, respectful, professional Asian or White male for dating and possibly more. **2113901** 

ARE YOU THE ONE? SF, 41, 5'4", dark complexion, brown eyes, short hair, looking to meet an honest, loyal, funny man, 37-55, to spend a lot of time together. 2289947

SEARCHING FOR A MAN... 40-60, who's looking for commitment, love and laughter. I'm a 47-year-old who's bright, spunky and pretty. Only Jewish men please. 27962317 HELLO OUT THERE

SWF, 39 years young, seeks SWM, who enjoys lifes simple pleasures. I enjoys dining out, com-puters, movies, the parks walks, travel and life in general. Friendship first. 1241298

WHY NOT CALL? SBF, full-figured, seeks a SM, 37-90, for friend-ship, possible LTR. Call me, lat's get together and

get to know each other. 2217234 LADY IN THE WOODS LADY IN THE WOODS SWF; 50, looks vounger, blonds/hazel, 5'5", av-erage build, educated, dog lover, classy, sassy and fun, seeking competible, outdoorsy, rugged, good-hearted male to share the good things in life, Livingston county. \$210247

DOWN-TO-EARTH AND HONEST SBF, 36, 510", N/S, shot hair, no children, look-ing for SBM, 35-50, who enjoys festivities, travel, spending time together. 12280950

BEAUTIFUL SBF... 37, seeks SWM, 30-50, who is spontaneous and knows how to have fun. Casual relationship first, maybe leading to more. TP271683

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attractive blonde,

Sugar and spice and ... attractive blonde, 5'5", 50s, enjoys cooking, travel, drives, more . . seeks soul-mate, call me; serious repiles an-WF, 33, 55', blonde/green, looking for WM, 22-45, who loves Nascar, classic rock and more. more. 2285613 STILL SEEKING Very cute SBF, 57, 573°, 122lbs, interested in fit, good-looking, contident male, 46-59, NS, intel-igent, sincer, down-to-earth, who wants to com-mit to someone special. 17113198

22293230 CHOCOLATE TREAT

GIRL NEXT DOOR

Hefined, romantic, creative divorcee, enjoys edectic lifestyle. Professionativ employed, w youthful and fun loving, 60s, enjoys dining, trax music, the arts, family and friends. Seeking non-smoking gentleman, 50+. **1281197** ee, enjoys an king fit

LONELY, GENUINE HEART SBM, 29, no children, light smoker, seeks sexy, attractive SF, 20-31, who wants to see the real side of me 27927927 IN SEARCH OF IN SEARCH OF a man with a positive outlook for dating, dining out, and companionship. I'm a SWF, 55, 58'', HWP, and I enjoy waiks, cycling, skiing, snow-shoeing, and more, **32388886** side of me. 2267987

STAND BY YOUR MAN Smart SWM, 50,5'11", 180bs, employed, ISO BF, 25-55, for a real relationship. I like cocking, cuddling and more, **1295474** ENJOYS THE OUTDOORS ENJOYS THE OUTDOORS BF, 55°, 150bs, likes cooking, listening to music, camping and more. Would like to meet a man to enjoy life with, 36-60, **\$2284318** 

DECENT, GOOD MAN Faithful, humble, understanding SBM, 56, N/S, with good values and morals, financially inde-pendent, looking for love with SF, 50-62, N/S. MATURE MAN WANTED SBF, 33, 54", 115lbs, caramel complexion, brown eyes, short blonde hair, wears glasses. Seeking tail, muscular SBM, 25-40, who enjoys

LET'S MEET! SWM, 45, looking for a SWF, 18-35, who is fun-loving, outgoing, enjoys sports. Call if that's you! 17292393 res, movies, dining, water. 2287856 KEEP COOL

SBF, 19, 5'3", looking for cool, down-to-earth, attractive SB/HM, 18-25, who keeps it real. attractive S 22287598

OUTGOING BF: 24, student, looking for BM, 35-45, to go out and have fun with. Friendship first, hopefully leading to LTR. **37292940** 

DOWN-TO-EARTH DOWN-TO-EARTH Asian worman, 52°, 11016s, silm, attractive, in-dependent, loving, cating, enjoys movies, fine dining, travel, quiet times at home. Seeking very hardsorme WAM, 47-56, N/S, clean-shaven, H/W proportionate, for friendship first. **17281229** 

SINCERE AND HONEST Happy SF, loves country music, dancing, Looking for honest, sincere SW/BM, 30-60, children ok, for friendship first. 3284932

PRETTY COMIC BOOK NERD

ed, who ca

Male, 60, tail, siim, attractive, brown/brown, no bad habits, would like to meet a nice, sweet, kind female, 40-70. **128287161** WHAT WE'RE AFFECTIONATE MALE WM, 36, 5111, 2001bs, brown/hazel, tan complex-ion, financially secure, likes movies, concerts, quiet times at home, cooking, more, In search of honest, down-to-earth, easygoing WF, 25-45, to share time with. **3295800** SWF, 21, red hair, blue eyes, 5'10", 165lbs, ma-ture body/mind, looking for a lonely handsome , 20-30, race open, clean-cut, open-mind-who can make me laugh and who is witty.

2684501

SBM, 38, 6'1

T 284933

A WOMAN OF CLASS SWF, 68, locks younger, in search of a SWM, 62-69, who likes movies, dining, theater. is it you? BEAUTIFUL Finite Stractive, younger lady, SBM, early 40s, seeks attractive, younger lady, 28-45, for romance, companionship, must be independent and shapely. Serious replies only. 2271085

DOWN-TO-EARTH Easygoing DWF, early 50s, would like to meet a really nice WM, 50-65, will the same qualities, minimal baggage, to share the ups and downs of life. Seeking possible LTR. 2279171

LET'S GET TOGETHER SBF, 54, 55%, N/S, enjoys life's simple pleasures. Seeking SBWM, 48-62, N/S, for friendship or more, \$2282444

SINGLE DAD WM, 57", 150lbs, brown/brown, medium build, two children, likes the outdoors, working on cars, having fun. Looking for a good, down-to-earth, honest, attractive WF, 23-33, for deting. CALLING ALL GOLFERS! 62, seeking golfer, best friend, 62-70, e honest, N/S, and active. Looking for WWE 62.

LTR, don't delay call now. 22976914 A SPECIAL GUY DWM, 56, 510°, handsome and secure, seeks honest S/DWF, wisense of humor, who enjoys travel, candidight drinner, plays, dancing, con-certs, boating, and movies. Friendship, possible ARE YOU LONELY? Attractive female, 5'5', 120bs; fun-loving blonde, retired, would love a little of your time to enjoy each other's company. Seeking pleasant gentle-man, 65-75. 27891247 certs, boating, a LTR: **27269646** 

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LET'S TALK SWM, 40, 5'5", loves to partyl Looking for a fe-male companion, 18-35, for friendship first, pos-sibly more if it develops: 22294946.

TALK TO ME! SM, 36, 6'2", 210bs, medium build, loves work-ing out. Seeking sweet, loving, caring, kind SW/ BF, 35-45. 77294942

READY FOR A RELATIONSHIP

BEAUTIFUL PRINCESS WANTED

MATURE WOMAN WANTED SBM, 38, 61", 207ibs, dark complexion, no kids, N/S, N/Drugs, looking for SBF, 29-40, with same

SINGLE DAD

qualities. No drama! 2295452

qualities, for friendship/LTR. 77245846

COOD BETTER BESTI SWM, 49, 5'9", 195lbs, is nuts about nature, en-FORMER RUWWAY MODEL Attractive SBF, 510°, 140lbs, N/S, one kid, likes clubs, outdoor activities, dencing, working out. Seeking single male, 25-38, 61°+, N/S, slim to medium build for friendship first, dating and more RPSER1 swF, to have and hold. 2992943 KIND AND COMPASSIONATE ive SWPM, 48, 5'10", 190bs, N/S Attracti

Auracive SWPM, 48, 510, 19009, N/S, never married, loves outdoors, going to church, trav-eling, family time, candie light dinners, movies, seeking kind and caring hard-working lady, 30-50, for possible LTR, **3291990** 

A WALK AND A TALK Try this easygoing, lovable SWM, 50, good listen-er, who enjoys book stores, coffee shops, nature and concerts. I seek a like-minded counterpart for where ever it goes. 12200890

ent and know what you want in life

N/S. neve

SOMEONE SPECIAL SBM, 61, 61", HW proportionate, brown eyes, beautiful smile, affectionate, getting ready to retire, homeowner, loves fishing, vegetable and flower gardens, anfiques, walks in the park. Seeking SF, 45-63, **37295048** 

EASYCOING Sharp, sociable SWM, 45, with good character and pleasant personality, likes the outdoors, fish-ing, motor sports etc. WLTM SWF, for dating and fun times. 2018/7614

Recently divorced BM, 43, 55°, 200lbs, educat-fecently divorced BM, 43, 55°, 200lbs, educat-ted, enjoys movies, nights cut, intelligent conver-sation, weekend tips, seeking easy going, smart, affectionate female. 32:87068

JUST ME AND MY DOG WM, 5'11", 1801bs, short dark/green, likes roller-blading, biking, running, the outdoors, animals, more, Looking for SF, 21-37, with a cool pernality and can appreciate an awasome guy. sonality and 77272374

LONELY AND READY SWM, 65, average build, italian, Virgo, N/S, look-ing for a SWF with similar qualities and who's ready for a serious relationship. Call me if inter-ested, Rectord. 22860305

MAXIMUM RETURN ON... your investment. SBM, 5/8", seeks mature, level headed, down-to-earth female, 30-45, for fun, dating and possible LTR. 2293155

FIRST AD IN OVER. 11 yearsi Loyal, sensuous, health-conscious DWM, 64, 6, 215ibs, N/D, N/S, retired, likes rides, dining, nature. Seeking it, attractive SWF, 39-64. **13295071** 

WM, 5'11", 175lbs, hazel eyes, enjoys bowing, darts going to movies. Locking for an easygoing WF, 20-35, who enjoys the same, for dating and fun together. 32295670

LOCKING FOR THE "ONE" SWM, 61, 5'9', 170bs, blond/blue, degreed, veteran, NS, N/O, Catholic, humorous, sponta-neous, like music, outdoors, sponta, seeks attrac-tive, easy going SWF 45-65, **37278705** 

SEMI-RETIRED SBM, 41, 61", 220ibs, N/S, light dinker, likes mov-les, music, dancing, dining out, travel, bowling and relaxing at home. Seeking SWF, 21-50, with similar interests, to settle down with. **12283532** 

NIGHT OUT ON THE TOWN? SWM, nice-looking and friendly seeks interest-ing female, 35-51, for dating and friendship, 27282844

IT COULD BE ME! SWM, 35, 6', brown/blue, muscular build, looking for special SF, 18-31, to hang out with and get to. know. 2294679

LAID-BACK AND COOL SBM, 33, 57", seeks petite, small SBF, 29-44, who is smart, intelligent and laid-back, has a sense of humor. \$295190

DIAMOND IN THE ROUGH SBM, 5117, 156lbs, situ build, likes to relax and chill. Would like to meet a woman, 20-56, who judges beauty from the Inside, like I do, 27295446

ARE YOU THE ONE? Educated SWPM, 37, looking for SWF, 28-58, for triendship first. I love theater, movies, good con-versation. \$292523

CALL THIS MANI Easygoing, expressive DWM, 43, nice looks, no kids, enjoys traveling, outdoors, romantic eve-nings. Seeks warm-hearted SWF. 17112288

CUTE, CUDDLY COWBOY Wise and kind SWM, 46, enjoys simplicity, art fairs, flea markets, festivals. Seeking the com-pany of a lady with similar interests **3200439** LET'S MEET FOR COFFEE

SWM, 70s, 54", N/S, would like to meet a lady, 65-72. I enjoy taking walks, riding bikes, taking, trips. Seeking SWF, 62-75, for friendship, maybe more. **27275970** 

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## **C300** Is A Great Mercedes-Benz To Start With

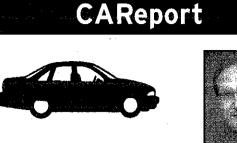
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Advertising Feature

#### By Dale Buss

Mercedes-Benz didn't do much to its C-Class sedan for the 2009 model year. The new C300 has added front seat-mounted pelvic air bags, and the optional hard-drive-based navigation system now offers 40GB of storage space as well as Zagat restaurant information.

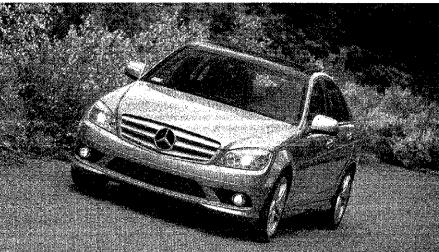
But of course, that's the whole point: Mercedes-Benz didn't need to do anything to make the C300 a great entry point for the brand for American drivers. Up against stiff competition from the likes of the Audi A4, BMW 3 Series, Cadillac CTS, Infiniti G35 and Lexus IS, the C300 more than holds its own in terms of top-notch product quality and the distinctive experience of driving a Mercedes-Benz.

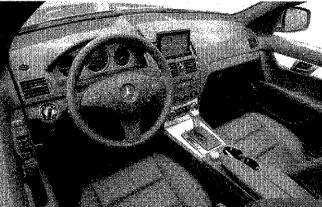
The car offers a mix of driving involvement, comfort and high-tech goodies that overcomes the fact that its 3.0-liter, dual-overhead-cam, 24-valve V6 engine may not be quite up to some of the competition – although with mileage of 17 mpg in the city and 25 mpg on the highway, the C300 certainly compares that way.

Sticker prices for Mercedes-Benz C-Class sedans begin in the low \$30,000s. For the C300 4Matic that I drove, featuring an all-wheel-drive system, the sticker price was nearly \$47,000. But it was Mars Red with a black leather interior, and it looked fantastic!

Although the car's dimensions, suspension design and V6 engines largely carried over from the previous generation, the new C300 and other C-Class sedans gained an improved interior with higher-quality materials, the optional new nav system and an easierto-use control interface. The larger-sized nav system now has 6 GB reserved just for music.

All C300s also can be equipped with the Premium 1 Package that adds rain-sensing wipers, auto-dimming mirrors, heated front seats, and satellite radio. Optional – but definitely appreciated in the C300 4Matic I drove – is the Premium II Package that adds LED taillamps, corner-illuminating fog lights, splitfolding rear seats, a power rear-window sunshade and bi-xenon headlamps. The classic Mercedes-Benz design lines in the C300 make it a great entry-level vehicle for the brand.





Mercedes-Benz has enhanced the already-refined cockpit of the C300.

In the U.S. market, the C-Class sedans come in three varieties: C300 Sport and C300 Luxury – both with the new 3.0-liter engine, which generates 228 horsepower – and the C350 sport, powered by an existing 3.5-liter, 268-horsepower V6 engine.

The 2009 model is a slight refinement of a completely new version of the C-Class line that was introduced in 2008, which represented improvement in a number of ways. The new line, for example, is nearly four inches longer than the old C-Class, at more than 182 inches overall. The wheelbase, at nearly 109 inches, is about two inches longer than before. And more than anything else, the new C300 and its kin gained volume in the trunk, which now measures a competitive 12.4 cubic feet.

And while BMW and some of the other entry-luxury competitors to the C300 offer plenty of zoom, there's something substantial as well as thrilling about driving the C300 4Matic. With 221 pound-feet of torque from 2,700 to 5,000 rpm, and an automatic transmission

that offers seven gears – not to mention the roadhugging guarantee of all-wheel-drive power – the

C300 always seems to keep its feet. So while it takes only about seven seconds to move from zero to 60 mph in the C300, the car also seems to progress almost effortlessly in cruising mode.

In addition to all these specific models, attributes and amenities, of course, part of the story of the new C-Class sedans is that Mercedes-Benz has been using them to make the point that it isn't going to disappoint American consumers as some past lower-end models have.

So, for example, ads for the line have portrayed the company's heroic efforts to develop the vehicle over seven years – "because we promised you a Mercedes-Benz, that's why," as last year's ads for the new C-Class line intoned.

Rest assured that, in the C300 4Matic and its siblings, Mercedes-Benz has come through on its promise.

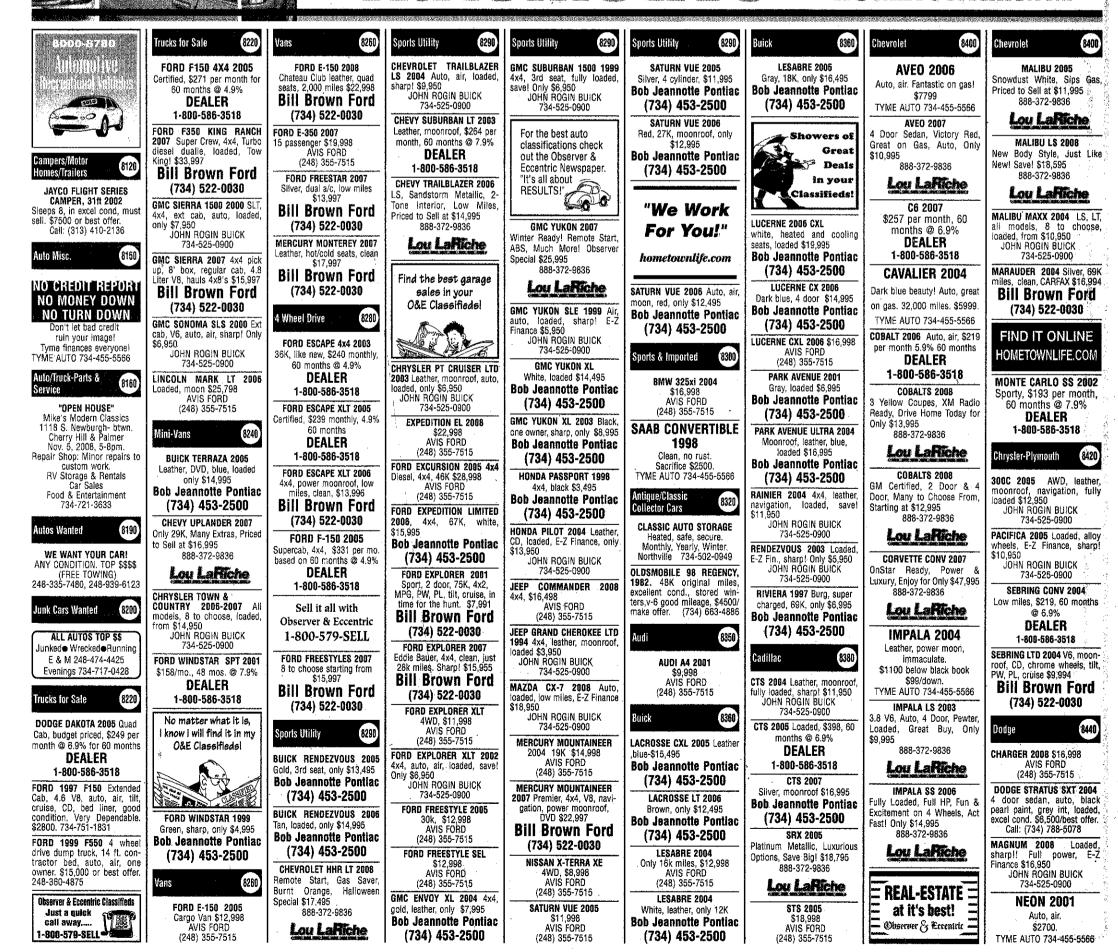
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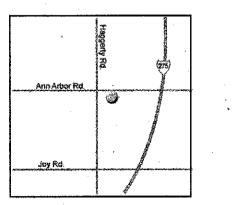




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