

Happy New Year

THURSDAY
January 1, 2009

Observer

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High winds leave thousands without power

BY TONY BRUSCATO
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Much of western Wayne County escaped major damage from a storm Sunday that included wind gusts up to 60 mph Sunday.

However, many communities had to bring in crews on overtime to deal with downed power lines and fallen trees and branches.

"We had a number of locations with trees down, and we had some flooding problems," said Pat Hogan, director of public works for the city of Livonia. "Our priority was to move trees from the roads, of which most of them were on local subdivision streets. We had to call in additional help because it happened on

the weekend."

Plymouth City Manager Paul Sincok said, surprisingly, damage was kept to a minimum.

"We had a street light damaged and a couple of trees in the Evergreen and Maple (streets) area," Sincok said. "There were some power outages, including at Independence Village (senior living center in Plymouth Township). All in all, we had relatively minor damage."

According to DTE Energy spokesman Len Singer, Westland had about 6,000 customers without power as a result of the high winds and Livonia about 5,000. Canton Township had about 2,700 powerless customers, 550 in Plymouth and Plymouth Township, with Garden City and Redford Township about 400 each.

"The main problems were downed power lines from trees and tree branches that came into contact with," Singer said. "We brought in more than 300 workers from Ohio, Indiana and Illinois to help."

In Livonia tree fell across the road on Merriman Court, knocking down a power line and blocking the road for about 15 households. The road represents the only access to Seven Mile for residents. Power had been restored to most residents on Merriman Court on Monday.

DTE had hoped to restore power for 90 percent of those 4,000 residents by Tuesday, and expected it all back by today (Thursday), according to Dave Varga, director of administrative services.

Kevin Buford, Westland's public service director, said downed trees were the

major problem in his community.

"The majority of the damage we incurred was from trees that were blown over," Buford said. "A lot of them were on private property. We had one that fell on a power line and the fire department responded to that one."

Garden City officials say it was much of the same.

"We had a few trees down, with most of them on private property," said Doug Morton, the deputy director of the Garden City Department of Public Services. "We went out and cleared the right-of-way, but besides that we had isolated areas of power and cable out."

"We had a little bit of residential flooding with the snow melting and the rain, but it wasn't too bad," he said.



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Gian Riggi uses a chainsaw to take a few branches off a tree that fell across Merriman Court in Livonia at 5 a.m. on Sunday. The tree took down a power line and members of about 15 households were unable to drive down the road to get to Seven Mile Road.

Cell phone program helps troops call home

BY TIFFANY L. PARKS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

If you have one or two or maybe even three old cell phones tucked away in a junk drawer, RE/MAX Classic wants to take them off your hands.

The real estate agency has been participating in the Massachusetts-based Cell Phones for Soldiers program for five months and has collected nearly 1,350 phones.

"Isn't it amazing? Our initial goal was only 1,000 phones," said Lynn Dery, RE/MAX Classic director of career development. "This has brought us closer to the community and it has been a life changing experience for me."

Cell Phones for Soldiers, a non-profit organization started by two children several years ago, has a simple mission of helping "our troops call home." Each donated phone will be recycled and in return a 60-minute calling card will be distributed to a deployed soldier.

"Who doesn't want to support our soldiers?" Dery said. "You may not support the war, but you have to support our soldiers and calling cards are like gold. It is very expensive to call from Iraq and in these economic times, it is even harder to stay in contact."

The program, which has 3,000 collection sites throughout the country, including the six RE/MAX Classic locations, has handed out more than 500,000 calling cards to soldiers in all

branches of the U.S. Military.

"I am amazed at what we have collected," said Bart Patterson, RE/MAX Classic vice president and general manager. "It is an easy, tax-deductible donation and with the holidays here, it has even more importance."

After telling the story of a RE/MAX agent that has collected about 400 phones on his own, Patterson said the agency's donations have amounted to 200,000 calling card hours.

"We are helping to serve a need," he said. "And we want to continue with this as long as we can."

In promoting the program, Dery has partnered with several area organizations, including the Plymouth-Canton chapter of Vietnam Veterans of America Inc.

"This has really touched my heart because I have had veterans tell me straight out that when you (are fighting overseas) you don't know if you are going to make it to the next day so speaking with your family is the most important gift you could have."

No appointment is necessary for cell phone donations. For more information, visit www.detroitmetrorealestate.com or contact your local office at the numbers listed: Canton - (734) 459-1010; Livonia - (734) 432-1010; Farmington Hills - (248) 737-6800; Milford - (248) 684-6655; Novi - (248) 348-3000 and West Bloomfield - (248) 738-7100.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Lynn Dery, director of career development at Re/Max Classic collects used cell phones for the Cell Phones For Soldiers program. Each donated cell phone, when recycled, provides one hour of talk time for a soldier.

Leaving its mark

2008 was a year to remember

BY OBSERVER STAFF WRITERS

As we say goodbye to an event-filled 2008, it is worth taking a moment to look back at how the year impacted our communities. From major political upsets and victories on the playing field, to major new development projects and terrible crimes, 2008 had a little of everything.

The Observer staff took some time to reflect on the memorable year, and compiled a list of the biggest news events of the year. We hope you enjoy it. And have a happy and safe new year.

CANTON

In the 12 months that were 2008, Canton faced several commercial highs and lows, had an energized political season and held on to its status as a safe community, despite a few strange crimes.

■ While some closed their doors in the township — Texas Corral, Farmer Jack, La Shish, Cici's Pizza, Mariachi Restaurant, Honey, What's for Dinner? — other businesses have set up shop including SpeedDate Michigan, HomeGoods, Clearly You, buybuy Baby, Expressions from Canton and JCPenney.

■ Undeclared by the criticism it faced in 2007, Oakwood is still looking to build in Canton. And unlike the forceful masses that came against the healthcare provider's earlier plans to build at



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Sheldon Road underpass project in Plymouth, which had been in the works for a decade, finally opened for traffic last month.

Beck and Geddes, opposition to its newest proposal to put down roots on the west side of Beck Road, just north of Michigan Avenue has been mostly quiet.

■ In March, Catherine Johnson stepped down from the Canton Planning Commission after she was asked to resign after posing a question about public urination during a hearing for the Hindu Temple rebuild last December.

Please see 2008, A5

Glenn's first principal remembered as man who cared

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Francis A. Higgins III, the first principal of Westland John Glenn High School, will be remembered as a Wayne-Westland educator whose humor, dedication and leadership made him a favorite of his students and his colleagues.

"He wanted to give every child the opportunity to reach their educational potential," his wife, Elizabeth Higgins, said. "That's what he strived for."

Mr. Higgins, a former Westland resident, retired to Naples, Fla., after a 40-year

career in education. He died Dec. 19 at the Avow Hospice facility in Naples following a long illness. He was 76.

Mr. Higgins taught English at Wayne Memorial High School before he became Glenn High's principal in the 1960s, and he also worked as the district's assistant superintendent of curriculum. He became superintendent in 1979 of the L'Anse Creuse Public Schools, where an elementary school was named in his honor.

Wayne-Westland Supt. Greg Baracy expressed sympathy to the family of an educator who Baracy said was highly regarded.

"That's sad news," he said of Mr. Higgins' death. "I know he had a great reputation."

Baracy recalled that Mr. Higgins was instrumental in designing Glenn High, part of a row of Wayne-Westland facilities on Marquette between Wayne and Newburgh roads.

Mrs. Higgins, a former Wayne-Westland elementary teacher, also said her husband served as president of the Wayne Rotary Club and once led a statewide organization of school superintendents.

"He truly made a difference through his love and devotion to children," she said.

"He had humor, grace and leadership ability, and he always wanted the children to have the very best."

As an English teacher at Wayne Memorial, "the youngsters just loved him," Mrs. Higgins said. "The band would come in and serenade him. The students knew that he was there for them."

She even recalled times when students came to the Higgins home to talk about their troubles and to seek advice.

Former Observer Editor Leonard Poger remembered Mr. Higgins as "a very popular principal with an outgoing personality." Mr. Higgins earned his bachelor of

science degree from Eastern Michigan University, his master's degree from the University of Michigan and his doctorate from Wayne State University.

Mr. and Mrs. Higgins were married for 56 years. Other survivors include three sons, Francis A. Higgins IV of Cincinnati, Ohio, John Higgins of Tallahassee, Fla., and Mark (Vicki) Higgins of Whitmore Lake, Mich.; four grandchildren, Jonathan, Nicholas, Chelsea Elizabeth and Mark Todd; a sister, Joan (Chester) Kendzior of Naples; a brother, Todd (Deborah) Higgins of Waterford, Mich.; and nieces and nephews.

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USA WEEK

Coming Sunday:
Make 2009 your
healthiest year ever

Hope and friendship

One childhood 'brother' helps another

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Douglas Kudwa felt sensations in his legs like he was being electrocuted on that day in April 2002.

The Livonia native was knocked by an I-beam at a construction site in Brighton and fell 23 feet down an elevator shaft onto concrete chunks and "rebar" or reinforcement bars.

Kudwa fell back first, and his lower back struck the concrete with such force that the impact went up his leg and shattered his left ankle, even though his leg was up in the air.

"I felt like I was being electrocuted," Kudwa said. "I knew something was wrong, but I didn't know what."

Kudwa was transported to the University of Michigan Hospital with an uncertainty of whether he would survive the fall, telling personnel to tell his wife Sandra he loved her.

It would begin a long arduous journey for Kudwa, that made him help appreciate his friendship that began in a Livonia neighborhood 40-plus years ago.

Kudwa suffered an incomplete spinal cord injury, meaning that his spine was not severed, but was seriously injured, with fragments near his spinal cord. "At that point, I was paralyzed from the waist down," Kudwa said.

Doctors performed surgery for 10½ hours to relieve the pressure on the spinal cord. They fused the spinal cord together with a titanium rod.

Kudwa had no feeling for a week, but soon felt tingling in his lower legs and sensations in his toes. Good signs.

But the road back was rough and painful. Sandra Kudwa had to clothe and bathe Doug. Then the therapists arrived later, and that was Doug's regimen every day for his three years in intense rehabilitation.

Kudwa spent a year with a walker, dealing with the pain of recovery, using pain killers, then quitting them because he didn't want to be addicted to them. He suffered great pain at that point, but that subsided. He went through therapy and exercises

'I just wanted to get back to hunting, fishing and camping. I wanted to get back to some normalcy.'

DOUGLAS KUDWA

as part of his long road to recovery and to ultimately walk again. His wife purchased kneepads to help him walk around the house on his knees to strengthen his legs, which he sometimes did at all hours of the night.

But doctors told him that he probably would never work again. Kudwa wanted normalcy. That November, he went hunting and sat in his wheelchair, bagging a buck on his trip on a 150-yard shot. "I just wanted to get back to hunting, fishing and camping," Kudwa said. "I wanted to get back to some normalcy."

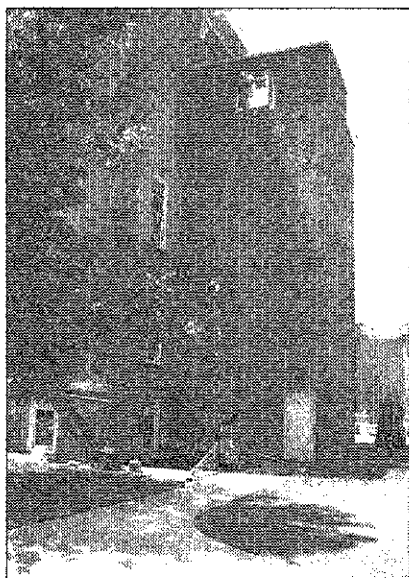
Kudwa wanted to work, but found that companies would not hire him. For two years, Kudwa sent out resumes seeking work as a project manager, or an office job since he could no longer work the physical part of onsite construction. "Anyone who knew me was leery about taking me back," Kudwa said. "They had questions: Was he able to work every day? Would he make it in that day? But they were worried about a possible future liability. They never said anything to me, but it was obvious."

Kudwa credits his wife for much of his recovery. "Our relationship grew through prayer. We laughed and cried together, and she's really my best friend."

Soon another friend stepped forward — Steve Vlahakis. They grew up together on Harrison in the Middlebelt and Five Mile neighborhood, attending Riley and graduating from Bentley.

They kept in touch throughout the years. Like he did every year, Vlahakis called Kudwa on Kudwa's birthday, his 48th, on Dec. 7, 2007. But this conversation was different.

Vlahakis asked Kudwa if he wanted to go into business with him. Vlahakis, vice president of Seaway Painting, an industrial painting con-



This lift owned by DS Access & Maintenance carries maintenance workers or painters to difficult-to-reach areas on buildings and bridges. The business was started by Steve Vlahakis and Doug Kudwa.

tractor in Livonia founded by Steve's father, George, and Kudwa would create DS Access & Maintenance, LLC, which would lease a specialized elevated lift for contractual work for painting and maintenance of buildings and bridges.

The specialized elevated lift resembles a spider. The 5,000-pound lift can maneuver through a 3-foot by 7-foot opening and is 16 feet long. It reaches heights of 60 feet to work on maintenance of heating, cooling, plumbing, fire suppression equipment, electrical or painting.

The machine is unique because the lift's operator can maneuver the bucket by folding the arm. The machine has special outriggers that act as feet extending to cover an area of 12 by 12-feet. That puts out a ground pressure of 5 pounds per square inch.

So far, business has been good, the partners say. DS Access & Maintenance's lift was recently used to paint structures and frames of CBS billboards, and at Hillsdale College and the M-14 bridge at Sheldon Road in Plymouth. They say they may purchase a second lift.

Kudwa is grateful for the oppor-



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Steve Vlahakis and Douglas Kudwa are partners in DS Access Maintenance.

tunity and the chance to spend time with his childhood friend. "It has given me hope for the future. I feel very fortunate. These people (Steve's parents, George and Connie) were always like second parents to me. It's like being invited into their family. It's meant a lot to me."

"Steve's always pulling people along with him. He's always helping his family and friends. He's just a great guy and he's always been very humble."

Vlahakis said he developed the business plan because Kudwa was a lifelong friend and also he saw an opportunity.

"We've had a lifelong friendship," Vlahakis said. "We did everything

together from baseball to football and anything like construction as a kid, chasing girls as a kid." Vlahakis then laughs.

"We had a great childhood together. Mr. (George) Kudwa was our baseball coach and he was a great guy. A friend is like family." (George Kudwa died in 1988. Doug's mother, Marge Kudwa, lives in Farmington Hills. Doug Kudwa lives in Holly and Steve Vlahakis lives in Northville.)

"He's just a lifelong friend, and it's a great opportunity," Vlahakis said. "We've always looked out for each other our whole lives."

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Teens experience realities of homelessness at Canton church

BY JULIE BROWN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Cara Delaney was well-prepared to spend a night sleeping outside for Boxing Day. "This will be my second year," said Delaney, a 16-year-old junior at Salem High School, of the senior high project at Geneva Presbyterian Church in Canton. Delaney, daughter of Beth and Stu of Plymouth Township, noted the event raises awareness of homelessness.

"It's also the big kickoff for our clothing drive," she said. "We're trying to help others, do what Jesus did."

Good-quality clothing including new underwear and socks — as well as toiletries — is being collected through Jan. 2 at the church on Sheldon north of Ford in Canton. The Rev. Bryan Smith, pastor, said it's based on the British and Canadian custom of boxing up clothing no longer needed on Dec. 26 and giving it to the needy.

Geneva's done the project for about 12 years.

"One was to raise awareness

of the fact that homelessness is a big issue in the metro Detroit area," said Smith, a Canton resident.

His church has a food pantry, and works with Fort Street Presbyterian Church in downtown Detroit. The Detroit church has a ministry to help needy people with food, clothing and other basics.

Geneva also helps teens to think about being homeless "and think about it from a faith perspective, too," he said. The senior highs gathered around 8 p.m. Friday, with some time for prayer and reflection. Some older students who've already graduated come back for the event as well, which wrapped up early Saturday morning.

Smith noted young people "kind of experience what it's like not to have people to talk to. You experience solitude quite a bit."

The teens had brought big-boxes, from appliances and such, to sleep in.

"We usually have a fire going, so that keeps us warm, too," Delaney said. She and the other Geneva youth wore warm



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Josh Smith, Hannah Ruth Glodich, and Gretchen Danger Seibel spent part of the night in a cardboard box on Saturday at Geneva Presbyterian Church in Canton. The event raised awareness of homelessness.

clothes, but realize homeless people don't always have that option.

"Geneva's a great church," said Benjamin Ogden, director of the Open Door program at Fort Street Presbyterian, with services including food, clothing and

counseling. Ogden, an Oak Park resident, went to Geneva Friday to thank the participants.

Ogden appreciates the donated clothing which helps the "chronically homeless" who have mental health and/or substance abuse issues. Such people



Abrión Card, 14 years old, watches the flames from the warming barrels.

represent about 10 percent of the homeless population, Ogden said, but use a disproportionate share of resources.

"They cycle through a awful lot," he said. "Wet clothes are deadly, especially in this weather." Homeless people can't store clothing.

Ogden said the average age of volunteers is going up, now people in their 50s, "which means newer generations are not becoming engaged in this type of outreach." Some donors get frustrated seeing the same people homeless year after year.

"It's doing a lot of good because they're still alive,"

Ogden said. The homeless have issues beyond housing and jobs. "Just the fact that we're keeping them alive is proof positive of the good work being done."

Detroit's homeless population is some 12,500, people with no fixed address, with about 2,000 of those chronic. "We're finding it's just not an attractive charity anymore," Ogden said.

Homeless people are often veterans (one-third) or seniors and children (one-half). Many people are on a slippery slope toward homelessness.

"They look like your neighbors, they look like your friends," Ogden said.

Police searching for man wanted in Garden City armed robberies

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Garden City police are investigating two armed robberies reported early Dec. 28-29. The same suspect is believed to be responsible for both robberies as well as a third robbery on Dec. 26, police said.

At 12:39 a.m. police were called to the BP gas station, 32889 Warren, where the clerk reported being robbed at gunpoint. He said the suspect entered the store and immediately pointed a gun at him demanding money. After putting \$200 in a bag and also giving the man two cartons of cigarettes, the clerk said the suspect told him to lie on the floor behind the counter.

The clerk said he sat down on the floor and then got up to see which way the suspect had fled but the man was gone. Two witnesses told police the suspect had headed west across Venoy into an apartment complex. A Westland police dog tracked the suspect to the apartment parking lot but he wasn't located, police said.

Based on the description of the suspect — a black male approximately 30 years old, 6-foot-4, medium build with a gray winter hat and black jacket with gray sleeves — and the surveillance video, the officer said the same person appeared to be responsible for robbing the Speedway gas station on Ford at Harrison on Dec. 26.

At 2:45 a.m. Dec. 27, an employee at CVS Pharmacy, 27435 Ford, told police that a man with a gray scarf over his face entered the store and immediately pointed a gun at him demanding money. The suspect left after receiving \$233 from two registers, police said. The employee was told to lie on the floor and was unable to see the direction in which the suspect had fled. A police dog also tracked the suspect but soon lost the scent which police attributed to the suspect getting into a nearby vehicle.

Anyone with information about the robberies is asked to call Garden City Police at (734) 793-1700.

lrogers@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-5428



Garden City police are looking for information about a man suspected of three recent armed robberies. The photograph was taken from surveillance video at CVS Pharmacy on Ford at Inkster Road which was robbed at 2:45 a.m. Monday, Dec. 29. Anyone with information about the suspect is asked to call Garden City police at (734) 793-1700.

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OUR VIEWS

With 2008 behind us, there is much to hope for in 2009

As the year 2008 comes to a close, it's time to turn our attention to what we hope will be a much better 2009. With that in mind, the *Observer* offers some New Year's resolutions — or wishes really — for our state, our communities and the men and women who govern them.

■ Certainly we are hoping 2009 will be the year the Big 3 turn things around and are again the beacon of American capitalism. Hopefully the auto industry is able to use the recent lifeline from the federal government to survive long enough where it can retool itself to produce fuel-efficient vehicles that will help America break its addiction to foreign oil.

■ If the recent troubles of the Big 3 have taught us nothing else, it is that our state is too dependent on the auto industry. Michigan must continue to invest in other economic sectors, particularly in the development of alternative fuels and bio-technology. Western Wayne County could reap the benefits of such investment because of the companies and infrastructure already in place. This kind of investment could be the springboard for Michigan to regain its global stature as a hotbed of innovation.

■ Like last year, 2009 promises to be a challenging one for state lawmakers, who must find a way to avoid massive budget deficits. That being said, one area where the state cannot afford to make any more cuts is in the funding of public education. If Michigan wants to be a global innovator in alternative energy or any other industry, we must produce students who can meet the challenges of future workplaces. We must admit that our schools are falling behind. Funding is not keeping up with the costs associated with running quality schools. Fixing our public schools must be a priority.

■ The new year might just be the year that Detroit and its suburbs finally reach some consensus about the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department, and how the city supplies water to its 4.3 million customers. An agreement reached just a couple weeks ago is finally providing some hope that the city and suburbs can form a partnership built on trust rather than animosity. The historic agreement, which calls for the creation of a five-member directors' council made up of both city and suburban leaders, should allow the DWSD to eventually get out from under federal oversight.

Canton

■ We hope the new year will bring wisdom to all of Canton's newly elected officials. With a new supervisor, treasurer and three new trustees, as well as a new state representative and new district court judge, Canton is undergoing a big change in leadership. All of them should have a goal of maintaining Canton's high quality of life that residents have come to expect.

■ In this tough economy, we hope Canton Leisure Services (recently named the top recreation service provider in the nation) will be able to continue providing top-notch services and programs. Whether it's Liberty Fest, the senior programs or the B.L.O.C.K. teen center, Leisure Services does a fantastic job reaching all segments of Canton's citizenry.

Garden City

■ We hope Garden City Schools continue the good work on reducing the district's financial deficit. Instead of the projected \$1.8 million deficit, the shortage had dropped to an expected \$1.2 million.

■ Garden City should resolve to continue its several years of keeping spending down that have resulted in a \$2 million fund balance. That money will help as revenues are expected to be flat or declining in the next couple of years.

Livonia

■ We hope developers of the former Livonia Mall re-create and rejuvenate that old corner of Middlebelt and Seven Mile so that shoppers can experience variety and enjoy convenience there. The mall, renamed Livonia Marketplace, has looked run-down for years and needs an upgrade badly. Perhaps a revitalized mall will bring a rebirth for that end of town.

■ We hope Plymouth Road remains a viable business artery for the city and that entrepreneurs can develop plans for single businesses to create a new vitality along that strip. Yes, the economy is bad right now, but when we shop locally, we can help pump money into the community.

Plymouth

■ We hope the newly seated Plymouth Township Board of Trustees will foster more of an open, transparent atmosphere than they've been doing, particularly recently. Officials need to be more open about how much money the township is spending, particularly on labor lawyers, and quit relying on closed-session meetings to help enact policies and procedures without much discussion in open forums. While all perfectly legal, it doesn't do much for public morale.

■ We'd like to see Plymouth Township explore the possibility of a recreation department of its own. Currently the township has a number of athletic facilities — Lake Point Soccer Park, Plymouth Township Park and Hilltop Golf Course — that might make for natural programs of their own. It's an idea worth exploring.

Westland

■ Westland has a chance in 2009 to implement a long-awaited curbside recycling program with a rewards component for residents who participate. City officials hope to include RecycleBank in the new program, which would allow households to accumulate points for the amount of materials they recycle and redeem them for discounts to places like restaurants and movie theaters.

■ We hope Westland continues pushing for a state-approved cleanup plan for lead-contaminated Central City Park so that the city's one-time recreation jewel can be returned for safe public use as soon as possible.



LETTERS

Remember southern hostility

Among the disparate groups of retirees with whom I associate weekly, a rather common theme is appearing quite often: Why are those southern senators so intent on destroying this country's last major indigenous industry? I listen intently to the opinions and then offer my humble response. People like Sen. R. Shelby, et. al. have two goals in mind: 1) destroy the unions (even though it has been widely reported that our workers, in some cases make less than the ones in the "right-to-work" states); and 2) keep fighting the Civil War. (Come on, guys. You lost. Deal with it. Move on.)

The fact is, through no small effort on the part of the northern states (and our unions), our next president is an extremely intelligent black person, and is an encumbrance so onerous to the Neanderthal throwbacks south of the Ohio border that they have decided to decimate one out of seven jobs in this country.

Apparently, these wonderful folks have no idea (much less a concern) about how many families this will affect, about the tremendous loss of vital revenue to cities, etc., or about the millions of dollars it will cost to provide unemployment benefits, etc.

A member of one of my groups said, "Well yeah, you're right, but what can we do about it?" At my age, I have to continually fight the urge to say things like, "Well, for (goodness) sake, you could at least contact your congress person and the senators who are trying to dump on us!"

Plus, I also hate myself for coming up with sarcastic and malevolent answers to legitimate questions, but I couldn't help myself. I said, "Hey, I know you are going to Biloxi for the winter, and you're taking the cat and the collie with you. Start saving up all the kitty-poo and doggy-doo until you get to Alabama."

Frederick J. Libbing
Plymouth

Worn out her welcome

Gov. (Jennifer) Granholm would be of no value in an Obama administration post. Granholm can't help Michigan and, quite truthfully, never has helped Michigan. President-elect Obama can be better served by many more elected leaders with proven executive experience, such as Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin.

It's a bit much seeing Gov. Granholm appear all over the national broadcast media speaking on behalf of Michigan about the auto loan bailout. I'm a bit sick and tired of her ineffective, long-winded tenure. Doesn't Gov. Granholm realize that in the mind of many Michigan Democratic Party voters, she has worn out her welcome a long time ago? We're hurting big time and all Granholm does is talk-talk and pretend that she is an important player in getting the Big Three auto loan. It's not the time to gloat when the Big Three's chances of survival are at less than 50 percent.

The truth of the matter is that Gov. Granholm is globalization's best friend. As a one-time avid supporter, I remember an event at a Warren/Macomb Chamber of Commerce talk in May 2005. I wish everyone disaffected UAW auto worker would have been there and seen that drama. Granholm tightly held Tom Friedman's book *The World is Flat* with both hands over her

head and told the crowd that we had better get on board or be left behind. What she should have been doing is knocking down the doors of the Big Three and threatened to kick the (expletive) out of them out of them if they continued to focus on building SUVs which would one day make Michigan the laughing-stock of the entire developed world.

If I were advising Gov. Granholm, I'd suggest that she bow out before the Big Three delivers their report card to Washington next March 31, and give Lt. Gov. John Cherry a well deserved chance to use his skills as a public-policy maker and help Michigan wake from our economic nightmare.

Maybe Obama can name Granholm to a post in some enchanted faraway place such as Mongolia or Uruguay. She could develop her theatrical skills and promote the U.S. as well and I'd suspect have an audience, because right now, nobody is listening to her around these parts.

If Gov. Granholm sticks around, the remainder of her term will parallel that of President Bush's past two years in office, which was hindered by an absence of political capital. Nobody's been listening to him lately.

Hopefully, the Michigan Republican Party will select a more well-qualified candidate to run for governor in 2010. Dick DeVos just couldn't cut the cake and was a very poor choice in the 2006 election cycle. It's too bad and unfortunate that U.S. Rep. Pete Hoekstra didn't step up in 2006 and run. He may have been a godsend for Michigan. I'm ready to cast my vote for him right now.

Kenneth Hreha
Dryden

Goodfellows thanks

I would like to say a heartfelt "thank you" to everyone who was a part of Canton Goodfellows this year. It was a huge project, with 625 children to serve, but with all of the great Santa's Helpers in Canton, we were able to get the job done.

Our board members are surely the best. They put their own lives on hold for a week and work harder than ever at getting all of our families taken care of. And our donors make the whole project possible. Chamber members, residents, citizens old and young — you are the heart and soul of the Canton Goodfellows. Your generosity and support lift us all up when we need it so badly.

Goodfellows is a labor of love — one that should encompass every Canton resident. We must show our love and concern for all of our community's children.

Again, from the bottom of my heart, to each and every one who cared this year, many, many thanks! Merry Christmas.

Nancy Spencer
Canton

Lions Club thanks

The Plymouth Lions Club would like to thank community members for the overwhelming support shown during our Candy Cane sales event that was held Nov. 28-29. With your help, we had a very successful fund-raiser. And in these hard times, we appreciate every dollar and dime.

Collected funds will be used to support the many projects Lions conduct throughout the year. Some of the community programs include First Step, Penrickton School for the Blind, Plymouth High School scholarships

and leader dogs for the blind.

Your donations will truly make a difference. Thank you for helping us help others!
Sincerely,

Debbie Baudino-Dowling
Plymouth Lions Club
Plymouth

Have a little faith

I am a middle school student doing a project on the economic crisis. Now I believe that loans took part of the economic crisis. So many people kept pulling out loans from the bank to pay for the mortgage, wanted items and other expenses. Also, since most people never paid back the loans, some banks had to shut down. Banks today are tightening loans to people that are too risky.

Not only did the loans take part of the economic crisis, but consumer fear played a role, too. People started to see that the stocks went down, so they started pulling and pulling them out. They fear that they will lose too much money, so they take the stocks out. As the stock points go down, so does faith in the stock market. So if we just believed in our stocks, we just might come up faster. So have a little faith.

Zahra Bawaneh
Canton

Not a friend

Gov. Granholm is not a friend of the automobile industry. She supports union closed shops, handicapping manufacturers. She prevents slant oil drilling under the Great Lakes that could alleviate expensive gas. She wants autos to run on clean electricity, but will not provide enough of that either. She won't permit abundant nuclear or coal energy, but dreams of wind and solar power. These developments will not occur in her lifetime.

Some citizens were happy when \$4 gasoline sent our wealth to Third World nations. Guilt-ridden that America uses more than "our share" of energy, we were forced to economize or starve. Profits of "greedy" oil companies amount to nine cents a gallon. Michigan taxes are 19 cents and Lansing politicians propose an increase. The state collects double the profit and seeks more while opposing our needs.

Federal financing will not solve Michigan's problems. Sending Granholm away might help.

Hank Borgman
Farmington

SHARE YOUR OPINIONS

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

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Our fundamental purposes are to enhance the lives of our readers, nurture the hometowns we serve and contribute to the business success of our customers.

QUOTABLE

"Investment in infrastructure is a necessary and good thing. It's something that will last and not be temporary. I will be interested in the details and what gets put into the package."

U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter, discussing President-elect Barack Obama's intentions for an economic stimulus package centered around government investment in repairing the nation's infrastructure

2008

FROM PAGE A1

■ Canton's political season, complete with a Barack Obama Campaign for Change field office on Ford Road, was colorful with Melissa McLaughlin getting a victory over Joan Noricks to become township treasurer. Three new trustees, John Anthony, Syed Taj and Pat Williams, were also elected.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

New Canton Supervisor Phil LaJoy signs the official papers provided by Clerk Terry Bennett minutes before he was sworn in on Dec. 19. LaJoy succeeded Tom Yack, who served as supervisor for 20 years.

And before he retired in December turning the supervisor's office over to Phil LaJoy, Tom Yack's support of McLaughlin's treasurer bid was called into question by a group calling themselves Watchdog Canton, and hundreds of his e-mails were obtained resulting in a complaint being filed with the state by the executive director of the Michigan Campaign Finance Network.

■ While the township was ranked as the 24th safest community in the nation with populations over 75,000 and is able to claim the lowest crime rate among similar sized communities in the region, crime isn't immune to Canton.

Gary Allen Steele, a Detroit police officer, is awaiting trial for allegedly assaulting his ex-girlfriend and firing a gun near her head at her township home and former Plymouth Christian Academy teacher Stephanie Ann Stein was sentenced to a minimum of three years in prison for having a sexual relationship with a former student.

GARDEN CITY

■ The Garden City High School Cougars won the state softball championship defeating Alpena 2-1. It was the first state championship earned by any Garden City High School team.

■ Some familiar faces left Garden City during 2009 only to be replaced by some other familiar faces. Superintendent since 2002, Richard Witkowski wrapped up a 38-year career with Garden City Schools in February. After a superintendent

search, he was replaced by Michelle Cline, a consultant who was also a former assistant curriculum director for the district.

A former reference librarian, James Lenze returned to the Garden City Library as director replacing Joan Elmouchi, who left after 13 years to become director of the Chelsea District Library.

■ Over the spring and summer, the second phase of Maplewood — Inkster Road to Harrison and Henry Ruff to Merriman — was reconstructed. Combined with the earlier reconstruction project, that gives the heavily traveled street new pavement from Inkster Road to Merriman.

■ In July, a new weekly Garden City Farmers Market sponsored by the DDA and the Chamber of Commerce opened just south of Kroger. The market was a success and is expected to open earlier in 2009.

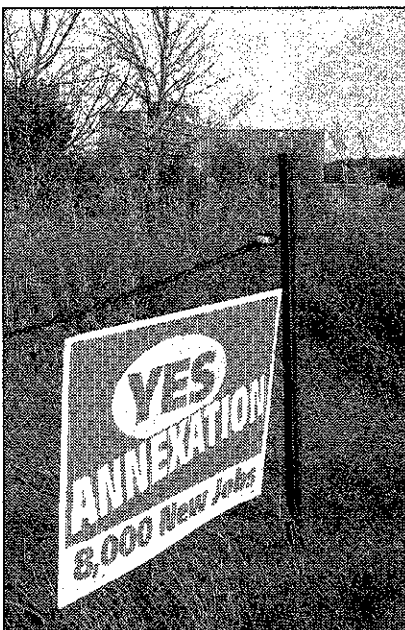
■ Garden City and Garden City Schools agreed in concept to swap ownership of the Maplewood Community Center, which the city leases from the school district, for the Community Pool, owned by the city but connected to and used by Garden City High School. A legal description and other details of the swap are still being worked out.

LIVONIA

■ In Livonia, plans for a new courthouse drew complaints last summer from some nearby residents who were concerned that the facility, placed between their homes and the Livonia Civic Center Library, would put too many residents and their children in close contact with criminals at the court. The 39,000-square-foot courthouse will hold two courtrooms, one magistrate's hearing room, holding cells, a sally port for prisoner transfer, a probation office with room for 12 officers and archive storage space. Cost of the building is estimated at \$11 million. The council approved the site on a 5-1 vote in July, after learning that other sites on the city campus would require differing levels of site preparation and cost anywhere between \$600,000 and \$1 million more.

■ Last summer's election season featured a fierce battle over the annexation of 414 acres of the site of the former Northville Psychiatric Hospital in Livonia's primary election on Aug. 5. REIS, a partnership between developers Real Estate Interests Group and Schostak Brothers, sought the annexation with Livonia after the developers could not reach an agreement with Northville Township officials on a proposed a mixed-use development that included single and multiple housing, office and commercial development. The plan proposed required exceptions to the township's zoning regulations and master plan. The developer filed suit against the township.

At the request of the township, the



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Despite a campaign to get Livonia voters to support annexing the site of the former Northville Psychiatric Hospital in Northville Township, voters shot down the measure in August.

developer put seven security guards on the property. The REIS employees registered to vote as residents of Northville Township. Once residency had been established, they petitioned for an election to be annexed to the adjacent city of Livonia.

On Aug. 5, voters rejected the proposal, 14,416-10,932.

■ In November's general election, John Walsh was elected as Livonia's new state representative, replacing term-limited John Pastor, and City Attorney Sean Kavanagh was elected 16th District Court judge.

PLYMOUTH

■ Residents in the Plymouth community had to wait until the end of the year to get their biggest highlight of 2008: completion of the Sheldon Road underpass. The project closed Sheldon Road between Plymouth and Northville for nearly two years. When it opened last month, motorists lined up to be among the first on the newly constructed road, honking horns and waving in celebration. The idea was sparked by a \$5.5 million federal grant in 1999 and took a decade to complete, with the final \$15.5 million price tag about twice the original cost estimates.

■ A Plymouth Township teen and his friend from Westland were sentenced to prison for the stabbing death of a River Rouge man in a Canton Township garage. Jean Pierre "JP" Orlewicz, 18, of Plymouth Township will spend his life in prison after being convicted by a jury of first-degree murder for the Nov. 2007 killing of Daniel Sorenson and then beheading him. Alex Letkemann, 18, of Westland pleaded guilty to second-degree murder and will spend up to 30 years in prison.

■ Salem High School Principal Jerry Ostoin, 64, retired after suffering a stroke. Ostoin began his career with Plymouth-Canton Schools in 1974, and was appointed principal at Salem in 1986. Meanwhile, Superintendent Jim Ryan retired in February. The school board's search brought in Dr. Craig Fiegel from Evergreen Park, Ill. Meanwhile, the district became the third largest in Michigan, behind Detroit and Utica.

■ Among those who made us proud, country singer Sarah Lenore of Plymouth, who was eliminated on American Idol the last night the final 10 acts were announced. And the Fred Hill Briefcase Drill Team was chosen to march in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade.



Judge Karen Khalil congratulates new Redford Supervisor Tracey Schultz Kobylarz (right) after she was sworn in on the steps of township hall in November. She defeated incumbent Miles Handy in the August primary.

REDFORD

■ Redford voters wanted a change in the township's leadership and chose Tracey Schultz Kobylarz over incumbent R. Miles Handy II in the Democratic primary election Aug. 5. Kobylarz also won the general election on Nov. 4, defeating James Bailey.

■ House Speaker Andy Dillon won two elections in November: he defeated a ballot proposal asking voters to recall him from office and defeated Republican Sandra Eggers. Dillon was elected to a third term as state representative for the 17th District, consisting of Redford Township, Dearborn Heights and a portion of Livonia.

Township Clerk Garth Christie retained his seat by a narrow margin, defeating Kathleen Mooradian in the Democratic primary election. Christie was unopposed on the November ballot. Lily Cavanagh won election as the new township treasurer, defeating Paul Borland in the November general election. Cavanagh succeeds Bob Brang, who decided not to seek re-election and stepped down from the treasurer's office after serving there since 1984.

■ Redford Union teachers want a new contract from the school board, so they protested at school board meetings this summer and fall. The teachers are now

are in the middle of a fourth school year without a contract. South Redford teachers are negotiating with school administrators to obtain a new contract.

WESTLAND

■ Westland showed signs of progress in 2008 despite shrinking revenues, rising foreclosures and warnings from auditors that the city should brace for increasingly difficult times.

■ The city adopted a new five-year parks plan and brought in community volunteers to Tattan Park to build Play Planet, one of the country's largest contiguous play structures. Mayor William Wild's administration continued pushing forward with a remediation plan for contaminated Central City Park, amid hopes the state will approve a proposal that would include soccer fields and a veterans memorial.

■ The city also moved forward with Wild's Mission Green program, a plan to make the city more environmentally friendly and cost-efficient. The biggest component will be a curbside recycling effort, expected this spring, that will include financial incentives for residents who participate.

■ Wayne-Westland teachers had a brief strike in October to protest the lack of progress in still-ongoing contract talks with administrators. On a more positive note, one of the district's graduates, Ashlee Baracy, earned the title of Miss Michigan.

■ One of the most shocking crimes occurred in August, when suspected drug dealers engaged in a shootout with undercover Romulus police officers outside a shopping center near Merriman and Warren. One suspect was killed, one pleaded guilty to his role, and three others still are facing trial.

■ Westland snagged some new businesses but also saw the closing of others, including its last movie theater, Showcase Cinema. One of Westland's premier politicians, Wayne County Commissioner Kay Beard, stepped down after 30 years. Westland also learned it will be a stop along a proposed commuter rail line that is expected to run between Detroit and Ann Arbor — a move that could spur new development and jobs.

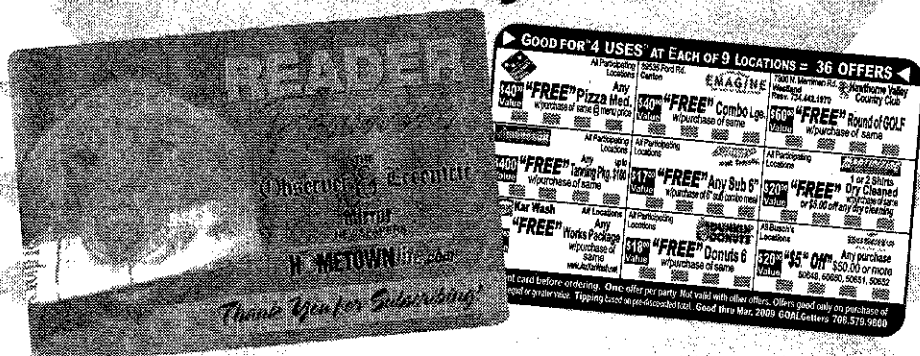


TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Michael Yates of GameTime (left) and volunteer Bernie Brewer of the Wayne Masonic Lodge 112 help to build Westland's Play Planet.

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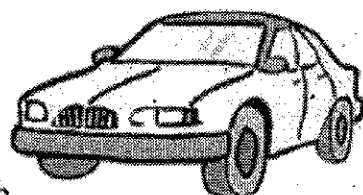
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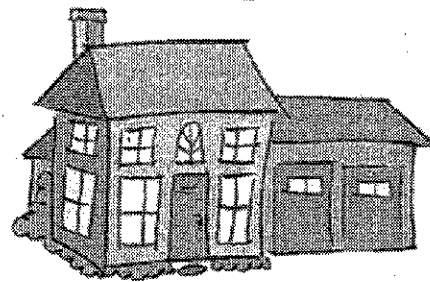
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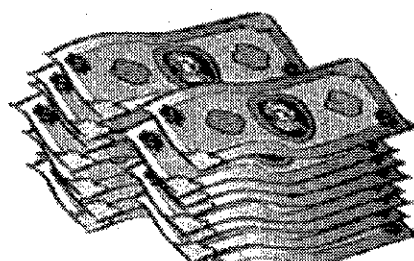
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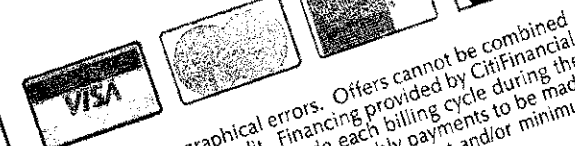
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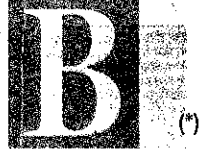


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SPORTS



Thursday, January 1, 2009

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

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

Pats stop Rochester in tourney

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

After playing four close games in a row and losing three straight, the Livonia Franklin boys basketball team finally got a breather on Saturday.

The Patriots took a 28-14 halftime lead and rolled to a 44-26 win over Rochester in the consolation game of the Franklin Holiday Tournament.

Dearborn Fordson, getting 24 points from Daraoun Mashrah and 14 from Jamal Williams, captured the tournament title and improved to 7-0 with a 58-51 win over Howell.

Franklin, now 2-3 on the season, missed making the final after squandering a 43-37 third-quarter advantage en route to a 55-51 setback to Howell in Friday's opener.

The Highlanders outscored Franklin 18-8 in the decisive fourth quarter.

"Last night (Friday) we were out-worked, outthusted and did not close it out," Franklin coach Jeremy Rheault said. "I like the way we're playing, but we did not handle the pressure and we did not finish. It was the most turnovers we've had so far."

"Tonight (Saturday) we made a big (personnel) adjustment. We played extremely hard and executed."

Senior forward Connor Leidal, who had a game-high 25 points in the loss to Howell, also led Franklin against Rochester with 13 points.

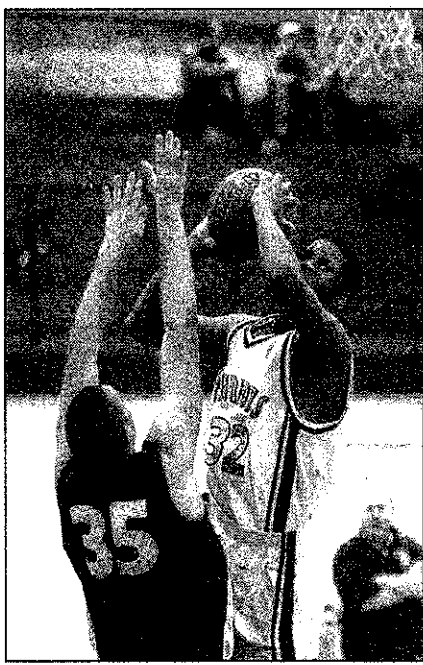
Jeff Poole and Andy McCaffery each added eight, while Garrett Gumm contributed seven.

Nick Shafkalis and Nick O'Neil each scored six for the Falcons (2-4).

Fordson, getting 27 points from Baquer Sayed and 14 from Williams, edged Rochester in the other tourney semifinal, 54-53.

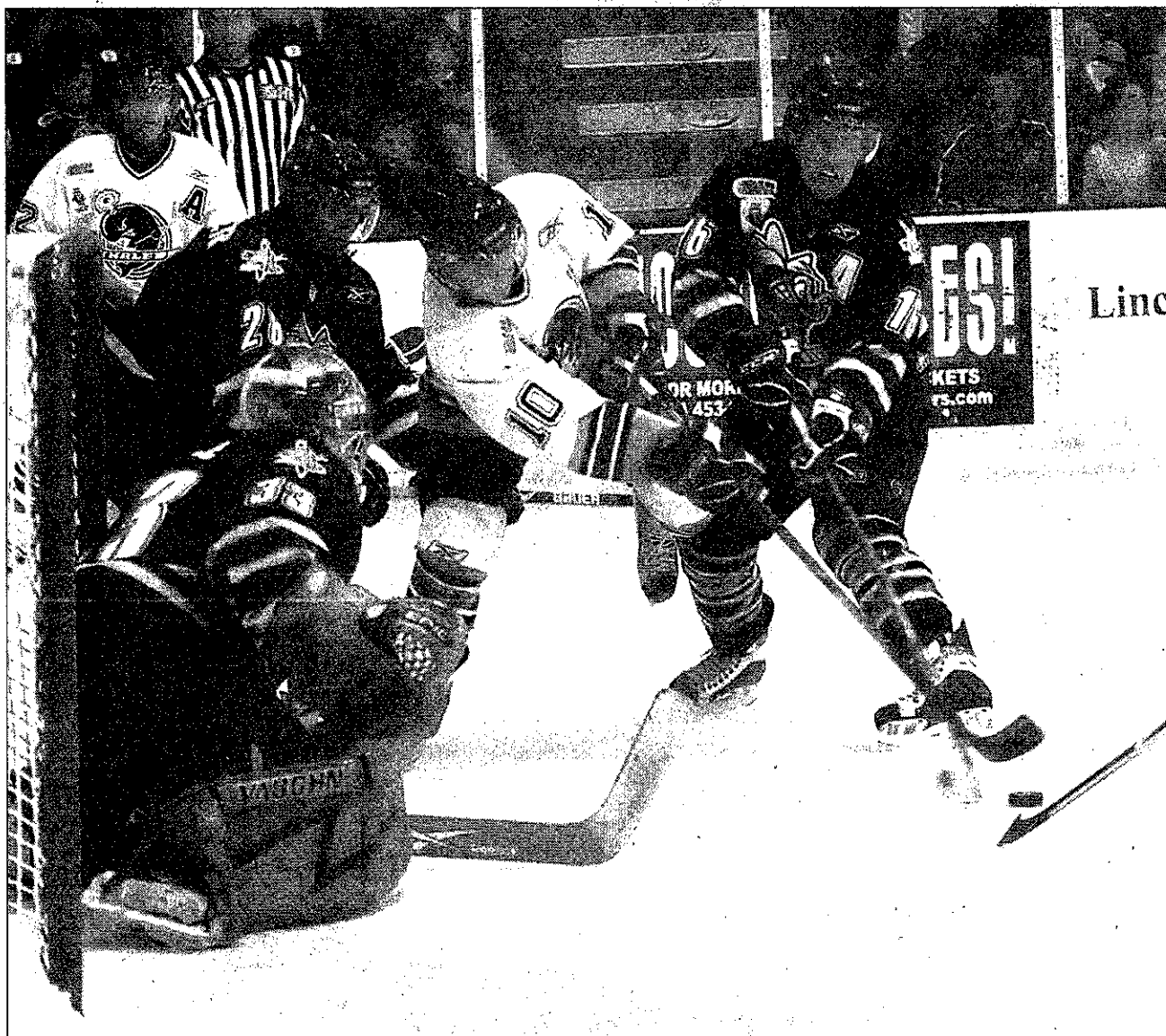
Shafkalis had 15 for the Falcons, while Keith Newberry added 14.

Howell (3-2) got 18 points from Tyler

Please see **HOOPS, B2**

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Livonia Franklin's Jeff Poole rises above Howell's Tyler Hughes during first-round action in the Franklin Holiday Tournament.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth's Ryan Hayes (10) battles Sarnia's Steve Ferry for control of the puck during first-period action Monday afternoon. Hayes scored the Whalers' first goal, but the Sting prevailed, 5-2.

Cold Play

Icy start dooms Whalers in 5-2 setback to Sarnia

BY ED WRIGHT
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Like the rock-hard fruitcake you received for Christmas one year from your great aunt, and the ceramic frog you got in the holiday office gift exchange, the Plymouth Whalers would like to take back Monday afternoon's matinee against visiting Sarnia.

Unfortunately, the Ontario Hockey League has a no-return policy. In a battle of Ontario Hockey League Western Conference West Division rivals, the Sting tallied a pair of early first-period goals before skating to a 5-2 triumph before a "Kids Day" crowd of 2,041 at Compuware Arena.

The loss dropped the recently red-hot Whalers to 16-16-4-0 (36 points) while the Sting improved to 18-15-2-2.

Windsor leads the division with 61 points, 17 more than second-place Saginaw.

Moments before Monday's opening face-off, Plymouth coach Mike Vellucci emphasized to his team the importance of a fast start, but it was Sarnia that seemed to heed the message as it bolted to a 2-0 lead within the contest's first 15 minutes.

"I was disappointed in our effort, especially in the first 10 minutes," said Vellucci. "This was Sarnia's first game back from the holidays and it was our second, so there was no excuse."

"Before the game, I talked to the team about taking it to them in the first 10 minutes, but the opposite hap-



Mike Vellucci has turned the season around for the Whalers since grabbing the head-coaching reins Nov. 10.

pened — they took it to us."

The Whalers entered the contest with nine wins in their previous 13 games, but they've struggled the past week, Vellucci said.

"We hadn't been playing well leading up to this game," the franchise's coach, general manager and president said. "We won the other night, but our goalie stood on his head."

"We're getting a little too cocky, thinking we're better than we are. I saw this coming."

The Whalers played Monday's game without three of their most productive

players: leading scorer Chris Terry, who suffered an injury in Saturday's 4-3 victory over Saginaw; defenseman Michal Jordan, who is competing for Czechoslovakia in the World Junior Hockey Championships; and Tyler Seguin, who is toiling for Canada in the U17 World Championships.

Terry's injury will be evaluated by a doctor on Wednesday. Jordan and Seguin will return the first week of January.

Sarnia's Justin DiBenedetto one-timed in a Michael Neal pass from the door-step 3:14 into the game to give the Sting a 1-0 advantage.

The visitors doubled their lead just over three minutes later when Jamie Arnel made the Whalers pay for back-to-back penalties with a two-man advantage goal from the top of the left circle at the 13:38 mark. Mark Katic assisted.

Ryan Hayes lit the lamp for the Whalers with 5:12 left in the first period when he hammered the puck over Dan Spence's left shoulder from a point directly in front of the net, 20 feet out. Tyler J. Brown and Bo Schmitz earned assists.

Hayes nearly knocked home an equalizing power-play goal with 2:15 to go in the opening stanza, but his wrist rolled wide by mere inches.

With 23.5 seconds left in first, Sarnia's Marcus Pepe dinged the post with a laser.

Sarnia outshot Plymouth, 15-13, over

Please see **WHALERS, B4**

Rockets' gold glare

John Glenn outlasts Rocks in Elks invite

BY ED WRIGHT
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Members of the Westland John Glenn wrestling team are getting pretty good at perfecting a new hold: the trophy hold.

The Rockets captured first-place hardware for the second time this season Saturday after they won the Plymouth Elks Salem Invitational in the Rocks' gymnasium.

Despite competing without four starters who were ill, John Glenn amassed 159 points to outlast the host Rocks (145) and Melvindale (142).

"We have a lot of flexibility in our line-up, which we needed today," said John Glenn coach Bill Polk. "Our depth really came through today."

Polk praised the effort of senior 152-pounder Jeff Adkins, who earned the tournament's upper-weight class Most Valuable Wrestler award after registering falls in two of his three matches. Adkins pinned Monroe's Nick Lujan in the 152-pound final.

"I'm happy for Jeff because he's a senior and this is the first tournament he's won," said Polk. "He had a great day."

The Rockets also earned first-place points from 112-pounder Anthony Pavlich and 140-pounder Jimmy Mann.

Salem coach Greg Wochuk was pleased with his team's performance, which was spear-headed by Austin Root's title-grabbing effort at 189.

"We probably finished as high as we

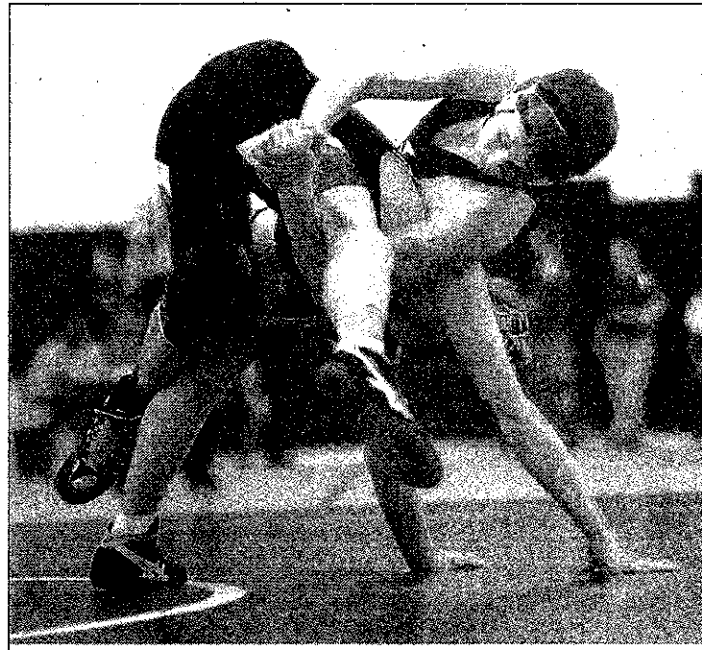
could," said Wochuk. "We were down a kid early in the day, so to only be 14 points out of first is pretty good."

"I thought Austin Root, Sam Lepper and Blake Abbey wrestled very well. Blake is undersized for a heavyweight, but he's really holding his own."

Root took gold by upending Belleville's Kaare Cigan, 5-2, in the 189-pound title match.

Plymouth's top performers were Vince Rizzo, who placed third at 171, and Alex Winn, who was third at 189.

Melvindale's Gamal Yahia won the lower-weights MVW award by sweeping through his 103-pound matches.

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

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Salem's Kyle Middleditch (right) looks for leverage against John Glenn's Mark Thompson during a second-round 125-pound match during Saturday's Plymouth Elks Salem Invitational. Thompson won with a pin:52 into the match.

Sidelines

UM's Martin hailed

The Sporting News and Rivals.com both unveiled its 2008 All-Freshman teams with University of Michigan true freshman defensive tackle Mike Martin (Redford/Novi-Detroit Catholic Central H.S.) receiving recognition on each the publication's second-team squad.

The Big Ten Conference had four league players represented on the first team and five selected to the second team.

Martin led all U-M freshman defenders with 20 tackles on the season, including 4.5 tackles for loss and two sacks. He played in all 12 contests at defensive tackle, posting stops in 10 of those 12 games.

Martin, a first-team All-Big Ten Freshman Team selection, tallied a season- and career-best three stops against Michigan State, Northwestern and Ohio State. He recorded his first career sack vs. Miami (Ohio) and added another during the conference season against the Spartans.

Martin is one of five returning defensive players on Michigan's two deep from this past season.

MU's Allen saluted

The Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference office announced recently that Madonna University junior forward Leroy Allen (Detroit) was selected as the league's Men's Basketball Player of the Week for the period ending Dec. 21.

This is Allen's first selection of his career and he is the first Crusader men's player to be honored this season.

Connecting on 9-of-14 shots, Allen had 18 points (one off his career-high), grabbed six rebounds and had a block to help the Crusaders to a 63-60 win Dec. 19 at Notre Dame (Ohio) College.

The transfer from Kirkland CC is MU's second leading scorer, putting in 12.6 points per game while leading the Royal Blue and Gold with seven rebounds a night.

Ladywood too much for Inkster, 40-31

Livonia Ladywood came on strong during the second half and earned a spot in Tuesday's Kalamazoo Loy Norrix Tournament final with a 40-31 girls basketball win Monday over Inkster.

The Blazers, who improved to 4-2 overall, were led by senior Caitlin Szczypka, who finished with a team-high 13 points. Freshman guard Cara Miller added eight.

Ladywood, playing without injured junior point-guard Mary Fitzgerald, rallied from a 19-18 halftime deficit by outscoring the Vikings 22-12 in the second half to win its fourth straight.

The Blazers made 6-of-7 free throws in the final period and await the winner of Monday's other first-round matchup between host Loy Norrix and McBain.

"I thought Caitlin (Szczypka) stepped up and provided us senior leadership," Ladywood first-year coach Pat Cannon said. "She was a calming influence. Inkster put a lot of pressure on us and caused turnovers, but we stayed calm at the end and made free throws to put us over the top."

The Blazers made 14-of-19 from the charity stripe on the night, while Inkster connected on just 9-of-19.

Ayrionna Taylor paced the Vikings (4-2) and all scorers with 18 points.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Salem's Austin Root (top) captured the 189-pound title at Saturday's Plymouth Elks Salem Invitational.

WRESTLING STATS

PLYMOUTH ELKS SALEM WRESTLING INVITATIONAL
Saturday at Salem High School
FINAL STANDINGS: 1. Westland John Glenn, 159 points; 2. Salem, 145; 3. Melvindale, 142; 4. Monroe, 134; 5. Belleville, 124.5; 6. Lincoln Park, 123.5; 7. Adrian, 117; 8. Dexter, 106.5; 9. Plymouth, 97; 10. Dearborn Heights Crestwood, 81; 11. Lakeland, 70.5; 12. (tie) Livonia Stevenson, Garden City, Fraser, Wayne Memorial, Ypsilanti, 0.

103 pounds: 1st place: Gamal Yahia (Mel) pinned Zak Garcia (A) in 3:54; **3rd:** Steve Wakeford (JG) decisioned Joey Golan (DHC), 8-1; **5th:** Nick Kim (S) dec. Said Youseff (P), 7-3.

112: 1st: Anthony Pavlich (JG) won by major decision over Bryan Boulware (Mel), 10-2; **3rd:** Dan Flowers (D) pinned Mo Rahal (DHC) in 2:28; **5th:** J.J. Orozco (A) dec. Ian Phillips (S), 7-1.

119: 1st: Anthony Barbour (LP) dec. Gabe Altomare (D), 13-6; **3rd:** C.J.

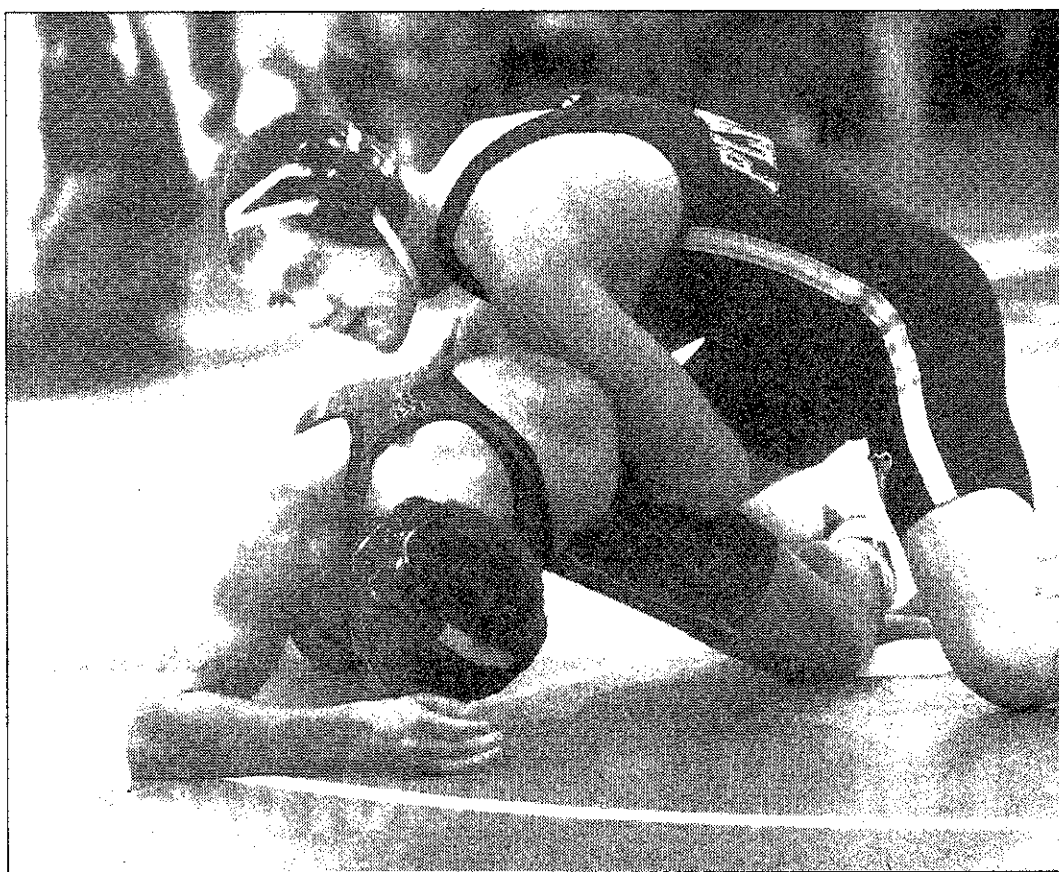
Lutke (L) dec. Ben Dewitt (S), 7-4; **5th:** Brendan Papin (B) won by tech. fall over Nick Rizzo (P), 16-0.

125: 1st: Jeremy Sherman (L) won by major decision over Dylan Fanslaw (MON), 11-2; **3rd:** Mark Thompson (JG) won by tech. fall over Joey Polocoser (DHC), 17-1; **5th:** Bobbie Sadowski (LP) dec. Alex Sloan (D), 6-5 (2 OT).

130: 1st: Derrick Mandell (DHC) dec. Drew Barnes (D), 16-13; **3rd:** Kyle Horr (MON) dec. John Bills (S), 9-2; **5th:** Tyler Schneider (B) won by major dec. over Justin Robinson (JG), 16-3.

135: 1st: Sean Turner (MON) dec. Jason VanWasshenova (LP), 4-2; **3rd:** Tommy Kozak (B) dec. Abdul Yahia (MEL), 10-3; **5th:** Mikkel Tipton (JG) dec. James Middleditch (S), 11-8.

140: 1st: Jimmy Mann (JG) pinned Mat Galvan (A) in 1:18; **3rd:** Denver McLaughlin (MON) pinned Randy Jolly (MEL) in 4:43; **5th:** Carter Sherman (B) won by tech. fall over C.J. Ward (LP), 18-3.



Plymouth's Derek Davey battles Melvindale's David McGrath during a 152-pound match at Saturday's Salem Invitational.

145: 1st: Andrew Collins (D) dec. Mitch Crawford (D), 6-2; **3rd:** A.J. Arnett (MON) pinned Jose Quezada (MEL) in 3:45; **5th:** Robbie Schultz (S) dec. Andrew Majewski (B), 7-0.

152: 1st: Jeff Adkins (JG) pinned Nick Lujan (MON) in 2:36; **3rd:** David McGrath (MEL) dec. Logan Verner (A), 10-5; **5th:** Derrick Davey (P) won by major dec. over Rob Kanalos (LP), 10-1.

160: 1st: Rafael Rodriguez (A) won by injury default over Zain Amman

(JG); **3rd:** Colin Gross (S) pinned Chase Stevens (D) in 4:56; **5th:** Rob Barackman (P) pinned Caleb Wilson (LP) in 54 seconds.

171: 1st: James Walton (LP) dec. Max Hill (L), 10-9; **3rd:** Vince Rizzo (P) won by major dec. over Alex Jochartz (B), 14-1; **5th:** Matt Pitcher (MON) dec. Zach Redden (JG), 8-2.

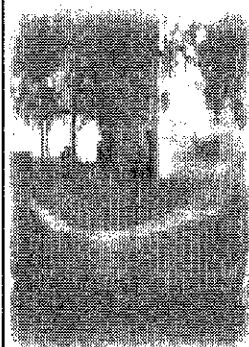
189: 1st: Austin Root (S) dec. Kaare Cigan (B), 5-2; **3rd:** Alex Winn (P) pinned Edgar Gonzalez (MEL) in 2:39; **5th:**

Jacob MacMullen (MON) dec. Sequoyah Burke-Combs (D), 6-5.

215: 1st: Buster Wilson (LP) dec. Sam Lepper (S), 7-4 (2 OT); **3rd:** Forrest Sampson (B) dec. Derek Hoffman (A), 6-2; **5th:** David Pope (MON) pinned Yousseff El Sayed (DHC) in 1:35.

285: 1st: Matt Gable (MEL) pinned Blake Abbey (S) in 5:15; **3rd:** Dustin Slaton (B) pinned Hassan El-Sayed (DHC) in 2:11; **5th:** Tom Coleman (A) pinned Wally Eppler (P) in 2:52.

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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth's Vern Cooper steers the puck toward open ice during Monday's 5-2 loss to Sarnia.



WHALERS










FROM PAGE B1

the first 15 minutes. Hackett stoned Matt Martin twice within a matter of 40 seconds early in the second. However, Daniel Lombardi squeezed a puck through Hackett's five-hole at the 14:51 mark to make it 3-1. Arniel and Jordan Hill registered helpers. Miroslav Preisinger struck just 30 seconds later when he slid a rebound shot past the goal line to up the Sting's lead to 4-1. He was assisted by

Lombardi and Katie. Seconds later, Jeremy Smith replaced Matt Hackett between the pipes for the Whalers. Smith sparked following his insertion, repelling a number of Sting stingers mid-way through the second period to keep the Whalers within striking distance. Sarnia inflated its lead to 5-1 14:50 into the second period when DiBenedetto capped a textbook give-and-go play with Michael Neal when he beat Smith, who would have needed four arms and four legs to ward off the two-on-zero assault. The Whalers solved Spence

6:01 into the third when Myles McCauley ripped home his second goal of the season to make it 5-2. He was assisted by Jamie Devane and Leo Jenner. Devane hit the post with a rocket at the 10:15 mark. Hayes nearly made things very interesting with 4:38 to play, but his attempted tap-in from just outside the crease was re-directed by a sprawling Spence. Sarnia outshot Plymouth, 43-37. ewright@hometownlife.com (734) 953-2108

LOCAL PERSONALITIES GO HEAD TO HEAD

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Strictly Business

IT'S YOUR BUSINESS Q&A



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Kittie Higgins displays a well-used color chart at International Minute Press. You pick the color, they can mix it for your print job.

Press shop specializes in printing (not laundry)

Observer: Tell about your business, including the types of services and/or products you feature.

International Minute Press: We are one of over 970, all independently owned, "Minuteman Press" printing franchise locations world wide. We print things like business cards, letterhead, envelopes, brochures, flyers and everything else except money. Sorry, we don't print money. We also provide promotional products and business mailing services.

Observer: What makes your business unique? Do you serve a special niche?

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Observer: How did you first decide to open your own business?

International Minute Press: My dogs. I was the editor of our dog club's newsletter, so when my employer closed our Michigan location, I decided to do "printing" full time.

Observer: How did you decide to locate in the Plymouth community?

International Minute Press: Plymouth is a great town. Not too big and not too small; like Goldilocks said, it's just right.

Observer: Do you have a funny tidbit or story to share with readers about your experience as a small business owner?

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BUSINESS MILESTONES

New physicians on staff

Garden City Hospital has welcomed four new members to its medical staff, helping to expand and supplement the realm of services available to the public. Joining the staff are:

■ Dr. Henry K. Lee, neurology, with offices at 28595 Orchard Lake Road, Suite 200, Farmington Hills.

■ Dr. Margaret J. Hepke, physical medicine/rehab, with offices at 8750 W. Nine Mile, Oak Park.

■ Dr. Anupama A. Shah, anesthesia, with offices at 6245 Inkster Road, Garden City.

■ Dr. Abdul M. Quazi, family practice, with offices at 3611 Carpenter St., Detroit.

For more information or to make an appointment with one of Garden City Hospital's new or existing physicians, call the Physician Referral service at 877-717-WELL or go online to www.gchosp.org.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Collecting coats

Taxfaster of Westland has partnered with One Warm Coat to hold a coat drive now through Jan. 31. People can drop off items at Taxfaster, 38950 Cherry Hill at John Hix in Westland. Coats, hats, mittens, gloves, scarves, boots and any winter weather wear for adults and children are

needed. Donations are tax deductible and receipts will be provided. The items will be distributed to anyone in need along with the Plymouth-Canton High School Clothing Bank and New Dimension Outreach of Westland. For more information about the coat drive, visit the Taxgaster Web site at www.taxfaster.com.

Gourmet desserts on sale

Beginning in January, Mary Denning's Cake Shoppe, 8036 N. Wayne Road in Westland, will be offering a selection of gourmet desserts for only \$1. Desserts for the price of a dollar will include cupcakes topped with French buttercream, cinnamon crumb cakes, cake slices, coffee, yesterday's fresh muffins, fun-sized bars, cookies (3 for \$1), and the sliced off top of a cake, oddly named, cake butts.

"I think it's a great idea. I'm hoping that dollar desserts are just what customers need in these tough times" said owner Mary Denning.

Mary Denning's Cake Shoppe, which has been part of the Westland community for more than 16 years, has earned numerous bakery awards, including Detroit's Best Pastries and Sam Walton's Business of the Year. Most recently, Mary Denning's Cake Shoppe was named one of the top five best bakeries in Metro-Detroit by Click on Detroit's 4th Best Guide.

For more information visit www.marydenning.com or call (734) 261-3680.

ONGOING

The Fan Zone

After 12 years anchoring a corner of the West Court at Westland Shopping Center, The Fan Zone is closing its doors. Wing nuts, Piston fans and even Lions boosters can get some great deals on apparel and autographed memorabilia. Everything is half off. The store will close for good on Jan. 10 or sooner, depending on sales. Westland Shopping Center is at Wayne and Warren roads in Westland.

KB Toys

While you're at the mall, stop by at KB Toys, also off the mall's West Court. The 86-year-old toy company announced it was shuttering all of its store due to lagging sales. The selection is limited, but there's bargains to be had.

La-Z-Boy

There's still deals to be had at the La-Z-Boy Furniture Gallery in Canton. The store is one of seven being closed in the metro area because of the state's poor economy. There's still a wide selection of recliners, both fabric and leather covered, sofas and chairs. Accessories are going for half off. You'll find the store at 27754 Ford, just east of the I275 Freeway.



St. Mary Mercy gala

Jason and Robin Beeman (from left), Richard DeLoof, Cheryl and Tom Korpela enjoy St. Mary Mercy Hospital's 16th Annual Gala Nov. 21 at the Sheraton Detroit Novi. More than 300 guests attended the gala — a black-tie affair that raised more than \$125,000 in support of the hospital's Caring for the Future Campaign, benefitting the advancement of cancer care and cardiac services offered in the Our Lady of Hope Cancer Center and the Heart & Vascular Center at St. Mary Mercy Hospital.

BUSINESS NEWSMAKERS

Westland woman receives New Center caring award

Covenant House Michigan program director Cynthia Adams has been honored by New Center Community Mental Health Services with the "Caring Place in the Neighborhood Award" for her long-standing support of Michigan youths struggling with mental illness.

A Westland resident, Adams was honored during New Center's 10th annual award ceremony at the Rooster Tail in Detroit.

"We are happy to honor a person who passionately advocates for the mental well-being of kids who, otherwise, do not have access to the help they need," said Roberta Sanders, CEO of New Center. "Cynthia works hard to support those who have come into Covenant House not only looking for shelter but also looking for help with their special needs."

Over the years, Adams has seen a steady increase in mental health issues among those admitted to the CHM Crisis Center. This increase is accredited to a lack of housing options and services available at the hospital and community level. Due to reductions in state funding, several mental health facilities in the state have been forced to close their doors,



Adams

including the Aurora Mental Health Facility located directly across the street from CHM.

"The residents that we serve have nowhere else to go in Wayne County," said Adams. "They are stuck between childhood and adulthood so the adult facilities aren't equipped to take care of them. Many of them have been living on the streets and they feel and act as if they have been thrown away."

Through a partnership with New Center, CHM has been able to provide free mental health services to its residents — Michigan's homeless, run-away and at-risk youths. With the services Adams provides through CHM and New Center, 2008 has been a successful year for diagnosing and treating youths in need. During the first half of the fiscal year, 77 out of 150 new intakes to CHM's Crisis Center had a diagnosed mental illness, 142 had a suspected mental illness and 61 are taking psychotropic medications.

"Cynthia has worked

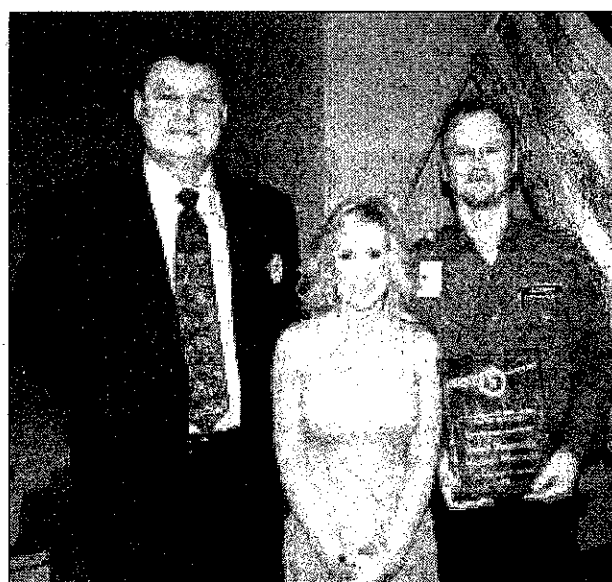
so hard to make our collaboration a success," said Sanders. "We are pleased to continue to work together to make sure that kids with special needs get help so they can get off the streets and live successful, independent lives."

Covenant House Michigan helps thousands of homeless and at-risk young people every year. In addition to food and shelter, Covenant House provides preparation for the GED exam, job development services and crisis intervention to its residents and other young people.

The agency operates an outreach van that drives through metro Detroit-area neighborhoods and offers on the spot assistance to homeless and other needy youth.

Through a recent partnership with the Detroit Public School, Covenant House Michigan opened three second chance high schools to offer dropouts and at-risk youth the opportunity to obtain a high school diploma rather than a GED. More than 900 youth are enrolled each year.

For more information on Covenant House Michigan, call (313) 463-2000 or go online to www.covenant-housemi.org.



Top paramedic

HVA paramedic Mike Warzocha of Howell (right) has been honored as the Plymouth Rotary Club's 2008 Paramedic of the Year. Each year, the Rotary Club selects one paramedic, one firefighter, and a police officer from both the City and Township police forces to honor them for their service to the community. "Mike Warzocha is an outstanding, hard-working, knowledgeable paramedic. He's someone you would want at your side in an emergency," said HVA Vice President Paul Hood (at left). Warzocha is a senior paramedic with HVA and he also staffs the Mobile Intensive Care Unit, which provides transportation between hospitals for seriously ill or injured patients who require specialized care. Married, his wife Alisha (center) is studying nursing.

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To submit an item for the religion calendar, fax it to (734) 591-7279 or write: Religion Calendar, Observer Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150, Attn: Linda Chromin. Deadline for an announcement to appear in the Thursday edition is noon Monday.

JANUARY

Bethany monthly dance

8 p.m. to midnight, Saturday, Jan. 3, at St. Robert Bellarmine, 27101 W. Chicago at Inkster Rd., Redford. Cost \$10, includes refreshments. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. DJ is Dick Gerathy. Call Diane K. for information (734) 261-5716.

Group support for widowed

Widowed Friends of the AOD offer a grief support program, Grief Recovery, beginning 1-2:30 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 4, 2009 at Our Lady of Loretto Parish, 17116 Olympia, Redford. The six-week series offers information about grief, coping with loneliness, making it on your own and other issues related to the loss of a spouse. A \$20 fee covers all materials, payable at the first meeting. To register, call Joan at (248) 478-1084.

Thursday forum

Sponsoring a program presented by Harry T. Cook (Episcopal minister, journalist, author, and frequent lecturer in metropolitan Detroit) 10-11:30 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 8, at Birmingham Unitarian Church, 38651 Woodward, northwest corner of Woodward and Lone Pine, Bloomfield Hills. Admission \$10, students free. Reservations not required. His lecture topic is "Religion in the Public Square: An American Conundrum: What's A Secular Democracy To Do?" (From Sarah Palin's promise to run for President in 2012 "if it is God's will" to the Church of Summun and It's Aphorisms).

Benefit dinner

Swiss steak dinner 4-7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 9, in Guthrie Hall at Newburg United Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia. Eat in or carry-out. Cost is \$8 adults, \$4 for mac n'cheese for children. Proceeds go to support homeless ministry. Call (734) 422-0149 for reservation or purchase tickets at the door.

Special needs Bible class

Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Livonia invites adults with developmental disabilities and special needs to attend our new Open Arms Bible Class beginning Monday, Jan. 12, from 7-8 p.m., at the church, 34567 Seven Mile, between Farmington and Newburgh

roads, Livonia. The class will be held on the 2nd Monday of every month and will include songs, Bible lessons, crafts and activities, prayer, snacks and fun. Registration is limited, so register soon if you plan to attend. Contact Judy Cook at Emmanuel for registration information at (248) 442-8822 or e-mail at elc-ed@around-detroit.biz.

ENDOW

St. Michael the Archangel Parish of Livonia will host two different courses of the Archdiocese of Detroit's ENDOW program, a continuing women's study group focused on the dignity of women of all ages and faiths. Course VI, called "Salvifici Doloris" addresses the Christian meaning of suffering. Based on the writing of Pope John Paul II, this is a new addition to the ENDOW curriculum and available 9:30-11:15 a.m. Tuesdays beginning Jan. 13, in the convent meeting room.

Based on Pope John Paul II's "Mulieris Dignitatem" (On the Dignity and Vocation of Women), the Course II group will meet 7-8:30 p.m. on the second and fourth Thursdays beginning Jan. 22, in the Convent Meeting Room behind the rectory, 11441 Hubbard, south of Plymouth Road, Livonia. Women of all ages and faiths are welcome. There is a \$60 charge for materials, but no woman will be turned away because of inability to pay. Register by calling (734) 261-1455, ext. 207 or online at www.endowonline.com.

He forgives you

The Gospel of Life Committee of St. Michael the Archangel Church invites the public to attend a special program, "He Forgives You", featuring Mary Lockwood, a former corporate executive and local woman who has had multiple abortions, at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 13, in the cafeteria of St. Michael the Archangel School, 11441 Hubbard, south of Plymouth Road, Livonia. For information, call (734) 261-1455, ext. 200, or visit www.livoniastmichael.org. As a practicing Catholic, Lockwood experienced the profound love and mercy of God and she and her husband have begun to publicly share their story of hope and forgiveness.

Monthly breakfast meeting

Bethany Suburban West meets at 9:30 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 17, at Leon's, 30149 Ford Road, south side (next to Tim Horton's) in Garden City. All separated, divorced and singles welcome. For details, call Kathy M. at (734) 513-9479.

Bethany is a Catholic organization

under the auspices of the Archdiocese of the Detroit Office for Family Ministry. Bethany provides spiritual, social and educational assistance through peer-to-peer ministry to the divorced and separated of all Christian faiths.

Bethany dance

Bethany North Oakland plans a dance 8 p.m. to midnight Saturday, Jan. 17, at St. Daniel's, 7010 Valley Park Drive, Clarkston. Admission \$12, includes beer, wine and refreshments. For information, call Tim at (248) 891-8938.

Singles bowling

Sunday, Jan. 18, at No-Taps Bowling at Oak Lanes, 8450 Middlebelt, south of Joy, Westland. Cost is \$15, includes three games of bowling, pizza and prizes. Spectators and cheerleaders will pay \$5 for pizza. Games will start at 2 p.m., registration by 1:30 p.m. For details contact either Kathy at (734) 513-9479 or Judy at (734) 261-5630.

Worship service

The Wayne-Westland Ministerial Association will sponsor a worship service to remember the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity on Sunday, Jan. 18, at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 37775 Palmer, Westland. There will be a combined choir from several churches led by Steve Holbrook. The preacher for the evening will be the Rev. Mike Wilson of the New Beginnings Church in Wayne. The public is invited. For more information call Neil Cowling at the Kirk of Our Savior, at (734) 728-1088.

All-you-can-eat pancakes

The Ushers' Club of St. Michael the Archangel Parish in Livonia continues its more than 30-year tradition of all-you-can-eat pancake breakfasts 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on the third Sunday of each month in the school cafeteria at 11441 Hubbard, south of Plymouth Road, with an expanded menu that features pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, bacon, hash browns, and assorted breakfast beverages. Meals are served buffet-style at family friendly prices: \$5, adults, \$3 children ages 4-11, free for children under age 3, \$15 a family (2 adults and all children). Everyone is welcome.

Dare to be holy

Parish Mission with Bill Wegner, conducted by Good News International, a Catholic lay ministry, 7 p.m. Sunday-Wednesday, Jan. 18-21, at St. Mel Parish, 7506 N. Inkster Road, Dearborn Heights. Refreshments. Offering will be taken. Special session after 8:30 a.m. Mass Monday-Wednesday. For more information,

call (313) 274-0684.

Clothing bank

Free clothing (men, women and children) for those in need 10 a.m.-noon on the fourth Saturday of each month (Jan. 24), at Canton Christian Fellowship Clothing Bank, 8775 Ronda Drive, south of Joy between Haggerty and Lilley. For information, call (734) 404-2480, visit www.CantonCF.org or send e-mail to info@cantoncf.org.

UPCOMING

Bethany monthly dance

8 p.m. to midnight Saturday, Feb. 7, in Redford. Cost is \$10, includes refreshments. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. Call Diane for information at (734) 261-5716.

Monthly breakfast

9:30 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 21, at Leon's 30149 Ford Road, south side (next to Tim Horton's) in Garden City, 48135. All separated, divorced and singles welcome. For details, call Kathy at (734) 513-9479.

Bethany is a Catholic organization under the auspices of the Archdiocese of the Detroit Office for Family Ministry. Bethany provides spiritual, social and educational assistance through peer-to-peer ministry to the divorced and separated of all Christian faiths.

Music at St. John's

Collegium Musicum performs cantatas and instrumental works, 6 p.m. Sunday, March 29, and The Saline Fiddlers, 6 p.m., Sunday, May 17, at St. John's Episcopal Church, 574 S. Sheldon, Plymouth. All concerts are free except The Saline Fiddlers (\$7 and available in advance or at door). Call (734) 453-0190.

ONGOING

Caregiver's support group

St. John's Support Group for the Caregiver's of Alzheimer's patients or patients with other forms of dementia meets at 10 a.m., the first and third Friday of each month at St. John's Episcopal Church, 574 South Sheldon, Plymouth. Respite care for your loved one will be provided. Call Connie McNutt at (734) 895-1426 for more information. This group is authorized by the Alzheimer's Association.

Worship

Sundays 8 a.m. worship; 9 a.m. Adult Faith Forum, 10 a.m. worship service, Sunday School and Nursery, at Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA), 30650 Six Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 427-1414.

Sunday school

Takes place at 9:30 a.m. with worship service and communion at 10:30 a.m. each Sunday, at Good Hope Lutheran Church, 28600 Cherry Hill, between Inkster and Middlebelt roads, Garden City. Bible study 6:30 p.m. every Wednesday. Call (734) 427-3660.

Hall rental

Volkmar Hall located in Good Hope Lutheran Church, 28600 Cherry Hill, between Inkster and Middlebelt roads, Garden City, is available for rent. For information, call (734) 427-3660.

Parkinson Support

Western Oakland Parkinson Support Group meets 7-9 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month except January, July and August, at Farmington Hills Baptist Church, 28301 Middlebelt, between 12 Mile and 13 Mile. Enter at rear of church. For more information, call (248) 433-1011.

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.aa.org or call (248) 559-7722.

Mid-week Service

Hosanna-Tabor Lutheran Church offers a Wednesday evening service at 7 p.m. in the church at 9600 Leverne, Redford. Communion is offered on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month. Sunday services are at 9:30 a.m.

New worship schedule

Worship 8 a.m. Sunday, Faith Forum & Other Options at 9 a.m., and Worship and Sunday school at 10 a.m. Wednesday Worship at 7:30 p.m. in the chapel at Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA), 30650 Six Mile, Livonia. Visitors welcome. For information, call (734) 427-1414 or visit www.holycrosslivonia.org.

Bible study

St. Michael the Archangel Church, located at the southwest corner of Plymouth and Hubbard Roads, continues its regular evening Bible Study program with an in-depth study of The Gospel of Luke 7 p.m. on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month in the rectory. The informal classes are open to all interested persons regardless of religious affiliation. To register, call (734) 261-1445, Ext. 200.

Time change

Faith Lutheran Church, 30000 Five Mile, west of Middlebelt, Livonia, returned to its fall-spring worship schedule. Services are at 8:15 a.m. and

10:45 a.m., with Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. for all ages. For information, visit www.livonfaith.org.

Wednesday activities

Have resumed at 7 p.m. at Grace Christian Fellowship, on the west side of Middlebelt, one block south of Six Mile. The special four week study focuses on the Hebraic Roots of Our Christian Faith, taught by Yvonne Moore. For information, visit www.gcfcfellowship.org or call (734) 525-6019.

Thursday fellowship dinner

All are welcome, 6 p.m. dinners catered by The Cookie Lady, Susan Navarro, at St. James Presbyterian Church, 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford. Cost is \$8. Call (313) 534-7730.

Eucharistic adoration

St. Michael the Archangel Church in Livonia continues its monthly program of Prayer and Eucharistic Adoration on the third Wednesday of each month. The church is open for prayer and private worship from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Benediction service in the evening. Call (734) 261-1455.

Worship schedule

11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Sunday (9:45 a.m. Sunday School), at Community Free Will Baptist Church, 33031 Cherry Hill, west of Venoy, Westland. Wednesday prayer and Bible study is 7 p.m. Youth fellowship every other Friday at 7 p.m.

Sunday worship

The early service for the Anglican Church of Livonia is at 7:45 a.m. at Trinity Church, 34500 Six Mile, west of Farmington Road and next to Stevenson High School, Livonia. The 10 a.m. service will continue to be at the Livonia YMCA at 14255 Stark Road, between Lyndon and the I-96 service drive. The Web site is www.hischurch.us.

Reformed Protestant services

The doctrines and teachings of solid, Reformed Protestantism are preached by the Rev. Sean Humby 3:30 p.m. Sundays at the Detroit Preaching Station of the Free Church of Scotland (Continuing), at Cherry Hill School, 50440 Cherry Hill, corner of Ridge, Canton. For information, call (734) 402-7186, send e-mail to sean.humby@att.net, or visit www.members.aol.com/rsi-worship/detroit.html.

Sanskrit chanting

An ongoing, weekly class taught by Ania Kopczynski, 7-8:30 p.m. Thursdays, at Renaissance Unity, 11200 E. 11 Mile, Warren. No pre-registration required. A free-will collection taken at the session. For information, call (586) 353-2300 or visit www.renaissanceunity.org.

Church schedule

Garden City Presbyterian Church continues its 10 a.m. Sunday worship service with traditional hymns, scripture readings and choral music (fellowship follows). Youth Sunday School and nursery care also available at 10 a.m. Adult Sunday School at 8:30 a.m. Informal gathering 6 p.m. every Sunday with scriptures and discussion at the church on Middlebelt, one block south of Ford Rd. Call (734) 421-7620.

Single Place Ministry

Single Place Ministry continues to meet Thursdays 7:30-7:45 p.m. for social time, 7:45-8 p.m. opening, 8-9 p.m. program, at First Presbyterian Church, 200 E. Main St., Northville. Call (248) 349-0911 or visit www.singleplace.org. Cost is \$5.

Prince of Peace Church

Recovery, Inc., meets at 10 a.m., every Wednesday at the church, Walnut Lake Road and Green, West Bloomfield. Recovery, Inc., is an international, non-profit, self-help community based service organization that helps people with nervous and emotional disorders reduce their suffering and improve their quality of life. Call Martha Paul at (248) 682-9362 or e-mail her at marthapaul@sbcglobal.net.

Tai Chi and strength classes

Orchard United Methodist Church is hosting a Tai Chi class 7-8:30 p.m. Mondays in the Mac at the church, 30450 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills. The cost per class is \$10 or \$40 prepaid for five classes.

The strength class takes place 9:30-10:30 a.m. Monday and Wednesday. Cost is \$5 per class. Drop-ins welcome.

For information, call (248) 626-3620 or visit www.orchardumc.org.

Tai Chi class

Orchard United Methodist Church, 30450 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills, is hosting a Tai Chi Class by Sam Purdy, Wu Style Tai Chi. This meditative form of Martial Arts is great for reducing stress and is great for over-all health memory and balance. Everyone is welcome from beginning to experienced participants at any time. Classes continue every Monday. Cost per class depends on number of participants. For information or to reserve your space, call (248) 701-1587 or (248) 626-3620. Visit www.orchardumc.org for updates.

Thrift store

Open Wednesdays 9:30-11:30 a.m. and Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at St. James Presbyterian Church, 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford. Call (313) 534-7730.

New schedule

9 a.m. Sunday school for all ages and Faith Forum, 10 a.m. Worship Service

with Communion and nursery, at Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA), 30650 Six Mile, Livonia.

All visitors welcome. For more information, call (734) 427-1414 or visit www.holycrosslivonia.org.

Day of service

A Day of Service and Spirituality is available by the Capuchin Soup Kitchen and the Solanus Casey Center. The purpose of the day is to serve, meet and have one's faith grow. The day allows groups to help at the Capuchin Services Center and dine with guests at the Capuchin Soup Kitchen.

A tour of the Earth Works urban garden, which provides six tons of produce each season, will also be made available. The day concludes with a self-guided tour of the Solanus Casey Center, a spirituality center dedicated to the Capuchin friar who is credited with miraculous cures and valued for his wise and compassionate counsel. The minimum age is 7th grade and the maximum size of the group is 30. The day starts at 8:30 a.m. and ends at 2:30 p.m. There is no cost. Lunch included. For information, send e-mail to ccrane@thecapuchins.org. To learn more about the Capuchin Soup Kitchen, visit www.cskdetroit.org.

Worship Service

10:30 a.m. Sunday, Adult Bible Class at 9:30 a.m., Children's Sunday School during worship at 10:30 a.m., at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 27035 Ann Arbor Trail, Dearborn Heights. For more information, call (313) 278-5755.

Worship

Sundays: 10 a.m. Worship Service with nursery, 9 a.m. Sunday School for tots through high school and Adult Faith Forum at Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA), 30650 Six Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 427-1414 or visit www.holycrosslivonia.org. Visitors welcome.

Worship service

10:45 a.m. Sundays, Adult Sunday School at 9:30 a.m., Children's Sunday School during worship, Youth Group 5-7 p.m. and Catechism for Grown-ups 5:30-6:30 p.m., at Trinity Church of Livonia, 34500 Six Mile. For information, call (734) 425-2800.

F.I.R.E. ministries

With theme scripture, He shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire (Luke 3:16), is organizing in Livonia at Living Water Church, 11663 Arcola in the Inkster and Plymouth roads area at 7 p.m. Fridays under the leadership of Luke Willis. F.I.R.E. Ministries. For more information, call (734) 425-6360.

New worship schedule

Regular church service 10 a.m. Sundays with Communion and Nursery, 9 a.m. Sunday School for all ages and Faith Forum, at Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA), 30650 Six Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 427-1414. All visitors welcome. Visit www.holycrosslivonia.org.

Sunday worship

11 a.m. Sunday worship service, 9:30 a.m. Sunday school, 7 p.m. Wednesday Bible Study, at Good Shepherd Reformed Church, 6500 N. Wayne Road at Hunter, Westland. For information, call (734) 721-0800.

Worship services

10 a.m. Sundays Divine Liturgy followed by a fellowship/coffee time, at Holy Transfiguration Orthodox Church, 36075 W. Seven Mile, between Newburgh and Wayne roads, Livonia. Church school for children and adults begins at 9 a.m. Sunday. Vespers are celebrated 5 p.m. Saturdays. Visitors are always welcome. For more information, call (248) 476-3432 (church), (248) 477-4712 (rectory) or Web site at www.orthodoxlivonia.org.

Men's breakfast

Ham & eggs, hash browns, pancakes, and more when you come to the Men's Breakfast at 8 a.m. on the first Saturday of every month at The Senate Restaurant, located off Haggerty Road between Five Mile and Six Mile in Northville. All men are invited for fellowship and food. Sponsored by Riverside Park Church of God, 11771 Newburgh, Livonia. Call (734) 464-0990.

MOPS meetings

The Hosanna-Tabor Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) group began meeting this fall at a new time at the Lutheran church, 9600 Leverne, Redford. Meetings continue the first and third Thursdays of the month at 9:30 a.m. Join in for teaching, discussion, creative projects and presentations. For more information, call (248) 474-5202 or send e-mail to nikki.tiernan@gmail.com.

MOPS groups

Mothers of Preschoolers meets on the first and third Friday mornings or first and third Wednesday evenings at Calvary Baptist Church, 43055 Joy Road, Canton. Call (734) 455-0022, Ext. 4, or send e-mail to cbcwomensministries@hotmail.com.

LOGOS Youth Club

Calling all youth grades 4-12 to join the LOGOS Youth Club at Northville First United Methodist Church. Recreation, dinner, Bible study and music Wednesdays, 5:15-8:15 p.m. began Sept. 26. For registration, visit www.fumcnorthville.org or call (248) 349-1144.

HeartCry

Please see CALENDAR, B7



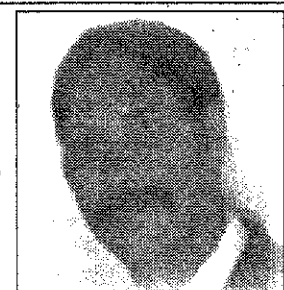
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SCOTT W. ALLENDER

Formerly from Livonia. Passed away on June 5, 2008 at the age of 54. He was born on May 22, 1954 to Robert and Lucille Allender. He graduated from Franklin High School in Livonia and was employed by Quality Plus in Romulus. Scott was preceded death by his father, Robert Warren Allender, his mother, Lucille Margaret Allender (2004) of Livonia and his brother Robert Warren Allender (2006) of Idaho. He is survived by his sister Candy (Pete) Frusti of Livonia, his brother Tracy (Amy) Allender of Belleville and his sister Karen Hinderliter of Williamston along with 11 nieces and nephews, one great-nephew and one great-niece. Scott also leaves behind the many special and devoted friends from "The Club" who he considered as family and whose support through the years has been invaluable.

FAYE (ZELBA) FARRIS

Age 82, of Garden City was called home to the Lord's house Sunday, December 28, 2008 from Oakwood Hospital. Beloved wife of Adrian. Dear mother of Adrian C. (Vivien), Donna (Mark) Sullivan and Susan (John) Livak. Sister of Charles and James Roman. Grandmother of Simona Keith, Brandon, Rebecca and Eric Lane, and Karri, Holly and Ryan Ontko. Great-grandmother of Calum Keith. Visitation Wednesday 2-7pm and Thursday 1-7pm. Funeral service Friday 10am at the John N. Santeiu and Son Funeral Home, 1139 Inkster (between Ford Rd. and Cherry Hill).

SHIRLEY L. LIDDELL

Age 72, of Canton. Beloved wife of the late Jack Liddell. Dear mother of John Liddell, Jerry (Theresa) Liddell and Jaime (Mary) Liddell. Loving grandmother of five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Sister of Gail Pippen and Judy Stone. Arrangements were handled by the Vermeulen Funeral Home, Westland. Interment Cadillac Memorial Gardens-West. Memorial contributions to St. Jude Children's Hospital. We invite you to leave a message of condolences for the family at www.vermeulenfuneralhome.com

DOUGLAS W. METCALFE

Age 63, died December 24, 2008. Service will be held on January 3, 2009 at 3:00 p.m., at Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses, 56985 Ten Mile Road, Lyon Township, MI. Online guestbook www.phillipsfuneral.com

MARY WOOD TRACEY

Of Birmingham, died Dec. 25, 2008, after a short illness. Born in Missouri in 1922, she was reared in Detroit, where she graduated from Cass Technical High School. In 1954, she and her husband, Jack, along with their young daughter, Tina, moved to Birmingham. Three more children were born in the following years. Mary lived in one of Birmingham's oldest neighborhoods for 54 years where she enjoyed many special neighbors, and was a keen observer of the changes the town and its residents have undergone through the years. Until recent years, she walked "up town" to shop and easily remembered former Birmingham landmarks that were part of everyday life. She was returning from Hunter House with her lunch the day she fell in early November, which led to her final illness. Mary was an innate artist who enjoyed travel, read widely, played a good game of bridge, and, among myriad other skills, could rewrite a lamp, wallpaper, design and sew an outfit, and reglaze a window. A hardware store was like a candy store to her. She worked into her mid-70s as an insurance manager in the orthodontic offices of Dr. Lewis Gach and Dr. Roy McAnnally. She was a longtime member of First United Methodist Church, Birmingham. Mary is preceded in death by her husband John M. "Jack" Tracey, and her parents Charles Henry Wood and Cathryn Lake Wood Roseliep. She is survived by a brother, Robert (Charlie) Roseliep, of Alamo, Texas; and four children: Bettina Tracey Downey, of Fort Worth, Texas; John (Mary Ann) Tracey, of Troy; Ellen (Kevin) McGeagh, of Bloomfield Hills; and Carol (Alex) Braitman, of Carmel, Indiana; and six beloved grandchildren: Patrick Downey, Allison McGeagh, Lauren and Holly Tracey, and Elizabeth and Hannah Braitman. Mary was a loving mother and grandmother, and a good friend whose sense of humor, perspective and presence will be missed. Memorial tributes may be sent to the Ruth Alden Children's Clothing Drive, c/o Old Newsboys Goodfellows Fund of Detroit, PO Box

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE B6

The support group provides hope and help for mothers of prodigals at 7 p.m. on the second, fourth and fifth Wednesdays of each month, at Calvary Baptist Church, 43065 Joy Road, Canton. They use "The Hope of a Homecoming," by O'Rourke and Sauer (\$12). To register, call (734) 455-0022, Ext. 4.

Women of the word
Bible study meets 9:15 a.m. and 6:45 p.m. Tuesdays, at Calvary Baptist Church, 43065 Joy Road, Canton. Choose from Covenant, a Precept Upon Precept class, or The Truth Project (new from Focus on the Family). To register, call (734) 455-0022, Ext. 4 or visit www.vchurches.com/cbc-women.

Bible study
Get a new life, study Scripture 9-10:30 a.m. Saturdays at Blessed Sacrament Monastery on the northwest corner of 13 Mile and Middlebelt in Farmington Hills. Focus of study is Romans. Call (248) 626-8253 for more information.

Fellowship Dinners
6 p.m. Thursdays. Dinner catered by The Cookie Lady, Susan Navarro. \$6. At St. James Presbyterian Church, 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford. Call (313)534-7730.

Thrift Shop
9:30-11:30 a.m. and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays at St. James Presbyterian Church, 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford.

Registration
Christ Our Savior Lutheran Early Childhood Center is now taking registrations for the fall program at 14175 Farmington Road, north of I-96, Livonia. It is open from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Friday. Loving and car-

Series resumes on explaining the Catholic faith

Well-known Catholic apologist, speaker and author, Gary Michuta, resumes his series "Sharing Made Simple" at 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 8, in the St. Michael School Cafeteria, 11441 Hubbard, south of Plymouth Road, Livonia.

This month's topic will focus on "Why Catholic Bibles are Bigger," the untold story of the lost books of the Protestant Bible as exhaustively researched first-hand by Michuta. The workshop answers such questions as: Where did we get the Bible? Why do Catholic Bibles have seven more books in the Old Testament than Protestant Bibles? Did the Church add books or did someone remove them?

The series on Catholic apologetics helps Catholics explain their faith to other Christians. And it offers insight into the biblical, historical and rational foundations for what Catholics believe.

Michuta, a long-time Livonia resident and St. Michael's parishioner, is the author of *Why Catholic Bibles are Bigger: The Untold Story of the Lost Books of the Protestant Bible* and *The Gospel According to James McCarthy: A*

Catholic Response to McCarthy's Gospel According to Rome.

Michuta enjoys a reputation as a nationally-acclaimed speaker, radio personality, and debater who has frequently addressed gatherings at Franciscan University in Steubenville, Ohio; the Michigan Catholic Home Schooling Conference; Indiana Home Schooling Conference; Archdiocese of Detroit's PRISM Conferences (for Adult Singles), and Detroit's Blue Army. He has appeared on many local Catholic radio and television programs as well as many national venues, including *Catholic Answers Live*, *Search the Word*, and Marcus Grodi's *The Journey Home* on EWTN. Michuta has also developed curriculum and taught apologetics at the Eastern Church Re-Evangelization Center for Chaldean Catholics since 2003.

For more information, call (734) 261-1455, ext. 200 or visit www.livoniastmichael.org.

The series continues on the second Tuesday of each month through June and is open to all. The Feb. 12, topic focuses on the Pope and how to answer objections against the papacy from the Bible and Church history.

ing programs are offered for toddler, preschool, pre-K, and child care. Call (734) 513-8413.

Morning prayers
7:30 a.m. Tuesday-Friday, at New Beginnings United Methodist Church, 16175 Delaware, corner of Puritan, Redford. Please join in as participants start day with prayer. Call (313) 255-6330.

J.O.Y. meeting
The J.O.Y. Builders (Just Older Youth, ages 50 plus) meet 11:30 a.m. the third Thursday of the month for lunch, fellowship and fun, at Riverside Park Church of God, 11771 Newburgh at Plymouth roads, Livonia. Call (734) 464-0990. All are welcome to join in. There is no charge, although organizers ask that you bring a luncheon dish to share.

Higher Rock Cafe
Second and fourth Friday of the month, doors open at 7:30 p.m., live bands begin at 8 p.m. presented by Salvation Army of Wayne/Westland, 2300 S. Venoy, between Michigan Avenue and Palmer. For information, call (734) 722-3660 or visit www.tsa.higherrockcafe.4t.com.

Worship service
10 a.m. Sundays, at The Lutheran Church of Our Saviour, 29425

Annapolis, Westland. Sunday School for children. For information, call (734) 728-3440.

Sunday worship
10 a.m. at Lutheran Church of Our Saviour, 29425 Annapolis, Westland. For information, call (734) 728-3440.

Sunday services
Pastor Dan Strength leads services at Living Water Church (Pentecostal Church of God), 11663 Arcoia, one block west of Inkster Road on Plymouth Road. Sunday School is 10 a.m. followed by worship at 11 a.m. Bible study 7 p.m. Wednesdays. Call (734) 425-6360.

Farmington Women Aglow
Meets the second Monday of each month 7-9:30 p.m. at the Longacre House on Farmington road between 10 Mile and 11 Mile, Farmington Hills. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Call Vikki for more information at (248) 497-7755. A Christian women's group.

Worship services
Sunday worship services are at 8 a.m. (traditional) and 10:30 a.m. (contemporary), at Grace Lutheran Church, 46001 Warren, between Canton Center and Beck, Canton. For more information, call (734) 637-8160. Sunday school and Adult Bible Study at 9:15 a.m. Adult Bible Study series: Heaven Can't Wait.

Worship services
Praise and worship 10 a.m. Sunday, at Westwood Community Church, 6500 Wayne Road and Hunter, Westland. Contemporary music and casual dress. Children church and nursery. Call (734) 254-0093. Doughnuts and coffee served.

Celebrate Recovery
Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church in Northville launches Celebrate Recovery, a Christ-centered recovery program helping men and women find freedom from hurts, habits and hang-ups (addictive and compulsive behaviors), meets every Friday for 6 p.m. dinner (optional), 7 p.m. praise and worship, 8 p.m. small group discussion, 9 p.m. Solid Rock Cafe (optional coffee and desserts). Child care during Celebrate Recovery is free and available by calling (248) 374-7400. For information, visit www.celebraterecovery.com and www.ward-church.org/celebrate.

Sunday service
All are welcome to attend worship service at 10 a.m. Sunday in the sanctuary at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, 27475 Five Mile, one block west of Inkster, Livonia. For more information, call (734) 422-1470.

Worship service
At 10:30 a.m. Sundays at New Beginnings United Methodist Church, 16175 Delaware at Puritan, Redford. Congregation is hearing lessons from I Peter. Call (313) 255-6330.

Adult literacy classes
Adult and English as a Second Language literacy classes are available for those wishing to improve reading, writing and English conversational skills. Open to age 18 and over. Trained tutors available for day or evening. For information, call Merriman Road Baptist Church in Garden City at (734) 421-0472. Leave your name and phone number and someone will contact you.

Personal ministry
Due Season Christian Church is a non-denominational, multicultural, full gospel church that offers Sunday worship services at 10 a.m. and Tuesday night Bible study at 7:15 p.m. Services are currently held at Stevenson High School on Six Mile, west of Farmington Road, Livonia. All are welcome. For information, call (248) 960-8063 or visit www.DueSeason.org.

Scripture studies
From 7-8:30 p.m. Mondays in the lower level of Our Lady of Loretto Church, Six Mile and Beech Daly, Redford. Call (313) 534-9000.

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Sat. 11:00 a.m.

Sun. Masses 7:30 & 10:00 a.m.

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Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M.

CE0802144

EVANGELICAL COVENANT

FAITH COVENANT CHURCH

14 Mile Road and Drake, Farmington Hills

(248) 661-9191

Sunday Worship and Children's Church

9:15 A.M. Contemporary

11:00 A.M. Traditional

Child Care Provided At All Services

Youth Groups - Adult Small Groups

CE0802000

UNITED METHODIST

Clarenceville United Methodist

20300 Middlebelt Rd. • Livonia

248-474-3444

Pastor Beth Librande

Worship Service 9:30 AM

Sunday School 11:00 AM

Nursery Provided

CE0802000

Redford Aldersgate

2 blocks South of Plymouth

10000 Beech Daly

313-937-3170

9:30 - Trad. Worship & Sun. Sch.

11:00 - Contemp. Family Worship

www.redfordaldersgate.org

CE0802000

Cherry Hill United Methodist

321 S. Ridge Road

Canton, MI

734-495-0085

Rev. Merlin Pratt

Worship 10:30

Prayer Hour Thursday 7:30

www.cherryhillumc.org

CE0802112

LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church

14175 Farmington Road, Livonia Just north of I-96

734-522-6830

Sunday Worship

8:30 & 11:00 am - Traditional

Staffed Nursery Available

Making disciples who share the love of Jesus Christ

Pastors: Robert F. Bayer and Anthony M. Creedon

CE0802007

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD

25630 GRAND RIVER at BEECH DALY

313-532-2266 REDFORD TWP.

Worship Service

9:15 & 11:00 A.M.

Sunday School

9:15 & 11:00 A.M.

Nursery Provided

The Rev. Timothy R. Halboth, Senior Pastor

The Rev. Dr. Victor F. Halboth, Assistant Pastor

CE0802017

HOSANNA-TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

9800 Laverne • So. Redford • 313-937-2424

Pastor - Reverend Paul Undlin

Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m.

Wednesday Evening Service 7 p.m.

Education Hour 10:45 a.m.

Christian School

Pre-Kindergarten-8th Grade

For more information call

313-937-2233

CE0802075

Immanuel Lutheran Church

Pastor Milton Schemm

27035 Ann Arbor Trail, Dearborn Heights

(Just East of Inkster Road)

(313) 278-5755

Worship Service & Sunday School 10:30 a.m.

<http://ourchurch.com/member/immanuelchurch>

The Friendly Church on the Trail

CE0802000

CHURCHES OF THE NAZARENE

PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

48801 W. Ann Arbor Road • (734) 463-1525

Sunday School - 9:45 A.M.

Sunday Worship - 11:00 A.M.

Sunday Evening - 6:00 P.M.

Family Night - Wed. 7:00 P.M.

NEW HORIZONS FOR CHILDREN LEARNING CENTER

(734) 455-3198

CE0802000

St. Genevieve Roman Catholic Church

St. Genevieve School - PreK-8

29015 Jamison • Livonia • 734-427-5220

(East of Middlebelt, between 5 Mile & Jeffries)

MASS: Tues. 7 p, Wed., Thurs. 9 a, Sat. 4 p, Sun 11a

CE0802000

St. Maurice Roman Catholic Church

32785 Lyndon • Livonia • 734-522-1616

(between Meridian & Farmington Roads)

MASS: Mon. 8:30 a, Fri. 8:30 a, Sat. 6 p, Sun 9a

CE0802000

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

Timothy Lutheran Church

A Reconciling in Christ Congregation

8820 Wayne Rd.

(Between Ann Arbor Trail & Joy Road)

Livonia • 427-2290

Jill Heather, Pastor

10:00 a.m. Family Worship

(Nursery Available)

CE0802000

PRESBYTERIAN

Fellowship Presbyterian Church

Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. • Worship: 10:30 a.m.

Pastor: Dr. Jimmy McGuire

Services held at: Madonna University's Kresge Hall

36600 Schoolcraft Road • Livonia • Parking lot is on N.W. corner of Levan & Schoolcraft

Nursery provided • www.fellowship-pcsbtyerian.org

CE0802011

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CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

First Church of Christ, Scientist, Plymouth

1100 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth, MI

734-453-0970

Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.

Sunday School 10:30 a.m.

Wed. Evening Testimony Meeting 7:30 p.m.

Reading Room located at church

Saturday 12:00 p.m. 3:00 p.m.

734-453-0970

CE0802015

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(734) 422-0494

www.roseadlegardens.org

Chapel Worship Service

9:00 am

Traditional Service

10:30 am

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25360 West Six Mile Rd.

Redford (313) 534-7730

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Northville, MI

248-374-7400

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Contemporary Worship

9:30 A.M.

Nursery & Sunday School During the 9:30 & 11:00 Hours

Evening Service • 7:00 p.m.

Service Broadcast

11:00 A.M. Sunday WRDT-AM 560

The WUWZ Word Station

For additional information visit www.wardchurch.org

CE0802000

LUTHERAN CHURCH WISCONSIN SYNOD

St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church & School

17810 FARMINGTON ROAD

LIVONIA (734) 261-1360

WORSHIP SERVICES

SUNDAY: 8:30 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.


THURSDAY: 6:30 P.M.

website: www.stpaulslivonia.org

CE0802000

For Information regarding this Directory, please call Donna Hart at 734-582-8342 or e-mail: dhart@dnps.com

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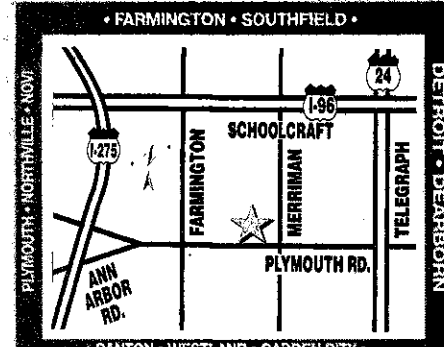


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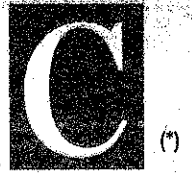
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Thursday, January 1, 2009

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

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

www.hometownlife.com

Real Estate

Flagstar Bank, Red Cross team up for Blanket Days

The American Red Cross - Southeastern Michigan Chapter is partnering with Flagstar Bank to collect new twin-size blankets and financial donations for the Blanket Days for the Homeless Campaign. Flagstar customers and the general public dropped off blankets and financial donations to five participating Oakland County branches through the end of December. The sites are in Troy and Rochester. Spokeswoman Heather Hall said collections can be taken to the five sites through the first week of January.

"We're seeing a nice collection of blankets, which is great, especially for as cold as it's been," she said. "We need it."

The five donation locations are:
■ Corporate Headquarters, 5151 Corporate Drive, Troy

■ 2897 W. Maple Road, Troy
■ 5017 Rochester Road, Troy
■ 1001 N. Main St., Rochester
■ 4542 Orion Road, Rochester

The Red Cross Blanket Days for the Homeless Campaign provides twin-size blankets to victims of disasters, such as home fires, and homeless shelters throughout Southeastern Michigan. In its 21st year, the Blanket Days campaign currently has 120 schools, places of worship, businesses and community groups participating through internal blanket drives, acting as community collection centers or collecting trial-size items for Red Cross "comfort kits."

"Not in generations has the need been so great to help people left homeless by emergencies in our communities," said Mark Hammond, CEO of Flagstar Bank. "We're pleased and proud to support the Red Cross in its Blanket Days campaign."

"We are thrilled to partner with Flagstar Bank during this year's Blanket Days campaign," said Jim Laverty, CEO of the Southeastern Michigan Chapter. "The Red Cross responds to hundreds of emergencies during the cold winter weather, when so many people have been left homeless. With the support of organizations like Flagstar Bank, we can help keep these people warm."

The 2007 campaign collected more than 6,500 blankets and raised almost \$25,000 in financial contributions, which support the Red Cross disaster relief program.



Lily Kubli, 8, of Clarkston makes a contribution to the cause.

The 2008 Red Cross Blanket Days campaign, with sponsorship and support from organizations including Quicken Loans, WJBK-FOX 2, 93.9 The River Radio, Humana and World Medical Relief, will help to give the gift of warmth to thousands of local residents this winter. To support this year's campaign, call (313) 833-2649 or visit www.semredcross.org.

The Southeastern Michigan Chapter of the American Red Cross is the organization that turns caring into action by providing disaster relief and helping people prevent, prepare for and respond to emergencies. It is volunteer-driven and reflects the diversity of Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties. As part of the international Red Cross network, the organization is dedicated to protecting human life and dignity worldwide. To learn more about the Red Cross and to make a financial donation, call (877) 788-0014 or log on to www.semredcross.org.



Shawn McAlinden of Livonia and Lou Bischoff of Livonia help unload blankets collected at Flagstar Bank branches during the Red Cross Blanket Days campaign.

Bargains take some hunting

Q: I am thinking about buying a condominium and/or a home in the Glen Arbor area and I am wondering whether the prices have receded given the economic conditions in Michigan.

A: Not really. If you want property on the lake, you would still be paying top dollar as most of the units facing the water are still going for a substantial multiple based upon square footage even though the number of homes and condos



Robert Meisner

listed for sale has increased. That is not to say that you cannot get a bargain relatively speaking if you are willing to find a property where there is some desire to liquidate on the part of the owner quickly. Your best advice is to retain a knowledgeable real estate expert who knows the vicinity.

Q: I am involved with a real estate buyer's agent who now tells me that she is also representing another buyer for the same property. Somehow I think there is something wrong with that. What is your view?

A: I believe that that may well be a conflict of interest and indeed in a similar case, the Montana Supreme Court concluded that the exemption from disclosure for an existing agency relationship referred to dual agency only and is not applicable to agents representing only the buyers in a transaction. To the extent that the state in which you are involved allows a buyer's agent to represent multiple competing buyers with the buyer's written consent that may be permissible. My best advice is to discuss this matter with a real estate attorney particularly if you have been damaged because of the buyers' agent's actions.

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

BRIEFS

Real Estate Agents, Appraising & Staging

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

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

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

HOMES SOLD

These are the Observer & Eccentric-area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Sept. 8-12, 2008, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office, plus some from Oakland County. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

Canton	
48628 Antique Rd	\$385,000
41576 Bedford Dr	\$53,000
4015 Berkeley Ave	\$100,000
50237 Black Horse Ln	\$165,000
7483 Claremont St	\$215,000
525 Constitution St	\$152,000
446 Country Club Ln	\$50,000
44973 Danbury Rd	\$235,000
44867 Fair Oaks Dr	\$199,000
40463 Glen Eagle Ln	\$144,000
39951 Hillary Dr	\$140,000
47753 Lindenhurst Blvd	\$298,000
4007 Norwich Dr	\$113,000
1811 Pinecroft Dr	\$143,000
2532 Premier Ln	\$76,000
40479 Ramblewood Ct	\$257,000
49250 Rockefeller Dr	\$282,000
41997 Saltz Rd	\$189,000
45760 Savannah Dr	\$241,000
3974 Strathmore Ln	\$170,000
600 Suttan Dr	\$192,000

47553 Ten Point Dr	\$305,000
48137 Wadebridge Dr	\$325,000
6082 Wedgewood Rd	\$185,000
47048 Woodlong Dr	\$310,000
Farmington	
23165 Farmington Rd	\$90,000
Farmington Hills	
36421 Quakertown Ln	\$225,000
21785 Ruth St	\$105,000
Garden City	
32931 Rosslyn Ave	\$116,000
Livonia	
29551 Bobrich St	\$43,000
29156 Broadmoor St	\$229,000
29163 Broadmoor St	\$145,000
12423 Cavell St	\$47,000
17191 Country Club Dr	\$175,000
17338 Doris St	\$153,000
18395 Gillman St	\$85,000
19545 Hardy St	\$156,000
15432 Huff St	\$140,000
37626 Kingsburn Dr	\$250,000
31548 Merriwood Park Dr	\$130,000
37620 Scone Ct	\$235,000
9418 Westwind Dr	\$140,000
18946 Woodring St	\$168,000
Milford	
921 Abbey Ln	\$193,000
3850 Foxthorn Ct	\$460,000

1108 Garden Rd	\$35,000
Northville	
18958 Bella Vista Ct	\$315,000
19612 Cardene Way	\$165,000
41131 Dunswood Ct	\$245,000
37473 E Meadowhill Dr	\$235,000
49060 Freestone Dr	\$380,000
42127 Gladwin St	\$83,000
16125 Jupiter Hills Dr	\$835,000
46619 Merion Cir	\$590,000
15881 Morningside	\$113,000
49904 Parkside Dr	\$378,000
46478 Pinehurst Cir	\$575,000
18062 Stonebrook Dr	\$470,000
45990 Tournament Dr	\$518,000
Novi	
45565 Bristol Cir	\$378,000
41199 Coventry Rd	\$450,000
23705 Dunston Rd	\$268,000
22126 Edgewater	\$135,000
23637 N Rockledge	\$62,000
24600 Olde Orchard St	\$109,000
30467 Pennington Ln	\$390,000
41583 Sleepy Hollow Dr	\$97,000
27062 Victoria Rd	\$297,000
23103 W Le Bost	\$160,000
24024 Westmont Dr	\$405,000
Plymouth	
13360 Andover Dr	\$280,000

9073 Baywood Dr	\$180,000
40515 Brecken Ridge Ln	\$175,000
46965 Burning Tree Ln	\$280,000
13821 Fawn Woods Ct	\$409,000
13270 Graefield Cir	\$292,000
40717 Newport Dr	\$108,000
14727 Village Ct	\$300,000
561 Virginia St	\$192,000
Redford	
9910 Brady	\$100,000
20408 Delaware Ave	\$82,000
20461 Kinloch	\$68,000
11357 Lenore	\$30,000
15531 Macarthur	\$95,000
South Lyon	
499 Cambridge Ave	\$146,000
1137 Equestrian Dr	\$275,000
61133 Greenwood Dr	\$75,000
130 Singh Blvd	\$372,000
Westland	
6870 Central City Pkwy	\$125,000
31753 Fairchild St	\$77,000
33748 Fernwood St	\$113,000
6295 Ferraina Dr	\$170,000
2082 Minerva St	\$130,000
37145 Riviera Dr	\$207,000
8606 Shari Dr	\$144,000
1568 Zorn St	\$100,000



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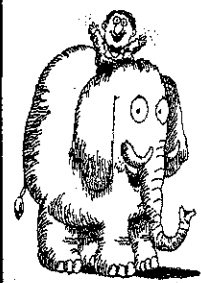
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Hours..... 8:30 - 5:00 Monday - Friday

POLICY
All advertising published in the Observer and Eccentric Newspapers is subject to the conditions stated in the applicable rate card. (Copies are available from the advertising department, Observer and Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150 (734) 591-0500. The Observer and Eccentric Newspapers reserves the right not to accept an advertiser's order. Observer and Eccentric Newspaper sales representatives have no authority to bind this newspaper and only publication of an advertisement shall constitute final acceptance of the advertiser's order. When more than one insertion of the same advertisement is ordered, no credit will be given unless notice of typographical or other errors are given in time for correction before the second insertion. Not responsible for omissions. Publisher's Notice: All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 which states that it is illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination". This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal housing opportunity basis. (FR Doc. 724983 3-31-72) Classified ads may be placed according to the deadlines. Advertisers are responsible for reading their ad(s) the first time it appears and reporting any errors immediately. The Observer and Eccentric Newspapers will not issue credit for errors in ads after THE FIRST INCORRECT INSERTION. Equal Housing Opportunity Statement: We are pledged to the letter and spirit of U.S. policy for the achievement of equal housing opportunity throughout the nation. We encourage and support an affirmative advertising and marketing program in which there are no barriers to obtaining housing because of race, color, religion or national origin. Equal Housing Opportunity slogan: "Equal Housing Opportunity". Table III - Illustration of Publisher's Notice.

It's
all
about
results!



...and it's
all here!

Observer & Eccentric
CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING
1-800-579-SELL
(7355)

FAX YOUR AD
734-953-2232
INTERNET ADDRESS
www.hometownlife.com



SHARP 2 BDRM COLONIAL.
2 full baths, all appliances, 1 car, fenced yard, \$114,900. D&H Properties 248-886-9133

Garden City 3170

REAL ESTATE & CONTENTS AUCTION
Sun. Jan. 19 at 2 p.m.
6409 Whitby. Beautiful 3 bdrm Ranch on Double Lot. Name Your Price! Auctioneers.com (248) 473-1547 Preview: Tues. Jan. 13 from 6-7:30.

hometownlife.com

Real Estate Services 3640

GET MORTGAGE HELP NOW!!
• Loan Modification
• Foreclosure Prevention
• Short Sales
• Repayment Plan
Call for FREE Consultation 313-406-8271

For the best auto classifications check out the Observer & Eccentric Newspaper. It's all about RESULTS!

Manufactured Homes 3740

Florida Homes/Properties 3885

LAKE MARY/ORLANDO
Gorgeous 3 bdrm 2 bath townhome. New floors, kitchen and baths. \$180,000. Call Jean, Exit Real Estate Results 407-701-2449.

"It's All About Results"
Observer & Eccentric
1-800-579-SELL

LOOKING FOR SOME ROOM TO RUN?

Check out the Real Estate Listings in your Observer & Eccentric Classifieds!

Call 1-800-579-7355 To place your ad.

THE OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MORTGAGE MONITOR						
		30 Yr.	Pts.	15 Yr.	Pts.	Other
1st Choice Mortgage Lending	(734) 466-0782	4.875	0	4.75	0	J/A
Ameriplus Mortgage Corp.	(248) 740-2323	5	0.25	4.875	0.25	J/A
BRINKS Financial	(800) 735-4755	4.5	1	4.375	1	J/A/V/F
Central States Mortgage	(866) 580-3738	4.875	0	4.75	0	J/A/V/F
Client Services by Golden Rule	(800) 991-9922	4.5	0.875	4.375	0.875	J/A/V/F
Co-op Services Credit Union	(734) 466-6113	5	0	4.75	0	J
Comerstone Community Financial	(800) 727-6725	5.625	1	4.8	1	J/A/V
Countrywide Home Loans	(800) 641-2384	4.75	1.875	4.875	1.125	J/A/V/F
Dearborn Federal Savings Bank	(313) 565-3100	5.25	0	5.125	0	A
DFCU Financial	(800) 739-2770	4.5	2.25	4.25	2.25	J/A
First Third Bank	(800) 732-8630	5.125	0.125	4.875	0.125	J/V/F
Gold Star Mortgage	(800) 784-1074	4.625	0.375	4.5	0.375	J/A/V/F
Golden Rule Mortgage	(800) 991-9922	4.625	0.375	4.5	0.375	J/A/V/F
Group One Mortgage	(248) 282-1602	5.25	0	5.25	0	J/A/V/F
Mortgages by Golden Rule	(800) 991-9922	5	0	4.75	0.25	J/A/V/F
Michigan United Mortgage	(810) 844-2222	4.625	0.375	4.5	0.375	J/A
National City Bank	(866) 825-0825	4.625	2.125	4.35	1.75	J/A
Northlawn Financial	(248) 988-8488	4.875	0	4.75	0	J/A/V/F
State Mortgage	(866) 878-6863	4.625	2	4.5	2	J/A/V/F

Above Information available as of 12/24/08 and subject to change at anytime. Rates are based on a \$200,000 loan with 20% down & credit score of 740 or above. Jumbo rates, specific payment calculations & most current rates available Fridays after 2:00 P.M. at www.rmcreport.com. Key to "Other" Column - J = Jumbo, A = Arm, V = VA, F = FHA & NR = Not Reported. All Lenders are Equal Opportunity Lenders.

Lenders to participate call (734) 922-3032 / © 2009 Residential Mortgage Consultants, Inc., All Rights Reserved

Home and Service Guide



Brick, Block & Cement 0290

ALL BLOCK, BRICK WORK
Concrete Foundations
Res. & Comm. Lic. & Ins.
Call Anytime, 248-478-2602

hometownlife.com

Handyman M/F 1020

SMALL OR LARGE JOBS
Quick Response Time
Free Estimates
Tim Shelton: 248-721-5094

Hauling/Clean Up 1030

A-1 HAULING
Move scrap metal, clean base-
ments, garages, stores, etc.
Lowest prices in town. Quick
service. Free est. Wayne/
Oakland. Central location.
248-547-2764, 248-559-8138

Clean-up/Hauling Service
Cheapest Prices! Garages,
bsmts, attics, free estimates
248-489-5955, 248-521-8818
www.lacourservices.com

Landscaping 1210

COMPLETE LANDSCAPING
BY LACOURS SERVICES
Spring clean-ups, landscaping,
grading, sodding, hydro-
seeding, all types retaining
walls, brick walks & patios.
Drainage & lawn irrigation
systems. Low foundations
built up. Weekly lawn main-
tenance. Haul away unwanted
items. Comm. Res. 35 years
exp. Lic & Ins. Free Est.
www.lacourservices.com
248-489-5955, 248-521-8818

Painting/Decorating
Paperhangers 1420

PAINTING BY MICHAEL
• HIGHEST QUALITY
Interior
• Staining • Textured Ceilings
• Faux Finish • Plaster/Drywall
Repair • Wallpaper Removal
• Senior Rates • Holiday Rates
• Free Est. • 248-349-7499
734-464-8147

Roofing 1640

APEX ROOFING
Quality work completed with
pride. Family owned, Lic. Ins.
For honesty & integrity:
248-476-6984; 248-855-7223

Call to place your ad at
1-800-579-SELL (7355)

Roofing 1640

LEAK SPECIALIST Flashings,
Valleys, Chimneys, etc. Warr.
Member BBB. 30 yrs. exp.
Lic / Ins. Call: (248) 827-3233

Roof & Gutter Repair
Gutters cleared. 25 year pro.
Fully Insured. Livonia Roofing:
(734) 637-6828

Local Events
Online
hometownlife.com

COMMUNITY
CALENDAR

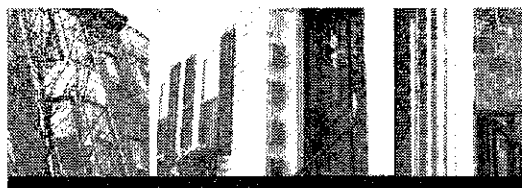
did you miss your daughter's soccer game because of the long commute from work?

find a job close to home in

THE
Observer & Eccentric
NEWSPAPERS

800-579-7355
hometownlife.com

If you're looking for a job, you're in the right neighborhood



Apartments

Observer & Eccentric
HOMETOWNlife.com



NOVI

FREE FLAT SCREEN TV
Newly updated 1 & 2 bdrm
apts. New berber carpet, new
cherry flooring, full size wash-
er/dryers, central air.
EHO

TREE TOP MEADOWS
10 Mile, W. of Meadowbrook
248-348-9590
www.BGcommunities.com

NOVI-MAIN STREET AREA.
1 & 2 Bdrm Apts. Washer/
Dryer. Private Entrance &
Balcony. 248-348-0626 EHO

PLYMOUTH - Prime location.
1 bdrm avail, 5580 plus secu-
rity. Near downtown. Incl.
heat. No dogs. 734-455-2635

PLYMOUTH. Lg 1 bdrm, newly
remodeled, \$595. Incl. heat &
water. Mo to mo lease. 734-
641-7751, LYNX C.I.R. Inc.

SOUTHFIELD Senior apts. for
55+ over 1 & 2 bdrms, heat
& water incl. 1 month free
rent. \$99 sec. dep. Activities.
Quiet area. 248-423-3690

WESTLAND
1 bdrm w/appliances.
\$475/mo.
248-892-0262

WESTLAND
2 bdrm, 1.5 bath, close to
schools. \$600/month.
248-892-0262

Westland-LIVONIA SCHOOLS
1 & 2 bdrm, 2 baths.
Washer & dryer.
Private entrance & balcony
(734) 459-1711 EHO

Apartments/
Unfurnished 4000

BIRMINGHAM-DOWNTOWN.
1 brm apt. cozy, very clean, lg
closets, new bath, 825 sq. ft.
\$750/mo. (313) 805-7940

FARMINGTON HILLS
FREEDOM VILLAGE APTS.
1 Bdrm, 1 Month Free
Luxury 1 & 2 bdrm. Laundry
in unit. Water incl., no pets.
\$575-700/mo. 586-254-9511

GARDEN CITY - Spacious up-
dated 1 bdrm, air, deck, stor-
age room, laundry. FREE heat
& water. \$805. 248-346-6108

LIVONIA
Mid 5/bedroom. 1 & 2 bdrm
w/laundry room in unit. 50%
off rent 1st 2 months with
approved credit. \$640/mo.
248-521-1978

LIVONIA Spacious 1 bdrm,
great location, across from
Livonia rec. center. \$675/mo.
+ util. 248-255-2412

CLASSIFIED WORK!
1-800-579-7355

Condos/Townhouses 4020

BIRMINGHAM - DOWNTOWN
2 bdrm townhouse, 1.5 bath,
hardwood floors, a/c, bsmt,
washer/dryer. No pets, non-
smoking. \$1100/mo.
248-901-0425

CANTON, Haggerty/Palmer Rd
area. 1 bdrm, 1 bath, 800 sq.
ft. condo. All appliances incl
washer & dryer, doorwalk to
private patio. Window treat-
ments & vertical blinds, \$525.
248-425-4853. See pics:
www.bekamanagement.com

LYON TWP
\$499* per mo.
2 Bedroom, 1.5 baths,
immediate occupancy.
Call 248-290-5300 ext 306
*First 3 months.

SOUTHFIELD 1250 sq. ft., 2
bdrm, full bsmt, 12 Mile &
Telegraph. \$699/mo. 734-
968-8275, 734-722-6646

SOUTHFIELD All new! 2 bdrm,
2 bath ranch condo. Carport,
c/a, appliances, pool, 1300 sq.
ft. \$1099/mo. 248-346-6108.

WESTLAND CONDO
1 bdrm loft, washer/dryer in
unit, \$650/mo. + dep. Incl
heat & water. (734) 658-9267

LIVONIA - 2 bdrm,
fireplace, all appli-
ances, bsmt, fenced
yard. \$775/mo.
231-392-6373

LIVONIA 2 bdrm, w/bsmt. 1
car garage, fenced yard, appli-
ances, no pets, non-smoker.
\$800 + sec. 889-635-7250

Call to place your ad at
1-800-579-SELL (7355)

Duplexes 4030

WESTLAND DUPLEXES 2 & 3
bdrm, exc. cond. Appliances
incl, section 8 welcome. (734)
502-5960

Homes For Rent 4050

BIRMINGHAM 2 bdrm, 1 bath,
garage. Avail. now. \$925/mo +
utilities. Call: 248-417-3544

CANTON 41004 Westfield
Circle. 2000 sq. ft., 4 bdrm, 2
1/2 bath, 2 car attached
garage, family rm & fireplace.
Avail. now! \$1495/mo.
Showing Wed. & Sun. at 4pm.
734-444-5212, 313-920-5966

CANTON 4566 Augusta.
Executive home, 2700 sq. ft.,
located across from golf
course, 4 bdrm, 3 1/2 bath,
family room w/fireplace,
bsmt, 3 1/2 car attached
garage. \$2395/mo. Wed. 5:30
pm & Sunday 3:30 pm. Call
Paula 734-444-5212

CANTON Remodeled 1100 sq
ft., 2 bdrm burgatow. Water,
all appliances & outside main-
ten. \$795/mo. 734-776-2222

CLAWSON - Sharp 2 bdrm
colonial, 2 full baths, all appli-
ances, 1 car, fenced yard.
\$850/mo. D&H Properties:
(248) 888-9133

FARMINGTON HILLS - 21603
Roosevelt Ave. 2 bdrm, new
carpet, avail now, 1st & last
mo rent, \$750. 248-684-1713

FERNDALE Bungalow, 9 Mile
& Pinehurst, 1500 sq. ft., 3
bdrm, 2 bath, \$799/mo. 734-
968-6275, 734-722-6646

FERNDALE Large 4 bdrm, all
hardwood floors, 2 car garage,
large bsmt. \$1100/mo. +
deposit. 734-968-9253

GARDEN CITY - 3 bdrm, brick
ranch, bsmt, garage, \$900. 2
bdrm ranch, garage, \$700
opt. Call: (248) 788-1823

Homes For Rent 4050

DETROIT
Telegraph & Plymouth. 2-3
bdrm, 1.5 bath, a/c, finished
bsmt, all appliances, 2 car,
fenced, \$895 + sec. + uti-
ties. 313-929-8595

Pictures Can Make A Difference!

1-800-579-SELL (7355)
Observer & Eccentric

FARMINGTON HILLS - 21603
Roosevelt Ave. 2 bdrm, new
carpet, avail now, 1st & last
mo rent, \$750. 248-684-1713

FERNDALE Bungalow, 9 Mile
& Pinehurst, 1500 sq. ft., 3
bdrm, 2 bath, \$799/mo. 734-
968-6275, 734-722-6646

FERNDALE Large 4 bdrm, all
hardwood floors, 2 car garage,
large bsmt. \$1100/mo. +
deposit. 734-968-9253

GARDEN CITY - 3 bdrm, brick
ranch, bsmt, garage, \$900. 2
bdrm ranch, garage, \$700
opt. Call: (248) 788-1823

Homes For Rent 4050

Manufactured HOMES FOR RENT
Located In Canton
Starting at \$699/mo

Sharp 3 Bedroom,
2 Bath homes from
924 sq. ft.
Appliances included.
Pets welcome.

Call Lauren at
Sun Homes
888-264-5842
www.academywestpoint.com

INKSTER - Sharp 3 bdrm brick
ranch, bsmt, 2 car garage,
dining room, option, bad cred-
it okay, \$650. (248) 788-1823

LIMITED TIME OFFER

FREE HOMES Security Deposit
equal to one month's rent

Contact Lauren
or Jamie at
Academy West Point
888-268-7434

Call to place your ad at
1-800-579-SELL (7355)

Homes For Rent 4050

LIVONIA
Beautiful 3 bdrm,
1500 sq ft. Ranch
w/master bdrm
suite. \$1395
www.birdsallproperties.com
248-943-2963

LIVONIA - 2 bdrm, appli-
ances, fireplace, garage, large
yard, no pets, \$850/mo + sec.
Call: 734-425-7355

LIVONIA - Sharp 3 bdrm
ranch, garage, finished bsmt,
option, bad credit okay, \$950.
Call: (248) 788-1823

LIVONIA
2700sq.ft. 1+ acre, 3 bdrm,
3 baths, 3 fireplaces, attach
gar. Avail. Dec 1.
\$1300/mo. 248-486-4157

PLYMOUTH Spacious 2 bdrm
w/bsmt, new kitchen. 233 W
Spring \$795. 734-674-3193

REDFORD - Remodeled 3
bdrm, finished bsmt, garage,
option, bad credit okay, \$800.
Call: (248) 788-1823

Homes For Rent 4050

REDFORD 3 bdrm, grey brick,
spacious ranch. Clean, attrac-
tive, garage, fenced, appli-
ances, nice area. \$750/mo.
313-535-1183

REDFORD SOUTH Elegant 3
bdrm brick, updated kitchen &
bath. \$995 + sec. Option avail.
866-250-2497 ext. 4005.

WAYNE - 3 bdrm ranch, new
vinyl windows & furnace, 2 car
garage, option/LC avail., bad
credit ok, \$800. 248-788-1823

Find the best
garage sales in
O&E Classifieds!

"It's All About Results!"

WESTLAND 2 bdrm duplex,
no pets, no. \$350/mo. 8
Mile & Meridian area.
(248) 477-2080

Mobile Home Rentals 4070

FARMINGTON HILLS
MOBILE MANOR
1-2-3 Bedrooms, appliances,
no pets, from \$350/mo. 8
Mile & Meridian area.
(248) 477-2080

Rooms For Rent 4140

QUALITY SUITES
Low weekly rates
Livonia
734-261-6800

WESTLAND Clean, furnished,
\$318/mo. Female, non-smok-
ing preferred. 734-26



Market Place

Observer & Eccentric

HOMETOWNlife.com

6000-8980
Announcements
LOOK HERE

Personals 6000
PRAYER Pray 9 hail Marys for 9 days. On the 9th day make 3 wishes & publish this prayer. Your wishes will be granted!

7000-7180
Merchandise
LOOK HERE

Antiques/Collectibles 7020
RECORD SHOW Jan. 4th, 10-4. \$Cash. Prizes: LPs, 45s, CDs, VFW, 25671 Gratia (N of 10), Roseville. 585-759-5133

Garage Sales 7110
PLYMOUTH ~ 10457 N. Territorial, N. side, btwn. Gottfredson & N. Napier. 22' Firewood; 1' Hemp Rope; 1/4", 3/8" Cable; 1/4", 3/8", 1/2" Chain; Tools; 9'x9' Tent; 4'x4' New Plate Glass; New 36x80 Storm Door w/screen, more! 1/1/09 thru 1/7/09, 9am-dark.

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

Clothing 7140
BELO DESIGNER HAND-BAGS & ACCESSORIES
BELO NOV! Available for personal consultation, home shows, or trade shows. Very Cool -- Very Fun -- Very Unique!!! WWW.BELO.COM 248-347-3369

CLASSIFIEDS WORK!
1-800-579-7355

Household Goods 7160
CONTEMPORARY W/ STYLE: Art, custom office furniture, Gorman's custom king head board & matching bench, bed spread & matching pillows, nightstands, buffet, sofa, lg end tables, trees, patio set, much more, 2006 silver Nissan Maxima, 6800 miles, loaded. Call: (248) 408-5087

MATTRESS - \$150
New queen pillow-top mattress, can deliver. 734-444-7277

Miscellaneous For Sale 7500
JUKEBOX
1988, 495 Rockola. 200 play, restored near mint. \$600 or best offer. 734-788-1626

Dogs 7840
Miniature Pinschers-AKC 9 wks. old, female & male, Black/ Tan, Chocolate/Tan, adorable. \$300-\$400. 313-295-3921, 313-802-2240
Call to place your ad at 1-800-579-SELL (7355)

Horses & Equipment 7860
HORSE STALL MATS 670 mats, 2X2 interlocking. \$8/each. 248-486-1449

Observer & Eccentric
Making Life ALOT EASIER!
hometownlife.com

1-800-579-SELL
A E F U L L O M P
A E F U L L O M P
A E F U I J K
A E F U I J K O A
The Observer & Eccentric Classifieds

careerbuilder.com™

5000-5980
Employment
LOOK HERE

ACCOUNTING;
Bookkeeper
BBA, MBA or CPA
Full Time w/benefits.
Hartland & NW Detroit
Fax to: (313) 535-4403 or
Email: HVAC@MECC1.com

Call to place your ad at
1-800-579-SELL (7355)

APPOINTMENT SETTER
Ideal for anyone who can't get out to work. Work from home PT, schedule pickups for Purple Heart. Call 9-5, M-F. 734-728-4572

Automotive Mechanic
Exp'd. & Certified only. Paid by flat rate hour. Apply in person: Novi Motive Inc., 21530 Novi Rd., btwn 8 & 9 Mile Rds. 248-349-0290

BOWLING CENTER now hiring afternoon Shift Manager. Full or Part-Time. Please apply in person: Ford Lanes, 23100 Van Born, Dearborn Heights.

GYMNASTIC INSTRUCTORS
Needed to help with after-school programs Mon-Thurs. Experienced only. Call 734-560-7943 or email jump-a-rama@sbcglobal.net

JOE'S PRODUCE/GOURMET MARKET is currently taking applications for Grocery/Stock Receiver. Please apply in person at: 33152 W. 7 Mile Rd., Livonia

Help Wanted-General 5000
Laid off or retired? Need extra money? Part time or full time 1-4 days/week. Basic hours 9-5pm. Must have transportation. 7 Mile & Farmington. Job consists of handing out flyers to business/s/no selling. A LOT OF WALKING REQUIRED. Call 248-474-4740 leave name & telephone number.

TAX PREPARER
Livonia CPA office looking for Seasonal 1040 Tax Preparer. Minimum 3 days/wk. Exp. preferred. Email resume: cnd@cndcpa.com or fax: 734-522-0508

Trailer Mechanic
Chief's trucking in Romulus. Full time work with benefits. Please call Todd 313-295-2150

Help Wanted-Office Clerical 5020

LEGAL SECRETARY /ASSISTANT
Exp. in Family Law & time slips preferred. Flexible hours. Bloomfield Hills, sole practitioner. Email resume to: mrobbinslaw@aol.com

DREAM Home? SHOPPING
VIEW 30,000 Additional Homes ONLINE
www.hometownlife.com

Help Wanted-Medical 5080
CUSTOMER SERVICE FULL-TIME

Lincare the national leader in respiratory services and equipment is conducting interviews for a Customer Service Representative. Responsibilities include: maintaining patient info, verifying insurance coverage, and processing paperwork while taking orders from a referral sources and patients. Applicants must have general office skills such as PC skills, data entry, filing and proven human relations skills. Lincare provides competitive wages, benefits and the best potential in the industry of advancement.

Lincare
16725 Middlebelt Rd.
Livonia MI 48154
Attn: Sean
Phone: 734-524-0682
Fax: 734-524-0718
EOE

Medical Assistant
w/exp. 32 hrs/wk. Internal Medicine Practice, Livonia. Fax resume: 734-464-9797

Nurse Practitioner 32 hrs/wk. Primary Care. Internal Medicine Practice, Livonia. Fax resume: 734-464-9797

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

PHLEBOTOMY EDUCATION
Saturday accelerated classes beginning in January, 10-4pm. Garden City; \$900 (313) 382-3857

Help Wanted-Food/Beverage 5080
JOE'S PRODUCE/GOURMET MARKET is currently taking applications for experienced Deli Counter Persons. Please apply in person at: 33152 W. 7 Mile Rd., Livonia

Help Wanted-Domestic 5240
Residential Housekeeper M/F
Gardner/Handyman, Cook
3 positions. Exp. refs. Non-smoking. 800-438-2193

Position Wanted 5340
"Caregiver Maid in Heaven" Certified Geriatric Nurse. Avail. for weekdays. Exc. references. (734) 844-8828

Business Opportunities 5740
\$50,000 year + income
Part time commitment, self-motivated, credible personality, must call this week 248-921-7778

For The Most Complete Rental Listing In the Detroit Area...Look NO Further!

Did you hear...?

My mom just got a new car and it's bigger than my dad's! She found it in the classifieds!

Buying or selling, Classifieds is the place to look.

Call Today: 1-800-579-7355

Here's My CARD

VERDE Insurance Agency
Tommi Haden
Financial Advisor
Verde Insurance Agency
215 E. Big Beaver Rd.
Troy, Michigan 48063
P: 248.528.1889

Because you never know what the future will bring, it's crucial that you are prepared. Protect your financial security and the security of your loved ones with life insurance, disability insurance and long-term care insurance.

Call today for personalized planning with an advisor. Verde advisors are licensed through the state of Michigan for Life, Health, Disability and Long Term Care Insurance.

Angela Hospice
Learn more about our caring programs, volunteer, and employment opportunities:
734-464-7810
www.angelahospice.org
14100 Newburgh Road - Livonia, MI 48154

SWITCH TO LaRICHE
FAMILY SPECIAL!
2008 TRAILBLAZER
Automatic, Locking Differential, OnStar, XM Radio, CD, much more Stock # 874467
LIST MSRP \$29,708 WAS \$28,976
\$17,973
GMS

REBATES UP TO \$9,000

\$0 DOWN*

OPEN SATURDAY 1-3-09 10am - 3pm

2009 COBALT	2009 MALIBU	2009 IMPALA	2009 TRAVERSE
Protection Package, Onstar, Air, Power Steering, More. WAS \$15,925	Power Windows, Power Locks, Tilt, Cruise, OnStar, Auto Overdrive, Much More.	Auto V6, Power Windows, Power Locks, Tilt, Cruise, Power Seat, Onstar, Much More.	6 Speed, Auto Transmission, Onstar, 3.6 V6, Power Windows, Power Locks, Tilt, Cruise, Stereo CD. WAS \$29,065
Stock # 6160	Stock # 6267	Stock # 6141	Stock # 2060
EVERYONE BUY \$11,418* LEASE \$179** 36 Mo. Lease 36,000 Miles \$179 Total Due	GM EMPLOYEES & FAMILY EVERYONE BUY \$15,652* BUY \$16,575* LEASE \$224** 36 Mo. Lease LEASE \$239** 36 Mo. Lease 36,000 Miles \$224 Total Due 36,000 Miles \$239 Total Due	GM EMPLOYEES & FAMILY EVERYONE BUY \$14,336* BUY \$15,323* LEASE \$229** 36 Mo. Lease LEASE \$249** 36 Mo. Lease 36,000 Miles \$229 Total Due 36,000 Miles \$249 Total Due	GM EMPLOYEES & FAMILY EVERYONE BUY \$20,765* BUY \$21,952* LEASE \$309** 36 Mo. Lease LEASE \$345** 36 Mo. Lease 36,000 Miles \$309 Total Due 36,000 Miles \$345 Total Due

LEASE PULL AHEAD WILL WAIVE UP TO 2 OF YOUR REMAINING PAYMENTS

AN AMERICAN REVOLUTION
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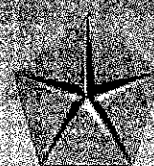
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Wonderfully wicked musical aims to win over fans for Team Green.
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The Detroit Film Theater to launch new schedule



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get out
wine - D4

D

Thursday, January 1, 2009

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

Events to help kick off new year

BY LANA MINI
O&E STAFF WRITER

Happy New Year!
We don't want to discuss the economy or the cold. We want to talk about fun.
This is the *Filter* section and we're here to entertain you. With that, here's a variety of events happening soon. There's no excuse to be bored...

THE 15TH ANNUAL ANTI-FREEZE BLUES FESTIVAL

The Magic Bag in Ferndale kicks off '09 with the 15th annual Anti-Freeze Blues Festival.

The festival, always held the first weekend in January, features top national and local blues bands.

It's a yearly fund-raising event for the Detroit Blues Society, a nonprofit group that keeps blues history alive by presenting events throughout metro-Detroit.

Performing at 7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 2, is Siegel-Schwall Band with special guests Jeff Grand/Jim McCarty/Bobby East; Cee Cee Collins with RJ & The Rhythm Rockers, Mike May & The Messarounds and Count Bracey & The Pleasuretones. Tickets are \$25.

At 7 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 3, is John Hammond with special guests The Thornetta Davis Band, Johnnie Bassett, The Rumpshakers and John Latini. Tickets are \$25. Located at 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale, (248) 544-1991, www.themagicbag.com

15 ARTISTS, 30 DAYS, 15 INNOVATIVE SHOPPING BAGS

A-ShirtBag, an environmentally conscious Detroit-based organization, is hosting a silent auction at the Inn Season Cafe in Royal Oak during the month of January.

The event will feature 15 one-of-a-kind shopping bags made entirely from recycled material by designers from metro Detroit and around the world.

The auction will benefit the organization's education program, 7 Things You Can Do in 7 Days To Save Our Environment. The program teaches young children in Detroit elementary schools the importance of eco-friendly behavior.

The bags will be on display all month at Inn Season, 500 E. Fourth, in Royal Oak, and the silent auction is 7-9 p.m. Sunday Jan. 25. Visit www.ashirtbag.org



The Russian Classical Ballet and its production of, *Don Quixote*, at 8 p.m. is Saturday, Jan. 10.

RUSSIAN CLASSICAL BALLET THEATRE

Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts proudly presents, the Russian Classical Ballet and its production of, *Don Quixote*, at 8 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 10.

Artistic Director Elena Radchenko brings the full-length ballet in three acts with music by Leon Minkus, choreography by Marius Petipa, sets by Lev Solodovnikov, costumes by Lev Solodovnikov and lights by Marina Borodina.

Don Quixote is the vibrant re-telling of the legendary Cervantes novel — the chivalrous dreamer and man out of time, who dreams of a nobler time along with his "squire" Sancho Panza.

The celebrated Russian Classical Ballet Theatre was founded in Moscow during the transitional period of Perestroika in the late 1980s, when many of the great dancers and choreographers of the Soviet Union's ballet institutions were exercising their newfound creative freedom by starting new companies.

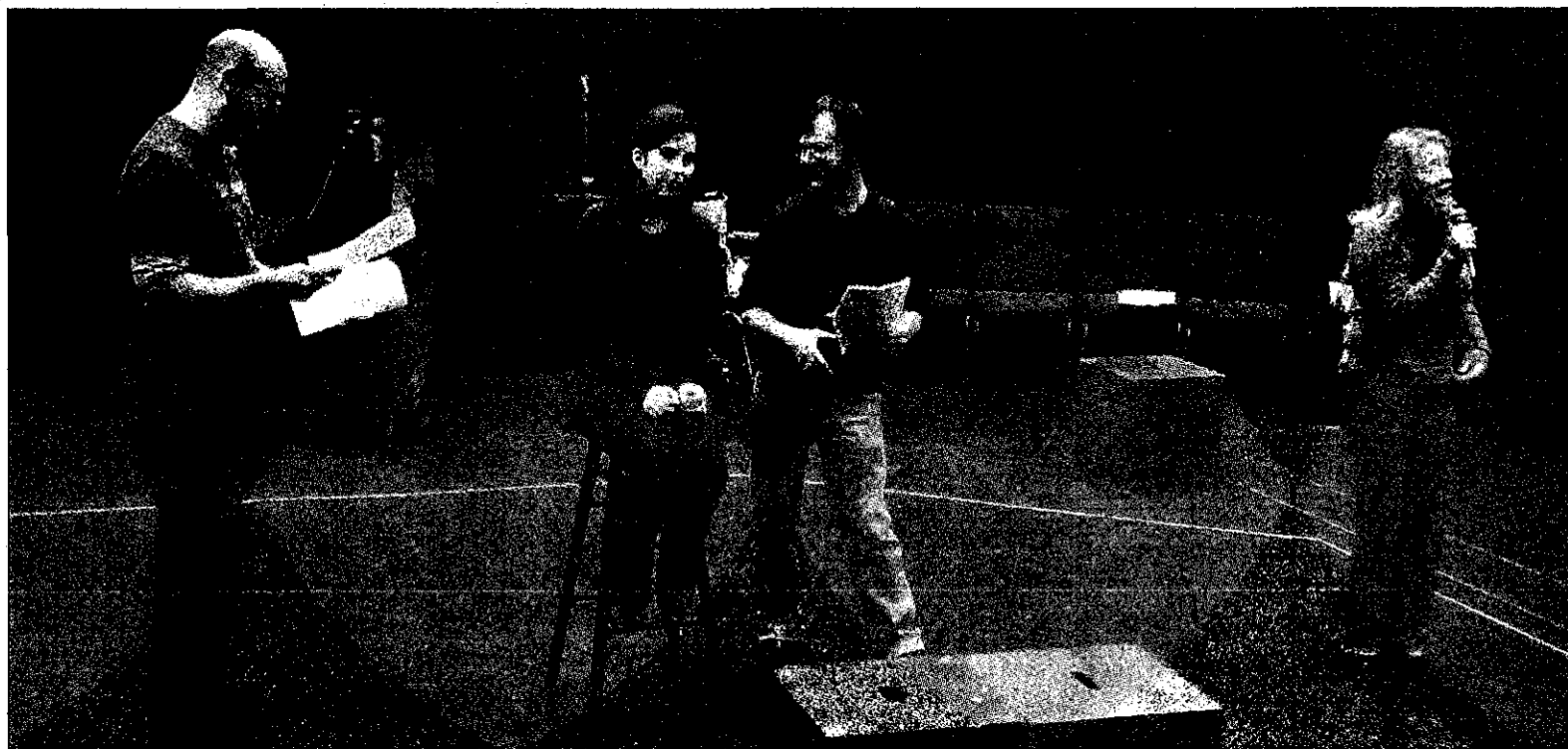
Tickets are \$30 to \$50 and available at the Music Hall Box Office, 350 Madison Ave., Detroit, or at Ticketmaster.com.

DANCE, DANCE, DANCE

Eisenhower Dance Ensemble, Michigan's amazing contemporary dance company, will present a program of fresh, energetic new choreography for its seventh annual NewDANCEfest repertory performance.

The concert is at the Troy Performing Arts Center at 7 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 17. NewDANCEfest VII will feature the choreography of three emerging artists selected through EDE's first-ever choreography com-

Please see **EVENTS, D2**



PHOTOS BY JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Seth Amadei (from left), Andrea Mellos, Chris Korte and Kimberly Vanbiesbrouck rehearse at Oakland University's Varner Hall for "Beyond the Rainbow," coming to Meadow Brook Theater this month.

'Beyond the Rainbow'

Meadow Brook Theatre launches promising 2009 musical opener

BEYOND THE RAINBOW

What: The Michigan premiere of this musical that traces Judy Garland's Carnegie Hall performance back to moments in her life, when she was known as Frances Ethel Gumm

When: Showtimes run Jan. 7 to Feb. 1

Where: Meadow Brook Theatre, on the campus of Oakland University, Squirrel and Walton roads in Rochester Hills

Tickets: \$24-\$39, visit www.mbttheatre.com or www.ticketmaster.com



Andrea Mellos of Livonia shows the transition from Frances Ethel Gumm into Judy Garland in the musical "Beyond the Rainbow" by William Randall Beard and directed by Travis Walter at Meadow Brook Theatre.



Kimberly Vanbiesbrouck portrays Judy Garland in "Beyond the Rainbow" at Meadow Brook Theatre.



Livonia's Andrea Mellos portrays a young Judy Garland in "Beyond the Rainbow" opening at Meadow Brook Theatre.

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA
O&E STAFF WRITER

Meadow Brook Theatre in Rochester Hills is about to undergo a spectacular transformation to showcase a likeness of New York's Carnegie Hall, circa 1961. Not a permanent upgrade, rather, it's all part of the 2009 opening musical, *Beyond the Rainbow*, which chronicles the life of one of the greatest American performers, Judy Garland.

The show, written by William Randall Beard, premiered at Minneapolis' History Theater. It follows one Frances Ethel Gumm from her early years through a lifetime in show business, punctuated by beloved songs like *When You're Smiling*, *The Trolley Song*, *Over the Rainbow*, *Stormy Weather*, *For Me and My Gal* and many others.

Garland is portrayed by two actresses in this production. Livonia's own Andrea Mellos has been cast to play the superstar from the tender age of four through her late 30s. She ages quickly, added Mellos. By Act II she's in her 20s. "She has such a distinct voice when she was young and a distinct voice when she was older. It's definitely challenging."

Kimberly Vanbiesbrouck portrays Garland on the night of the show that leads the star to reflect on years passed. Vanbiesbrouck is known best locally from her work in *Menopause The Musical* at the Gem Theater in Detroit. "Audiences around here know her," said Walter.

Told in song and a series of flashbacks, he said the scenes and music in *Beyond the Rainbow* are "very fluid." Mellos said the most touching moment for her has been a scene in which Judy is told her father is dying, but she's still urged to sing on a radio show as planned. She performs *Zing! Went the Strings of My Heart*, and — as the story goes — her father heard the program.

"He had a radio in his room and heard her sing the song," said Mellos. In many ways the phrase "the show must go on" described Garland's life, Mellos said. She's spent time reviewing "tons of footage" to prepare



Kimberly Vanbiesbrouck sings her heart out, just like Judy Garland did during her 1961 Carnegie Hall performance, which forms the center of the story in the musical, "Beyond the Rainbow."

for her take on a young Judy Garland.

The cast includes Birmingham's Milica Govich taking on roles as Judy's mother Ethel Gumm, Kay Thompson, the columnist Hedda Hopper, and a wardrobe mistress. An adjunct theater professor at Oakland University in Rochester Hills, she has performed at Meadow Brook Theatre since 1987, when she earned a role in *A Christmas Carol*. "I love working here," she said. "I love the people." Because *Beyond the Rainbow* is a true story, she said, much research material could be found to prepare for it. Though she'll take on many characters, the costume changes are quick and she expects the backstage atmosphere to be "pretty insane."

Multiple roles are also handled by actors Seth Amadei and Chris Korte, who round out the cast of five. A four-person band provides the music, everything from *The Man That Got Away* from *A Star is Born*, to *Swanee to That's Entertainment*. "Every song she sings was a show-stopper," said Walter.

Govich called the show "a lovely picture of (Garland), of her highs and her lows. It's a tribute to her and to the roller coaster that was her life."

The production highlights the creativity of set designer Brian Kessler to costume designer Liz Moore, who created more than a dozen outfits for Mellos alone. And yes, her iconic Dorothy Gale get-up from *The Wizard of Oz* is included in that array of costumes.

Beyond the Rainbow runs about 2 hours and 15 minutes with one intermission. "It's just going to be a really unique experience," said Walter.

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Help us with fun Super Bowl recipes

BY LANA MINI
STAFF WRITER

Super Bowl is just a month away, on Feb. 1, and we need your help with party planning recipes.

Do you have a dip, crock pot, sandwich or other recipe that's a big hit with your Super Bowl guests every year?

I make the chili recipe, listed below, every Super Bowl and it's always popular.

Share your recipes with us and we will print them in issues between now and Super Bowl.

Send them to:
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Subject line: Super Bowl foods

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Fresh black pepper
Rosemary
Salt

Preheat oven to 180 degrees.

Slice potatoes thinly. Put potato on parchment paper in a single layer. Brush with oil. Add salt, pepper and rosemary. You also get creative and use oregano, thyme, chili and lime, and add whatever seasoning you would like on potato chips.

Bake for 12-20 minutes and watch closely so they don't burn.
Source: www.mightyfoods.com

CROCK POT CHILI

3 carrots, grated or sliced thin
1 Spanish onion, diced
3 cloves garlic, minced
1 bell pepper, any color, chopped
1 1/2 cup frozen corn
1 yellow squash, diced
2 cans kidney beans
2 15-ounce cans diced tomatoes
3/4 cup water
1 1/2 tablespoon chili powder
1 teaspoon cumin
1/2 teaspoon red pepper flakes
dash cayenne pepper
1/2 teaspoon salt

Preparation:
Combine all ingredients in a crock pot or slow cooker. Cover and cook on low for 7-8 hours.

EVENTS

FROM PAGE D1

petition. Troy Performing Arts Center is located 4777 Northfield Parkway, Troy. Tickets: \$16 adults, \$12 seniors, \$8 students (248) 559-2095. More information is available at www.ede-dance.org.

MICHIGAN OPERA THEATRE IN FARMINGTON HILLS

The city of Farmington Hills hosts *A Fun Night Out with MOT*, the Michigan Opera Theatre 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 24.

You'll hear the voices of MOT soloists in an intimate setting at the Farmington Players Barn Theatre, 32332 W. 12 Mile, Farmington Hills.

Vocalists are Maria Cimarelli, Betsy Bronson, Karl Schmidt and Mark Vondrak who will perform a selection of well-known serious and comedic songs and routines ranging from Broadway favorites, pop music and standards. Tickets are \$19 for adults, \$17 for seniors and students. Call (248) 473-1848.

KRIS KRISTOFFERSON

Friday-Saturday, Jan. 30-31, is the 32nd annual Ann Arbor Folk Festival — a fund-raiser for the The Ark in Ann Arbor.

The festival sells out every year and Saturday the headlining musician is Kris Kristofferson, songwriter of classics such as *Me & Bobby McGee*.

Also playing that night is Pete Seeger, Carolina Chocolate Drops, Girtyman, Luke Doucet and the White Falcon and many others. Tickets for one night start at \$30, or \$50 for both. Visit www.theark.org or call (734) 763-TKTS.



Dancer Demetrius Tabron of the Eisenhower Dance Ensemble.

LOOK OUT FOR NEXT MONTH!

Detroit's Winter Blast returns to Campus Martius Park Friday through Sunday, Feb. 6-8, for the fifth consecutive year with activities for families.

There's a 200-foot snow slide, free ice skating, ice sculpting, snowshoeing, 50 bands, many restaurants and warming comfort stations. It all happens outdoors.

The lineup for musicians isn't announced yet but visit www.winterblast.com for details in a few weeks.

Winter wonderland in Detroit!

WORLD MUSIC

At 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 5, the beloved Global

Thursday concert series kicks off at the Arab American National Museum in Dearborn.

It starts with the Santa Cruz River Band, Mexican American Roots Music, performing in English, Spanish, Welsh, and American Indian languages.

Santa Cruz River Band offers an innovative and powerful musical program filled with the history and mystical lore of Mexico and the American Southwest. Visit www.ronstadtramirez.com for details.

Advance tickets online with a debit/credit card at www.arabamericanmuseum.org. All advance tickets are now \$8, at the door \$10. Museum members always pay \$8.

SONGWRITERS IN LIVONIA

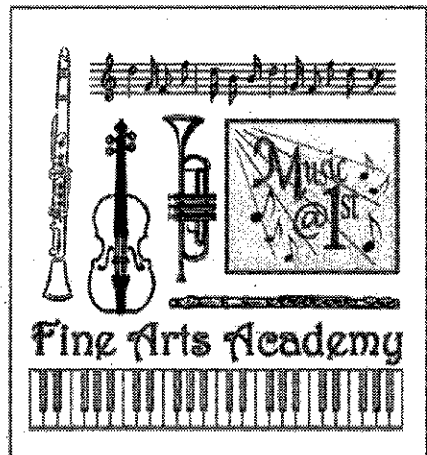
Feb. 7 is the Great Lakes Songwriting Competition Winners Showcase at Trinity House, 38840 W. Six Mile, Livonia, \$15, \$12 for subscribers. (734) 464-6302.

Hear songwriting by some of the area's best.

JONAS BROTHERS!

On Feb. 27, it's the *Jonas Brothers: The 3D Concert Experienced* — in Disney Digital 3-D.

Walt Disney Pictures' rockumentary feature film blends excerpts from the Brothers' Burning Up concert tour, including guest performances from Demi Lovato and Taylor Swift, plus behind-the-scenes footage of this huge teen band.



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OE0807383

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON ACCESS TO PUBLIC MEETINGS

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

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

Publish: January 1, 2009

OE0807382-2x2

WESTLAND CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSIONS RECORD OF ATTENDANCE 1/1/2008 thru 12/31/2008

Pursuant to City of Westland Council Resolution No. 8-85-441, the following record of Council members at Study Sessions is published for the year 2008.

Councilperson	Number of Meetings	Meetings Attended	Percentage
James R. Godbout	38	35	92%
Cheryl Graunstadt	38	33	87%
Bill Johnson	38	34	90%
Michael Kehrer	38	36	95%
Charles W. Pickering	38	34	90%
Dewey Reeves	38	36	95%
Robert Stottlemeyer	38	36	95%

EILEEN DeHART
Westland City Clerk
OE08637234_2x3

Publish: January 1, 2008

Notice is hereby given that on Monday, January 19, 2009 @ NOON, TATE & CO. Auctioneers, Executive Administrator for Extra Space Storage, will be offering for sale under the judicial lien process, by public auction, the following storage units. The goods to be sold are generally described as household goods. The terms of the sale will be cash only. Extra Space Storage reserves the right to refuse any and all bids. The sale will be at the following location: Extra Space Storage, 6729 N. Canton Center Rd., Canton, MI 48187 @ NOON.

Kurtzyk, Wayne	E162 20x20	Kitchen Set, Nordic Trak, "retro" covered stroller, toddler bike, Halloween décor, 25+ Boxes, misc. household goods.
Ray Schultz	D157 10x10	Vacuum Cleaner, 27" CRT TV, box-spring size: full, instrument case, misc. bedroom furniture, coffee table, copier and scanner, picture frame, large tote.
Great Lakes Finance c/o Tara Meabrod	H310 20x20	Cubicle dividers, Pallets, Table, Wastepaper baskets, Plastic carpet protectors.
Craig Smith	C73 5x5	Standing dolly, Skill saw, 2 ladders, misc. boxes & totes, Many misc. tools.

Publish: January 1, 2009

OE08637234-2x4

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CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

On Thursday, January 8, 2009, various items of the City of Westland DPW will be sold at public auction. The auction will be held at Insurance Auto Auction, 8251 Rawsonville Road, County of Wayne, at 10:30 a.m. The following items will be offered for sale to the highest bidder:

Stock	Year	Make	Model	Vin
4692402	2005	Ford	Crown Victoria	2FAHP71W05X114010

All vehicles are sold in "as is" condition.

The referenced vehicles, as well as many others, may be previewed by prospective buyers on Wednesday, January 7, 2009, from 8:30 am - 4:30 pm. Vehicles may be deleted from this list at any time prior to the start of the auction.

Publish: January 1, 2009

OE0807380-2x2

SIMPLY SELF STORAGE

Notice is hereby given that on January 13, 2009 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.

A107-Bret Pollington- Household Items
A145B-Randall Frye- TV, Microwave, Fax Machine
A209-Debra Rivers-Household Items
A320- Brianne Ritchie-Household Items
A405- Jesse Hallberg- Household Items
B133- Randall Frye- Fax Machine, Shop Vac, 20 boxes
B143- John Parry-Household Items
E108-Naheda Abdallah-Household Items
E155- Donald Quarles- 2 Dressers, Mattress, Record Player
RV10-Randolph Valentino- 1960 Grey Cadillac
RV11-Randolph Valentino-Ford F-7
RV30-Charles Briggs- Vehicle

Publish: December 28, 2008

OE08637110-2x5

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WESTLAND CITY COUNCIL RECORD OF ATTENDANCE 1/1/2008 thru 12/31/2008

Pursuant to City of Westland Council Resolution No. 8-85-441, the following record of attendance of Council members at regular and specials meetings is published for the year 2008.

Councilperson	Number of Meetings	Meetings Attended	Percentage
James R. Godbout	24	23	96%
Cheryl Graunstadt	24	23	96%
Bill Johnson	24	22	92%
Michael Kehrer	24	24	100%
Charles W. Pickering	24	22	96%
Dewey Reeves	24	22	96%
Robert Stottlemeyer	24	24	100%

EILEEN DeHART
Westland City Clerk
OE08637232_2x3

Publish: January 1, 2008

CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

On Thursday, January 8, 2009, various items of the City of Westland Police Department will be sold at public auction. The auction will be held at Insurance Auto Auction, 8251 Rawsonville Road, County of Wayne, at 10:30 a.m.

The following items will be offered for sale to the highest bidder:

Stock	Year	Make	Model	VIN
4907628	1996	Ford	F250	1FTHF26H1TLB92834
4907647	2000	Buick	LeSabre Custom	1G4HP54K8Y4131121

Vehicles are sold in "as is" condition.

The referenced vehicles, as well as many others, may be previewed by prospective buyers on Wednesday, January 7, 2009, from 8:30 am - 4:30 pm.

Vehicles may be deleted from this list at any time prior to the start of the auction.

Terms and Conditions will be applicable to any item sold. Registration fees apply.

Publish: January 1, 2009

OE08637232-2x3



PHOTOS BY JOAN MARCUS



Can friendship conquer all? See Glinda the Good (Katie Rose Clarke) and Wicked Elphaba (Donna Vivino) unite in "Wicked," now showing at the Detroit Opera House.

Dorothy might never have expected that Glinda (Katie Rose Clarke) and the Wicked Witch of the West (Donna Vivino) were once friends.

Wickedly wonderful

Musical aims to win over new fans for Team Green

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA
O&E STAFF WRITER

Twitching in my seat, giddy with excitement last week, I could hardly wait for the curtain to open and reveal a new look at the Land of Oz. For after a few tries to catch the witchy and wonderful musical *Wicked* on Broadway and one failed attempt at \$25 front-row lottery seats in Los Angeles, I was finally about to find out why the Wicked Witch of the West and Glinda the Good Witch were so diabolically opposed to one another in the classic film that inspired Gregory Maguire's 1995 best-selling novel.

And the grand-scale musical pulls out all the stops from its start. As the Munchkins revel in the Wicked Witch's

death, opening with *No One Mourns the Wicked*, Glinda appears from the sky, traveling in her magical bubble. She's soon confronted with a question. "Is it true you two were friends?" The Munchkins ask. And as sugary and apologetically as she can, Glinda begins the tale, harkening back to an unknown story of two rather unlikely friends.

She and Elphaba, the emerald-skinned Wicked one in question, were roommates in sorcery school. As different as can be — the bubbly, beloved Glinda (portrayed complete with blonde hair flips and utter flirtation by Katie Rose Clarke) first loathes, then likes the misunderstood but unmistakably intelligent Elphaba (Donna Vivino in dowdy, awkward splendor). Elphaba, whose skin has long made her a stand-out,

an outcast and a loner, dreams of harnessing her great powers and someday working for, who else? The Wonderful Wizard of Oz (a sweetly demeanored, self-proclaimed "*Sentimental Man*" portrayed by Lenny Wolpe).

She daydreams of a brighter future in the song *The Wizard and I* and laments her less-than-popular status in *I'm Not That Girl*, all the while making the audience root for Team Green, and eventually winning the heart of the impossibly handsome, if not all that bright, Fiervo. The sets are simply awe-inspiring. From a mechanized Wizard head worthy of fear, to the flashing green lights and costumes of the Emerald City, to the sight of Dorothy's topsy-turvy home and just a hint of Yellow Brick Road, it's all there, better

than Technicolor. Taking cues from the film so truly ingrained in pop culture, the look of *Wicked*, with set design by Eugene Lee, draws from the past with a clear eye on the future. Sure, broomsticks fly, winged monkeys abound and the Tin Man hopes for a heart. But time isn't wasted on what we already know.

Instead, the plot packs a punch, filled with substantiating new facts and insight. Elphaba is a sort of animal rights activist, protective of more than lions and tigers and bears. Her sister, Nessarose, goes from wheelchair to virtual dictator of Munchkinland. And Glinda is sweet, but shallow. Think Reese Witherspoon in *Legally Blonde*. That twister that sent Dorothy into a tailspin was no mere act of nature. Still, love and friendship will prevail *For*

Good.

Go for the green this holiday season, and let the Joe Mantello-directed show cast its spell on you and your family. Though tickets are disappearing, there is still time to catch this "untold story of the witches of Oz." Shows are 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, 7:30 p.m. Sunday, and 2 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, through Jan. 4, at the Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway, Detroit. Tickets \$33-\$93, though 10 pairs of \$25 cash-only lottery-drawn tickets are available for patrons of 8 p.m. performances. Those interested must arrive 2½ hours prior to showtime to toss their name into the witch's hat. Visit www.broadwayindetroit.com for more information.

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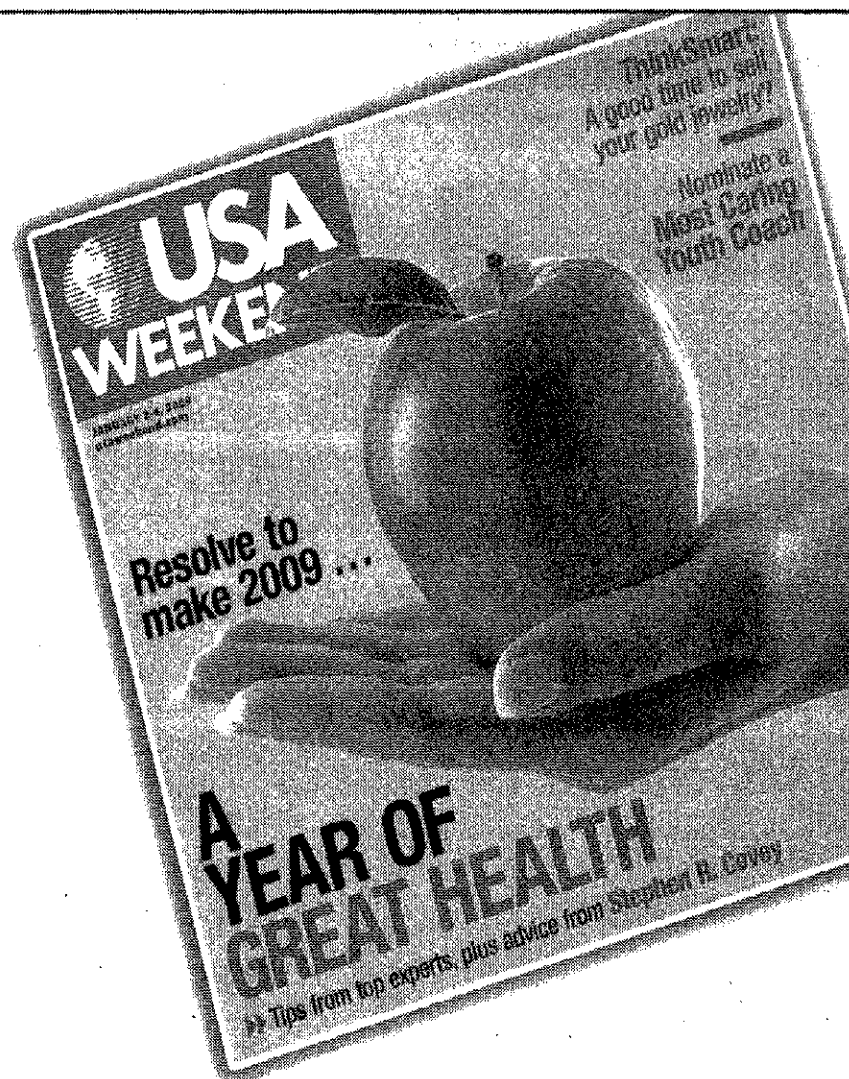
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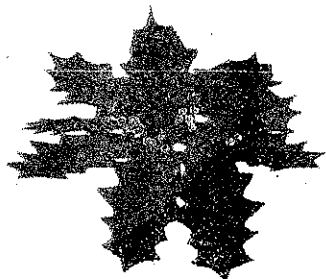
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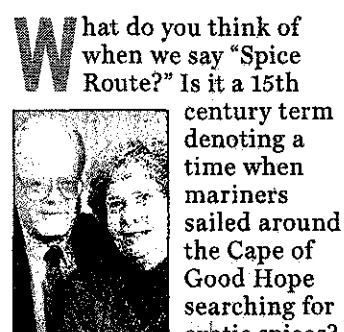
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Spice Route: Discover new wines for a new year



Focus on Wine

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lots of play for its moderately-priced, flavorful whites and red wines from South Africa.

FLASHBACK

Spice Route wines were conceived by the Charles Back Wine Company in 1997. He's the winery owner who introduced Americans to Fairview wines and the popularly-priced Goats do Roam labels that poke good-natured fun at the French while showcasing what the South Africans can do with French varieties.

South African farms, now converted in part from grain to grapes, are the source for Spice Route wines, being introduced to the Michigan wine market this month. Discover new wines for a new year!

NEW ERA

On the farms, Back grubbed up underperforming varieties and vines and broke

WINE PICKS

From Australia, four at \$10 or less: At \$8 from Lindemans 2007 vintage: Bin 50 Shiraz, Bin 44 Shiraz Cabernet, and Bin 45 Cabernet Sauvignon. At \$10 is the more concentrated Lindemans 2005 Reserve Coonawarra Cabernet Sauvignon

away from the estate concept of his Fairview wines. "Charles (Back)," explained his U.S. sales and marketing cousin Robin Back, "was anxious to try his hand at some new wine styles."

"The Cape's Mediterranean climate allows him to grow and make warm-climate red wine styles from a variety of grapes including shiraz, mourvedre, grenache, petite syrah, barbera, tannat, sangiovese, zinfandel, merlot, tempranillo, carignan and the Cape's pinotage. Additionally, three white grape varieties are also doing well: sauvignon blanc, chenin blanc and viognier."

Our favorite Spice Route wines include 2008 Sauvignon Blanc, \$16, showcasing zesty lime and grapefruit aromas with mellow tropical characters as flavors.

Among the reds is the New World style Spice Route 2005 Shiraz, \$21.

It's marked by a dark fruit melange and big mouthfeel without being tannic. Think steak. And there's the 2007 Spice Route Pinotage, \$23. Until we tasted this wine, we had given up finding a really good South African Pinotage that wasn't astringent, giving

ing the feeling of fur on our teeth.

Pinotage is a cross between the grape varieties pinot noir and cinsaut. Spice Route's version is brimming with dark fruits. It's balanced structure, with toasty oak notes and long finish, make it a winner. Why is it so good? "Pinotage needs to be cropped low," Robin Back answered. "Additionally, it must be phenologically ripe."

By that he means picked with resolved tannins - so you won't get a furry-teeth feeling!

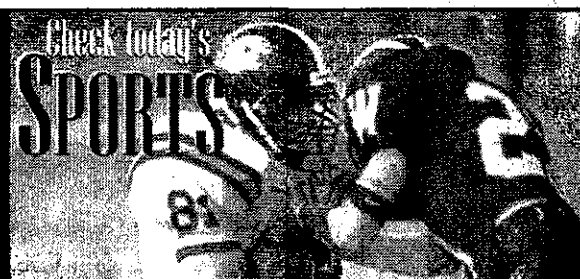
CHAKALAKA

Spice Route 2007 Chakalaka \$20 shows a signature robust and spicy style. A Rhone varietal blend of shiraz, grenache, mourvedre and carignan, it takes the name of the unique, spicy South African relish, a complex blend of flavors - just like the wine.

Eleanor & Ray Heald are contributing editors for the internationally-respected Quarterly Review of Wines and Troy residents who write about wine for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. Contact them by e-mail at focusonwine@aol.com.

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Unusual classes help pass the wintertime

Certified Sommelier Nidal Daher hosts wine tasting courses in Birmingham.



Many of us won't be traveling to the islands to escape the winter blues this year because of tough financial times.

But that doesn't mean there aren't other things we can do. Winter is a perfect time to explore different topics through enrichment classes.

Learn how to taste wine with your partner, take a bookmaking class with your relative, enjoy the history of film alone, or realize how to make jewelry, emboss metal and decorate cakes with a group of friends.

Start a new year's resolution to lose weight with dance classes from India, Latin America or the Middle East.

Take swimming lessons, Tai Chi, volley ball, yoga, or so much more. Here's a sampling:

CANTON

For example, if you are in Canton, the Canton Leisure Services winter class registration begins the week of Jan. 7.

Wally Ball classes there are just part of the fun. There are also arts, entertainment, health and wellness, courses. Those who are not Canton residents may register in person five days prior to class start date, if space is available.

View the class brochure at <http://leisure.canton-mi.org>, where complete course descriptions also available.

WEST BLOOMFIELD

In West Bloomfield, there are dog agility classes for your canine who may go a little stir crazy indoors all winter long. There also are world dance classes for adults, creative writing for seniors, martial arts

therapy for those with special needs and courses for teens who want to be effective babysitters. Visit www.westbloomfield-parks.org

BIRMINGHAM

In Birmingham, at the Community House, classes are open to everyone. There's a wine exploration series that helps beginners enjoy an uncomplicated introduction into the world of wine.

Learn about the wines of Australia, Chile, France, California, Spain, Portugal and Italy. Classes are as low as \$24.

The instructor Nidal Daher, a certified sommelier, is a former fine wine director and buyer for the Merchant of Vino and is a professional member of the French gourmet society.

Another instructor, Marc Jonna, co-founder of Plum Market, has been in the wine industry for more than 25 years.

There are also yoga, dance, cooking and travel classes.

Call (248) 644-5832, or online at www.communityhouse.com.

Also in Birmingham, the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center offers nearly 140 classes for those seeking a more artful life. Classes are geared to all ages and experience levels and start as early as preschool. Topics include history, beading, bookmaking, photography, film history and portfolio preparation in addition to the traditional ceramics, drawing, fiber, painting, glass, jewelry, and sculpture.

To register call (248) 644-0866. View all classes at www.BBArtCenter.org.

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Send items for consideration in Get Out! at least two weeks in advance to Lana Mini, Observer & Eccentric and Mirror Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009, or e-mail lmini@hometownlife.com.

ART

Arnold Klein Gallery: 32782 Woodward, Royal Oak, (248) 647-7709.
Art Leaders Gallery: 33030 Northwestern Hwy., West Bloomfield, (248) 539-0262, www.artleaders.com.
Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center: 1516 Cranbrook (between 14 and 15 Mile roads), Birmingham, www.BBArtCenter.org, (248) 644-0866.
Birmingham Conference Center: 31301 Evergreen, Birmingham.
Birmingham Unitarian Church: 38651 Woodward, Bloomfield Hills, (248) 647-2380.
Bohemian National Home Gallery: 2009 Tillman, Detroit, (313) 525-5253, www.jeromium.com/bohous.htm.
Cary Gallery: 226 Walnut, Rochester, (248) 651-3656.
Cass Gallery: Works by Robert Edwards, Kip Kowalski and Richard P. Mylenek, through Jan. 10, 4620 Cass Ave., Detroit, (313) 831-1400.
CPOP: 4160 Woodward, Detroit, (313) 833-9901, www.cpop.com.
Detroit Artist Market: 4719 Woodward, Detroit.
DEM Art Studio: Bob Ross-style painting classes, 1-5 p.m. one Sunday per month; free fine art portfolio assessments for college-bound students, 28691 N. Lilley, Canton, (734) 453-3710, www.dmarstudio.com.
Farmington City Gallery: Costick Center, 28600 11 Mile, (248) 473-1856.
Farmington Community Library: 23500 Liberty, (248) 553-6261, www.suzannebaum.com.
First United Methodist Church: 1589 W. Maple, Birmingham.
Gallery@VT: Village Theatre at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton, (734) 394-5300, www.canton-mi.org/villageattheatre, www.vsa-art.com.
Galeria at Orchard Lake: Building 8, Orchard Lake Schools, 3535 Indian Trail, Orchard Lake, (248) 683-0345.
Habitat Galleries: 4400 Fernlee, Royal Oak, (248) 554-0590, www.habitat.com.
Janice Charach Gallery: Jewish Community Center of Metropolitan Detroit, 6600 W. Maple, West Bloomfield, (238) 432-5448.
Lawrence Street Gallery: 22620 Woodward, Ferndale, (248) 544-0394, www.lawrences-treetgallery.com.
Livonia Arts Commission: Fine Arts Gallery, second floor, Livonia City Center Library, 32777 Five Mile, (734) 466-2490; Livonia Arts Commissioners, Livonia City Hall, 33000 Civic Center Drive, (734) 466-2540.
Lotus Arts Gallery: Artists Charles H. Pabst, Thomas Arvid and Sergio Furnari (a life-sized version of the Lunchtime on a Skyscraper sculpture), now showing, 995 West Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth (888) 889-4ART, www.lotus-artsgallery.com.
Next Step Studios & Gallery: Featuring glass works by Kaiser Suidan, Craig Paul Nowak, John Gargano, Susan Beiner and many others, 530 Hilton, Ferndale, (248) 342-5074, www.next-stepstudio.com.
Northville Art House: 215 W. Cady, (248) 344-0497, www.northvillearts.org.
Oakland University Art Gallery: at 208 Wilson Hall, Oakland University, Rochester, (248) 370-3005.
Paint Creek Center for the Arts: "Holiday Objects Up and Down," through Jan. 3, 407 Pine, Rochester, (248) 651-4110, www.pccart.org.
Paul Kotula Projects: 23255 Woodward, Ferndale, (248) 544-3020, www.paulkotula.com.
Pewabic Pottery: 10125 E. Jefferson Ave., Detroit, (313) 822-0954, www.pewabic.org.
Plymouth Community Arts Council: 774 N. Sheldon Road, Plymouth, (734) 416-4278, www.plymoutharts.com.
The Print Gallery: 29173 Northwestern Hwy., Southfield, (248) 356-5454, www.every-

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thingart.com.
Progressive Art & Frame Design: 1511 North Main, Clawson, (248) 435-0944, www.progressiveart.net.
The Scarab Club: "Year of the Weasel," featuring works by Carl Butler, Jeanne Blier, Todd Erickson, Jerome Ferretti, Mary Fortuna, Matthew Hanna and Arturo Rodriguez, Jan. 2 to Feb. 15, opening reception 6-9 p.m. Friday, Jan. 2, 217 Farnsworth, Detroit, (313) 831-1250 or www.scarabclub.org.
Susanne Hilberry Gallery: Works by Zak Prekop, Elena Pankova, Ryan McLaughlin, Michael Wetzel, Matt Connors and Paul Bloodgood, through Feb. 7, at 700 Livorno, Ferndale, (248) 541-4700, www.susannehilberrygallery.com.
Tangent Gallery: 715 E. Milwaukee St., Detroit, (313) 877-4377, www.tangentgallery.com.
The Community House: 380 S. Bates, Birmingham, (248) 644-5832, www.communityhouse.com.
Visual Arts Association of Livonia: Livonia City Hall, 33000 Civic Center Dr., (248) 348-4550.

BOOKS/LITERATURE

Birmingham Area Seniors Coordinating Council and Center: 2121 Midvale, Birmingham, (248) 203-5270.
Borders Ann Arbor: 612 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor, (734) 668-7652.
Borders Dearborn: 5601 Mercury Dr., Dearborn, (313) 271-4441.
Borders Farmington Hills: 30995 Orchard Lake Road, (248) 737-0101.
Borders Novi: 43075 Crescent Blvd., (248) 347-0780.
Barnes & Noble Royal Oak: 500 S. Main, Royal Oak, Campus Martius: Saturday Book Club, Campus Martius, next to the Compware Building, Detroit, http://www2.wsupress.wayne.edu/news.php/
CHAMBER
Birmingham Temple: Pianist Christopher Atzinger, April 4; Charlie Gabriel Quartet with Vocalist Joan Bow, May 2; 28611 West 12 Mile, Farmington Hills, (248) 788-9338, www.vivaceseries.org.
Detroit Chamber Winds & Strings: "Fun and Games," 3 p.m. Feb. 22; Birmingham Unitarian Church and 4 p.m. March 1 Cathedral Church of St. Paul, Detroit; "String Sundae," 3 p.m. March 29, Birmingham Unitarian Church and 3 p.m. April 5, Grosse Pointe United Methodist Church; "Schubert and Spice," 3 p.m. April 26, First Presbyterian Church, Birmingham; Final Concert, 8 p.m. June 20, Seligman Center, (248) 559-2095, www.detroitchamberwinds.org.

Happign World of Rugs: Detroit Chamber Winds & Strings presents "Nightnotes," 8:30 p.m. Thursdays, Jan. 9, Jan. 30, March 13 and May 8, (248) 559-2095, www.detroitchamberwinds.org.
Seligman Performing Arts Center: Denyce Graves, mezzo-soprano, Jan. 24; ATOS Trio, Feb. 7; Garrick Ohlsson, piano, March 21; Guarneri String Quartet, April 11; Pacifica Quartet with Erik Ronmark, saxophone, April 18; Kalichstein-Laredo-Robinson Trio with the Miami String Quartet, May 16; Yefim Bronfman, piano, May 30. All concerts 8 p.m. Saturdays, Tickets, \$25-\$75, 22305 West 13 Mile, Beverly Hills, (248) 855-6070 or visit www.ComeHearCMSD.org.

CHORAL

Beckridge Choral: 45700 Six Mile, Northville, www.beckridgechorale.org or call (734) 416-9885.
Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts: 350 Madison, Detroit, (313) 887-8500, www.music-hall.org.
Farmington Community Chorus: Seligman Performing Arts Center of Detroit Country Day High School, 22305 W. 13 Mile, at Lahser, in Beverly Hills, (248) 669-4146.
Farmington Hills Youth Choir: Wexford Hall, Costick Center, 28600 W. 11 Mile, in Farmington Hills, (248) 473-1859.
First Presbyterian Church: Psenturies of Psalms, 7:30 p.m. Jan. 9; How Can You Keep From Singing? 4 p.m. Feb. 8; Pipedusters w/organist Tom Trenney, 7:30 p.m. April 17; Music for a Cathedral, 7:30 p.m. May 22, 1669 W. Maple, Birmingham, (248) 644-2040 x136, trenney@comcast.net.
Plymouth Oratorio Society: First United Methodist Church, 45201 N. Territorial Road, Plymouth, (734) 455-8353.
Rackham Choir: "An Affair To Remember," Feb. 14, Club Venetian, Madison Heights; "Dear Mrs. Parks" with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, March 6-8, Orchestra Hall, Detroit; "The Armed Man: A Concert for Peace" with original film, April 5, Ford Center for the Performing Arts, Dearborn, www.rackhamchoir.org.

CLASSICAL

Orchestra Canton: "Mozart's Birthday Bash," 8 p.m. Jan. 24, Village Theatre at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton, (734) 394-5460.
Chamber Music at the Scarab Club: Grosse Pointe Unitarian Church, 17150 Maumee Ave., Detroit,

(248) 474-8930, www.scarabclub.org/chambermusic.
Chamber Music Society of Detroit: Seligman Performing Arts Center, 22305 W. 13 Mile, Beverly Hills, (248) 855-6070, www.ComeHearCMSD.org.
Detroit Symphony Orchestra: Max M. Fisher Music Center, box office at 3711 Woodward, www.detroitssymphony.com, (313) 576-5400.
Fox Theatre: Andrew Rieu and his Johann Strauss Orchestra, 7:30 p.m. May 19; tickets \$82-\$162.
Max M. Fisher Music Center: Americans Here and Abroad, Jan. 9-11; From Russia With Love, Jan. 15-18; Marvin Hamlisch, Jan. 22-24; Dondjani & Beethoven, Jan. 30-31; Mendelssohn & Mahler, Feb. 6-8; Pops Season features: All You Need is Love, Feb. 12-15; Pops Goes Las Vegas, March 19-22; The Music of Billy Joel & More by Michael Cavanaugh, April 16-19; A John Williams Adventure, March 14-17, 3711 Woodward, Detroit, (313) 576-5111 and online at www.detroitssymphony.com.
Plymouth Symphony Orchestra: "Mendelssohn, Marimba & More," 8 p.m. Feb. 7, "Fanfare for Freedom," 8 p.m. March 14, all at Ward Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile, Northville; Benefit Concert of the Plymouth Canton Symphony Society, 8 p.m. April 24, Penn Theatre, 760 Penniman, Plymouth, (734) 451-2112, www.plymouthssymphony.org.
Schoolcraft College: Pianist Anton Nel, Feb. 13; Avalon String Quartet, March 20; Cellist Robert de Maine, May 15; \$10, students, \$20 adults, Presentation Room in the VistaTech Center, 18600 Haggerty, Livonia, (734) 462-4403.

CLUBS

The Ark: 316 S. Main, Ann Arbor, www.theark.org.
Bachelor's One: 1967 Cass Lake Rd., Keego Harbor (248) 682-2295.
The Belmont: 10215 Jos. Campau, Hamtramck, (313) 871-1966.
Berkley Front: 3087 12 Mile, Berkley, (248) 547-3331.
Busco: 22930 Woodward in Ferndale, www.thebosco.com, (248) 547-8818.
Bullfrog Bar: 15414 Telegraph, Redford, (313) 533-4477, www.bullfrogrocks.com.
Callahan's: 2105 South Blvd., Auburn Hills, (248) 858-9508, www.atcallahans.com.
Crofoot Ballroom: 1 South Saginaw, Pontiac, (248) 858-9333, www.thecrofoot.com.
Corktown Tavern: 1716 Michigan Ave., Detroit, (313) 964-5103.
Eden Nightclub & Ultralounge: Friday night party with DJ Ryan Richards, 10 p.m. guest celebrity hosts and DJs; DJ Urban Chris in the Garden Room, DJ Pannos in the Ultralounge accompanied by percussionist Jared Sykes, 10 p.m. Saturday, 22061 Woodward, Ferndale, (248) 541-7674.
Edison's: 220 E. Merrill, Birmingham, (248) 645-2150.
Ginopolis on the Grill: Don Swindell and Shuffle Play, with Swindell, Sheila Brown, Mike Lorenz and Jake Reichardt, 7:30-11:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, 27851 Middlebelt at 12 Mile in Farmington Hills, no cover, (248) 851-8222.
Four Green Fields: Northwood Shopping Plaza, 13 Mile and Woodward, Royal Oak, (248) 506-0531.
Magie Bag: Robert Gordon, Jan. 9; Leon Russell, Jan. 17; Kathleen Edwards, Feb. 4, 22920 Woodward, Ferndale, (248) 544-3030, www.themagicbag.com.
The Magic Stick: 4140 Woodward, Detroit, (313) 833-9700.
Mama's Coffeehouse: All shows 8 p.m. with open mic at 7:30 p.m., \$12, \$10 seniors and students 16 and under, 38651 N. Woodward, Bloomfield Hills, (248) 569-0965.
Memphis Smoke: 100 S. Main, Royal Oak, (248) 543-4300.
O-Zen Lounge: Hot 'N Ready with DJ U.N.I. hip hop soul, Thursday; Insomnia Music, hip hop, soul, old school, Friday; Super Sonic Smooth Music with DJ Shug, Saturday; karaoke with Chez, Sunday; '80s and Rock N Roll bring your CDs, Tuesday; and Energetic House with DJ Tony Bell, Wednesday; www.ozenlounge.com, 21633 W. Eight Mile, Detroit (313) 535-4664.

The Pike Room: 1 S. Saginaw, Pontiac, (248) 858-9333.
Plymouth Coffee Bean: Open mic 7:30-10:30 p.m. Mondays, 884 Penniman, Plymouth, myspace.com/plymouthcoffeebean.
The Shelter: 431 E. Congress, Detroit, (313) 961-MELT.
Sky Club: Tango, salsa, and Latin dancing beginning at 8 p.m., every Wednesday, located above Sangria's Restaurant, 401 S. Lafayette, Royal Oak, (248) 543-1964.
Traveling Fork: located inside Radisson Hotel & Conference Center, 17123 N. Laurel Park Drive, Livonia, (734) 464-1300, www.radisson.com/livoniarmi.

COMEDY

Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase: Mark Knope, Jan. 2-3; Karen Rontowski, Jan. 8-10; Norm Stultz, Jan. 15-17; Citizen Jimmy starring Jimmy Dore, Jan. 22-24; Peter Berman, Jan. 29-31, 314 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor, (734) 996-9080.
The Fillmore: Joel McHale, Jan. 17, 2115 Woodward, Detroit, (248) 645-6666.
Fox Theatre: Larry the Cable Guy, Jan. 24; Ron White, March 14, 2211 Woodward, Detroit, Ticketmaster.com (248) 433-1515.
JD's House of Comedy: Stand-up shows, 8 p.m. Thursday and 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday; Apollo amateur night, 8 p.m. Wednesday; 25333 W. 12 Mile, inside Star Theatre complex, Southfield, (248) 348-2420 or www.ticketmaster.com.
Joey's Comedy Club of Livonia: 36071 Plymouth Road, (734) 261-5500, www.kickerscomplex.com.
Joe Louis Arena: 600 Civic Center Drive, Detroit, (248) 645-6666.
Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle: 269 E. Fourth, Royal Oak, (248) 542-9900, www.comedycastle.com.
The Second City: 42705 Grand River Ave., Novi, (248) 348-4448, www.secondcity.com.

CONCERTS

Clutch Cargo: David Allan Coe, Jan. 16; The Devil Wears Prada, April 9, 65 E. Huron, Pontiac, (248) 645-6666.
The Fillmore: City and Colour, Jan. 9; The Black Keys, Jan. 29; Soulia Boy, Feb. 7; Flogging Molly, Feb. 19; Taste of Chaos Tour with Thursday, Pierce The Veil, Bring Me the Horizon, March 10, 2115 Woodward, Detroit, (248) 645-6666.
The Fox Theatre: LaBelle featuring Patti LaBelle, Nona Hendryx and Sarah Dash, Jan. 18; BB King and Buddy Guy, Feb. 16; Celtic Woman: Isle of Hope, Feb. 20; Bill Gaither and his Homecoming Friends, March 12, 2211 Woodward, Detroit, Ticketmaster.com (248) 433-1515.
Joe Louis Arena: Metallica with Machinehead, The Sword, Jan. 13; Nickelback, Feb. 28, (248) 645-6666, www.ticketmaster.com, OlympiaEntertainment.com.
Masonic Temple Theatre: Rain, A Tribute to The Beatles, March 19, 500 Temple, Detroit, (248) 645-6666.
Majestic Theatre: Ferni Kuti, Jan. 16; Galactic, Feb. 4, 4140 Woodward, Detroit (313) 833-9700.
Michigan Theatre: The Pretenders, Feb. 9; John Hiatt and Lyle Lovett, Feb. 20, 603 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor, (248) 645-6666.
The Palace of Auburn Hills: Slipknot with Coheed and Cambria and Trivium, Jan. 13; Michael Flatley's Lord of the Dance, Feb. 15; Fleetwood Mac, March 8; 1 Championship Drive, Auburn Hills, (248) 645-6666 or Palacenet.com.
Royal Oak Music Theatre: Reel Big Fish, Jan. 13; Tim and Eric's Awesome Show, Jan. 25; Umphrey's McGee, March 12; 318 W. Fourth, Royal Oak, (800) 919-6272, www.royaloakmusictheatre.com.
St. Andrew's Hall: U2, Jan. 9; Scott Weiland, Jan. 28; Sam Roberts, Feb. 28; Adele, March 20; Less than Jake, March 21, 431 E. Congress, Detroit, (248) 645-6666.
DANCE
Detroit Dance Collective: Adray Theatre, Henry Ford Community College, Dearborn, (810) 444-4553, www.detroitdancecollective.org.

Detroit Opera House: Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre, Feb. 12-15; "Aladdin," Grand Rapids Ballet Company, Feb. 28; "Romeo & Juliet," American Ballet, March 13-15, 1526 Broadway, Detroit, (313) 237-3426, www.michiganopera.org.
Eisenhower Dance Ensemble: Lake Orion Performing Arts Center, (248) 559-2095; "NewDANCEfest VII," 7:30 p.m. Jan. 17, Troy High School Auditorium, (248) 559-2095; "Motown in Motion," 8 p.m. April 4, Macomb Center for Performing Arts, (586) 286-2222, 2171 Cole, Birmingham, www.ede-dance.org.
MoreDances Contemporary Dance Company: 20500 W. 13 Mile, Beverly Hills, (586) 899-2629.
Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts: The Russian Classical Ballet Theatre's "Don Quixote," Jan. 10, 350 Madison, Detroit, \$30-\$50, call (313) 887-8500, www.musichall.org.
Tatry Dancers: 26123 McDonald, Dearborn Heights, (313) 274-0183, www.Dance.PRCUA.org/Tatry.
University Musical Society: Batsheva Dance Company "Three," 8 p.m. Feb. 14, and "Deca Dance" 2 p.m. Feb. 15; Compagnie Hedy Maalem "Rite," 8 p.m. Oct. 15; Compagnie Marie Chouinard, "Orpheus and Eurydice," 8 p.m. April 25, and "Rite of Spring," 2 p.m. April 26; Rubberdance Group, "Elastic Perspective," 8 p.m. Jan. 9 and "Redux Phase II" 1 and 8 p.m. Jan. 10, www.ums.org.

FAMILY

Canton Cinema: Free matinees 10 a.m. and 11 a.m. Saturdays, 43555 Ford Road, (734) 844-3456.
Detroit Puppet Theatre: "Banana for Turtle," January; "Oh, Ananse," February; "Purim Shpiel," March; Guest Artist Performances, April; "Turtle Island," May; "Sleeping Beauty," June, all performances at 2 p.m. Saturdays, \$10/adults, \$5/children, 25 E. Grand River, Detroit, (313) 961-7777, www.puppetart.org.
Detroit Zoo: (248) 541-5711, www.detroitzoo.org.
Fox Theatre: Sesame Street Live "When Elmo Grows Up" Jan. 30-Feb. 15, \$12-\$32; family nights, Jan. 30, Feb. 4 and 12, \$10; Detroit Public Television benefit performance, Feb. 6, (248) 433-1515, www.OlympiaEntertainment.com.
Max M. Fisher Music Theatre: 3700 Woodward, Detroit, (313) 576-5111.
Meadow Brook Theatre: Children's Series, "Freedom Train," 10 a.m. Feb. 23; "Nate the Great," 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Feb. 28; "The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere," 10 a.m. March 20; "Charlotte's Web," 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. May 9; on the campus of Oakland University, Rochester Hills (248) 377-0300, www.ticketmaster.com, for more information, visit www.mbttheatre.com.
Music Hall: Goodnight Moon and the Runaway Bunny, 4 p.m. Jan. 18, tickets \$7-\$17, 350 Madison Ave., Detroit, call (313) 887-8500.
Palace of Auburn Hills: 1 Championship Drive, (248) 645-6666.
University Musical Society: Family Series, Rubberdance Group, Jan. 10; Kodo, Feb. 13; The Silk Road Ensemble with Yo-Yo Ma, March 13; Dan Zanes & Friends, March 29; (734) 764-2538, www.ums.org.

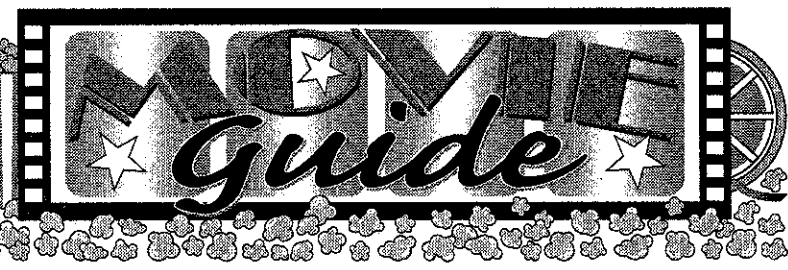
FILM

Detroit Film Theatre: "Lola Montes," kicks off a new season Jan. 16, at Detroit Institute of Arts, 5200 Woodward, Detroit. See www.dia.org/dft or (313) 833-7900.
Henry Ford IMAX: "The Polar Express," showing through the holidays, 20900 Oakwood Blvd., Dearborn, (313) 271-5710.
Magie Bag: Brew & View doors 8 p.m., film, 9:30 p.m., 21 and over, 22920 Woodward, Ferndale, (248) 544-3030, www.themagicbag.com.
Penn Theatre: 760 Penniman, Plymouth, (734) 453-0870.
Redford Theatre: "The Sound of Music," Jan. 9-10; "Anatomy of a Murder," Jan. 23-24; "Sunset Boulevard," Feb. 6-7; "Sister Act," Feb. 20-21; "The Karate Kid," March 6-7; "Mrs. Doubtfire," March 20-21; Three Stooges Festival, April 3-4; "The Great Escape," April 17-18, at 17360 Lahser, Detroit, www.redfordtheatre.com.

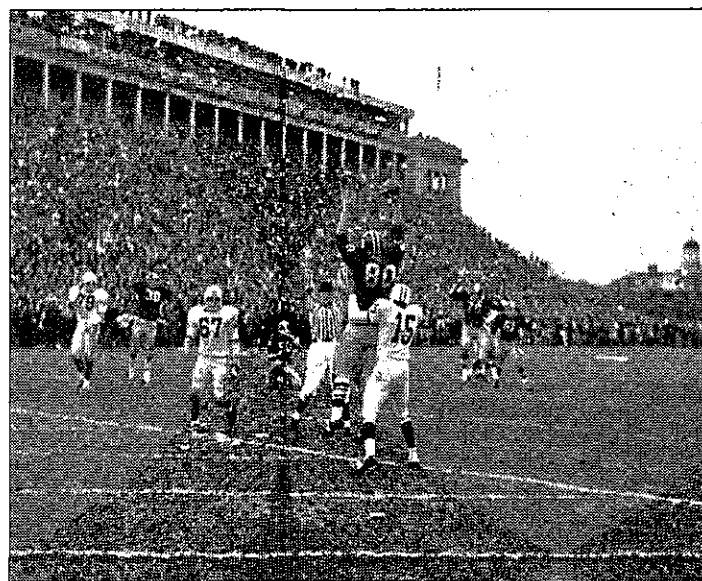
Where available by deadline, features are listed.

Call your local theatre for showings for this week. Please check listings below for phone numbers and websites.

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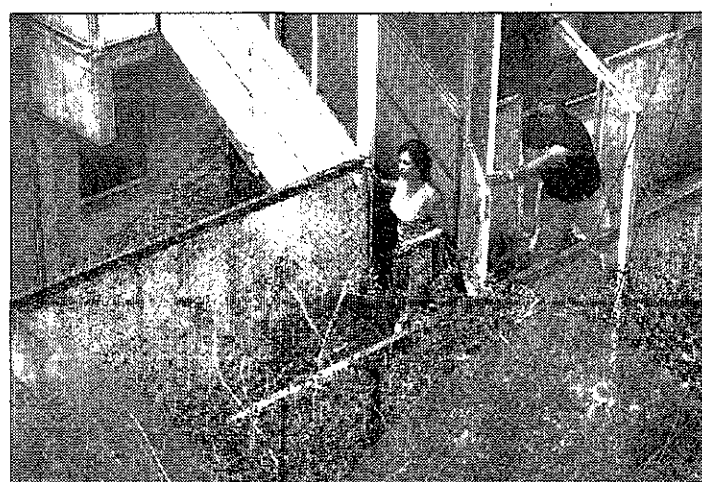
COURTESY FRANK O'BRIEN | KINO INTERNATIONAL

Harvard's Pete Varney catches the two-point conversion that brought the score to 29-29 in the film "Harvard Beats Yale 29-29."



DAVID BORNFRIEND

Tracey Heggins is Jo and Wyatt Cenac is Micah in "Medicine for Melancholy," directed by Barry Jenkins.



MARIO SPADA

"Gomorrah," directed by Matteo Garrone, is on the roster of films playing at the Detroit Institute of Arts' Detroit Film Theatre this season.



MILENA BOTOVA

Fans of the American classic "12 Angry Men" won't want to miss this film, "12," playing this season at the DFT.

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Ski fashions show bold colors, kitschy patterns this winter

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA
O&E STAFF WRITER

When it comes to hitting the slopes, Bloomfield Hills native Jessica Kopitz knows it's possible to look fierce whether you're a beginner or a pro. She's been skiing since the age of 3, back when her father would hold her in a Hula Hoop and help her get her footing. "Off I went," she said. Ever since, skiing and snowboarding has been a major part of her life. Now a student attending Rochester Institute of Technology, Kopitz

said outdoor sports have always brought her family together. Her first experiences on skis began in northern Michigan and today she travels around the country — to parks in Utah or Colorado — to ski and snowboard with family. It's a way they manage to stay connected. "I never saw a Friday at school," said the Cranbrook graduate. "We were always going to Nub's Nob or Boyne. It's definitely a family thing for us."

Her father, Steve Kopitz, owns Don Thomas

Sporthaus, part of his company, Summit Sports Inc. The shop, which moved from its original location at Telegraph and Maple roads to downtown Birmingham two years ago, caters to outdoor sports and sportswear of all kinds. Current trends in fashion are easy to spot from a visit to the store. Bright colors and patterns abound.

"It started with snowboarders and moved into skiing," said Kopitz. While she lamented that menswear still offers more options in vibrant styles and colors, it's moving over into women's apparel too.

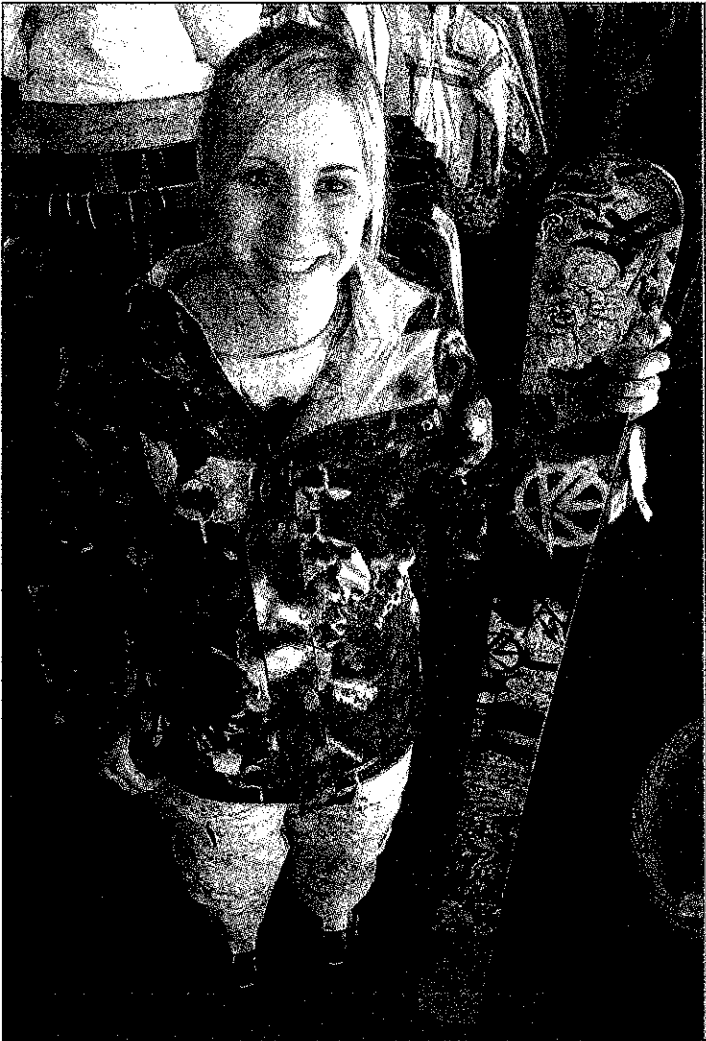
Kopitz demonstrated some pieces at the height of fashion. She paired a pair of cream-colored ski pants by Spyder with a brightly patterned shell of a jacket by Volcom — perfect for snowboarding. The pants are equipped with an adjustable waistband for a customized fit, while the jacket has an iPod hookup and a snowcuff, to connect to her pants and keep her warm and dry on the slopes. She said while women still tend to match some items, winter sports themselves have moved away from a matchy-matchy mentality. In fact, she believes

the less-coordinated the outfit, the better the athlete. Hans Erni, store manager at Don Thomas Sporthaus, said patterns often go together, while colors need not match. He's seen skiers hit the slopes in green jackets and pink pants, for example. Regardless of the outfit, fit is crucial. Erni said the store custom-fits boots to your feet. The hottest brand of ski boots available, he said, are Full Tilt. They come in colors like bright orange or baby blue, some come equipped with feet warmers.

Handwarmers are also available, and a good item to keep nearby in winter months. Kopitz said she keeps them in the car in case it breaks down. Accessories are useful on and off the slopes.

Big bold sunglasses give an air of Hollywood glamour to the sport, while blocking out harsh rays. Kopitz suggested a stark white pair by Laguna Summer, at \$189, or a bold purple pair by Blinde at \$295, to make a statement while making tracks.

Equipment can be just as personalized as clothing. Kopitz opts for a wider pair of skis by K2, with a pink elaborate pattern. They are meant for powdery snow found on park slopes in Colorado, rather than thinner skis best used to slice through the icy runs in Michigan. "Fatter skis glide on top of the snow," said Kopitz. The pair she chose are best for half-pipes and when landing backwards. With a black and white pattern on the back, it's easy to imagine them flying through



Jessica Kopitz, Bloomfield Hills, knows goggles or fashionable shades, like this white-hot pair by Laguna Summer, are a must on the slopes.

Kopitz shows off the latest ski fashions at Don Thomas Sporthaus in Birmingham last week.

the air. But before she straps on a pair of skis, Kopitz makes sure she has these items:

- Long underwear, like Under Armor or Hot Chillys. Avoid cotton and stick with moisture-wicking materials to stay warm and dry
- Basic snowpants
- Goggles or sunglasses
- A warm hat or, preferably, a helmet.
- Gloves

Kopitz owns a Boeri helmet and said it's important to consider safety. She's been hit on the slopes by others more often than she's fallen down and, in any case, safety is key. Modern helmets come equipped with everything from Bluetooth technology and iPod compatibility to ponytail holders. Some are even decked in faux fur and Swarovski crystals, like the Boeri VIP Siren, which Erni called "the ultimate in bling."

A higher-end brand that's been dashing off the shelves at Don Thomas Sporthaus

are lux vests and jackets by Para Jumper. From down-filled warmth to fur-trimmed hoods and kitschy hardware, they're teeming with style, whether you're just braving the cold winter winds or you're hopping onto a snowboard. Vests run about \$184 and look ski-bunny sweet when topped with a waffle-textured knit thermal shirt.

For aspiring skiers, namely youngsters, the shop carries lines like I-Grow, which adjust to fit growing children, expanding a few inches to last more than a single season. Kopitz said starting early meant she gained independence and confidence, especially in such a male-dominated sport. It also keeps her fit. She said she hopes to encourage women to get into winter sports. "It's more of a fashion sport and more of a fun sport when you get into it," she said of dressing the part.

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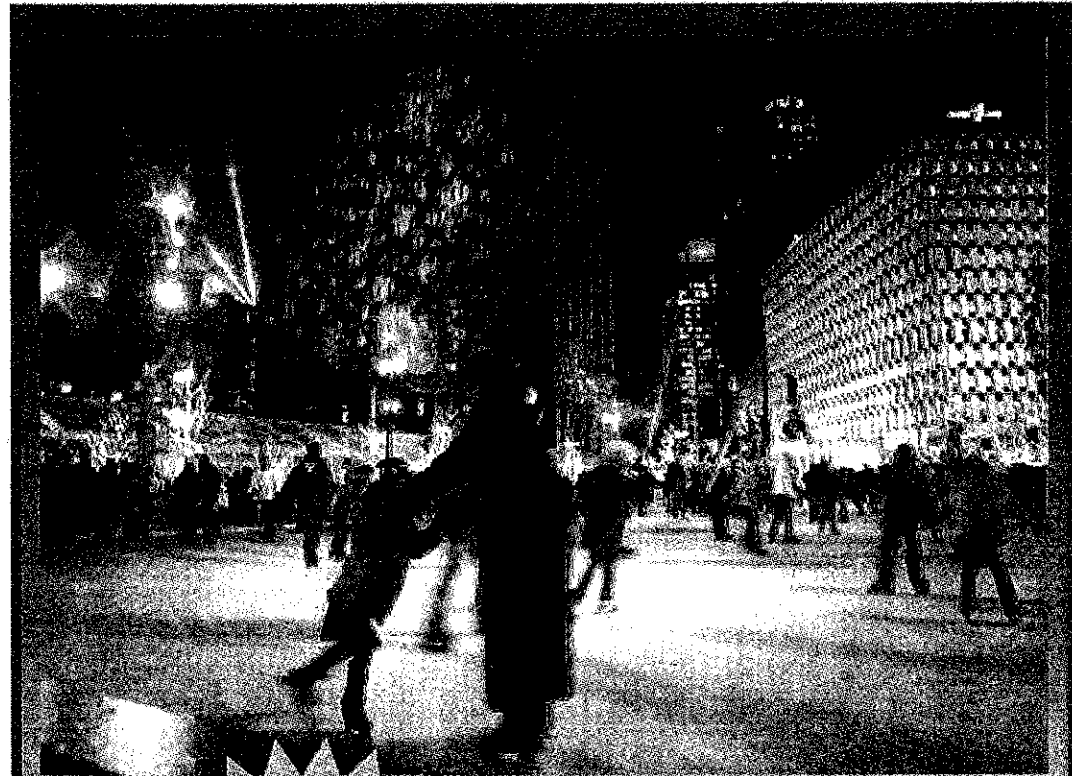
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Pierre Auguste Renoir (French, 1841-1919): *Romane Lacaze* (detail), 1864. Oil on fabric; 81.3 x 65 cm. The Cleveland Museum of Art; Gift of the Hanna Fund 1942. 1065. © The Cleveland Museum of Art. Amadeo Modigliani (Italian, 1884-1920): *Portrait of a Woman* (detail), c.1917-18. Oil on canvas; 65 x 49.3 cm. The Cleveland Museum of Art; Gift of the Hanna Fund 1951. 258. © The Cleveland Museum of Art.



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