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Inside today's newspaper



SUNDAY
December 7, 2008

CANTON Observer

75 cents

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Four-year old Faith Cramton of Canton smiles as she visits with Santa Claus during activities for the township's 30th annual Tree Lighting held at the Summit on the Park Wednesday night.

Lighting up

New supervisor throws the switch on new holiday season

Editor's note: To see our photo gallery of Wednesday night's tree lighting ceremony, visit our Web site at www.hometownlife.com.

BY TIFFANY L. PARKS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Canton's 30th official holiday tree lit up the night Wednesday.

With a crowd of children and parents gathered around the large evergreen at Summit on the Park, a loud cry of "Yay!" erupted from the group when Township Supervisor-Elect Phil LaJoy flipped the switch to turn on the tree's lights.

"This is an exciting time of year for families and friends," said LaJoy, before offering the crowd well wishes for the holiday season and a "prosperous new year."

In addition to the lighting ceremony,



New Canton Supervisor Phil LaJoy celebrates after counting down and turning on the lights for the township's holiday tree.

the 30th annual event included crafts, carriage rides and performances by Dancin' Feet and the choirs from All Saints Catholic School.

And of course, Santa Claus was in attendance. Just 20 minutes after the event began, a line featuring children waiting to sit on the big man's lap snaked around the Summit's gym.

"This is so much fun for all of us," said Abbey Cameron of Canton. "I think it brings the community together."

Cameron, along with her husband, Scott, and mother, Faye, brought her two sons, Bryce, 22 months old, and Nolan, 2 months old, to the event.

"This is Nolan's first time with Santa," she grinned.

And while children in one room

rolled out letters to Old St. Nick, other kids, such as Bethany Foersterling, decided to try their hand at cookie decorating.

"That's a beautiful design," Bethany's father, Bernie, said as the 4-year-old squeezed green icing on a sugar cookie.

"This has absolutely become a family tradition for us," said Cathy, Bethany's mom. "Rain or shine, we will be here."

The event, which featured a 'Peace on Earth' ice carving by Ted Wakar of Frozen Images, was attended by several thousand people.

"It's pretty much a well-oiled machine but we like to stay in tune to current trends," said Leisure Services Director Ann Conklin. "Every year is special."

Soldier's mom sends troops a little care from home

BY TIFFANY L. PARKS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A Canton woman is requesting donations for her efforts to send 45 care packages to soldiers fighting in Iraq.

"When my son asked me to do this, I said 'Yes, of course' and I'm going to do whatever I can for them," said Madonna Tooley, mother of Army Lt. Kirk Tooley III of the Bravo Company, 172nd Battalion, Ghost Platoon.

Tooley is planning to send several items, including embroidered blankets, to her son's platoon.



Lt. Kirk Tooley

Road, to finish the blankets. "This is a wonderful cause," she said of sending the care packages, adding that Lt. Tooley, 23, first talked of joining the military when he was 15.

"As soon as he asked, I went and bought 200 yards of fleece," she said. "A lot of people don't realize it does get cold in the evenings over there."

At 3 p.m. Friday, Tooley will host a "cut-and-tie" party at Resurrection Church, 48755 Warren

"He has this true patriotism that comes from his gut," Tooley said. "It's so genuine. He didn't even want a care package for himself — he wanted it for the 41 troops but I'm sending more for him and the sergeant and captain."

Among the items needed for the packages are snacks, such as hard candy and jerky, toiletries, such as wet wipes and lotion, and entertainment, such as DVD's.

To make a donation, volunteer for Friday's event or get more information, contact Tooley at (734) 451-3559 or madonnat13@hotmail.com.

District eyes high school principal changes

BY TONY BRUSCATO
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A restructuring at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park in the next school year will most likely find one principal — instead of three — overseeing the entire high school campus, as well as implementation of a plan designed to give more support to students to ensure their success at the Park.

A restructuring plan was made possible because of the pending retirements of principals Cassandra Smith (Canton High School) and Michael Bee (Plymouth High School) at the end of this school year. Salem High School Principal Jerry Ostoin retired because of health reasons last year. There are also a number of assistant principals scheduled to retire.

The district contracted with consultant Jeremy Hughes, the former state deputy superintendent for schools, to help devise the new structure after talking with teachers, staff and administrators.

Mike Bender, director of secondary education for Plymouth-Canton Schools, said the number of administrators at P-CEP will remain at 13, though their roles will change. If approved by the Board of Education, there will be one principal over all three high schools, one associate principal at each high school and three assistant principals at each school. "Each of the

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Should Plymouth-Canton have one principal for all three high schools? Send your opinions to Editor Kurt Kuban at kkuban@hometownlife.com or post a comment on our Web site at www.hometownlife.com.

administrators based at the buildings will work with a student caseload," Bender said. "They'll be able to focus on student achievement, track attendance and behavior. The plan is to have greater contact with students and their parents, and for greater accessibility by parents to administrators."

Bender is hopeful restructuring will be cost-neutral, though the district will have to negotiate changes with the Plymouth-Canton Administrators union before scheduled implementation on July 1, 2009.

"I think it's exactly the right move for where education is today," said Judy Mardigian, school board president. "Education has to be more student centered, more personalized and every student has to succeed by having every single administrator at the park be responsible for an individual student and improve student connectiveness."

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Sheldon Place owner: high rise to open in summer

BY TIFFANY L. PARKS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

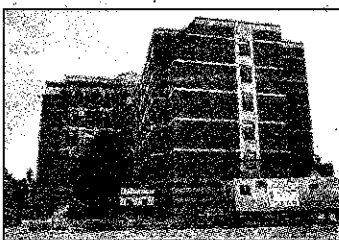
If you're among those waiting for the reopening of Sheldon Park Place, hold tight, it's coming.

The senior housing complex, sitting on Sheldon Road, just south of Ford, has been empty for more than seven years after residents were evacuated in August 2001 because of structural deficiencies.

And while extensive engineering dissolved plans for a summer 2007 reopening, the project's developer, Frank Dabaja, has optimistically chosen another time frame to reopen the six-story building.

"Summer 2009," he said, adding that the community has not forgotten about the facility. "We still get calls on a weekly basis and we have a waiting list."

On Thursday, crews from GS Kirkman Construction in



OBSERVER FILE PHOTO

The owner of the old Sheldon Place, vacant since 2001, says the building will open in the summer.

Dearborn Heights were spotted working on the building's exterior and on the large sign announcing a summer 2007 reopening, a sticker featuring a '9' has been placed on top of the '7.'

"We're moving along pretty good," said Dabaja, but noted that the new time frame isn't set in stone.

The building, which exchanged ownership several times, will be owned by a new company. Please see **HIGH RISE, A4**

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Coming Thursday in filter



Artist Howard Nordlund uses raw minerals in his paintings

Charity hockey game

The 4th Annual Canton Fire Fighters vs. Canton Coaches Charity Hockey Game will take place at 6 p.m., Dec. 13 at the Arctic Edge Ice Arena in Canton. The event will benefit the Canton Fire Fighters Charity Foundation and "No Child Without A Christmas" program. The cost is \$2, and people can also donate an unwrapped gift.

The event will feature raffles, and a Chuck a Puck contest — purchase a puck to throw on the ice, and the closest puck to center ice face off circle will win four Detroit Red Wing tickets.

The Canton Fire Department will have fire engines on display before the game for the kids. Between the first and second period, the Canton Mini Mites will have a mini game.

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 com-

munity.

"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 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 johnnancysp@aol.com.

Christmas Spectacular

Central City Dance Center will stage its 5th annual Christmas Spectacular later this month at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill. There will be five shows: 6 p.m., Dec. 18; 6 p.m., Dec. 19; 2 p.m. and 6 p.m., Dec. 20; and 4 p.m., Dec. 21. The cast will include 125 singers, dancers, and gymnasts from Canton and the surrounding area.

Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased at Central City Dance Center, 8004 Sheldon Center Road, Canton. For



Time for the kids to shine

The Celebration Youth Orchestra (CYO) will present its Holiday Concert at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 9 at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, in Canton. The CYO is the youth orchestra supported by the Plymouth Canton Symphony Society, dedicated to challenging and inspiring students through high level ensemble training and the performance of standard and new repertoire. The young musicians will perform a variety of classical and contemporary music. Donations to the Plymouth Symphony's No Kid without a Concert Education Campaign help fund the CYO, as well as many other programs for students throughout southeastern Michigan. Tickets are \$6 and can be purchased through Summit on the Park, (734) 394-5460, online at the Village Theater link on www.canton-mi.org, or the Village Theater box office one hour before performance. For more information contact the Plymouth Symphony office at (734) 451-2112 or by e-mail at Jane@plymouthsymphony.org.

more information, call (734) 459-0400 or visit www.centralcitydance.com. Tickets are reserved seating and will not be sold the day of the show.

The story of our water

During the month of December, Canton Community Television (CCTV) will air "Liquid Assets: The Story of Our Water Infrastructure," a full-length documentary that raises timely issues relevant to cities and towns across the United States.

The 90-minute documentary produced by Penn State Public Broadcasting, tells the story of essential infrastructure systems: water, wastewater, and stormwater. These systems — some in the ground for more than 100 years — provide a critical public health function and are essential for

economic development and growth. Largely out-of-sight and out-of-mind, these aging systems have not been maintained, and some estimates suggest this is the single largest public works endeavor in our nation's history.

CCTV is currently airing "Liquid Assets" on Comcast Channel 12 and Wide Open West Channel 10 at 9:30 a.m., 3:30 p.m. and immediately after the Board of Trustees and Planning Commission meetings. For more information on Liquid Assets visit www.liquidassets.psu.edu.

Home Expo applications

Vendor applications to participate in Canton's 2009 Home Improvement Expo are due Dec. 19. Space is filling up fast so vendors are encouraged to return their applications as soon as possible.

The 2009 Home Expo will be held March 7-8 at Canton's Summit on the Park. The Expo is an opportunity for home improvement businesses and builders to promote their products by hosting a display booth. Applications are available on Canton's Web site at www.canton-mi.org/homeexpo.aspx or by calling Canton's Building and Inspection Services Division at (734) 394-5200. All vendor applications must be sent to 1150 Canton Center Road, Canton, Michigan 48188 by Friday, Dec. 19.

Canton business women

The Canton Business & Professional Women will meet from 6-8:30 p.m., Monday, Dec. 8 at Rose's Restaurant, 201 N Canton Center Road (west side of Canton Center Road just north of Cherry Hill). The guest speaker will be Judy Ellis of First Step. The group will be presenting First Step with donations for its 'wish list.' Attendees are asked to bring a gift. You must RSVP for this meeting by Friday, Dec. 5 to Irene Psilis by e-mailing Irene.Psilis@ncmc.com or calling (734) 981-7810.

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 year's 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.

Health screening clinic

Meijer Pharmacy, located on Ford Road at Canton Center, will be holding their monthly health screening clinic on Tuesday, Dec. 23 from 8 a.m. — noon. Cholesterol, diabetes, and liver function screening are available at a very affordable cost. Appointments are required. Contact the pharmacy for details at (734) 844-2733.

Canton Toastmasters

The Canton Communicators Toastmasters Club, a non-profit group where members learn both communication and leadership skills, meets every Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. at the Canton Coney Island at 8533 Lilley Road, just south of Joy Road, in the Golden Gate Plaza. Visitors are always welcome. For more information, please contact Bonnie at (734) 646-2237.

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'One-time' event turns into a holiday tradition

BY TIFFANY L. PARKS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

What was planned as a one-time venture to aid Hurricane Katrina survivors four years ago has turned into a holiday tradition for the Real Life Farm.

"We were just doing it for that year and then the next year, everyone kept asking 'Are you doing it again?' so we have kept it going," said Robin Fraser, of the annual Christmas on the Farm play.

The 15-minute outdoor production tells the story of the first Christmas and features more than a dozen actors as well as several animals, including sheep, horses and a donkey. Show times are 7 p.m. Friday, 6 p.m. Saturday and 5 p.m. Dec. 14.

Proceeds from this year's production will benefit Operation Gratitude, a California-based non-profit organization that sends care packages to deployed U.S. troops.

"It only costs \$10 for one care package," Fraser said, adding that past recipients of the play's proceeds have been the Make A Wish Foundation and the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. "It's a lot of work but it's worth it."

In rehearsing for the three shows, Fraser joked that the wise men, the horses and the angels all fall into place but that there is one rebel in the cast.

"All but the donkey do well," she chuckled. "The donkey is a little stubborn."

Tickets are \$5 for adults, \$3 for children ages 3-10 and free for grandparents and children age 2 and younger.

The farm is located at 48700 Geddes in Canton. For more information, call Fraser at (734) 495-0833 or send an e-mail to zoey7907@yahoo.com.

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



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Robin Fraser and Heather Spillane, as well as the farm animals, will once again be involved in the Real Life Farm's "Christmas on the Farm" production, which will raise money for Operation Gratitude, a nonprofit organization that sends care packages to deployed U.S. troops.

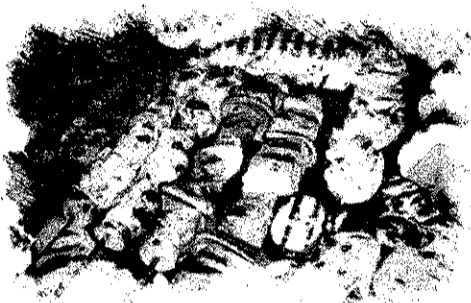
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When: 7 p.m. Friday; 6 p.m. Saturday; and 5 p.m. Dec. 14.
Where: Real Life Farm, 48700 Geddes in Canton
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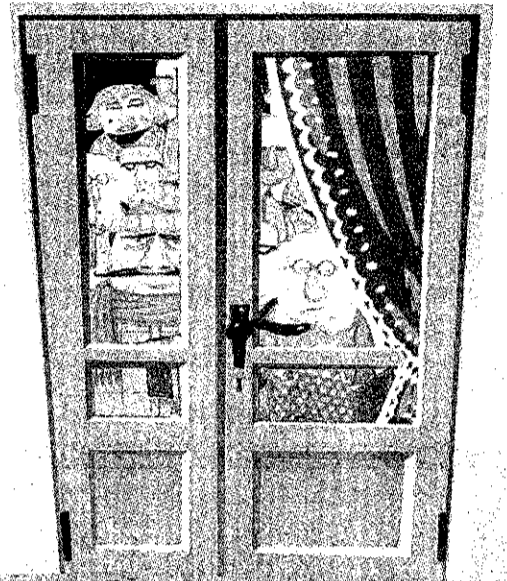
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The Compassionate Friends sponsor a Christmas tree in Kellogg Park that features ornaments remembering children to be honored at the candlelight vigil, set for Dec. 14 in downtown Plymouth.

Friends to meet for candlelight vigil

Members of the Compassionate Friends know the holidays are tough times for people who've lost loved ones, especially children.

In an effort to help with the grief, The Compassionate Friends, Western Wayne County (Livonia) Chapter, sponsor a candle-lighting ceremony in Kellogg Park in downtown Plymouth Sunday, Dec. 14, in conjunction with Children's Memorial Day.

"The holidays are especially difficult for parents who have lost children," said committee member Gail Lafferty. "This candle-lighting ceremony honoring them helps their memory live on."

The ceremony will include the dedication of a tree decorated with ornaments with the children's names, a candle-light vigil, a reading of the children's names, poetry and songs.

The local ceremony includes the candle-lighting at 7 p.m. in conjunction with the world-wide candle-lighting. The idea is that, as candles burn down in one time zone, they're lit in another, creating a 24-hour memorial.

Recognized in communities around the world, International Children's Memorial Day is already officially sanctioned by the U.S. Congress.

"Hundreds of families will gather near a tree specially decorated with the names of children who have died too soon," Lafferty said.

For more information or to register a child, call or e-mail candle-lighting committee members Gail Lafferty, tcfcandlelight@yahoo.com or (734) 981-4528.

HIGH RISE

FROM PAGE A1

times after the evacuation and was the subject of a HUD auction in 2005, has been through several rounds of testing to discover its flaws as well as rule out suspected problems,

said Gary Sleiman of GS Kirkman.

"It took a good year to figure out what was wrong," he said, adding that the structure has now been sealed and caulked. "It's going very good."

Once completed, the complex will offer assisted living on its first floor and indepen-

dent living on the other levels.

When it was evacuated, about 60 residents lived in Sheldon Place. The complex was previously owned by National Church Residences of Ohio and was built in 1996 for \$3.4 million.

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Commission votes to give parks money to local communities

BY KURT KUBAN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The Wayne County Commission made good on its promise to restructure the county's parks millage so a portion can be redistributed back to local communities for their own recreation projects.

The commission voted 10-4 on Thursday to give back 25 percent that each municipality contributes in taxes to the fund, which they will be able to use for capital improvements for local parks and recreation facilities. The remaining 75 percent will still be allocated for improvements and operations to the county parks system, which includes Hines Park and Elizabeth Park in Trenton.

Commissioners Kevin McNamara, D-Canton, Laura Cox, R-Livonia, Philip Cavanagh, D-Redford Township, Ronaele Bowman, D-Westland, and Bernard Parker, D-Detroit, sponsored the new ordinance. The mea-

GETTING A LITTLE BACK

Community	2007 tax levy	Money to be allocated
Canton	\$1,000,440	\$250,110
Garden City	\$176,216	\$44,054
Livonia	\$1,253,897	\$313,474
Plymouth	\$117,302	\$29,325
Plymouth Twp.	\$500,093	\$125,023
Redford	\$348,582	\$87,145
Westland	\$567,896	\$141,974
Detroit	\$2,433,600	\$608,400

sure was opposed by four commissioners from Detroit, and Commissioner Jewel Ware of Detroit abstained.

McNamara said the new ordinance makes sense for several reasons. First and foremost, he believes it will help save local parks and recreation programming.

"Over the next two years, communities are going to go through extreme budget pressures. Usually when that happens, parks and rec programs are the first to get cut," he said. "This is our way to help out and save those programs."

McNamara said the measure will also help secure support from local communities when the millage is up for renewal in 2010, when it is set to expire.

"We are going to need their support. We need this millage. Without it, our parks will close," McNamara said.

Cox, whose district includes the Plymouths, Northvilles and Livonia, said the new ordinance will ensure the millage money is fairly.

"This brings more equity to the process, which is what our local communities have wanted," she said.

Wayne County voters initially passed the parks millage in 1996. The annual levy of .25 mills generates about \$12.7 million per year. The millage was renewed in 2000 and again 2005. It expires at the end of 2010.

Wayne County Executive Bob Ficano opposes the new ordinance. He will have 10 days from the time the ordinance is delivered to him to either sign it or veto it. The commission has a 10-vote veto proof majority.

However, Assistant

Executive Alan Helmkamp said Ficano is still weighing his options. He may still try to veto the ordinance or challenge it in court.

"We're still reviewing today's events," he said. "In our view it's illegal and it's bad policy."

If Ficano vetoes the measure, the commission would have 45 days to override it.

Phil LaJoy, Canton's new supervisor, welcomed the news, calling it "a step in the right direction." Under the new formula, Canton would

get approximately \$250,000 in 2009.

Livonia Mayor Jack Kirksey, who has also been critical of the millage, praised the commission for the new ordinance. He says Livonia residents have contributed approximately \$14 million over the last eight years, but received less than \$200,000 back for local recreation projects.

Kirksey said he would support a renewal of the millage if language is changed that would keep the 25 percent in the local communities.



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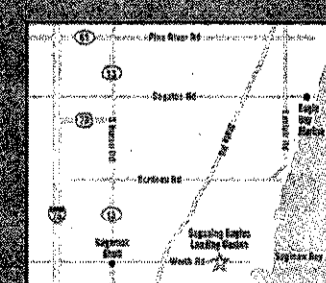
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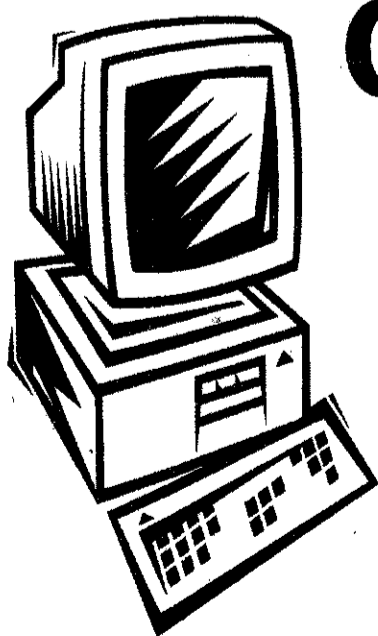
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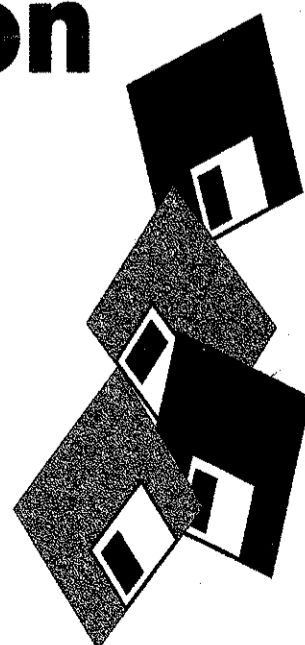
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MADD shares message of staying safe on road

BY JULIE BROWN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Natalie Macchiorola remembers that her dad liked to watch *The Sopranos* and smoke cigars.

"He won't celebrate my 16th birthday or walk me down the aisle," a tearful Macchiorola said Friday during a Mothers Against Drunk Driving program. Her dad, killed July 7, 2004, by a drunken driver when she was only 11, won't spoil his grandchildren.

"Please don't put a family in pain this holiday season," the teen victim urged.

MADD, Mothers Against Drunk Driving, is again sharing its "Don't drink and drive" message this holiday season.

"The holidays are when there are a lot more gatherings," said Ne'chole McClendon, program director for MADD Wayne County. "They are all catered around alcohol."

The annual MADD effort serves "as a reminder to the community, you are pledging not to drink and drive," she said.

Mothers Against Drunk Driving, Wayne County hosted the annual "Tie One On For Safety" campaign for southeastern Michigan in support of the two-year anniversary of the Campaign To Eliminate Drunk Driving. It was held at lunchtime Friday, Dec. 5, at Westland Shopping Center.

Dr. Prince Miles, MADD Wayne County chaplain and victim who lost his son in a drunken driving crash, spoke,

as did Natalie's mom, Brooke Allen, a traffic reporter. "I'm thinking of the police showing up on someone's door," said Allen, urging those at the MADD session not to risk their lives or those of others.

The holiday season's a difficult time for those who have lost a loved one to a drunken driver, noted McClendon. "This year marks our second anniversary for the Campaign To Eliminate Drunk Driving."

Wayne County Sheriff Warren Evans spoke Friday, also representing his colleagues, Mike Bouchard of Oakland County and Mark Hackel of Macomb, who had department representatives there. Evans thanked MADD "for being so successful over the years in educating people about drunken driving."

Evans is pleased with the drop in injuries associated with drunken driving, but noted there were five fatalities in his county last holiday season. "We still have too many." His department and others will beef up patrols for the holidays.

"The end game for us is not to have accidents and fatalities," said Evans, adding it's important not to have "an errant behavior from a basically good person."

Westland Mayor William Wild also urged people to have a safe and sober season. "Thank you for heeding the advice of this important campaign," Wild said. He reminded people of the devastation of losing a loved one.

Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano drew attention by holding up a pair of handcuffs and noting you're better with a designated driver or cab ride, as compared to a law enforcement arrest. You can sleep in the next day as late as you want, not possible at a county jail.

"They've always been at the forefront of, really, education," Ficano said of MADD. "You've seen results, real results. That's a real tribute to them."

"We're using law enforcement as our first line of defense," McClendon said. There are ignition interlocks so an individual caught as a first-time offender, who pays for installation and monitoring, takes a breathalyzer-type test before the car will start.

"Michigan has over 1,500 people on the interlock already. It's helping individuals still go to work," she said.

As part of the Friday event, organizers have "mocktails" selected, recognizing the entries. Tasting on Friday determined the winners. "It makes it an interactive, social event. We always want to have fun," McClendon said.

"We're just happy to be partnering again with Westland mall. They've been a really good partner. It is a really nice environment," she added. Organizers usually get 100 people or more. "Anyone in the mall can participate."

This is McClendon's fifth Tie One on for Safety: "I've seen the awareness change. Youth are a lot more aware." A lot

call to request ribbons, such as the University of Michigan-Dearborn and University of Detroit Mercy.

"I see school groups out of Northville asking to volunteer," she said. "The prevention with the youth is becoming a given."

MADD Wayne County hosted a news conference to kick off a countywide drunken driving crackdown to keep roads safe at this historically dangerous period, through New Year's. MADD Wayne County is working with law enforcement to send the message: If you drive at or over the legal limit, you will be under arrest as the high visibility enforcement period will take place from Dec. 19, 2008, to Jan. 1, 2009. As a part of "Tie One On For Safety," MADD asks people to tie a MADD red ribbon or display a red ribbon decal on their vehicles in support of law enforcement and the Campaign To Eliminate Drunk Driving.

The news conference included a Celebrate Safe and Sober Holiday Mocktail Mixer, sponsored by MADD Wayne County, Westland Shopping Center and Westland mall merchants, featuring alcohol-free drinks created and submitted by the community and served by "celebrity servers." Westland Shopping Center gift certificates were awarded to the top contestants: Tony James, first; Melissa Bates, second; Andrea Gibson, third; and Victor Hale and Brenda Perry, honorable mention.

ON THE AGENDA

Board of Trustees

The Canton Board of Trustees will hold a regular meeting at 7 p.m., Dec. 9 at the Canton Administration Building. Agenda items include:

- Senate tribute in recognition of Tom Yack's retirement
- Presentation of deputy chief and sergeant's badges
- Presentation of fire battalion chief and captain badges
- Consider 3rd amendment to the planned development for Uptown and site plan for All Seasons senior apartments
- Consider site plan for Summit Commerce Center Phase II
- Consider authorizing payment for construction of the outdoor classroom for the Workman Elementary Schoolyard Habitat Grant
- Consider approval of water and sewer utility billing policies
- Consider agreement with Wayne County to provide winter maintenance on 17.5 miles (37.80 lane miles) of county roads
- Budget amendment - ambulance fees
- 2008 budget amendments
- Consider purchase of 2009 Automark service warranty and maintenance of election equipment



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'MOCKTAILS' ADD TO SAFE MERRIMENT

Here are the MADD "mocktail" recipes tasted at Westland Shopping Center Friday:

ISLAND FRUIT PUNCH

4 ounces Hawaiian Punch concentrate
2.5 cups cold water
1/2 can (46-ounce) pineapple juice, chilled
3 cups orange juice, chilled
1 bottle (28-ounce) 7-Up, chilled

In a large punch bowl, mix Hawaiian Punch concentrate and cold water. Stir in pineapple juice, orange juice and 7-Up. Add ice. 20 servings.

VIRGIN STRAWBERRY DAIQUIRI

3 1/4 pounds frozen strawberries
1 3/4 cups and 2 Tablespoons ice
3/4 cup and 3 Tablespoons sweet and sour mix
15 dashes grenadine syrup

Place strawberries, ice cubes, sweet and sour mix and grenadine in a blender. Blend until smooth. Add ice depending on taste. 15 servings.

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Dealing with IRS now is better than waiting, worrying

Dear Rick: I have not filed a tax return since the mid-1990s. I have no excuse, it's just that one thing led to another and now it's been over 10 years. I recently got married and told my wife about this. She is frantic and says I should immediately contact the IRS. I talked to



Money Matters
Rick Bloom

a friend who said it would be best not to do anything. He said if the IRS hasn't caught you so far, the likelihood of being caught is very slim. My wife said I should ask for

your opinion.

You do need to work out a resolution with the Internal Revenue Service. That does not necessarily mean that you should immediately contact the IRS, but rather begin the process of working out a resolution.

Your friend's advice is irresponsible at best. By not filing your tax returns you may be subject to substantial fines and penalties and even potentially the loss of your freedom. The fact the IRS has not caught you to date does not necessarily mean they will not catch you.

If the IRS does catch you and finds that you are not in compliance with the law, you will have a much more difficult and painful experience as opposed to you voluntarily filing your past returns.

In the situation at hand, generally I would not recommend that someone go to the IRS themselves. Even though I have found the IRS to be much easier to deal with today than they were in the past, it still is a government entity and there continues to be an adversarial relationship between the IRS and taxpayers.

Consult a professional such as a tax attorney to help you resolve the issues with the IRS. Being represented by an attorney who deals with the IRS provides you with a professional who won't be intimidated, understands how they operate and whose job is to protect you and only you.

Over the years, I have seen many individuals who have not filed tax returns for many years. The one thing they have in common is that they are constantly looking over their shoulder fearing the IRS will discover their deception. This is no way to live.

When people eventually filed their tax returns, not only did they experience a huge sense of relief by coming clean with the IRS, they also found they did not owe nearly as much as they had originally feared. The one comment I hear from people who settle with the IRS is, "I should have done this sooner."

If you do make a mistake in preparing your returns, or even if you have never filed your returns, it is always better to voluntarily come clean with the IRS as opposed to waiting to be caught. The IRS is much more forgiving in waiving penalties and working out payment plans with taxpayer's who voluntarily step forward. Anyone who has issues with the Internal Revenue Service, should be proactive and work with a professional.

One reason people sometimes fail to file a tax return is they do not have the money to pay the taxes owed. Even in those situations it pays to file the return. The IRS has payment plans and does waive taxes in case of hardship.

We all hate paying taxes, however they are a fact of life. Trying to evade taxes either by commission or omission will not save you money and it will cost you in dollars and in aggravation.

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.

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Wanted: Agency seeks jobs for disabled

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A sour economy has made it even more difficult for a Westland-based nonprofit agency to find jobs and provide skill-building services for its developmentally disabled clients, who have a remarkable work ethic and who take immense pride in their endeavors.

Community Choices Supported Employment already works to provide jobs at restaurants, grocery stores, fitness centers, churches and other businesses in communities like Westland, Livonia, Canton, Redford and Wayne. But, the agency needs more employers to help its clients, who currently number 107.

"These individuals will not miss a day's work," said Community Choices jobs developer Jennifer Baker, a Westland resident. "They will give more than a hundred percent."

Employers like Bob Evans, Buddy's Pizza, Greenfield Village, Powerhouse Gym, Kroger and Redford's St. John's Lutheran Church, among others, already have become involved with Community Choices, but the need for more businesses has

Job coaches help the clients prepare for jobs, find employment and arrange for transportation from home to work. They also accompany clients to the workplace until they get settled in to their new endeavors. Some clients work independently, and some in groups.

become greater as job opportunities have dwindled.

Community Choices also helps clients at its Commerce Drive headquarters on Westland's northwest side by providing on-site, skill-building services during daytime business hours, in an effort to boost self-esteem and instill a sense of independence.

Erica Gray, 25, smiled as she sat in a motorized wheelchair and talked about the pin-on buttons she makes and sells for \$2 each wherever she can. Community Choices social worker Janet Threatt, a Canton resident, recently took some of Gray's buttons to a poverty summit in Detroit.

Gray uses special button-making equipment to



PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton resident Janet Threatt, a social worker for Community Choices, explains how the program helps the developmentally disabled.

make products to celebrate occasions like Christmas, Halloween, Election Day and new births. She estimated she has made thousands.

"They're basically beautiful," Gray said. "It just takes a hot second to make them, and they're fun to make."

Dorothy King, 41, makes first aid kits and sells them at places like craft shows. The Livonia woman also hopes to start selling her products online, and she said she plans to try to get on Oprah Winfrey's show.

Community Choices clients also enjoy outings for such activities as bowling, visiting museums, shopping, sporting events and volunteering their time for community organizations like The Salvation Army.

Founded in 1990, the agency relies on county, state and federal funding along with private employers. Some of Community Choice's clients live in group homes or with family members, while others are able to be independent or share a place with a roommate.

Job coaches help the clients prepare for jobs, find employment and arrange for transportation from home to work. They also accompany clients to the workplace until they get settled in to their new endeavors.

Some clients work independently, and some in groups. Community Choices gets its referrals from agencies like Community Living Services, which is also dedicated to helping the disabled.

With the holiday season here, Threatt also hopes that local businesses will help Community Choices with Christmas gifts that clients might otherwise not receive. The agency also could use the expertise of someone who can help with online Web page designing.

Colleen Dahl, program director, said the agency's overriding goal is to enhance the quality of life for its clients by providing a wide array of services. The people served may range from 26 years old to retirement age, and some of them have been involved in the program for a decade.

Baker, the jobs developer, issued a plea for businesses who want reliable employees to give Community Choices clients a chance.

"They won't find a better employee," she said.

To help in any capacity, call Community Choices at (734) 467-1710, or contact Janet Threatt at (313) 333-4061.

dclem@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2110



Erica Gray, 25, makes a little money from the pin-on buttons that she takes great pride in making.

Group planning event to help friend battling cancer

The friends and family of Kevin Christesen are hoping people will take time out of their holiday shopping to attend a dinner-dance and silent auction Saturday, Dec. 13.

Called CareForKevin, the event will help raise money for the 28-year-old Canton resident who is battling Adult Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia (ALL). The fund-raiser will take place at Burton Manor, 27777 Schoolcraft, Livonia.



Christesen

The event includes a deluxe open bar, appetizers at 6 p.m., dinner at 7:30 p.m., DJ and dancing. There also will be a silent auction, featuring such themed baskets as Totally Thomas, Spa Getaway, Stuff-N-Pluff Birthday Party, Plentiful Pasta, Holidays All Wrapped Up, Bountiful Baking and Carefree Cleaning as well as an Affinity Crossfire golf set.

A fish bowl raffle will have prizes such as Girls' Toy and Boys' Toy baskets, cordless drill set, poker party basket, coffee connoisseur's basket and baby basics basket.

The Sports Spectacular Drawing features a chance to win tickets to a Detroit Lions or Detroit Red Wings game, and there also will be a drawing for a one week's stay at a condominium on Lake Missaukee.

Tickets cost \$60 and an order form is available on line at www.careforkevin.org.

Christesen went to the doctor on July 28 due to a pain in his leg. After doing blood work it was obvious to the doctors that he had a much bigger problem. He was diagnosed with ALL on July 29 and has been undergoing chemotherapy.

Christesen is married to his high school sweetheart, Beth, and is the father of Carrie Elizabeth, 3. He has been undergoing chemotherapy. Both he and his wife were both born and raised in Canton and had just purchased their first home in Canton three months before he was diagnosed.

His condition is very serious, but hopeful. According to his friends, the doctors were very honest with him, telling him that "it is going to be hell, you are going to have to fight."

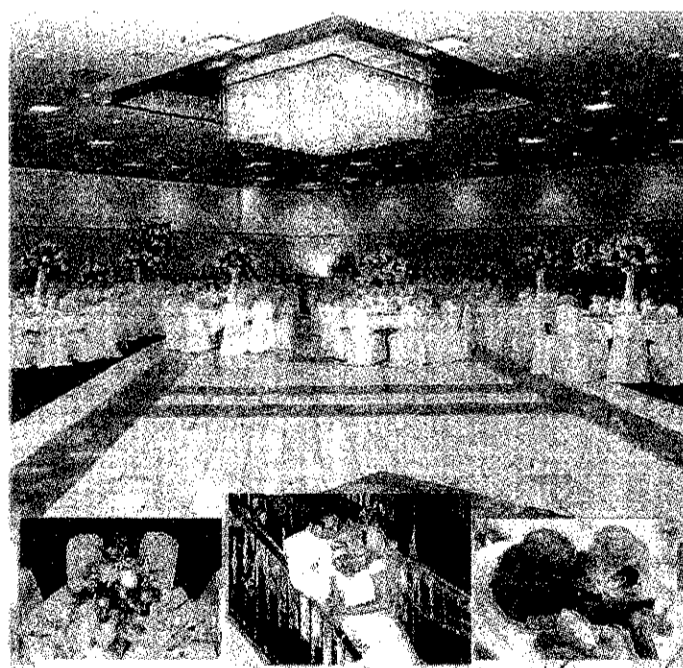
The goal of those "who care and love Kevin" is to ensure he receives the best possible treatment regardless of cost, as well as support for him, his wife and daughter.

For more information about their cause and to register for the dinner dance, visit the Web site, www.careforkevin.org. CareForKevin is a Michigan nonprofit organization.

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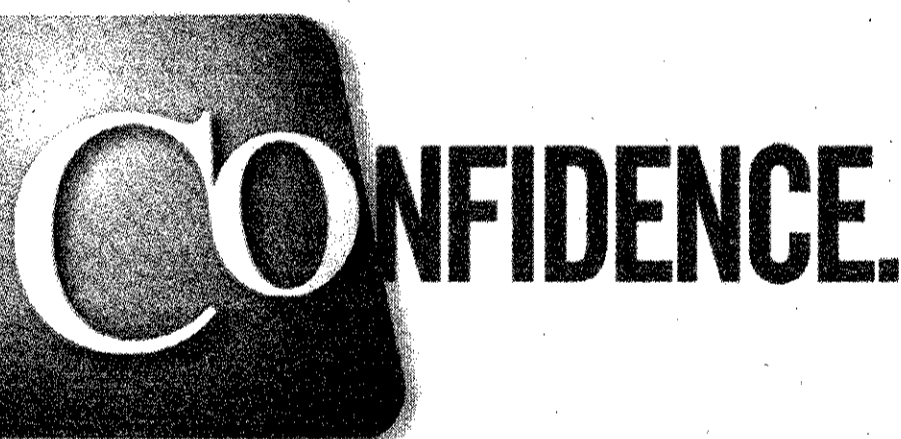
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SPORTS

B (CP)

Sunday, December 7, 2008

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

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

www.hometownlife.com

Who needs seniors? Chiefs upend Marian

BY ED WRIGHT
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Canton's "Young Guns" proved Thursday night they can do a lot more than shoot straight.

The Chiefs' sophomore-led girls basketball team showed it can also defend like nobody's business and box out with the best of them in a 40-35 triumph over perennial state power Birmingham Marian on the shiny new Phase III gymnasium hardwood floor.

Sparked by clutch free throw shooting and stifling defense, Canton, whose roster is void of seniors, repelled a furious fourth-quarter

GIRLS PREP HOOP

Marian rally to improve its record to 2-0.

The Mustangs, who scored 69 points in a season-opening win over Flint Northern, slipped to 1-1.

"I knew the girls would come in tonight and bring it and compete," Canton coach Brian Samulski said. "I didn't know what would happen on the scoreboard, but I knew they'd play as hard as they could."

"Defensively, we're very sound. When we share the ball, score around the rim and make our free throws like we did tonight, good

things are going to happen."

If the youthful Chiefs were going to get rattled, it would have happened with 1:50 left in the game when Michelle Lindsay's basket put Marian up 35-33 — the Mustangs' only fourth-quarter lead.

But instead of getting shaken, the Chiefs shook up the Mustangs by scoring the contest's final seven points — all on poise-coated free throws.

Sophomore Kari Schmitt swished a pair of freebies with 1:26 left to knot the game at 35-all.

Sophomore Melanie Pickert then stole the ball on the Mustangs' ensuing in-bounds

pass, was fouled, and sank one free throw to give Canton a lead it would never relinquish.

After Marian's Rachel Melcher misfired on a three-point shot — one that appeared to be tipped by Canton's Lindsey Winters — Schmitt calmly drained two more free throws to make it 38-35.

Pickert iced the win with a pair of free throws with 3.3 seconds to go — not long after the Chiefs' defense forced Marian to commit a double-dribble violation.

Samulski wasn't surprised his inexperienced team played toe-to-toe with one of the

Please see **HOOP, B2**

FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY PHOTOS

Above, Canton alum Becci Houdek earned Second Team All-GLIAC honors after excelling as a goalkeeper for Ferris State this fall. She allowed an average of just 1.61 goals per contest. At right, Houdek is the starting point guard for Ferris State's women's basketball team. She registered 21 points and five assists against Ashland on Thursday.

High 5
Late power surge
lifts Plymouth icers
over West BloomfieldBY ED WRIGHT
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

For two periods Friday night, West Bloomfield goalie Noah Zucker was sturdier than a brick wall against Plymouth's shot-a-minute hockey team.

But the wall came crumbling down during the final 15 minutes when the Wildcats struck for five goals in their 5-2 victory over the Lakers in a non-conference hockey game played at Computware Arena.

The victory improved Plymouth's record to 4-2.

"We probably should have scored five goals in the second period, but their goalie was unreal," said Plymouth coach Paul Fassbender. "We started a little slow; I think we may have taken them a little bit for grant early on, but we finished with a flurry. Overall, the kids really played well tonight."

Junior goalie Zach Lizzo earned the victory between the pipes for the 'Cats, stopping nine shots.

Plymouth outshot West Bloomfield, 39-11.

Trailing 1-0 early in the third period, the Wildcats struck twice on a 5-on-3 power play. Pat Smiatacz struck first off an assist from Chris Merrill. Moments later, Zach Gambrell ripped a shot into the back of the net after securing a pass from Kyle Callahan.

The winners put the game on ice with three consecutive goals off the sticks of Taylor Currier (from Tyler Lazorka), Evan Swieczkowski (from Luke Mirandi and Smiatacz) and Alex Holcomb, who was assisted by Nick Sofios.

PLYMOUTH 5, A.A. HURON 0: On Nov. 28, the Wildcats mercied the River Rats thanks in large part to a hat trick from Ryan Renault and a two-goal, two-assist effort from Smiatacz.

Mirandi also had a big night, adding a goal and three helpers.

Lizzo earned the shutout between the pipes as he recorded 11 saves.

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PCEP hockey
reunion

The Plymouth-Canton Educational Park boys hockey program's 10-year anniversary will be celebrated Saturday, Dec. 20, from 6 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Plymouth VFW Hall, located at 1426 Mill St.

All current and former PCEP hockey players and their parents are invited to attend. To RSVP and/or order tickets, contact Joan Quigley at (248) 921-5175 or jquigley@gleason.com.

Tickets are \$10 (\$5 for players). Pizza and salad will be provided. Bring your own pop and dessert.

Slavens lauded

Former Plymouth cross country and track-and-field standout Patrick Slavens recently earned his second varsity letter in cross country at Albion College.

Slavens, the son of Mark and Dian Slavens of Canton, posted a time of 27:47 in the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association Championships.

Charity hockey

The 4th Annual Canton Fire Fighters vs. Canton Coaches charity hockey game will be held Saturday, Dec. 13, at 6 p.m. at the Arctic Edge Ice Arena in Canton.

Proceeds from the game will benefit the Canton Firefighters Association's "No Child Without a Christmas" program.

The admission charge will be \$2 or an unwrapped gift.

The Canton Fire Department will have fire engines on display before the game and the Canton Youth Hockey minimites will scrimmage during the first intermission.

There will also be raffle gift baskets, a 50/50 raffle and chuck-a-puck available.

Almost 'two' cool to be true

Canton grad Houdek in midst of doubly impressive athletic feat

BY ED WRIGHT
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Becci Houdek is pulling a "Bo Jackson" at Ferris State University — and she's doing it with style.

Jackson was the headlines-grabbing athlete who played two professional sports — football and baseball — at the same time during the late-1980s.

Houdek is a sophomore at Ferris State who is more than half-way through an incredible feat that has her playing collegiate soccer and basketball in the same academic year.

The 2007 Canton High School graduate earned a basketball scholarship from Ferris after excelling for the Chiefs during a stellar four-year varsity career.

She also starred as a high-scoring forward for the Canton soccer team, however, she shelved the sport to focus on college hoop.

The shelving proved to be temporary.

"Last spring, the soccer coach approached the basketball players to see if anyone would be interested in playing,"

Houdek said. "I told her, yeah, I'd be interested. Three or four other basketball players tried it, too, but I'm the only one that ended up playing."

First time for everything

To add a twist to Houdek's remarkable effort, she played goal-keeper for the Bulldogs — a position she never played growing up or at Canton.

"I always wanted to play goalie when I was young, so when the coach asked me if I'd like to try it, I said, 'I'm in,'" Houdek said. "My technique isn't great, so I have to rely on my athletic ability."

Houdek led the Bulldogs to a 9-8-1 record, which included a 3-2 victory over Saginaw Valley State University — a team Ferris had never beaten before.

She finished the season with four shut-outs and a solid 1.61 goals-against average — numbers that earned her a pleasant, post-season surprise.

"I was sitting with a bunch of my teammates during a break at the conference tournament," Houdek recalled. "They started calling off the names of the girls

who made the first and second teams for all-conference and I heard my name for second team. I looked around and said, 'What? You've got to be kidding me.' I was not expecting it."

Painful debut

Houdek's first collegiate soccer season nearly ended shortly before it started.

With just over two minutes left in the season-opener against Southern Indiana, Houdek was involved in a nasty collision with an opposing player while diving to make a save. Seven of her teeth were damaged and she suffered a serious concussion.

"I lost six hours of memory," she said. "I don't remember a thing about the collision."

The good news: Ferris won 1-0 and Houdek — following a few trips to the dentist — returned to the practice field a few days later.

Courting stardom

Houdek is making a name for herself in her primary sport as well. As the starting

Please see **HOUDEK, B4**

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The Rocks' lower weights will be filled by sophomore Nick Kim (103), senior Ben DeWitt (112-119), senior Ian Phillips

Filippelli's younger brother, Daniel, will handle the Chiefs'

Seniors Alex Winn and Brian Chandler are vying for the 189 spot while juniors Brett Keys and Wally Eppler are slotted for 215 and 285, respectively.

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The Cory Mancuso coaching era at Canton couldn't have started any better Wednesday as the Chiefs won both their matches in a quad meet held in the Phase III gymnasium.

170: Andrej Majewski (12:20, 152); Anthony Ab-
 ander; Cameron McCord (13 seconds);
 160: Alex Landa (pinned Fawzi Zeidan (4:14);
 177: Keith Zech (C) won by major decision
 over Alex Juchartz, 11-3; 189: Pat Durroche
 (C) pinned Devin Kelemen (32 seconds);
 215: Kairen Cigan (B) pinned Ben Poirier (1:29);
 285: Dustin Slaton (L) pinned Doug
 Pickert (in 1:22); 103: Keshaw Patel (C) won
 by void; 122: Brendan Papio (pinned Danny
 Filippelli (3:30); 119: Waleed Farai (C)
 pinned Angel Enriquez (2:45); 125: Carl
 Lucke (C) pinned Victor Enriquez (1:27);
 170: Jeremy Filippelli (C) won by major
 decision over Tyler Schneider, 14-2; 135:
 Donnie Watkins (C) def. Tommy Kozak, 3-2;
 140: Ryan Terrell (C) def. Carter Sherman,
 3-2.

"They were just a little bit better."

"It was a typical first game — some good moments and some not-so-good moments," said PCA coach Carol Gerulis.

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.

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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

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All-Observer swimmers set high standards, low times

FIRST-TEAM INDIVIDUALS

Lauren Seroka, Fr., Salem (200 freestyle): Seroka, a 4.0 student, established herself as the most successful freshman in the history of Salem girls swimming. She not only set varsity records in the 200 freestyle and 500 freestyle and as a member of the 400-free-style relay quartet, but she earned All-State honors in the 200 free (third place) and the 500 free (second place). Seroka was the KLAA conference champion in the 200 IM and she took second in the 100 butterfly.

"Lauren was always a big part of the team, every practice, competition or team function," said Salem coach Chuck Olson.

Ashley Gordon, Jr., Liv. Stevenson (200 IM): The junior enjoyed a highly productive Division 1 state meet placing eighth in the 200 IM in 2:10.75 (after going 2:09.14 in the prelims), along with a seventh in the 100 backstroke (1:00.18).

She was also runner-up in the 200 IM and third in the 100 backstroke at the Kensington Conference meet.

"Ashley was our team MVP for 2008," Stevenson coach Greg Phill said.

Kari Schmitt, Soph., Canton (50 freestyle): The 10th-grader enjoyed a stellar season for the Chiefs. She finished first in the 50 freestyle and fifth in the 100 freestyle at the KLAA South Division championship. Schmitt qualified for the Division 1 state meet in the 100 free and was part of Canton's state-qualifying 200 and 400 freestyle relays.

"Kari's times have all dropped this year," said Canton coach Ed Weber. "She's a talented athlete with a lot of promise in swimming. I look forward to seeing what she can do next year."

Carla McNamara, Jr., Liv. Stevenson (diving): The junior finished 10th in the Division 1 state finals (381.05 points) after placing fourth in the regional and first in both the Kensington Conference (395.45) and KLAA Central meets.

She also posted an 11-dive area best of 413.75.

"Carla is a very talented diver," Phill said.

Ashley Sells, Sr., Westland Glenn (100 butterfly): The four-time All-Area pick was 24th in Division 1 and posted a personal best of 1:01.41. She also won the KLAA South Division title and was fourth in the KLAA Kensington Conference.

As a junior she took fifth in Division 1 where she holds the school record in the 100 butterfly.

Sells qualified for the D1 state meet in the 200 IM (27th overall) after posting a season-best 2:16.46 to qualify.

"We will miss Ashley," Glenn coach Randy Ferguson said. "She has blessed us with her talent and leadership here at Glenn. I wish her the best of luck in whatever she decides to do."

Shannon Kelly, Sr., Liv. Ladywood (100 freestyle): The senior captain placed in two events at the Division 3 state meet including a 12th in the 50 freestyle (25.25) and a 16th in the 100 freestyle (54.87).

She also placed sixth and eighth, respectively, in both events at the Catholic League meet breaking school records established in 1995.

Kelly also was a member of Ladywood's school record 200 medley (1:58.63), 200 freestyle (1:46.45) and 400 freestyle (57.38).

"Shannon took her swimming to a new level this year," Ladywood coach Jamie Perrine said. "Last year she did not make the top ten times list at the end of the season and this year she is at the top of it. She was determined to leave her mark at Ladywood and her hard work earned her just that with five school records. She's a great leader for the team in-and-out of the pool, and I'm proud to have been her coach."

Savannah Hatt, Soph., Liv. Stevenson (500 freestyle): The 10th-grader took third in Division 1 (5:05.39) and also posted the area's second-best time in the 200 freestyle (1:56.13) with a run-

ALL-AREA GIRLS SWIMMING AND DIVING

2008 ALL-OBSERVER

GIRLS SWIMMING & DIVING TEAMS

200-yard medley relay: 1. Salem (Whitney Aumiller, Sr.; Lauren Seroka, Fr.; Emily Bair, Sr.; Emily Nelson, Soph.); 2. Livonia Stevenson (Sara Healy, Sr.; Ashley Gordon, Jr.; Ashley Reed, Fr.; Savannah Hatt, Soph.).

200 freestyle: 1. Lauren Seroka, Fr., Salem; 2. Whitney Aumiller, Sr., Salem.

200 individual medley: 1. Ashley Gordon, Jr., Stevenson; 2. Maggie Carlson, Jr., Canton.

50 freestyle: 1. Kari Schmitt, Soph., Canton; 2. Jordan Burgess, Sr., Westland John Glenn.

1-meter diving: 1. Carla McNamara, Jr., Stevenson; 2. Katie Koetting, Sr., Salem.

100 butterfly: 1. Ashley Sells, Sr., John Glenn; 2. Ashley Reed, Fr., Stevenson.

100 freestyle: 1. Shannon Kelly, Sr., Livonia Ladywood; 2. Laura Holtz, Jr., Stevenson.

500 freestyle: 1. Savannah Hatt, Soph., Stevenson; 2. Kaylee Dolinski, Soph., Stevenson.

200 freestyle relay: 1. Livonia Franklin (Kayla Douglas, Soph.; Natalie Cote, Soph.; Colleen Anthony, Soph.; Kaitlyn Kozyn, Fr.); 2. Stevenson (Kayla Perchall, Soph.; Laura Holtz, Jr.; Ashley Reed, Fr.; Kaylee Dolinski, Soph.).

100 backstroke: 1. Kayla Douglas, Soph., Franklin; 2. Emily Nelson, Soph., Salem.

100 breaststroke: 1. Ellen Palczynski, Sr., Plymouth; Casey Peterson, Jr., John Glenn.

400 freestyle relay: 1. Stevenson (Savannah Hatt, Soph.; Kaylee Dolinski, Soph.; Laura Holtz, Jr.; Ashley Gordon, Jr.); 2. Salem (Emily Bair, Sr.; Emily Nelson, Soph.; Whitney Aumiller, Sr.; Lauren Seroka, Fr.).

COACH OF THE YEAR
Jamie Perrine, Ladywood

ner-up finish in the Kensington Conference meet.

"Savannah had an excellent year and has a bright future," Phill said. "Hard work is something she clings to. Finishing third in the state says a lot for the next two years."

Kayla Douglas, Soph., Liv. Franklin (100 backstroke): So much for the so-called sophomore jinx as the 10th-grader took fourth in Division 1 in the 100 backstroke (58.91) and added a 12th in the 100 butterfly (1:00.43).

Douglas was also runner-up in the 100 backstroke at the conference meet.

"Kayla really began to develop as a team leader in the water," Franklin coach Kevin Hafner said. "It was very exciting to see her break 1:00.0 for the first time in the backstroke at the state meet. She put a good effort into all of the practices this year and it really paid off for her at the end of the season. Kayla is becoming much more focused on her goals. This will help her to continue to be a strong competitor over the next two years."

Ellen Palczynski, Sr., Plymouth (100 breaststroke): The senior earned the distinction as the school's first All-State girls swimmer as she placed eighth at the Division 1 state meet in the 100-yard breaststroke. A four-year varsity performer, Palczynski became just the eighth Plymouth swimmer to earn All-State consideration.

"Elle has been an excellent swimmer and captain for us," said Plymouth coach Doug Schade. "She improved her time in most of her events every year she was on our team. She is one of the most gracious and kind young ladies I've had the opportunity to coach."

FIRST-TEAM RELAYS

Salem, 200 medley (Whitney Aumiller, Sr.; Lauren Seroka, Fr.; Emily Bair, Sr.; Emily Nelson, Soph.): This foursome placed 12th at the D1 state finals.

"This is a very talented group that enjoys practicing together," said Olson. "All four were selected to the KLAA All-Conference team and all four could swim any stroke in the medley relay with similar results."

Franklin, 200 freestyle (Kayla Douglas, Soph.; Natalie Cote, Soph.; Colleen Anthony, Soph.; Kaitlyn Kozyn, Fr.): This quartet made school history by qualifying for the state meet and finishing 15th overall in a school record 1:42.06.

Made up of all underclassmen, the Patriots also took fourth in the Kensington Conference meet and first in the KLAA South Division.

"They were the youngest relay at the meet and we knew we had a chance to score some points," Hafner said. "The girls went above and beyond expectations when they dropped three second from their entry time. The girls are committed to improving their place over the next couple of years. It has really generated a lot of positive momentum for the team and future teams here at Franklin."

Stevenson, 400 freestyle (Savannah Hatt, Soph.; Laura Holtz, Jr.; Kaylee Dolinski, Soph.; Ashley Gordon, Jr.): This quartet, all underclassmen, placed 14th in Division 1 with time of 3:42.84 after going 3:40.8 in the prelims. They also took first in the KLAA Kensington Conference meet (3:41.11).

"They were pretty much together all year and they always did the job when needed," Phill said. "It looks good for the future."

SECOND-TEAM INDIVIDUALS

Whitney Aumiller, Sr., Salem

(200 freestyle): The senior was a four-year varsity swimmer, improving her times each year. She placed fourth in the 200 free at the KLAA conference meet and 14th at the Division 1 state meet.

"Whitney has been very dedicated to doing everything to prepare herself year-round in her efforts to reach her personal goals," said Olson. "Whitney served as captain in 2008 and took the responsibility of leadership and setting team goals."

Maggie Carlson, Jr., Canton

(200 IM): The junior was the Chiefs' top point-earner and a hard-working role model for the team's young contingent of swimmers. She placed first in the 200 freestyle and second in the 100 breaststroke at the KLAA South division championships. Carlson qualified for the D1 state meet in five individual events.

"Maggie came into this season with many goals," said Canton coach Ed Weber. "Her hard work and dedication before the season and ruing the season has been the gateway for her success. I look forward to her accomplishments next year as a swimmer and a captain."

Jordan Burgess, Sr., Westland Glenn (50 freestyle): The fourth-year varsity member swam her best 50 freestyle time of the year against Ladywood (26.09) in a dual meet.

The senior captain also took runner-up honors in the KLAA South Division meet and was sixth in the conference. She also is a member of the school-record 200 medley relay squad.

Burgess also qualified for the state meet in the 100 freestyle (68th overall) after posting a personal-best qualifying time of 56.86.

"Jordan has been a valuable swimmer the past four years for Glenn," Ferguson said. "She has represented the team at the state meet all four years, this year in the 200 medley relay and 100 freestyle."

Katie Koetting, Sr., Salem (diving): The senior, who is a 3.47 student, has been the Rocks' No. 1 diver for four years — and a very good one. She has been an All-Conference diver and Regional state qualifier all four years.

"Katie has earned All-American qualifier in diving this year," said Olson. "She was picked as captain this season because of her leadership and competitiveness."

Ashley Reed, Fr., Liv. Stevenson (100 butterfly): The ninth-grader qualified for the Division 1 state meet and finished 36th after finishing fifth in the Kensington Conference meet in 1:02.12.

"Ashley's learned to work hard and has had lifetime bests in all events," Phill said. "We look forward to three more years with her."

Laura Holtz, Jr., Liv. Stevenson (100 freestyle): The junior ranked third in the area in the 100 freestyle (56.06), while qualifying for the state meet (36th overall).

Holtz also took a fourth in the 100 freestyle at the conference meet.

"Laura does a great job for Stevenson in relay events," Phill said. "She swam in two state relay

and we'll welcome her back for her senior year."

Kaylee Dolinski, Soph., Liv. Stevenson (500 freestyle): The sophomore placed 15th in the Division 1 state meet after going 5:12.25 in the prelims.

Dolinski also took 16th in the 200 freestyle after going 1:58.09 in the prelims. She also added a third in the Kensington Conference meet.

"Kaylee is another sophomore that works very hard for a top 16 finish in the 200 and 500 freestyle," Phill said. "With two years left at Stevenson, we're excited for the future."

Emily Nelson, Soph., Salem (100 backstroke): The sophomore qualified for the Division 1 state meet in the 200 individual medley and the 100 backstroke. She helped the Rocks to a 12th-place showing in the medley relay and a 15th in the 400 freestyle relay.

"Emily is very team-oriented in that any event she needs to swim for the success of the team, she is fine with," said Olson.

Casey Peterson, Jr., Westland Glenn (100 breaststroke): The junior swam her best time at the state meet (1:12.24) to finish 25th in the Division 1 prelims. Peterson also took third in the KLAA South Division and sixth in the conference.

The third-year varsity member also is a member of the school-record 200 medley relay.

"Casey has improved each year making the state meet this season for the first time in an individual event," Ferguson said. "She has also represented the team at the state meet all three years in the 200 medley relay and will lead our team next year as captain."

SECOND-TEAM RELAYS

Stevenson, 200 medley (Sara Healy, Sr.; Ashley Gordon, Jr.; Ashley Reed, Fr.; Savannah Hatt, Jr.):

This quartet wound up 18th in the Division 1 state meet with a with a season-best time of 1:54.43. They also placed third in the Kensington Conference (1:54.74).

"These four girls didn't get together until the end of the season and with three out of the four returning, the future looks bright," Phill said.

Stevenson, 200 freestyle (Kayla Perchall, Soph.; Laura Holtz, Jr.; Ashley Reed, Fr.; Kaylee Dolinski, Soph.): This foursome, all underclassmen, wound up 23rd overall in Division 1 with a time of 1:44.49.

"Although these girls didn't get a chance to swim together very often, they came together when it counted and swam very well at the state meet recording our best time of the year," Phill said. "The future looks bright."

Salem, 400 freestyle (Emily Bair, Sr.; Emily Nelson, Soph.; Whitney Aumiller, Sr.; Lauren Seroka, Fr.): The Rock-solid quartet set the school record in the very first meet they swam in this season. They continued to get better and peaked at the D1 state meet with a 15th-place showing.

"These four young ladies are what the term 'student-athlete' is all about," said Olson. "Every coach would be proud of all their accomplishments in the classroom and the competition pool."

COACH OF THE YEAR

Jamie Perrine, Liv. Ladywood:

The eighth-year coach, despite just 14 swimmers and one diver, guided the Blazers to eight school records and qualified for seventh different events at the Division 3 state meet (25th in the team standings).

"We had an amazing season in terms of fast swims and high diving scores," Perrine said. "The team really pulled together, and with their hard work and dedication, were able to have the best season since I started coaching."

"This team has set the example of what we expect in future Ladywood teams. I really enjoyed watching the senior class grow over the past four years and I'm proud of their athletic accomplishments this season. Although the seniors leaving are irreplaceable and will be greatly missed, I look forward to next year with the young talented girls I have returning."



Lauren Seroka
Salem



Ashley Gordon
Stevenson



Kari Schmitt
Canton



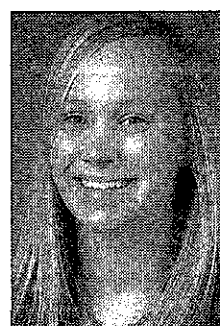
Ashley Sells
John Glenn



Shannon Kelly
Ladywood



Savannah Hatt
Stevenson



Kayla Douglas
Franklin



Ellen Palczynski
Plymouth



Whitney Aumiller
Salem



Maggie Carlson
Canton



Jordan Burgess
John Glenn



Katie Koetting
Salem



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Franklin



Emily Bair
Salem



Jamie Perrine
Ladywood

FINAL GIRLS SWIM LISTINGS

FINAL OBSERVER GIRLS SWIM BESTS

200-YARD MEDLEY RELAY

Salem 1:54.00
Livonia Stevenson 1:54.43
Plymouth 1:56.47
Westland John Glenn 1:56.85
Livonia Ladywood 1:58.63

200 FREESTYLE

Lauren Seroka (Salem) 1:54.67
Savannah Hatt (Stevenson) 1:56.13
Whitney Aumiller (Salem) 1:57.68
Kaylee Dolinski (Stevenson) 1:58.09
Natalie Cote (Franklin) 2:01.74
Kaitlyn Kozyn (Canton) 2:02.74
Kayla Eyster (Canton) 2:02.74
Michelle Chang (Plymouth) 2:03.52
Kayla Douglas (Franklin) 2:03.81

200 INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY

Ashley Gordon (Stevenson) 2:09.14
Lauren Seroka (Salem) 2:10.97
Maggie Carlson (Canton) 2:12.87
Ashley Sells (John Glenn) 2:16.46
Catherine Irwin (Canton) 2:17.59
Sijia Hao (Plymouth) 2:16.68
Emily Bair (Salem) 2:17.69
Emily Nelson (Salem) 2:17.74
Whitney Aumiller (Salem) 2:18.44
Casey Peterson (John Glenn) 2:20.38

50 FREESTYLE

Shannon Kelly (Ladywood) 25.25
Kayla Douglas (Franklin) 25.43
Kari Schmitt (Canton) 25.98
Lauren Seroka (Salem) 26.09
Jordan Burgess (John Glenn) 26.09
Whitney Aumiller (Salem) 26.14
Kayla Eyster (Canton) 26.62
Natalie Cote (Franklin) 26.68
Colleen Anthony (Franklin) 26.78
Emily Bair (Salem) 26.84

1-METER DIVING (11 DIVE TOTALS)

Carla McNamara (Stevenson) 413.75
Katie Koetting (Salem) 388.00
Allison Spitzley (Ladywood) 358.25
Katina St. Pierre (Churchill) 348.55
Mallory Hudak (Canton) 332.80
Desiree Clemmer (John Glenn) 330.25
Jennie Humber (John Glenn) 295.35
Robyn Plowar (Canton) 292.55
Kali Pierce (Canton) 283.95
Kay Borst (Plymouth) 270.60

100 BUTTERFLY

Kayla Douglas (Franklin) 1:00.34
Lauren Seroka (Salem) 1:00.65
Ashley Sells (John Glenn) 1:01.41
Ashley Reed (Stevenson) 1:02.12
Emily Bair (Salem) 1:02.74
Ellen Palczynski (Plymouth) 1:03.65
Maggie Carlson (Canton) 1:04.25

Catherine Irwin (Canton) 1:04.64
Whitney Aumiller (Salem) 1:05.71
Maddy Pelon (Ladywood) 1:06.11

100 FREESTYLE

Lauren Seroka (Salem) 54.31
Shannon Kelly (Ladywood) 54.87
Laura Holtz (Stevenson) 56.06
Maggie Carlson (Canton) 56.36
Kari Schmitt (Canton) 56.39
Kayla Douglas (Franklin) 56.52
Michelle Chang (Plymouth) 56.60
Kayla Eyster (Canton) 56.70
Jordan Burgess (John Glenn) 56.86
Samantha Reid (Churchill) 56.91

500 FREESTYLE

Lauren Seroka (Salem) 5:03.67
Savannah Hatt (Stevenson) 5:05.39
Kaylee Dolinski (Stevenson) 5:12.25
Whitney Aumiller (Salem) 5:20.91
Maggie Carlson (Canton) 5:24.72
Sijia Hao (Plymouth) 5:26.25
Emily Nelson (Salem) 5:32.70
Emily Bair (Salem) 5:32.80
Jordan Burgess (John Glenn) 5:34.65
Natalie Cote (Franklin) 5:34.65

200 FREESTYLE RELAY

Livonia Franklin 1:42.06
Livonia Stevenson 1:44.49
Salem 1:44.91

Plymouth 1:45.31
Canton 1:45.79

100 BACKSTROKE

Kayla Douglas (Franklin) 58.91
Whitney Aumiller (Salem) 1:00.06
Ashley Gordon (Stevenson) 1:00.18
Emily Nelson (Salem) 1:01.86
Sara Healy (Stevenson) 1:03.91
Lauren Seroka (Salem) 1:05.34
Ashley Sells (John Glenn) 1:05.47
Stephanie Matsui (Plymouth) 1:05.61
Charlotte Buckley (Stevenson) 1:05.81
Ashley Reed (Stevenson) 1:05.87

100 BREASTSTROKE

Ellen Palczynski (Plymouth) 1:08.47
Maggie Carlson (Canton) 1:09.71
Lauren Seroka (Salem)

THE WEEK AHEAD

BOYS PREP BASKETBALL
Tuesday, Dec. 9
Calvary Christian at PCA, 7 p.m.
Canton Agape at Urban Lutheran, 7:30 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 12
Lutheran South at Canton Agape, 7:30 p.m.
D.H. Crestwood at Canton, 7 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 13
Lutheran Westland at PCA, 3:30 p.m.
GIRLS PREP BASKETBALL
Tuesday, Dec. 9
Calvary Christian at PCA, 5:30 p.m.
Canton Agape at Urban Lutheran, 6 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 12
Lutheran South at Canton Agape, 6 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 13
Lutheran Westland at PCA, 2 p.m.
Salem at F.H. Mercy, 4 p.m.
BOYS PREP HOCKEY

Monday, Dec. 8
Canton at South Lyon at Kensington Valley Ice House, 6 p.m.
Wednesday, Dec. 10
Plymouth at Dearborn at the DISC, 7:25 p.m.
Thursday, Dec. 11
Salem at Country Day, 5:30 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 12
Livonia Stevenson at Canton at Arctic Edge, 8 p.m.
W.L. Western at Plymouth at Compuware Arena, 7:40 p.m.
GIRLS PREP HOCKEY
Tuesday, Dec. 9
Grosse Pointe North at PCS at Arctic Edge, 6:30 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 13
PCS at Ladywood at

Ann Arbor Ice Cube, 6 p.m.
PREP WRESTLING
Wednesday, Dec. 10
Canton at Southgate Anderson, 5 p.m.
Plymouth at Pinckney, 5:30 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 13
Canton at EMU Varsity Wrestling Tournament, 9 a.m.
Salem "10" Invite, 9 a.m.
Plymouth at Bedford Invitational, 10 a.m.
BOYS SWIMMING
Thursday, Dec. 11
Monroe at Plymouth at Canton pool, 6:30 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 13
Canton, Salem at EMU Relays, 11 a.m.
PREP GYMNASTICS
Saturday, Dec. 13
Canton at Vassar, noon

Spartan skaters outlast Salem, 5-1

Livonia Stevenson coach David Mitchell called it "a good team win and a solid 45 minutes of hockey." Nobody could argue that point following the Spartans' 5-1 triumph Friday night over host Salem at the Plymouth Cultural Center.

Stevenson is now 4-0-1 overall and 2-0-1 in the Kensington Conference's Central Division.

John Vella scored twice and added one assist for Stevenson,

which led 1-0 after one period and 4-1 after two.

R.J. Kierdorf and Matt Fox collected two assists each, while Cole Rochowiak, Trevor Baruzzini and Justin Shureb rounded out the Stevenson goal scorers.

Kurt Driscoll scored the lone goal for the Rocks, who slipped to 2-2-2 overall and 1-2-1 in the KLA Central.

Stevenson netminder Dan Sager stopped 16-of-17 Salem shots, while

the Rocks' Adam Powers made 33 saves.

SALEM 5, W.L. WESTERN 2: On Tuesday, the Rocks upended the Warriors as five different players scored goals: Josh Jarvela, Wes Carr, Ryan Blakey, Mario Macari and Shawn Lyons.

"It was a good game," said Salem coach Ryan Ossenmacher. "We started out a little slow, but we picked it up the second half of the game."

HOUDEK

FROM PAGE B1

point guard for the Bulldogs' hoop team, she has already chalked up games of 21 and 14 points while leading the team in assists.

"Playing soccer helped me both physically and mentally

for basketball," she said. "I'm in better shape than I would have been if I didn't play. Plus, I learned to put things behind me faster. When I gave up a goal, I had to look ahead and not dwell on it. I don't worry as much about turnovers in basketball now as I did before."

Would Houdek ever try something even Bo Jackson never attempted: play three sports in one year?

"No, playing two is crazy enough," she said, smiling. "Besides, I never was very good at softball."

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Penguins clipped by Cranes, 6-2

The Plymouth-Canton-Salem girls hockey team dropped a 6-2 decision to Cranbrook-Kingswood Tuesday in a Michigan Metro High School Girls Hockey League contest played at the Arctic Edge Arena in Canton.

Cranbrook led 3-0 after one period and 4-1 with 15 minutes to play.

Kelsey Nikkila scored both goals for the Penguins.

The first came at the 9:28 mark of the second period on an assist from Sarah Coleman.

The second came with 6:57 left in the game off a pass from Lauren Smith.

Michelle Shaffer was in goal for PCS.

Colleen Jacoby handled the goal-tending duties for the Cranes.

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

Buying Michigan food makes sense, cents

The golden delicious apples looked, well, delicious that sunny October Saturday at Joe Randazzo's in Westland.

We'd stopped at the market at Newburgh and Warren to get some produce. I picked four apples and was headed to the register when my husband stopped me.

He noted we had Washington golden delicious apples, and equally appealing Michigan golden delicious apples were available for the same price. It took only a moment to make the switch and I felt better about supporting homegrown producers of food — even if we do have family in Washington state.



Julie Brown

I'd gotten to thinking about Michigan foods a few days earlier, when I got my newsletter from the Plymouth-Canton Branch, American Association of University Women. Along with the timely election 2008 guide, editor Sue Sayers had included an e-mail

list from member Kay Paupore of Canton, a retired Garden City schools teacher.

The list and text encouraged us to shift \$10 per week of our grocery spending to products from Michigan companies. Many Michigan-owned grocery stores support other Michigan businesses on their shelves, the article noted. If every household started spending just that \$10 a week of its current grocery budget on locally-grown foods, more than \$37 million would be kept circulating in Michigan's economy.

The list included the ever-popular Bill Knapp's cake and other baked goods from Livonia's Awrey, which we've always supported, as my father-in-law, Stan Rembacki, worked there for more than 40 years. Of course, Kellogg cereals out of Battle Creek are a staple atop our refrigerator, and Absopure water out of Plymouth Township is even closer to home.

I e-mailed the contact in the newsletter article, Mary-Jessie Bonello, and soon heard back from the Pinckney resident who started this initiative after reading an article in *Hour* magazine.

"I'm not associated with anyone, I'm just me," Bonello said of her effort that started a year ago. "That seemed like a no-brainer to me."

Bonello did her homework and sent the e-mail results to friends. "It's been going around ever since," said Bonello, whose e-mail is maryjessie@gmail.com.

She'd contacted a woman involved with Michigan agritourism, Jeanne Lipe, and Bonello ended up contacting Michigan food businesses individually.

MICHIGAN ONLY

"I was really surprised at how big the response was," she said. Her goal was "to make sure the money ended up in Michigan." Thus, she didn't include Gerber baby foods, which was bought out by Nestle.

"You had to make some rules, and those are our rules," Bonello said. "Everybody can do it," even if they're not buying the gourmet foods. "It takes a little bit of thought."

She cites jobs, payroll taxes and other economic benefits Michigan sees from local grocery shopping. "This is a little bit of Ask not what your state can do for you," she said with a chuckle.

She cited the "triple dip" of buying Michigan products from Michigan's Spartan stores, where the product is made in Michigan, the grocery store is independently owned by a Michigan family, and the Spartan stores headquarters is located in Grand Rapids. Other independent Michigan retailers like Hiller's, Busch's (with Spartan ties), Holiday Market, Westborn or Randazzo's have a similar "double dip" value.

"There's a bunch of them in Ann Arbor," said Bonello, who works for True Value Hardware stores. "So I guess I have a natural bias for independents."

She's changed the way she shops for her family, and has received a lot of e-mail back on her initiative. There've been tips for feed-back and thank yous.

Bonello may update her list, but has her job and family to attend to as well. "It was good and I really enjoyed it," she said of the response. She's lived in Michigan all her life, and didn't know Keebler was Michigan-based.

"I was doing it for myself," said Bonello, who heard from one man who did a New Year's Eve dinner with all Michigan products.

"You can't do it all," she concluded, but local shopping helps. "You're supporting the local people that own that store."

I felt energized after my talk with Bonello. My husband does the grocery shopping in our family, and he's good at it. It got me to thinking, though, how much of a difference we could make in our economically-troubled state if we'd make an effort to support these businesses.

Julie Brown is presentation editor for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. She can be reached at (734) 953-2111 or via e-mail at jcbrown@hometownlife.com.

Think Michigan first



Freezer and meat products from Michigan companies featured on Lisa Diggs' Web site.



PHOTOS BY TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Livonia resident Lisa Diggs displays a selection of products from Michigan companies that are included on her Web site.

Livonia woman's Web site brings holidays home

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
O & E STAFF WRITER

Lisa Diggs opens the well-stocked freezer to show she's doing her part to boost the Michigan economy while preparing for the holidays. She especially can't wait to make the Hudsonville chocolate chip cookies. Diggs not only enjoys the aroma of baked goods wafting through her Livonia home, but the knowledge she's making it easier for consumers to buy all kinds of Michigan products by offering a list of companies on her Web site during one of the busiest shopping times of the year.

Diggs has created an additional grocery guide just in time for the seasonal onslaught of family and friends. Diggs spent hours reading labels in food stores before assembling the list of cheese, dips, cracker, snack and ice cream companies, but her research wasn't all drudgery. She visited a half dozen of the state's 60 wineries.

"The biggest single thing we need to think about is where something's coming from before we buy it," said Diggs. "Think Michigan first. If it didn't come from Michigan did it come from a Michigan store? What part of my dollar can be contributing to the Michigan economy?"

The Michigan Department of Agriculture estimates that if every Michigan family bought \$10 of Michigan fruits and vegetables a week it would keep \$37 million here at home. Diggs can only imagine the impact if consumers purchased a variety of foods produced in the mitten state, Diggs isn't encouraging shoppers to spend more, but shift their dollars to home-grown and produced items bought at Michigan stores like Meijer, Hiller's, Joe Randazzo's, Holiday

Market, Joe's Produce, and Plum.

BUYING LOCAL

It easily looks like Diggs could host a party with the bags of Better Made chips, Michigan potatoes and apples, and sausage filling the dining room table. The Al Dente Pasta came from the locally-based Westborn Market, La Jalisciense corn tortillas from Mexican Town. Tamales Express in Redford makes not only tamales, but enchiladas and salsa.

"I buy Michigan first if at all possible even if I pay a little bit more," said Diggs. "But in some instances it may not cost as much. Faygo compared to national sodas is usually less. The same is true of Michigan wines including sparkling wines and you can buy Michigan wines just about anywhere. It's not as difficult as people think. When they're grocery shopping with two kids to make it easier, print out the list and take it with you."

GIFTS FOR EVERYONE

Diggs offers dozens of ideas for not only preparing holiday meals, but gift giving at her Web site, www.buymichigannow.com. She loves the decorative Bullfrog Candles from Charlevoix but thinks women would equally appreciate outerwear from Wolverine in Rockford or Carhartt in Dearborn. She's just as excited about giving family passes to The Henry Ford or Detroit Zoo or putting together a gift basket with items from Harmony Hollow Bell Works in Ann Arbor, ornaments from Two Bees in Northville and Pewabic Pottery in Detroit, and truffles from The Chocolate Garden in Coloma.

"For children there are Uncle Goose wooden blocks handcrafted in about 13

Please see **MICHIGAN, C4**



Products from Michigan featured on Diggs' Web site.

Shoppers honor loved ones during holiday season

It always means the holidays are near when Angela Hospice's Tree of Life graces the halls of Laurel Park Place in Livonia. The annual fund-raiser supports programs for hospice patients and the community while offering a way to remember those dear to us at a special time of year.

"I've been involved with the Tree of Life for many years," said Rebecca Hyman, bereavement and social work manager for Angela Hospice, "and I've seen how meaningful the experience is for people who participate."

Angela Hospice's Tree of Life display features six large lighted trees. Visitors are invited to place an ornament featuring their loved one's name on any of the trees when they make a donation to the Tree of Life effort. The Tree of Life display, located next to Von Maur, opened in late November with a ceremony which included a performance by the Angela Hospice choir.

"Whether it has become a tradition they participate in year after year or whether it's the first time someone visits the Tree of Life, it really touches people to honor their loved ones in this way," said Hyman.

Tree of Life is an important fund-raiser for Angela Hospice, and the staff has been preparing for weeks as donors mailed in requests for angel ornaments.

"We were really surprised and pleased to see how many ornament requests we received through the mail this year," said Barb Paul, development coordinator. "At the Tree of Life opening, we already had over 1,500 angels on the trees."

Now in its 20th year, Tree of Life began as a small fund-raiser held in the house from which Angela Hospice operated in 1988. Just as the Tree of Life has continued to grow, Angela

Please see **TREE, C3**



LISA NORTON

Lynne Fuhrman of Redford attended the Tree of Life opening ceremony in honor of her mother Eleanor Kokoulen, as did her father John Kokoulen, a Dearborn Heights resident.

GARDEN CALENDAR

Make a centerpiece
7 p.m., Wednesday, Dec. 10 and Thursday, Dec. 11 at all seven English Gardens stores. \$24.99 fee. The stores' floral designers will help you create a centerpiece to decorate your holiday table. Sign up online at www.englishgardens.com or in the store.

- Dearborn Heights location - 22650 Ford Road at Outer Drive; (313) 278-4433
- Ann Arbor location - 155 N. Maple; (734) 332-7900
- West Bloomfield location - 6370 Orchard Lake Road, at Maple; (248) 851-7506

Storytelling
Children, ages 2-10, can hear classic and contemporary holiday stories from 1-2 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 13, at all stores' English Gardens stores. The program is free.

Ecosystem Restoration Workday
Join Matthaei Botanical Garden and Nichols Arboretum staff in working to remove invasive plant species from the arboretum to promote native plant growth, 9 a.m.-noon, Saturday, Dec. 13. The experience mixes a little bit of hard work with education about the arboretum and restoration ecology work here and in the local area. Dress to work outside. Snacks and tools will be provided, but participants may bring their own loppers or pruners. Call (734) 647-8528 for more info about the work site and to sign up. Matthaei Botanical Gardens is located at 1800 N. Dixboro Road, Ann Arbor. www.mbgna.umich.edu.

Winter Stonely 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.

E-mail calendar items to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com or mail them to her 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009

Experts have packed everything from soup to nutty gifts

BY SHARON DARGAY
O&E STAFF WRITER

Not sure how to pack that fresh bowl of homemade chicken soup you plan to send loved ones for Hanukkah? Wondering how you'll get that antique WWI plane propeller into a box and off to grandpa before Christmas? And what about the preserved sheep's head you promised to out-of-town relatives? Sue Sefton has shipped lots of soup without spilling a drop and Eric Ladwig has never met an item he couldn't pack securely.

"We tell people to freeze it and put it in a Styrene cooler with ice packs and then bring it in at 5 p.m.," Sefton described her soup-packing method. "We do a lot of frozen holiday food for people with kids out of state."

"I've never had any feedback that someone had an issue with a plant or food that we shipped. There's a baker who does these layer cakes and we've shipped those all over the country."

Sefton, whose UPS store is located at Orchard Lake Road and Maple, in West Bloomfield, is wrapping, boxing and shipping her way through her 22nd holiday season.

Ladwig, who owns a UPS store at Newburgh and Five Mile in Livonia, has packaged and shipped everything from airplane parts to a full-sized motorcycle over the past 13 years.

UNUSUAL GIFTS
"I have done some interest-

The UPS Store™

Suggestions for a well-packed box...

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ing stuff," said Ladwig, whose father owns a UPS store in Northville. "I did a WWI propeller last Christmas for one of our eBay guys. It was 6 feet but only about 6 inches in diameter. We had two boxes we put together."

"I had one guy who tried to ship his brother's remains, but only the U.S. Postal system can do that. I've done a stuffed, taxidermied sheep's head. We bubble wrapped it and double boxed it. It had horns, so we had to put big tubes on them and then we bubble wrapped them. It was for an eBay guy. Someone had bought it from him for Christmas."

There was the time Ladwig built a crate to ship a motorcycle to California.

"That was back in 1999. It cost about \$1,500 (packing and shipping). Today it would be around \$3,000."

Customers may not ship anything as elaborate this year during the current economic recession, but both Sefton and Ladwig are bracing for their busiest week of the year, starting Monday Dec. 15.

Sefton shipped about 3,000 packages during December 2007. That's double her usual monthly volume.

"We may have people this year, who instead of sending two boxes (of gifts), just send one box," Sefton said.

NO FLIGHT FEES
Both she and Ladwig say that even if fewer people ship gifts this season, more are sending vacation luggage through UPS to avoid additional airfare fees and to make sure their personal belongings arrive at their destination before they do.

"They'll ship it out so they

don't have to mess with checking it in," Ladwig noted. "It's great for us. We can do a prepaid shipping label for them to send luggage back."

"I think we'll have a good (holiday) season."

Ladwig said about 60 percent of his customers ask him to wrap as well as ship their items. It's about 50-50 at Sefton's store.

"I'd hope it would be 100 percent," Sefton said, adding that she gives over-the-phone packing advice to customers who insist on doing it themselves.

Here's some of what both she and Ladwig advise customers who pack their own holiday items for shipping:

- Don't use brown paper or string to wrap boxes.
- "Brown paper tears on a conveyor belt," Sefton said.
- Don't use crumpled paper

or real popcorn to cushion items. Use packing peanuts.

"Brown paper doesn't absorb shock," Ladwig explained.

- Don't use an old box.
- "We say, 'Can this box be dropped off a two-story building and withstand a drop of that magnitude?'" Sefton said. She pointed out that used boxes may not be as strong as new ones.
- Don't ship perfume or cologne, which are considered hazardous materials.
- Take batteries out of toys before shipping.
- If you decide to let a professional pack your items after all, make sure you know which wrapped gifts are breakable, so they can be packaged separately.
- Avoid shipping on Mondays. It's the busiest day of the week for packing and sending items.

Plymouth-Canton Community Schools NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Plymouth-Canton Community Schools hereby gives public notice that a hearing is being held on Tuesday, December 9, 2008 at 7:00 p.m., at the E. J. McClendon Educational Center, 454 S. Harvey Street, Plymouth, Michigan in the second floor boardroom on the issue of whether to adopt a resolution that will schedule the school district's regular election at the November 2009 general election. If the resolution is not adopted, the school district's regular election will continue to be held in May of 2009. Plymouth-Canton Community Schools also gives public notice that the Board of Education may choose to vote and take action on the resolution immediately following the public hearing.

CE08083452-292

PLYMOUTH DISTRICT LIBRARY PUBLIC NOTICE

The Plymouth District Library Board will hold its REGULAR December meeting Tuesday, December 16, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. at 223 S. Main Street, Plymouth, Michigan 48170.

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

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

Publish: December 7, 2008

CE08081662-293

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 9, 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 #
1998	Olds	Jimmy	4 Dr	1G3WS52K1WF323995
1995	GMC	Jimmy	S/W	1GKDT13W2S2503863
2006	Dodge	Charger	4 Dr	2B3KA43R56H394348
2004	Mazda	RX 8	2 Dr	JM1FE173240102875
1996	Nissan	Altima	4 Dr	1N4BU31D7TC171188
1998	Ford	Windstar	S/W	2FMZA5143WBC20206
2004	Pontiac	Grand Prix	4 Dr	2G2WP522941305271
1999	Ford	Windstar	S/W	2FMZA6143XBB23850
1996	Mercury	Marquis	4 Dr	2MELM7462TX605906
1992	Ford	Mustang	2 Dr	1FACP41M9NF156095
1995	Plymouth		4 Dr	1P3AA4639SF508686
1998	Pontiac	Grand Am	2 Dr	1G2NE52T9WC770611
1993	Honda	Civic	2 Dr	1HGEJ1261PL053844

Publish: December 4 and 7, 2008

CE08083451-293.6

NOTICE CITY OF PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN WINTER TAXES - 2008

Winter taxes are due December 1, 2008 and payable through February 28, 2009 without penalty. Additional information appears on the reverse side of your tax statement.

MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO: CITY OF PLYMOUTH. Payments can be made at City Hall during regular working hours, Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. at the Treasurer's office. After hours, payments can be placed in the drop box located in the City Hall lobby (Church Street entrance) or in the payment drop box next to the book returns behind the Library.

CITY HALL WILL BE CLOSED from Wednesday, December 24, 2008 through Thursday, January 1, 2009 for the Christmas Holidays.

The Treasurer's office will be **OPEN TO ACCEPT TAX PAYMENTS AND OTHER PAYMENTS** on Monday, December 29th, and Tuesday, December 30th.

Teresa Cischke, CPFA
City Treasurer

Publish: December 7 and 11, 2008

CE08083128-293.6

Got Game?

Yep, got scores, too.

Announcing!

CORE Rhythms

NOW AT **Arthur Murray!**

FIRM UP FAST
Losing inches has never been so fast... and so much fun! The passion and technique of *World Champion Rhythm & Latin dancers*, packed into the perfect fitness system. You'll love it and *anyone can do it.*

TRIM DOWN NOW
Core Rhythms is the revolutionary exercise concept that uses *sexy Latin dance moves* to raise your heart rate, while toning and tightening your entire core. You'll be swept away while getting a 360° total core workout.

CALL TODAY
Certified Core Rhythm instructors are ready, exclusively at **Arthur Murray Dance Studios**. Call today and schedule your first session.

Core Rhythms Creators
Julia Powers
12 time U.S. Champion
&
Joanna Kitnitz
10 time International Champion

DanceSport
FITNESS

Arthur Murray
Franchised Dance Studios

NO Contracts! NO Monthly Payments! NO Membership Fees!
Pay only for the sessions you use! Call now to schedule your FREE introductory workout!

Drop-Ins Welcome • Start Anytime
Call For Class Schedules

Arthur Murray
Franchised Dance Studios

42000 Six Mile Rd., Suite 250
Northville
(between Northville Rd. & Haggerty)
248.349.1133

1926 South Telegraph Rd.
Bloomfield
(next to Carl's Goffland)
248.338.6390

KNOW THE SCORE

check out the numbers in today's

Sports

section

VISIT HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

CANTON CINEMA

Goodrich Ticket Kiosk & Tickets Online
www.GC71.com
734-844-3456
Ford Rd. 1 Mile West of IKEA

DETROIT'S BEST MOVIE DEAL

ALL LOUNGER SEATS
ALL DIGITAL SOUND
ALL STADIUM SEATING

\$4.25 to \$4.75
ALL SEATS
EXCEPT ADULT EVENING

Free drink refills & 25¢ corn refills

MOVIE GIFT CARDS

available at the box office
New thru Jan. 4
bonus \$1.00 concession coupon for every \$10.00 in gift cards

SHOWTIMES 12/5 - 12/11 No passes

- PUNISHER: WAR ZONE (R)
12:05, 2:25, 4:45, 7:05, 9:35
FRI/SAT LS 11:55
- FOUR CHRISTMASSES (PG-13)
11:20, 1:25, 3:30, 5:35, 7:40, 9:45
FRI/SAT LS 11:50
- AUSTRALIA (PG-13)
11:35, 3:00, 6:25, 9:50
- TWILIGHT (PG-13)
11:00, 1:40, 4:20, 6:20, 7:00, 9:00, 9:40
FRI/SAT LS 11:40
- BOLT (PG) 11:30, 1:45, 4:00
BOLT DISNEY DIGITAL 3D (PG)
12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:15, 9:25
FRI/SAT LS 11:35
- MADAGASCAR: ESCAPE 2 AFRICA (PG)
11:05, 1:10, 3:15, 5:20, 7:25, 9:30
FRI/SAT LS 11:35

COUPON

FREE
20¢ DRINK
with \$1.25 purchase
of 46oz. bag of buttery popcorn
at participating locations. See store for details.



LISA NORTON

Angela Hospice volunteers Lil Korsog of Dearborn Heights; Barbara Keppen, Livonia, and Stella Smith, Plymouth assisted visitors at the opening of the Angela Hospice Tree of Life. More than 1,500 angel ornaments have already been placed on the trees.

TREE

FROM PAGE C1

Hospice has been expanding and providing hospice services to more and more patients each year.

This past spring, Angela

Hospice announced plans to expand its Care Center facility on Newburgh, enabling more patients to receive inpatient services at Angela Hospice's "home-away-from-home."

"We've been hoping to expand our facility for many years in response to the com-

elling community need," said Bob Alexander, business development manager for Angela Hospice. "An event like Tree of Life, which demonstrates such a heartfelt connection between Angela Hospice and the community we serve, is a powerful testimony to that important and

timeless relationship we share with the people around us."

The Tree of Life remains on display through Dec. 24. To make a donation, visit the trees display area during mall hours, or call (734) 464-7810. Visit www.angelahospice.org for more information about the work of Angela Hospice.

VISIT HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

KITCHEN REFACING



\$500 Countertop*
Includes Installation
**50% SAVINGS
OR MORE!**

FREE ESTIMATES



Joe Gannon
We're recommended
by Joe Gannon

cabinet clinic

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West 734-421-8151
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www.cabinetclinic.com
* Limited time offer-60 sq.ft. max. with refacing installation

Arthritis Today

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



OSTEOARTHRITIS OF THE HAND

Osteoarthritis of the hand is the most common form of arthritis. The features of osteoarthritis are sufficiently distinctive to identify it by examination alone.

The finding of enlargement of the distal or first joint of the finger is a hallmark of osteoarthritis. In most instances this enlargement is not painful, or the period of discomfort is short lived. Similar firm enlargement can occur at the middle finger joint or at the knuckles. All of these sites have in common the development of a small amount of bone around the joint.

Heredity or past injury determines the pattern of hand arthritis.

What bothers people with hand osteoarthritis is not the pain, which usually is limited to a few weeks. Nor is there disability associated with the condition, though at times osteoarthritis can shift the first finger joint into an awkward position. What bothers individuals with hand osteoarthritis is the appearance of the fingers.

Nothing is possible to make the hands look better. No medication will cause the bone about the joint to re-absorb, no injection into the finger joint will shrink the enlarged area, and no hand surgery is capable of removing the ridge of bone.

In osteoarthritis of the hand, the fingers may not appear pretty but they work well.

www.drjjweiss.yourmd.com

CEB0802228

Do you feel anxious or stressed?



Elana M. Gottfried, LMSW, ACSW

Having difficulty managing your day to day life? Or are you feeling like you are struggling to cope with more serious issues? If the answer is yes to either of these questions, I can help you! I am a licensed therapist with experience working with children, adolescents and adults. I specialize in following areas:

- Depression
- Anxiety
- Sexual Abuse
- Family Conflict
- High Risk Behaviors
- Child Behavioral Issues

Call me today to make an appointment!

Elana M. Gottfried, LMSW, ACSW

I accept most major insurance plans.

Located in the office of Dr. Lawrence J. Lipnik, MD, Internal Medicine
31610 Plymouth Road • Livonia • (734) 421-2848

VISIT
HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

February

W	Th	F	Sat	Sun
3	4	5	6	7

romantic comedy by Bernard Slade
starring Craig A. Toney

The Marriage Man 7:55 to 10:15

The Marriage Man 10:15 to 12:30

The Marriage Man 12:30 to 2:45

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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: Kaynini@aol.com or Kathy Shoebridge @ Kiivngston@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.

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 gchsi989reunion@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@sbcglobal.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: Kaynini@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.

Dinner dance tonight

The Moon Dusters Dance Club presents its popular annual Holiday Dinner Dance 6-10:45 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, at Burton Manor, 27777 Schoolcraft near Inkster road, Livonia.

Doors open at 5 p.m. with a family-style dinner at 6 p.m. Alcohol beverages available at affordable prices.

Ballroom dance music will be provided by the Tommy James Band from 7:15-10:45 p.m. Formal attire is requested but Sunday best will do.

Tickets are \$29.50 and available by calling Joe Castrodale at (248) 968-5197. Some of the proceeds are donated to charities.

Everybody is welcome: singles, couples and married.

The nonprofit club holds its regular dance to live music 8:30-11:30 p.m. Saturdays at the Livonia Senior Center, Five Mile and Farmington roads. Lessons are available before the dance (7-8 p.m.) for \$6. Cost for both the lessons and dance are \$10.

ENGAGEMENTS

Swartout-Simon
Brien and Carol Swartout of Plymouth announce the engagement of their daughter, Jennifer, to Scott Simon of Bloomington, Ill. He is the son of Lionel and Elaine Simon of Hamilton, N.J.

The bride-to-be is a 1992 graduate of Churchill High School in Livonia and a 1996 graduate of Michigan State University, where she earned her bachelor's degree in English. She earned her master's degree in English at Southern Illinois University-Carbondale and is a doctoral candidate at Illinois State University, where she is studying educational administration and foundations. She works as an associate professor of English at Heartland Community College in Normal, Ill.

The groom is a 1992 graduate of South Brunswick High



School in New Jersey and a 1998 graduate of Kutztown University. He works as a technical analyst at State Farm Insurance Company in Bloomington, Ill. The couple plans a June 2009 wedding in Bloomington, Ill.

Sittig-Hannah
Robert and Marilyn Sittig of Sewickley, Pa., announce the engagement of their daughter, Meredith, to Brian Hannah of Chicago, Ill. He is the son of Andrew and Ann Hannah of Livonia.

The bride-to-be is a 2000 graduate of Quaker Valley High School and a 2004 graduate of Northwestern University. She currently works as a consultant for Accenture.

Her fiancé is a 1999 graduate of Catholic Central High School and a 2003 graduate of Northwestern University. He is a medical writer for Goble & Associates.



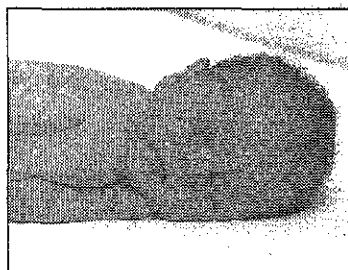
The couple plans a May 2009 wedding at Allegheny Country Club in Sewickley Heights, Pa.

Have your picture taken with Santa

The St. Vincent DePaul thrift store in Westland wants children everywhere to enjoy this holiday season so Michael Saine and his staff are offering free photos and a chance to visit with Santa from 3:30 p.m. on at 6613 Wayne Road.

Everyone is welcome. Santa needs no appointments. Just come and enjoy the season. Cookies and punch will be served.

Saine said part of the reason the store is making the photos available is because many families, due to the cost, have given up this tradition in these troubling economic times.



BIRTHS

Kathryn Anne Ryan
Scott and Sara Ryan of Canton welcome their daughter, Kathryn Anne Ryan, born Nov. 12, 2008, at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ann Arbor. She joins big sister Addison, 2. Her grandparents are Jim and Renee Casillas of Plymouth and Jerry and Carol Ryan of Las Vegas, Nev.

Duncan Alexander Buijink
Peter and Rebecca Buijink of Plymouth announce the birth of their son, Duncan Alexander Buijink, born Oct. 15, 2008 at Park Providence Hospital in Novi. He joins sister Emily, age 6. His grandparents are Nanci Hall of Bowling Green, Ky.; Tom Hall of Santa Barbara, Calif. and Marie Buijink, who resides in The Netherlands.

Goodwill collecting toys for local clients' families

Goodwill Industries of Greater Detroit has kicked off its "12 Days of Christmas" campaign, designed to help needy families buy holiday gifts for their children.

The organization asks Metro Detroiters to donate new, unwrapped toys to its "Santa Shop," where they will be sold at discounted prices to individuals who receive employment training and assistance from Goodwill.

Anyone who donates a toy will receive a coupon good for \$1 off a beverage purchase at any of the 19 Caribou Coffee locations in Southeast Michigan.

"Due to various employment barriers, many of these parents are unable to provide their families with everything they want this holiday season," stated Lorna G. Utley, president and CEO, Goodwill Industries

of Greater Detroit. "While our programs help them become trained, trusted and ready to work, gift donations allow these hardworking individuals to focus on getting their lives on track, knowing their children will have a happy holiday season."

The campaign continues to Wednesday, Dec. 16. These local Caribou Coffee stores are accepting donated toys:

- Ann Arbor: 1423 Stadium Boulevard
- Livonia: 17378 Haggerty
- Novi: 47490 Grand River Avenue
- Plymouth: 44601 Five Mile

In 2007, Goodwill Industries of Greater Detroit successfully placed nearly 1,500 residents in new jobs in the tri-county area. For more information about Goodwill Industries and its Christmas campaign, visit www.goodwilldetroit.org

different languages and Braille in Grand Rapids. Kids, parents and grandparents can sit down and do it together," said Diggs. "Mathmosis was developed by a teacher. The CD uses music and games to build math skills."

For men Diggs suggests a subscription to Car & Driver, Swedish Pimple Fishing Lures from Gladstone, or an American Coney Island package of 12 Dearborn Sausage hot dogs, buns, sweet onion, chili sauce, instructions, and two hats.

Inside Detroit designs custom tours for those interested in history, architecture, world-class cuisine, or bar hopping. Jeff Daniels' CD benefits The Purple Rose theater in Chelsea.

"It's an effective tool for the holiday season," said Diggs. "They might find something else by that company if they don't want the item listed."

Companies can take advantage of the campaign as well by listing their information for free or adding a link for \$100 a year. Diggs believes everyone can make a difference by taking the pledge to buy Michigan. She used a local company to build the Web site that features photographs taken by her father, Larry Diggs, a Livonia lensman.

"I'm working full time on the Web site on top of my full time consulting business because I believe in this," said Diggs, founder of The Catalyst Company which nationally helps organizations attain and sustain success.

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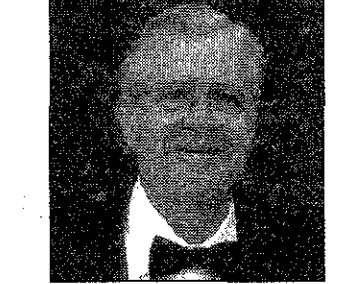
View Obits On-line@www.hometownlife.com

JANE D. FERRISS
Age 77, December 3, 2008. Beloved mother of Michael (Andrea) and Dave (Kristine); dear sister of Joan Sackett; and cherished grandmother of Elizabeth, Arthur, Michael, Laura, Joseph and Katherine. Memorial tributes suggested to Mariners' Church of Detroit 170 E. Jefferson, Detroit, 48226. Arrangements entrusted to the Heeney-Sundquist Funeral Home, Downtown Farmington. (248) 474-5200. heeney-sundquist.com

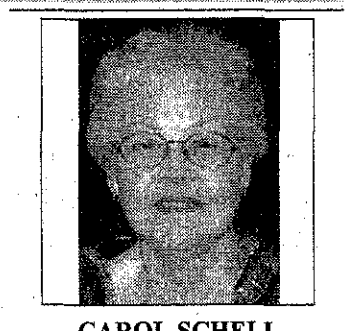
SHERRY LYNNE HARRIS
Age 46. Of Livonia, MI, December 4, 2008. Arrangements by THAYER-ROCK Funeral Home, 33603 Grand River Ave., downtown Farmington.



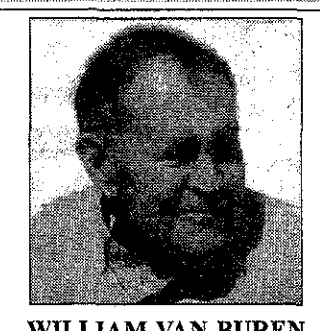
THEODORE "TED" LOCKEY
Age 83. Of South Lyon, MI, December 2, 2008. Arrangements by THAYER-ROCK Funeral Home, Farmington.



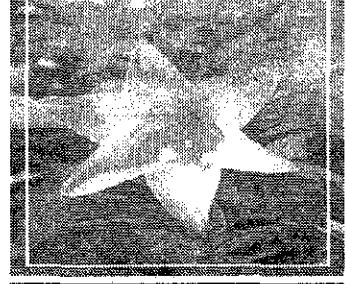
THOMAS A. PLUM
Age 74, of Royal Oak, December 3, 2008. Loving husband of Marlene. Dear father of Thomas and Christopher. Grandfather of Ava and Claire. Father-in-law of Stacy. Administrator for Traveler's Insurance. Graduate of Cranbrook and University of Michigan. Avid tennis player, sailor and storyteller. Memorial Service Monday 11:00 a.m. at First Congregational Church of Royal Oak, 1314 Northwood Blvd., Royal Oak, MI (248) 288-4220. Memorials may be made to South Oakland Shelter.



CAROL SCHELL
Of Westland, formerly of Redford Twp. and Dearborn Heights. Passed away November 27, 2008. She is survived by her husband, Kenneth, of 56 years. Children Denise (John) Maynard, Ken (Cheryl) and Jeanine (John) Patla. Grandchildren Jessica, Matthew, Jerod (Laine), Amanda, and Lauren. Sister of Gordon (Glenda) Richards. Services were held on December 1st with burial at Glen Eden Cemetery.



WILLIAM VAN BUREN
Age 81, December 3, 2008. Beloved husband of the late Marilyn. Loving father of Carol Hawley, Debra James, Glenn and the late Brian Van Buren. Dear grandfather of Janice and great-grandfather of Thomas. Brothe of Vera Mularz. Visitation at the R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, 1545 Farmington Rd., Livonia, Sunday from 3 until 9 pm with Funeral Service at 6 pm.



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or Charollette Wilson 586-826-7082

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OE08579128

Donate a toy to brighten a sick child's holidays

Children's Leukemia Foundation of Michigan (CLF) has formed a partnership with Morley Candy to collect holiday toys at several of their area retail stores for distribution to Michigan children and teens affected by leukemia.

The 56-year-old, Michigan-based foundation (www.leukemiamichigan.org) is collecting toys for their holiday toy program and will ship personalized toy packages during the holidays to child patients and their siblings and to the children of adult patients affected by leukemia, lymphoma and related blood cancers.

Anyone bringing a toy to one of the Morley retail locations will receive a 10-percent discount on a purchase, excluding gift card or gift certificate purchases. This year, it is expected that nearly 5,000 toys will be needed for about 1,200 toy packages that will be shipped to families and to provide hospitals with toys for those battling cancer throughout the state. Children's Leukemia Foundation of Michigan relies heavily on toy drives and donations to support the program.

According to Kristen West, CLF Patient Services Director, "Families affected by cancer face many

strains on their time, finances and emotions. To combat some of these stresses and make the holidays brighter for these families, CLF provides gift packages each year. This is a great opportunity for families, businesses, schools and community groups to consider if you are planning on an activity to give back this holiday season and the new partnership with Morley candy makes it easier than ever."

New, unwrapped toys suitable for infant through age 12 are needed as well as gift cards for teen patients. The CLF website, www.leukemiamichigan.org has specific informa-

tion on the types of toys that are suitable. Some examples include electronic hand-held games, dolls, arts and crafts kits, books, action figures, board games, and sports equipment.

To drop off toys or donate to this program, bring a new, un-wrapped toy to any of the Morley or Sander's store locations including Rochester (436 S. Main Street), Livonia (Laurel Park Place Mall on 37702 Six Mile Road), and Birmingham (745 E. Maple Road). Toys or gift cards may also be dropped off at the CLF office at 29777 Telegraph, Suite 1651, in Southfield prior to

Dec. 24. The holiday toy collection and special discount offer at Morley's will end on Dec. 24.

Questions about the holiday toy program may be directed to the patient services department at (248) 353-8222.

Children's Leukemia Foundation of Michigan is a statewide organization that provides information, financial assistance, and emotional support to adults and children affected by leukemia, lymphoma, and related blood disorders. Since 1952, Children's Leukemia Foundation has served more than 11,000 families in Michigan.

Be Santa to a local senior citizen

Many seniors served through the Wayne County Senior Alliance Holiday Meals program this Christmas will get gifts, too, thanks to Home Instead Senior Care.

Every year, the company sponsors "Be a Santa to a Senior," a national non-profit program that provides gifts and companionship to socially isolated and lonely seniors. In Wayne County, the local office takes the program a step further by partnering with Senior Alliance to provide extra assistance and awareness as well as an extra touch of holiday cheer by helping to sell holiday meal cards for homebound seniors.

The cards from the Senior Alliance are being sold from

the Home Instead Senior Care in Livonia office until Christmas.

"When you buy a meal card from us, our Home Instead office will match that donation with a gift to be delivered along with the meal to seniors on Christmas Day," said Glenna Yaroch, owner of Home Instead Senior Care in Livonia. "We hope that the local community will support our efforts as a way of giving back to the seniors in our area who have given us so much."

This is the fourth year that Yaroch and her staff have partnered with the Senior Alliance, which will serve approximately 750 seniors this Christmas season. For the 2008 holiday season,

Yaroch has chosen large print word search books for the seniors receiving meals.

"Home Instead Senior Care has come up with a very thoughtful way to approach Holiday Meals this winter," said Linda DeVore, Senior Alliance Program Manager. "We appreciate their generous support and know how much seniors will appreciate receiving a gift along with their meals."

"Selling Christmas cards helps the organization purchase meals throughout the year," said DeVore. "The Senior Alliance hopes to sell 3,000 cards so each senior receives multiple cards on Christmas Day."

The meal cards cost \$5. To

purchase a card through the "Be a Santa to a Senior" program and ensure that seniors will receive a matched gift, call Home Instead Senior Care at (734) 525-5300. For information on the holiday meals program, call Senior Alliance at (734) 727-2017.

In 2008, "Be a Santa to a Senior" volunteers will surpass one million gifts delivered to needy seniors since the inception of the program in 2004. "Be a Santa to a Senior" program has become the largest gift-giving project of its kind for older adults.

Home Instead Senior Care is the world's largest provider of comprehensive companionship and home care services for seniors.)

Armenian Genocide Committee accepting essays

Students with winning essays about the Armenian Genocide of 1915-1923 and its relationship to other genocides of the 20th century, will be awarded \$100-\$500 in the second annual competition, funded by the Hagopian Family Foundation.

The contest is sponsored by the Armenian Genocide Committee and is open to middle and high school students.

Edgar Hagopian, chair of the Armenian Genocide Committee and patriarch

of the Hagopian Family Foundation, stated that the project "is a critical and vital key to perpetuating the history of the Armenian people in the minds of students as well as having them learn that a comprehensive study of the Armenian Genocide will aid and educate legislators and leaders to avert future tragedies."

"It is the youth of our nation that will look back to help not only this country move forward, but hopefully, one day the world," Hagopian said.

Suggested essay themes are:

■ Events that precipitated the Armenian Genocide, as well as others.

■ Government and individual responses to the Armenian Genocide and other 20th Century genocides.

■ Should the U.S. government formally recognize the Armenian Genocide.

Deadline for submissions is Feb. 13, 2009. Members of the Metro Detroit Armenian Community will judge the entries. Winners will be announced on March 27,

2009.

High school students will win \$500 for first place, \$250 for second place and \$100 for third place. Middle school students will be awarded \$250 for first place, \$150 for second place and \$100 for third place.

Each teacher of a student submitting a winning essay will be given a \$100 appreciation award.

For complete guidelines visit www.armeniangenocideessay.com.

For more information, call Hagopian at (248) 646-7847.

Santa, dinner events help pet shelters

Petsmart in Rochester Hills will donate \$5 to the Michigan Humane Society from every \$9.95 photo package it sells now through Dec. 21.

The package includes a digital photo of your pet with Santa Claus and a holiday frame.

Stop by the store for a photo session from 11 a.m.-4 p.m., today, Sunday, Dec. 7, and Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 13-14 and 20-21.

The store is located at 2724 South Adams. (248) 844-5101

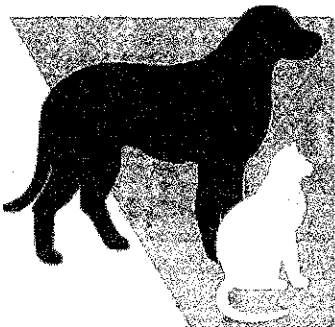
MORE SANTA SNAPS

The Animal Welfare Society of Southeastern Michigan also offers pet photos with Santa, noon-3 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 13 and 20.

The cost is \$5 and includes one photo and a decorative frame.

The no-kill rescue organization maintains a shelter at 27796 John R, south of 12 Mile, in Madison Heights.

After meeting Santa, check out the adjacent PetBeastro,



PET PROJECTS

a premium pet food store specializing in frozen raw cuisine. The store also stocks collars, collar charms, pet beds, leashes and toys. Call Pet Beastro at (248) 548-3448 or visit www.thepetbeastro.com.

Call the Animal Welfare Society at (248) 548-1150 or visit animalwelfare.org.

FILL YOUR BOWL

Buy tickets now for the Almost Home Animal Rescue League fund-raiser on Monday, Dec. 15, at BD's

Mongolian BBQ of Novi, 5 Main, Suite 200, Novi.

Adult dinner costs \$25 and a youth dinner is \$15. The menu will include one entree bowl, soup, salad, pop, tax and tip. Add \$2 for unlimited food.

Seatings will be at 7 p.m. and 8 p.m.

The rescue league operates a no-kill shelter in Southfield. See its adoptable animals at www.almosthomeanimalrescue.org.

SEND YOUR RECIPE

Will you treat your cat or dog to a homemade holiday meal this month? Send us your favorite food recipe for Fido or Fluffy and we'll publish it in this column next week.

E-mail to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com. Or mail to 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009. Indicate "Pet Projects" in the e-mail address line or on the envelope.

Compiled by Sharon Dargay

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SPOTLIGHT ON:

YOUR DENTAL HEALTH

Presented by
Andrea S. Vivian, D.D.S.

THE QUICK FIX FOR CHIPPED TEETH

The cosmetic restoration technique known as bonding is an answer to the prayers of patients who want a quick, effective, and relatively low-cost fix for chipped, stained, cracked, or eroded teeth. This bonding procedure involves the application of a composite resin material that, in effect, patches damaged tooth areas. The plastic resin is matched to natural tooth color and the procedure usually requires only a single visit. The dentist first prepares the tooth for treatment by roughing and shaping the surface. Next, the tooth is prepared with solutions that ensure strong adhesion between the tooth and bonding material. The resin is then cured with a high-intensity light. Finally, the bonded area is smoothed and polished to provide a natural contour.

It's simple, really. When you look good, you feel good. If your smile is not becoming to you, you should be coming to us for dentistry tailored specifically to your needs. Aren't you curious how today's cosmetic dentistry procedures like bonding can virtually change your life? We'd be glad to tell you about the many ways we can help make your smile a dazzling one. Just call us at 734-453-9413. Our family dental practice at 496 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Ste. 201, Plymouth, is geared to your complete oral health and to long term patient satisfaction.

P.S. Because the plastic resin used in dental bonding actually becomes part of the tooth's structure, the tooth emerges from the procedure stronger than before.

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HEALTH

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Toxic toys

Testing reveals trouble in toyland

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
O&E STAFF WRITER

The recall of 45 million toys in 2007 reinforced the way Mike Shriberg shops for his two young children. Two years before the Consumer Product Safety Commission became involved Shriberg was testing everything from rubber ducks to teething rings for the Ecology Center in Ann Arbor. The nonprofit released its annual guide to toxic chemicals in toys Dec. 3 (www.healthytoys.org). On Saturday, Dec. 13, Shriberg visits the Ann Arbor District Library, Mallets Creek Branch with a hand-held X-Ray Fluorescence (XRF) analyzer to test toys for free. Chemicals such as bromine have been shown to permanently affect the developing brain and reproductive system, and possibly cause cancer.

"One class of toy that stands out is children's metal jewelry. It remains the most contaminated category two years in a row and is five times more likely than other products to contain lead greater than recall levels," said Shriberg, Ecology Center policy director. "Lead causes brain damage. Pediatricians will tell you there's no safe level of lead. We recommend consumers avoid low cost children's jewelry of undescribed metals. Several Hannah Montana brands (Disney) with high levels of lead were found as well."

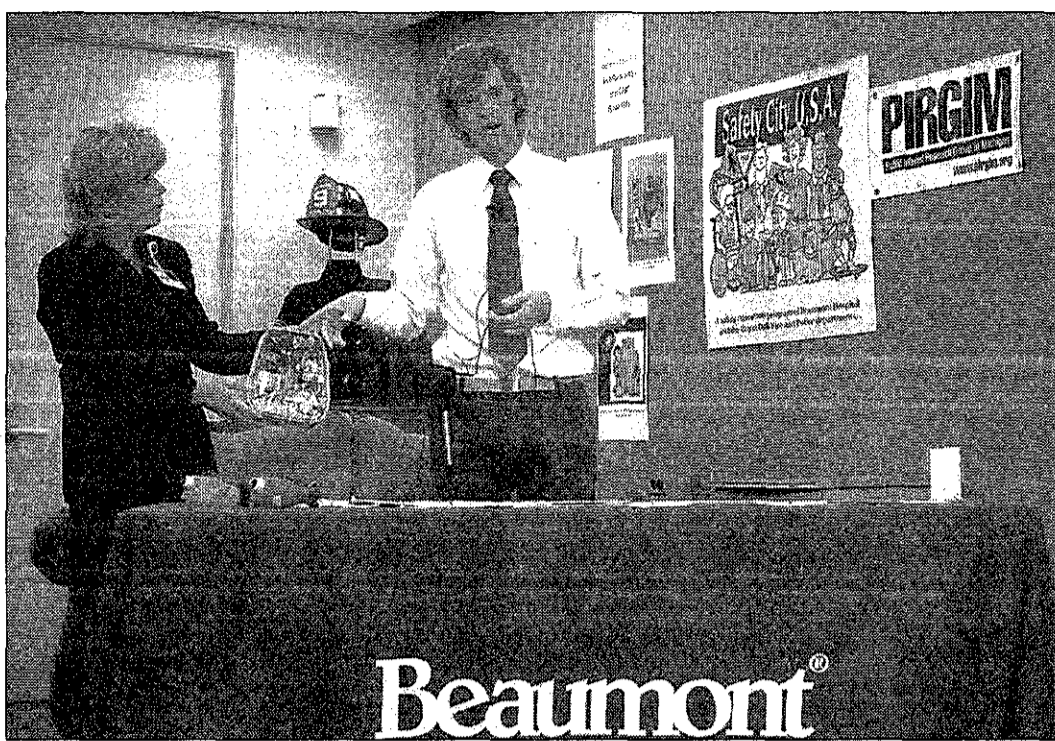
Holly Bair won't be buying her 6-year-old niece a Pony Land Scented Pony

Pet for Christmas because it made the Trouble in Toyland report for phthalate levels 95 times the amount allowed by the pending February 2009 Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act. Bair is just as concerned about toys which present choking hazards. Toys are still the number one reason children end up in the Emergency Room at Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak. Bair was an emergency room nurse for eight years before becoming Beaumont's Trauma Care coordinator and director of Safety City U.S.A., a facility for teaching prevention programs. She and Nate Housley, field organizer for PIRGIM, held a press conference there recently to announce the 23rd annual report from the public interest group (www.toysafety.net).

"Choking is the leading toy related death for children across the U.S. either on parts of toys, balloons, balls, those things small enough to fit into a toilet paper tube for children under age 3," said Bair. "But there are toy related injuries as well. The magnets that come in toys if kids swallow one magnet it may move through without injury. If they swallow more it could create bowel obstructions."

Bair recommends parents pay attention to age appropriate warning labels and inspect toys regularly for sharp edges or loose parts.

"They need to do their research, be a good consumer, read the report, take the report with them (when they



Holly Bair, Beaumont Hospital's Trauma Care coordinator, and Nate Housley, field organizer for PIRGIM, recently held a press conference to announce the 23rd annual Trouble in Toyland report from the the public interest group.

TOY TESTING

What: Free testing for toxic chemicals in toys
When: 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Dec. 13
Where: Ann Arbor District Library, Mallets Creek Branch, 3090 East Eisenhower Pkwy. (Meeting Room A/B), Ann Arbor
Details: No pre-registration required. For information, call (734) 761-3186, ext. 125

shop)," said Bair.

Housley hopes parents heed Bair's advice.

"They can find dangerous toys on any store shelf. Not all toys are tested before they go on store shelves," said Housley. "If a toy is made out of soft plastic, it shouldn't be allowed to be chewed on or swallowed. Toys with soft plastic may have phthalates in them. Even after Feb. 10, the CPSC issued a legal opinion that said they will allow toy manufacturers to continue

selling toys with phthalates until they run out of stock."

Housley agrees with Shriberg that there's no way to tell if a toy on a store shelf is safe. Country of origin is no clue either. Between 80 to 90 percent of toys come from China so the majority of problems come from Chinese toys, but the Ecology Center hasn't found a consistent correlation between where a toy is manufactured and safety.

"Chinese products don't fare any worse. It's not a China problem but a regulatory problem with our system. Because it's made in the U.S. doesn't mean it's safe," said Shriberg. "The good news is we found 21 percent did not contain toxic chemicals. It shows toy manufacturers can make toys without chemicals of concern."

While Shriberg is looking forward to the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act going into effect Feb. 10, 2009, the reforms don't go far enough. The Ecology Center

together with organizations like the Michigan Nurses Association formed the Healthy Michigan, Healthy Kids coalition to work with state lawmakers to draft the Safe Children's Product bill package to protect children from toxic toys and other children's products. "We hope it will be introduced in January and to get it done so it's in place by the holiday season 2009," said Shriberg. "It would eliminate, lead, mercury and arsenic in toys, and chemicals of concern like bromine, bisphenol-A and phthalates would likely make the list. Parents would be able to make a decision of whether to buy toys through a government Web site requiring disclosure of chemicals. And it would provide incentives for companies to develop safer alternatives and to locate and grow in the state."

For a list of recalled toys, visit www.cpsc.gov.

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MEDICAL DATEBOOK

Ongoing 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.

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.

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 competitively timed 5K routes, 4-mile children's Snowman Shuffles and post-race chili parties. Call 1-800-968-3030 or visit www.arthritis.org.

Understanding diabetes

St. Mary Mercy Hospital hosts Diabetes Support Group presentations 7-8:30 p.m. Wednesdays, Dec. 10, Jan. 14, and Feb. 11, in the hospital's Auditorium, 36475 Five Mile at Levan Road, Livonia. Please use the Main Entrance on Five Mile Road, Dec. 10, is Diabetes and the Holidays: Strategies to Maintain Control, with registered dietitian Katie Dooley presenting strategies to help maintain control of your blood sugar and weight during the holiday season as well as ideas for healthy resolutions for the new year. Dooley returns Jan. 14, for Understanding Carbohydrates for Better Blood Sugar Control. On Feb. 11, registered dietitian Judy Swancutt presents Diabetes and Vitamins, Minerals and Herbs: What's Right for You. All are welcome. A new topic is presented on the second Wednesday of each month for adults with diabetes and family members. There is no charge, and pre-registration is not required. For information, call (734) 655-8961.

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Mildred L.
Culp

asking "if it would be worth it to pay me 20 percent more if it would positively impact the business." He then recommended that it take effect 90 days after he started or they'd part company.

That counteroffer wasn't an isolated incident. Sharing the wealth, Lannon has been involved in six counteroffers, three for other people, increasing the total value of the offers by \$130,000. Today he telecommutes as a workforce business analyst at the city's Kronos Inc., a company with about 3,400 employees in 60 countries. Lannon sells HR-related software and hardware to retailers in North America.

The economy makes many people fear job hunting, let alone bargaining, Dan Dugan, HR manager over 1,500 employees at Denver's Service Corporation International Inc., a \$2 billion funeral and cemetery provider in Canada and the United States, recalls that he wanted to negotiate for his first job, an internship. He told the employer and received what he wanted, plus an unexpected \$3,000 signing bonus. More recently, he coached a

friend to identify the "missing ingredient," the one that would make the offer "perfect" -- tuition reimbursement. The friend won a \$20,000 salary bump, provision for his Executive M.B.A. program expense and modified telecommuting.

Victor Brown, vice president of Business Development at the Birmingham, Ala., regional Chamber of Commerce, remembers telling an employer in his native Atlanta that he wasn't "comfortable" with an offer, that he'd go home and discuss it with his wife. "They sweetened me right there on the spot \$2,500," he reports. Years later, a recruiter called him. That led to an offer from another company of \$58,000 plus \$8,000 in bonuses. When he demurred, the company said it couldn't offer much more.

"But I was confident I wasn't going to leave my home, where I'd lived my whole life," he adds. "They'd tried to tell me the cost of living in Birmingham was lower than Atlanta, but I'd done some research. I told them that housing prices in Birmingham were a bit higher." They settled at the top of the scale:

- \$76,000 salary;
- 20 percent relocation package, which grew to almost \$20,000;
- \$12,000 signing bonus; and,
- with 12 months of good performance, 500 shares of stock.

TECHNIQUES

People successful at counteroffers recommend a range of techniques. Lannon stresses familiarity with the psychology behind a counteroffer. "An employer who made an offer," he remarks, "clearly wants you... Establish your value to the

organization to make the decision easy." He comments that a 90-day period makes the employer "fully invested" and much more likely to meet your demand than take on the added expense of recruiting and hiring someone else. Meanwhile, work toward accomplishing the goals you set with the company for that period.

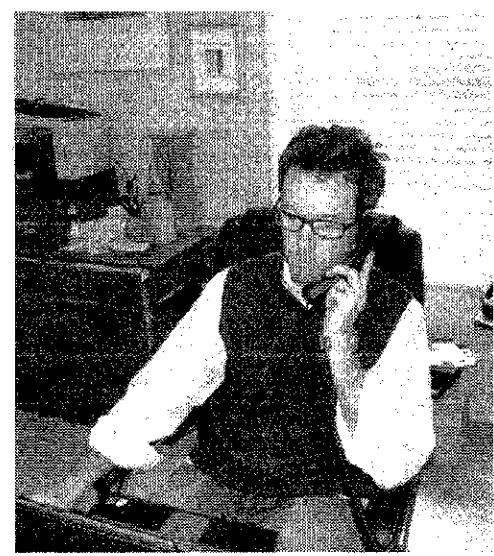
Dugan, the HR manager, advocates a certain "mindset, a shift from selling yourself to negotiations. Once you have an offer, your relationship with the hiring company has changed. Know your market value and be psychologically comfortable with your requests. You need to be able to walk away."

Brown advocates "interviewing for positions like the interviewer -- to determine whether you're a good fit, whether you have the attitude and commitment. Understand the position you're looking for and your interests. In any negotiation you just can't be anxious or to desperate."

Bobbie Stone of executive search firm Bobbie Stone International L.L.C., in Princeton, N.J., advises candidates to "make sure you have a salary in place (in your current company) and find out whether a bonus there (is) guaranteed." Not everyone has that luxury.

Still, Lannon observes, "I think a lot of people seeking a position feel lucky getting it and don't spend much time thinking why they get the offer. It's not's looks. Think why and get back. Use it as leverage."

(Dr. Mildred L. Culp is an award-winning journalist. E-mail your questions to culp@workwise.net. Copyright 2008 Passage Media.)



Patrick Lannon, here in his home office, is a workforce business analyst at Kronos Inc., in Knoxville, Tenn. His negotiating skill includes helping people succeed at making a counteroffer.

Observer & Eccentric

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37

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Help Wanted-General 5000

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A word to the wise, when looking for a great deal check the Observer & Eccentric Classifieds!

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Construction firm seeking willing and able full time employees with some experience in welding, sheetmetal, and construction. Must be able to travel, lift 50 lbs, and have basic handtools. OJT training. Driver's license and good record required. Health, dental, and 401k plan. Starting pay \$10-12/hr. plus OJT. Great opportunity for the right person. Fax resume and work skills to 734-298-6024

For more details, visit Cleanairtechnology.com

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Help Wanted-General 5000

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Independent Insurance Agency seeks experienced Personal Lines CSR. Insurance experience with multiple carriers a plus. Please send resume with salary history via email: resumes9555@gmail.com Or by fax to 248-912-1850

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A minimum of 5 years experience is required for all positions and must do own set-ups and control adjustments. We offer competitive wages and a full benefit package. Apply in person between 8:00 A.M.-4:30 P.M. at:

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Help Wanted-Office Clerical 5020

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Tech society in Farmington Hills seeks highly-organized and detail-oriented person to perform a wide variety of admin and finance duties: correspondence, coordination of government filings, cash and investment oversight, insurance applications, accounts payable, etc. Must be adept at multi-tasking; proficient in MS Office/Word/Excel/PowerPoint Great Plains exp. a +. 20 hrs/wk beginning end of Jan 2009. Salary and resume to: barb.cheyne@concrete.org FAX: 248.848.3771 Director, HR - ACCTG, P.O. Box 9094, Farmington Hills, MI 48331-9094

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Help Wanted-Office Clerical 5020

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Personal Assistant

Securities licensed. Full time to work with president in Plymouth. Experienced and qualified only. Motivated & organized. Excellent people and office skills. Resume to: Joel@ccurtisfinancial.com

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DENTAL ASSISTANT

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DENTAL ASSISTANT

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Several to Choose From, Nicely Equipped, Winter Ready, Starting at \$14,995

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Eddie Bauer, 4x4, 11K \$26,998
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Chevy Impala: 6-Seater Unmatched In Its Class

Advertising Feature

CAReport



By Kevin Koloian
Avanti News Features



The Impala nameplate dates all of the way back to 1958, when it was the ritziest Chevrolet in the company's full-size car lineup.

The 2008 Impala, as always, is targeted at buyers who want a sedan with good size, a reasonable price and a decent amount of usable storage room.

Changes for 2008 are relatively minor. Satellite radio is now standard on all models, while the lower-level LS and LT models received a standard six-way power driver seat. Stability control is now standard on 2 LT, LTZ and SS trim levels, and the 3.9-liter V6 is now E85 ethanol-gasoline compatible.

A throwback, the Impala is one of the few cars available with a bench front seat. The optional 40/20/40 front seat isn't a traditional bench, but the center armrest of the middle section can be folded up to create a bench.

With this setup, you can sit three across the front and three in the back, making the Impala a true six-passenger sedan. This is a dying breed nowadays.

The Impala comes in four trim levels: LS, LT, LTZ and SS. The \$21,255 LS model includes 16-inch wheels, a front bench seat, air-conditioning, full power accessories, a tilt steering wheel, a power driver seat, a single-CD audio system with an MP3 jack, and keyless entry.

Moving up to the LT model adds dual-zone climate control and remote vehicle start.

The LTZ includes 18-inch alloys, performance suspension, heated leather bucket seats, a Bose audio system and an auto-dimming rearview mirror.

The SS comes with monochromatic exterior paint, a performance-tuned suspension, 18-inch wheels and a rear spoiler.

Options for the Impala LS consist of a Luxury Edition Package that includes front bucket seats with leather, a flip-and-fold-flat rear seat, steering-wheel-mounted audio controls, OnStar, a rear spoiler and anti-lock brakes with traction control.

The LT has two sub packages called 1 LT and 2 LT that include features such as leather seating, a six-CD changer, satellite radio, heated front seats and 17-inch alloy wheels. The LTZ's only options are a CD changer and a sunroof, while the SS can be ordered with heated seats, a power front-passenger seat, Homelink



The Chevy Impala is a dying breed. Thanks to the optional 40/20/40 front seat, it's one of the few cars in its class that can comfortably seat six.

transmitter and an auto-dimming rearview mirror.

There are three different engines for the Impala, depending on what trim you order. The LS comes with a 3.5-liter V6 engine that produces 211 horsepower and is E85 compatible.

Available on the LT and standard on the LTZ is a 3.9-liter V6 that is good for 233 horsepower, which is now built with Active Fuel Management technology. This system deactivates half the cylinders while cruising to save fuel.

The SS has a 5.3-liter V8 making 303 horsepower. All models have the same four-speed automatic transmission and are front-wheel drive.

Fuel mileage on the 3.5 liter V6 is 18 miles per gallon in the city and 29 mpg on the highway, on regular gas.

As for safety, anti-lock brakes and traction control are standard on the LTZ and SS, and optional on other models. Full-length side curtain airbags, OnStar and a tire-pressure monitor are standard on all Impalas, and stability control is now standard on 2 LT, LTZ and SS trim levels.

In crash tests conducted by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, the Impala earned a perfect five star rating for driver and front-passenger protection in frontal impacts. In side-impact testing, an Impala equipped with the side airbags scored five stars for front passengers and four stars for those seated in the rear.

You'll notice interior comfort immediately when you enter the Impala. Its instrument panel has a soft feel with a simple design. The gauges themselves are sophisticated, yet easy to use. Buttons for the radio are wide and flat, while a large central knob operates with little effort.

The control knob system is found in new Buick models as well as the Cadillac DTS, all of which feature a similar center console.

The Impala offers many solutions to your cargo storage needs. They include its forward-flipping rear seat cushions that reveal a storage tub underneath that can contain spills or carry smaller items. The tub also serves as a covered storage area beneath the seat with cushions down.

There's also a decent-sized pass-through from the trunk that can be accessed by flipping the seat bottoms forward and the seat backs flat. The Impala's trunk holds its own. It is larger than many other mid-size cars' trunks at 18.6 cubic feet.

To keep you going in the right direction, all Impalas include the new Generation 7.0 OnStar as standard equipment. This system offers Turn-by-Turn navigation with the optional Directions and Connections service. Turn-by-Turn navigation directs the driver by using the digital readout lines in the radio head. Directions are downloaded by the OnStar advisor to the vehicle and can be played back or paused anywhere along the route path.

And to keep you going and going, like the Energizer Bunny, all Impalas come with a three-year or 36,000 mile limited warranty with a five-year, 100,000-mile powertrain warranty.

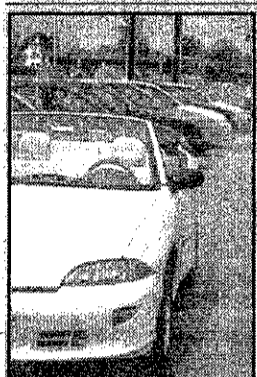
The Impala should be a good fit for people who need an affordable car with a roomy interior.

Kevin Koloian covers General Motors Corp. for Avanti NewsFeatures. Write to him at avanti1054@aol.com. Distributed by Fracassa News Group @2008, Fracassa Communications.

2008 Chevrolet Impala
Vehicle class: Large sedan.
Power: V6 and V8 engines.
Mileage: 18 city / 29 highway.
Where built: Oshawa, Ontario.
Price: \$21,255.

CLASSIFIED INDEX

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36 Mo. Lease		36 Mo. Lease	
36,000 Miles \$224 Total Due		36,000 Miles \$239 Total Due	

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BUY	\$20,765*	BUY	\$21,952*
LEASE	\$309**	LEASE	\$345**
36 Mo. Lease		36 Mo. Lease	
36,000 Miles \$309 Total Due		36,000 Miles \$345 Total Due	

2009 COBALT

Protection Package, Onstar, Air, Power Steering, More. WAS \$15,925

Stock # 6160

GM EMPLOYEES & FAMILY		EVERYONE	
BUY	\$12,260*	BUY	\$12,918*
LEASE	\$209**	LEASE	\$229**
36 Mo. Lease		36 Mo. Lease	
36,000 Miles \$209 Total Due		36,000 Miles \$229 Total Due	

2009 IMPALA

Auto V6, Power Windows, Power Locks, Tilt, Cruise, Power Seat, Onstar, Much More.

Stock # 6141

GM EMPLOYEES & FAMILY		EVERYONE	
BUY	\$14,336*	BUY	\$15,329*
LEASE	\$229**	LEASE	\$249**
36 Mo. Lease		36 Mo. Lease	
36,000 Miles \$229 Total Due		36,000 Miles \$249 Total Due	

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Lease for 36 Months **\$296**** mo.

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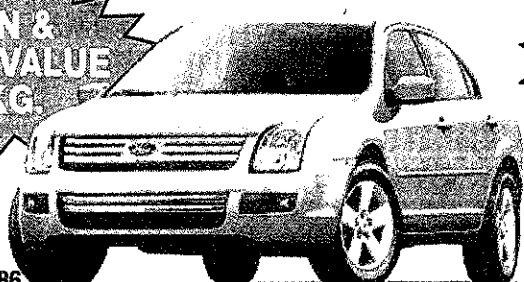
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New 2009 Ford Taurus SE

Lease for 36 Months **\$269**** mo.

\$2500 DUE AT SIGNING

SUN & SYNC VALUE PKG.



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New 2009 Ford Fusion SE

Lease for 36 Months **\$182**** mo.

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SUN & SYNC VALUE PKG.



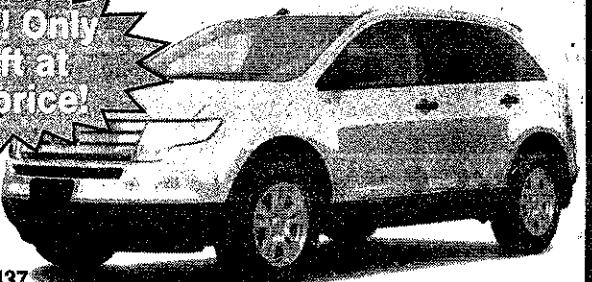
Stock #90770

New 2009 Ford Escape XLT Fwd

Lease for 36 Months **\$238**** mo.

\$2500 DUE AT SIGNING

Hurry! Only 3 left at this price!



Stock #83437

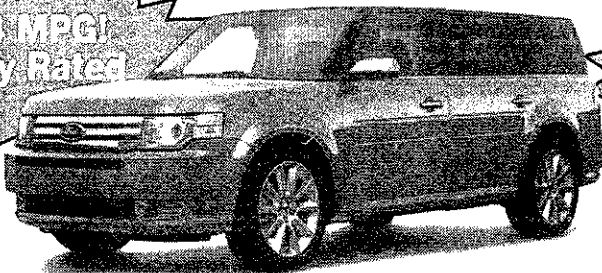
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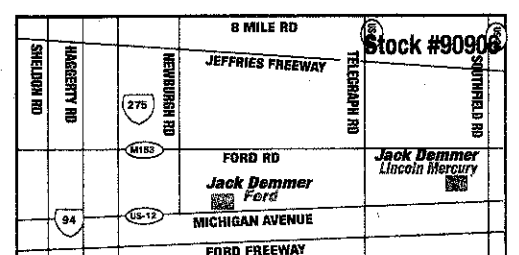
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New Homes

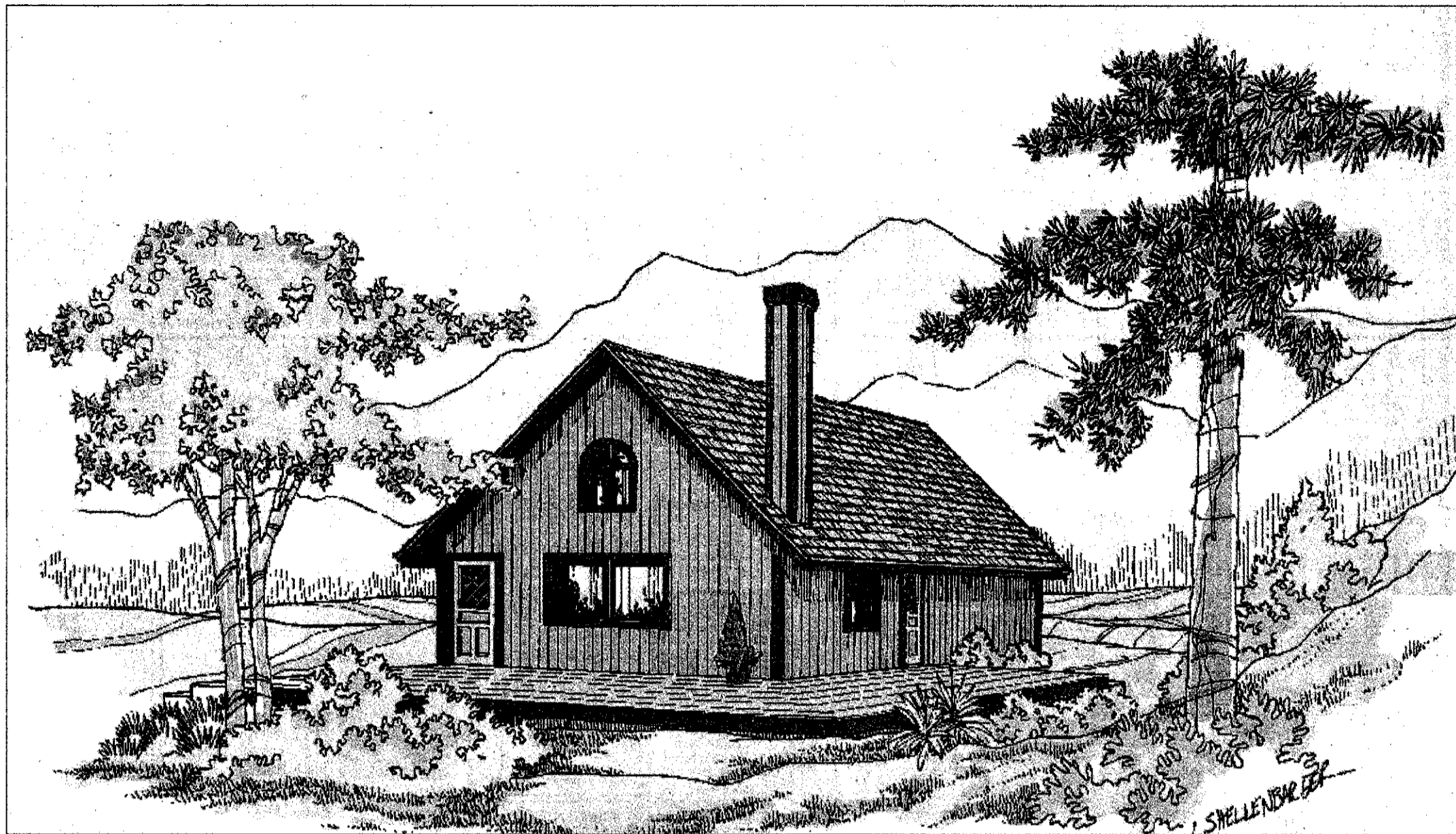


Sunday, December 7, 2008

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

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

www.hometownlife.com



Farmhouse can help young family get off to good start

A compact, but fun-filled home away from home, or a wonderful little starter home, the Farmhouse (406-44) has 988 square feet on the main level and a 215-square-foot loft area for storage and sleeping (if approved by building official).

The Farmhouse is an ideal retreat at the beach, mountains or even on a small city lot. The home features two good-sized bedrooms, a bath, and a stacked washer/dryer unit in space provided just off the kitchen. The living/dining area has a vaulted ceiling, which is not only attractive but also creates a spacious and airy atmosphere.

The Farmhouse is a beautiful little home that is packed with features to make living more enjoyable. If a small home or a vacation home is your desire, then the Farmhouse is the place to start.

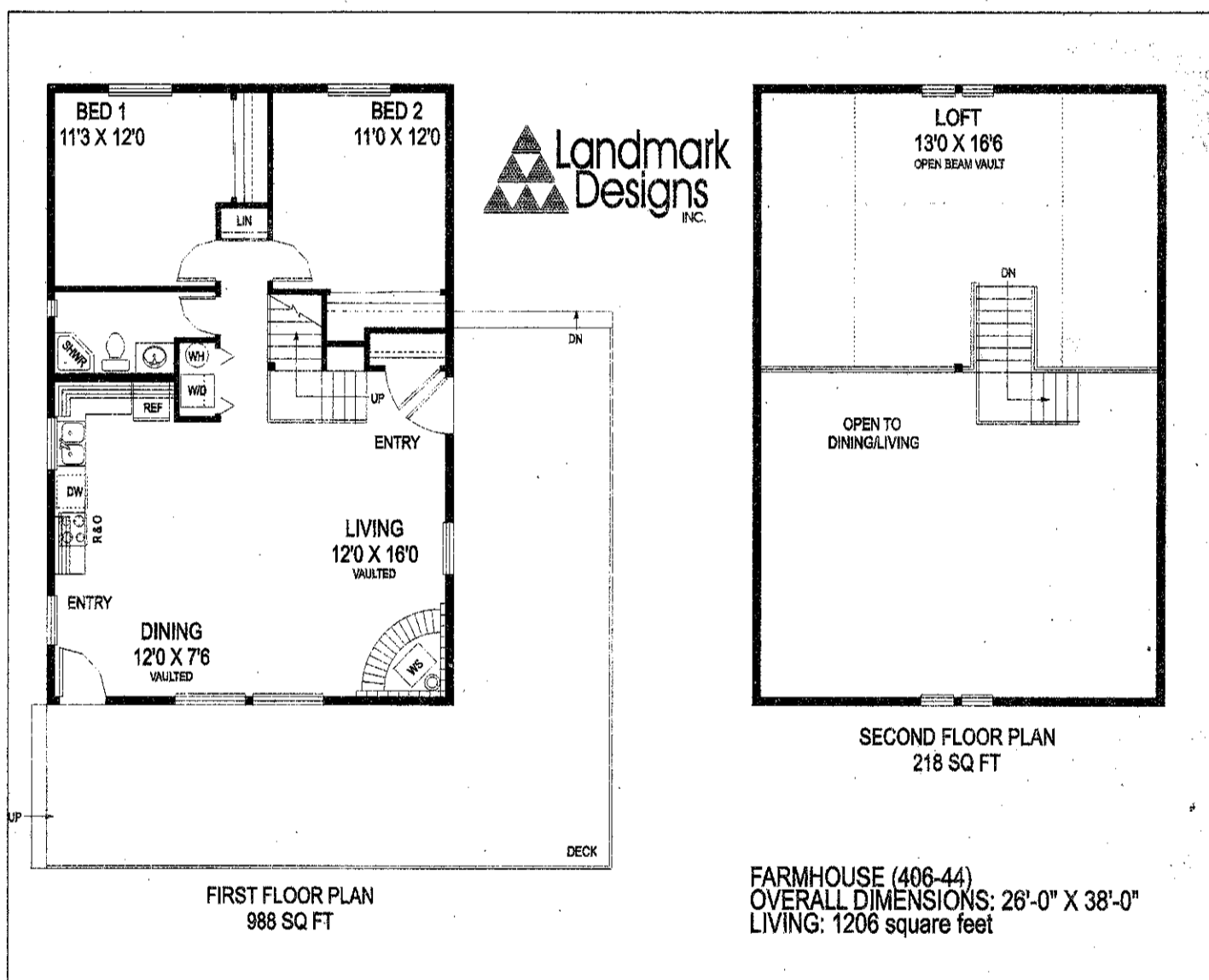
A steep slope roof with a decorative gable window accents the classically simple exterior. The gable window enhances the interior as well by allowing the sunshine to penetrate, providing warmth and light. The exterior is illustrated with vertical board and batt. If a horizontal siding is used, particularly on the lower level, a

more formal design would result. Yet another distinctly attractive appearance could be created with brick.

A large deck sweeps across the front and partially down one side, creating a wonderful place for summertime lazing and dining as well as space for venting creative energies with potted flowers and herbs.

The Farmhouse is a beautiful little home that is packed with features to make living more enjoyable. If a small home or a vacation home is your desire, then the Farmhouse is the place to start.

For a study plan of the FARMHOUSE (406-44), 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.

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 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 Builders' Professional Remodelers Council (NAHBR) will sponsor Certified Aging-in-

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.

Tours, classes

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

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

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

Sunday

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ACROSS

- 1 Vast emptiness
- 5 Luau attire
- 9 House buzzer
- 12 Naturalness
- 13 The lowdown
- 14 Hawaii's Mauna —
- 15 Bloke's streetcar
- 16 Japanese soup
- 17 Genre
- 18 Played hockey
- 20 Ciao, to the queen (hyph.)
- 22 Vote against
- 23 Fitness center
- 24 Clumps of dirt
- 27 Cafe — lait
- 28 Atom fragments
- 32 E-mail provider
- 33 Pottery ovens
- 36 Decay
- 37 Hopped the train
- 39 Numero uno
- 40 Thomas Gray opus

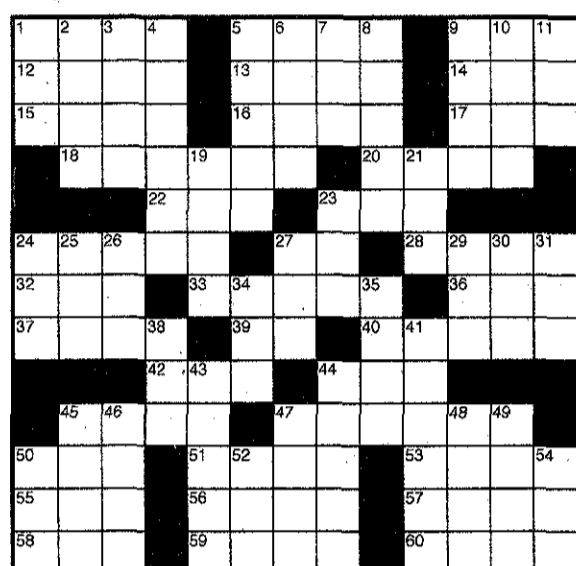
DOWN

- 1 Rover's doc
- 2 Galleys slaves' need
- 3 Ms. Dinesen
- 4 Insist
- 5 British sailor
- 6 Tennyson heroine
- 7 Possibilities
- 8 Like a chimney
- 9 Dart about

Answer to Previous Puzzle

POP CHIN KILO
OWL AURA OVAL
ENYA BIG DANE
NIBS RINGO
PARTLY PEA
OGEE JUNKER
DUE CHUTE AUF
AFLOAT ARLO
ARM DAMPER
ACORN COPE
NODE RAN SELF
KIDD AVON LOU
ALSO MERE FAN

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- 10 "Whatever — Wants"
- 11 Gab
- 19 Chore
- 21 Gigi's boy-friend
- 23 Rev the engine
- 24 Lemon or clunker
- 25 London lav
- 26 Prehistoric
- 27 Pub pint
- 29 Iron source
- 30 Eggy drink
- 31 Messy place
- 34 " — — Ramblin' Man"
- 35 Young Lennon
- 38 Moray
- 41 Responsible
- 43 Young adults
- 44 Welcome
- 45 Refrigerator stick
- 46 Whipped-cream serving
- 47 Shamu or Willy
- 48 Neck and neck
- 49 Ocean flier
- 50 Shade tree
- 52 Puppy plaint
- 54 Marino or Rowan

SUDOKU

8	7			1	6		9
	4				7	3	
			6		4	1	2
4			3				
			1	5			
3			7	4		9	2
	5			6		2	
7	8		2		9		6
6	2			3	8		4

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Level: Beginner

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

SEEK AND FIND

FIND THESE WORDS IN THE PUZZLE BELOW.

BATTER BLADDER CHATTER CLATTER
FATTER FLATTER HATTER LADDER
PATTER PLATTER SPLATTER TATTER

THE WORDS READ UP, DOWN AND ACROSS.

X I F L A T T E R I
S A H S R J A P E O
F G M P E R T N T B
F E C L T E T V T B
A P L A T T E R A L
T A A T A T R Y H A
T T D T B A R T C D
E T D E E H W Q S D
R E E R J O P T D E
W R R C L A T T E R

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

7	6	8	3	7	9	1	2	9
8	9	9	6	1	2	7	8	7
1	2	7	9	8	9	6		
9	2	6	8	7	4	5	1	3
7	7	6	9	9	1	8	6	2
9	8	1	2	6	8	7	9	4
2	1	7	2	8	9	6	8	9
8	8	7	9	2	6	9	7	1
6	9	9	1	6	7	2	7	8

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

W	R	E	R	E	R	J	O	P	T	D	E
R	E	E	R	J	O	P	T	D	E		
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I	E	L	V	E	R	J	O	P	T	D	E

Real Estate

3000-3890
Real Estate
For Sale

Homes **3000**
FORECLOSED HOME
AUCTION
219 Lakewood Drive,
Bloomfield Hills
3 Bdrm/4 Bath,
7,282 sq. ft.
Open House:
Dec 6 & 13
Auction: Dec 14
USHomeAuction.com/ml
REDC

Open Houses **3030**
Canton Open House
Sunday, Dec 7, 1-4pm.
7446 Haverhill-
North of Warren,
West of Ridge.
\$290,000. Sub w/homes
\$600,000 & up
Joe Collins
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call away.....
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LIVONIA OPEN SUN. 1-4PM
10015 Camden. WOW! 5
bdrm, 3 bath brick Ranch,
1733 SF. Mstr Ste or In-Law
Qtrs. Finished Bsm't. Newer
Windows & Roof. Home Warr.
Offered at \$144, 900
Call Sheila 734-788-9829
Century 21 Hartford South
(734) 464-6400

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BUILDER'S HOME
3 bdrm, great room, ranch, 3
designer baths, 2 fireplaces,
C/A, central vac, finished bsmt.
attached garage, much more!
Back to 24 private
wooded acres. Only \$229,900.
32511 Norfolk, 1 blk S of 8
Mile, 2 bks E of Farmington.
Ray Hurley
National Realty Centers
(248) 442-7700

Open Houses **3030**
Garden City **3170**
BEAUTIFUL RANCH!
Updated top to bottom! 3
bdrm, 2 bath, garage & fin-
ished bsmt. Walk to school &
playground! \$129,900
DENISE MCGUIGAN
734-357-2032
REMERICA HOMETOWN III
6231 N. Canton Center Rd.

Open Houses **3030**
INKSTER-Bordering Westland
3 bdrm brick ranch w/bsmt, 2
full baths, 2.5 car garage, cor-
ner lot. Investors Dream/
Home Owner. Must see to
appreciate! \$55,900. Price
negotiable. 734-564-9382

Open Houses **3030**
Wayne **3424**
Tired of "NO!"
We Can Say YES!
All Types of Bad Credit
Homes
From \$765/mo.
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Open Houses **3030**
Whether you're looking
to buy or sell that
special something, look
to the classifieds first.
"It's All About Results!"
Observer & Eccentric
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(7355)

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Still want that
dream home?
We own the bank
and can make
it happen!
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Manufactured Homes **3740**
DON'T
FORGET

Manufactured Homes **3740**
Garden City **3170**
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Updated top to bottom! 3
bdrm, 2 bath, garage & fin-
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REMERICA HOMETOWN III
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Wayne County **3570**
HUD
HOMES FOR SALE
\$100
DOWN
\$2,500
BUYER INCENTIVE
Owner Occupant Status
ALL AREAS
C21 CASTELLI
734-525-7900

Wayne County **3570**
LIVONIA
Built in 1997, ranch,
approx. 1400 sq. ft.,
3 bdrms, 3 full baths,
1st floor laundry,
attached 2
car garage, bsmt.
\$101,900
3 bdrm brick ranch,
bsmt, garage
only \$87,300

Wayne County **3570**
GARDEN CITY
2 bdrm ranch,
basement, large lot.
\$35,000
3 bdrm ranch, approx.
1,000 sq. ft., fin bsmt,
central air,
2 car garage
\$57,000

Wayne County **3570**
REDFORD
3 bdrm bungalow,
dining room, part fin
basement,
2 car garage.
\$27,200
1/2 acre gorgeous,
almost 1300 sq. ft.
ranch. Large
living room, formal
dining room,
att 2 car garage
\$72,800

Wayne County **3570**
CENTURY 21
CASTELLI
(734) 525-7900
EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY
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728 Sq. Ft.

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Unfurnished 4000

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with fireplace.

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Westland

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• 24 Hr. Laundry rooms

• Free Heat & Water

• Lounge

• Group Transportation

• Ample Parking

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*Must be 62 or Older,

Income Limits Apply

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1 & 2 bdrm, 2 baths.

Washer & dryer.

Private entrance & balcony

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CANTON A country setting,

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ing, incl. utl., heat, & cable.

\$700/mo. + 1st mo. & sec.

dep. No pets. Avail. Dec. 1

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800 sq. ft. Vertical blinds &
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cances incl washer & dryer,
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dryer, full bsmt.

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heat & water. (734) 658-9267

Duplexes 4030

CANTON

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mid December. 1741 Elm-

hurst. \$900/mo. + security

deposit. (734) 455-1215.

LIVONIA, Plymouth & Farm-

ington Rd area. New carpet &

paint, 2 bdrm, bsmt & more.

\$830 + sec. 734-425-9225

Duplexes 4030

NORWAYNE - 3 bdrm, mint

condition. 3 car garage w/
storage. Backs up to school.

\$700/mo. 248-982-3281

NORWAYNE: 2 bdrm. Updated

kitchen & bath. New carpet.

Utility room. Lg fenced yard.

\$539/mo. 313-475-8309

WAYNE - Downtown area, nice

remodeled duplex, 2 bdrm.

bsmt garage, electric/water/all

appl. incl. \$995/mo. Visit:

tinyurl.com/5mzxd or Call

KEN W only at 734-454-9211

xt 308, leave message

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brick duplex w/ bsmt, appli-

cances, private entry. \$650/mo.

1.5 month dep. 734-753-4448

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2 bdrm. Clean. Remodeled

kitchen. \$546.

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includes attached garage. Pets

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gated house, incl. all utilities,

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\$1450/mo. 248-344-6999

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ft. 2 bdrm bungalow. Water,

all appliances & outside maint.

incl. \$795/mo. 734-776-2222

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appliances. \$800/mo. + sec.

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DEARBORN HTS 1300 sq. ft.,

3 bdrm, 1.5 bath, finished

bsmt, 2 car detached garage.

Section 8 ok. 248-808-8150

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2 bdrm, bsmt, \$475/mo.

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3 bdrm, bsmt, garage,

\$800/mo, 20021 Chappel

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DETROIT

2 bedroom, basement,

16580 Woodbine, \$575.

Call: (248) 476-6498

FARMINGTON HILLS

3 bdrm, 1.5 bath,

bsmt, 2 car, new

furnace, a/c, 1000.

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3 bedroom / 2 bathroom
Home \$729

Includes washer/dryer

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GARDEN CITY - 3 bdrm brick

ranch, recently updated, new

paint, clean, garage, all appli-

cances incl. Sec 8 ok.

\$950/mo. Tim: 734-891-4614

GARDEN CITY - Sharp &

remodeled 2 bdrm ranch, gar,

immed occup, option, bad

credit ok. \$700, 248-788-1823

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& MORE!

Christmas special! Pay no rent

until 2009! (313) 580-8525

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homes from 924 sq. ft.

Appliances included.

Pets welcome.

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on select homes

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Sun Homes

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3 bdrm, 1.5 bath. 1350 sq ft.

fireplace, fenced. Walk to rec

center/school. 248-543-4400

INKSTER - 3 bdrm brick,

bsmt, garage, \$650; 3 bdrm

ranch, bsmt, garage, \$550,

option on both. 248-788-1823

INKSTER Christmas Special

1/2 off December.

\$895/mo; 3 bdrm,

finished bsmt, 2.5

car. Sec. 8 ok.

Call: 734-844-6587

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WORK!

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INKSTER-Bordering Westland

3 bdrm brick ranch w/bsmt,

2 full baths, 2.5 car garage, cor-

ner lot. \$875/mo. + sec. Must

see to appreciate!

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Homes For Rent 4050



LIVONIA

Beautiful 3 bdrm,

1500 sq ft. Ranch

w/master bdrm

suite. \$1395

www.birdsallproperties.com

248-943-2963

LIVONIA - 3 bdrm brick ranch,

fin bsmt, 2 car garage, deck, 2

bath, opt/L.C. avail, bad credit

okay, \$850. (248) 788-1823

LIVONIA - Remodeled

large 3 bdrm, 2 bath

ranch. Gorgeous 1

acre lot. 6 and

Farmington Rd. \$1250/mo.

Call: (248) 508-1975

LIVONIA 15670 Greenlane -



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Merchandise

Absolutely Free 7000

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Free to Good Home, Good
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get it! 8 Mi. & Farmington.
Evenings: (248) 924-5873

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Crystal & Lladro
collection. Excellent
prices! 248-478-4254.

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ARMOIRE
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Wood. \$275. 248-444-1260

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Cherry Wood, 8 piece \$2500,
incl. Select Comfort Queen
Bed. All in mint cond.
Call: (734) 981-1852

DINING ROOM SET - 1940's
style, walnut table w/ 6 chairs,
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