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Hometownlife - C1

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SUNDAY November 30, 2008

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Observer

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Santa Claus, reindeer to star at Shop **Canton's Holiday Fest**

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

Back for a third year and bigger than before, Shop Canton's Family Holiday Fest will take place Dec. 6 from noon to 4 p.m. at Willow Creek Plaza on Ford Road between Lilley and Haggerty. The event will include a visit from Santa, a coloring contest, strolling carolers, a live reindeer and refreshments.

"We had

2.000-

3,000

people

last year,

so we are

expecting

an even

turnout."

said Karyl

bigger

Niemi

of Shop

Canton "People are

SHOP CANTON'S FAMILY **HOLIDAY FEST**

When: Noon to 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6 Where: Willow Creek Plaza on Ford Road What: A visit from Santa, a coloring contest, strolling carolers, a live reindeer and refreshments



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Tammy and John Reynolds, of Canton, did holiday shopping at the Verizon store at Ford and Lilley Roads on Friday.

'Black Friday' fallout

Despite long lines, shoppers find good deals at local stores

BY TIFFANY L. PARKS OBSERVER STAFE WRITER

Bumper to bumper traffic, Santa hats covering the heads of shoppers and over-

of Tennessee. New to the festivities were Daily's granddaughters, Ashley, 13, and Alexandrea, 12.

"I go out because my daughters go out and I love them." she said. "And my sisters go out because I go out and they love me.'

Local teen maintains family's Scout tradition

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

The Van Wicklin men know a thing or two about the Scouting motto of being prepared.

So, it has come as no shock to his family that 16-year-old Jonathan Van Wicklin is following his father, uncle and grandfather in becoming an Eagle Scout.

"Scouting has been a lot of fun and it has given me direction in my thinking about school and taking initiative," said Jonathan,



Eagle Scout Jonathan Van Wicklin and his dad Gary Van Wicklin, who earned the rank of Eagle Scout in 1975.

ing that the family had gotten permission from the Detroit Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America to replace the missing item. "This is an exciting time for us because all the Van Wicklin men will have their pins on."

To earn his Eagle status, Jonathan, who attends Salem High School and is a member of Troop 1539, cleared and defined the trail in the Holliday Nature Preserve, which is located in Westland and Canton. Leading a crew of more than 40 volunteers in March, the group was also able to repair a bridge and pick up litter. "The hardest part for me was keeping my mouth shut," joked Gary Van Wicklin, Jonathan's father, of the volunteer effort at Holliday. "Whenever someone asked me a question, I told them to talk to the boss and I think he did a good job." Esther said she is proud of the skills Jonathan has learned during his time with scouting. The leadership opportunities have been wonderful," she said. "His Eagle Scout project was a really good task to supervise. He handled quite a bit and I know I would not have been able to do it at his age.' Jonathan, now in his sixth year of being a Boy Scout, was previously a Cub Scout. "I told him the story of how I was an Eagle Scout, along with my brother and father, and he decided to beat dad," Gary said, noting that his son pressed to earn Eagle status well in advance of deadline, which would be his 18th birthday. "This has been our family time.' Still, despite the harmony of their numerous camping trips, Jonathan grins about being in a friendly competition with his father. "I've got more merit badges than my dad," he said.

who became an Eagle Saturday, with his family in attendance.

During the township teen's Court of Honor ceremony, his grandfather, Dexter, was to be presented with an Eagle badge to replace the one he earned before going off to fight in World War II.

"He earned his badge in high school and then he went off to war and while he was gone, his mother had moved several times and had misplaced his badge," said Jonathan's mother, Esther, add-

starting to know that this is an annual event and that it is family friendly."

During the festivities, which have been extended an hour because of the event's popularity, children and parents will be encouraged to trick or treat throughout Ford Road.

The trick or treating has been a huge hit," said Niemi, adding that the idea of using the traditional Halloween activity surfaced while brainstorming ways to generate foot traffic for stores. "We have had people tell us they had never been in certain stores (before the trick or treating)."

The Holiday Fest is free and open to the public. For more information on Shop Canton or to access coupons, visit www.shopcanton.org.

tiparks@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2170

sized signs announcing "Nothing Held Back" from price slashings - 'Black Friday' was in full swing along Ford Road.

The parking lot at Kohl's, despite a 4 a.m. opening for early birds, was jammed well into the afternoon.

"I usually don't shop on Black Friday and I don't think I would do this again," laughed Barb Lanning of Canton as she left the discount retailer. "I had to wait in line about 40 minutes but I did get some good deals."

Known as the busiest retail shopping day of the year, hitting the stores on Black Friday has become a nine-year tradition for the women in Terian Daily's family.

Daily of Woodhaven was accompanied Friday by her daughters and her sisters, Anne Marie Vincent of Canton, Shelley Hocking of Whitmore Lake, Linda Owen of Minnesota and Vicky Osment

The group began shopping at about 4 a.m

"It's our day out," said Vincent, adding that the venture has become a family mainstay through Owen's annual Thanksgiving visit to the area. "One year, we just said 'Let's go Christmas shopping!' and we have been doing it since then."

As the group was leaving Willow Creek Plaza around noon, they were tossing out restaurant ideas for lunch when Osment made an announcement: "The trunk is now full," she laughed.

At the Verizon Wireless store at Canton Corners, the newly-released BlackBerry Storm phone was the hot item of the day.

"It has been insane," a store manager

Please see SHOPPERS, A4

For more information on Troop 1539, visit www.troop1539.org.

Ballet company's 'Nutcracker' to light up Salem stage

BY KURT KUBAN **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

The Sugar Plum Fairy, Snow Queen and Herr Drosselmeyer will be some of the characters that take center stage when the Plymouth-Canton Ballet Co. teams up with the Plymouth Symphony Orchestra to present The Nutcracker, Dec. 6-7 at the Salem High School Auditorium.

According to Plymouth-Canton Ballet Co. President Beck Greene, more than 50 dancers will perform the holiday classic, accompanied by the PSO's full professional orchestra.

Greene said the dancers range in age from small children to adults, with lots of accomplished students.

"Our older students are very skilled, pre-professional," he said.

Nearly all of the performers are from the local area. Reid Conlon from Canton will perform as the Nutcracker Prince and Lauren Hansen from Livonia will dance the role of Clara. Amber Lawson of Livonia will perform as the Dew Drop Fairy. Jessica Zultowski will dance as the Snow Princess. Erica Martin of Canton will per-

form as the Rat King.

In addition to the company's dancers, there will be two special guest performers from the Cincinnati Ballett in Ohio: Jay Goodlett will perform as the Cavalier and Snow King, with his partner Tricia Sundberg dancing the Sugar Plum Fairy

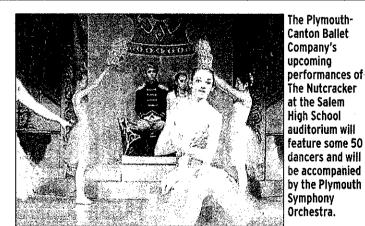
and the Snow Queen. Both have performed in many productions, including The Nutcracker. Add it all up and Greene says

the group's performance will take audience members by surprise. "We make this as professional as possible. We have huge set pieces. The scenery is well

done. Those that come out are going to see a production very comparable to the Michigan Opera Theatre's production downtown," said Greene, a former Canton resident who now lives in Grosse Ile.

In addition, Greene said the company has altered the traditional story a bit to cater to families. There will also be two intermissions, so the kids don't get too antsy. "We have a little different twist. The story is very easy for people and especially children to follow. The kids will love this one," he said.

The performances will be at



6:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, and at 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7. Tickets are \$18 for adults and \$10 for children up to 12. Tickets can be ordered by phone at (734) 451-2112, online at www.plymouthcantonballet org or at the door.

Following each performance audience members may join the performers on stage for a Sugar Plum Parade for \$2. For more information, visit www.plymouthcantonballet.org or www. plymouthsymphony.org.

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LOCAL NEWS

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, November 30, 2008-

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KNOW THE

SCORE

check out the

numbers in

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Lunch with Purtan's People

The lucky winner of this month's Dining With the Stars will be treated to lunch with Dick Purtan and Purtan's People (Big Al Muskavito, Jackie Purtan, Dana Mills, Rebekah Rhodes, John "Ankles" Stewart and Larry Lawson) of WOMC's Oldies 104.3. Tell us in 100 words or

less why you want to have lunch with Purtan and his zany morning show crew at Buddy's Pizza in Farmington Hills. E-mail your entry to BuddysDiningStars@gmail. com by 5 p.m. Wednesday,

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

Dining With the Stars is co-sponsored by Buddy's Pizza and the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. Purtan is one of

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Michigan's most recognized on-air personalities. As host of WOMC's Morning Show with Purtan's People, he entertains his loyal listeners with comedic commentary and topical wit.

Purtan's work also has been recognized on a national level. He has twice been named Billboard magazine's "Major Market Air Personality of the Year" and is the winner of radio's top prize, The National Association of Broadcasters MARCONI Award as "Major Market Air Personality of the Year." In 2006, Purtan was inducted into the National Association of Broadcasting Hall of Fame in Las Vegas. Only one person in the radio industry is inducted each year.



The winner of the Dining With the Stars contest will be treated to lunch with Dick Purtan (right) and Purtan's People of WOMC-FM (104.3).

For 21 years, his annual Salvation Army Radiothon has raised almost \$19 million for the Salvation Army's Bed & Bread program.

Dick Purtan and Purtan's People can be heard 5-10 a.m. Monday through Friday and 6-10 a.m. Saturdays on WOMC.

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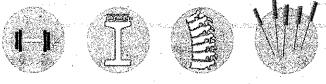


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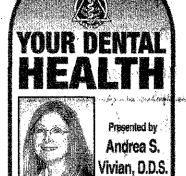
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Early dental visits can keep watch on how tooth development is progressing. They are an important part of growing up healthy. When it's time for their first visit, satisfy your children's natural curiosity by telling them that the dentist is first going to count their teeth, then take their picture, clean them, and see that they are healthy. Bring along a doll or stuffed animal, and we'll check its teeth too. We believe that a healthy smile is important at any age. Our office is located at at 496 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Sfe. 201, Plymouth. Call us at 734-453-9413 for an appointment,

P.S. Over-retention of a primary tooth may be due to a root that does not resorb properly at a root that is tightly fused (ankylosed) to the jawbone.

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Saturday, December 6, 2008 When: 12:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Where: Willow Creek Shopping Plaza

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Candyland Trick-or-Treat through the surrounding

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November 15, 2008-January 15, 2009

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Goodfellows help

(C)

Several local merchants are hosting fund-raisers for the Canton Goodfellows. Showroom of Elegance Fine Jewelry, 6018 Canton Center Road, is continuing its annual "Goodfellows No child without a Christmas" drive through Dec. 5. The store will be collecting canned goods and nonperishable items and offering a chance to win a \$600 Visa card for bringing in your canned goods.

"This is our way to help those children in the Plymouth-Canton school district that are in need and wouldn't otherwise have a Christmas or food while out of school on the holiday break. Our need is great this year with over 600 children to provide for. We need so much help. Please join us in this mission," said Linda Robin, owner of the jewelry story. For more information, contact the store at (734) 207-1906 or e-mail lindarobin1@ameritech.net.

Also, Indigo Salon and Day Spa, located in Canton's Cherry Hill Village, will be holding a Canton Goodfellow's Gifts For Kids Charity Day on Sunday Dec. 7, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Indigo will be open for business with a full service menu (reservations requested) and 100 percent of the money from services rendered will go towards the Goodfellows goal of providing Christmas gifts to 600 less fortunate children in the Canton area. In addition, Indigo will be matching 50

percent of the total retail sales for the day.

To make a reservation, visit www.indigosalonanddayspa. com to view the full service menu and price lists. Contact Indigo at (734) 961-3245.

Holidav craft fair

Connection Church (previously Tri-City Christian Center) will hold its annual Holiday Craft Fair from 11 a.m. to 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.

Chamber luncheon

The Canton Chamber of Commerce will host its annual holiday luncheon at 11:30 a.m., Wednesday, December 3 at Summit on the Park. The Plymouth-Canton Madrigal Choir will be performing. Each person is asked to please bring an unwrapped toy or gift for the Canton Goodfellows. Cost of the lunch is \$20.

Reservations are required. Call the Chamber office at (734) 453-4040. Deadline for reservations is Monday, Dec. 1. The luncheon is sponsored by Saint Joseph Mercy Canton

AROUND CANTON

Health Center. Pizza with Santa

The Canton Rotary Club's Pizza with Santa event will take place from 1-4 p.m., Dec. 13, at the Roman Forum restaurant, 41601 Ford Road, Canton. Santa's elves will be serving pizza while children and parents enjoy a visit with Santa. Each child will receive a photo with Santa - the first 200 children will receive a frame of craft. Santa will fly in on a helicopter at 1:30 p.m.

Cost is \$5 for children 3-13, \$7 for adults, and free for children under 3.

High school artists wanted

The Canton Public Library is looking for high school artists to compete in its Martin Luther King, Jr. art competition. Submissions for this years theme "One Community. One Voice." as it relates to Martin Luther King, Jr. and the Canton community in art form will be accepted by Dec. 23.

Students may submit paintings, drawings, collage, prints, mixed media, computer generated art or photography. All work must be original in concept, design and execution and the student's own work. The contest is open to high school students, grades 9-12. Students who are Canton residents or attend a public or private school located in Canton or within the boundaries of the Plymouth-Canton Community

Schools district are eligible to enter

Cash prizes, donated by the Friends of the Canton Public Library, in the amount of \$200 for first place, \$100 for second place and \$50 for honorable mention, will be awarded. All submissions will be displayed at the annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration at the Village Theater on Jan. 19. For full details and entry

information, visit www.cantonpl.org/ya/artcontest.pdf or contact the Canton Public Library at (734) 397-0999.

Candy cane week

Members of the Canton Lions Club will be at various locations throughout Canton from Dec. 12-20 to raise funds as part of the annual Candy Cane Week. Funds donated by community members will be used to assist families to purchase eye glasses for children, the Penrickton Center for Blind, multiple handicapped children and those who are hearing impaired in the community.

"Money raised will allow Lions to meet pressing needs in our community including Children who are blind or hearing impaired. Lions members thank everyone who contributes to this important work. You are truly helping Lions make a difference in our community," said Bill Van Winkle, president of the Canton Lions Club.

The Canton Lions Club has 45 members and meets on the



A bronze franchise

Curves International co-founders Gary Heavin (left) and Diane Heavin (right) present local Curves owners Kim and David Scartelli with an award during Curves annual convention in Orlando last month. Approximately 2,000 Curves owners, managers and employees from around the world attended the convention. The Scartellis received the bronze franchisee of the year award for the Midwest region. They own three Curves clubs - in Canton, Plymouth and South Lyon. "It's a thrill to be recognized by Curves as the best of the best. We take great pride in offering a superior level of service and quality to our members. This award truly reflects what a great Curves club we have in Canton," said Kim Scartelli.

fourth Monday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Cherry Hill School, 50440 Cherry Hill on the corner of Cherry Hill and Ridge roads. For more information or to get involved with the Canton Lions Club, please contact Nancy Spencer (734) 397-8975 or johnancysp@aol. com.

Canton Newcomers

The Canton Newcomers will host their next monthly meeting at 7:15 p.m., Dec. 3 at the Sunflower Clubhouse (45800 Hanford, west of Canton Center). The evening will include socializing, neighbor introductions, sign ups for more than 20 interest group activities (playgroups, Bunco, Scrapbooking, Book Club, Men's Poker Night, Couples Social, and more), and a raffle that will benefit the Canton Goodfellows.

There will also be a dinner hosted by Palermo's Restaurant as well as dessert by Back Home Bakery. For more information or to receive a complementary copy of the group's newsletter, please visit www. cantonnewcomers.org or call Melanie at (734) 207-3341.

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SHOPPERS FROM PAGE A1

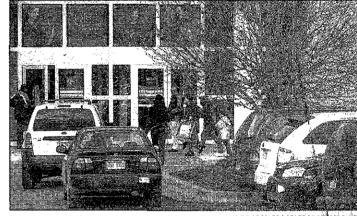
said in between servicing customers.

Tammy Reynolds of Canton said she opted to beat the Black Friday rush and pre-ordered the popular new gadget, but had dropped in to get a cell phone for her son.

Reynolds, who was joined by her husband, John, said the two began shopping at 6:30 a.m.

We went to Target, we went to Radio Shack, we went to the mall and now we're at Verizon," she said. "And now, we're broke," her husband chimed in.

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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Hours after the 4 a.m. opening on Friday, the parking lot of Kohl's on Ford Road was still crowded. Carlo Carlo

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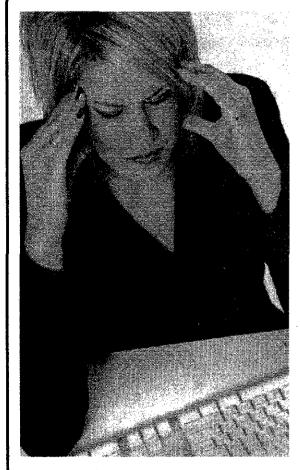
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LOCAL NEWS

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, November 30, 2008

Change, for better or worse

Local producer creates dramatic series by REBECCA JONES

OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

"Your life's about to change," says The Blind Man to Nolan Stokes in the pilot episode of *New Directions*, a dramatic series filmed in and around Detroit and being shopped to networks.

It's about a clandestine life makeover program that uses divining methods such as tarot cards, dice or a flip of a coin to determine where a person's life needs to go. "It could be good, could

be bad," said writer Michael Davis of Detroit.

"They make that come true no matter what," said executive producer Matthew Peach, of Livonia. And the results are filmed for the benefit of an Internet viewing audience.

The pilot episode, "The Makeover," was shown at a screening party Saturday at the Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit.

Principal character Nolan Stokes is a guy in his mid-



The producers of "New Directions:" Chuck Cirgenski of Hamtramck (from left), Mike Davis of Detroit, T.J. Suliot of Mount Clemens, Matthew Peach of Livonia and Mike Madigan of Troy.

30s, played by Vincent Rasnick of Clawson. Stokes is unemployed, broken up with his girlfriend, and lives like a slob. "His life kind of sucks," Rasnick said. When his friend recommends him for a life makeover, Nolan meets The Blind Man (David Durham of Garden City), who warns of trouble ahead.

Other local actors in the cast include Jordan Brun of Canton, and Mary Gibbs of Redford.

Mike Madigan of Troy is the director.

Davis and his writing partner T.J. Suliot of Mount Clemens created the series and have finished scripts for the entire first season, should the show be picked up. The Blind Man's motives are revealed, and other characters meet their fate, which is sometimes good, but more often creepy.

"It's a conspiracy theorist's dream," Rasnick said. The pilot received great feedback at a screening in Royal Oak this summer, said Peach. His next step is to take



Jordan Brun of Canton has a role in the pilot episode of "New Directions."

"The Makeover" episode to New York for meetings with network executives. "If we find someone who is

really interested, that's great.

If not, the Internet is a pow-

erful tool. We'll be moving forward on our own," he said. Pre-production work on

future episodes is underway. "We're going to keep rolling," Davis said. "There's a lot of talent here."

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McCotter hopeful government will approve support for Big 3

BY HUGH GALLAGHER STAFF WRITER

U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter, R-Livonia, is hopeful that the Big 3 auto companies will get support from the federal government.

"No one has closed the door on a bridge loan," McCotter said Tuesday. "Last week there was a lot of political posturing."

McCotter was one of the leaders among Republican House members who defeated the original \$700 billion Wall Street bailout bill.

Last week he was a strong voice in support of a \$25 billion federal "bridge loan" to the Big 2 automator

"bridge loan" to the Big 3 automakers. Congressional leaders grilled the top executives of the auto companies last week and demanded that they return to Congress with a detailed plan for how they intend to spend the \$25 billion. McCotter said members of Congress need to be disabused of the idea that the auto companies have not been restructuring.

"We've seen people suffering through the restructuring process. Right here in my (11th) district. Wixom is closed, other plants are underutilized, people are laid off,"

McCotter said. He said that an earlier \$25 billion in aid to the auto companies to help retool for more energy efficient cars was funding to cover an "unfunded mandate" to produce more energy efficient vehicles. McCotter and other Michigan representatives have been critical of higher corporate average fuel efficiency standards. The Bush Administration has argued that the auto companies should use some of that money to tide them over through the end of the year.

He said the auto companies did not come to the federal government to ask for money to support their restructuring. He said they only came after the banking crisis made it difficult for them to sell cars and forced them to "burn through cash." He said they are "victims" of the crisis not the cause of the crisis.

McCotter and other Republicans favored a private investment plan to buy up so-called toxic debts from investments banks. A revised Senate version of the federal bailout was passed in the Senate and House and signed by President George W. Bush. Since the bill was passed, Secretary of the Treasury Henry Paulson has spent about half of the approved amount but has changed the original investment strategy.

McCotter said if the government is going to provide \$700 billion in an attempt to stabilize the economy, then some of that money should be used to help get "an essential industry back on its feet."

He said helping the auto industry will help prevent more foreclosures brought on by unemployment in the auto industry.

McCotter said the recent defeat of Rep. John Dingell, D-Dearborn, as chair of the House Energy and Commerce Committee by Rep. Henry Waxman, D-Calif., is a huge problem.

"For 50 years, we've had a person protecting our jobs and prosperity. It's a huge loss," McCotter said.

He said Dingell's defeat is indicative of the infighting in the Democratic Party between environmentalists and labor unions. He said Waxman's victory is a sign of the direction that President-elect Barack Obama's administration will be taking in support of an environmentalist agenda.

McCotter said he was taking a wait and see attitude about Obama's recently named economics team, led by his nominee for Treasury secretary Timothy Geithner.

"He says he will act boldly and swiftly. His party is running the Congress," McCotter said.

Local girls beat the 'Flurry' to finish program

BY BRAD KADRICH OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

When Farrand Elementary School teacher MaryLu Fryberger was searching for something for kids to do as a physical activity, either during recess or after school, someone asked if she'd ever heard of the international Girls on the Run program.

The question sent Fryberger to cyberspace to research the program which, as it turns out, is an intervention program that encourages pre-teen girls to develop self-respect and healthy lifestyles.

It seemed like a good fit to Fryberger, who organized a Farrand team to take part in the 10-week program, being run locally by the Plymouth YMCA. That's why the Farrand team, with Fryberger and assistant coaches Krystle Gariepy and Lindsay DeRose, braved the chilly temperatures Sunday to take part in the first "Flurry Scurry" 5K run to celebrate completion of the program.

"It seemed so uplifting for the girls at our school," Fryberger said. "It promotes healthy habits, and gives the girls more respect for themselves."

Nearly 150 girls took part in the 10-week program at eight elementary schools (Allen, Bentley, Bird, Farrand, Isbister, Eriksson, Smith and Workman), plus one "Girls on



The Farrand Elementary team braved cold temperatures to take part in Sunday's "Flurry Scurry" to wrap up the 10week Girls on the Run program.

school, and they combine it

Phillips said. "The girls get a

huge self-esteem boost. They

how to deal with friends, how

to voice their emotions, how to

also learn a lot of life skills,

express how they're feeling."

Emily Caragay, 8, a student

at Bird Elementary, said the

sessions were helpful and she

learned one big lesson about

"I met new friends, and I

learned I could run a 5K,"

herself.

with the physical nature,"

Track" team from West Middle School.

According to Alli Phillips, the Girls on the Run coordinator for the Plymouth YMCA, the girls met twice a week for the 10 weeks, with 19 volunteer coaches spear-heading the curriculum.

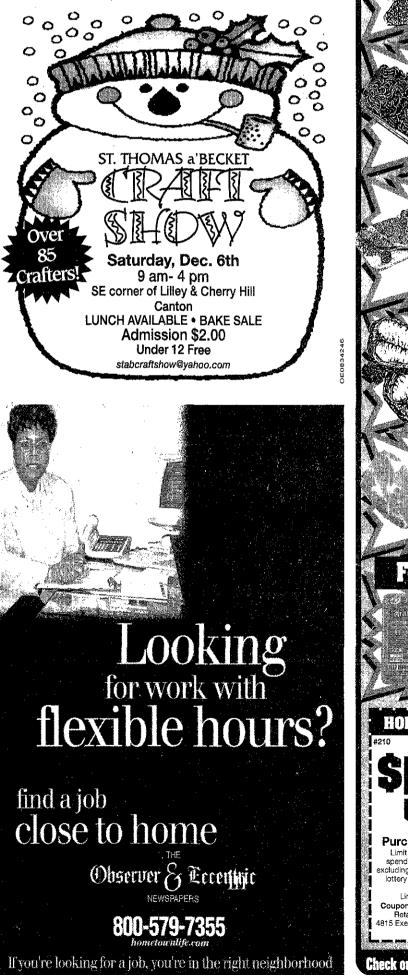
Phillips said the volunteers helped the girls focus on a variety of areas such as learning self-esteem, positive emotional, social and physical development and conflict resolution. The program culminated in Sundaris 5K run

Sunday's 5K run. "All of these are things girls need going into the 'rough' years in middle and high Emily said. "I though

"I thought it would be fun, and it was a lot of fun." Phillips said the program will run again in the spring (around March), and "we're always looking for more volunteers, more coaches." Anyone wishing to get

Anyone wishing to get involved can call Phillips at the Plymouth YMCA, (734) 453-2904.

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COUNTY NEWS



Sund] (@) (Add ...)

Battle over Blue Cross reform continues in lame-duck session

BY HUGH GALLAGHER OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Attorney General Mike Cox has been making the media rounds in his continuing battle against individual market health care reform bills that would benefit Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan but, he argues, would be bad for consumers.

"We are worried about them trying to push through any one of the five or six versions in lame duck," Cox said in a meeting with Observer & Eccentric editors Nov. 20. "They come back the first Tuesday after Thanksgiving, schedule three days that week and three days the next week, they won't have hearings."

Blue Cross Blue Shield has been promoting the reform legislation for more than a year. Last fall, legislation was passed quickly through the Michigan House of Representatives. The Senate approved its own bill after months of hearings and since then the legislation has been stalled. In addition to Cox, the bills have also been opposed by commercial insurers, the Consumers Union, AARP and the UAW.

"The Senate took five or six months holding hearings. They held at least nine hearings and came up with a radically different version which gave Blue Cross a lot of things, but also kept a lot of consumer protection in the role of the insurance commissioner and my office," Cox said. "Blue Cross rejected it. In lame duck, they don't have hearings. It won't happen. It is purely backroom."

BCBS is a not-for-profit insurance company chartered by the state of Michigan since 1939 as the health care insurer of last resort. It receives special tax advantages in exchange for providing state-mandated services and state-rate regulation.

The company has been seeking relief from the growing burden of providing individual health insurance policies for those not covered by a group policy. The individual market is expected to grow in the coming years as small businesses no longer offer health coverage, more people work as independent contractors and more workers are laid off.

CONSUMER PROTECTION

BCBS has argued in favor of creating a risk pool into which it would contribute the largest share, but other health insurers in the state would be required to participate. BCBS accounts for about 70 percent of health care coverage in the state. BCBS is also asking for changes in how its rates are approved. A separate bill would allow BCBS to expand its for-profit insurance subsidiaries, the largest being the Accident Fund, which writes workmen's compensation insurance.

Cox argues that the various iterations of the bills being proposed do not address his major concerns. He said he is especially concerned that his office and the governor's office, through the insurance commissioner, would have less say over rate increases.

"Every single version allows them to charge the sick and elderly more. Right now, they are required to charge everyone in the same market the same," Cox said.

He said the original legislation took his office and the insurance commissioner completely out.

"The new mantra is that we are still in the picture, but we're really not," he said. "We couldn't ask for a hearing until they exceeded 80 percent (rate increase). Now my office is able to intervene for any rate hike."

State Rep. Marc Corriveau, D-Northville, said he has been asked by House Speaker Andy Dillon, D-Redford, to head a joint House-Senate committee to reach a compromise between the two chambers. He emphasized that the current version is not his bill, but a reworking of House and

Corriveau said that BCBS

would always lose money on its

Medigap insurance.





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The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers Sunday, November 30, 2008

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LaJoy doing right thing

Yes, I think Phil LaJoy is doing the right thing by delaying his swearing-in to continue representing Canton in Lansing. I did not understand the point of the Observer article, highlighted by its placement at the top of the Nov. 16 edition front page. Didn't Phil explain why he is delaying his swearing-in? It seems like the Observer is hunting for controversy for the newly elected supervisor when there is none a great way for the Observer to begin coverage on a new administration, no? Why not run another article on the campaign e-mail "scandal" of the Yack administration?

We would have been better served by eliminating this ridiculous article and running Editor Kurt Kuban's article on salmon and trout in the River Rouge on the front page. That is much more newsworthy than the "nothing there" front page article that you presented.

Doug Tomayko Canton

Decision all about greed

Stop and think about this issue of delaying the swearing in of the Phil Lajoy office of supervisor for Canton Township. It's all about greed. This nation is founded on it. Look at the auto industry. It's all about greed between the owners and the unions. The only reason LaJoy was elected is due to name recognition, and not because of what he did in Lansing. If you look at his record, it isn't an impressive one

> Keith M. Jordan and Kathryn L. Moseley

> > Canton

A belated thank you

For those who know me, I am rarely at a loss for words. Your support over the last four years, and subsequent re-electing me to the Canton Township Board of Trustees does indeed make it difficult to find the right words. Nevertheless, I want to profoundly thank the citizens for this honor and responsibility. There are few greater honors than public service, and to win a re-election motivates me to do even more for our township. I will do my best over these next years to be worthy of your trust and confidence - as I do not take this lightly.

Make no mistake, there are a great many challenges ahead of us, but with your support, prayers, involvement and all of our collective hard work, we will be up to the challenges the next four years will surely present, and we will prevail.

Todd Caccamo Canton

Thanks for support

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the voters of Canton Township for their support in the election year 2008. Before we let this election year slip away, I feel I owe it to you, my supporters, to detail the events behind my candidacy that you endorsed with your vote.

As a political newcomer with a budget under \$1,000, there may have been some who viewed supporting my candidacy with some trepidation. Unfortunately, I believe it is probable that the slight chances of my success demoralized endorsements from the many I solicited. However, I want my supporters to know, all 19.030 of you, that I did put in a daunting effort that I believe earned your trust and support, and I humbly thank you again.

In the beginning, I observed that a change in leadership of give those last votes for Canton. the board was needed if we were to invest our resources



LETTERS

How have you been affected by the economy?

"Our grocery bills are higher." **Susie Williams of Canton**

I attended Board of Trustee meetings and Planning Commission meetings. I became involved with local Democratic Party members. I sought various endorsements. I set up my campaign after becoming the sole opponent of the Republican Party for the office I sought. I designed Web site at no cost, DAVIDMARSH.INFO, which is still active and which supporters may visit. I designed and ordered postcards which I personally distributed doorto-door and at the Canton Library. I designed and ordered signs which were personally placed strategically (and a special thanks for those of you who allowed this) within the township. I also spoke at a number of functions.

In short, although my budget could not realistically compare with the six figures which paid for the avalanche of signs, mailings, full-page ads, and air time of my opponent and the Republican Party, I believe my personal effort, the same effort that I would have expended on the job had I been elected, was far greater than anyone else's.

I believe that major achieve-

African American, based not on his experience, but on his ability to put together rational foreign policy statements without using "wild west" euphemisms, economic transitions which already are seen as our best hope of escape from the shattered economy which the Republican Party has left us, and the international experience he picked up right here in Detroit (if indeed, he saw Canada from this side of the river). Secondly and more closely related, it was proven that a dissatisfied voter, who is willing to expend the time, energy, and some expense, can effect a substantial impression upon the voters of his community -45percent of you. Lastly, we have learned that we can cause the reining political enclave to realize that if their management reaches proportions of the epic incompetence of our latest president, even a political newcomer may be taken seriously.

"I'm a student so it hasn't affected

me much, but I graduate next year so

it's going to affect me dramatically."

Justin Ooms of Canton

Again, from the bottom of my heart, thank you for the honor, trust, best wishes, and support that has been shown to me since I started all of this in April of 2008.

COMMUNITY VOICES

'l can't say. I'm on disability now but two years ago, when I was able to work, I had a hard time finding a iob.' **Karen Hersman of Canton**

Great sportsmanship

I'm the parent of a high school marching band student from Plymouth-Canton Community Schools. Our kids competed along side the fine marching band students at Lake Orion High School and 90 other bands at the Bands of America 2008 Grand National Championship recently in Indianapolis. I had to write to share what an outstanding group of kids we witnessed from Lake Orion.

This was the first time the Lake Orion Marching Band participated in the nationwide event. Only six Michigan bands competed and what an impressive show Lake Orion performed. Despite their efforts, they did not advance forward to the semifinals. But their greatest performance came off the field just after the 12 top finalists were named. Despite coming in third place (behind West Bloomfield and Lake Orion, respectively) at the MCBA State Band Championship Nov. 1, Plymouth-Canton worked hard the last two weeks to pull off the unbelievable - being named the only Michigan band to be included



"More so than our retirement funds, I'm afraid for our (children's) college funds. That time will come before we know it.' Jessica Demianenko of Canton

mall prior to the final competition searching for Plymouth-Canton colors of bright yellow.

Well when my friends and family sat down in our seats at the final performance, we were seated behind four rows of Lake Orion band students. To our surprise the rumors were true and all the L.O.H.S. kids were wearing some sort of yellow (many wore hand made headbands made from vellow plastic bags). They even drew PCEP on a few of the newly purchased yellow T-shirts. When the Plymouth-Canton Marching Band hit the field, a huge chant erupted from the Lake Orion students, "Lake Orion Loves Plymouth!"

1 am just so impressed with the sportsmanship and dedication of your kids. To all the Lake Orion parents and band staff, you've done a wonderful job molding these future leaders. Thank you so much for demonstrating that winning takes place both on and off the field. Saturday night was certainly a great demonstration of what the BOA Grand National Championships is all about. Michigan was well represented this weekend, and the Lake Orion Marching Dragons were a big reason why.

in a short while and Tom Yack agreed to stay on until then. So, what is the problem?

What's the problem?

I don't know why you're even

having a poll on this. It's a no-

brainer. Phil LaJoy is needed to

He's only postponing swearing

Melanie Leeson

Canton

more wisely and frugally. I spent at least 30 hours getting signatures for my ballot petitions. I wrote several letters to local papers stating my views on the more important issues.

ments and accolades can be drawn from this election of 2008. Firstly, from the ashes of the worst presidency in history, we elected a senator serving his first term, an David Marsh

in the Final Top 12. Just before the 8 p.m. Canton performance of the final 12 bands. I had heard rumors that several Lake Orion kids were discovered shopping the

Peggy Fenwick Canton



Required IRA distribution can be invested in Roth IRA

Dear Rick: Thanks so much for your radio show and your newspaper column, I've learned a lot throughout the years. I am in my early 70s. I have not yet taken my required distribution from my IRA. I always wait until



the end of the year. I heard that because of the downturn on Wall Street there is a possibility they will suspend

required

distributions

Rick Bloom

this year. I don't want to take a distribution this year as all my funds are currently very low.

I have heard talk and have seen some articles that suggest it would be a good thing to waive minimum required distributions this year. However, it is just talk. I think that the government will run into all sorts of problems if it tries to change the minimum required distributions this year. Not only are we near the end of the year, but many seniors who are required to take distributions have already taken them and that would cause all sorts of problems. I do not believe the government will change the rules so you should plan on taking your distribution before the end of the year.

A lot of seniors are in a situation where assets in a IRA have taken a significant hit. However, when you take your minimum required distribution you don't have to spend it. I recommend taking the distribution then buy back the same investment or a similar one outside of the IRA. This way you are still staying in the market and when the market recovers, which it will, you will be in a position to recoup your losses. You should only buy back a good solid investment.

When you turn 70½ you must begin taking distributions from your retirement accounts. There are a couple of different exceptions, including deferring required minimum distributions from

an employer's retirement account if you are still working for that employer and from Roth IRAs. Roth IRAs are not subject to required minimum distributions.

There is a formula from the Internal Revenue Service to compute your required minimum distribution. It is based upon the balance of your retirement accounts at the end of the year. Therefore, your 2009 required minimum distributions will be based upon the balance of your retirement accounts on Dec. 31, 2008. Next year, required minimum distributions will be significantly lower than they are this year.

For those individuals who

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have not taken the required minimum distributions and who are charitable in nature, you are allowed to transfer your and trusts along with powers required minimum distribution from an IRA directly to a charity. The advantage is you can avoid paying taxes on your distribution. However, you do not receive a deduction for your charitable contribution. If you plan to do this, you can't wait until the last second. You need to obtain transfer information from the charity and have your IRA custodian directly transfer the money to the charity. IRA custodians are extremely busy near the end of the year so if you're going to implement this transaction, do it as soon as possible.

Dear Rick: My husband and I because jurisdictions around recently moved to Michigan. In the past we have done wills of attorneys. Now that we are Michigan residents, do these documents have to be redone?

Although you've come to Michigan during a difficult time, I think you'll learn over time how great it is. That being said I do believe it is important to have your estate planning documents reviewed by a Michigan attorney. In most situations, there will not be any changes that are required, however, better safe than sorry. One document that I would

redo would be your Medical Durable Power of Attorney

the country have different rules.

The Medical Durable Power of Attorneys gives someone the right to make a medical decision for you if you are unable. In today's world you do not necessarily have to pay an attorney to draft these documents. In Michigan, we have the Michigan Patient Advocate Form which is a free fill-in-the-blank form that meets most people's needs. You can download one at www. bloomassetmanagement.com. Click on the "articles, forms" tab on the left-hand side of the years. Not only do laws change but family situations change and therefore it is important to make sure your documents are up to date.

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The main reason you have an estate plan is because you love your family and want to make sure things will go as easy as possible for them if you're not here.

An up-to-date estate plan will accomplish this goal.

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

home page. Everyone should review estate planning needs every few ACREATE AND STABILITY agstachas a history of offering the most competitive rates. We even offer a best-rate guarantee to our Loyalty Checking customers.

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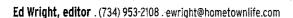
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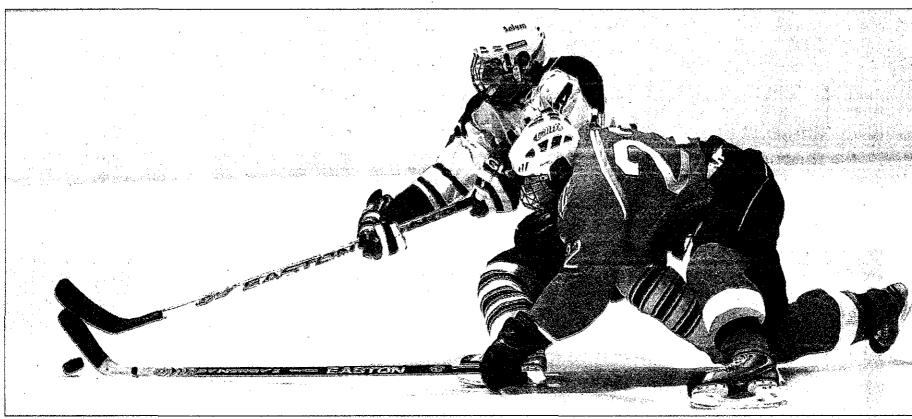




Sunday, November 30, 2008

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

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PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Salem's Nick Gennety and Canton's Donny Barlow stretch for a loose puck during Friday night's 2-2 draw at the Plymouth Cultural Center. The Chiefs were defending their Salem Thanksgiving Tournament championship.



Salem, Canton hockey teams skate to triple-OT 2-2 draw

BY ED WRIGHT OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The longest, most-dramatic battle in the 10-year existence of the Salem and Canton hockey programs was packed with a little bit of everything Friday night.

Everything, that is, except a winner. Stand-on-your-head goal-tending, tenacious checks, jaw-dropping puckadvancing moves - the Rocks and Chiefs provided it all during a Salem Thanksgiving Tournament semifinal contest that was eventually halted with the score knotted at 2-all following 45 minutes of regulation and three eightminute overtimes.

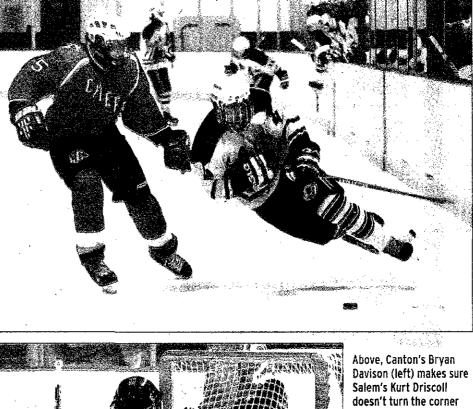
Abraham. Shoot-outs are prohibited by

MHSAA rules, Abraham said. "It seemed like the fair thing to do," Salem coach Ryan Ossenmacher said, regarding the decision to let Canton

play in Saturday's championship tilt. "To flip a coin after a game like that wouldn't have been right. It was a fun hockey game. It was what high school hockey is all about."

Ossenmacher said his players were understandably dismayed by the ruling, at least initially.

When you play over 60 minutes of hockey like they did and you work as hard as they did, they felt they deserved to be playing in the cham-



Friday night. At left, Canton goalie Zane

High Velocity break camps

High Velocity Sports in Canton will offer "fun days" and camps during the upcoming holiday breaks.

On "fun days", parents can drop off their kids at HVS any time between 7:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. and pay \$5 per hour for supervised care that includes sports and non-sports stations that rotate every 30 minutes. Fun days will be offered Dec. 1, Dec. 22-23; Dec. 29-31;, Jan. 19; Feb. 23-27; and April 13-17.

HVS camps will be offered from Feb. 23-27 and April 13-17. The camps included basketball (10 a.m. to noon), soccer (1 p.m. to 3 p.m.) and crafts (9 a.m. to noon).

For more information, call (734) 487-7668 or visit www. hvsports.com.

LeDuc update

Plymouth High School graduate Josh LeDuc was a part of NCAA football history Friday.



Following a brief meeting between the two coaches and PCEP athletic director Tom Willette, it was decided that Canton (2-0-1) would advance to Saturday's 4 p.m. final against the Michigan Stars, a Midget A travel team.

Salem (0-1-2) was set to take on Forest Hills Northern in the 2 p.m. consolation match-up.

"Since we won this tournament last year, the coaches and athletic director agreed that we should not lose our chance to regain the championship this year," said Canton coach Dan

Plymouth

Hackett,

pictured

last year,

during his

night.

pionship game as much as the other team," said Ossenmacher. "But in the end, I think they realized that this was the right decision. I think losing a coin flip would have been more disappointing."

The way the two rivals' senior goaltenders were playing - Canton's Zane Birchler and Salem's Adam Powers - the game may still be going on at the Plymouth Cultural Center had it not been stopped due to time restrictions. The quick, athletic Powers turned

Please see HOCKEY, B2

WALT DMOCH



Birchler stopped 34 shots during Friday's 2-2 draw with Salem.

The 6-3, 240pound Eastern **Michigan University** tight end snagged eight passes for 81 yards and a pair of touchdowns in the Eagles' 56-52 upset victory over Central Michigan University.

During the game, EMU starting quarterback Andy Schmitt set an NCAA record for most completions in a game.

Nokes seminar

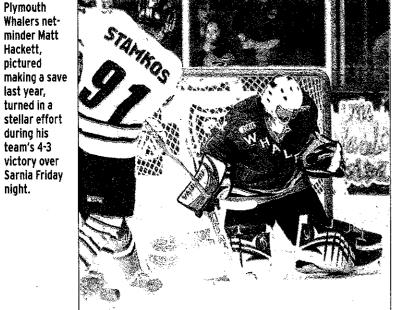
Former Detroit **Tigers** catcher Matt Nokes will present the seminar "The Art of Hitting Your Way" Dec. 7 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Precision Baseball in Canton.

The cost of the 90minute PowerPoint seminar and 90-minute training session is \$75.

For more information, contact Precision Baseball at (734) 459-5921 or visit http://precisionbaseballone.com.

4.44. W. 199.

The indoor baseball facility is located at 7835 Market St. in Canton.



Revived Whalers edge Sting, 4-3

Ryan Hayes scored twice and Matt Hackett stopped 30-of-33 shots as the Plymouth Whalers defeated the Sarnia Sting, 4-3, Friday night in an Ontario Hockey League game played before 3,795 at the Sarnia Sports and Entertainment Centre.

Plymouth improved to 9-12-3-0 and is 3-1-0-0 since team president and general manager Mike Vellucci returned to coach the Whalers on Novi, 10.

Sarnia slipped to 12-12-2-1.

Besides Hayes' pair, A.J. Jenks and Patrick Lee scored for the Whalers.

Jordan Hill, Michael Neal and Jamie Arniel replied for Sarnia.

The Whalers enjoyed a territorial edge in the

Home

first period, outshooting Sarnia, 15-6, while receiving two goals from Hayes.

Sarnia cut Plymouth's lead to 2-1 at 8:37 of

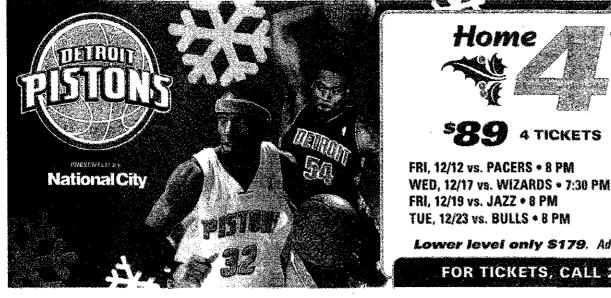
the second period on Hill's shot from the left point that deflected over Hackett's shoulder.

However, Plymouth roared back to score a pair of goals 1:08 apart to build a 4-1 cushion and chase starting Sarnia keeper Dan Spence when Jenks ripped a hard shot from the left hashmark at 10:16. Lee scored on a short from the right wing at 11:24.

WHALERS 2. WINDSOR 1: Vern Cooper's goal at 10:57 of the third period snapped a 1-1 tie as the Whalers edged the top-ranked Windsor Spitfires in an OHL game played Wednesday night at Compuware Arena.

The teams traded goals in the first period. Eric Wellwood scored his second goal of the season for Windsor at 7:51 of the first period when he roofed a severe-angle shot from the

Please see WHALERS, B2



FRI, 12/26 vs. THUNDER • 8 PM MON, 12/29 vs. MAGIC • 7:30 PM WED, 12/31 vs. NETS • 3 PM FRI, 1/2 vs. KINGS • 8 PM

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(CP)

B2 |

away 36 Chief shots - including six in the extra sessions -while the tall, agile Birchler re-directed 34 net-seeking pucks.

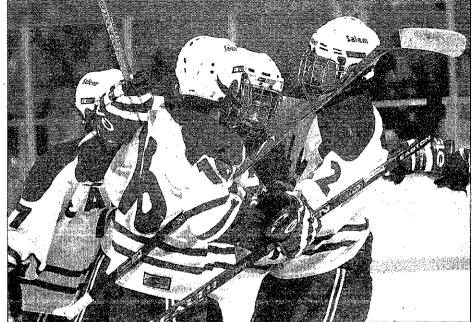
"Adam was our No. 1 star," said Ossenmacher. "He made some huge saves on break-aways and on two-on-ones. When you only allow two goals on close to 40 shots - and 25 of them were quality chances -- you're playing well."

The player most responsible for the on-ice marathon was Canton's Nick Tomilenko, whose sensational stop-start move and subsequent unassisted goal with 1:28 left in regulation knotted the game at 2-2.

Tomilenko also netted the Chiefs' first goal - a power-play lamp-lighter off a rebound 1:40 into the third period. Anthony Bonnett and Mark Barath assisted.

"Tomilenko has a way of finding the net, and Mark Barath does a good job of feeding him the puck," said Abraham. "They're our two top point-scorers in the early season. They make a good combination along with the other member of that line, Anthony Bonnett."

The focal point of Salem's offense could be summed up with two, three-letter words: Sam Ott. The senior forward's goal, which was assisted by Steve Haburne.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Salem players celebrate Sam Ott's second-period goal that put the Rocks ahead, 1-0.

opened the scoring with 4:24 left in the second period.

Ott gave the Rocks a 2-1 advantage with a up-close net-finder with 9:59 left in regulation off assists from Ryan Quigley

and Nick Hayes. "Sam is playing well," Ossenmacher said. "He's a powerful player."

The game remained scoreless for more

THE WEEK AHEAD

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Plymouth at Novi

than the first half of regulation thanks to stellar play from both squad's defensive units. Donny Barlow, Ryan May and Bryan Davison anchored the Chiefs' "D" while Michael Hochkins. Haburne and Eddie Mazorowicz frustrated Canton's scoring efforts throughout the night.

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

FROM PAGE B1

lower rim of the right circle underneath the cross-bar past Plymouth goaltender Matt Hackett. The Whalers replied on Michal Jordan's third goal of the season at 18:21 of the period. On the goal, Jordan accepted Tyler J. Brown's pass at center and skated into the Windsor zone to the right circle. Jordan beat Windsor goaltender Andrew Engelage with a hard shot that caught the Windsor netminder back in his blue crease.

Plymouth outshot Windsor, 15-13, in the first period. Windsor outshot Plymouth, 11-4, in the second period. Hackett saved his best work of the game in the third period when he stopped the OHL's leading scorer Taylor Hall (18-25-43) and Dale Mitchell on breakaways.

The Whalers used the forecheck to turn the game around in the third period and to take their only lead of the game. Good work deep in the Windsor zone by the forward line of Cooper, AJ Jenks and Kaine Geldart resulted in Cooper's goal in a scramble in front of the Windsor net at 10:57. The goal is Cooper's seventh of the season.

With Jenks already serving a tripping penalty at 18:44 of the third period, Windsor head coach Bob Boughner called a time-out and pulled Engelage for a 6-on-4 manpower advantage. Hall's shot from the right circle clanged off the cross bar in the final minute and the Whalers blocked several Windsor shots to preserve the victory.

"I'm very proud of the team," said Vellucci after the game. "You saw at the end (of the game) there, Geldart going down, blocking shots, then he turns his back on the play toblock another shot. With that kind of heart and determination, it doesn't matter what kind of team you have - if you're very talented or not, you have to block shots and you have to pay the price. Our guys did that tonight."

Vellucci feels the Whalers are starting to believe they can turn things around.

"It's all about belief," Vellucci said. "The guys are a little down right now, but we're 2-1-1-0 in our last four games and probably should have won against Sault Ste. Marie (5-4 overtime loss last Saturday). Our guys are working hard, working hard in practice. We're fixing a few little things and those things are working out right now.

Hackett emerged as the game's first star, stopping 34-of-35 shots in goal for the Whalers.

"Hack played great," Vellucci said. "He came up big and made some big saves when we needed them. He has a calming effect in the net. He keeps everything in front of him and deserves to win tonight as much as anybody."

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GIRLS PREP BASKETBAL Tuesday, Dec. 2 Saline at Canton, 7 p.m. W.L. Northern at Plymouth, 7 Wednesday, Dec. 3 Salem at A.A. Huron, 7 p.m Thursday, Dec. 4 Birmingham Marian at Canton, Friday, Dec. 5 PCA at Baptist Park, 7:30 p. F.H. Mercy at Plymouth, 7 p.m

. L	GIRLS PREP HOCKEY Tuesday, Dec. 2
	Cranbrook-Kingswood at PCS Penguins
p.m.	
	at Arctic Edge, 6:30 p.m. BOYS PREP HOCKEY
1.	Tuesday, Dec. 2
	W.L. Western at Salem
7 p.m.	at Cultural Center, 7:30 p.m.
	Wednesday, Dec. 3
m.	W.L. Western at Canton
m.	at Arctic Edge, 6 p.m.

at Novi Ice Arena, 6:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5 Novi at Canton at Arctic Edge, 8 p.m Livonia Stevenson at Salem at Cultural Center, 8:30 p.m. West Bloomfield at Plymouth at Compuware Arena, 7:40 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6 Salem at Waterford Mott, 2:20 p.m. Plymouth at Chelsea at Arctic Coliseum, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 3 Canton, Salem, Lakeland and Belleville at Canton guad, 5:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6 Canton at Warren Woods Tower-Duals, 9 a.m. Salem at Orion Invitational, 9 a.m. Plymouth at Columbia Central Invitational, 9 a.m.

PREP WRESTLING

us online at hometownlife.com

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON ACCESS TO PUBLIC MEETINGS

The Charter Township of Canton will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities at the meeting/hearing upon two weeks notice to the Charter Township of Canton. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Charter Township of Canton by writing or calling the following:

David Medley, ADA Coordinator Charter Township of Canton, 1150 S. Canton Center Road Canton, MI 48188 (734) 394-5260

Publish: November 30, 2008

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING FY2007 "CAPER"

On December 16, 2008, at 3 p.m. in the Administrative Services Conference Room, first floor, Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road, Canton, Michigan, there will be a public hearing on the FY 2007 Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report (CAPER). The CAPER covers Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program activities between July 2007 and June 30, 2008. Written comments or requests for information should be directed to: Gerald Martin, Community Services Specialist, Finance Department, 1150 S. Canton Center Road, Canton, Michigan 48188-1699, (734) 394-5194.

Terry Bennett, Clerk

Publish: November 30, 2008

VISIT HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Notice is hereby given that the City of Plymouth, Michigan will accept sealed bids up until 12:30 p.m., December 3, 2008. The bid opening will be at 12:30 p.m., December 3, 2008 for the following:

Request for Proposal - Engineering Services

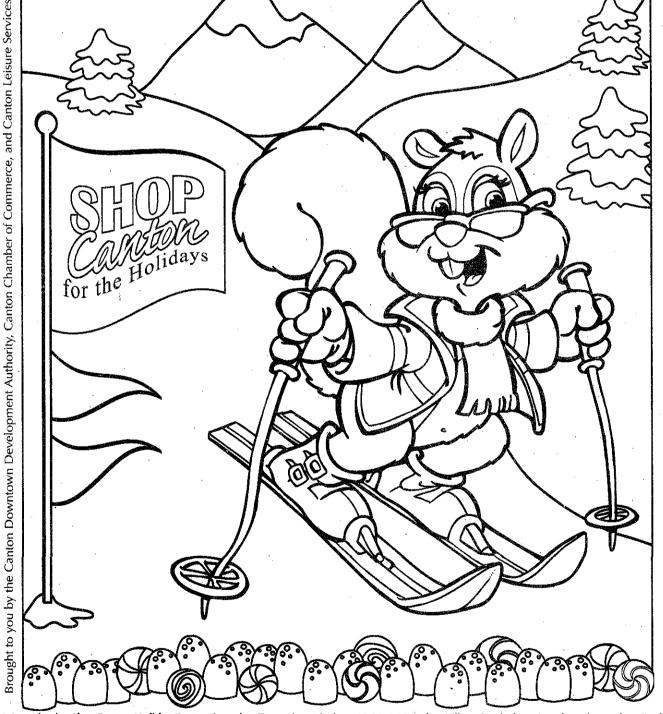
Specifications and bid documents are available at the city hall during normal business hours. You may also download a copy of the documentation from the City's web site at: http:// www.ci.plymouth.mi.us.

The City of Plymouth reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, in whole or in part, and to waive any irregularities.

Linda J. Langmesser, CMC City Clerk City of Plymouth

Publish: November 30, 2008

OE08633495-2x2



loin us for the ShopCanton Holiday Fest on Saturday, December 6th, from 12:00-4:00 in the Willow Creek shopping plaza, located on Ford Rd. between Haggerty and Lilley. Color and decorate the ShopCanton mascot any way you like. Be CREATIVE!

Turn your entry in at World of Floors (during business hours) located at 43711 Ford Road, by noon on Friday, December 5th. You can also bring your picture to the ShopCanton Holiday Fest between 12-3:00 p.m. (Entries received after 3:00 are not eligible to win.) Pictures will be displayed and judged at the World of Floors Coloring Corral in Candyland. (It will be located in the old Bombay store at the east end of the mall.) 1st, 2nd and 3rd Place winners will be selected from each age group. Winners will be notified by e-mail on Wednesday, Dec. 10. For more details on the ShopCanton Holiday Fest event or extra coloring forms, please visit www.shopcanton.org.

Age Group: 🗌 4-6 🛛 📋 7-9

Coloring Contest Sponsored by:

Orld Observer Eccentric

10-12

Phone		 	
Parent E-mail	 	 	
School	,		

Mama

CANTON POLICE DEPARTMENT 1150 S. CANTON CENTER RD. **CANTON, MI 48188**

The following vehicles have been deemed abandoned and will be sold at public auction, December 2, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. The auction will be held at Westland Car Care Towing, 6375 Hix Rd., Westland, MI 48185. The vehicles will be sold as is, starting bid is for towing and storage.

Year	Make	Model	Body	Vin #
1990	Ford	Econoline	Van	1FDEE14N9LHA24995
1995	GMC	Jimmy	S/W	1GKDT13B2D2503863
1995	Ford	Explorer	S/W	1FMCU24X9SUB87654
1998	Pontiac	Grand Am	2 Dr	1G2NE52T9WC770611
2006	Dodge	Charger	4 Dr	2B3KA43RS6H394348
2004	Mazda	RX 8	$2 \mathrm{Dr}$	JM1F317324O102875
1996	Nissan	Altima	$4 \mathrm{Dr}$	1M4B03107T2171188
1998	Ford	Windstar	S/W	2FMZAS143WBC20206
2004	Pontiac	Grand Prix	$4 \mathrm{Dr}$	2G2NP522941305271
1999	Ford	Windstar	S/W	2FM2A5143XBB23850
1996	Mercury	Marquis	$4 \mathrm{Dr}$	2MELM7462TX605906
1997	Dodge	Intrepid	$4 \mathrm{Dr}$	2B3HD46T6VH763712
1995	Plymouth		4 Dr	P3AA4639SF508686
2000	Pontiac	Sunfire	$2 \mathrm{Dr}$	1G2JD12T5Y7282388
2000	Olds	Alero	4 Dr	1G3NF12E9YC394613
Publish:	November 27 & 3	0,2008		OE08632975 2×3



CITY OF PLYMOUTH PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED USES OF 2009-2010 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT **BLOCK GRANT FUNDS**

Pursuant to Federal guidelines, the City of Plymouth is announcing its objectives and possible uses for developing projects using Year 2009-2010 Federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding.

OBJECTIVES:

- 1. To provide benefits to senior citizens.
- 2. To provide benefits directly to persons of low/moderate income and/or areas in which at least 51% of the residents are of low/moderate income.
- To maintain a high level of performance in the management 3. of all CDBG funded programs

PROPOSED YEAR 2009-2010 PROJECTS:

The City anticipates receiving approximately \$65,000 in CDBG funds for the contract year 2009-10, and has identified the following potential projects and corresponding estimated allocations for use of these funds:

1.	ADA Public Facility Improvements		\$46.150	
	Public Services- Senior Transportation	•	\$12,350	
3.	Administration/Planning		\$ 6,500	
		TOTAL	\$65,000	

PUBLIC HEARING:

Citizens are invited to comment on the proposed projects listed. above, and to suggest other projects. All projects must meet one of the Federal CDBG objectives.

A public hearing for the purpose of receiving comments on the proposed uses of 2009-2010 CDBG funds, and additional suggestions for use of said funds, will be held at the Plymouth City Commission Meeting on Monday, December 15, 2008 at 7:00 pm in the Commission Chambers at Plymouth City Hall, 201 S. Main St.

> Linda J. Langmesser, CMC City Clerk

> > OE08634444 - 22

Publish: December 4, 2008

www.hometownlife.com

ALL-AREA BOYS SOCCER TEAM

B3-(*)

FIRST TEAM SASA MISKOVIC, JR. GK, Salem: The junior recorded a 17-1-2 record and

registered 11 shutouts for the Rocks. who were the No. 1-ranked team in Division 1 for most of the season Miskovic earned first team All-State honors despite missing two weeks with an injury.

"Sasa was a critical component in what was perhaps the best overall defensive unit in the state this year, said Salem coach Ed McCarthy. "He has great range as a goal-keeper. He's very quick, which allows him to go out in traffic and dominate the 18-yard box. He'll be a major Division 1 college recruit." GREG SHRADER, SR. GK, Garden City:

Daring and acrobatic, Shrader's brilliant goalkeeping was a key reason the Cougars enjoyed a winning season. The third-year varsity player competed much bigger than his 5-9 height, racking up a team record 10 shutouts, stopping nearly 90 percent of shots sent his way and allowing just 14 regular season goals. Honors included team MVP and Mega White first team.

"His tremendous horizontal dives were surpassed only by his spectacular one-handed punches and twohanded grabs off high kicks," said Garden City head coach Bill Torni. ... He is going to be the benchmark

for goalies from this point forward." KEVIN COPE, SR. DEF., Salem: Cope wrapped up a stellar four-year varsity career by being named "Mr. Soccer" by the Michigan High School Soccer Coaches Association, a rarity for a defender. He netted four goals and three assists, but really made his mark on the defensive end of the pitch as he led a Rocks' defensive unit that allowed just a handful of goals all season.

"Kevin is not only one of the most complete defenders in the state. but he's one of the most complete all-around players," said McCarthy. "He simply has no weaknesses. He's a leader on the field and he has the ability to run the entire back line. Kevin does a great job of making everybody else around him better.

ADĂM BEĎELL, JR., DEF., LIV. CHURCHILL: The junior defender, who scored six goals and added 13 assists, earned second-team Division 1 All-State honors and was also named to the All-KLAA, All-District and All-Region teams.

"Adam was our mainstay in the back and really gets involved offensive for a defender," Churchill coach Reid Friedrichs said. "He was on of the most talented players and leaders, and the reason we had a successful season.

CHRIS LONG, SR. DEF., LIV. STEVENSON: The senior center back had four goals and three assists in his second year as a starter and third season on the varsity.

Long made All-Conference, All-District, All-Region and Division 1 All-State honorable mention. "Chris was fifth for us in scoring

last year, but in order to help the team, he moved into a central back position, bringing composure, speed and stability," Stevenson coach Lars

2008 ALL-OBSERVER BOYS SOCCER

FIRST TEAM

Sasa Miskovic, Jr. GK, Salem Greg Shrader, Sr. GK, Garden City Kevin Cope, Sr. Def., Salem Adam Bedell, Sr. Def. Liv. Churchill Chris Long, Sr. Def., Liv. Stevenson Brian Klemczak, Sr. MF, Liv. Stevenson Joey D'Agostino, Sr. MF, Liv. Stevenson Jeremy Stoychoff, Sr., MF, Salem Etienne Lussiez, Sr. MF, Liv. Churchill Nate Sergison, Sr. MF, Liv. Stevenson Scott Zech, Sr, F, Canton Josh Kruger, Sr. F. Luth. Westland SECOND TEAM Brent Zinn, Sr. GK, Ply. Christian Kendal Snow, Sr. Def., Liv. Stevenson Phil Strachan, Jr. MF, Liv. Clarenceville Gage Flanery, Jr. MF, Luth. Westland Nelson Kenne, Sr. MF, Westland Glenn Josh Pascarella, Sr. MF, Salem John Selinski, Jr. MF, Garden City Francis Mensah, Soph. F, Redford Union Max Washko, Jr. F, Liv. Churchill Danny Jasewicz, Sr. F, Plymouth Kyle Breitmeyer, Sr. F., Canton Khalid Suleiman, Sr. F, Westland Glenn

COACH OF THE YEAR Lars Richters, Liv. Stevenson HONORABLE MENTION Churchill: Erik Bird, Matt Regan, Ian Guerin,

Drew Sieber, Ben Zukowski, Chris DeNapoli, Jakub Herout: Franklin: Steve Trapp. Zain Qureshi. Travis Matthey: Stevenson: Alec Iwasko, Conner Burton; John Glenn: Sergio Pavan, Jacob Gates; Wayne Memorial: Zach Girouard: Garden City: Tyler Arban, Justin Vincent, Vaughn Frederick; Redford Union: Chris Gibbs, Greg Baile-Jann: Redford Thurston: Chris Clay, Luke Toppa, Mike Riffenburg, Dakotah Mullett; Clarenceville: Garrett Gregg, Matt Garant, Dustin Csokasy, Garet Hintzman, Jake Bibik: Lutheran Westland: Micah Hausch, Chris Barnaby, Austin Baglow, Laith Francis: Huron Valley Lutheran: Aaron Howell: Canton: Eric Caron, Joev Krizanek, Sherif Hassanien, Joel Langdon: Salem: Dan Radosevich, Lachlan Savage: Plymouth: Austin Kaczanowski, Vinh Nguyen; Plymouth Christian; Jordan Machonga, Spencer Wiard.

Richters said. "He created instant offense when asked to move forward in games. His unselfishness and willingness to help the team at a new position were integral to the team's success. He demonstrated great heart and reliability." Long also garnered Stevenson's

Unsung Hero award. "Most people never knew, but he

played the last two week of the season with mononucleosis. BRIAN KLEMCZAK, SR. MF, LIV. STEVENSON:

The senior captain and four-year varsity starter garnered a slew of honors this fall including Michigan High School Soccer Coaches Association Dream Team, Division 1 first-team All-State, All-Region, All-District, All-Conference and All-Midwest.

Klemczak, led the state runnerup Spartans with 18 goals, including eight game-winners, along with 13 assists as a senior.

"He did all this despite not being a numbers guy," Richters said. "Brian is a tremendous soccer player, student and young man. He will go down as one of the all-time greats in Stevenson soccer.' A 4.0 student, Klemczak will

play next year for the University of Michigan.

Klemczak is also captain of his



Sasa Miskovic Salem



Brian Klemczak Stevenson

Michigan Wolves club team which finished second in the Under-16 U.S. Youth Soccer Association 2007 Nationals.

JOEY D'AGOSTINO, SR. MF. LIV. STEVENSON: The senior captain, who had five goals and seven assists, teamed up Klemczak to form one of the state's best central midfield combinations playing nearly every key minute of every game for the second year in a row.

D'Agostino made All-Conference. All-District, All-Region and firstteam All-State. He was also captain of his Michigan Wolves Under-15 National championship team in 2007.

"Joey became a very leader this year," Richters said. "He's a 'biggame player' of the highest order. This was most visible in the state final, as he combined pinpoint passes with tenacious slide tackles and non-stop inspiration to his teammates.

"People don't realize how great Joey is until he isn't there. He will play at a Division I university next

year; they will be fortunate to have him and we'll certainly miss him." JEREMY STOYCHOFF, SR. MF, Salem: Stoychoff anchored the Rocks'

solid mid-field unit this season. He notched three goals and two assists while providing a leadership spark that often lifted the Rocks during their one-loss season.

"Jeremy was the key to our midfield this season," said McCarthy. "He tackles as hard as any player in the state. He has the ability to receive the ball in the mid-field and finish the play to the front.

ETIENNE LÛSSIEZ, SR. MF, LIV. CHURCHILL: The senior midfielder earned All-Stat honorable mention and All-KLAA honors after scoring 17 goals and adding seven assists.

"Etienne was our most talented offensive player, our playmaker, our quarterback on the field,"



Joey D'Agostino Stevenson



Etienne Lussiez Churchill

Kevin Cope

Salem

Friedrichs said. "He really found his game this year by helping our team attack and score in way we have not been able to in the past. NATE SERGISON, SR., MF, LIV. STEVENSON:

The third-year varsity starter and senior captain, who scored 12 goals and added six assists, was the Spartans emotional and inspirational leader.

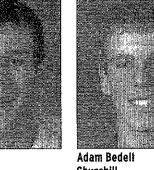
Sergison scored twice in a win over Northville and had the gamewinning goal against Grand Blanc in the state semifinal. He was also within inches of a state champions goal when his shot from distance rang off the bar.

"Nate's a great athlete, a varsity track athlete who has a future in college soccer if he would like to pursue it." Richters said of the All-Conference and All-District pick. "He is one of the most athletic and likeable players to cross my path.'

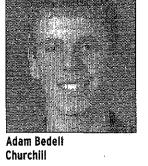
SCOTT ZECH, SR. F, Canton: Zech has made a mark on the Canton program for the past three seasons, the first two as a defender. His motor is always running and he controls the ball as well as anyone around. He earned second-team Division 1 All-State honors for the second consecutive season and was named All-Kensington Lakes Activities Association.

JOSH KRUGER, SR. F., LUTH. WESTLAND: The senior co-captain led the area with a total of 31 goals and 11 assists for the state-ranked Warriors. Kruger, who figured in 42 of the Warriors' 60 goals this season, also made first-team All-State in Division 4 and also earned All-Metro Conference honors.

"His real asset to the team was his leadership," Lutheran Westland coach Rich Block said. "Anytime we needed someone to take control and settle things down, it was Josh. Our practices are pretty intense and often times would run over. As



on Micah Hausch.





Chris Long Stevenson



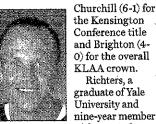
Josh Kruger **Lutheran Westland**

and has guided Stevenson to two

His overall head coaching record

state finals and one Final Four.

is 199-27-14.



the Kensington Conference title and Brighton (4-0) for the overall KLAA crown. Richters, a graduate of Yale University and nine-year member of the pro indoor

soccer team the

STEVENSON: The 11th-year coach guid-Richters ed the Spartans to a 20-2-3 overall Detroit Rockers, played on three state record and a berth in the Division T state finals before losing in overtime championship teams as a Spartans

to defending state East Kentwood. Stevenson captured the KLAA's tough Central Division with an

Nate Sergison

Stevenson

"I'd sum up the character of Josh

by saying that in our last game and

one team in the state. Josh stepped

up with the help of his teammates

and scored two goals to tie the game

with 15 minutes left. Never quitting,

always working - that's Josh Kruger.

LARS RICHTERS, COACH OF THE YEAR,

down by two goals to the number

8-0-2 record en route to beating

SIMPLY SELF STORAGE

Notice is hereby given that on December 15, 2008 on or after 9:30 a.m. that Simply Self Storage will be offering for sale under the Judicial lien Process by Public Auction the following units. The goods to be sold are generally described as household goods. Terms of the sale are cash only. Simply Self Storage reserves the right to refuse any and all bids. The sale will be at the following location: 34333 E Michigan Ave. Wayne MI. 48184. 734-728-8204.

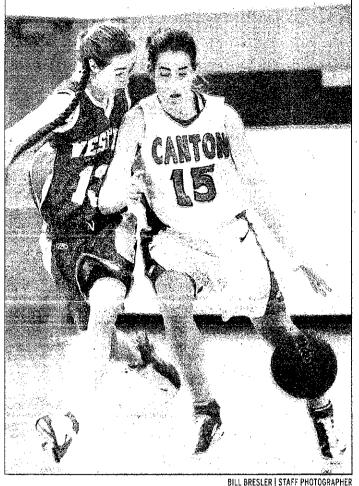
A121-Gina Solomon- 20 bags, 20 Totes, clothes A145B- Randall Frye- TV, Microwave, Fax Machine A175- Gina Solomon- TV, Stereo. Safe A332- David Moraniec- 2 Speakers, Computers, Stereo A353- John Johnson- Computer, 20 Bags B133- Randall Frye- Fax Machine, Shop Vac, 20 boxes B142- Jerisha Hawkins- Bike, Table, 30 Boxes C123- Andrew Weaver-Tools, Hutch, Microwave C191- Latesha Davis- Stereo, Dresser, 3 Totes C194- Mark Hughey- Tool chest, Computer, Exercise Equipment D166- Kenneth Siebert- Display Racks, Display Case, Tote E150- Marita MacNall- Volvo, Generator, Tools

- E155- David Quarles- 2 Dressers, Mattress, Record Player RV10-Randolph Valentino- 1960 Grey Cadillac
- RV11-Randolph Valentino-Ford F-7

RV50-Beverly Brown- 1984 Ford Bronco RV53- Beverly Brown- 1955 Mercury Villager

Publish: November 30 & December 7, 2008





Melanie Pickert (15), pictured last year in a game against Walled Lake Western, will play a major role for Canton's girls basketball team this winter.

Young Chiefs have high hopes for 08-09

BY ED WRIGHT Observer staff writer

There will be no "Senior Night" ceremony this season for the Canton girls basketball team.

No, the annual, late-season celebration that honors each team's final-year players is not a victim of a budget crunch.

There will be no "Senior Night" for the Chiefs because the Chiefs have no seniors — a rarity that coach Brian Samulski hopes his young squad can overcome with several other attributes.

"This is a pretty competitive, athletic group and they work hard," said Samulski, who is looking to improve on last season's 6-15 mark. "Although we don't have any seniors, several of our underclassmen last year played a lot of minutes on varsity, which will help."

Canton will be led by a pair of sophomores: 5-foot-9 guard Melanie Pickert and 5-10 post player Kayla Bridges.

"Melanie continues to

PREP HOOP PREVIEW

work hard," said Samulski. "She knows how to get to the rim and finish. "She's a solid defender on the ball.

"Kayla can play the four and five positions. She has a nice touch around the rim and she can rebound."

Samulski will welcome the return of sophomore CarolAnn Sexauer, a 5-9 guard who missed last season with a knee injury.

"She can knock down the 12- to 15-footers, something we missed last season," said Samulski. "She worked very hard this summer rehabbing her knee. Now, I think she's better than she was before the injury."

A pair of 5-9 juniors — Lindsey Winters and Alyssa Cottrell — will be counted on to make some major contributions to the Chiefs' fortunes this season.

"Lindsey played six games on varsity last year, so the experience she gained will help her a lot this year," said Samulski. "Alyssa plays with tremendous energy and she can score around the rim."

Sophomore twins Kari and Sara Schmitt played key roles in the Chiefs' junior varsity contingent's 20-0 record last winter.

"They both play with a lot of effort," said Samulski. "Kari can hit the 12- to 15-foot shot and she can defend the post. Sara is a very good rebounder. She's a tremendous worker." Freshman guard Robyn

Mack, who's 5-5, will help distribute the ball for Canton. "Robyn has great vision

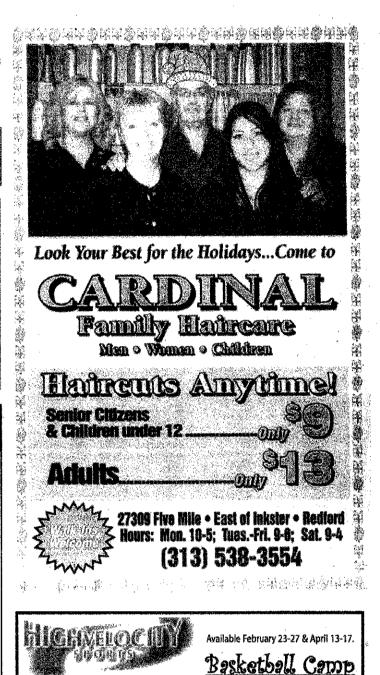
on the court and she has the instincts it takes to pass the ball to the right teammate at the right time." Providing valuable depth for the Chiefs will be 5-9 junior Kelly Latimore, 5-5 junior guard Ciara Williams and 5-5 junior guard Yuki Krolicki.

Samulski predicted the Kensington Lakes Activities Association's South Division will be competitive from Day 1.

"Obviously, Livonia Franklin — with the Taylor twins back — will be very solid," said Samulski. "Plymouth has just about everybody back, including Shaakira Haywood and Stacey Klonowski, so they'll be tough. On the other side, Salem and Novi should both be very good."

Canton opens its season Tuesday at home against Saline. The opening tip is set for 7 p.m.

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CREATIVE SOLUTIONS

84 (CP)



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



Reid Conlon dances the role of the Nutcracker Prince, Erica Martin, the Rat King, when the Plymouth-Canton Ballet Company joins the Plymouth Symphony Orchestra for performances of Tchaikovsky's holiday classic. Both dancers live in Canton.

Holiday tradition dances into town

t's been a few years since I've seen The Nutcracker ballet but the storybook characters are still dancing in my head. It's hard to forget the tale of a girl who dreams her doll has come to life especially when set to live music.

Local productions are especially fun to watch year after year even though the story remains the same more than a century after Tchaikovsky wrote the beloved music. Many of the dancers start as little mice only to go on to play the role of Clara.

Beck Greene has watched them all grow up. For many years he played the sinister Uncle Drosselmeyer who gives the doll to Clara. This holiday season Greene



works backstage for the **Plymouth-Canton Ballet** Company performances with the Plymouth Symphony Orchestra. The curtain rises 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, at Salem High School Auditorium in Canton. Tickets are \$18 for adults

and teens, \$10 for children. Call (734) 676-7233 or visit www. GrosseIleDance.com.

Dawn Greene directs the ballet company, Nan Washburn the PSO.

"Expect a magical, fantasy type of experience," said Beck Greene. "The children who sit in the audience almost think of

Experts give tips for the holidays

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN O&F STAFF WRITER

John Del Signore moves from food station to dessert table checking last-minute details for a tasting of holiday dishes at Laurel Manor in Livonia. Preparing for a party takes time. For the last few days the kitchen staffers, including executive chef Greg Vitale, have been busy making asparagus wraps and apricot chicken to give businesses, corporations and nonprofit organizations ideas, but anyone can use these tips to create a memorable event.

"We display not just food but decorations to get ideas to do these different types of events,' said Del Signore, who has been in the restaurant business 50 years. "We do a different table in December, different settings, from a seven-course meal to a simple dinner. I love the holidays. You always have people coming from out of town and having a party year after year."

SCALING BACK

While people are still planning to entertain this holiday season, gone are the days when corporations like Roush Industries treated 2,500 to 3,000 employees and clients to a buffet from 4 p.m. to midnight every year. Events are being scaled back although Del Signore is especially excited about Laurel Manor's New Year's Eve Gala with an elaborate display of hors d'oeuvres, plated dinner, specialty dessert table, and afterglow with pizza and Danish.

'Because of the economy people are doing parties but not as elaborate," said general manager Linda Baffy. "For holiday parties, we do market place stations with hot food, pasta, carving stations, a sweet table and coffee station. Our deli has hot food



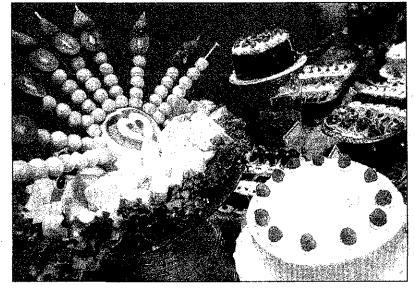




Greg Vitale, executive chef at Laurel Manor, describes a holiday dish of Chicken Pecan with Twice Baked Potatoes and Squash Medley.



Holiday table settings fill the room at Laurel Manor in Livonia.



Holiday desserts lay on the table for sampling at the Afternoon of Taste at Laurel Manor in Livonia.

it as watching a movie or cartoon rather than a ballet. It's very entertaining for the children."

The children in the audience are the reason the ballet company and symphony are keeping prices the same this year in spite of the downturn in the economy. Nutcracker productions can be quite costly so instead of raising ticket prices, the number of performances has been cut from three to two. The Plymouth-Canton Ballet always spotlights professional dancers. This year, Jay Goodlet performs as the Snow King and Cavalier, Tricia Sundberg as the Sugar Plum Fairy and Snow Queen. Both are soloists with the Cincinnati Ballet.

"We're trying to make it so everybody gets an opportunity to enjoy this holiday tradition," said Greene.

For the first time in several years, the Livonia Symphony Orchestra brings back the story by opening the concert with several movements that feature nearly 40 dance students from Bunny Sanford's school in Livonia. Although only a few selections will be performed at the Christmas Festival, it's a step in the right direction. The symphony used to put on the entire ballet, but budget concerns eliminated the annual production. The program takes place 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, at Clarenceville High School, 20155 Middlebelt, south of Eight Mile, Livonia. Tickets are \$17 adults, \$5 for children and students. Call (734) 421-1111.

For the second half of the program 18 musicians from the Livonia Youth Philharmonic sit side-by-side with orchestra members for classics such as *Sleigh* Ride and White Christmas. The fifth- and sixth-grade choir from Johnson Upper Elementary School, under the direction of LSO musician Karen Danke, will sing two selections from the movie How The Grinch Stole Christmas, The Clarenceville High School Choraliers, under the direction of Jason Debandt, close the program with Silent Night.

"It's going to be great family fare," said Rose Kachnowski, president of the Livonia Symphony Society. "It's always a fun thing for youngsters to see the Waltz of the Flowers. It moves quickly and kids love it. The second half is a fun one with several student groups joining the orchestra."

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

and sandwiches and we have desserts from Sweet Dreams in Farmington Hills and our own."

COST-CUTTERS

Vitale proudly displays one of the ways to dress up chicken for the holidays. Chicken seems to be a popular choice as a way of cutting costs.

"There's chicken breaded with pecan, apricot chicken, Anchorage chicken stuffed with crab meat," said Vitale. "We have new and old favorites like chicken picatta. Pasta is popular, homemade rolled pasta with ricotta, Parmesan and spinach."

"Shrimp is always big at the holidays" added Deirdre Stemmelen, general sales manager. "It's a celebratory time. For decor, bright colors are in this year, lime green and black, chocolate brown, jewel tones."

Just about anything goes as far as decorations, but again the downturn in the economy is affecting spending not innovation. Lori Morrison offers plenty of inspiration for that table centerpiece.

We have orders for four parties already for this year which is early," said Morrison, co-owner of Ribar Floral Co. in Plymouth with her mother, Marcia Sayles. "The dollar amount of what people are spending is down. They're doing primarily centerpieces with candles. Turquoise and silver is popular. Traditional red is always a favorite."

OFFERING SUGGESTIONS

Morrison was designing a red rose centerpiece for the Plymouth Symphony League Holiday Home Tour, planned for today, Sunday, Nov. 30. She's always willing to share ideas with customers from setting a table to creating a focal point.

"Roses don't last as long with Christmas greens which drink far more water," said Morrison. "If they're trying to cut costs, they certainly can do arrangements with assorted pines, cones and ribbons which would go from now 'till end of year if watered every day. They might get it earlier and try to keep it going.

"People are still spending, but not high ticket. You certainly can still have a nice party. One woman, her daughter is getting married in December. They were looking for creative ideas for a centerpiece. You can just gather pine cones up in your yard, or branches off your tree.

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The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

www.hometownlife.com

"A lot of people have things in their own house they don't even think of. A red tablecloth with a tea light candle in a glass mayonnaise jar. Tie a holiday ribbon around the neck and you have a beautiful candle with Christmas charm. You could nestle the candle in peppermints, nuts or even sand if you wish. Try grouping several together for a dramatic evening effect.'

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TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Mary Cambridge sits among the decorations in the laundry room of her Livonia home which is featured on the Greenmead Christmas Walk.

Walk brings Christmas home for yule revelers

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

Don't expect a McMansion, but cozy rooms filled with memories, Kathie Sterbling tells a visitor to her Livonia home. At least two of the stops on the Greenmead Christmas Walk spotlight keepsakes that revisit holidays past. Six private homes as well as the Hill House at the historical village offer dozens of ideas for reusing old treasures that have been in the family for. vears.

The Sterblings still cherish a music box with Santa skating on top from their first Christmas as a married couple 49 years ago. Handmade ornaments decorate a ceiling-to-floor tree in the living room. On Christmas day, the couple's three daughters and their eight children take turns opening presents nearby.

"It's very homey and very old-fashioned. The grandkids made things, kids made things. It's things like that you can't leave in a closet," said Kathie Sterbling.

The family tree is the most important in

Please see GREENMEAD, C2



Kathie and John Sterbling sit in the living room of their Livonia home which will be featured.

GREENMEAD CHRISTMAS WALK

What: Friends for the Development of Greenmead present six homes and the Hill House at the historical village When: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6 Tickets: \$9 in advance, \$10 day of the walk, and available at Livonia libraries, Greemead (Newburgh, south of Eight Mile), and Community Resources Department at Livonia City Hall. For information, call (734) 466-3540 or (734) 425-4855.

HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

(*) Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, November 30, 2008



Good dog

C2

Barney is an adorable, lovable and friendly black male greyhound, according to his foster mom. He is 2.5 years old and looking for his 'Forever Home.' He lives with two other greyhounds and two cats. Barney loves his squeaky toys and his peanut butter-filled Kongs. He is a very friendly and happy boy. He has been in his foster home for one year only because his family does not live near an area that Greyheart Greyhound Rescue and Adoption hosts Meet & Greets and therefore does not get any exposure. To find out more, visit www. greyheart.org.



Bambi

Bambi is an 11-year-old greyhound looking for a permanent home. This black beauty with a graying face is a very sweet lady that loves walks and is wonderful with other dogs and cats. She is a cuddlebug that loves to sleep with her family. For information, call (866) 438-4739 or visit www.greyheart.org. Greyheart Greyhound Rescue and Adoption is holding Meet & Greets with other homeless greyhounds noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, at Petco, 43435 Ford Road, Canton, and Sunday, Nov. 30, at PetSmart, 385 Haggerty, Commerce Twp.

Cyclist to speak at Italian American Club on Dec. 4

The Dante Alighieri Society of Michigan presents a program on one of the world's premier cycling events that will mark its 100th anniversary in 2009. Guest speaker Christian Vande Velde, holder of the coveted Pink Jersey from the 2008 Giro d'Italia, reveals the inside stories and exciting action from the front lines of the race 6:30-10 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 4, at the Italian American Club & Banquet Center, 39200 W. Five Mile.

Tickets are available in advance for \$20 adults, \$15 children and students, \$25 and \$20 at the door (all tickets include dinner and entertainment). For reservations, visit www.dantemichigan. org/events.htm or call Diana Manzo at (586) 264-3579.

Madonna University to present Christmas opera

The Madonna University Lyric Theatre Performers, faculty and guest artists present Amahl and the Night Visitors 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, at the Millennium Centre Theatre, 15600 J.L. Hudson Drive, Southfield. Tickets are \$15 adults, \$10 seniors and students, and available at the box office, www.millenniumboxoffice.com, or by calling (248) 796-5199. This Christmas opera, first televised in the 1950s, tells the story of the young, crippled Amahl and his mother who are visited by the Three Wise Men on their wav to bring gifts to the Christ Child. The second half of the program is a potpourri of Christmas songs performed by various artists and a sing-along with the audience.



Tristan Lopus (left), a seventhgrader at St. Fabian's in Farmington, plays Amahl, and Wayman Ezell King Balthazar in the Christmas opera presented by Madonna University at the Millennium Centre Theatre in Southfield. Ezell, a Detroit native, is an actor and conductor living in New York.



Holiday figures rest on a bench in the Cambridge home.

GREENMEAD

the house with photographs of the grandchildren instead of ornaments. Everywhere the eye looks are vignettes with snowmen, bird houses and Santas John made in his woodworking shop. A sewing tree with scissors and a tape measure garland spotlight one of Kathie's hobbies. Gardening gloves form a skirt beneath the dead tree branches stuck in a dirt-filled watering can. John and Kathie share a love of making things grow in their back yard which has been on the Greenmead Garden Walk. The two events raise money for the restoration of the historical

park in Livonia. "I don't take anything down until the third week in January," said Kathie, who spends a couple of weeks putting out the village of bird houses by John and another village ordered from the Sears Catalog 49 years ago. "January is so dull. It makes it colorful. They all have a story. I hope they spend time looking at things and enjoy it."

DESIGNER'S TOUCH

Visitors definitely will delight in the decorations and furnishings in the home of Mary and Jim Cambridge. Mary was trained as an interior designer and used her talents in every room over the last 22 years. Since their home was on the walk four years



The garden tree in the Sterbling home.

ago, she's redone the upstairs. The master bedroom features a black, white and red theme with framed antique kerchiefs, a tabletop red aluminum tree and her mother's bassinet from childhood.

In the living room is a large snowmen tree where the couple and their three grown children gather on Christmas Eve. Mary collects snowmen and Santas, but also glass shoes, plates, and cloth country dolls. Her collections, including the Santa eggs she painted, can be seen in groupings in many rooms. The Santa in the living room belonged to her mothe holds special memories. "Every room is decorated to the color of the room," said Mary Cambridge. "The tree in the sun room has handmade

storybook ornaments I made in college 30 years ago, felt ornaments with sequins on them, and also Greenmead ornaments. I'm a historical commissioner so doing the walk is always fun and for a good cause. Greenmead is Livonia's history. Those are the founding families of Livonia, the Kingsley House, Meeting House where Quakers gathered, the Hill House where we're gutting the inside and redoing everything."

RETRO LOOK

Janet Bennett is especially excited about the theme of the Hill House this year. Bennett is president of Friends for the Development of Greenmead and organizes the walks.

"They're doing the theme 1950s and using an artificial tree the Hills used in 1950 in an 1850 farm house which also has hot chocolate and homemade cookies in the kitchen for visitors," said Bennett. "A couple of the homes are quite different. One modest home has interesting mouldings, classical pillars on the inside of the house. Another man has a pipe organ in his home and is going to play all day long. Another house reminds me of a little cottage in a nursery story. Another is a big home with its own little theater room. One just built a home over a s home. The living room has the old fireplace and will be a fascinating place."

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REUNION CALENDAR

The Reunion Calendar runs Sundays in the newspaper as space allows, and online in its entirety at www.hometownlife.com. Submit your reunion announcement at least two weeks in advance to Linda Chomin, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia, Mich., 48150, or e-mail Ichomin@hometownlife.com. **Brighton High School**

Class of 1989

Planning a 20th reunion and searching for classmates. Sign up at "yahoo groups-brighton high school class of 1989" for more information.

Class of 1959

50th reunion with activities June 5-7, 2009. Events will include a Saturday evening dinner party at Plum Hollow Country Club in Southfield. For information, visit www. casstech59.com or contact Marge Teramino Knable, reunion@casstech59.com; Debbie Friedman, (248) 626-3729; or Steve Sperling, (248) 360-9658.

Dearborn Fordson

Class of 1969

Planning a reunion. Contact Kathy Nisun at (248) 363-5679 or e-mail: Kayninilu@aol.com or Kathy Shoebridge @ Klivingston@nu-core.com.

Detroit St. Brigid

Class of 1959

Planning a reunion and looking for classmates. Contact szonyek@att.net with any information about classmates.

Detroit Winship School

To submit an item for the religion

calendar, fax it to (734) 591-7279 or

write: Religion Calendar, Observer

Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft,

Livonia, MI 48150. Deadline for an

announcement to appear in the

Thursday edition is noon Monday.

UPCOMING

St. John's Support Group for the

or patients with other forms of

Caregiver's of Alzheimer's patients

dementia meets at 10 a.m., the first

and third Friday of each month at St.

John's Episcopal Church, 574 South

Sheldon, Plymouth. Respite care for your loved one will be provided. Call

Connie McNutt at (734) 895-1426

for more information. This group

is authorized by the Alzheimer's

7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 2, at St. Paul's

Presbyterian Church on Five Mile, one

Association.

The Nativity movie

Caregiver's support group

Class of 1956

Members of the eighth- grade graduating class of 1956 who are interested in planning a reunion, should call Beth Weingarden at (810) 695-7882.

Garden City High School

Class of 1960

Mini-reunion luncheons held the second Saturday of every month at 1 p.m. in the banquet room in the Plymouth Denny's on Ann Arbor Road, east of I-275. Call Gary Simon at (734) 751-4101 or send e-mail to GCHS. MCMLX@yahoo.com.

Class of 1989

20th reunion Aug. 29, 2009, at Joy Manor (6 p.m. to midnight. Ticket \$65 before March 1, 2009, \$75 from March 2 to June 1, 2009. No tickets will be sold at the door. Tickets include dinner, premium open bar, dj, door prizes, picture cd and other gifts, and available for purchase at www.gardencity89.com or contact Paula at gchs1989reunion@hotmail.com.

Grosse Pointe North Class of 1991

Call (800) 677-7800, visit www.taylorreunions.com or e-mail: info@taylorreunions.com.

Lincoln Park High School

Looking for members of Lincoln Park High School class of 1958 for 50-year reunion. Contact Nancy, (313) 535-8777 or nc6897@sbcgloblal.net.

Livonia Franklin

Class of 1969

A reunion is in the pre-planning stages. For more information, contact Kathy Nisun at (248) 363-5679 or e-mail: Kavninilu@aol.com. **Milford High School**

Class of 1978

Planning a 30th reunion. Class members should contact the reunion committee as soon as possible. E-mail milford78@gmail.com.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bennett-LeBlanc

John and Sandy Bennett of Livonia announce the marriage of their daughter, Jennifer Leigh, to Darryl Joseph LeBlanc, son of Carol LeBlanc of Livonia and the late James V. LeBlanc.

The bride is a 2007 graduate of Eastern Michigan University, where she earned her master's degree in education. She works at Plymouth High School.

The groom is a 1995 graduate of Churchill High School and works for H.D. Supply in Livonia.

The couple wed Sept. 26, 2008, before the Rev. Phillip Rogers at Connection Church in Canton.

The bride was attended by maids of honor Terri Sabala and Kimberly Harris, and bridesmaids Meghin Gani, Rebecca Guibord, Nicole Frizzell, Erin Slater, Amanda Dimmer and Sarah Walsh.

The groom was attended by best men Kevin Swider and Brian LeBlanc, and groomsmen Eric LeBlanc, John Bennett, Patrick Will, Michael Minghine, Michael Stanbury and Joseph Harris.

Following the ceremony, the couple received guests at St. Mary's Cultural Center in Livonia.

They plan a two-week honeymoon in Hawaii and have made their home in Livonia.

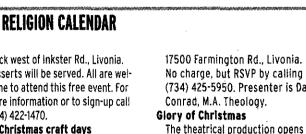
Young-Young

Kenneth and Priscilla Young of Livonia announce the engagement of their daughter, Megan, to Joshua Young, son of James and Kathleen Young of Waterford.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Franklin High School in Livonia. She completed her master gardener's course and works at Glen Oaks Country Club and at Capital Grille in Troy.

Her fiance is a graduate of Waterford High School. He works as a master electrician at Anstanig Electric.

A June 20, 2009, wedding is planned.



Desserts will be served. All are welcome to attend this free event. For more information or to sign-up call (734) 422-1470.

Kids Christmas craft days

Deadline is Dec. 4 to register for Kids Christmas Craft Day 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Dec. 6, for ages 5 years through 5th grade, at St. Mile, one block west of Inkster Rd., Livonia. Kids will enjoy creating Christmas crafts to be used as gifts or decorations. All are welcome to attend. Suggested donation of \$3 per child. For more information or to sign-up, call (734) 422-1470.

Advent presentation

reflect on and delight in preparing for Christ's arrival 7-8:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 4, in Bixman Hall at St. Aidan Catholic Church,

17500 Farmington Rd., Livonia. No charge, but RSVP by calling (734) 425-5950. Presenter is David Conrad, M.A. Theology. **Glory of Christmas**

Dick and Betty Nolan of Canton announce the engagement Szocinski and Lloyd Tulgetske of Johannesburg.

College where she earned a degree in photography. She works for Fox Portrait Studios. The groom served in the U.S. Navy, and is now working for Hayball Transport.

Nolan-Tulgetske

of their daughter, Heather, to Terry Tulgetske, son of Connie

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Washtenaw Community

A September 2009 wedding is planned.

Elsner-Nahavandi

Robert and Marcia Elsner of Plymouth announce the marriage of their daughter, Elizabeth Marie Marzonie Elsner, to Kurosh Nahavandi of Portage. He is the son of Amir Nahavandi of Marabella, Spain and Amy and Paul Van Laak of Long Lake, New York, but currently residing in

of Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, where he earned his bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering and his master" degree in material science. He works as a senior designer for Stryker Corporation in Portage.

The couple wed at sunset on Sept. 13, 2008 on the beach at the Dreams Resort in Punta Cana. Dominican Republic.











block west of Inkster Rd., Livonia.

Paul's Presbyterian Church on Five

Through Scripture, food and drink.

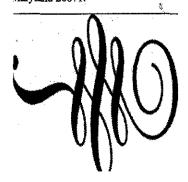
Thursday, Dec. 4, and runs weekends through Sunday, Dec. 14, at NorthRidge Church, 49555 N: Territorial at Ridge, Plymouth. Tickets \$16 and \$18. Call (734) 414-7777 or visit www.northridgechurch. com. Curtain times are 7:30 p.m.

Thursday-Friday, 1 p.m. Saturday, and 3 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Sunday. Holiday concert

Madrigal Chorale of Southfield performs 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, at the historic Old St. Mary's Church in Detroit's Greektown, 646 Monroe at St. Antoine. Tickets \$18 and available by calling (248) 229-7147 or \$20 at the door. Information is also available at www.mcs-notes.org.

GRETCHEN BORNOR COLE

Born November 12, 1927 to loving parents Dora and Frank Bornor, passed on in peace on November 24, 2008 at ige 81, with her daughters Cynthia and Sally by her side. She is also survived by Sally's husband Ron, grandchildren Erich, Nicole (Josh), Misha, Libby Terry), and Emerson, and great-grandson Jayce. Gretchen's life is a estament to her loving, intelligent and ndependent spirit. She was born in Detroit and lived in several states durng her childhood, as her father lesigned the nation's new highways. Her family later settled in Royal Oak where she graduated from Royal Oak High School. She earned a bachelor's legree in 1949 in sociology and music rom DePauw University in Indiana, where she created many lifelong riendships as a member of the Alpha Chi Omega sorority. Gretchen devoted countless volunteer hours as a Braille ypist and with numerous other organzations while she was a wife and nother, and raised her two daughters with devotion, love and great fun. When she was in her 50s, she earned a naster's degree in social work from Wayne State University, and then worked as a medical social worker at Joseph's Hospital in Pontiac, Michigan. In 1983 she became CEO of Detroit Air Compressor Company, which her parents had founded and run ogether for more than 40 years, and in he 1990s Gretchen received the Woman of the Year award from the National Association of Women **3usiness Owners.** Gretchen continualy gave her love, thoughtfulness, keen ntellect, grand humor and radiant mile to her family and many friends. She enjoyed traveling, and made everyone around her feel special. Gretchen marveled others with the sower of her beautiful singing voice lespite her 4'10" frame, reveled in the juiet of a glass of wine and a good book, and the beauty of Lake Michigan from her vacation home in northern Michigan. She leaves a lasting legacy of deep love for family, and a special style that will remain in the hearts of ill who knew her forever. While the amily will celebrate Gretchen's life privately, friends are welcome to share nemories and extend condolences at DesmondFuneralHome.com. Memorial tributes in her name to Alzheimer's Disease Research, 22512 Jateway Center Drive, Clarksburg, Maryland 20871.







Obituaries, Memorials, Remembrances



WALTER R. NAAS

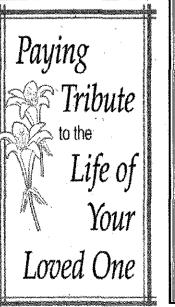
Of East Grand Rapids, passed away on November 24, 2008. Walter served in the Army Air Corps as a Bomber Pilot in WWII. He is survived

by his wife of 63 years, Suzanne, and his children, Connie and Richard Todd of DE, Jim Naas of N.C., and Nancy and Jeff Wickman of East Grand Rapids, MI, four grandchildren, Lindsey and Chris Jacona, Allison, Amanda, and Molly Wickman, one great granddaughter, Sienna Jacona. A private family service was held lovember 26th. In lieu of flowers, send contributions to the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans, 3000 Monroe N.E., Grand Rapids, MI 49505.

BARBARA P. RANSFORD

Age 63 of Magnolia, AR. Died Monday, November 24, 2008 at the John R. Williamson Hospice House in El Dorado, AR. Memorial services were held Tuesday, Nov 25th in AR.

E. HELEN (Tiri) SNABB Age 84, Farmington Hills, MI, passed away November 26, 2008. Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington, MI



In Memory Of



IN LOVING MEMORY OF EDWARD KENT EBERE II 12-1-2006

Taken from us in the prime of his life. We cherish each and every day and ever moment we spent with you. We miss your infinite knowledge, guidance, your laughter and jokes, discussion and advice. If tears could build a stairway to Heaven and memories a road, we would walk right up to Heaven and bring you home again. It will never be the same, we will never be the same, we will forever love you and never forget you. Love always and forever, your loving wife Connie and son Walt, Bev and Jeff.

OBITUARY Ş POLICY The first five "billed" lines of an

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

dnesday 9:45 AM for Thursday les received after these dea

will be placed in the next available issue. -mali your obit to oeobits@hometownlife.com

or fax to: Attn: Obits c/o Jennifer Musztuk 586-826-7318 For more information cal Jennifer Musztuk

586-826-7115 or Charolette Wilson 586-826-7082

or toll free 800-579-7355

Kowloon Bay, Hong Kong.

The bride is a graduate of Plymouth Canton High School and the University of Michigan, where she earned her bachelor's degree in chemical engineering, her master's degree in biomedical engineering and competed in softball as a Big Ten scholar athlete. She works as a senior analyst for Whirlpool Corporation in St. Joseph.

The groom is a graduate of Shenendehowa High School in Clifton Park, New York, and

The bride was attended by maid of honor Kathy Mokienko Borsos of Plymouth and bridesmaids Marissa Young and Katie Shea. The groom was attended by best man Sujal Patel of Belmont, Calif., and groomsmen Bijan Nahavandi and Michael

63rd Annual Greens Market

Elsner. A candle-lit evening reception followed the service. Seventy guests, hailing from Spain, New York, California, Michigan, Florida, Ohio, Georgia, Texas, Minnesota, and dancing. **GARDEN CALENDAR**

The Ann Arbor Branch of Woman's Farm & Garden Association plans its annual sale of fresh-cut Oregon greens, holiday wreaths, swags, forced bulbs and other arrangements from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 4, at Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Road, Ann Arbor. The market also will include custom-made accessories, jewelry, clothing, toys and gifts; homemade baked goods: antiques and collectibles and decorative craft demonstrations at 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. The market is open only to members of Woman's Farm & Garden Association and Matthaei Botanical Gardens and Nichols Arboretum from 10 a.m.-noon. Doors open to the public at noon. No admission fee. Free valet parking will be available. Lunches from Afternoon Delight will be available for purchase. (734) 647-7600 or www.annarborfarmandgarden.org. Winter Stonefly Search

Join a team to search the Rouge tributaries for the sensitive winter stonefly, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Jan. 24, 2009. Search starts from the University of Michigan-Dearborn Environmental Interpretive Center. Sign up available now through monitoring@ therouge.org. Or call Sally Petrella at (313) 792-9621. For a flier, visit www.therouge.org.

Trinity House Theatre updates 'A Christmas Carol' for local fans

Clowns, magic, puppetry, improv, mime, funny accents and hat swapping all take place in a new production of "A Christmas Carol" Dec. 5-21, at Trinity House Theatre, 38840 Six Mile, west of I-275, Livonia. Curtain times are 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, and 2 p.m. Sunday. Tickets are \$15, \$12 members, and available at (734) 464-6302. Sunday matinees are \$12 for seniors and students.

This adaptation by Doris Baizley has actors rush about, sing, tumble, show puppets, and

take on the roles of numerous characters. The Older Clown presents the young Scrooge's monstrous schoolmaster and then jolly Fezziwig, both played by Jonathan Stanley, a hip-hop dancer from Canton. He also plays Jake the Fence.

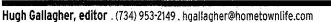
Laura Gumina of Southfield is padding-up to play the hefty Character Woman who then becomes the dancing Mrs. Fezziwig and others. For more information, visit www.trinityhouse.org.



Massachusetts and the Dominican Republic, enjoyed an elegant evening of dinner

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Critical need Blood donations slow down during holidays

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

Catherine Withrow couldn't believe her daughter's physician was refusing to order a blood transfusion. The 3-year-old Canton girl was going through a fourth round of chemotherapy and her blood count was dropping. After Amanda was diagnosed with leukemia in November 2005, Withrow slept at C.S. Mott Children's Hospital for the next seven months so she knew from the first three treatments it was just a matter of time before her daughter's life was in danger.

"She had a 106 degree temperature for three weeks. Every day her numbers would drop. He said there's a shortage of blood and others need it more. By midnight her count was at a critical period and they ordered blood."

Withrow decided right there she was going to do something to make sure there was always enough blood available through the Southeast Michigan American Red Cross which supplies 57 hospitals in Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Washtenaw and St. Clair counties. She not only took over the blood drives at Trinity Presbyterian Church near Plymouth, but videotaped a commercial to tell Amanda's story.

GREAT NEED

Withrow estimates her daughter had somewhere between 50 and 60 transfusions during five rounds of chemotherapy before going into remission. On Tuesday, Amanda, now 6, colored quietly as her mother spoke about the need for blood donations.

The church drive drew about 35 to 40 donors. The goal for the American Red Cross is to collect 900 pints a day at donor sites and mobile units sent to businesses, churches, schools, fire and police departments, post offices, hospitals, city halls, funeral homes, and airports. The blood is then tested for Hepatitis A, B and C; AIDS/HIV, West Nile Virus, type, and RH factor before being given to patients undergoing surgery, kidney and heart transplants, cancer treatment, and those suffering trauma from burns and auto accidents.

Volunteer Linda Erickson came straight from tutoring English as a second language in Livonia Public Schools to the collection site where she was placing UPC codes on tubes and bags to ensure the results match once blood is tested.

'We want to give back to the system," said Withrow. "Even if they can't donate because of health reasons, they could bake a plate of cookies or hold a drive even just a one-time drive."

Withrow donated five times last year, but since then was denied because of an iron deficiency. To qualify, donors must be age 18 or older, in good



The need is constant. The gratification is instant. Give blood."

GIVE BLOOD

At age three, Amanda fought the battle of her life against Leukemia - and won. Blood transfusions helped save her life. Today she is a healthy and happy five-year-old.

Children like Amanda need blood every day in their fight to beat serious diseases. They can do it with the support of blood donors like you.

Call 1-800-GIVE-LIFE log on to givelife.org to schedule an appointment to donate blood

Amanda Withrow is 6 years old today and still in remission thanks to blood donors. The American Red

Documentary to educate viewers about fibromyalgia

More than 100 guests will attend the premiere showing of Fibromyalgia: Fitting the Pieces Together 5:45 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, at the Townsend Hotel, 100 Townsend, Birmingham. The event also honors professionals committed to helping patients manage the pain of fibromyalgia. The event is presented by Helping our Pain and Exhaustion, Inc. (H.O.P.E), a nonprofit support group for those suffering with fibromyalgia. The elegant gathering provides the

opportunity to educate and create much needed awareness about fibromyalgia, a chronic pain disorder characterized by widespread pain and a variety of other symptoms including fatigue, sleep disorders, problems with cognitive functioning, irritable bowel syndrome, and anxiety. This condition affects an estimated 10 million people in the U.S. Severe cases can be extremely debilitating and interfere with basic daily activities. Frequently, access to treatments can be an additional challenge for those suffering with Fibromyalgia because it is often not properly diagnosed as a legitimate medical condition.

"We're ready to showcase the premiere of Fibromyalgia: Fitting the Pieces Together," said Sharon Ostalecki, Ph.D. Executive Director of H.O.P.E and author of two books on Fibromyalgia. "Patients suffering from Fibromyalgia deserve to be better educated regarding the disease itself and effective self-management techniques. They have the right to access all available treatment options. My sincere hope is that this event will help dispel the myths, inspire guests and create a more compassionate society equipped with a better understanding of this debilitating condition. This event will also honor those who have made a vital difference.'

Honorees at the event committed to helping patients manage the pain of Fibromyalgia include

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health and weigh at least 110 pounds. Specific eligibility requirements can be found at www.givelife. org. The entire process takes about an hour including 10 to 12 minutes to give blood. It's estimated the act of kindness can save up to three lives.

"Today we're collecting whole blood which is separated into red blood cells, platelets and plasma so the chances of going to the same person are slim," said Tina Stilley, donor recruitment regional representative for the American Red Cross. "They sign in, take their temperature, blood pressure and pulse, prick their finger for a blood test. They're asked about travel and anything that would make you ineligible. If you have diabetes and blood pressure under control then it's probably OK, but no blood thinners or no travel to a malaria area in the last 12 months."

NO EXCUSES

Nicky Bonnett thinks many people want to but don't donate because of a busy lifestyle. Bonnett, an R.N. who lives in Canton, was one of five nurses staffing the collection site at the church.

"Stopping on the way home from work isn't convenient," said Bonnett, "Churches a lot of people

Cross has featured the Canton girl on two of its posters.

gather. Schools and universities usually keep us busy. It's amazing what elementary kids can talk their parents and grandparents into."

John Rinke usually gives blood at the Livonia Ford plant where he works but wanted to donate at church. He and wife Carey have three children of their own.

"I want to help people especially because of Amanda," said John Rinke, a church member. "I'm a universal blood type and know you give to a lot of people. There's quite a few kids out there with the need for blood."

Carey was amazed by the number of transfusions Amanda needed while going through chemothera-

"She was able to participate in my vacation Bible school two years ago. As a 3-year-old she was bald, but now to see her with long hair is wonderful."

On the same day, donors were giving Martha Roemer Kurtz was worrying about a shortage of inventory during the holidays. Twenty-percent of blood collected in southeastern Michigan comes from school drives. To encourage donation, the American Red Cross is holding a drawing for anyone who donates Dec. 21, to Jan. 4, for a \$500 hotel voucher and round trip tickets for two anywhere in the continental U.S.

"Very often during the holidays it goes down to zero, what we have after we supply the hospitals," said Kurtz. "People go away, they're busy with holiday preparations. Even regular blood donors forget to make that appointment. Hospitals need more blood. With more people on the road, there are more accidents, slip and falls on the ice and snow. Economics are hitting us too because a lot of companies cutting costs, not allowing employees away from their desks, companies going out of business."

For more information or to set up an appointment, call (800) GIVELIFE or visit www.givelife. org.

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

Ananias Diokno, M.D., executive vice president and chief medical officer, William Beaumont Hospital: Martin Tamler, M.D., program director Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation Residency, William Beaumont Hospital and Daniel Clauw, M.D., director, Chronic Pain and Fatigue Research Center, University of Michigan Hospital. Lila Lazarus of FOX 2 Detroit will receive a Media Advocacy Award. Linda Ann Chomin, health reporter of the Observer S Eccentric Newspapers, receives an **Excellence in Community Awareness** Award.

Tickets still available for \$125 each. Dinner and drinks included. Black tie optional. For more information, call Sharon Ostalecki at (248) 344-0896 or e-mail smo23915@aol.com. Copies of the documentary will be available following the event or by going to hffcf.org.

DECEMBER

Gala evening at the movies

A benefit for the Crohn's & Colitis Foundation of America, Michigan Chapter 6 p.m. Monday, Dec. 1, at The Uptown Palladium Theater, 250 North Old Woodward, Birmingham. Evening includes the premiere of a new feature film and an hors d'oeuvres and dessert pre-glow reception. The honoree for the 31st annual Gala Evening at the Movies is The Michael Yendick Foundation for Children. To attend the event, purchase a listing in the Movie Gala Souvenir Journal from \$75-\$5,000 and receive complimentary tickets. Call (248) 737-0900, or e-mail michigan@ccfa.org for more information.

Bone marrow drive

An opportunity to join the National Marrow Donor Program registry by completing a brief health questionnaire and having the inside of their cheek swabbed 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 2, at Madonna University, Take 5 Lounge, 36600 Schoolcraft at Levan off I-96, Livonia. Doctors search this registry to find a donor whose tissue type matches that of a patient. Potential donors must be between the ages of 18-60 and in good general health. For more information contact Edna Rankine at (734) 432-5425 or erankine@madonna.edu.

Overeaters Anonymous

Meet 7 p.m. Thursdays in the Courtyard Room at Unity of Livonia Church, 28660 Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Inkster roads, Livonia. And 7 p.m. Sundays at the Marion . Professional Building at St. Mary's Hospital, 14555 Levan at Five Mile, Livonia, in Classroom 1. Call Wendy first at (313) 387-9797. Anyone who wants to stop eating compulsively is welcome. For more Greater Detroit Overeaters Anonymous Information visit www.oa.org or call (248) 559-7722.

Qigong workshop

With Daisy Lee Sunday, Dec. 7, 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Winter Health for all, and 1-4 p.m. (women only), sponsored by Michigan Tai Chi Association, 38121 Ann Arbor Rd. at Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia. Call (734) 591-3530 for information and form.

Jingle Bell run/walk

For The Arthritis Foundation Sunday, Dec. 7, at Northville Downs Race Track, and Saturday, Dec. 13, at Covington School in Bloomfield Village. Both festive events offer com-petitively timed 5K routes, +-mile children's

Snowman Shuffles and post-race chili parties. Call 1-800-968-3030 or visit www.arthritis.org.

Gluten-free food fair

11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 13-14, at Hiller's, 39950 W. 14 Mile (at Haggerty Road). Call (248) 960-1990.

Get ready to have a baby

Learn what to expect during pregnancy, labor and delivery and make the entire experience more rewarding. Childbirth Education Weekday programs held 7-9 p.m. Mondays to Dec. 15, and Wednesdays, Dec. 3 to Jan. 14. Childbirth Education workshops 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6. There is a fee. Registration required. Call (734) 655-1162. Breast cancer support group

Meets 6:30-8 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month in the Atrium of Our Lady of Hope

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

Cancer Center, at St. Mary Mercy Hospital, 36475 Five Mile (use south entrance off Levan Rd.), Livonia. Call (734) 655-1100 for more information, or visit www.stmarymercy.org. Parkinson Support

Western Oakland Parkinson Support Group meets 709 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month except January, July and August, at Farmington Hills Baptist Church, 28301 Middlebelt, between 12 Mile and 13 Mile. Enter at rear of church. For more information, call (248) 433-1011.

UPCOMING

Butterfly ball

The American Lung Association of Michigan has rescheduled its black tie fund-raiser to 6-11 p.m. Saturday, May 9, at the Ritz-Carlton in Dearborn. Proceeds go to lung health research, education and advocacy. Tickets \$250 per person and include The Butterfly Ball will be highlighted by music and will include a cocktail reception, dinner, dancing, and a live auction featuring trips, dinners and a variety of experiences. Sponsorships available. Call Jessica Jimenez, Development Specialist, (248) 784-2018 or jjimenez@alam.org.

ONGOING

Caregiver's support group

St. John's Support Group for the Caregiver's of Alzheimer's patients or patients with other forms of dementia meet the first and third Friday of each month at 10 a.m. at St. John's Episcopal Church, 574 South Sheldon, Plymouth. Respite care for your loved one

will be provided. Call Connie McNutt at (734) 895-1426 for more information. This group is authorized by the Alzheimer's Association. Wayne metro caregiver support

Are you a caregiver of an aging parent, spouse or relative? Do you ever wish you had an understanding person to talk to? Wayne Metro's Caregiver Support Groups offer support and assistance to those struggling to find or give quality care to their loved ones and offers valuable information at meetings are held the 3rd Tuesday of the month 10 a.m. to noon at the Kay Beard Building on Michigan Avenue in Westland. Meetings are also held at the Village of Redford on Six Mile Road in Redford. Morning and evening options available. The morning group meets 10 a.m. to noon on the 2nd Thursday of the month, the evening group meets the fourth Thursday of the month from 6-8 p.m. Adult care may also be available. For information or if attending for the first time, call Nancy Coman at (313) 843-2550, Ext. 233.

Physical performance classes

Incorporates jump-rope training; core work, and functional strength training using dumbbells and body weight for resistance 5:30 p.m. Mondays and Thursdays. An Exercise Therapy class for a mid to lower intensity workout that stress functional fitness, core, balance, strength and flexibility 8:45 a.m. Mondays and Thursdays. One hour sessions run through November at Metropolitan Adventist Jr. Academy Gym, 15585 Haggerty, north of Five Mile. Drop in sessions \$6 each, 10 sessions \$48. These classes are both lead by Jeanie

Weaver with the concept of training to spare the joints and improve back mobility and strength. She is a certified personal fitness trainer with 30 years of teaching/training experience, Call (248) 446-9176 or (313) 300-0957 to register. For information send e-mail to jeanieweaver@charter.net.

Flu shots

Wayne County Department of Public Health offers flu shots for residents at its clinic in Wayne 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday and Thursday (walk-ins), Tuesday-Wednesday and Friday (by appointment only), at 33030 Van Born at Venoy. The cost of the flu vaccine is \$15, \$35 for pneumonia vaccine is also offered for \$35. Medicare (Part B) and Medicaid are accepted. Vaccines are offered for adults and children. For information about family flu vaccinations at Wayne County's public health clinic locations, call (734) 727-7000. For additional influenza and flu prevention facts, visit www.waynecounty.com/hhSvcs/public/pamphlet.htm.

Flu shots

For adults and children over 6 months of age available at Oakland County Health Division locations at 1200 N. Telegraph in Oakland County Complex Bldg. 36 East in Pontiac: 27725 Greenfield, north of 11 Mile at Catalpa Road in Southfield, and 1010 E. West Maple at Pontiac Trail, Walled Lake. Hours are noon to 8 p.m. Monday, and 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday-Friday, Cost is S11 (cash only). Medicare and Medicaid accepted. Bring photo identification and insurance cards. For information, call (800) 434-3358 or visit www.oakgov. com/health.

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Fully self contained w/large slide out, sleeps 8, in excel cond, Incl. hitch package.	CHRYSLER TOWN & COUNTRY 2006-2007 All models, 8 to choose, loaded,	CHEVY TAHOE HYBRID 2008 Midnight Black, Fully Loaded,	(734) 453-2500 SATURN VUE 2006 Auto, air,	CTS 2006 Silver, moon, only \$16,495	300C 2005 AWD, leather.	TAURUS 1998 Wagon, low miles, clean \$4,998 Bill Brown Ford	4X4. Garage kept since new. \$700 below black book. Only \$99/down	G-6 2005 Burg, moon, 4 door \$12,495
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Houses, diamonds, horses - everything but your ex-wife. No money down, no turn	HANDICAP VANS ~ USED. BOUGHT & SOLD. Mini & fuil size. I come to you. Call	Several to Choose From, Nicely Equipped, Winter Ready, Starting at \$14,995		(734) 453-2500 SRX 2005 Platinum Metallic, Luxurious Options, Hurry In!	Dødge 8449	DEALER 1-800-586-3518	11K, \$19,998 AVIS FORD (248) 355-7515	Bob Jeannotte Pontiac (734) 453-2500
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Junk Cars Wanled	Vans 8260)	condition! \$12,900 Hines Park Lincoln Mercury 1-866-455-5332	MINI COOPER S 2006 Blue, moonroof, clean \$22,996 Bill Brown Ford	Chevrolet 8400	JOHN ROGIN BUICK 734-525-0900 NITRO SXT 2008	FWD, 13K, showroom new \$16,500 Hines Park Lincoln Mercury	AVIŠ FORD (248) 355-7515	Bob Jeannotte Pontiac (734) 453-2500
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Evenings 734-717-0428	ABS, Winter White, Cargo Space Galore! Only \$11,995	(248) 355-7515 FORD EXPEDITION EL 2008	Audi 8350 AUDI A4 2001	888-372-9836	(246) 333-7313	leather, chromes, spotless, 46K miles \$17,900 Hines Park Lincoln Mercury	Looks & runs super. Garage kept.	Bob Jeannotte Pontiac (734) 453-2500
Trucks for Sale 8220	888-372-9836 Lou LaRiche	\$20,998 AVIS FORD (248) 355-7515	\$9,998 AVIS FORD (248) 355-7515	AVEO 2008 Black, 5-Speed, 21K, PL, PW, Gas Saver! Act	EDGE SEL 2007 Black, Vista	1-866-455-5332	\$5799. TYME AUTO 734-455-5566	GRAND PRIX 2008 Crimson Red, Leather, Remote Start, 3.8L, A Beauty to Behold!
CHEVROLET S-10 2002 Pickup, \$146 monthly, 60 months @ 7.9%	FORD E-350 2007 15 passenger \$19,998	FORD EXPEDITION LTD 2006 4x4, 67K, white \$14,995	(248) 355-7515 Buick 8360	Quickly \$11,995 888-372-9836	Roof, chromes, 20K, \$21,997 Bill Brown Ford (734) 522-0030	Honda (8520)	MAZDA3 4-DOOR 2008 Wagon \$15,998 AVIS FORD	Reduced1 \$16,273 888-372-9836
DEALER 1-800-586-3518	AVIS FORD (248) 355-7515 FORD E-350 2098	Bob Jeannotte Pontiac (734) 453-2500	LACROSSE CXL 2005 Leather, sharp, blue \$15,495	C6 2007 \$257 per month,	EDGE SEL 2007 Plus, AWD, mooproof \$20,998	ACCORD EXL 2006 \$17,498 AVIS FORD	(248) 355-7515 Mercury (8600)	GRAND PRIX GT 2005 Red.
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888-372-9836	4 Wheel Drive (8280)	Bill Brown Ford (734) 522-0030	LACROSSE LT 2006 Brown, only \$12,495	1-800-586-3518 COBALT LS 2006 Auto, air,	FOCUS 2002 Cpe blk, auto, air \$5,995 Bob Jeannotte Pontiac	Bill Brown Ford (734) 522-0030	29K, one owner, very cleant Must see! \$13,500 Hines Park Lincoln Mercury	(734) 453-2500 GRAND PRIX GT 2005 Tinsel
Lou LaRiche	FORD ESCAPE LTD 2005 Dark red, leather, clean \$9,995	FORD EXPLORER 2007 ironman, 3rd seat, 4x4,	Bob Jeannotte Pontiac (734) 453-2500	under \$200 per month, 60 months @ 5.9% DEALER	(734) 453-2500 FOCUS 2007 12 to choose,	(101) 012 0000 Hyundai 8524	1-866-455-5332 MILAN 2006 4 cylinder, 9K, showrcom new! \$12,900	Silver, Leather, CD, Heated Seats, Reliability Through All Seasons, Only \$13,995
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(248) 355-7515 FORD F-150 2003 Super Crew, FX4, V8, loaded \$13,993	FORD ESCAPE XLT 2005 Certified, \$239/month, 4.9%	FORD EXPLORER XLT 2002 4x4, auto, air, loaded, save!	(248) 355-7515 LESABRE 2004 White, leather, only 12K	2 Door & 4 Door, Many to Choose From, Starting at \$11,995	(734) 522-0030 FOCUS 2008	ACCENT 2001 Pearlescent paint with charcoal interl- or. Tyme does it	MILAN PREMIER 2006 Moonroof, leather, 16K, super clean \$13,900 Hines Park Lincoln Mercury	GRAND PRIX GXP 2007 White, only 13K, save!
Bill Brown Ford (734) 522-0030	60 months DEALER	Only \$6,950 JOHN ROGIN BUICK 734-525-0900	Bob Jeannotte Pontiac (734) 453-2500	888-372-9836	\$12,498 AVIS FORD (248) 355-7515	again - only \$2500. TYME AUTO 734-455-5566	1-865-455-5332 MONTEGO PREMIER 2006	Bob Jeannotte Pontiac (734) 453-2500
FORD F-150 2905 4x4, certified, \$271 per	1-800-586-3518 FORD ESCAPE XLT 2007 4x4, 4 cylinder \$15,998	FORD EXPLORER XLT 2006 4WD \$13,998	LESABRE 2005 Gray, 18K, only \$16,495	IMPALA 2003 Chromatic Silver, Power Options,	FOCUS SE 2007 6 year/100K warranty, \$259/month based on 60	ELANTRA 2007 Red. side airbags, moonroof \$10,955 Bill Brown Ford	17K, leather, looks new! \$13,900 Hines Park Lincoln Mercury	GXP 2007 Auto, moon, leather, V8, 13K, only \$18,995 Bob Jeannotte Pontiac
month for 60 months @ 4.9% DEALER 1-800-586-3518	AVIS FORD (248) 355-7515	AVIS FORD (248) 355-7515 FORD EXPLORER XLT 2007	Bob Jeannotte Pontiac (734) 453-2500	Cassette and CD, Drive In Style for Just \$6,987	months @ 6.9% DEALER	Bill Brown Ford (734) 522-0030	1-866-455-5332 MONTEGO PREMIER 2007 AWD, power moon, loaded	(734) 453-2500
FORD F-150 2005	FORD ESCAPE XLT 2007 4WD, moonroof, 31K, looks new! \$14,900	Only 9K miles! Showroom condition \$14,900	LESABRE LIMITED 2005 Leather, tan, only \$11,995	888-372-9836 Lou LaRiche	1-800-586-3518 FOCUS ZX3 2002	Kia 8527	Sill Brown Ford	VIBE 2003 Red, auto, air, oniy 35K, \$10,995 Bob Jeannotte Pontiac



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Proud to be your home: Give Anna design a close look

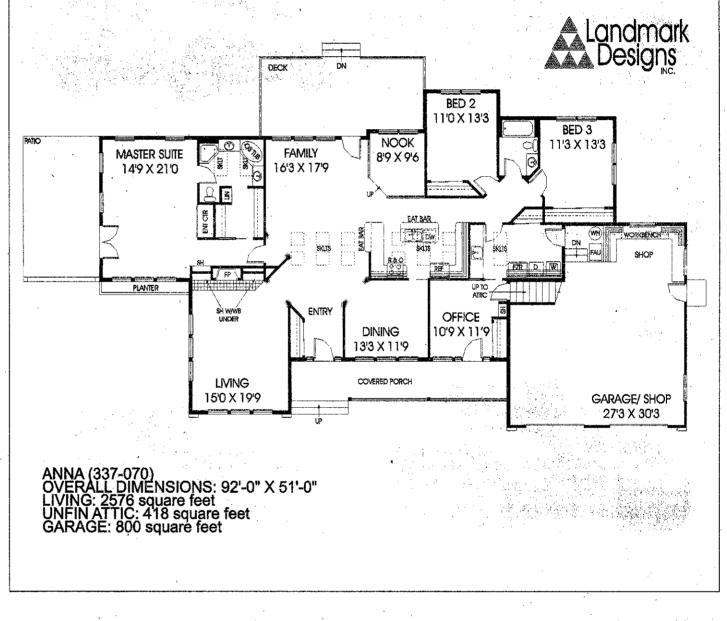
Sturdy brick trim, along with durable lap siding, project a sense of permanence to the 2,576-square-foot Anna (337-070). This is a classic beauty that any growing family would be proud to call home. The handsome exterior is just a prelude to the highly functional interior design.

A covered front porch, welcoming to your guests, will be a favorite spot to spend a summer evening. The long entry leads directly into a big family room brightened by multiple skylights. This centrally located room is the main gathering place in the Anna and has access to the back deck.

To the left of the entry is a nice cozy living room. Here, with a substantial fireplace to keep things warm, entertaining friends in style will be effortless. Built-in shelves are over the fireplace with a wood box underneath.

The isolated master suite has a spacious sleeping area and a secluded patio for privacy while enjoying the sun. The master suite also has a built-in entertainment center, huge walk-in closet and its own skylit bathroom equipped with a spa and twin basins.

The walk-through kitchen is situated where the cooks in the household will admire the convenience. There are more skylights here, along with two eating bars and all the built-in appliances. The kitchen, for easy serving, is between the raised breakfast



nook and the front dining room.

The secondary bedrooms are both quite large, with a full bathroom between. These bedrooms have plenty of closet space and one or the other could easily be converted into guest accommodations, sewing room or den.

An office, with private entrance, is located at the front of the Anna. It has built-in shelves and a closet, but still leaves enough room for a PC, chairs, cabinets, etc. A skylit utility room completes the main part of the floor plan. There is a big sink here and room for a freezer.

The attached two-car garage is fitted with a liberal shop area. For extra storage, the Anna offers an additional 418 square feet of attic space.

For a study plan of the ANNA (337-070), 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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Thinking about a career in real estate? Is working in real estate your dream? Keller Williams Realty is seeking experienced or non-experienced people in the real estate field. The candidates must be hard working and have a passion for learning.

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

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

Tips for buyers

Realtor Paul Schwartz of Prudential Cranbrook Realtors in Birmingham will review the things a buyer needs to know and accepting new buyer clients on a space available basis at a presentation Thursday, Dec. 4, at 7 p.m. at his office, 34122 Woodward Ave. in Birmingham. Reservations are needed. For reservations, e-mail: paul4realtor@yahoo. com (www.paul4realtor.com).

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His phone numbers are direct: (248) 539-7283, office: (248) 647-6400, fax: (248) 258-1024.

Investors

Learn about "The Art of House Foreclosure Short Sales" from Steve Dillon. Sponsored by the Real Estate Investors Association of Oakland on Thursday, Dec. 11, at 5:30-9:30 p.m. at MSU Management Education Center, 811 W. Square Lake Road, Troy. Seminar free to members. \$20 nonmembers. Call (800) 747-6742.

BIA

Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan (BIA) will sponsor a two-day "Green Building for **Building Professionals**" course on Thursday and Friday, Dec. 4-5, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at BIA Headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, in Farmington Hills. The course is part of the National Association of Home Builders' Certified Graduate series and counts toward Certified Graduate Associate (CGA), **Certified Graduate Builder**

(CGB) and Certified Green Professional (CGP) designations.

BRIEFS

Chuck Breidenstein of Builder Professional Services Group will instruct attendees on strategies for incorporating green building principles into homes without driving up the cost of construction. Participants will learn how green homes provide buyers with better value, lower energy costs, lower maintenance, better indoor air quality and better long-term value.

Registration fees are \$200 for NAHBR Professional Remodeler Council members, \$225 for BIA members and \$300 for guests. For registration information, call (248) 862-1008 or register online at www.builders.org.

■ Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan (BIA) will sponsor a Certified Graduate "Business Management for Building Professionals" course on Monday, Dec. 8, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at BIA Headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, in Farmington Hills. The course is part of the National Association of Home Builders' Certified Graduate series and counts toward Certified Graduate Associate (CGA), Certified Graduate Builder (CGB), Certified Graduate Remodeler (CGR), Certified Aging-In-Place (CAPS), Master Certified Sales Professional (MCSP) and Certified Green Professional (CGP) designations.

Chuck Breidenstein, CAPS of Builders Professional Services Group, will teach management skills that give industry leaders a solid foundation in the best business practices for planning, organizing, staffing, directing and controlling smaller businesses. Case studies and sample forms will be used to provide practical and applicable tools for management success.

Registration fees are \$155 for NAHBR Professional Remodeler members, \$175 for BIA members and \$200 for guests. For registration information, call (248) 862-1008 or register online at www.builders.org.

Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan (BIA) and its National Association of

Home Builder's Professional Remodelers Council (NAHBR) will sponsor Certified Agingin-Place (CAPS) seminars: "CAPS I: Marketing and **Communication Strategies for** Aging and Accessibility" on Wednesday, Dec. 10; "CAPS II: Design/Build Solutions for Aging and Accessibility" on Thursday, Dec. 11. The seminars will be held from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day at BIA headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100, in Farmington Hills.

Don Pratt, CAPS, CGB, CGR of Wake-Pratt Construction will teach strategies and techniques for marketing, designing and building aesthetically enriching, barrier-free living environments.

Registration fees are \$155 per course for NAHBR members, \$200 for BIA or Apartment Association of Michigan members and \$250 for guests. For registration information, call (248) 862-1008 or register online at www.builders.org.

Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan (BIA) is sponsoring a Certified Graduate seminar "Risk Management & Insurance for Building Professionals" on Tuesday, Dec. 16, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at BIA headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100 in Farmington Hills.

Chuck Breidenstein of Madison Heights-based **Builders Professional Services** Group, Inc. will provide comprehensive risk management strategies to reduce construction risks and other exposures for residential and commercial builders, developers and remodelers. From overarching principles to practical solutions on obtaining the most competitive insurance quotes, this course provides the tools to manage risk. This course is not intended to take the place of legal counsel.

Registration fees are \$155 for National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) Professional Remodeler Council members, \$175 for BIA and Apartment Association of Michigan members and \$200 guests. For registration information, call (248) 862-1008 or register online at www.builders.org.





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Call 8-5. 313-937-7933 furnace a/c Pets vate entrance & balco (734) 459-1711 EHO alcony 1 Bedroom - \$485/mo Apartments and Sec 8 OK. \$1000. WESTLAND - 3 bdrm ranch, 2 car garage, freshly painted, C/A, newer carpet, \$895 or less. Call: (734) 837-7355 Immediate Occupancy REDFORD - Cute 3 bdrm cape 248-476-5325 LIMITED TIME OFFER Newburgh Colonial Apts Ypsilanti - Reduced Rent cod on double lot, 1 bath, cen-tral air, appliances, washer, dryer, bsmt, immediate occu-2400 Newburgh Rd. (734) 721-6699 EHO Farmington Hills - 2700 sq. ft. SUNRISE STUDIOS Wanted To Rent 4400 Plus \$99 Sec Dep* 4 bdrm, cul-de-sac, backs to commons, incl lawn & snow. \$159/wk Brand NEW A/C Rooms \$50 OFF/MONTH Section 8 Welcome pancy, no pets. \$900/m WESTLAND - Merriman/Jov GARAGE SPACE FOR AUTO **On Select Apts.** TV/Phone / HBO/CABLE Large 1 & 2 bedroom \$1850/mo, 248-941-4222 artments mo. security. 734-604-0930 4000 WESTLAND Redford Only, A.S.A.P. Call: (313) 587-5172 Rd area. Clean 3 bdrm, bsmt. With Move In 734-434-0576 EHO LOW RATES 1 bdrm w/appliances. Sec. 8 accepted. \$475/mo. fenced, garage & more! \$1095 + sec. 734-425-9225 FARMINGTON HILLS **REDFORD** - Newly renovated 734-427-1300 By 11/30/08!* *Some restrictions apply Bdrms ranch, 1 1/2 bath w 3 bdrm, 2 bath ranch, finished BIRMINGHAM Livonia 248-892-0262 2 car garage. All appliances bsmt, family room, 2 car. WESTLAND - Newly updated, ľ's **1ST MONTH FREE** From \$570 4010 \$1100/mo. (734) 425-3333 ncluded. No pets, non A/C, 3 bdrm, 1 bath, appli Studios, 1, 2 & 3 Bedrooms smoker, immediate occu ances, garage, fenced vard pancy-\$1000 plus security (920) 495-0552 REDFORD - Sharp 3 bdrm TRIPLE A DELUXE MOTEL Furnished apartments avail. Westland **FREE CITY WATER** CANTON A country setting \$850, Sec 8. (586) 273-7565 enclosed porch, 2 car garage double lot. Sec. 8 OK. A/C, Jacuzzi in rooms, maid service, HBO. Low daily/wkly Gorgeous new kitchens and WESTLAND 2 bdrm duplex. furnished 1 bdrm, non-smok baths. 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Dep. reg. 248-473-5535 all here! 2 bath, 1400 sq. ft., totally remodeled, granite kitchen. 1 Bdrm: \$607/mo. 2 Months Free Rent credit ok. \$800, 248-788-1823 Several locations. Great Rates Incl. utilities. CERTIFIED REALTY INC. Call 248-290-5300 ext 333 734-261-5410 \$300 Sec Dep WEST BLOOMFIELD \$1200/mo. 734-591-0005 4110 *First 3 months FIVE, FIVE, FIVE 1st Month Free TOWNSHIP 3 Bdrm home, 2 baths, 3 garage, central air, laundry **Resort/Rentals** Observer & Eccentric (248) 471-7100 LIVONIA - 3 bdrm brick ranch, **1ST MONTH FRFF** Private entry/patio. WESTLAND A SO MOVE-INI SOUTHFIELD All new! 2 bdrm Studios, 1, 2 & 3 Bedrooms Furnished apartments avail. Full size laundry room w fin bsmt, 2 car garage, deck, 2 bath, opt/L.C. avail, bad credit BONITA BEACH, FL CONDO CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING Mail area. Lg 1 & 2 bdrms. Free heat/water. Starting at \$495/mo 734-459-1160 2 bath ranch condo. 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