

SUNDAY November 9, 2008

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New charter school may move forward despite opposition

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

The special land use request for Universal Academy has been postponed until Nov. 17. The measure, which could lead the way for a second charter school in Canton, will go before the Planning Commission.

Nawal Hamadeh, the founder, superintendent and CEO of Hamadeh Educational Services, Inc., said the matter was postponed because of scheduling conflicts.

The Dearborn Heights-based school system is looking to build

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Do you think Canton Township needs another charter school? Tell us your thoughts by either e-mailing Editor Kurt Kuban at kkuban@hometownlife.com or by posting a comment on our Web site at www.hometownlife.com.

a K-12 public charter school on Saltz Road between Ridge and Beck roads. The company, which educates 2,000 students, has a school in Detroit and two in Dearborn. The proposed

Canton school would be a relocation of the 450-student Detroit facility. Hamadeh said she doesn't believe all of the children would transfer to the new location, which would accommodate 750 students. Hamadeh, who has said the township is ripe for the school's targeted population, has been encouraged by parents in the area. Some people have told me their prayers have been answered," she said, but added, "I know we have some opposition." The narrow parcel slated for the 77,420 square-foot school divides the Vintage Valley and Antique Forest subdivisions. The land is less than a mile south of Canton Charter Academy, which is also trying to build an additional location in the township. Many homeowners in Antique Forest and Vintage Valley have expressed concern over the proposed school's impact on traffic and property values. "This will have a tremendous impact on our community," said John Waite, who recently moved to Antique Forest. "It will change the nature of Saltz Road and traffic in the subdivision will be backed up." Bill Hermann, who also lives in Antique Forest, said he agrees with many of his neighbors who believe the school wouldn't enhance the area. "A school this close to our properties is not only an eye-sore but will have a negative impact on our property values," he said. "The sheer size will create traffic, noise, and safety issues (and) we already have 10 schools in a 2.5 mile radius of this proposed site." Hermann and Waite also referenced the possibility of Plymouth-Canton Schools losing student funding if Universal Academy were to build in the township. 'This school would hold 750 students," Waite said. "We don't need that additional school capacity in Canton. Frank Ruggirello, Plymouth Canton Schools spokesperson, said despite a continued trend of increased enrollment within the district, the possibility of the charter school has raised concerns. "Nobody does it better than public schools, but in these economically challenging times, the possibility of losing students is not good," he said. "It's certainly a concern."

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Volunteers Larry Arnett of Wayne (from left), Ken Hauser of Canton, Tom Ismond of Huron Township, Joe Kosek of Westland, Ray Wall of Plymouth, Bill Rodgers of Brighton, Dale Burgess of Ann Arbor and Mark Clapham of Taylor stand in front of the World War I fighter plane they are building by hand at the Yankee Air Museum.



Volunteers meticulously resurrect World War I fighter plane BY KURT KUBAN

OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

In the cavernous Hangar II at Willow Run Airport, where Henry Ford once cranked out B-24 airplanes by the thousands during World War II, a small group of volunteers has spent more than a year building a replica World War I airplane.

It has been a meticulous process for the group of retired engineers and toolmakers, including several military veterans, who are attempting to build a SPAD - a French fight-

Eddie Rickenbacker during the first world war

When they complete the project, expected to take two more years, the plane will not only be on display at the Yankee Air Museum at Willow Run Airport in Ypsilanti, but it will also be used in air shows, because the plane will be flyable, according to Lou Farkas, Jr., vice president of the Yankee Air Museum.

"This won't just be a model. It will be flyable," said Farkas, a longtime Westland resi-

er plane made famous by pilots like American dent who now resides in Canton. "We're going to fly this thing at different air shows, which will help raise money for the museum."

The museum is currently housed in Willow Run's Hangar II on a temporary basis, because of a fire that destroyed the old museum four years ago. The museum lost nine vintage airplanes, as well as millions of dollars worth of military and aviation artifacts. The organization that runs the museum is

Please see FLIGHT, A2



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

A fond farewell

Longtime Canton Supervisor Tom Yack and his wife, Barb, were surrounded by friends and supporters Nov. 1 at the Village Theater during a special retirement party for Yack, who is stepping down after 20 years as supervisor. The event included plenty of entertainment by local musicians and actors, as well as a silent auction. Many area businesses donated items for the event, which was a fund-raiser for the Partnership for the Arts and Humanities, a non-profit cultural arts organization. More than 300 people attended the event, which honored Yack for his many years of service to the Canton community.

Supervisor-elect LaJoy will wait until December to be sworn into office

BY TIFFANY L. PARKS OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

All but one of the township's newly-elected officials will be sworn into office Nov. 20.

State Rep. Phil LaJoy, who defeated political newcomer David Marsh to become Canton's next supervisor, intends to postpone being sworn in until December so that he can participate in the set of votes that traditionally come before the House toward the end of the session.

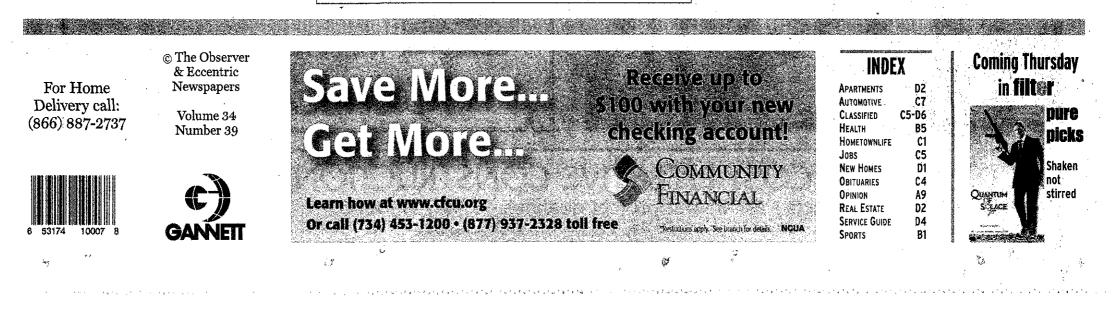
"I have absolutely nothing to gain from this," said LaJoy Tuesday night, adding that he is trying to do the right thing for his constituents.

Longtime Supervisor Tom Yack has agreed to hold off his retirement until mid-December so that LaJoy may continue serving in Lansing.

Township board members don't plan to take any official measure to postpone LaJoy's swearing into office.

Those who will be sworn in Nov. 20 include Clerk Terry Bennett, Treasurer Melissa McLaughlin and Trustees John Anthony, Todd Caccamo, Syed Taj and Pat Williams.

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Canton's Ken

Hauser, a retired

engineer, works on

designs for pieces

of the SPAD's wing.

FLIGHT FROM PAGE A1

currently holding a fund raising campaign to build a new museum on the grounds of the historic airport owned by Wayne County.

The SPAD project began more than a year ago when volunteer and former pilot Bill Rodgers was out in California and got a hold of some original plans for the SPAD, most of which were written in French.

The SPAD was a French biplane fighter, developed by the Société Pour L'Aviation et ses Dérivés (SPAD). It was one of the most capable fighters of the war and is a recognizable symbol of World War I.

The plane is made almost entirely of wood, which makes for a tedious process. Every once matters, as the team is hoping to keep the single-seat



This SPAD is similar to the one under construction.

plane under 1,200 pounds by the time it is finished. That means using special wood products, including spruce from the Pacific coast region.

"We're seeing how difficult it was to make these things," said Westland resident Joe Kosek, who is the lead on the project.

Kosek, 84, was a glider pilot who flew missions in the Pacific during World War II. He said building the plane by hand "is a very precise process" and has lead to many disagreements between volunteers and they put the plane together piece by painstaking piece. Last week, for example, there was an argument about a half millimeter when fabricating a piece of the plane.

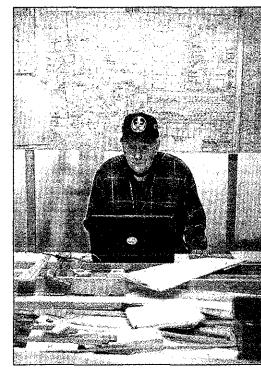
"This is a wonderful project. I love the camaraderie with the guys," said Ray Wall, a retired engineer who lives in Plymouth. "I find myself waking up a 3 o'clock in the morning sometimes thinking I could have done something a little differently than I had done it that day."

The volunteers work on the plane each week on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays, according to Farkas, who calls the project a labor of love. He says the team is so passionate because they will help future generations remember a slice of American history.

"It's important that people don't forget what happened during World War I, or any war for that matter. It's important to keep history alive. We're doing our part," Farkas said.

The group of volunteers also includes Mark Clapham, Larry Arnet of Wayne, Gene Blanchard, Ken Hauser of Canton, Tom Ismond, Dick Sprague, Dale Burgess, Rick Klann and Hennie Moses.

For more information about



the SPAD project or to tour the Yankee Air Museum, call Lou Farkas at (734) 483-4030, or e-mail him at lfarkas@comcast.net. For more information about the Yankee Air Museum visit www.yankeeairmuseum. org.



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LOCAL NEWS

A3 (C)

AROUND CANTON

Special holiday market

The Canton Holiday Marketplace will take place on Nov. 21 (5-9 p.m.) and Nov. 22 (4-8 p.m.) at the Cherry Hill School, located at 50440 Cherry Hill Road. The Holiday Market will feature locally grown farm products, arts and crafts by area artisans and unique holiday gifts. Available merchandise will include jewelry, candles, aprons, blankets, T-shirts, handbags, wall décor, hand-painted furniture, photographs, ornaments, baby items, hair accessories, baked goods, honey, jams, and more. This will also be the place to find holiday decorations.

Returning vendors include Baubles By Barb; Bijou Beaute International Ltd.; Bizzy Lizzy Bakery; Char's Kitchen; Heart to Heart Candles; John the Wood Guy; What We Hold Dear-Photography; Boblin Honey; and many more. Special activities will include face painting for the kids and spe-

adults. No admission is required to attend. For more information about Holiday Market, visit leisure.canton-mi.org or contact the Market Manager at (734) 398-5570 ext 5.

cial dessert demonstrations for

Holiday craft fair

Connection Church (previously Tri-City Christian Center) will hold its annual Holiday Craft Fair from 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 6. More than 60 crafters and vendors will be on hand. There will also be a holiday cookie sale and concessions area. Admission is \$1.

The church is located at 3855 S. Sheldon Road in Canton (1/4 mile north of Michigan Avenue).

For fair or table rental information contact Sharon Chefan at (734) 397-1777 or e-mail her at sharon@connectionchurch. info.

Veterans Day service

The Canton Veterans Memorial Association will hold a Veterans Day service at 11 a.m., Tuesday, Nov. 11 at the Canton Veterans Memorial located west of the Canton Township Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road, Canton, MI 48188. For more information, contact John Spencer at (734) 397-8975 or johnscott44@yahoo.com.

Library to close

a.m.-8 p.m., Nov. 13 and 14. The fair will feature a Christmas shop, boutique, country store, homemade candies, attic treasures, coffee shop, book store, handmade goods, specialties shop, and aprons. Lunch (11 a.m. and 1 p.m.) and dinner (5 p.m. and 7 p.m.) will be served both days. The church is located at 2 Towne Square in downtown Wayne (at Wayne Road and Michigan Avenue).



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

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Canton's Sue Merritt (standing at center in back) stood with her seven grandchildren next to busy Warren Road on Halloween and received lots of waves and honks from passing drivers. Grandma Merritt spent 25 hours a week for a month sewing the Halloween costumes for her grandchildren. She makes costumes every Halloween. The costume themes range from Carmen Miranda to Uncle Sam. The Elvi are (from left) Isaiah Bird, 3 years old, Taylor Laderoot, 11, Savannah Bird, 4, Olivia Dickens, 16 months, Heidi Bird, 9, Mason Bird, 12, and Emma Wieszkowiak, 4.

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The Canton Public Library will be closed on Friday, Nov. 14 for staff in-service training. Most online services will remain available to patrons, including access to account information, material requests and renewals. The library annually schedules staff inservice for training and service updates. While the library is closed, work will be done on the main doors and handicapped access. Regular business hours will resume Saturday, Nov. 15.

Township offices to close

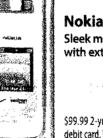
Canton's administrative offices will be closed Tuesday, Nov. 11 in observance of Veterans Day, They will reopen for normal hours on Wednesday.

Church fair

The First Congregational Church of Wayne will hold its 62nd annual church fair from 9 (When calling from the Nationwide Area.)



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LOCAL NEWS

Military mom eyes support group

BY BRAD KADRICH OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Having grown up as an Air Force brat — her father is a retired Vietnam-era veteran and her family is replete with military service — Kathy Barker learned firsthand what it's like for the families of military men and women who are deployed.

With her son, an Air Force C-5 crew chief, now on a fourmonth deployment to Iraq, she wants to help other families in similar situations learn how to get through it. Crafted much like the national Blue Star Moms, Barker's as-yetunnamed group (she's leaning toward "Yellow Ribbon Families") would meet monthly to plan support projects, send "care" packages overseas — but mostly to talk.

"It's more than just the mothers concerned for the child (overseas), it's the whole family," said Barker, who met her husband at Barksdale Air Force Base in Louisiana. "If they have fellowship with others in the

SETTING UP SUPPORT

 What: Support group for families of military deployed
 Who: Kathy Barker of Plymouth, whose son is in Iraq
 Idea: To provide activities, put together "care packages for military overseas, provide support for family members back home
 How to get involved: E-mail Barker, kathybarker2003@yahoo. com

same situation, they feel more a part of things." While the Blue Star Moms

do have groups in Michigan — Barker says there are groups in Troy, Dearborn and Grayling — there's no similar group in the Plymouth-Canton area. Barker said her group would likely meet at the VFW Hall in Plymouth. In fact, the group was supposed to meet last month, but the meeting was pre-empted when a tornado ripped through parts of the community.



Nick Barker of Plymouth, a C-5 crew chief in the U.S. Air Force, left for Iraq on his birthday.

The idea came to Barker when her 24-year-old son, Nick, a Canton High School graduate, left for Iraq Sept. 2, leaving behind his wife, Penny, a medic at Dover AFB, Delaware, who also faces a potential deployment.

She's not looking for money, simply donations of items that can be included in packages to be sent to military men and women serving overseas. In fact, one lawyer has already called to offer a donation of profits. Barker turned him down.

"I told him, 'I really don't want your money, I'd rather trade a cotton swab for a nickel," said Barker, whose father, brother-in-law and other family members have served in the military. "It's the items they need."

Mostly, though, she wants to provide support and fellowship. For instance, she sees groups getting together and doing things like bowling, cards or just watching a football game together. She also sees the Christmas project and care packages as a direct result.

"Everyone has a 'Support Our Troops' ribbon on their car, but what are they really doing?" asked Barker, a homemaker and retired dental assistant. "This is a hole that needs to be filled. This is something we can really do."

For more information on the group, contact Barker via e-mail at kathybarker2003@ yahoo.com.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Www.hometownlife.com

Kathy Barker intends to start a local support group for families of service men and women deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan. Her son (in the picture with his wife, Penny) is serving in Iraq.

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Board, union OK school calendar

Wayne-Westland students will have a shorter midwinter recess and attend school through Friday, June 12, to make up for four days lost because of a teachers strike last month.

According to a joint press release issued Friday, the Wayne-Westland school board and the Wayne-Westland Education Association have agreed that Wednesday-Friday, Feb.18-20 and on Friday, June

VETERANS DAY SAVINGS! great mattress offers now through Tuesday, Nov. 11

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COUNTY NEWS

No investments are risk-free, even money markets McCotter's House

My wife has a large amount of money in a 403(b) in Fidelity 205 Freedom Fund. All new money has been going into the Fidelity U.S. Money Market Fund. She'll be retiring in the next couple of years and does not want to lose principal. Should

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she transfer some of the 205 Freedom Fund into the Fidelity **U.S. Treasury** Money Market? If your wife

wants an

investment

that has no

principal

Money Matters Rick Bloom

fluctuation

does not have risks.

Many investors believe that the only risk is losing principal. However, another risk that can be as devastating as losing principal is not keeping up with the increased cost of living. Too many people think that as long as they beat inflation they are doing fine. Unfortunately, that is not the case. First, you have to recognize the effect taxes have on returns. If money is invested in a retirement account, the money is taxed at an ordinary income level — the highest tax |bracket. Therefore, if you're getting a 4 percent return, the after-tax return for most people is 3 percent or below. Then, against the 3 percent return you have to consider how your cost of living is going

I believe most Americans

there is no such thing as a investments have risks.

Investors who ignore the risks that inflation and increased cost of living create are those who find they are running out of money later in life.

Investors need to have a varied portfolio that does not subject all money to one risk but rather is composed of a variety of different types of investments that have different levels of risks.

An investor may feel that they are safe by keeping all their money in investments that have no principal fluctuation such as CDs. bank accounts and fixed annuities. Although these types of investments can play an important role within the portfolio, they should not

make changes in a portfolio while in the midst of a major crisis, such as we are, it is a good idea to begin to think after things calm down.

during times like this to After all, I am an investor

too and my portfolio has also suffered. However, I am staying the course because I do not want to be in a situation where I don't have sufficient resources later in life. That said, investors who randomly buy equities without focusing on a realistic overall strategy have to realize that the stock market is not a gambling hall. Equities are for the long term and should not be used for short-term needs.

Investors who are in salaried deferral programs such as 401(k)s and who are long-term investors should continue to invest in equities. I don't know if we've hit the bottom and are on our way up. However, I do know that equities are considerably cheaper than they

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

band takes a hit

On Thursday Chris Matthews and Weldon are retiring and of MSNBC's Hardball had some Republican Reps. Bill Šalli fun with U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter's soon to be disbanded Congressional rock band The Second Amendments.

The bombastic news commentator got a few things wrong. He called the band The Singing Amendments and a graphic mislabeled the members, identifying McCotter as outgoing Rep. Dave Weldon of Florida and putting a big X over his face.

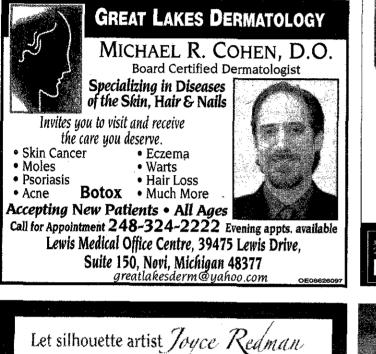
McCotter played lead guitar in the band. Drummer Rep. Kenny Hulshof of Missouri

of Idaho and Jon Porter of Nevada lost their bids for reelection in the Democratic onslaught. Remaining band members in addition to McCotter are Democrat vocalist Collin Peterson.

(*) A5

In addition to the Matthews' slight, the Web site Gawker says of the band, "They were basically a crappy wedding band, playing dad music semicompetently, but the 'members of Congress thing made the whole show a little more surreal."







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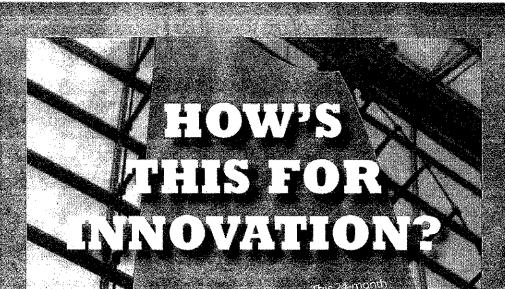
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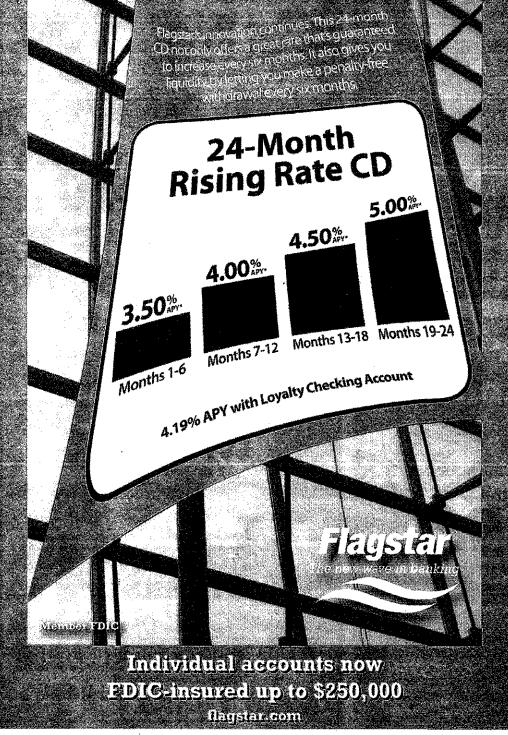


Honoring flags

The Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6695 and Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 528, along with Boy Scouts of America Troop 1535, had an American Flag retirement ceremony. The Veterans Groups purchased 220 American made 3'x5' flags to be exchanged for old flags that needed to be retired. The scouts assisted in the swapping of the flags and put on the program for the retirement complete with a rifle salute and taps. The event retired almost 500 flags. The 50-person audience (50) participated by each person adding a stripe or field to the fire. There are still flags to exchange, and the veterans are still accepting donations to their "Cell Phones for Soldiers" program. Contact Gary Kubik at the Post or call (734) 459-6700.



A6 (C)



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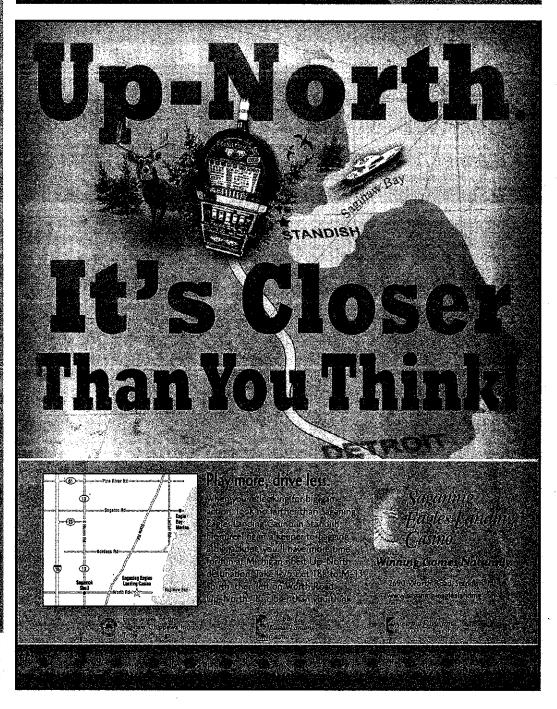
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LOCAL NEWS

Monit, Pitsenbarger to challenge recall decision

BY SUE MASON OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Two Wayne-Westland school board members plan to challenge a Wayne County Elections Commission decision to give a citizens group the go-ahead to circulate recall petitions against them.

The commission voted 2-1 Friday to approve recall language for board President Martha Pitsenbarger and Vice President Skip Monit.

In an interview Friday afternoon, Monit said he and Pitsenbarger will fight the recall, including appealing the commission's decision to Wayne County Circuit Court.

"We will do everything we possibly can to postpone or overturn this decision," he said. "We'll get out in the

Jewelry stolen from

home

community and fight as best we can. Unfortunately, this is a distraction from our duties as school board members."

Recall organizer Shawnn Maxwell, however, is elated with the commission's decision.

"We feel pretty good about it, we thought it would take several tries," she said in an interview hours after the language was approved. "Our movement is pretty strong, I'm already getting phone calls. My phone is ringing off the hook."

The language states that Pitsenbarger and Monit on Oct. 7 voted in favor of adopting hearing procedures "concerning the illegal withholding of services by the WWEA or any of its members," a reference to a strike by teachers that lasted four day "I think it's unfair, it's not a reason

for a recall," said Monit, who was at the commission meeting. "This recall has nothing to do with the language they put forth. If anyone looked at this language, how could they justify a vote to recall us?"

Pitsenbarger wasn't able to attend because of a work obligation, but was apprised of what had happened, Monit said.

Maxwell said her committee planned to meet Saturday to go over details to make sure everything is done correctly when the group begins circulating the petitions. The group has to submit a written request and should know within five business days how many signatures of registered voters

strike by teachers that lasted four days. they will need to force a recall election

The number of signatures needed for each school board member is tied to the percentage of votes cast in the last governor's election. Maxwell is vowing to get double what is required and to circulate the petitions is every community that is included in the 13,000-plus student district.

"If they say we need 4,000 signatures, we'll get 8,000," she said. "We're going to get as many signatures as we can. Our goal is to double the number needed. This board needs to see that this community is upset."

The group will have 180 days from the day the language was approved to collect signatures. However, by law, signatures begin dropping off daily after the 90-day mark. Maxwell said also plans to file recall language for school board Secretary Cindy Schofield and Trustee William Gabriel on Nov. 17. State law prohibits the recall of elected officials during their first six months and last six months of their terms. Schofield and Gabriel were elected to office in the May school election.

(C) 17

"They say the teachers pushed our emotional button about class size to get us involved, but we have concerns that need to be addressed," said Maxwell. "The teachers' contract is what started it, but we're not happy with the way money is being allocated, we're not happy with Mr. (Superintendent Greg) Baracy's contract."

smason@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2112

CANTON CRIME REPORT

It wasn't until later that the woman said she noticed her jewelry was missing and wanted the matter. documented for insurance purposes.

A cosmetic caper

A 17-year-old Westland girl and her younger sister, 12, were caught stealing cosmetics Oct. 29 from Wal-mart on Ford Road.

The two were spotted in the health and beauty department putting items into the 17-yearold's purse. After they passed all points of purchase, the girls were stopped and three items were recovered, including a bottle of nail polish priced at \$6.47, a hair clip priced at \$2.22 and foundation priced at \$4.78.

When a police officer arrived at the store, the mother of the girls had also arrived and the younger child was turned over to her custody. The older child was ticketed for simple larceny and will be in court Nov. 18.

Smash and grab

Township police were called to a home on the 7100 block of Poppleton Oct. 28 after a Canton woman reported that her purse had been stolen from her vehicle.

The woman told officers a thief had shattered her rear passenger window and took her pocketbook, which contained seven credit cards and \$252.

In addition, she reported that some of her sister's items were taken as well, including a passport, checkbook and wallet containing \$150.

Upon speaking to neighbors, officers learned that no one had heard and seen the theft. There are no suspects.

By Tiffany L. Parks



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A Canton woman, 58, reported to officers that she believes her neighbor, a 36-year-old man, stole items from her home earlier this month. The woman called the police

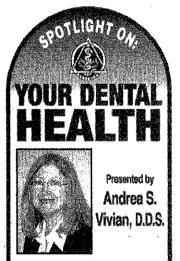
department last week saying that nine rings, valued at \$7,100, and a necklace worth \$400 were taken from her Ravenwood Drive home Oct. 7.

Officers reported that the woman said she had previously allowed the man, who has a mental age of 15, to take showers at her home because he and his mother allegedly disagree over the frequency they are needed.

The woman said she told the man earlier this month that he could no longer shower at her home because of increased water costs and on Oct. 7, she returned home from a medical appointment to discover that the sidewalk in front of her home had been vandalized with orange spray paint. She believes the can was taken from her garage.

KNOW THE SCORE check out the numbers in today's SPORTS section





D FOR DENTAL HEALTH

It seems that recent research has found that vitamin D confers more health benefits than was once thought. The most recent finding shows that babies born to mothers with low vitamin D levels may be at increased risk for tooth enamel defects and early childhood decay. This is important because researchers found that only 10.5 percent of the women studied during their second trimester of pregnancy had adequate vitamin D levels. With this study in mind, women of childbearing age may want to be sure that they are eating foods that are rich in nutrients. including vitamin D. If necessary, supplemental vitamins/minerals may be considered, always keeping daily recommendations and intake limits in mind.

A very good lesson to remember is that prevention is key to optimum dental health for patients of all ages. Through good habits like choosing a dental-friendly diet and proper brushing and flossing, you have a lot of control over your dental health and that of your children. One of the most important services we offer is a plan for preventive dental care, including counseling on nutrition, the proper way to brush and floss, and recommendations for oral hygiene products and how to use them. For an appointment, please call us at 734-453-9413, 496 W. Ann Arbor Trail, ste. 201, Plymouth.

P.S. Numerous studies indicate that vitamin D and calcium deficiencies result in bone loss and increased inflammation, which is a well-recognized symptom of periodontal diseases. Occese2439 **Plymouth** Wednesday, Nov. 12, 2008

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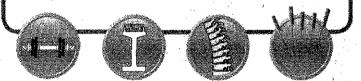
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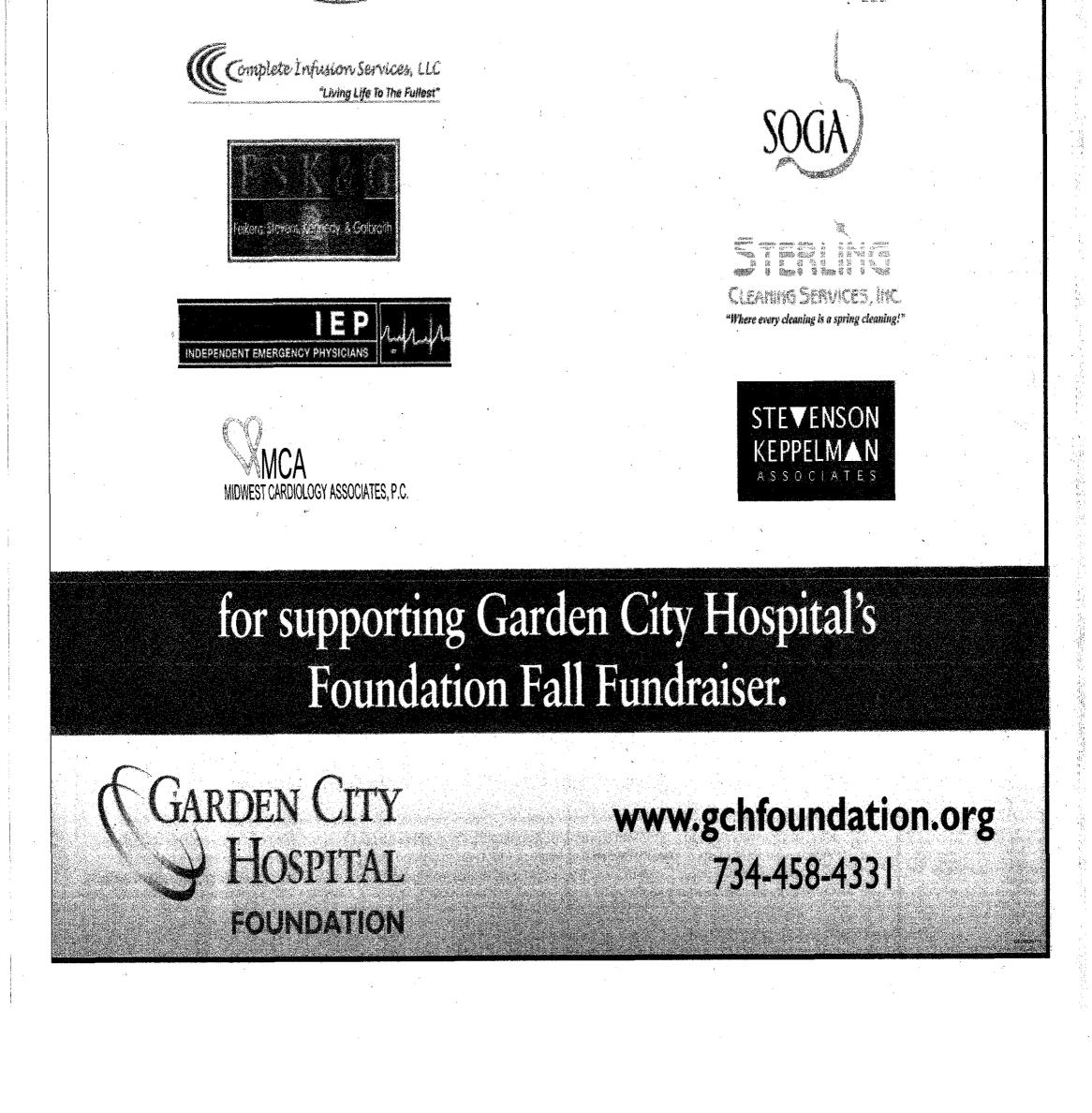
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(C) Page A9 Sunday, November 9, 2008

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OUR VIEWS

Veterans pay heaviest toll for our democracy

Last Tuesday, Americans turned out at the polls in record numbers to exercise their right to vote. Around 11 p.m., when most of the votes had been counted, it was declared that Barack Obama, a black man, would be the 44th president of the United States.

Whether or not you voted for Obama, the day will long be celebrated as a great milestone in the evolution of one of the greatest experiments in the history of mankind - American democracy. Our democracy.

Just a generation ago, Obama would have had a difficult time even voting in some parts of the country. After a vigilant civil rights movement, however, a black man will now ascend to the highest office in the land. As Obama himself said Tuesday night, it is a story that could happen only in America. We are all very fortunate to live in such a country, where freedom is the glue that holds us together.

But those freedoms come with a cost. We all owe a tremendous debt to the countless soldiers who have fought to preserve our way of life, our ideals, our democracy.

On Tuesday, we celebrate Veterans Day. It is the day we remember and honor all the military personnel who have sacrificed so much just for the privilege of being an American. The soldiers whose blood soaked the fields of Gettysburg. The Marines who charged with unblinking fury on to the sands of Iwo Jima. The airmen who strapped themselves into small boxes with wings to engage in dogfights with the Kaiser's pilots over the fields of France in World War I. George Washington's army, which survived early defeats and a miserable winter filled with doubt at Valley Forge, only to persevere and help give birth to a nation. Our nation.

But our veterans are not simply relics from the annals of history. There are millions among us today. For example, there are still about 2.5 million World War II veterans alive. Once 16 million strong, our WWII vets are dying at a rate of about 1,200 a day, and some predict they will all be gone by 2020.

There are more than 8 million veterans of the Vietnam War alive today. And let us not forget the veterans of the Korean War, Desert Storm, or the many smaller skirmishes in which we have been engaged.

As you read this, we have thousands of soldiers entrenched in Iraq and Afghanistan, fighting hostile forces hell-bent on destroying America and the freedoms we take for granted. Nearly 4,200 soldiers have died in Iraq, and more than 600 have died in Afghanistan, where the conflict is worsening after seven years of warfare.

America has never been a perfect nation. History tells us this. But we have always strived to get better. Tuesday's election was certainly evidence that we continue to take positive steps toward a more perfect union. Without the sacrifices of our veterans, however, none of it would be possible.

On Tuesday, take a few moments to think about that. And make sure you thank a veteran, if you know one. Chances are, you do.

Obama election: A day never to be forgotten

a historical moment is a day that I never expected to see. On Tuesday, Nov. 4, only a few seconds after 11 p.m., some words came through my television speakers that set the stage for history to be made in this nation and the voice of Brit Hume of the Fox News Channel stated the following:

"It is just past 11 p.m. Eastern Standard Time and here at the Fox News Channel, we project the 44th president of the United States to be Illinois Sen. Barack Hussein Obama."

There could be no better way to end a day for me that began filled with so must anxiety and



Eric Brown

anxiousness. A day for me that started at 5 o'clock in the morning. Though many polls were expecting Barack

Obama to fulfill his destiny, I am always of the mindset that people vote, not pollsters, so I never put a lot of stock into what they

are saying. Though all the polls were pointing to the fact that Mr. Obama would become the first non-white male to become president of the United States, I still did not want to get too wrapped up in those numbers. Besides, there was still a sense that disappointment could come for me and many others at the end of the day.

On this day and the days leading up to people from all over the country casting their vote for president, I remained enthusiastic and filled with joy of what could be. As I continued to prepare myself to head over to the precinct to participate in the polling duties for which I had signed up for, my heart raced with anticipation as if I was a kid that could not wait to open gifts that had been placed under the tree for me. My last words to my still half-sleeping wife before leaving the house were to not call or text me with any updates regarding the outcome of the election.

As I got into my car to head over to the Crescent Academy where I was working, I clicked the garage door opener and as it opened I began to reminisce on a blog I had posted over at The Detroit News political/government

o be alive and bear witness to such blog site back on Feb. 25, 2007. It was then that I wrote about the controversy surrounding Barack Obama and whether or not he was "black enough." Not only did I ask the question about "What is being black enough?," I went on to say that Mr. Obama was the best hope that African-Americans have ever had of getting a black president. My sense of the destiny facing Mr. Obama started back in August 2004, when he came before the nation to deliver the keynote speech at the Democratic National Convention in Boston, Mass.

Still giddy about the day and what it would all mean if the this historical "first" was to happen, it seemed as if my car drove itself over to the polling place. Upon arriving there a few minutes before six in the morning, I was in awe of the line that had already formed with people ready to cast their votes. Once inside the school, there was a feeling that came across me, letting me know that I was in store for something magical happening today.

The day that many of us thought would never come to fruition and showed signs that there was inevitability in the air. It was cool to see so many first-time voters, young kids accompanying their parents to vote and older voters renewing their acquaintance with a ballot box. Then there were the sounds from the many little tykes saying to their parents, "You're voting for Barack Obama, right?" Hearing that on a regular basis added some assurances for me to begin to believe what the polls were saying, while realizing that the day that I thought would never happen was coming to be a reality. Even for me, someone that has followed politics for many, many years, this is a day that I thought I would only see while looking down on my loved ones once I made it to heaven.

There are many reasons why black people thought that we would never see a day like this past Tuesday, but we still had hope and wanted to believe in the many dreams that we have dreamt. We were not naive to the history of this country and the "we have got to be better than the majority mantra," but those that came before Barack Obama were not the people that could pull off this historical feat. I always

felt that it would take the right person that could bring forth a message that resonated with all people and that is not what we got from Shirley Chisolm, Jesse Jackson, Carol Mosley-Braun or Al Sharpton. Nothing personal against any of them, but they, in my opinion, just did not have what it took to become the president of the United States. However, in Barack Obama, my gut feeling back in August 2004 told me that he could be the one.

Still, that did not prevent me from knowing that anything could have gone wrong the other night. It is for that reason why I opted not to attend any viewing parties and chose to head home after the polls closed to be with my family. If I was to be disappointed, I wanted to be in the confines of my house with my family to share that feeling as a family. However, there was no disappointment and I am glad that I kept my 7- and 12-year-old kids up with me and my wife so that they could bear witness to what ended up being a historical moment.

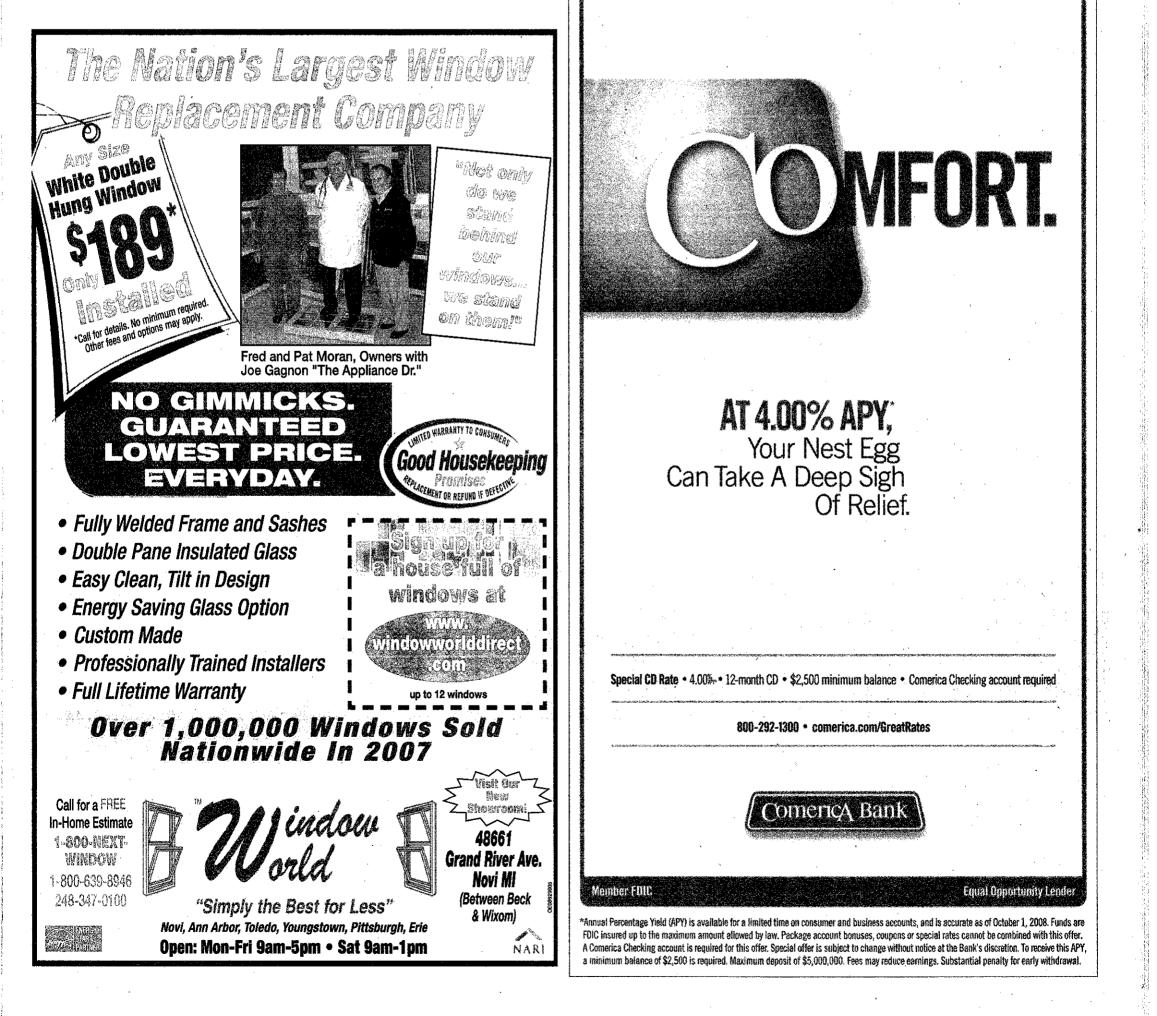
After Brit Hume declared that this country would have its first black president, I turned to my kids and let them know how significant of a moment it was. After that, I showed no shame in shedding some tears of joy in front of them.

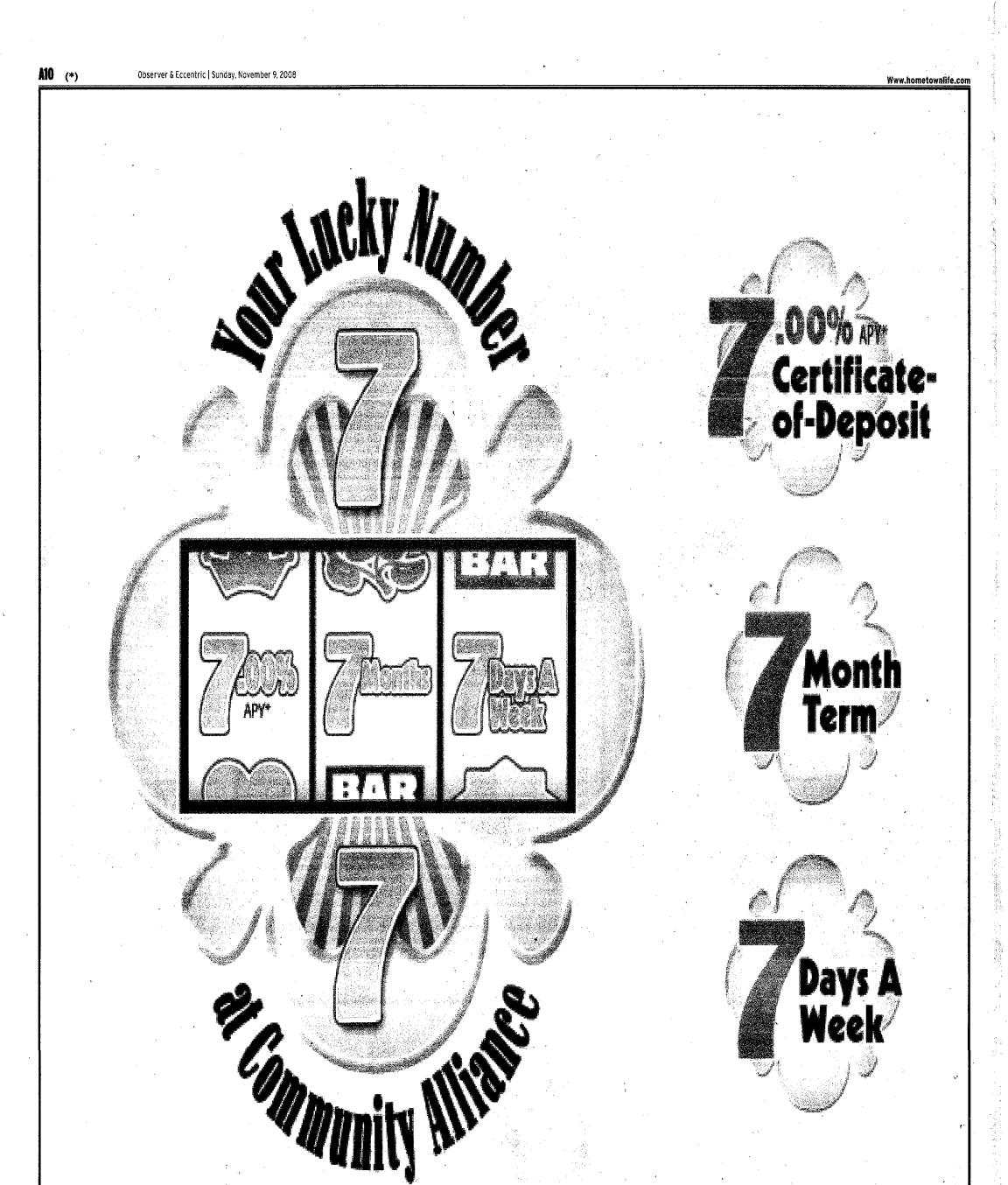
Silence ruled the moment because I got the sense that they understood exactly why their father cried as they watched their mother comfort me.

I am proud to say that I was able to see the day that I thought that I would never see and I hope that everyone can grasp just how monumental of a day is was. To all of the forefathers with African-American heritage that laid the groundwork for the history that was made on Tuesday, continue to smile down on us, watch over us and be proud of the moment that you will never forget as well. It just goes to show that all the struggles you went through and what you did to build this nation was not done in vain. T

he history that we shared the other night is your just reward for making this nation the best throughout the world.

Eric Brown, 44, has lived in Canton for 10 years.





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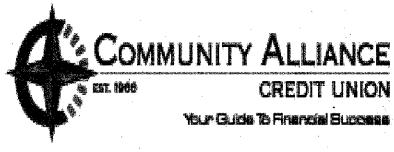
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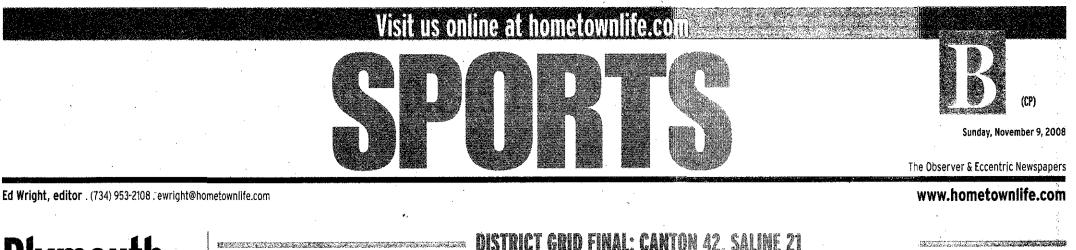
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Plymouth spikers fall in District final match

BY ED WRIGHT Observer staff writer

Novi proved to be the host with the most during Friday night's Class A District volleyball final against Plymouth.

The green-clad Wildcats defeated the black-clad Wildcats 25-14, 25-14, 25-16 to move onto Tuesday's Regional semifinal at White Lake-Lakeland.

The loss left Plymouth's season-ending record at 18-17-4.

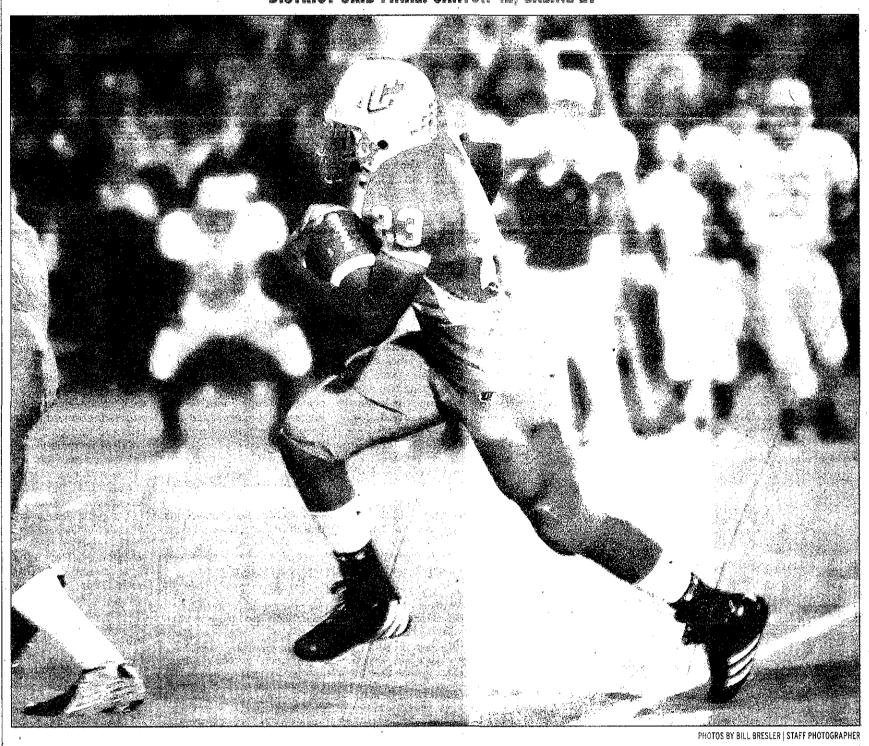
"I was proud of our seniors for stepping up and leaving everything on the court tonight," said Plymouth coach Kelly McCausland. "Megan Quinlan had one of her best matches and Lauren Scott had some amazing digs from their best offensive threats.

"We knew after watching last night's semifinal match between Novi and Salem that we were going to have our work cut out for us. We knew Novi had a stronger offense than us, but we were preparing ourselves defensively to stop the front-row threat."

Quinlan and Scott both closed their careers in style. Quinlan recorded nine kills and 10 digs while Scott racked up 10 digs.

Jenna Livingston (15 digs), Briana Beyer (13 digs) and Mandy McManus (seven kills) also sparkled for the Wildcats, who swept Northville in Thursday night's semifinal.

"The other side of the bracket was a tough one with Canton, Novi and Salem all battling



Canton sophomore running back Davion Stackhouse rushed for 233 yards and four touchdowns - including this 86-yarder - during the Chiefs' 42-21 victory over Saline Friday night.



for one spot in the finals," said McCausland. "Any of those three schools could have very easily been District champs.

"Novi beat all three of us from the Park, so they deserve the District title."

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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth's Briana Beyer registered a team-high 13 digs in the Wildcats' Class A District final loss to Novi Friday night.

Grounded Canton racks up 500 yards of offense in rout of Hornets

BY ED WRIGHT OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Beware the "Big Red Buzzsaw." That is the official nickname of Canton's tight-T offense, which ripped through Saline's defense like it was a piece of plywood during Friday night's Division 1 District title game at the PCEP varsity football stadium.

The Chiefs prevailed 42-21 to improve to 10-1 and earn a berth in next Friday's Regional final against Livonia Stevenson. The opening kickoff at the PCEP stadium is set for 7 p.m.

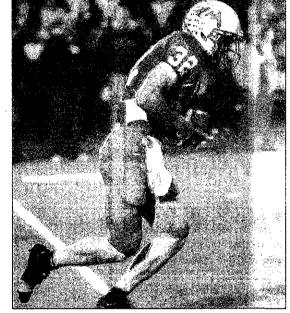
Canton's offense had its way with the Hornets, pounding out 500 total yards without punting once.

"We're red, grinding, fast, bodies flying — just like a buzzsaw," Canton coach Tim Baechler said, explaining the moniker he slapped on his offense early in his coaching tenure.

The Chiefs executed 52 offensive plays — 51 of which were runs between their packed-in tight ends.

Sophomore running back Davion Stackhouse did most of the buzzing, high-stepping his way to 233 yards on 20 carries. Among the speedster's four touchdowns was an 86-yard backbreaker that extended the Chiefs' lead to 35-14 three minutes into the third quarter.

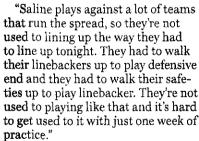
How does Baechler explain his offense's success even when the opposing defense knows it's going to run the



ball close to 99 percent of the time?

"Some teams have an excellent concept for playing against our offense," Baechler said. "There are teams around here who make it very difficult for us.

"The Rockfords of the world know how to defend it. They got their butts kicked by East Kentwood, which ran this offense years ago, and they went to work and figured out how to defend it because they were in their league. A lot of it is personnel match-ups, but you also have to know how to defend it.



Canton quarterback Kevin Delapaz's lone aerial — a 29-yard spiral — settled into the reliable arms of senior tight end Todd Turfe in the back corner of the end zone to double the Chiefs' **lead to 28-14 2:54 before** halftime.

Above, members of the Canton football program celebrated the team's Division 1 District title following Friday night's 42-21 victory over Saline. At

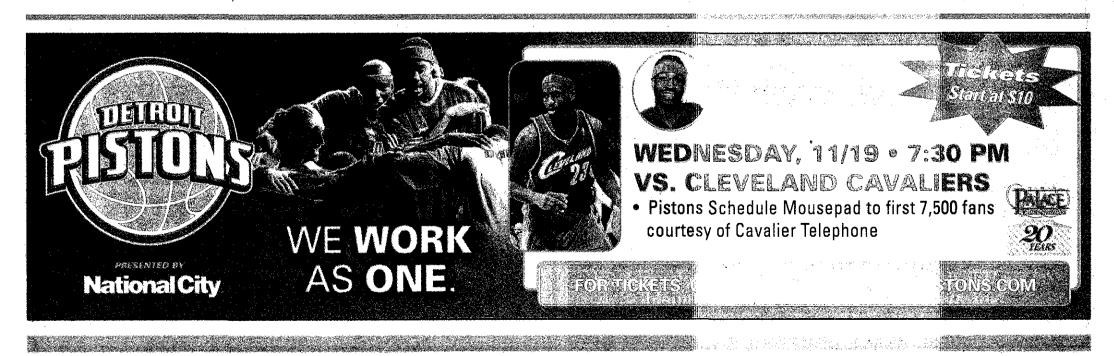
left, Canton defensive back Nick Sweda returns one of his two interceptions Friday night. The senior now has four picks in his last three games.

> Turfe has been the target of just 10 passes this season, a fact of life he accepts with robust enthusiasm.

"It's all about the team," the senior said in the wake of the Chiefs' District title trophy presentation. "Of course, I like catching touchdown passes, but I get just as hyped up when someone runs for a touchdown behind one of my blocks.

"We're a running team. Coach

Please see CANTON, B6



VOLLEYBALL

Plymouth puts it all together vs. Northville

OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

B2

(CP)

Following a regular season that was plagued by inconsistencies, Plymouth's volleyball team couldn't have picked a better time to put it all together Thursday night.

The Wildcats advanced to Friday's Class A District final against Novi by sweeping Northville, 25-20, 25-21, 25-23, before a vocal crowd in the Novi gymnasium.

The triumph improved coach Kelly McCausland's squad to 18-16-4 and gave everyone a glimpse of how well Plymouth can play when it brings its A game.

"We did something tonight we haven't been able to do yet this season - play well offensively and defensively throughout the same match," said McCausland. "I've been waiting for us to put those pieces of the puzzle together and it finally happened.

"We started off very, very slowly - we were down 10-1 in the first game - but the girls battled back. I give them a lot of credit for that."

Plymouth's attack was a model of balance. Danielle Risi and Mandy McManus both netted a team-high seven kills. Erin O'Connor and Katie Salo both registered 11 set assist while Lauren

Scott and Briana Beyer combined for 33 digs.

"Lauren Scott really stepped up tonight," said McCausland. "She always plays with 100 percent effort, but she kept us rolling tonight defensively."

The Wildcats seized their first lead in game one - 16-15 thanks to a Megan Quinlan block and a hitting error by Northville.

Leading 22-20, Plymouth closed out the opener on back-to-back kills by McManus and an ace from Scott.

Game two was tight throughout as neither team led by more than two points until Plymouth - leading 22-21 - swept the final threepoints on two kills from Kavla Bridge that were sandwiched around a Salo ace.

Northville never quit and took a late 22-21 lead in game three on a Kelly Maise kill.

However, the Wildcats put an exclamation point on the sweep by scoring the final two points when Kelly Smoltz recorded a block and a kill on successive plays.

"This was the first time we had seen Northville this season, so (Northville coach) Tom Teeters and I were coming in blank," McCausland said. "We didn't know what to expect and I'm sure they didn't either."

BY ED WRIGHT **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Canton's volleyball team played like there was no tomorrow throughout Tuesday night's Class A District tournament opener against host Novi.

The Chiefs threw their bodies across the Novi gymnasium floor with reckless abandon in attempts to turn kills into digs, and they attacked the net like every block would be the difference-maker.

Unfortunately, the all-out effort came up short against the Wildcats, who pulled the curtain down on Canton's ultra-successful season, 25-12, 24-26, 25-19, 26-24.

The setback closed out the careers of four highly accomplished Canton seniors: Kacy Moran, Gina Waite, Shelby Anthony and Janelle Burdiss, who helped lead the team to a school-record win total.

Junior outside hitter Jordan Kielty paced Canton's offensive attack with 23 kills. Freshman outside hitter Kirsten Muir contributed 11 kills.

Canton battles Novi before falling in four

Novi, which improved to 30-8-8, was paced by senior middle blocker Sarah Robb, who racked up 22 kills and junior middle blocker Julia Thomas, who notched 11 kills.

Sophomore libero Laura Subject sparkled defensively for the Wildcats, registering 36 digs.

After dropping a one-sided game one, the Chiefs trailed 23-21 in the second game before staging a dramatic comeback.

A Kielty kill brought Canton to within 23-22, however, Novi's Erica Robb countered with a successful hit of her own to make it 24-22.

The Chiefs evened the match at one game apiece by earning the final four points: the first on a Kielty kill, the next two on Moran

service aces and the final game-deciding point on a Waite block.

The first third of game three was tight and Canton led 9-8 thanks largely to four Kielty slams. However, the Sarah Robb-led Wildcats reeled off a 10-5 run before holding on for a six-point win.

The Chiefs appeared on the verge of forcing a deciding game five as they built a 23-21 advantage in game four.

Trailing 21-20, Canton evened things up when Waite hit the floor for a point-saving dig before Allison Trapp knocked down a kill seconds later.

The combination of two strong serves from Waite and a pair of hitting errors by the Wildcats gave Canton a 23-21 edge, however, Novi prevailed thanks to kills from Sarah Robb and Kim Hildreth.

ewright@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2108

Wildcats edge Rocks in five-game thriller

BY ED WRIGHT OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Thursday night's Salem-Novi Class A District semifinal volleyball match was good to the last block.

In an epic, five-game struggle featuring two deep, balanced teams, the Wildcats prevailed 10-25, 25-21, 28-30, 25-23, 15-11, to advance to Friday night's final against Plymouth.

The Rocks, who finished with a stellar 32-12-1 record, closed to within 12-10 in game five when Jillian Sommerville's sensational

dig led to a Kelly MacDonald kill, however, Novi sealed the deal by scoring three of the final four points - the last two coming on a block and kill off the palms of Wildcat star Sarah Robb.

"The girls fought really hard all night," said Salem coach Amanda Suder. "Our biggest problem was not keeping the momentum after we won the first game 25-10. When you win like that, you shouldn't look back.

"I was pretty confident going into the final game because we had only lost one match in five games all year

PLYMOUTH DISTRICT LIBRARY **PUBLIC NOTICE**

The Plymouth District Library Board will hold its REGULAR November meeting Tuesday, November 18,2008 at 7:30 p.m. at 223 S. Main Street, Plymouth, Michigan 48170.

The Plymouth District Library will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tape of printed materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities at the meeting/hearing upon seven (7) days notice to the Plymouth District Library. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Plymouth District Library by writing or calling the following:

> Barbara Kraft, Library Secretary Plymouth District Library 223 S. Main Street Plymouth, MI 48170 734-453-0750 X217

- that was to Novi early in recover."

OE08581951 ~ 2x3

the season. We just fell apart in game four and we couldn't Salem's one-two outside

hitting punch of senior Kelly MacDonald and Nicole Merget were brilliant most of the night. Merget finished with a team-high 24 kills while MacDonald posted 21 kills and 12 digs.

Salem senior Jansan Falcusan closed out her career with a spectacular display of hustle and skill, registering 54 assists and 21 digs.

"I'm going to miss my entire group of seniors," said Suder, referring to Falcusan, MacDonald, Tracy Whalen, Erin Classen, Kelly Gitre, Katie Janda, Becky Davis and Katie Parr. "Jansan was the best setter I've ever coached - and probably everwill coach at the high school level – and Kelly MacDonald is one of the best hitters in the state.

"It was a great core group of girls. It's just sad they couldn't have ended up on

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the other side tonight." The Rocks owned the Wildcats in the first game, outscoring them 11-1 over the final 12 points. Merget was on fire at the net, notching seven kills and three blocks.

Game two was knotted at 11-all mid-way through before Novi rode the hitting of sophomore Erica Robb to a 25-21 win.

The pivotal game three was a tension-packed as it gets. The momentum swung back and forth like a pendulum during the latter stages until the Rocks finally chalked up a 30-28 victory thanks to back-to-back kills by Merget. Salem led 20-19 in game four, but couldn't close the deal. Trailing 24-22, the Rocks stayed alive on a clutch kill by Sommerville, however, Sarah Robb followed with a no-doubt kill to send the match to a game five.

Novi never trailed in the final game, building leads of 5-1 and 10-5.

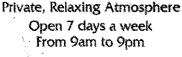
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ALL-OBSERVER GIRLS GOLF

2008 ALL-OBSERVER GIRLS GOLF FIRST TEAM Berlynn Beaver, Sr., Wayne Lexi McFarlane, Sr., Liv, Churchill Adrienne Jones, Jr., Red, Thurston Chelsee Osburn, Sr., Canton Jessica Burdette, Sr., Liv, Churchill Heidi Irvine, Jr., Westland Glenn SECOND TEAM Natalie Polakowski, Sr., Liv, Franklin Kara Gregory, Sr., Canton Jordyn Shepier, Fr., Liv, Churchill Gabrielle Sabatini, Sr., Liv, Stevenson Katelyn Papier, Sr., Liv, Stevenson Katelyn Papier, Sr., Liv, Stevenson Katelyn Papier, Sr., Liv, Franklin COACH OF THE YEAR Paul Worley, Liv, Churchill HONORABLE MENTION Churchill: Sarahi Linder, Stephanie Panarelos: Franklin: Georgia Patrick, Alexis Smith, Stevenson: Nataie (ccchaili, Sheiby Pilchota; John Gienn: Courtney McKinney, Michell Bishop, Justine Woodard; Wayne: Taylor Tuttle; Ladywood; Vai DiMila, Marissa Ley, Taylor Romano; Canton: LeAnn O'Shaughnessy, Chioe Marentic; Thurston: Jacqueline Pennington.

"Jessica has a great demeanor on the

course," said Worley. "Nothing would both-

er her. She would just get the job done. Her

quick wit was great to have around and she

Irvine led the Rockets to eight dual-match

victories with a nine-hole scoring average

of 46.1. She was the medalist in five of the

nine dual matches she competed in this

'This coming summer, Heidi plans

on playing a lot of the Metro Parks Golf

year," said John Glenn coach Steve Pilon.

NATALIE POLAKOWSKI, SR., LIVONIA

FRANKLIN: A senior captain, Polakowski

averaged 49.7 in dual matches and 105 in

in four dual matches with a low round of

18-hole tournaments. She was the medalist

41 and she placed fifth at the Franklin Golf

KARA GREGORY, SR., CANTON: The four-

year varsity letter winner was a three-time

"Kara has outstanding leadership quali-

medalist this past fall for the Chiefs. She

was a Division medalist as a junior and

conference medalist as a senior.

Tournaments in preparation for her senior

SECOND TEAM

will be missed next year." HEIDI IRVINE, JR., WESTLAND GLENN:

alist in three dual matches.

fall.

Invitational

FIRST TEAM

BERLYNN BEAVER, SR., WAYNE: The senior was the only individual state qualifier after shooting a 92 to place seventh at the Division 1 regional held at Giant Oak Golf Course.

In the state finals, Beaver carded a 95. She also earned All-Kensington Conference honors by shooting an 86 at

Pheasant Run. "She has a pretty good all-around game," Wayne co-coach Dennis Chall said of the repeat All-Area selection. "She putts well and hits her driver long - and pretty darn straight, too. She works on her game. She's had a great year.'

LEXI MCFARLANE, SR., LIVONIA CHURCHILL: The senior captain was named the team's MVP after she spearheaded an undefeated season that featured KLAA and KLAA South Division titles for the Chargers. She led Churchill with a 46.4 nine-hole average and 93.8 18-hole average. McFarlane earned All-Conference honors after finishing fourth at the league meet.

Lexi's competitive spirit and moxie will be hard to replace next year," said Churchill coach Paul Worley

ADRIENNE JONES, JR., REDFORD THURSTON: The three-year player registered an impressive 43.2 nine-hold stroke average in dual matches. She was co-medalist at the Mega White Division tournament and earned All-League and All-Conference for the third year in a row.

"Adrienne is constantly working at her game, and won a couple of local tournaments over the summer," said Thurston coach Brian Gulick. "She has been captain for the last two years and is a valuable asset to the team as a player and a mentor to the underclassmen.

CHELSEA OSBURN, SR., CANTON: The four-year letter-winner was the medalist in six dual meets this past fall. She was a Division medalist her sophomore and junior seasons and a conference medalist as a senior.

"Chelsea is a sound, fundamental player in all aspects of her golf game," said Canton coach Dan Riggs.

JESSICA BURDETTE, SR., LIVONIA CHURCHILL: The senior captain enjoyed an extremely consistent season, averaging 46.7 strokes for nine holes and 98.3 for 18. She saved her best for last, placing ninth overall at the KLAA Tournament to earn All-Conference honors. Burdette was med-

ties and is a solid ball-striker off the tee." said Riggs. JORDYN SHEPLER, FR., LIVONIA

CHURCHILL: The freshman finished with the Chargers' third-lowest nine-hole average (49.6). Her best 18-hole round was a 94 at the Grosse Ile Invitational and she was the medalist in two dual matches.

"Jordyn has a lot of talent at a young age and it will be fun to watch her game develop over the next three years," said Worley. I'm glad she is a Charger.'

GABRIELLE SABATINI, SR., LIVONIA STEVENSON: Sabatini was voted the Spartans' MVP the past two seasons. She was the team's lowest-scoring player 10 times, knocking four strokes off her ninehole average since her junior year.

"Gabrielle was everything a coach could ask for this season," said Stevenson coach Jason Delo. "She took charge of many of the day-to-day tasks that needed to be done and made sure they were done She was an excellent role model for our new-comers and helped to make sure that things were taken care of every day in regards to creating an excellent team atmosphere.'

KATELYN PAPLER, SR., LIVONIA LADYWOOD: The senior captain was voted the Blazers' MVP in a vote of her teammates after averaging 52.0 in dual matches and 106 in 18-hole tournaments. The three-year varsity letter-winner fired a 99 in the Ladywood Invitational

"Katelyn has worked hard the last couple of years to improve her game," said Ladywood coach Kellianne Nagy. "She is a solid player who you can always count on. She is a leader on and off the course. Katelyn is looking attending Madonna to pursue a nursing career.'

SAMANTHA MČATEE, SR., LIVONIA FRANKLIN: The senior captain averaged 49.9 in nine-hole dual matches and a 105 average in 18-hole tournaments. Among her highlights was a top-10 finish at the Franklin Golf Invitational.

PAUL WORLEY, LIVONIA CHURCHILL, **COACH OF THE YEAR:** The veteran mentor led the Chargers to an unbeaten regular season and first place in the inaugural season of the Kensington Lakes Activities Association. Under Worley's guidance, the Chargers also earned a fifth-place tie in their highly competition Division 1 Regional tournament at Giant Oak Golf Course.



Berlynn Beaver Wayne Memorial

Chelsea Osburn

Canton

Lexi McFarlane **Adrienne Jones** Thurston



B3

(*)

Jessica Burdette Churchill

Heidi Irvine John Glenn



Natalie Polakowski Franklin

Gabrielle Sabatini

Livonia Stevenson

Jordyn Shepler

Churchill



Katelyn Papier Ladywood

Paul Worley Churchill, Coach of Year

Madonna women drop Indiana Tech tops MU, earns WHAC top seed block assists and two solo blocks,

two, remain winless

The Madonna University women's basketball team is still searching for its first win.

Playing back-to-back nights, the Crusaders fell to 0-4 on the year with a 57-47 loss Thursday night at Indiana University-South Bend.

Katie Hacker led the victorious Titans (1-1) with 19 points and eight rebounds, while teammate Lizzie Stapke added 10 points. MU, which couldn't hold a 28-25 halftime lead, shot only 32 percent from the floor (16-of-50) and was outrebounded 36-30. Alyssa Guerin paced MU with 15 points, while Tabatha Wydryck added nine. Kim Olech (Plymouth) had a team-high eight rebounds.

MU committed 21 turnovers. BETHEL (IND.) 65, MADONNA 64: In the WHAC-MCC Challenge Wednesday, visiting Bethel College (1-1) held on for the victory to spoil the home opener

Madonna (0-3) Brittany Cook hit the game-winning shot, a short jumper in the lane, with seven seconds left. The Crusaders' last gasp effort fell short and MU suffered its second straight one-point loss.

Alyssa Guerin led four Madonna

The No. 10-ranked Madonna University wopmen's volleyball team dropped its regular season finale on Friday night in four sets to host Indiana Tech.

The loss drops MU to 13-1 in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference and 33-4 overall, while No. 15 Tech improves to 13-1 and 29-2. MU and Tech share the regular season title and the Warriors will be the number one seed by virtue of the WHAC's tiebreaking procedure and will host

Lubovj Tihomirova (12) Mary McGinnis (10) led the Crusaders' hitting attack. Setter Inta Grinvalds had 37 assist-to-kills, while Amanda Koszela finished with 19 digs. Megan Fricke also had 11 digs.

Crusaders clinch share

Grinvalds finished with 43 assist-Fuelling racked up 16 kills, six to-kills for the Crusaders, who

improved to 33-3 overall and 13-0 in the WHAC.

Koszela had a team-high 11 digs for MU, which can win the title outright with a win Friday night at Indiana Tech. Kailey Schultz had 11 kills for Davenport (15-25, 6-8), while Autumn Williams added nine. Kayla Vandermolen had 41 assists.







players in double figures with 14 points. while Tabatha Wydryck added 12. Sheryl Jager and Katie Mount each contributed 11 for the Crusaders. Christie Carrico and Kim Olech

grabbed eight boards apiece. Mandy Yoder led Bethel with 21 points, while Amber Peters tallied a double-double with a game-high 21 rebounds to go along with 11 points. Heather Seyfred also scored 17 points.

the WHAC semifinals and finals next weekend in Fort Wayne.

Ashley Hamilton led Tech with 16 kills, while Erika Stouder and Ashtyn Humerickhouse added 15 and 14, respectively.

Michelle Fitzpatrick had 24 digs, while setter Laura Booker finished with 54 assists. Whitney Fuelling (14 kills),

Do you have what it takes to play at the highest level?

while McGinnis added 15 kills

as MU clinched at least a share

of its 12th straight WHAC title

with a 20-25, 25-20, 25-19, 25-

20 triumph Thursday over host

Davenport University. Tihomirova

added nine kills, while setter Inta

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B4 (*) Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, November 9, 2008





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

Sunday, November 9, 2008 The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

Diabetics should get foot checkups

Page B5 (*)

Over 500,000 people across Michigan, 50 percent of them living in southeast Michigan, are battling diabetes and its complications. Staying one step ahead of the disease has never been more important.

More than 60 percent of non-traumatic, lower-limb amputations in the United States occur among people with diabetes. Because of this, the Michigan Podiatric Medical Association has launched "Elect to Save Your Feet" during Diabetes Awareness Month in November. The campaign aims to educate the public about the importance of seeing a podiatrist regularly to prevent diabetic, lower limb amputations.

"Getting your feet examined by a physician during an annual checkup is one of the easiest ways to prevent most foot complications related to diabetes," said Dr. Crystal Holmes, a podiatrist at the University of Michigan Health System and public relations chair of MPMA. "Comprehensive education and early intervention are key factors in the prevention of foot problems in people with diabetes and has the potential to reduce amputations by 45 to 85 percent. Self treatment can often turn a minor problem into a major one."

Those with diabetes are more prone to develop foot infections and wounds/sores,



Marty Figley talks about her struggles with dementia. Figley is the former garden writer for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers.

Could it be dementia?

Screenings first step in diagnosing memory loss

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN **O&E STAFF WRITER**

Marty Figley knew something was wrong when she was having trouble writing her garden column for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers three years ago. Her memory problems have only worsened since retiring.

NATIONAL MEMORY SCREENING DAY

What: Free confidential memory screenings on Tuesday, Nov. 18, to promote early detection of Alzheimer's disease and dementia

When: The Birmingham Maple Clinic has scheduled screenings 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Troy Community Center, 3179 Livernois. For information, call (248) 646-6659. **Botsford Commons Seniors Community, 21450**

Archwood Circle, Farmington Hills, is by appointment only. Call (248) 426-6930.

Where: For a list of locations, visit www.nationalmemoryscreening.org.

find out."

Stromberg is hoping to start therapeutic groups for people with dementias as the aging population continues to grow. Today, Alzheimer's affects about 4.5 million Americans and accounts for 60 percent of dementias.

Figley began seeing Stromberg four months ago when she couldn't stop worrying about everything including dying. When she first received the diagnosis Figley was so depressed she couldn't stop crying.

She's having a tough time because things are not the same," said Lou Figley of his wife who is no longer able to use a computer.

Life has changed not only for Marty but Lou

also called ulcers, which can quickly result in amputation. Preventing amputation means knowing all of the main warning signs.

Other common diabetes warning signs in the feet besides ulcers include a tingling or loss of feeling in the feet, redness, a change in the shape of the feet, loss of hair, cuts and scrapes that are slow to heal.

To download free information on foot care prevention. visit the Michigan Podiatric Medical Association's Web site at www.mpma.org, or visit a local podiatrist.

Figley, who remained popular with Oakland and western Wayne County readers for 18 years, seems lost. She goes back and forth between being able to answer questions coherently and wandering with her thoughts. She still remembers vividly the newspapers' annual tallest sunflower contest, but has trouble getting dressed. This is the same Birmingham woman who used to lead garden clubs on trips all over the United States.

"I was getting tired toward the end of the column and started to say silly things," said Figley.

Lou started noticing something was wrong about the same time as his wife of 54 years. Figley would go to the women's room and become disoriented. She was later diagnosed as having Lewys bodies, a form of dementia that shares characteristics with Alzheimer's and Parkinson's diseases. But Figley isn't hiding the fact. She only hopes her story helps others determine the cause of their

memory loss.

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

On Tuesday, Nov. 18, numerous locations around the area will offer mini mental tests as part of National Memory Screening Day. Ralph Stromberg, mental health therapist at Birmingham Maple Clinic in Troy, says the results are not conclusive but suggest a problem that should be followed up with a physician. Symptoms such as confusion can be caused by a number of diseases including diabetes and thyroid problems.

"Those are things you have to rule out," said Stromberg. "I saw an elderly woman experiencing a lot of anxiety and came in and said her memory wasn't really good. She had a substance abuse problem with alcohol. Are her memory issues associated with alcoholism that could cause destruction of brain cells? That's what we had to

who takes care of her. The two do everything together including attending Alzheimer's support group meetings twice a month. It's important for people with dementia to stay busy. Stromberg encourages her to become more active in her circle at church.

'There are things that can help: music therapy, diet and exercise, therapeutic gardens, acupuncture. The more mental stimulation you provide it could delay advancement of the disease. Life isn't over and there are things that can be done until vou reach a point where you can no longer do it," said Stromberg. "Medications like Aricept, Razadyne, Exelon are used to delay advancement into late stages of the disease which runs three to 10 years. You don't have to think that you're doomed forever and locked in a house."

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NOVEMBER

Stomp out diabetes

Wine Tasting Benefit 7 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 12, at the Radisson Kingsley Hotel in Bloomfield Hills. Guests will enjoy an evening of sampling and socializing all in support of the American Diabetes Association's efforts to prevent and cure

diabetes. For tickets or more information, contact Debbie O'Leary at (888) 342-2383, ext. 6636 or doleary@diabetes.org. Weight Watchers

Angela Hospice will be holding a 12 week Weight Watchers meeting on Thursday mornings 7:30-8:15 a.m. The first meeting, on Nov. 6 was a registration day with the

first official meeting on Nov. 13, in the Day Room. Our motto is "It's about how you live!". Our address is 14100 Newburgh Rd., Livonia, MI 48154. Just north of I-96, east side of Newburgh. For more information call (734) 953-6040. Thyroid & your health 7 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 12, on the 3rd floor

of Livonia Civic Center Library-3rd floor, 32777 Five Mile, between Merriman and Farmington Roads. Seating limited, call (734) 425-8588 to register. For more information, visit www.KariWellnessCenter.com and www.KarlHolisticHealthcare.com. Fibromvalgia workshop

By Dr. Daniel Clauw, director of the Chronic

Pain and Fatigue Research Center at the University of Michigan 1-3 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 13, at Merriman Road Baptist Church, 2055 Merriman, south of Ford Rd., Garden City, For information, contact Lucy Rowley at (734) 462-1768 or lucyrowley23@ hotmail.com. No charge for the workshop presented by the Metro Fibromyalgia &

CFS Support Group. Sharing & Caring

The breast cancer support group present a Vegetable-based diet and cancer with pharmacist Paul Krause of VegMichigan 7-9 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 13, at Beaumont Royal Oak, for more information, Call (248) 551-8586;



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CANTON FROM PAGE B1

Baechler told me at the beginning of the year, 'Todd, tight end is a big deal here, but you're going to be like a glorified tackle. You're going to be blocking a lot.' I said, 'Coach, whatever the team needs, I'll do."

The play Turfe scored on the 27 pass — takes advantage of all the attention the defense has to devote to the Chiefs' running game.

"We high-low the safety on that play," said Turfe. "I went deep and Kiere (Daniels) went low. The safety took Kiere and it left me wide open.

"Somebody's usually open on that play. It's just a matter of making the catch after it's in the air that long.

"Delapaz is a great quarterback. I love that kid. Before the games, we do a little handshake and we talk. I let him know I'm out there for him and that I trust him as our quarterback."

After yielding touchdowns on Saline's first two possessions, Canton's defense went into lock-down mode. Led by Ryan Dunleavy, David Wilcox, Nick Sweda, Bryan Gerst, Justin Sneddon, Alex Dixon and Pat Madish, the Chiefs stoned the Hornets' potent offense from mid-way through the second quarter to the closing moments of the contest when Saline managed a meaningless score with 3:24 left.

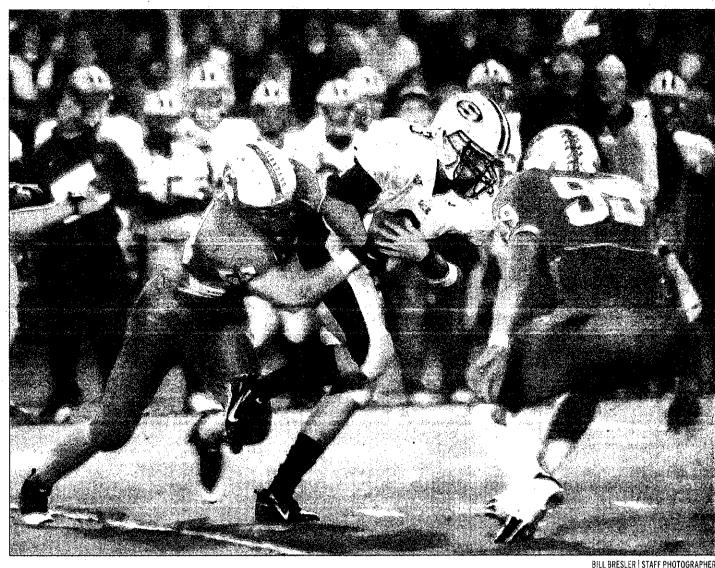
Canton forced three turnovers on a pair of Sweda picks — he now has four in his last three games — and a Sneddon red-zone fumble recovery that snuffed out a Saline drive just before the half.

The Chiefs' biggest stop came on Saline's third drive when they forced a three-andout thanks in large part to a first-down sack of quarterback Nick Moeller by Madish and Dakota Dark-Bird.

"Up until that point, it looked like it was going to be another track meet," said Baechler. "That stop was huge because we scored on our next drive to go up 28-14. The fumble recovery was big too because we were kicking off to them to start the second half."

If you got caught up in pregame traffic, there's a good chance you missed two touchdowns — one by each team in the game's first two minutes and 11 seconds. Canton's came on a 68-yard sprint by Daniels on the third play from scrimmage. Saline answered two plays later on a 5-yard TD run by Travis Owens.

Canton seized a 14-7 lead on



Canton's Pat Madish (left) and Dakota Dark-Bird combine to sack Saline quarterback Nick Moeller during the third quarter of Friday night's Division 1 District final football game.

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a 1-yard plunge by Stackhouse with 58 seconds left in the first quarter. Saline knotted things up at 14-all on a 27-yard run by Moeller with 8:41 remaining in the half.

Moeller's run turned out to be the last hurrah for Saline, which was outscored 28-0 over the ensuing 29 minutes. The Chiefs' final four TDs were the result of three Stackhouse scoring runs (from 53, 86 and 8 yards out) and the Delapaz-

to-Turfe hook-up. Saline's final touchdown came on a 17-yard TD pass from Moeller to Evan Kourtijian. . The Hornets gained 394

total yards. Daniels complemented

Stackhouse's big night with 133 yards of his own on 13 attempts. Junior fullback Adam Payter picked up 53 yards on 10 carries and Delapaz notched 47 on six

runs. Canton dominated time of possession, 29:19 to 18:36. Chief senior kicker Daniel Stoney nailed all six of his extra-point attempts.

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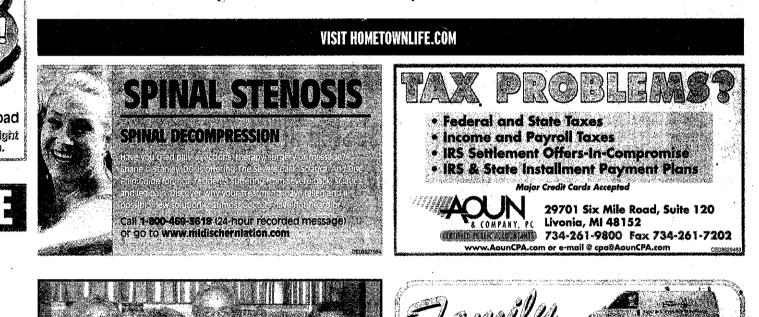
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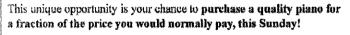
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PIANO SA

During the past academic year, the Department of Music has been using new planos through an ongoing loan arrangement with the Kawai Plano Company. The sale selection includes grand, player grand, vertical and digital planos. This special event will also feature a limited number of new and used planos from Yamaha, Steiaway and more.



isit us online at hometownlife.com

HOMETOWN

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



Schoolcraft College student Michelle Dean designed the cover for the **Plymouth Canton Symphony Society** children's CD. Special quests at the CD release were the Livonia Youth Choir directed by Ariel Toews, and the Dearborn Elementary and Middle School Honors Choirs, director James Walter.

CD event brought magical tales to life

usic brings joy to all ages and nowhere was that more true than at a CD release party for the Plymouth Canton Symphony Society's Magical Tunes & Marvelous Tales on Nov. 1, at the Penn Theatre. Moms, dads and kids squealed with delight as conductor Nan Washburn led them through one of the songs that introduces orchestral instruments:

The CD is a dream come true for Washburn, now in her 10th season as conductor of the Plymouth Symphony Orchestra, one of the many facets of Plymouth Canton Symphony Society programming. She first came up with idea for the children's CD 12 years ago after commissioning Island of



Washburn. "It's all music I've taken to schools over the years Linda Chomin

and was thinking why wasn't this recorded," said Washburn, "This is music kids love,"

the Blue Dolphins for a

California orchestra she

time. All of the music on

the recording was written by composer friends of

was conducting at the

Washburn gathered members of the PSO's Celebration Youth Orchestra and Flute Choir to perform a few of the selections recorded by the musicians of the Studio Orchestra of the Plymouth

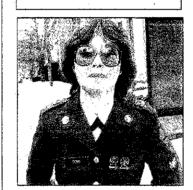
Celebrating **Veterans Day**

with stories A few weeks ago, the **Observer & Eccentric** Newspapers invited veterans to share their photos and stories of military service, in celebration of Veterans Day on Tuesday, Nov. 11.

We received an overwhelming response. Many described near-death experiences in battle. Others spoke of war-time romance. We even heard from a husband and wife, Victor and Lorraine Waling of Livonia, who both served from 1944-46. He was a sailor and she served in the Women's Army Corps. Although their stories may differ, The Walings and their fellow veterans share a common bond as veterans and a mutual love of country.

What better way to celebrate their service than to read about it in their own words?

- Sharon Dargay, O&E staff writer



Cheryl A. Vatcher-Martin of Canton in uniform during the early 1980s.



Richard Burr (left) of Redford in Korea



Sunday, November 9, 2008

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

www.hometownlife.com

Today Richard Burr of Redford enjoys playing golf.

Stationed in Korea

The picture by the monument was taken in January 1952 at the 38th Parallel on the road to Seoul, South Korea. I was driving the soldier on the right back to Seoul so that he could return to the States on an emergency leave due to a serious illness of his father.

The monument marks the spot on were the war started on the 38th which was the dividing line between the North and South Korea. We were stationed 30 miles north of the 38th with the 45th Army Division, 189th Field Artillery by Pork Chop, Old Baldy and T-Bone hills.

> Richard Burr Redford



From legal

Symphony Society in Stockmeyer Auditorium in Wayne Memorial High School. Afterward, the Plymouth Uptown Players acted out Jack and the Beanstalk, one of the selections on the CD that tells the classic tale through music and narration. The PSO plays several of the pieces every year for fourth-grade students in Plymouth-Canton and Wayne-Westland schools as part of their Koncert for Kids to introduce children to classical music.

"The music is all contemporary American composers, something that's been a trademark for our orchestra," said PSO executive director Beth Stewart. "There's always a contemporary American composer on each of our season programs.

The recording was done by students at Schoolcraft College. It was a great learning experience for them. It was a great collaboration to work with Schoolcraft. The graphic design class designed the whole thing and did a phenomenal job. The cover is just beautiful."

It's good to see not only the college but arts organization in the community collaborating. Saturdays @ the Penn is a joint venture of the Plymouth Community Arts Council and Plymouth Canton Symphony Society to present variety shows for families at noon on the first Saturday of the month at the Penn Theatre in Plymouth. Washburn and the PSO return Jan. 3, 2009, for a show spotlighting guest performances by Josh White Jr. and Jake Maloney, the Yo Yo Guy. Dec. 6 features Beverly Meyer, The Music Lady, and Josh & Roy, a comedy juggling act. Special musical host for Feb. 7, 2009, and March 7, 2009, when the PSO return once again, is Guy Louis and Chautauqua Express. The oneman band had kids dancing in the aisles for the CD release. The series is a continuation of the arts council's Music in the Park held at noon Wednesdays throughout the summer. Tickets are only \$3 to make shows affordable.

"Today is special because the CD is created locally," said Deb Madonna, Music in the Park artistic director. "How many kids get to see something like this?"

Magical Tunes & Marvelous Tales costs \$15 and is available by calling (734) 451-2112 or at www.plymouthsymphony.org.

For more information about Saturdays @ the Penn, visit www.PennSaturdays. com.

Linda Ann Chomin is the health and community life reporter for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. She can be reached at (734) 953-2145 or by e-mail at Ichomin@hometownlife.com.

assistant to teacher

I was fortunate to have garnered a multitude of military occupational specialties during the time I served in the military. Working in the Judge Advocate General's Corp as a legal assistant was fulfilling. I enjoyed training my peers on various aspects of being a legal assistant and soldier.

In a way, the military prepared me for the work that I would perform as a civilian, too. It was during the early 1990s when I was asked by one of my superiors who was a practicing attorney and an officer in the Army Reserves to train the legal staff on the finer aspects of common tasks that were performed with weapons and the setting up of landmines. To this day I am still not sure why I was asked to perform the training class, but it went exceptionally well and of course I've been teaching ever since! I was also honored to go to the National Archives in Washington, D.C. to provide research materials for a story honoring World War II heroes from the 70th Training Division that was written and published in the early 1990s. This fueled my desire to write and research everything!

> Cheryl A. Vatcher-Martin, M.A. Ret. Army Sergeant, Canton



Cheryl A. Vatcher- Martin of Canton wearing a DAV Commander's cap last year.



Sam J. Gagliano while in the U.S. Navy Old uniform still fits

I was 16 years old and living in Birmingham, Ala., when Pearl Harbor was bombed. I knew right away that I wanted to fight for my country, so I quit school:

In June 1943 I joined the U.S. Navy as part of a Navy Amphibious Land Unit called ACORN 34 and was stationed at Clark Field Air Base in Manila.

I also participated in the Philippine Liberation in the Lingayen Gulf of Luzon.

The ships I served on were the USS Pocomoke and two destroyers, the USS John Weeks and the USS Hanesworth. In 1946 I received an honorable discharge as an Electrician's Mate Third Class, but still continued to serve in the Navy.

On June 12, 2002, Dan Willenborg, principal of Livonia Franklin High School, presented me with an honorary high school

Sam J. Gagliano of Westland shows off his military photo.

diploma. My wife and I were also invited to the Senior Prom.

My grandson Jason J. Forster DCFN is currently in the U.S. Navy assigned to the USS Boone. In January 2007 I flew to San Juan, Puerto Rico and boarded his ship. From there I was able to sail for three days with the sailors to Mayport, Fla., where the ship is docked. Surprisingly, my uniform still fit!

I recently went to Washington D.C. to visit the World War II Memorial. There, I was greeted and saluted by many tourists and thanked for serving my country. I am now a lifetime member of the Stanley Romanowski VFW Post 6896. My wife Rosalie and I are residents of Westland.

> Sam J. Gagliano Westland



Samuel Laswell of Redford boards a C-141 cargo 4 jet engine aircraft.

I served in the Air Force from 1966 to 1970, the most heated time of the Vietnam War. I was drafted just seven days after my wife and I were married. Because of a technicality, I was able to enlist for four years in the Air Force instead. My duty was mainly

at Elmendorf AFB, Ark., where I serviced C-141 cargo aircraft, bound for Vietnam. Many planes carried troops who eventually fought there. Many planes returning from Vietnam were either "Med-Evac" flights taking wounded soldiers to stateside hospitals for further care, or sadly, flights carrying the bodies of those men and women who died there. It was my goal to do my best as a technician

and not hinder in any way the journey of those soldiers so that as many as possible would one day return safely home, or if that were not possible, to assist their jour-



Samuel Laswell of Redford

ney to their final resting place.

My wife didn't learn about my experience seeing their bodies return until just recently. I don't know why I didn't tell her sooner, but found some freedom from those hard memories when I finally shared them with her.

> Samuel Laswell Sergeant E-4, Honorably Discharged Redford

For more stories from local veterans, see Pages C2, C3, and C4.

VETERANS



Paul Speen of Garden City

On March 2, 1953, I was drafted into the army at the ripe old age of 19 years old. I had to be at Fort Wayne on West Jefferson at 7 a.m., where I was sworn in. After a couple of days there we were bused to Camp Custer in Battle Creek, issued our clothing, given G.I. haircuts and our first army pay, called "Flying Twenty."

After a few days there we were flown to Georgia and bused to Camp Steward, Ga. Now called Fort Steward, we were put into the 549th AAA Gun Battalion and trained on 90 mm anti-aircraft guns.

After basic training in August 1953, we were told we were shipping out, put on a train and traveled to Camp Kilmor, N.J., where we were given shots, issued heavy win-



Paul Speen sets up a gun site in August 1953 in Thule, Greenland.

ter clothing and taken down to the harbor where we boarded a troop ship and were told we were headed for the Arctic, a place called Thule in North Western Greenland. This was the height of the cold war when Russia was known as the Iron Curtain and the Red Menace and the U.S. Air Force was building a huge air base in Thule and it was being built in complete secrecy.

The plan was to have an air base closer to Russia in case hostilities broke out between us and Russia and we were sent to Thule to set up our gun sites and provide defense for the air base in case that happened. It was quite an adventure for a 19-year-old and I served with a

Paul A, Speen Garden City

bunch of really great guys.

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Arthritis Today

JOSEPH J. WEISS, M.D. RHEUMATOLOGY 18829 Farmington Road Livonia, Michigan 48152 Phone: (248) 478-7860

WINTER & ARTHRITIS

Winter in Michigan is difficult for anyone in Michigan with arthritis. Foremost among the problems are the hazardous conditions that include cold, short days with light lessened by clouds and slippery conditions on stairs, walks and streets

Walking is an activity done by the whole body; in a Michigan winter, a person with arthritis of hips, knee or feet is obviously at risk for a fall. However, an individual with arthritis in a shoulder, wrist, or hand also takes on an additional hazard. Pain or weakness in an upper limb makes righting after a slip difficult as the body reacts to protest the impaired joint even if it means a more severe fall.

Winter brings on the need for heavy coats that have extra buttons, boots with their extra laces, and greater weight, gioves or mittens that may not fit properly in arthritic and displaced fingers, and prolonged sitting in cars because of slower speeds and winter induced traffic jams. Often, a person with arthritis is able to function well as long as he or she places no added strain on the joints. The extra work of self care that winter brings adds a stress that the joints do not bear well.

The lack of sunshine and the gloom of winter take a toll. For all of us this time of year is hard psychologically. For someone with arthritis, the sense of difficulty becomes deepened because the physical problems are at their worse.

www.dr]jweiss.yourmd.com

Arctic duty during the Cold War From driving dignitaries to supplies

Uncle Sam called him in March 5, 1941.

He was at Selfridge Air Force Base and drove dignitaries around in Michigan. When war broke out he

was put on the Elery P. Niles boat to plant mines in the mouth of the Columbia River.

Then he was sent to Wake Island.

He was still on the ship when it fell.

He was 42 days in the ship and sent out to New Caledonia where he was a truck driver from depot to warehouse. From there he went to California to be rehabilitated. From there we went to

Columbus, Ohio and was discharged. He has a memory disorder.



He would never talk about the war except the fun he and his buddles had. He did say that at night they could see the bombs

bursting and they had alarms going off.



Angelo Gatteri of Westland during WW II

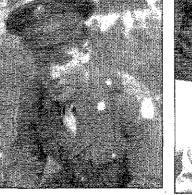
Angelo Gatteri, 90, of Westland Submitted by his wife, Margaret

Survived deadly storm at sea

I went into the army from the upper peninsula, Calumet, in 1943 in Aircraft Battalion 391 AAA Division. I was in the infantry sta-

tioned at France, Belgium, Normandy and Germany. We landed on the beaches of Normandy in France. I was in charge of a 40 mm gun. Our job was to sight German planes to protect our troops that were landing on the beaches.

In Germany I was a guard



Richard Webb of Garden City during WW II

for the prisoners there and I was hand-cuffed to Rudolf Hitler for 24 hours. Hitler's mistress. Eva Braun, was also a prisoner there in a cell.

On our return home from Germany our transport ship, which is smaller than a war ship that we were supposed to return on, had no room for us, so we sailed on the transport ship. We had a terrible storm and our ship rolled over to a 45-degree roll and just shook. Then, thank God a wave rolled us upright again. The front of the ship's hangar doors caved in and many lives were lost.



Richard Webb of Garden City

We turned around and limped to the Azzar's Island for repairs. We stayed together there for two weeks with very little food. After the repairs were made we left the Azzar's Island and arrived in New York harbor in 1946 on New Year's Dav.

A band was playing to t welcome us home from our near-death experience. The Salvation Army fed us and gave us cigarettes for free. We were very happy to return to our families.

Richard James Webb, age 86 Garden City





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VETERANS

I was living on the west side of

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, November 9, 2008

Proud to have served

I am a Vietnam Veteran. In 1965 I volunteered for the draft and was inducted into the U.S. Army.

In 1966, at the age of 20 I was sent to Vietnam with the 863rd Transportation Co. to serve a 12-month tour.

Our duty was to supply our infantry with the supplies they need to fight the enemy. Even though it was an unpopular war I was proud to serve my country and would do it again in a heart beat.

I am a life member of the Mayflower Lt. Gamble VFW Post #6695 in Plymouth. I am also a member of the VVA (Vietnam Veterans of America) Plymouth-Canton Chapter# 528.

Our Motto: Never again will one generation of veterans abandon another.

734.455.5560



during the Vietnam War



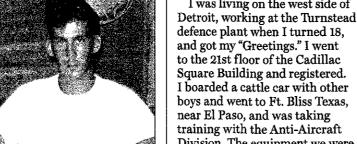
Tim Curtis today with his daughters Timothy L. Curtis Cammie Hills (left) and Kerri Plymouth Township Nessinger, both of Danvers, Mass.

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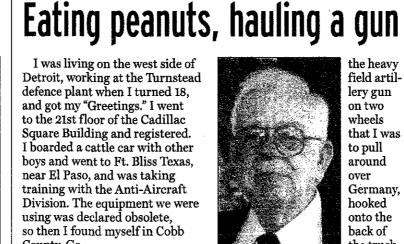
Timothy Curtis of Plymouth Township

to the 21st floor of the Cadillac Square Building and registered. I boarded a cattle car with other boys and went to Ft. Bliss Texas, near El Paso, and was taking

training with the Anti-Aircraft Division. The equipment we were using was declared obsolete, so then I found myself in Cobb County, Ga. A bunch of nearby young people

were having a "peanut boiling" and invited all us boys. We had a good time. That was my first time eating boiled peanuts and learned to love them and have bought more several times later.

From Cobb County, Ga., I went by train to New York and joined a heavy field artillery battalion and was loaded on a ship headed for LaHarve France. I had never seen

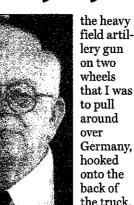


that I was to pull around over Germany, hooked onto the back of the truck.

Fred E. Raper of Westland loading onto the ship,

it took about 10 days to get to France. I was so sea sick! For days I was so sick. I had some close calls in Germany, but I didn't get hurt.

Fred E. Raper Westland



After

Evert Myers at age 19, with his future wife, Loleta, 17.

Evert and Loleta Myers

In 1943 through 1946, I served three years in the navy on the destroyer escort, "USS Cocktrill."

Wartime sweethearts

are still married

I was a 2nd class petty officer and traveled to various ports around the world, writing letters to the girl back home. Now, on Nov. 8, 2008, I have 64 years of marriage to the girl I wrote to. And...I'm still 2nd class.

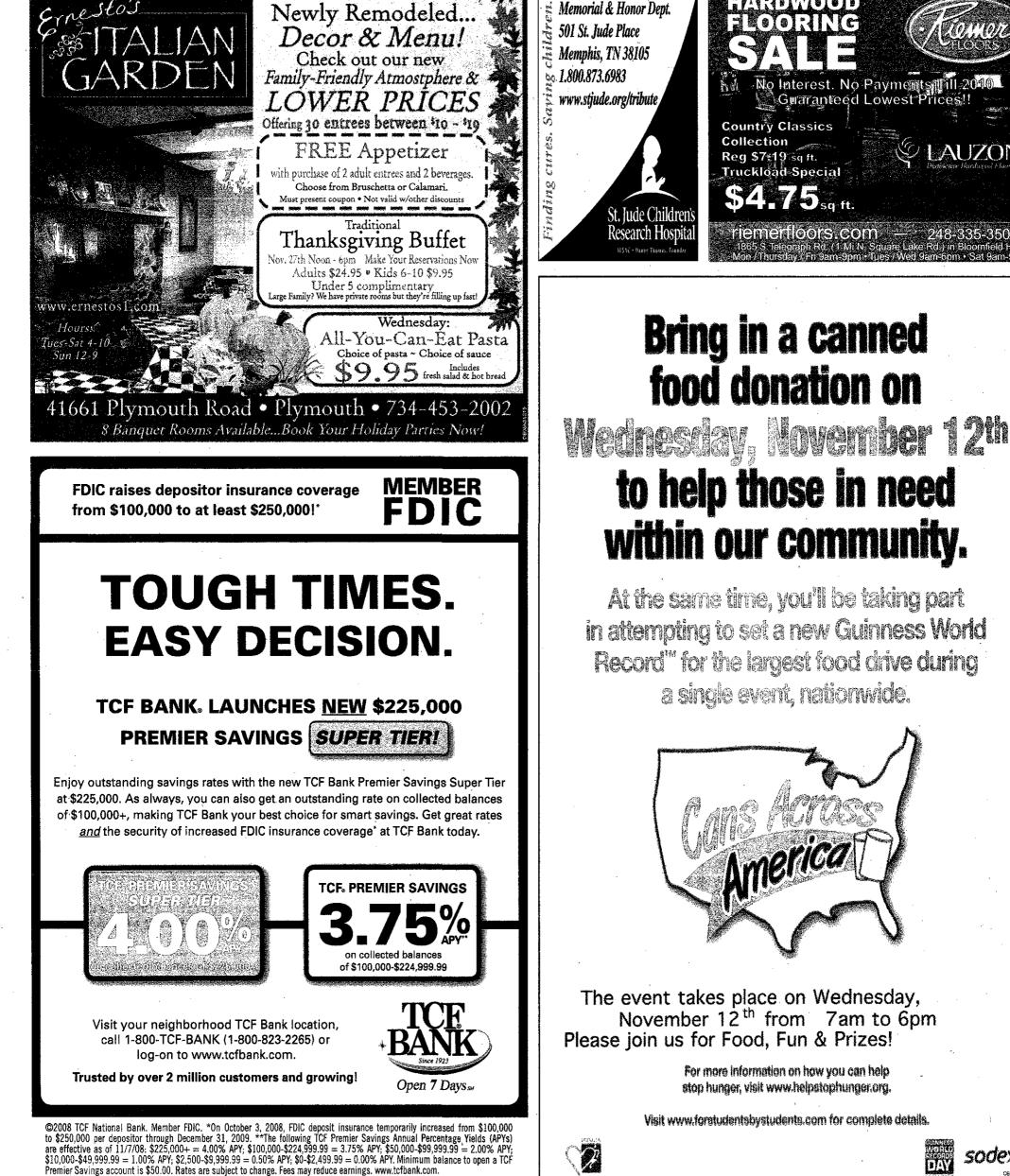
Evert Myers, Garden City

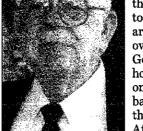
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DAV







· C3 (*)

VETERANS

Band of brothers takes final mission BY CHRIS KASSEL DEVCHRIS KASSEL DEVCHRIS

C4

(*)

SPECIAL WRITER

Sixty-five years ago, a four-engine B-17 Flying Fortress rumbled into cloudy skies above England, headed for a dangerous raid over Nazi Germany. It was the third mission for Fred Reichel, a young Michigan co-pilot with the 8th Air Force, and it proved to be his last.

Ambushed an hour later by enemy Focke-Wulf fighter planes - among the most lethal aircraft in the Luftwaffe's arsenal - the B-17 lost engines one by one to Nazi machine gun fire until, at 19,000 feet, behind enemy lines, Reichel bailed out. A young German boy found him in a stand of trees a hundred miles east of Berlin and told him simply, "For you, G.I., the war is over.'

The boy was only partially right. Reichel, who spent the next 16 months as a prisoner of war, has memories of the dogfight and his terrifying parachute drop that linger to this day.

Yet on Sept. 26, Reichel again hauled himself into the polished fuselage of a Boeing B-17 and prepared for takeoff. Along with four of his fellow 'flyboys' - a colloquial term for World War II pilots and their crewman - Reichel embarked on what may be his final flight aboard the classic aircraft, which was massproduced throughout the war at Ford's Willow Run assembly plant.

The one that sputtered to life in September was the Yankee Lady, a meticulously restored B-17G now residing at Willow Run Airport's Yankee Air Museum. Said to be the finest example of this particular model still flying, the Yankee Lady was used in the film Tora, Tora, Tora and has a history in many ways as fascinating as the men who piloted her.

DYING GENERATION

Reichel, of Rochester Hills, was one of them, a distinction shared by fewer and fewer living men. Now 85, he is candid about the realities facing his comrades, aging veterans of the deadliest and most widespread conflict in human history. Reichel notes wistfully: "Our ranks are being thinned by time -- we're losing World War II veterans at a rate of nearly 1,500 a month."

The impromptu flight was arranged by Nate Strong, a frequent companion of the retired flyboys at the reunion lunches they hold twice monthly at local diners, usually Jimi's in Royal Oak.



Fred Nunnold) (left) Fred Reichel, Burt Miner, George Lietziau, and Robert Stachel gather beneath the vintage bomber following their reunion flight.

As the muscular bomber left the runway and circled Ann Arbor, buzzing the Big House, Michigan Theatre and the U of M campus, reactions from the men ranged from howls of pleasure over the roar of the supercharged engines (nicknamed "bird-shredders") to murmurs of remembrance for fallen comrades.

But for the most part, the group remained impassive and quiet, lost in introspection, running their hands over the Yankee Lady's superstructures, her radio equipment and authentic armaments, including .50 caliber machine guns that looked oiled and ready for combat. Sons of simple but productive men, this particular group of veterans survived the war, came home to Detroit and went on to lead simple, productive lives. In many ways, they are still trying to absorb the magnitude and significance of their wartime experience.

After the flight, the sense of quietude lingered. When asked if his victory lap in the Yankee Lady had lived up to expectations, Burt Miner said simply, "Any flight you walk away from is worth it."

A subdued chorus of 'amens' rose from the rest of the group. On board the plane and in the moments that followed, it made sense to give them space, to allow them to reminisce in whatever way they chose, as the next generation accepts the sad fact that they may not have many of these moments left.

Kassel captured the flight in documentary form. "Detroit's Greatest Generation," a Visionalist Entertainment production, will air on WXYZ-TV in 2009.

Post member

My mom grew up in Wayne and was a graduate of Wayne High Class of 1951. After high school she decided to join the air force and was stationed in Mississippi.

While in the air force she specialized in radio communications, got married and was honorably discharged in 1953.

In the late 1950s, Gracia moved back to Michigan as a single parent and moved to Garden City in 1964. Here she raised her family and was involved in the community. As a veteran of the Korean War, my mom became the first woman veteran to join the Wayne Amvet Post 171. She was very active in the Post and also

earned her lifetime member-

ship.

Gracia Vivian Anderson Yankasky 1933-1977 Submitted by her daughter, Deanne Jo Dowell

Following in his mom's footsteps

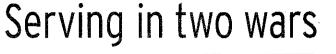
and attended Garden City West Senior High School.

In his senior year (1981) he chose to join the navy and to follow in his mother's footsteps as a military family. He was stationed at Great Lakes Naval Base in Chicago, Ill., and then sent to Charleston, S.C. to serve on the U.S.S. Benjamin Franklin Nuclear Warhead Submarine.

While in the navy he attended school and his interests were electronics and cooking. He was honorably discharged in 1987.

Currently Doug lives in southern Michigan and stays in touch with his family, which still lives in Garden City.

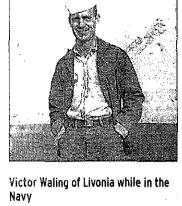
> Douglas John Yankasky Submitted by his sister Deanne Jo Dowell

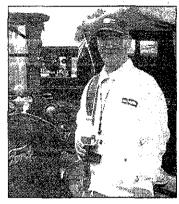


WWll from May 29, 1944 until March 28, 1946. I had basic training at Great Lakes Naval Station, then served aboard the USS Baltimore, a heavy cruiser. It was in the task force out in the Pacific. I was assigned as an alternate to go on the USS Indianapolis, but lucky for me the sailor arrived whose place I was to take. The ship went down with all members lost. What a tragedy.

Three of my brothers were in defense work and didn't have to go to war and one of them worked on the Atomic bomb out west.

I joined the Naval reserves and then was called to duty in the Korean War. Had to serve there from August 1950 until December 1951 aboard the USS Bryce Canyon. It was a repair ship. We would make parts for other ships that become disabled. I achieved the rank of Machinist First Class.





Victor Waling of Livonia Livonia

Making long-lasting friendships

Victor Waling

I enlisted in the WACs in December 1944 and was discharged in August 1946. Going on the train to basic training one girl was crying and I thought, didn't you know what you were getting into?

During basic training at Fort Des Moines, Iowa, I had clerk typist training and then I was sent to Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio, Texas and worked at the Brooke Army Medical Center. I lived in a brand new barracks.

I became friends with the secretary of the Chief of Surgical Department and even went to her 50th wedding anniversary in San Antonio. To this day I still correspond with one of the WAC friends, Violet Seaman, who lives in Phoenix, Ariz. Many of the other girls have passed away.

It was a time in my life that I will always remember. Cleaning the barracks, exercising and parading was something we all had to do. I am married and have five children, five grandchildren and one great-granddaughter.

Lorraine (Glowczewski) Waling



Lorraine Waling of Livonia served in the Women's Army Corps.



Livonia Lorraine Waling of Livonia

Injured while on tank

I served in the 3rd Armored Division in WW ll.

Upon completion of my basic training and having arrived in France,

I entered combat in Ardennes-Alsace on Jan. 15, 1945 and then went to the Rhineland about March 2, 1945 and continued to central Europe on March 22, 1945-April 13, 1945.

I was on top of a tank where I was hit on my left shoulder by a 90 mm shell fragment from a German Howitzer that hit the tank. During advancement we

from Berlin.

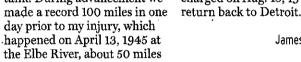
After a short stay in the hospital, I then was sent to Paris, France to a general hospital for a couple of months. After Germany surrendered and I was released from the hospital, I then served my remainder tour of duty in the Army of Occupation. On Aug. 1, 1946, I completed my tour overseas and went aboard a troop ship named George Washington to return back to New York harbor and then I went by train to Ft. Sheridan, Ill., to be discharged on Aug. 18, 1946 and



James L. Worpell of Westland



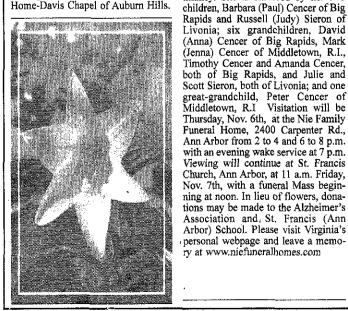
Doug grew up in Garden City



James L. Worpell James L. Worpell of Westland during Westland WW II



ALFRED R. JENSEN Died November 5, 2008, at William Beaumont Hospital, Royal Oak, at the age of 90, following a long illness. Mr. Jensen was a resident of Pontiac, and a former 46 year resident of Birmingham. He is the retired owner of Lynd Gear of Rochester and Dolphin Engineering of Fraser. He is a former longtime member of the Birmingham Country Club and the Detroit Golf Club and a lifetime member of the Masonic Lodge #2 of Detroit. He is survived by his wife Jane of 55 years and three children: Daniel S. Jensen (Lissa) of Chapel Hill, NC, Nancy Johnson (Patrick) of Birmingham, MI and Susan Vandegriff (Jay) of Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. Grandfather of eight: Sam, Sarah Jane, and Elizabeth Jensen of Chapel, NC, Patrick, Kelsey and Michael Johnson of Birmingham, MI and Megan and Hunter Vandegriff of Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. Services were private. Contributions to Beaumont Hospice would be appreciated. Arrangements by Pixley Funeral Home-Davis Chapel of Auburn Hills.



e-mail: oeobits@hometownllfe.com View Obits On-Inc@www.hometownlife.com AUDREY "VIRGINIA" (FENLON) SIERON NANCY MARIE SLAYTON Age 83, of Livonia. Passed away Friday, Oct. 31, 2008. Born April 19, 1925, in Iron Mountain, she was the daughter of Della and Peter Fenlon and grew up in Gaastra. She graduated from Stambaugh High School in 1943 and moved to Flint where she worked with Rosie the Riveter at AC Sparkplugs for the balance of World War II. In 1945 she moved to Milwaukee, where her love of dancing occasioned the meeting of Erwin Sieron. They were married April 29, 1950. After their marriage, they traveled for three years with Erwin's job before settling in Baltimore. While living in Baltimore the couple welcomed a daughter, Barbara, and a son, Russell to their family. In 1963 they relocated again to Pasadena, Calif. Continuing to chase the space race, they moved to Ann Arbor in 1964. They were active members of St.

Francis Catholic Church and School.

In 1983 business changes necessitated

a move to Jacksonville, Fla., where

they lived until Erwin's death earlier

this year. Since then she has lived in

Livonia, close to her son Russell and

his family. She is predeceased by her husband, Erwin; her parents; and a brother, Raymond, who died in his

infancy. She is survived by her two

(Anna) Cencer of Big Rapids, Mark

(Jenna) Cencer of Middletown, R.I.,

Timothy Cencer and Amanda Cencer,

with an evening wake service at 7 p.m.

ry at www.niefuneralhomes.com

November 5, 2008. Age 71. Born on March 25, 1937 in Escanaba, MI. Beloved mother of David Patrick (Andrea) Slayton. Dear grandmother of David Paul Slayton and Sonya (Ryan) Parry. Visitation Sunday 1 p.m. p.m. at Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 280 South Main Street, Plymouth. Visitation will continue on Monday from 10 a.m. until time of Mass at 10:30 a.m. from Our Lady of Counsel Catholic Church, 47650 North Territorial Road at Beck Road, Plymouth. Scripture Service Sunday 7 p.m. at the funeral home. Contributions suggested to Angela Hospice. Share your special memories and thoughts at schrader-howell.com



obituary are published at no cost. All additional lines will be charged at \$4 per line. You may place a picture of your loved one for an additional cost of only \$6. Symbolic emblems may be included at no cost (example: American Flags, religious symbols, etc.)

Deadlines: Friday 4:15 PM for Sunday Wednesday 9:45 AM for Thursday

Obituaries received after these deadlines will be placed in the next available issue.

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Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, November 9, 2008 (*) C5

NOT YOURSELF? CONSIDER THE POSSIBILITIES



The coming flu season makes people aware of aches, pains and then some, but any time of year you bv just might not feel up Mildred L. to par. You might Culp have sick building syndrome without knowing it. Then

there's the possibility that upheaval in some workplaces, regardless of its source, is throwing you off-balance. How can you untangle the threads so you can decide what to do?

Discomfort undermines your productivity. According to a survey conducted by the Yankelovich firm for insurer CIGNA, headquartered in Philadelphia, in the last six months, 61 percent of 1,147 working adults, 18 or older, went to work not fully focused on their work, because they were sick or distracted by a problem. They averaged 6.9 days in a six-month period -- more than one day of "presenteeism" per month. A full 62 percent of that group reported that their productivity was down, while almost the same number -- 61 percent -expressed concern that co-workers knew. Approach your

OFFICE BUILDINGS

Building biologist Lisa Beres, CEO of Green Nest L.L.C., in Irvine, Calif., says that if your symptoms --headaches, nausea, and irritation of the ear, nose and throat -- occur in your building at work, they could be coming from sick building syndrome. She lists a number of potential causes, individually or in groups: indoor air, building material, furniture, fabrics, finishes, carpentry, paint, copiers and printers. If symptoms dissipate after you've been outside for a while, go public.

"Find out whether other people are feeling the same way," Beres advises. "If 20 percent of occupants are experiencing it, it can be sick building syndrome." Her company sells air and test kits if you want to continue on your own before alerting HR or Facility Management, who might then contract with an environmental inspector.

JUST YOU If your research leads you to conclude that there's something in your life that's making you less productive, you don't need to set an appointment with a psychologist or psychiatrist.

Psychologist and physical therapist Elizabeth Lombardo, whose private practice is in Pittsburgh, says that much of her work helps individual and corporate clients enhance their wellness. "Our society thinks

People get tested, maintaining that they're not making this up, that (not feeling good) is really biological." She points out that that's not always the case, and there's something you can do about it. Look for negative, unrealistic and unhelpful thinking:

-- "Take ten minutes to write down or speak into a tape recorder what's going on in your mind, all that's stressing you out," she recommends, "because we're often unaware of what we're thinking. If your boss is the problem, what exactly is it about your boss?

-- Return to the task when you're feeling less stressed to look for distortions in what you wrote or said. You might be "fortune-telling, predicting the future negatively, or catastrophizing, thinking that your boss will fire you and your family will be homeless, Lombardo states. These types of thought patterns can cause anxiety.

-- In their place, develop a thought that is accurate and helpful but not Pollyannaish. Slip it in.

-- Finally, she suggests, "Do something about it." You don't have to do all of this alone. Lombardo mentions that when you've identified what's really bothering you, such as your boss, you can do a reality check with a co-worker. Check to see if your distorted thoughts are a figment of your imagination, that your boss is out to get you and no one else. You have your

Many "Press On," Go to Work Anyway last under two trivids refers of establiquess werns its work in the last six months even straigh they we take or had to deal with some other issue their allenant or innu 1936th turnes in the last six insuchs 6.9

evervone.

If you eliminate sick building syndrome and distorted thinking from the list of possibilities, you might well have a physical ailment. Keep going to work without doing something about it and watch your productivity continue to fall.

(Dr. Mildred L. Culp is an award-winning journalist. E-mail your questions to



77 TEAMOR EH?

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www.hometownlife.com C6 (*) Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, November 9, 2008 Careerbuilder.com Help Wanted-Office Clerical Help Wanted-Office Clerical Help Wanted Part-Time Help Wanted-Medical 5060 Help Wanted-General 5000 5020 Help Wanted-Medical (5060) 5200 Help Wanted-General 5000 Help Wanted-General 5000 Help Wanted-General 5000 5020) SOCIAL WORKER Office Manager, RNs, LPNs, PTs, OTs & Medical Biller ACCOUNTING CLERK/ SUPPORT STAFF PERSON AVON REP **Medical Receptionists RECEPTIONIST, Part-Time** AVUN HEF CAREER OPPORTUNITIES! Needed now! Call Dist. Mgr. 866-838-AVON (2866) FRONT DESK STAFF, F/T **RETAIL OUTLET FOR** Wanted for Farmington Hills behavioral science office. Mature, organized, self-starter Mon-Fri. for insurance agency in Farmington. Mature, GI exp. preferred. Farmington Hills area. FOX RUN For a Livonia Accounting/Tax Firm. 25-40 hrs/wk. \$9-\$11 **MATTRESS SALES** Needed for home visits TAX PREPARER one of Michigan's premier life care retirement communities located in Novi, MI. has an 248-968-9714 is looking for a self-motivated Sales Person with Proticient with Microsoft Fax resume to: 248-471-8904 needed to handle appt sched-uling, payments and phone. Must be computer literate. Growing Accounting and Medical Billing outsourcing firm in Commerce Twp. seeks an experienced Tax Preparer an hr. Data entry, bank recon-ciliations & misc. support or fax resume: 248-968-9715 Office & database. \$10/hr. Help Wanted-Domestic 5240 some computer skills. Email resume: **OPTICIAN** Infinity Primary Care exciting opportunity for an experienced LTC Social Worker staff duties. recept@raiderdennis.com Experience is preferred Apply in person Nov. 12 & 13, noon-6pm at: 37895 Ann Arbor Rd. One FT pos. with benefits, one vww.infinityprimarycare.con ABO Certified Non-commission salary **Besidential Housekeeper** For growing ophthalmology practice in Farmington Hills, PT pos. (no benefits). Fax resume to 248-540-7058 from 9am-3pm M-F only. position + bonuses. 401 in the field of gerontology. Must possess knowledge with •Minimum Data Set and (personal/corporate) to handle a wide variety of clients. in Livonia is looking for an Gardner/Handyman, Cook RN/LPN with strong office Help Wanted-Dental 5040 insurance & vacation 3 positions. Exp. refs. Non-smoking. 800-436-2193 is offered after 90 days. Candidate should be able to Qualified applicants must have setting experience. BOOKKEEPER •The physical, social, 3-5 years of recent CPA firm **Comprehensive Benefits** easily adapt & take a leader Please email resume to: DENTAL ASSISTANT tax preparation experience, proficiency through trial bal-ance and financial statements. Walled Lake area, part-time, 5 ship role in day to day optical operations. Email resume & tony@us-mattress.net Package! emotional & psychological well-being of older adults days, 25 hrs/wk. Flexible schedule (possible FT). Must know Peachtree, Excel, Part-Time for Farmington Position Wanted (5340) Resumes please: area. Must be personable. Fax resume: (248) 474-0052 salary requirements to: careers@incmd.com or fax This is a full time position with excellent benefits. Qualified applicants may send a resume nometownlife.com Discharge planning I WILL CARE FOR YOUR LOVED ONE Exp., References. Avail 24 hours. Affordable price. 248-446-1729 734-853-4900 duca@msn.com Assessments
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Pay negotiable. 714-326-3471 for Part-Time &/or ihacares.com Detailed information & Contingent hours or apply online at application procedures Call: (248) 583-1010 www.lhacares.com available at www.hfcc.edu PERSONAL/ Deadline for application **CLINICAL SUPERVISOR &** PROFESSIONAL Friday., Nov. 28, 2008 EOE **Medical Assistant** RN's for HOME CARE ASSISTANT innacle Senior Care, Novi Plastic Surgeons office Busy professional seeks seeks friendly, motivated, hardworking, FT-PT, experi-Medicare certified home an intelligent, sophisticated health agency with 7 offices assistant to help make life **KITCHEN MANAGER** in Michigan, is seeking a full time Clinical Supervisor for easier. Must have excellent enced certified medical organizational, administra assistant, for Front/Back DUNK N DOGS Self Serve Pet Wash and Doggie Day Care it's Lansing office and Canton area. Experienced tive, verbal, and writter PRN/Contingent RN's to cover the Brighton & Lansing areas. 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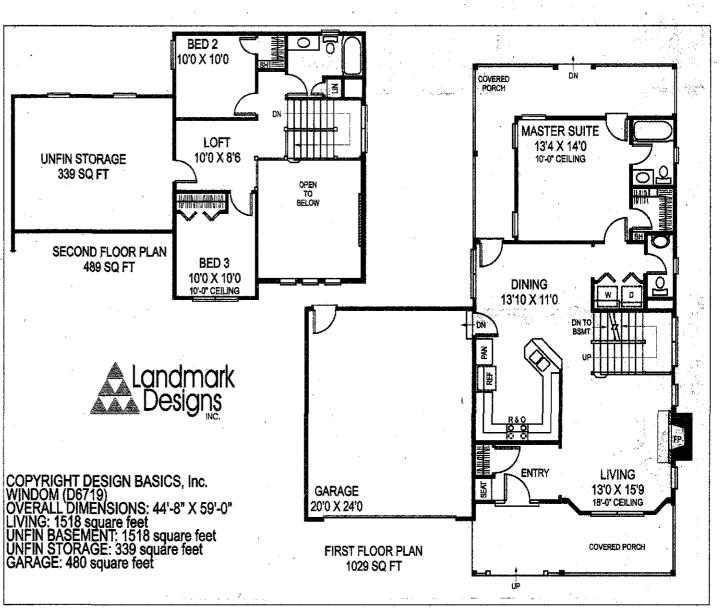


Windom boasts winning ways for smaller-sized lots

A historically styled farmhouse, the Windom (D6719) has many extras the homes of the past did not have. It is 1,518 square feet with an unfinished basement of the same size. Convenient for the modern lots, the Windom is narrow for fitting on the smaller lots. The exterior has a symmetrical look with large windows and a covered porch.

The front door has two elongated windows on each side adding light to the entry. Behind the front door are a seat for removing shoes, and a coat closet. The living room has a high vaulted 18-foot ceiling giving the room an elegant look. On the right side is a fireplace surrounded by windows.

The kitchen is separated from the living room by a wall. It is an open shape with the sink on the front corner and a cabinet pantry opposite. Beside the pantry is a door opening into the two-car garage, ideal for unloading groceries and carrying them into the kitchen. An open dining room with two windows is adjacent to the kitchen. It has a door that leads to the rear deck that runs across the rear of the Windom.



At the rear of this great home is the master suite. It has higher 10-foot ceilings and a door that also opens onto the rear deck. The master bath has a single sink and a tub. The walk-in closet is in the front corner.

Just outside the suite door is a half-bath and the washer/dryer, hidden behind folding doors. Separating these from the living room are the sweeping stairs that lead to the basement as well as to the second floor.

Upstairs are two bedrooms and a loft area between. Bedroom 2 has a corner walk-in closet, while bedroom 3 has a wall closet and 10-foot ceilings. The loft opens into an unfinished storage area over the garage that could be a playroom, or a future bedroom if needed. The bathroom on this floor is located in the rear corner. It has a single sink, tub, and a linen closet.

For a study plan of the WINDOM (D6719), send \$15 to Landmark Designs, 33127 Saginaw Rd. E., Cottage Grove, OR 97424 or call (800) 562-1151. Be sure to specify plan name and number. Compact disks, with search functions are free of charge, to help you search our portfolio for your dream home (\$5 shipping and handling will apply). Or you may order or search online at www.ldiplans.com. Save 15 percent on construction plans using the code (LOE48) online, mailing, or calling (800) 562-1151.

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

Investors

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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.

First-time buyer

Learn about programs as well as mortgage options available to the first-time homebuyer. Credit coaching, buying a HUD home for \$100 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.

Kaplan training

Kaplan Professional Schools, a subsidiary of the Washington Post Co., has been selected by the State of Michigan Office of Financial and Insurance Regulation to offer its Michigan Mandatory 24-Hour Mortgage Loan Officer Registration course. Kaplan Professional, a leader in insurance training and Series 6 and 7 Securities training, added this program for Michigan mortgage professionals. In addition to the Michigan Mandatory 24-Hour Mortgage Loan Officer Registration course, Kaplan will also be offering a separate program, How To Pass the Michigan Loan Officer Registration Exam, for seasoned mortgage professionals who are required only to take the Loan Officer Registrant state test. More information is available about class locations and schedules at http://www.

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kaplanprofessionalschools. com/kps_national/mortgage/ MI/default.aspx or by calling (888) 577-7310 to speak to a customer service representative about the training.

BIA

BRIEFS

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 pre-licensure 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 preconstruction 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.





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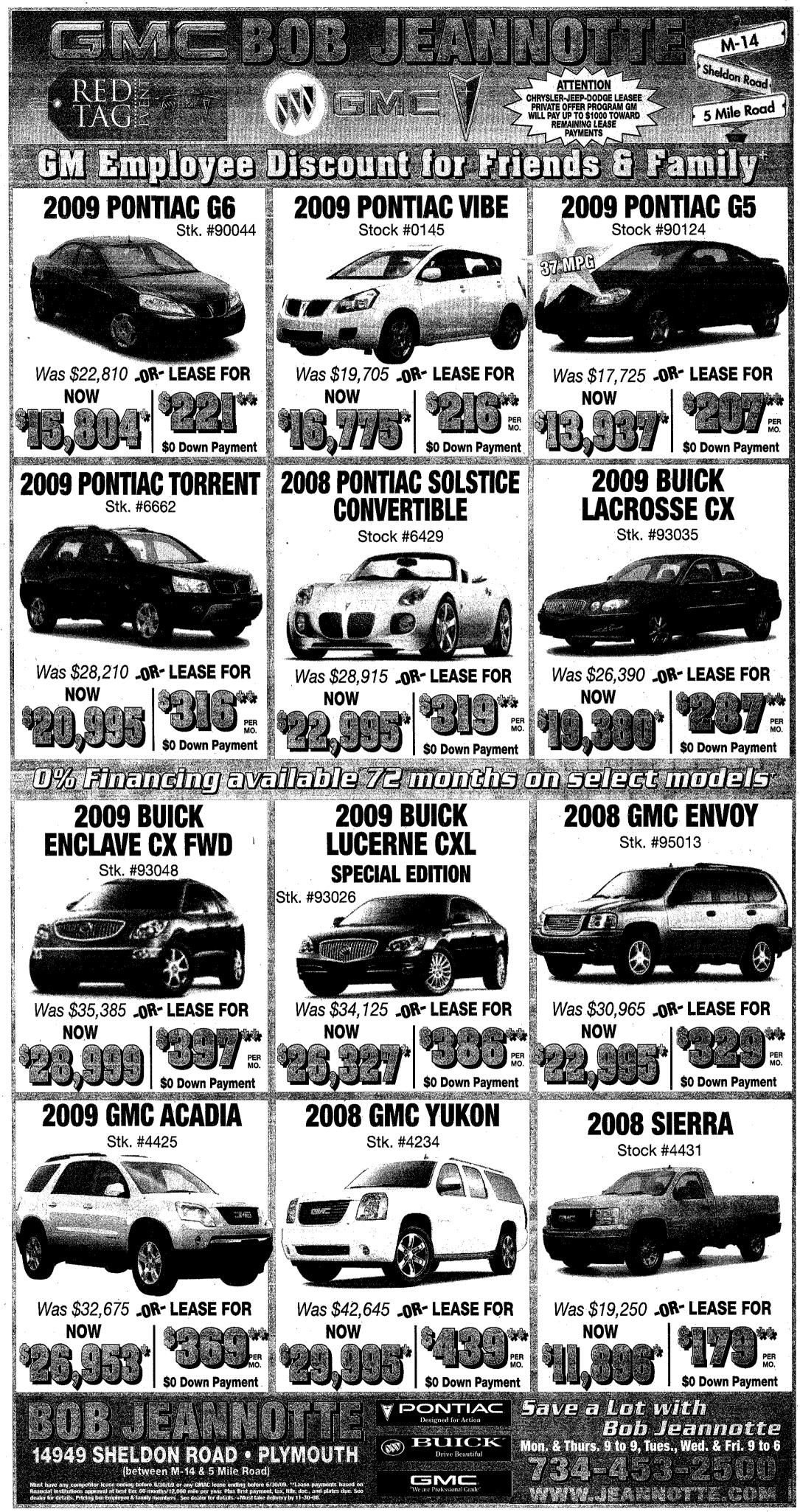
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SBF, 21, N/S, looking for SM, 21-40, for friend-ship first, possibly more. Call me, let's talk and get to know each other! 2287187 DOWN-TO-EARTH Asian woman, 5'2", 110bs, slim, attractive, in-

dependent, loving, caring, enjoys movies, fine dining, travel, quiet times at home. Seeking very handsome W/AM, 47-56, N/S, clean-shaver HW proportionate, for friendship first, 2281229 GOOD SENSE OF HUMOR?

WF, 48, 5'3", brown/brown, has pets, N/S, great sense of humor, looking for WM, 45-55, who likes dining out, museums, movies, reading and more, to do things with. 2280581 HONEST & DOWN-TO-EARTH Cute, outgoing woman, 40, loves animals, the outdoors. Seeking honest, clean, honorable, compassionate gentleman, 40s-early 50s, for

friendship, dating, possible LTR. 2295421 DOWN-TO-EARTH Easygoing DWF, early 50s, would like to meet a really nice WM, 50-65, with the same qualities, minimal baggage, to share the ups and downs of life. Seeking possible LTR. 2279171

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may

maybe leading to more. 227168 ATTRACTIVE BLONDE

SWF. 55. 5'6", N/S, H/W proportionate, active, fun-loving, likes bike rides, working out, taking walks, autumn. Seeking SW/BM, 45-63, for dating, possible LTR. 2296774

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. 2568059

COUNTRY GIRL Good-natured, classy, attractive, fun-loving SWPF, 54, platinum/blue, 5'5', HW-proportionate, enjoys travel, horseback riding, exercise, dancing. Seeking SWM, 55-65, N/S, N/Drugs, for serious relationship. If you love motorcycles call me. 2759845

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

ARE YOU LONELY? Attractive female, 5'5", 120lbs, fun-loving blonde, retired, would love a little of your time to enjoy each other's company. Seeking pleasant gentleman, 65-75. 2891247

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. 2962317 CLASSY LADY

I am in my early 60s, 5'2", brown/brown, I enjoy dancing, outdoors, and travel. Seeking a companion, 60-70, and maybe a relationship. Please call. 27982305

HONEY BLONDE SBF seeks down-to-earth SM, 25-65, with morals and values, who knows how to have fun in life, is family-oriented. 2294929

MATURE MAN WANTED SBF, 33, 5'4", 115lbs, caramel complexion, brown eyes, short blonde hair, wears glasses. Seeking tall, muscular SBM, 25-40, who enjoys bookstores, movies, dining, water. 2287856

A POLISHED DIAMOND Attractive, sexy BF, 34, seeks true gentieman. You won't be disappointed when we meet: 2287057

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, willing, and able to commit. 2273603 LTR, don't delay call now. 27976914

plays and bowling, seeks a SM, 48-69, N/S, good sense of humor and good values/morals. know. 22 294679 7254

ARE YOU SEEKING? SBM, 38, 6'1", 207lbs, dark complexion, no kids, N/S, N/Drugs, looking for SBF, 29-40, with same DWF, 69, 5'2', Italian, brunette, atractive, well-dressed, sincere, loving, optimistic, likes theater, travel, dining, fitness. Wishing to meet N/S WM, qualities. No dramal 2295452 60-72, financially secure, easygoing, good mor-als, loves family, for dating. 3630808

CHOCOLATE TREAT Refined, romantic, creative divorcee, enjoys an eclectic lifestyle. Professionally employed, ven

CUTE, CUDDLY COWBOY Wise and kind SWM, 46, enjoys simplicity, art fairs, flea markets, festivals. Seeking the comyouthful and fun loving, 60s, enjoys dining, travel, music, the arts, family and friends. Seeking fit non-smoking gentleman, 50+. 22281197 pany of a lady with similar interests 200459 LOOKING FOR MZ RIGHT **ENJOYS THE OUTDOORS**

2265340

MATURE WOMAN WANTED

HARD-WORKER

READY FOR A RELATIONSHIP

A SPECIAL GUY

DWM, 56, 5'10", handsome and secure, seeks honest S/DWF, w/sense of humor, who enjoys

travel, candlelight dinners, plays, dancing, con-certs, boating, and movies. Friendship, possible LTR. **12269648**

similar SF, 35-45. 2296097

BF, 5'5", 150lbs, likes cooking, listening to music, camping and more. Would like to meet a man to WIWM, 45, 5'11", 220lbs, is easygoing, fun-loving, enjoys a variety of activities, indoor/ outdoor. Looking for LTH, with the right person.

enjoy life with, 36-60. 2284318 GET TO KNOW ME

Loving, open-minded SBF, 60, 145lbs, attractive, enjoys music, dining, concerts, travel, ISO hon-est, compassionate SM, 57-65, IVS. Possible Male, 60, tall, slim, attractive, brown/brown, no bad habits, would like to meet a nice, sweet, kind

LTR. 2963760 LADY IN THE WOODS SWF, 50, looks younger, blonde/hazel, 5'5", av-erage build, educated, dog lover, classy, sassy and fun, seeking compatible, outdoorsy, rugged, good-hearted male to share the good things in life. Livingston county. 2210247

HELLO THERE

A WOMAN OF CLASS

LET'S GET TOGETHER

OUTGOING

CALLING ALL GOLFERS!

2271085

more. 2282444

eading to LTR. 2292940

HONEST AND SINCERE Asian woman, 5'2", 180lbs, slim, attractive, heatth-conscious, vegetarian, N/D, N/S. Enjoys DWM, 52, 5'10", 150lbs, likes roller skating, computers, biking, boating and some old moves. Seeking SW/HF, slim to medium build, for dating dining, movies, quiet times. Seeking clean-cut, fit, attractive, respectful, professional Asian or White and LTR. 2256288 male for dating and possibly more. 2113901 EASYGOING

female, 40-70. 2287161

Sharp, sociable SWM, 45, with good character and pleasant personality, likes the outdoors, fish-ing, motor sports etc. WLTM SWF, for dating and SWF, 68, looks younger, in search of a SWM, 62-69, who likes movies, dining, theater. Is it you? fun times. 2187614

MAXIMUM RETURN ON ... SBF, 54, 5'8", N/S, enjoys life's simple pleasures. Seeking SB/WM, 48-62, N/S, for friendship or your investment. SBM, 5'8", seeks mature, level-headed, down-to-earth female, 30-45, for fun, dating and possible LTR. 2293155

GOOD BETTER BEST BF, 24, student, looking for BM, 35-45, to go out and have fun with. Friendship first, hopefully SWM, 49, 5'9", 195lbs, is nuts about nature, eniovs the outdoors, fishing, etc. Seeks compatible

SWF, to have and hold. 2992943 LONELY, GENUINE HEART WIWF, 62, seeking optime, best friend, 62-70, SBM, 29, no children, light smoker, seeks sexy, must be honest, NS, and active. Looking for attractive SF, 20-31, who wants to see the real

side of me. 2287987

more. 2275970

11 years! Loyal, sensuous, health-conscious DWM, 64, 6', 215/bs, N/D, N/S, retired, likes rides, dining, nature. Seeking fit, attractive SWF, 39-64, 22295071

JUST ME AND MY DOG

WM, 5'11", 180/bs, short dark/green, likes roller-blading, biking, running, the outdoors, animals, more, Looking for SF, 21-37, with a cool personality and can appreciate an awesome guy, 2272374

BOATER SEEKS 1ST MATE SWM, N/S, good-looking, trustworthy, enjoys boating, good music, working out. Seeking very attractive SF, 28-40, race unimportant, for friendship leading to possible LTR. 2205048

Free Ads: Free ads placed in this section are not guaranteed- to run every week. Be sure to renew your ad frequently to keep it fresh.Guidelines: Personals are for adults 18 or over seeking monogamous relationships. To ensure your safety, carefully screen all responses and have first meetings occur in a public place. This publication reserves the right to edit, revise, or reject any advertisement at any time at its sole discretion and assumes no responsibility for the content of or replies to any ad. Not all ads have corresponding voice messages. To review our complete guidelines, call (617) 425-2636

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ands of local singles,

more. Seeking WF, 34-55, to spend time with and get to know. 22296503 NEW TO DETROIT SWM, 45, 5'5", short brown hair, grown kids, enjoys music, playing guitar, travel. Looking for SM in search of that one special woman to bond with. Should be fun, family-oriented, and want a real man in her life! 2296694 ENJOY THE VIEW

Romantic, thoughtful SWM, 39, is looking for love, enjoys hugs, kisses and cuddling, seeks kind, attractive SWF, age and area open. 1113835 **RETIRED MILITARY**

HARDWORKING

WM, 50,-two children not at home, likes animals,

Nascar, the outdoors, working in the yard and

SBM, 56, 5'6", 180lbs, enjoys gardening, reading, world news and events, sports, con-certs. Seeking SF, 45-60, with old-school values. 22297076

TAKE A CHANCE

WM, 38, likes cars, all kinds of music, having fun, movies and more. Looking for a woman, 30-59, to have fun with. 2296181

BEAUTIFUL PRINCESS WANTED SBM, early 40s, seeks attractive, younger lady, 28-45, for romance, companionship, must be independent and shapely. Serious replies only 2684501

LETS GET GOINGI

SWM 40s, attractive, good shape, great listener, enjoys good conversation, friendship, spontane-ous fun, and laughter, seeks personable SWF for dating and more. 2128302

SERIOUS WOMAN WANTED

SBM, 46, looking for that special persona for LTR, someone who enjoys walks, movies, sporting events, cudding at home. Please be shapely, inde-pendent and know what you want in ite. 27692418

A WALK AND A TALK

Try this easygoing, lovable SWM, 50, good listen-er, who enjoys book stores, coffee shops, nature er, who enjoys book stores, coffee shops, nature and concerts. I seek a like-minded counterpart for where ever it goes. 2200890

KIND AND COMPASSIONATE Attractive SWPM, 48, 5'10', 190lbs, N/S, never married, loves outdoors, going to church, trav-eling, family time, candle light dinners, movies, seeking kind and caring hard-working lady, 30-

50, for possible LTR. 2291990 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

LET'S TALK! SWM, 62, 57", likes outdoors, Nascar, music. Looking for SF, 45-66, for friendship first, maybe more. 2295042

FIRST AD IN OVER.



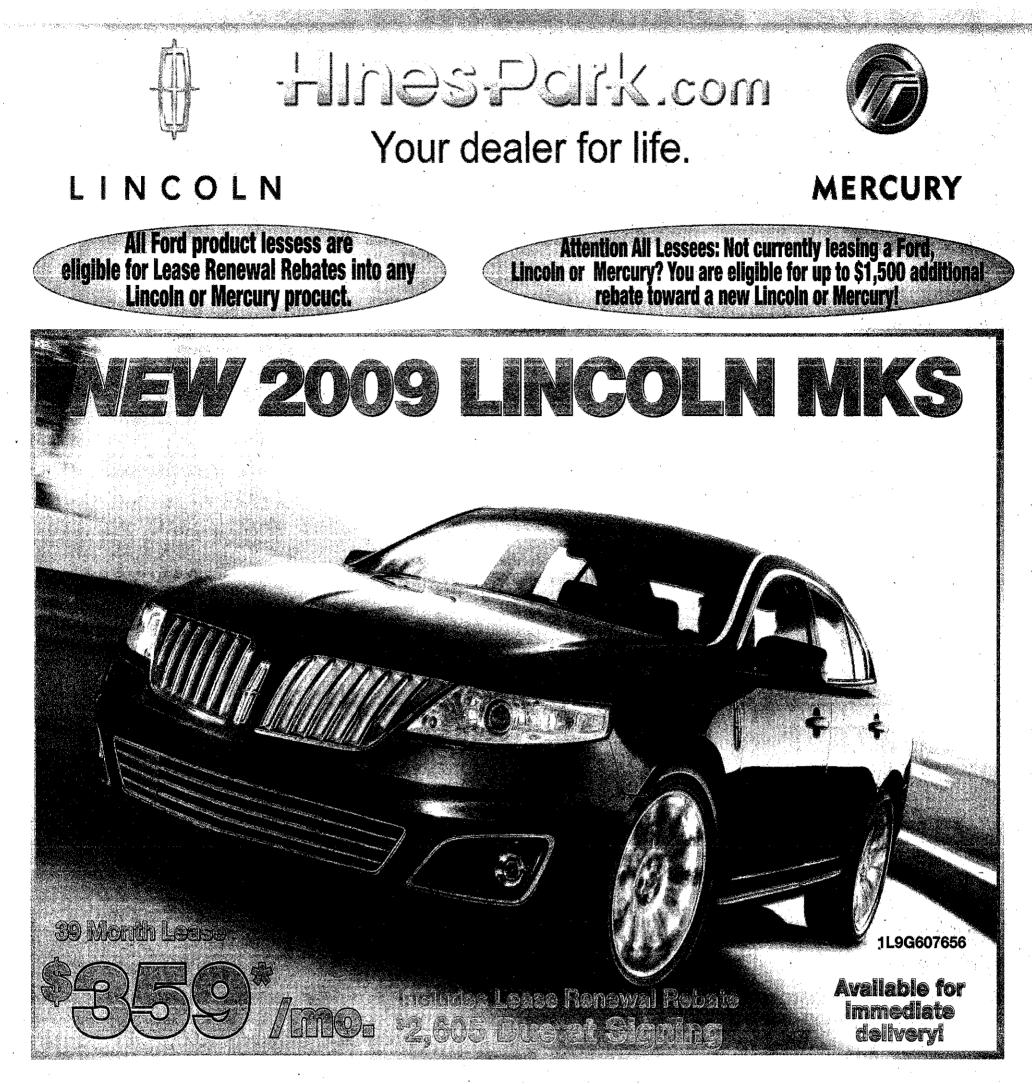


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