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CANTON Observer

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District looking at 'every inch' of budget to reduce costs

TONY BRUSCATO
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Plymouth-Canton Schools Supt. Craig Fiegel promised the Board of Education he would inspect the budget line by line, and that's what will happen as trustees soon begin the process of looking at where potential cuts will be made.

"We're trying to look at every line item to determine what's really in the budget and determine if there are any chances for reductions," Fiegel said. "The board has done this so long there's just not much to cut without affecting programs and services to students. We try to stay away from those as much as possible, but you can only do that for so long without funding."

"There is some indication the state isn't going to take away money, so at least we can maintain where we're at," he added. "But things are very tough and the economic news isn't very good, so you don't anticipate there will be any new money next year. One of the difficult things in not getting new money is where are we going to be with union negotiations and salary. That's always a touchy subject."

Board President Judy Mardigian said "every inch" of the budget needs to be analyzed.

"That's the goal," Mardigian said. "We have

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

In what areas do you think Plymouth-Canton Schools officials should be looking to cut costs and avoid a budget deficit? E-mail your ideas to Canton Editor Kurt Kuban at kkuban@hometownlife.com or post a comment on our Web site at www.hometownlife.com.

to reduce the structural deficit and have an amount in our budget set aside for contingencies. And we have to have an adequate fund balance."

The district's annual structural deficit — expenses exceeding revenues — had been about \$7 million a year. Mardigian said progress has been made in reducing it, but there's still work to be done.

"The district has made over \$12 million in cuts over the last five years," Mardigian added. "The money we get from the state doesn't keep up with the rate of inflation — fuel, health care and utilities. Everybody knows those things go up in their household as well as the school district."

"It will take a lot of creativity and a lot of ideas," she added.

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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

New State Rep. Dian Slavens at her Cantori home is ready to get to Lansing.

On to Lansing

Dian Slavens is ready to make change and get state moving in right direction

BY TIFFANY L. PARKS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

All she asked for was an opportunity to help get Michigan back on track and voters responded by opting to send her to Lansing.

On Wednesday, Dian Slavens will be sworn in as the new state representative for the 21st district.

"The time is now and I am very excited," said Slavens, 50, a political newcomer who ran as a Democrat against Republican Todd LaJoy and independent Brian Cronan.

"The freshman (representatives) have met and everyone is ready to go to work and make change."

In addition to Wednesday's ceremony in Lansing, Slavens' husband, Mark, a Wayne County Circuit Court judge, will oversee a mock swearing-in at 7 p.m. Feb. 2 at Canton Public Library. That event is open to the public.

Slavens, who has resigned from her job as a respiratory therapist, believes her background as a working wife and mother gave her an edge with voters.

"People were looking for change and wanted someone with life experience and I have that," she said, adding that she will work locally Mondays and Fridays and spend Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays in Lansing. And in addition to becoming familiar with the state's capital and meeting her peers, Slavens has been in contact with local officials and is trying to solidify a location for regular coffee hours.

"I want to be here," she

Please see **SLAVENS, A8**

Sonic Drive-in coming to Canton

BY KURT KUBAN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Canton planning officials are awaiting final site plan proposals for a Sonic Drive-in restaurant to be located on Canton Center just south of Ford Road.

According to Planner Jeff Goulet, the Sonic will be built in the Meijer parking lot, just north of Antonio's and south of Max & Irma's.

"Meijer is creating an outlot for Sonic. Currently the space is used for parking," he said.

Goulet said the biggest issue impeding the development is the traffic flow at the site, though he expects it to get resolved.

The Sonic Drive-in chain started in 1953 in Shawnee, Okla. Now based in Oklahoma City, the chain has more than 3,400 restaurants in 34 states, including several in Michigan. The closest Sonic is located on Fort Street in Southgate.

Sonic restaurants try to recreate the drive-in diner feel of the 1950s, complete with carhops who sometimes wear roller skates. The menu features unique items like hand-made onion rings and Pickle-Os (breaded deep-fried dill pickle slices), as well as such drive-in staples as hamburgers, Coney and corn dogs, as well as shakes and malts.

Sonic will be on the agenda when the Planning Commission meets at 7 p.m., on Monday at the Summit on the Park banquet facility, though the commission isn't expected to take any action until the traffic issues are settled.

The commission is also being asked to reapprove a site plan for a Wal-Mart supercenter planned for Michigan Avenue at Belleville Road. The commission approved the site plan a year ago, but the retail giant has yet to break ground on the project.

Goulet said this is a formality, so the site plan doesn't expire. However, he said Wal-Mart officials have approached the planning department about altering the look of the store to meet new corporate standards. It will still be a supercenter, however.

"They are re-imaging their stores. They have a new prototype," Goulet said. "The store will have the same square footage and the same footprint. They are just altering the look of the building."

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Man earns top honors with Special Olympics

BY JULIE BROWN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

David Foust spends his days on the job at Holiday Market in Canton, but he finds time to compete as an athlete with Special Olympics.

The 31-year-old Canton man has been participating in Special Olympics sports for 18 years. Recently, he was tapped as Outstanding Athlete of the Year, honored at a Special Olympics Hall of Fame banquet.

"I was surprised and very honored," said Foust, who remained calm upon receiving his award.

"He was very thrilled," mom Jackie said. "It meant a lot to him."

David Foust, who lives at home and has a sister, 29, enjoys participating in the program for mentally challenged athletes.

"He just needed an outside activity to interact with other

athletes, his peer group," said Jackie Foust, a single mom.

David participates in floor hockey, basketball, swimming and softball, though he doesn't have a favorite sport.

"I kind of like them all I do," he said.

Jackie had been the area coordinator for Special Olympics for 15 years for Plymouth-Canton, having given that up due to demands of her job at Yazaki North America in Canton.

"He certainly gets a positive attitude or belief in himself," she said of the interaction with teammates.

David Foust has also been a Global Messenger as well, speaking about Special Olympics to civic groups, something he enjoys as long as it doesn't conflict with his job.

"I'd have to say kind of like meeting new friends," he said

of participating in Special Olympics. "You basically have fun doing it."

David spent four years on the Michigan Board of Directors as an athlete representative, recently having gone off that board as his term ended. Jackie Foust is with him as a member of the Wayne County Management Team for the sports organization.

Last March and again this coming March, David Foust and his mom will travel to Washington, D.C., to lobby on behalf of Special Olympics, speaking to legislators, "just so they can put a face to the program," she said.

Foust, who works as a cashier/bagger at Holiday Market, recently earned a special education diploma through the Plymouth-Canton schools at Plymouth High School.



BILL BRESLER
STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Special Olympics Outstanding Athlete of the Year David Foust of Canton works at Holiday Market in Canton.

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Number 57



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Warming Homes and Hearts

The Heat and Warmth Fund (THAW) is a nonprofit organization established to provide low-income families with energy assistance during crisis. For the 2007-2008 heating season, THAW distributed more than \$10,928,000 in energy assistance to more than 8,600 household in Michigan.

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Documentary shows the
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to dogs in emergencies

AROUND CANTON

Comedy troupe to perform

The Capitol Steps, a comedy troupe that specializes in political satire, will perform at 8 p.m., Jan. 16 at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill.

Capitol Steps began as a group of U.S. Senate staffers who set out to satirize the very people and places that employed them in December 1981. Most cast members have worked on Capitol Hill - some for Democrats, some for Republicans, and others for politicians who firmly straddle the fences. Although not all of the current members of Capitol Steps are former Capitol Hill staffers, taken together the performers have worked in a total of 18 Congressional offices and

represent 62 years of collective House and Senate staff experience. They will perform their political song parodies and skits straight out of current headlines.

Tickets are on sale now for \$45 for all seats. To purchase tickets online, visit www.canton-mi.org/village-theater or call (734) 394-5300. For more information about Capitol Steps, visit www.capsteps.com.

Free throw championship

All boys and girls, ages 9 to 14, are invited to participate in the local level of competition for the Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship, which will be held on Sunday, Jan. 18 at St. Thomas a'Becket Catholic Church, 555

S. Lilley Road, Canton. Registration starts at 3 p.m. District level competitions are scheduled for Feb. 8 at a time and location to be announced.

The Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship is sponsored annually, with winners progressing through local, district, and state competitions. International champions are announced by the K of C headquarters based on scores from the state-level competitions. All boys and girls will compete in their respective age and gender divisions.

All contestants on the local level are recognized for their participation. Participants are required to furnish proof of age and written parental consent. For entry forms or addition-

al information contact Andy Emmert at (734) 981-2367.

Calvary Baptist programs

HeartCry, a support group for mothers of rebellious teens/young adults, is being offered at Calvary Baptist Church (43065 Joy Road, Canton) on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month at 7 p.m. Is your child breaking your heart? Are you struggling to understand what went wrong, and anger and stress are threatening to destroy your home? Join the group and learn to ease the conflict, maintain hope, and restore normalcy to your daily life. For more information, please e-mail leeanne@cbcjoy.org or call (734) 455-0022, ext. 144.

Calvary Baptist Church also hosts Women of the Word, or women's Bible studies. Come to Women of the Word for a time of friendship and fellowship, encouragement and spiritual refreshment. There are two new courses of study for you to choose from this winter: Precept Upon Precept-Isaiah on Tuesdays at 9:15 a.m. and 6:45 p.m., beginning Feb. 3, and Beth Moore-Esther on Tuesdays at 9:15 a.m. and 6:45 p.m., beginning Jan. 13. Childcare is available on Tuesday mornings. For more information or to register, e-mail leeanne@cbcjoy.org or call (734) 455-0022, ext. 144.

The church also hosts a MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers) group. Two groups meet each month: 1st and 3rd Friday mornings or 1st and 3rd Wednesday evenings. Meet like-minded women also passing through this unique stage of life. You'll have a chance to not only make new friends but



Thanking the Kiwanis Club

Tonda Elementary students Samantha McGrath (school president) and Trevor McKinney (student government representative) visited the Plymouth Kiwanis Club on Thursday at Ernesto's to thank the club for donating money to the Canton school so it could purchase "So You Want to be President" books for all of the 3rd through 5th graders. At the meeting, the club presented a Kiwanis bell to Samantha and Trevor. Also pictured are Kiwanis President Stella Greene (left) and Vice President Shirley Jallad.

also discover a wealth of helpful hints and smarter strategies to dealing with the challenges of motherhood. To find out more about our MOPS groups at Calvary, contact Lee Anne Young at (734) 455-0022, ext. 144, or e-mail her at cbcwomensministries@hotmail.com.

Ryan Hamilton to perform

Comedian Ryan Hamilton will perform at 8 p.m., Jan. 23 at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill. Known for his clean brand of comedy, Hamilton continues to receive national attention for his quick wit and was recently featured on NBC's "Last Comic Standing." In 2003, Hamilton was chosen as a semi-finalist in the Seattle International Comedy Competition and was also a finalist at the Las Vegas Comedy Festival's



Hamilton

"Laugh Across America Contest."

Tickets are \$15, which also includes a performance by comedian Steve Maccone. Please be

advised that content may contain adult material. For more information or to purchase tickets visit www.canton-mi.org/villagetheater. Tickets can also be purchased at Summit on the Park by phone at (734) 394-5460 or in person. To purchase tickets at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill box office, stop by during box office hours: Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; Friday & Saturday, 7-9 p.m. and Sunday, 5:30-7:30 p.m. The Village Theater ticket office will also be open one hour prior to each performance.

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ITC has begun vegetation management in its corridors in Livonia, Westland and Canton. Where permissible, the following will occur:

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To learn more about ITC, please visit www.itc-holdings.com

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The Blackout of 2003

Nothing brings a halt to daily life faster than the loss of power. Outages and blackouts are inconvenient, costly and potentially dangerous. The Blackout of 2003 left 50 million people in the Northeast, Midwest and Canada without power for days. Hospitals, nursing homes, police and fire departments and schools were just a few of the critical services heavily impacted by the Blackout.

The underlying cause of the Blackout, tree contact with power lines in northern Ohio, is well documented. ITC is responsible for protecting communities and residents from outages and safety threats like the Blackout of 2003.



Peace and unity will be themes of MLK event

BY TIFFANY L. PARKS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The township will celebrate the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Jan. 19 at the Village Theater.

The free event, which begins at 6 p.m. and is open to people of all ages, will feature musician Robert Jones and the Detroit-based group, Youth Under Construction.

"Whether you are a child or an adult, I would encourage everyone to come and be inspired by the wonderful words of Dr. King and honor the legacy of others before and after him that have promoted a message of peace and unity," said Jennifer Tobin, Canton arts coordinator, adding that officials are anticipating a high attendance. "Even with the economy, we have a lot of hope right now. There is a new president-elect and a lot of people have the sense that we are moving forward in humanity."

The festivities will kick off with a reception and Jones, a jazz, folk and blues artist, will

TRIBUTE TO MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

When: 6 p.m., Jan. 19

Where: Village Theater at Cherry Hill

What: Musician Robert Jones and the Detroit-based theatrical group, Youth Under Construction, will perform. The winners of Canton Public Library's MLK art contest will also be announced during the event.

More information: Call (734) 394-5300

perform and share stories with the audience. The winners of Canton Public Library's art contest will also be announced during the event.

"It really is about love and peace and I truly believe the next generation will do a better job (concerning acceptance)," Tobin said, adding that glancing back at history is important in today's world. "Many people, especially kids, don't under-



Members of the Detroit-based group Youth Under Construction will perform at Canton's Martin Luther King, Jr. tribute event Jan. 19 at the Village Theater.

stand what slavery meant. It's almost a fairy tale and while that shows how far we have come, we also have to stop and remember our past so that we don't go back there."

Saying that the township has found a "formula that works" with the annual program, Tobin said she is always inspired by the finale, which involves the audience holding hands and singing We Shall

Overcome.

"It is really moving," she said. "To see people that may have been sitting a few seats apart come together and turn to embrace after the song is over is amazing. In that moment, world peace (seems possible)."

For more information, call (734) 394-5300.

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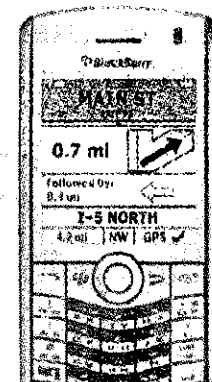
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Organizers of the annual Plymouth International Ice Spectacular are expecting larger crowds this year because of the down economy.

Festival organizers ready to turn Kellogg Park into icy wonderland

TONY BRUSCATO
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Despite less cash and a little less ice, the Plymouth International Ice Spectacular won't be noticeably different from last year's event - except with different carved sculptures. "There may be a few less blocks of ice in the displays, but nothing people will notice," said Ron Loiselle, president of the festival board. "We'll be able to have the same number of displays. "Fortunately, we had some money left from last year, and that's helped us out," he said. "All in all, it will be a nice festival."

Loiselle said this year's budget of \$70,000 is about \$10,000 less than last year. The Ice Spectacular is scheduled for Jan. 23-25 in Kellogg Park. Students and professionals from the U.S. and as far away as Japan will carve the 350-pound ice blocks. The festival will feature 100-150 sculptures, ranging from a single block of ice to the featured statue with 90 blocks. A new twist to this year's event: hot soups made by E.G. Nicks restaurant being served in the park.

"It will be served on Sunday and be a potential fund-raiser for the Ice Festival," Loiselle said. "We'll make it like the Chili Fest, where a sample is \$1 and a bowl is \$4. I have a suspicion it will take off and next year we'll expand it to create a challenge with culinary arts students competing against each other, and cooking clubs and restaurants competing." Organizer Mike Watts of Plymouth Township said the ice has been in the making since August. "It's specially made ice, that's why the sculptures look so pretty," Watts said. "It's a special process



The Plymouth International Ice Spectacular will feature plenty of ice carvers, as in years past when Yosinobu Nakadera of Team Japan chiseled and sculpted an ocean scene, complete with sharks and scuba divers.

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whereby as it freezes the air - which makes it cloudy - is extracted. That's why it's so clear."

Watts said the event will use approximately 150,000 pounds of ice, which will cost nearly \$15,000.

As a result of the spiraling economy, Loiselle is confident crowds will be up this year.

"With a lot of people being unemployed, many will be looking for things to do that are less costly," Loiselle said, "and the Ice Fest provides that."

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When: Friday, Jan. 23 to Sunday, Jan. 25
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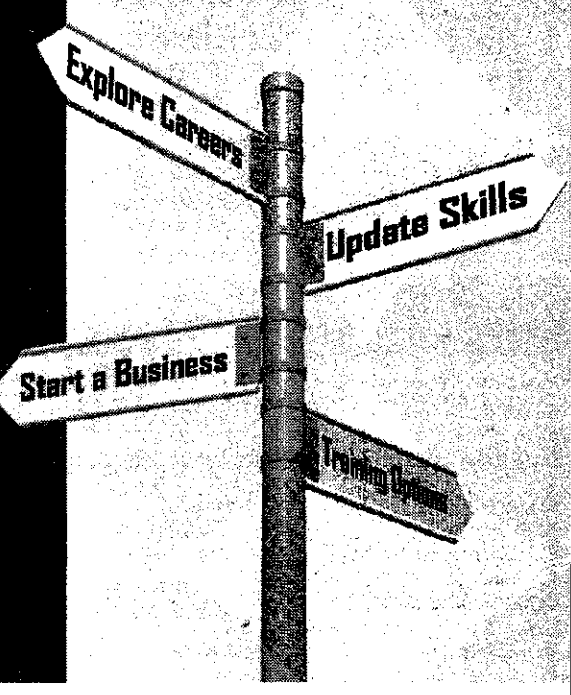
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River sleuths

Forget the skates, sleds and come outside to hunt for bugs

BY SHARON DARGAY
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Tom Elliott will look for larvae in the frigid outdoors this month.

"On the face of it, it sounds like the silliest thing a grown person can do," he admitted. "Actually, it's a badge of courage."

That's because his search for the pre-hatched insects will include a walk into the freezing Rouge River and several hours at water's edge, sorting through earth samples.

"Over the years the January search has encountered some of the worst weather the state has thrown at us."

Elliott, a Birmingham resident and an accountant by trade, calls the amateur entomology "a lot of fun," but he wouldn't mind a little sunshine when he and other volunteers gather for the seventh annual Friends of the Rouge Winter Stonefly Search from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 24, at University of Michigan-Dearborn's Environmental Interpretive Center, 4901 Evergreen, in Dearborn.

Families, individuals and children accompanied by a parent, can sign up to take part in the hunt — which helps the organization collect data about the river's health — by calling (313) 792-9621, by Jan. 16. No experience is necessary, although warm clothing is a must.

SAMPLING THE MUCK

Elliott and other team leaders will don waders and walk into the water at various points along the Rouge, scooping up river bed that volunteers on shore will examine for stonefly larvae. The pollution-sensitive bugs live in healthy creeks and rivers, and hatch into adult insects in the winter. The more bugs there are, the better the water quality.

Teams will work on sites in Northville, Plymouth, Canton, Farmington Hills, Farmington, Salem Township



Volunteers work at Rouge River's edge during last year's winter stonefly search.

and Superior Township. Volunteers have never found stoneflies in the main branch that runs through Birmingham.

"But we have found them in the upper branch, in Farmington and Farmington Hills," said Sally Petrella, Friends director. "They're basically the only insect out in the dead of winter."

"I think they are beautiful. Basically the more of them we find, the better. We hope to find them at a lot of different sites. No one has reported seeing the flying insects," she added, stressing that volunteers will retrieve larvae from the river muck.

COLLECTING DATA

The organization will share its results with the Department of Environmental Quality and communities along the Rouge.

"It helps them to track change over time and evaluate projects to improve the river, to see if they are having an impact."

Friends of the Rouge also conducts a spring and a fall search of the river bed for macro-invertebrates. The winter hunt can be more challenging because of the weather — last year leaders had to hack through the river's frozen crust — but equally as entertaining as its mild weather versions.

"There aren't a lot of opportunities to be outdoors and do activities like this in January," Petrella said, explaining why the winter search draws eager participants. "In January there isn't much going on. People start to get stir crazy."

It's also just plain fun in the middle of winter, says Jeremy Geist, program coordinator for the Clinton River Watershed Council. The organization also plans a winter stonefly search on Saturday, Jan. 24. Hours are 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Volunteers will meet at Yates Roadside Park, along the north side of Avon, between

23 Mile and Dequindre, in Rochester Hills. Register by calling (248) 601-0606 or by e-mailing to contact@crwc.org.

"Whoever wants to get into the water can," said Geist. "By no means will we be in a fast current. We'll make sure the area we're sampling in will be safe. If people are eager to get in there, we'll give them a net and waders."

Most of the volunteers are likely to stay on land, lending a hand with the sorting process.

"You'll see lots of life. It's a funny thing, they are bugs and people are kind of creeped out by it, but it's a good thing to have in our water," he said.

Geist also is offering an aquatic insect identification class from 6-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 27, at the Auburn Hills Community Center. Participants will look at preserved specimens, unlike the river sleuths who will see live larvae.

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IRA distributions may be reinvested in a Roth IRA

Q: Dear Rick: I'd like to find out if a person can take a distribution from a traditional IRA and add it to an existing Roth IRA. Would you suggest not taking a distribution this year?

A: The answer to your first question is yes. A person can take a distribution from a traditional IRA and add it to an existing Roth IRA. All you need to do is to follow the rules for a Roth conversion to perform the transaction.



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

crisis, President George Bush recently signed legislation

When someone turns 70½ they are required by law to begin taking required minimum distributions from their retirement account. However, due to the financial

that suspends the required minimum distribution rules for 2009. Therefore, for the first time, individuals who are over 70½ have an option as to whether they take a distribution from their retirement account this year. The first issue when deciding whether to take a distribution is do you need the income. If you need the income continue taking distributions. Those who do not need the income, have another option. It is

important to note where you stand with regards to taxes. If withdrawing the money puts you in a higher tax bracket, it may not make sense to take a distribution. If taking a distribution does not put you into a higher tax bracket, take a distribution, pay your taxes and then reinvest the money either in a Roth IRA (by means of a conversion) or invest the money outside of your retirement account.

It is important to understand the tax consequences of distributions from retirement accounts. When money is withdrawn from a traditional IRA or a traditional 401(k), it is subject to ordinary income taxes (typically the highest bracket). Money invested outside of a retirement account can be subject to the more favorable capital gain tax bracket. The maximum capital gain tax bracket is 15 percent and many taxpayers

find themselves in a 5 percent bracket. Ordinary income taxes for the average individual are 28 percent and above. The tax bracket for withdrawals from Roth IRAs is zero as Roth IRAs are not subject to income taxes. In a normal tax year, required minimum distribution from a retirement account is not eligible to be converted to a Roth IRA. However, 2009 is not a typical tax year. Any withdrawal from a retirement account in 2009 can be potentially converted into a Roth IRA. The only requirement is that a taxpayer's adjusted gross income be less than \$100,000.

The suspension of required minimum distributions for 2009 also affects individuals who have inherited IRAs. When someone inherits an IRA they have a number of different options as to how that money can be withdrawn. One of the more popular ways is to take a distribution over a five-year period. However, because required minimum distribution rules have been suspended for 2009, an individual can stretch that five-year period over another year.

Like everything else regarding tax laws, there are some potential minefields. One of these affects people who turned 70½ in 2008. In the year that you turn 70½ you do not necessarily have to take a distribution that year. Rather, the law allows you defer the distribution until April 1 of the next year.

For example, someone who turns 70½ in 2008 technically does not have to take their 2008 required minimum distribution until April 1, 2009. If you are in that situation, you still are required to take your distribution by April 1. The reason is that although the law says that you can delay the distribution until April 1, 2009, it is still considered a 2008 distribution. Because the new law only deals with required distributions for 2009, you still must make a 2008 distribution before April 1, 2009.

No matter what advice is given in regard to taxes, the key is to make sure it applies to your situation. In addition, don't let the tax tail wag the dog. The goal is to have more money in your pocket. Good luck!

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

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Dreamer: He turns box into bass

Brothers busted for stealing copper

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

In no way is Chris Badynee a shy person. Give him an opening and he'll gladly talk and talk and talk about his dream musical instrument.

You won't hear about the legendary Fender guitar or the famous Stradivarius violin. No, Badynee conversation revolves around some strings and a box that he and his cousins have turned in the Bogdon Box Bass, an upright bass made out of a cardboard box.

"We have no competition in the whole world," said the Westland resident. "Nobody makes an acoustic upright bass on the cheap."

Badynee has been the pitch man for the bass that bears his father's middle name, for two-three years, according to Alan Eden, Badynee's cousin who helped turn the vision into an actual instrument.

"It was really his idea, we just made it sound like the real thing," Eden said. "We went through a lot of trials and errors to get the bridge piece so it sounded just right."

Badynee has shown off the cardboard box bass at Pine Knob and Nashville and made the circuit of music conventions, landing a best in show for innovation in 2008 from NAMM, the trade association of the international music products industry.

A mailman by day and an entrepreneur by night, Badynee has gone so far as to sing the praises of the instrument in an elevator for MSNBC's *Elevator Pitch*. Badynee was hoping the three-minute performance would find investors willing to provide \$500,000 in capital to take the instrument to a new business level.

"I was so on, it was so great," said Badynee, who traveled to New York City with Eden to tape the segment. "I started playing a lick from the *Cosby Kids* show."

Badynee happened on the idea of cardboard box bass while remodeling the bathroom of his home following a fire. Alan Eden got drawn into the dream by his father, Dave, who called him to say "I think Chris's got something here." What he saw was a crude version of the box bass, but "it looked like he did have something," Eden said.

Joining Eden, an acoustical engineer, on developing the box bass was his brother, Mark, a elec-



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

With the help of his cousins, Alan and Mark Eden, Chris Badynee has seen his vision of a cardboard box bass become a reality. Now he's looking for an investor to take it to the next level.

trical engineer. They spent six-eight months developing the box bass, taking into account the shape of the box, the thickness of the bridge and assembly. Mark Eden helped in come up with the hardware so that the box bass can be plugged into an amplifier.

"An instrument can be very expensive, but it doesn't matter what they're made of," said Alan Eden. "If they're properly engineered you can make a box sound like an upright bass."

What the trio came up with is three box basses — a two-string bass with assembly required for \$93.80 and two three-string basses for \$119.50 and \$124.50. They've sold about 1,000 of the instruments. Thirteen retailers around the country and one in Mexico City carry the box bass and it's also available on the Bogdon Web site at www.bogdonmusic.com.

They've also mailed the box bass to Uruguay, the United Kingdom, Finland and the Swiss Alps.

"We sell about 30-40 a month," said Alan Eden. "Interest spiked a little after the show, but our sales have been steady even with the downturn in the economy."

Admittedly, no one is ready to quit their day job, but Badynee is enjoying himself, pitching the product. His dream is to do it on *The Tonight Show*.

"My competition is a \$1,000 introductory bass. There is no \$100 introductory bass, the customer who spends \$4,000-\$5,000 on a base is buying it," Badynee said. "I'm still hoping an investor will see it. Every sale makes my pitch all the more solid."

smason@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-6751

BY KURT KUBAN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Police arrested two brothers on Monday for stealing copper piping from a commercial building in Canton. The two men were arraigned in 35th District Court Thursday morning on numerous charges.

Canton police officials say brothers Jeffrey Dean Coleman, 48, of Wayne, and Kenneth Wayne Coleman, 42 of Romulus, stole copper piping for a sprinkler system from a commercial building located on Research Drive. Police say they were tipped off by a 911 caller who witnessed the two men cutting the piping from the building.

Jeffrey Dean Coleman is being charged with three



Jeffrey Dean Coleman



Kenneth Wayne Coleman

counts of malicious destruction of personal property less than \$1,000, a 1-year misdemeanor; one count of receiving and concealing stolen property less than \$1,000, a 1-year misdemeanor; and one count of attempt second hand dealer, a 1 1/2 year-felony. He was also charged with four counts of second or subsequent offense, all 5-year felonies, and

one count of habitual fourth offender, 15 years or less if primary offense has penalty under five years.

Kenneth Wayne Coleman is being charged with one count of attempt second hand dealer, a 1 1/2 year felony; one count of receiving and concealing stolen property less than \$1,000, a 1-year misdemeanor; two counts of second or subsequent offense, both 5-year felonies, and one count of habitual third offender, punishable by up to twice the maximum sentence on primary offense.

Judge Ron Lowe set a \$50,000 bond for both defendants.

Their preliminary exam is scheduled for Jan. 16, at 35th District Court in Plymouth.


McNamara gets important appointment

Discovery Middle School student Cullan McNamara (left) administers the oath of office to his dad, Wayne County Commissioner Kevin McNamara, at the commission's opening meeting of the 2009-2010 legislative session on Tuesday. Commissioner McNamara, a Canton Democrat, was sworn-in to his new term of office after being re-elected in November to represent District 11, which includes Canton, Sumpter Township, Van Buren Township and Wayne.



On Thursday, Edward A. Boike, the commission's new chairman, appointed McNamara the chair of the Committee on Public Services, which has oversight of matters involving the county's roads and bridges, building and facility needs, and parks and recreation operations, including the Warren Valley and Inkster Valley golf courses. "I am very excited about chairing the public services committee because it deals with road issues that touch almost every county resident in a very tangible way," said McNamara. "My priorities include identifying new sources of funding to help the county improve and maintain county roads."

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SLAVENS

FROM PAGE A1

said in reference to having a presence in Canton, Belleville and Van Buren Township. "I'm here to represent the 21st district, not Lansing."

And Slavens, who called the economic crisis "priority No. 1," said it wasn't just campaign talk when she promised to work with both sides of the aisle.

"During a roundtable discussion, the freshman representatives talked about how we're tired of the gridlock and we want to work together," she said. "We need to do whatever we can to get this state moving."

In addition to the economy, Slavens said she has her sights on issues regarding per-pupil school funding and preventative healthcare. "The needs are the same in all three communities," she said, adding that the birth of her first grandchild inspired her to enter politics. "When you are raising your own kids, you are so focused on them but with my grandchild, I just want to make sure Michigan remains a great state."



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Dian Slavens

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1997	Ford	Taurus	4-Dr	1FALP52U8VG300556

Publish: January 8 and 11, 2009

0606038674-2X3

PLYMOUTH TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPT.

734-354-3232

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Notice is hereby given that on 01/16/09 at 10:00 a.m. at Mayflower Auto Transport, 1179 Starkweather, Plymouth, MI 48170, a public auction of the following:

1993 Pontiac	Grand Am	1G2NE5433PM598245
2000 Hyundai	Sonata	KMHWF35V3YA164374
1997 Pontiac	Sunfire	1G2JB5246V7541052

Dated: January 8, 2009

Publish: January 11, 2009

0606038684-2X2

ON THE AGENDA

Planning commission

Canton's Planning Commission will meet at 7 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 12, at Canton's Summit on the Park banquet facility located at 46000 Summit Parkway. Items on the agenda include:

PUBLIC HEARINGS

■ Hidden Cove Assisted Living Facility: Consider request for minor PDD and site plan approval. Property is located west of Lotz Road and north of Cherry Hill Road.

SITE PLANS

■ Wal-Mart Supercenter (Michigan Avenue): Consider request for re-approval of site plan. Property is located south of Michigan Avenue and west of Belleville Road.

NEW BUSINESS

■ Sonic: Refer review of proposed special land use request for a drive through restaurant to staff. Property is located at the southeast corner of Canton Center and Ford roads.

■ Karapatsakis office building: Refer review of proposed site plan to staff. Property is located south of Ford Road between Morton Taylor and Morrison roads.

Board of Trustees

The board will hold a regular meeting at 7 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 13 at the Canton Administration Building. Agenda items include:

■ Recognition of Tony Calderoni for his service to the merit commission

CONSENT CALENDAR:

■ Consider reappointments

to fire board of review

■ Consider authorizing the township clerk to sign the inter-agency agreement with Wayne County for the round 9 detention basin enhancement grants

■ Salt purchase for 2009 winter season

■ Renew Oakland Fuel contract for parks and golf maintenance operations

■ Award contract for septic tank replacement

■ Award 11 housing rehabilitation contacts

■ Approve the grant agreement with the DNR for pedestrian bridges on Lower Rouge river recreation trail, including an amended budget

■ Consider purchase of patrol in-car printers

■ Consider purchase of 5-patrol Motorola MW810 laptop computers

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

Advertisement

Learn How To Send Your Children To A Top College Without Going Broke

Local Workshop Teach Parents How to Avoid Mistakes and Save 20% on College Cost

TROY—Metro Detroit area parents that are planning on sending a child to college in the next few years, but aren't quite sure how to pay for it, can now rest a little easier.

College Planning Coach has been educating parents in the community about what to do if they haven't saved enough for college.

"It's really sad, but most parents that we talk to have done real well financially, but never found the time to save for college, and now they're facing a bill of \$18,000-\$45,000 a year, and they don't know who to turn to," he says. "Furthermore, most of the time all they hear is to not even bother applying for any aid because they make too much money. However, most of the time, that is simply not true...even if they make a six-figure income."

Mike and the College Planning Network would know, because they've worked with over 1400 families in the

last 10 years ranging from single moms to corporate CEOs, and he swears he can help anyone get through the process and save a bundle....no matter how good of a student they have or how much money they make.

"I got started in this because I graduated in the top of my high school class, but no one told us anything about how to access money for college, or even how to pick a career...so I didn't go right away. But, I vowed that I would learn the process and devote my time to helping families not fall into the same trap that we did."

Simply put, we show parents the truth that they aren't hearing anywhere else about how the college process really works, and how they can get their child into a top school easily, help that student pick a career that will suit them and pay them well, and save thousands of dollars in the process." Metro Detroit

area parents will have five opportunities to hear Mike speak. He is teaching his class *How to Give Your Kid a 4-Year College Education... Without Going Broke!* on Tuesday, January 20th at the Milford YMCA at 7 p.m., Thursday, January 22nd at the Clock Building (1200 S. Sheldon Rd., Suite 150) in Plymouth at 7 p.m., Saturday, January 24th at the Wixom Public Library at 11:30 a.m., Thursday, January 29th at the Novi Public Library at 7 p.m. and Saturday, January 31st at the Baldwin Public Library in Birmingham at 10:30 a.m.

"We'll discuss everything from the greatest myths about the college process, to how to send your student to a fancy private school for less than the cost of a junior college... it'll be like learning how to get a brand new Cadillac for the price of a used pick up truck," he grins. Topics will also include why private

scholarships and 529 plans are a waste of time, how to double or even triple the amount of free money you receive from each school, and how to avoid the one mistake that will kill your chances of getting any money at all that almost every other parent will make this January, and much, much more.

"They will learn a ton, and I do my best to make the class fun," he says. "It's like I'm giving them a super bright flash light to navigate a pitch black cave, while all the other parents continue to stumble around blindly!"

"Don't forget: the class is totally free, but seats are limited, and we turned away a ton of people in November and December. Also, I'm not sure when I'll be teaching these classes again, so come on out and see me." You can reserve a seat by calling (1-866-210-0837 x 120 or online at www.collegeplanningcoach.com/collegemylthsexposed

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Bloomfield
(next to Carl's Golfland)
248.338.6390

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SPORTS

B

(CP)

Sunday, January 11, 2009

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

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

Chief cagers continue their unbeaten roll

Chiefs edge Rocks at wire. See Page B3.

BY ED WRIGHT
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The core group of sophomores on Canton's girls basketball team have played 26 high school basketball games without losing one.

The first 20 came last year at the junior-varsity level, but that doesn't discount what the super-sophs have accomplished this season.

The 26th straight triumph was racked up Friday night when the Chiefs raced to an 17-point halftime lead before taking down host Northville, 49-35, to raise their record to 6-0.

Kari Schmitt — one of the those talented, yet-to-taste-defeat-in-high-school 10th-graders — led the way with 23 points and 10 rebounds. Sophomore CarolAnn Sexauer added eight points while junior guard Lindsey Winters chipped in with six.

Northville was paced by Katherine

Jansen's 15. The Mustangs' season-

GIRLS PREP HOOP

long leading scorer, Chelsea Atzinger, was held to six by Canton's Sara Schmitt and Kayla Bridges, who took turns checking the Mustangs' explosive forward.

"I thought we played a very solid first half," said Canton coach Brian Samulski. "We jumped out to a good start. In the second half we were just O.K. We're very young, so that's understandable."

Canton led 16-6 after one quarter, 33-16 at the half and 39-25 with eight minutes to play.

The Chiefs sank 7-of-16 free throws. Northville was 8-of-10 from the line.

CANTON AGAPE 50, LUTHERAN SOUTH 44: On Friday at Lutheran South, the Wolverines registered their first victory of the season thanks to a pair of double-doubles.

Sequoia Hood, playing in just her second game of the season, notched 12 points and 12 rebounds while Ayanna Martin chalked up 16 points and 11 boards.

"It was back and forth most of the game," said Agape coach Dan DeWitt, whose team improved to 1-5. "We led by one at the half. We took care of the ball at the end of the game and that was the difference."

April Broska led Lutheran South with 19 points.

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

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Salem's Brett deBear drives through the heart of Livonia Franklin's 2-1-2 zone during Friday night's KLAA cross-over game in the Rocks' gym.

'D'-licious first victory

Defense, Brotz's jumpers spark Salem's first win

BY ED WRIGHT
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Starving for its first win of the season, Salem's girls basketball team ordered a red-hot Brotz late in Friday night's KLAA cross-over game against Livonia Franklin.

Fortunately for the Rocks, Victoria Brotz's jumper was cookin'. In a defensive struggle that barely needed a score-keeper, Brotz buried a pair of big shots during the game's waning moments to lift Salem to a 26-23 triumph.

The victory was the first in five games for Salem while the setback

was the Patriots' first in six contests.

Brotz's first clutch "J" came with 3:40 remaining when she drained a long triple from the left wing to bring Salem to within 23-21.

She struck again with 2:00 left, swishing a 15-footer to give the Rocks the lead for good, 24-23.

The game-winner almost never launched as Brotz looked initially, to pass the ball to a teammate. However, Salem coach Fred Thomann, who was seated only a few feet away, implored the unselfish Brotz to fire away.

"I reminded her that that was her

shot," said Thomann, referring to his pre-shot instructions during the game's pivotal moment. "When she gets her feet set and she squares up to the basket, she can knock that shot down. In fact, for this team to be successful, we need Victoria to shoot."

After building a 20-13 halftime advantage, the normally potent Patriots misfired on all cylinders during the final 16 minutes when they managed to tally just three points — a Chelsea Williams free throw and a Brianna Taylor layup,

Please see SALEM, B3



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton freshman Jay Jin strokes to a first-place finish in the 500-yard freestyle during Thursday night's meet at Livonia Franklin. Jin also won the 200 freestyle.

Chiefs outstroke Patriots in opener

For swim results, see Page B2.

BY ED WRIGHT
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Canton's boys swimming and diving team opened its 2009 dual-meet season in spectacular fashion Thursday night thanks to robust efforts from a bunch of veterans and a couple of freshmen.

The Chiefs outstroked Livonia Franklin, 111-72, in a meet held in the Patriots' pool.

The winners were paced by key returners Robert Goodwin, who won the 200-yard individual medley; Richard Zhang, who

touched first in the 100-yard freestyle; Chris Krebs, who earned first-place points in the 100-yard backstroke; Ryan Boes, who won the 100 breaststroke; and Matt Figlewicz, who won the diving competition with 193.65 points.

The fabulous freshmen were Jay Jin, who took gold in the 500 and 200 freestyle events; and Victor Zhang — Richard's younger brother — who outstroked all of his foes in the 50 freestyle.

"The meet went well for us, especially considering it was our first one after the holiday break," said second-year Canton coach David Le. "The boys worked

extremely hard over the break and it showed tonight."

Among the non-winners that Le praised was Brandon Tolinski, who placed second to Franklin's Scott Ansteth in the 100 fly with an impressive clocking of 1:02.60.

Canton also won the 200 medley relay as the foursome of Victor Zhang, Boes, Eddie Koelzer and Richard Zhang combined for a time of 1:51.22, over 15 seconds faster than the Patriots' runner-up quartet.

Ansteth was the Patriots' lone individual winner as he touched first in the 100 fly in 1:01.57.

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Whalers swap once-heralded goalie Smith, Lee to IceDogs

Hackett blanks Kingston. See Page B3.

Plymouth Whalers president, general manager and head coach Mike Vellucci announced the trade of 19-year-old goaltender Jeremy Smith and 20-year-old right wing Patrick Lee to the Niagara IceDogs in exchange for second-round and eighth-round picks in the 2010 Ontario Hockey League Draft and a fourth-round pick in the 2011 Draft.

The Ontario Hockey League's final trading deadline was Friday at noon.

With Smith moving to Niagara, 18-year-old Matt Hackett and 16-year-old rookie Scott Wedgewood will share duties in goal for the Whalers.

"Matt Hackett has clearly stepped up and has taken over the job as the number one goaltender," Vellucci said. "I feel it's time to move Smith so he can be a number one goaltender again. Patrick Lee is a victim of numbers. I never expected to get Brett Bellemore back (from Albany of the AHL on Monday) and Scott Fletcher has been very good for us."

Smith (from Brownstown, MI) was originally selected by Plymouth in the fourth-round (64th overall) in the 2005 OHL Draft and is playing in his third full season in the OHL. In 96 career games with the Whalers, Smith compiled a 3.15 goals

against average, .911 save percentage, seven shutouts and a 49-30-3-4 won-loss record.

Smith was part of the Whalers OHL championship team in 2006-07 and won the Dave Pinkney Trophy with Michal Neuvirth for the best team goals-against average in the OHL. Smith won USA Hockey's Dave Peterson Award in 2007 as the best junior goaltender in the United States.

Smith — selected in the second round (54th overall) by the National Hockey League's Nashville Predators in the 2007 NHL Entry Draft — played for Team USA in the 2008 World Junior Championships and has been signed by Nashville.

The trade of Lee reduces the Whalers to the OHL's three-overage (1988 birthday) limit. Plymouth's other overage players include Fletcher (Haslett, MI) and Bellemore — both defensemen — and center Matt Caria.

Lee — acquired from Erie in October of 2007 — scored 10 goals with 13 assists for 23 points in 37 games played this season with Plymouth. Overall, Lee scored 25 goals with 26 assists for 51 points in 98 career games with the Whalers. Lee was originally selected by Erie in the 6th round (109th overall) of the 2004 OHL Draft and played two seasons with the Otters, scoring 10 goals with 20 assists for 30 points in 119 games.

Sidelines

MHSAA nominees

Several Plymouth-Canton Educational Park student athletes have been nominated by their respective schools for the 2008-09 Michigan High School Athletic Association's Scholar-Athlete Award.

The program, which has been recognizing student-athletes since the 1989-90 school year, will honor 32 individuals who represent their member school in at least one sport in which the MHSAA sponsors a post-season tournament. Each of the 32 final honorees will receive a \$1,000 scholarship, which will be underwritten by Farm Bureau Insurance.

Each nomination will be judged next week by a 69-member committee of school coaches, counselors, faculty members, administrators and board members from MHSAA member schools. Finalists will be announced on Feb. 3.

The local nominees are:

■ Canton High School -- Kyle Clinton, Kristin Graf, Satish Subramanian, Nick Sweda, Tiffany Tan and Sarah Thomas;

■ Plymouth High School -- Sarah Brown, Ronnie Goble, Alison Huey, Derek Lax, Connor Martin, Lauren Maslyk, Zachary Neville, Wexin Ning, Megan Quinlan and Lauren Scott;

■ Salem High School -- Mary Cox, Emily Bair, Alexander Covington, Kelley Determan, Linda Ling, Amanda Price, Garrett Rogers and Zach Sponseller.

Plymouth rec sports offerings

■ Lacrosse registration for kids in grades 3rd through 8th will begin Jan. 5 (Monday through Friday between 9:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.) at the City of Plymouth Recreation Office, located in the Plymouth Cultural Center.

Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis and roster space is limited.

■ The Plymouth Rec Department will be accepting registration forms for spring youth soccer the entire month of January at the recreation office.

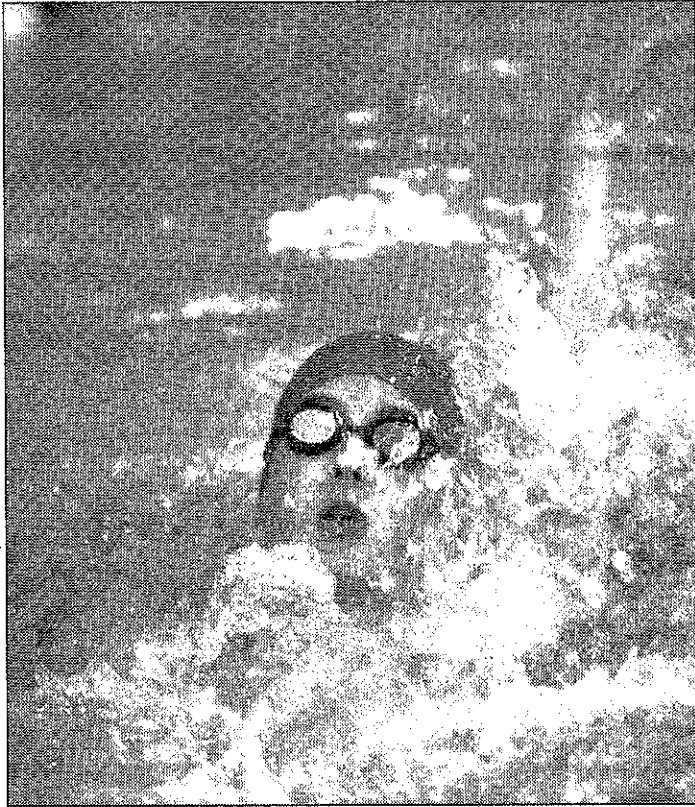
The City of Plymouth Recreation Office is located in the Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer St. All first-time registrants require a birth certificate.

For more information on both programs, call (734) 455-6620 or visit www.ci.plymouth.mi.us.

SWIM RESULTS

NORTHVILLE 111 SALEM 75
Jan. 8 at Northville
200-yard medley relay: 1. Northville (John Lubisco, Ben Schoenek, Anthony Adamowicz, Nate Lunn), 1:46.73; 2. Salem, 1:56.32; 3. Northville, 1:57.5.
200 freestyle: 1. Matt Collingwood (S), 1:51.56; 2. Clay Malloure (N), 1:54.96; 3. Max Mills (S), 1:56.54.
200 IM: Adam Seroka (S) 2:01.26; 2. Nate Lunn (N), 2:09.83; 3. Joe Delassanyi (S), 2:12.68.
50 freestyle: 1. John Lubisco (N), 23.03; 2. Noel Santer (S), 24.51; 3. Michael Hagen (N), 24.55.
1-meter diving: 1. Kevin Bain (N), 231.10 points; 2. Will Price (N), 188.50; 3. Joe Rudelic (S), 156.70.
100 butterfly: 1. Ben Schoenek (N), 2. Adam Seroka (S), 56.67; 3. Jeremy Wellman (N), 1:02.35.
100 freestyle: 1. Nate Lunn (N), 51.98; 2. Noel Santer (S), 53.43; 3. Ryan Winkler (N), 53.51.
500 freestyle: 1. Matt Collingwood (S), 5:05.28; 2. Max Mills (S), 5:09.82; 3. Anthony Adamowicz (N), 5:13.71.
200 freestyle relay: 1. Northville (Clay Malloure, Alex Miller, Michael Hagen, A. Aquino), 1:34.95; 2. Salem, 1:36.61; 3. Northville, 1:42.47.
100 backstroke: 1. John Lubisco (N), 57.95; 2. John Blickle (N), 1:02.16; 3. Will Greenlee (N), 1:03.44.
100 breaststroke: 1. Bofang Bhang (N), 1:07.69; 2. Jeremy Schaumann (N), 1:08.39; 3. Glenn Vargo (N), 1:09.59.
400 freestyle relay: 1. Salem (Matt Collingwood, Noel Santer, Max Mills, Adam Seroka), 3:30.93; 2. Northville, 3:39.72; 3. Northville, 3:48.17.

CANTON 111 FRANKLIN 72
Jan. 8 at Franklin
200-yard medley relay: 1. Canton (Victor Zhang, Ryan Boes, Eddie Koelzer, Richard Zhang), 1:51.22; 2. Franklin, 2:06.48; 3. Canton, 2:06.77.
200 freestyle: 1. Jay Jin (C), 1:55.33; 2. Brandon Larkins (LF), 1:58.71; 3. Brandon Tolinski (C), 2:02.74.
200 IM: 1. Robert Goodwin (C), 2:24.00; 2. Ryan Boes (C), 2:28.73; 3. Evan Champine (C), 2:29.46.
50 freestyle: 1. Victory Zhang (C), 23.27; 2. Patrick Jenner (C), 24.93; 3. Joe Michniewicz (LF), 25.31.
1-meter diving: 1. Matt Figlewicz (C), 193.65 points; 2. Ben Popp (C), 133.80; 3. Ryan Kilgore (C), 133.20.
100 butterfly: 1. Scott Ansteth (LF), 1:01.57; 2. Brandon Tolinski (C), 1:02.60; 3. Scott James (LF), 1:04.10.
100 freestyle: 1. Richard Zhang (C), 50.53; 2. Patrick Jenner (C), 55.41; 3. Joe Michniewicz (LF), 58.53.
500 freestyle: 1. Jay Jin (C), 5:17.67; 2. Brandon Larkins (LF), 5:34.57; 3. Jordan Gorzalski (C), 5:37.72.
200 freestyle relay: 1. Franklin (Tyler Lee, Scott James, Joe Michniewicz, Brandon Larkins), 1:44.39; 2. Franklin, 2:13.03; 3. Franklin, 2:46.35.
100 backstroke: 1. Christopher Krebs (C), 1:06.13; 2. Scott Ansteth (LF), 1:06.26; 3. Scott



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton's Robert Goodwin won the 200 individual medley event during Thursday's dual meet at Livonia Franklin.

James (LF), 1:07.77.
100 breaststroke: 1. Ryan Boes (C), 1:12.02; 2. Eric Tian (C), 1:16.51; 3. Steven Watts (C), 1:23.01.
400 freestyle relay: 1. Franklin (Brandon Larkins, Scott James, Joe Michniewicz, Tyler Lee), 3:56.66; 2. Franklin, 4:28.56.
CANTON'S DUAL-MEET RECORD: 1-0.

PLYMOUTH 138.5 JOHN GLENN 46.5
Jan. 6
200-yard medley relay: 1. Plymouth (Alex Jouney, Dan Stoscup, Ethan Christenson, Jack Gruczynski), 1:55.98; 2. Plymouth, 1:56.04; 3. John Glenn, 2:11.69.
200 freestyle: 1. Chris Wilson (P), 2:01.27; 2. Adam Wing (P), 2:01.75; 3. Peter Burns (P), 2:11.46.
200 IM: 1. Dan Stoscup (P), 2:21.76; 2. Kyle Dull (P), 2:25.18; 3. Jack Gruczynski (P), 2:25.49.
50 freestyle: 1. Jason Oldani (P), 24.34; 2. Paul Gutu (JG), 25.06; 3. Paul Snyder (P), 25.23.
1-meter diving: 1. Cody Roe (JG), 209.05 points; 2. Christian Osorio (P), 175.15; 3. Conner Monroe (JG), 151.95.
100 butterfly: 1. Adam Wing (P), 1:06.19; 2. Jack Gruczynski (P), 1:07.33; 3. Paul Gutu (JG), 1:07.46.

100 freestyle: 1. Jason Oldani (P), 53.14; 2. William Lyons (JG), 57.74; 3. Alex Jouney (P), 58.99.
500 freestyle: 1. Chris Wilson (P), 5:37.82; 2. Ethan Weiner (P), 5:40.73; 3. Ethan Christenson (P), 6:31.48.
200 freestyle relay: 1. Plymouth (Jason Oldani, Kyle Dull, Alex Jouney, Chris Wilson), 1:39.20; 2. John Glenn, 1:43.56; 3. Plymouth, 1:44.39.
100 backstroke: 1. Ethan Weiner (P), 1:07.86; 2. Paul Snyder (P), 1:09.14; 3. Zach Koch (P), 1:19.23.
100 breaststroke: 1. Dan Stoscup (P), 1:09.95; 2. Kyle Dull (P), 1:11.59; 3. Ethan Christenson (P), 1:22.10.
400 freestyle relay: 1. Plymouth (Jason Oldani, Paul Snyder, Ethan Weiner, Chris Wilson), 3:42.96; 2. Plymouth, 4:03.77; 3. John Glenn, 4:14.20.

MONROE 107 PLYMOUTH 79
Dec. 11
200-yard medley relay: 1. Monroe (Trevor Jarrait, Chris Allen, Chad Noziger, Matthew Nemeth), 1:48.25; 2. Plymouth, 1:50.14; 3. Plymouth, 1:54.98.
200 freestyle: 1. Michael Allen (M), 1:54.40; 2. Jason Oldani (P), 1:54.80; 3. Ethan Weiner (P), 2:04.25.
200 IM: 1. Jordan Staelgraeve (M), 2:10.18; 2. Chris Allen (M), 2:16.31; 3. Trevor Jarrait (P), 2:16.31.
50 freestyle: 1. Matthew Nemeth (M), 24.11; 2. Chris Wilson (P), 24.60; 3. Kyle Dull (P), 25.30.
1-meter diving: 1. Clint Nemeec (M), 196.85 points; 2. Kyle Wilkinson (P), 182.77; 3. Charlie Harris (M), 157.80.
100 butterfly: 1. Paul Snyder (P), 1:03.28; 2. Chad Noziger (M), 1:03.78; 3. Ethan Christenson (P), 1:03.86.
100 freestyle: 1. Matthew Nemeth (M), 52.29; 2. Chris Wilson (P), 54.85; 3. Justin Ellison (M), 56.49.
500 freestyle: 1. Michael Allen (M), 5:08.83; 2. Jason Oldani (P), 5:32.80; 3. Ethan Weiner (P), 5:43.50.
200 freestyle relay: 1. Plymouth (Kyle Dull, Paul Snyder, Chris Wilson, Jason Oldani), 1:38.59; 2. Monroe, 1:38.62; 3. Monroe, 1:45.81.
100 backstroke: 1. Trevor Jarrait (M), 1:02.49; 2. Adam Wing (P), 1:02.88; 3. Justin Ellison (M), 1:09.58.
100 breaststroke: 1. Jordan Staelgraeve (M), 1:03.88; 2. Chris Allen (M), 1:08.65; 3. Kyle Dull (P), 1:10.57.
400 freestyle relay: 1. Monroe (Michael Allen, Trevor Jarrait, Matthew Nemeth, Jordan Staelgraeve), 3:36.07; 2. Plymouth, 3:43.04; 3. Plymouth, 4:05.31.



Holiday hoop champs

The Our Lady of Good Counsel boys varsity A basketball team won the 2008 Detroit Catholic Central High School Christmas Classic tournament by defeating St. Patrick's of White Lake, 44-30, in the title game. The Crusaders closed out the 2008 portion of their schedule with a 9-0 mark. Pictured (front row from left) are Liam Teevens, David Houle, Jason Houle, David Walborn, Brad Nelson, Robert Coe, Alex Wrocklage, Sean Yanik, Alex Loveland, Garrett Moores and (back row) coach Anthony Pulcini. Not pictured are assistant coach Greg Yanik and Kevin Williams.



Playing with fire

The St. John Neumann Dragons boys junior varsity basketball team won the Mount Carmel Christmas tournament by winning all three of their games in decisive fashion. Pictured are (standing from left) head coach Angelo Lanava, Wesley Weber, Lucas Calahan, Connor Wingate, Justin Vitez, Gregory Williams, assistant Coach Mike Meagher, Nick Lanava, (kneeling from left) Danny Lanava, Joe Miazek, Kevin Livingstone, Gavin McAuliffe and Sean Meagher.

PLYMOUTH DISTRICT LIBRARY PUBLIC NOTICE

The Plymouth District Library will hold its ANNUAL Meeting Tuesday, January 20, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. at the Plymouth District Library at 223 S. Main Street, Plymouth, Michigan, 48170.

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

Barbara Kraft, Library Secretary
Plymouth District Library
223 S. Main Street
Plymouth, MI 48170
734-453-0750 x217

Publish: January 11, 2009

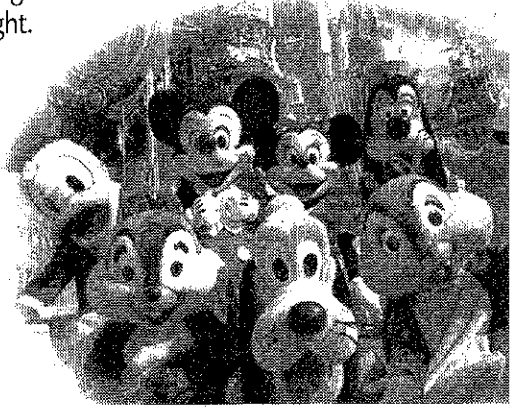
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For complete offer details, visit your local AAA office or AAA.com/Travel Jan. 12th - 16th, 8:30a.m. - 6:00pm

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06868371

Chargers outlast Plymouth icers, 6-4

Livonia Churchill made a two-goal lead after two periods hold up en route to a 3-2 boys hockey victory Wednesday night over Plymouth in a game played at Livonia's Edgar Arena.

Churchill is 3-3-3 overall and 3-1-2 in the South Division of the Kensington Lakes Activities Association.

Steven Klisz scored a pair of first-period goals for the Chargers at 3:36 (unassisted) and 6:55 (from Stefan Kubas). In the second period,

PREP HOCKEY

Plymouth's Chris Merrill scored from Mitch Martin and Ryan Renault at 3:47 on a power play, but Churchill's Ryan Cioch responded at 12:33 on a power play from Drew Sieber.

Plymouth cut the deficit to 3-2 with 4:28 remaining in the game when Renault scored from Kyle Callahan and Luke Merandi, but the Wildcats couldn't get the equalizer on Charger netminder Adrian

Motta (15 saves).

"Once again we were able to jump out early," Churchill coach Pete Mazzoni said. "I think we are starting to figure out what we need to do to be successful.

Unfortunately - the things we did in the first period we did not do in the second and we took too many penalties. We regrouped in the third period and got the 'W.' It was good to get back to back wins in the division."

Mike Justus made 14 saves for the Wildcats.

THE WEEK AHEAD

BOYS BASKETBALL
Monday, Jan. 12
PCA at Greenhills, 7 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 13
Canton at Salem, 7 p.m.
Plymouth at W.L. Central, 7 p.m.
Thursday, Jan. 15
Huron Valley at Canton Agape, 7:30 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 16
Canton at Novi, 7 p.m.
Plymouth at Salem, 7 p.m.
PCA at Oakland Christian, 8:30 p.m.
GIRLS BASKETBALL
Monday, Jan. 12
PCA at Greenhills, 7 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 13
Roeper at PCA, 7 p.m.
Franklin Road at Agape, 7 p.m.
Stevenson at Canton, 7 p.m.
Northville at Plymouth, 7 p.m.
Salem at Stevenson, 7 p.m.
Thursday, Jan. 15
Huron Valley at Agape, 6 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 16
PCA at Oakland Christian, 7 p.m.
Novi at Canton, 7 p.m.
Salem at Plymouth, 7 p.m.
PREP GIRLS HOCKEY
Tuesday, Jan. 13

PCS at Cranbrook-Kingswood, 5 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 16
Ann Arbor Pioneer at PCS at Arctic Edge, 6 p.m.
PREP BOYS HOCKEY
Wednesday, Jan. 14
Canton at Franklin at Eddie Edgar Arena, 6 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 16
Plymouth at Canton, 8 p.m.
Livonia Franklin at Salem at Plymouth Cultural Center, 8:30 p.m.
PREP WRESTLING
Wednesday, Jan. 14
Canton at Salem, 6:30 p.m.
Plymouth at Novi, 5:30 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 17
Canton at Warren Woods Tower, 8 a.m.
Plymouth at Williamston Tournament, 8:30
PREP GYMNASTICS
Monday, Jan. 12
Plymouth and Salem at Saline Tri-Meet, 6:30 p.m.
Thursday, Jan. 15
Canton at Wallied Lake Gold, 6:30 p.m.
Livonia Blue at Salem, 6:30 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 17
Canton and Salem at Farmington Invite, 9 a.m.

BOYS SWIMMING
Wednesday, Jan. 14
Franklin at Plymouth at Canton pool, 6:30 p.m.
Thursday, Jan. 15
Churchill at Canton, 6:30 p.m.
Stevenson at Salem, 6:30 p.m.
MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
Wednesday, Jan. 14
Madonna at Siena Heights, 7:30 p.m.
Delta CC at Schoolcraft, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 17
Aquinas College at Madonna, 3 p.m.
Schoolcraft at OCC-Orchard Ridge, 3 p.m.
WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
Wednesday, Jan. 14
Delta CC at Schoolcraft, 5:30 p.m.
Siena Heights at Madonna, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 17
Aquinas College at Madonna, 1 p.m.
Schoolcraft at OCC-Orchard Ridge, 1 p.m.
ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE
Sunday, Jan. 11
Plymouth at Ottawa, 2 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 16
Barrie at Plymouth (Compware), 7 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 17
Owen Sound at Plymouth (Compware), 7 p.m.

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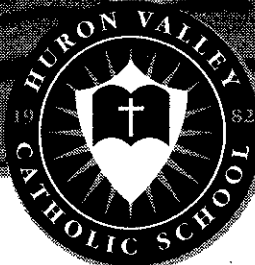
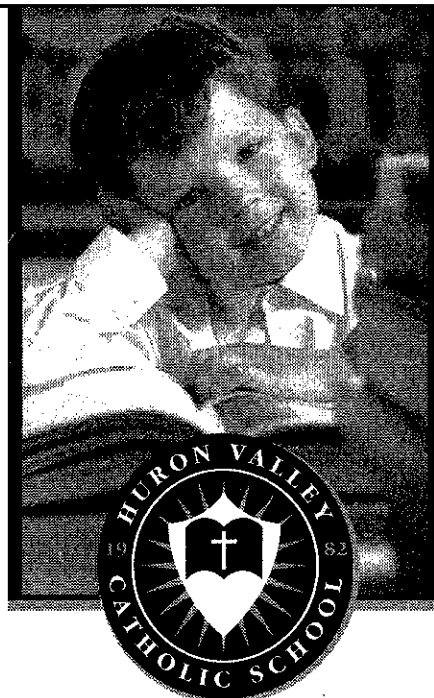
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Canton closes out Salem with strong fourth quarter, 36-32

BY ED WRIGHT
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Alyssa Cottrell doesn't start for Canton's unbeaten girls basketball team, but she sure can finish.

With the Chiefs trailing 30-29 and three minutes left in Wednesday night's cross-campus match-up against Salem, the junior guard reeled off five straight hustle-generated points to spearhead Canton's 36-32 triumph.

The state-ranked Chiefs improved to 5-0 and moved within one win of matching last season's entire victory total.

The Rocks slipped to 0-4. "I try to give the team energy when I come in, especially defensively," said Cottrell, who is one of five juniors on Canton's senior-less roster. "My offense is O.K., but defense is kind of my thing. Brian (Samulski) likes me to try to slow down the other team's offense."

Cottrell filled that role perfectly on Wednesday, particularly during the closing minutes when she stepped in front of a Salem pass, dribbled coast-to-coast and banked in a layup to put her team ahead for good, 31-30.

Fifty-one seconds later, she converted an offensive rebound to extend the Chiefs' lead to 33-30.

Nineteen seconds after that, Cottrell drained a free throw to cap a 7-0 Canton run.

"The nice thing about this team is that you can bring anyone in off the bench and they can spark us like Alyssa did tonight," said Samulski. "She came in and got a couple steals, a couple lay-ups and a free throw. That's typical of how this entire team plays with energy and really gets after it."

The Rocks appeared well on their way to earning their first victory of the season early in the fourth quarter when a Chelsea Davis jumper put her team up 29-20.

However, the combination of the Chiefs' full-court pressure defense and a relentless display of offensive rebounding by sophomore twin sisters Kari and Sara Schmitt fueled Canton's game-closing 16-3 run.

"We didn't handle their press very well and when we did break it down we tried to score too early at the other end," said Salem coach Fred Thomann. "Consequently, we didn't get as good of shots as we needed to get and we didn't get the time of possession that we needed to get."

"Our number one goal tonight was to make sure we walled them off from getting offensive rebounds because we knew they were going to attack the rim. We did a pretty good job of that until about the three-minute mark when we broke down a little and they took advantage of it."

Led by Kari Schmitt's six, the Chiefs yanked down 15 offensive rebounds, which was the primary reason they shot 27 free throws (mak-

ing 16) compared to Salem's three.

Kari Schmitt finished with 12 points, 11 rebounds and two steals while twin sister Sara recorded 11 points and seven boards.

Junior point guard Sara Stone sparked in defeat for the Rocks, notching 17 points and 14 rebounds. Senior forward Tracy Whalen added seven points and four caroms.

Stone's value to the Rocks was confirmed during Canton's fourth-quarter surge when she had to leave the game for 90 seconds with an injury.

The Stone-less Rocks were outscored 4-0.

"I thought Sara Stone played outstanding tonight," said Thomann. "She is clearly emerging as one of the best players in the area. She's a very, very good player."

The biggest lead either team built in the tightly contested first half was four.

The Rocks opened the second half with a 7-1 run to extend their 15-12

halftime advantage to 22-13. With Sara Schmitt serving as the catalyst, the Chiefs trimmed their deficit to 25-20 at the end of the third quarter.

With Canton trailing 29-20, Kari Schmitt scored six of the game's next seven points in just 70 seconds. The most impressive two came with 4:18 to play when she snared three consecutive offensive rebounds, converting the third to make it 29-27.

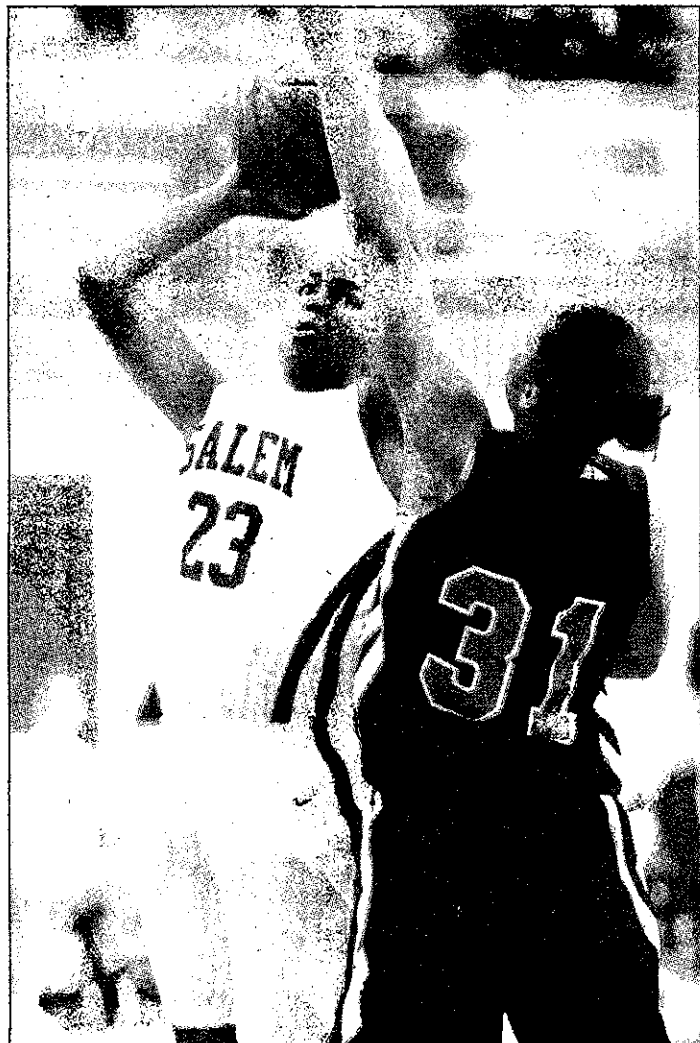
Even when his team faced a near double-digit fourth quarter deficit, Samulski kept the faith.

"One thing I know about this team is that they're never going to fold," he said. "That's just their nature."

"Even when we're down a lot, I just let them keep plugging away and eventually they'll get rolling — hopefully before the clock runs out."

Cottrell and her never-say-die teammates made sure it didn't run out too soon on Wednesday.

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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Salem's Sara Stone eyes the rim despite strong defense from Livonia Franklin's Briana Taylor Friday night. Stone scored four points and grabbed eight rebounds in the Rocks' three-point win.

SALEM

FROM PAGE B1

both of which came in the third quarter.

"We stood around too much on offense in the second half," lamented Franklin coach Dave McCall. "And we didn't rebound on the offensive end. We got one shot and that was it."

"Salem has a very good team, so I knew it wasn't going to be easy and I knew they'd make adjustments at halftime, which they did."

Thirty seconds after Brotz put the Rocks up by one, Franklin nearly regained the lead, however, a break-away layup rolled off the rim and into the hands of Salem's Sara Stone.

A Brotz steal with 24.5 seconds to play led to a pair of Chelsea Davis free throws that extended Salem's lead to 26-23.

Hounded by the scrappy Rocks, Franklin was unable to get off a potential game-tying three before the buzzer sounded.

Franklin's Briana Taylor led all scorers with 10 points. She also hauled down seven rebounds. Here

twin sister, Brittany, added six points and nine boards.

Brotz paced Salem with nine points. Davis added five points — she was 5-of-6 from the free throw line in the second half — and six rebounds.

Stone managed just four points for the Rocks, but she grabbed a team-high eight rebounds.

Salem's Tracy Whalen also played well, providing stellar defense on the Taylor twins while chipping in with four points and six rebounds.

Sparked by its trapping 2-1-2 zone, Franklin bolted to an 8-0 lead as Salem committed nine turnovers in the game's opening five minutes.

However, a Brett de Bear triple with 1:31 left in the first quarter seemed to calm the Rocks' nerves.

Thomann said it was a relief to finally get the ice-breaking victory.

"I was especially happy — not for me — but for the players because they've been working so hard," said Thomann. "And we did it against a very, very good team."

"To close out the game like we did in the second

half was awesome. The girls did a great job."

Franklin hit 10-of-37 field goals (27 percent) — and just 1-of-16 in the second half.

The Rocks were even colder, sinking just 8-of-31 attempts (25.8 percent).

Both teams made half their free throws. The dif-

ference was Salem shot 16 and the Patriots attempted two.

Franklin was hampered by the absence of junior Senneca Scott, who suffered an injured wrist in Tuesday night's victory over Waterford Kettering.

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Hackett white-washes Frontenacs, 2-0

The Plymouth Whalers' ever-growing confidence in goal-keeper Matt Hackett paid big dividends Friday night in Kingston, Ont.

Less than a day after the Whalers traded former No. 1 goalie Jeremy Smith to Niagara, Hackett justified the move by shutting

out the Frontenacs, 2-0, before a numbed crowd of 2,582 at the K-Rock Centre.

Hackett turned away 24 shots to help the Whalers even their record at 18-18-4-0. The hosts slipped to 8-28-4-2.

Following a scoreless first

period, Plymouth received a pair of second-period power-play goals from A.J. Jenks (at the 11:57 mark) and Vern Cooper, who lit the lamp with 3:57 left in the period. Beau Schmitz assisted Jenks goal while Ryan Hayes and Tyler Seguin picked up helpers on Cooper's goal.

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Part-Time for general contractor near Long Lake and Woodward for accounts payable and other duties. Flexible schedule, 24-28 hrs/wk (at least 4 days) during normal working hours of 8-5. Preference to individual with Construction background and Timberline experience. Must have experience with Microsoft Excel and Word. Please fax resume and cover letter to: 248-671-0389

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Go Red for women

Campaign raises awareness about women, heart disease

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
O&E STAFF WRITER

Dr. Joan Crawford has never been busier as a cardiologist. The Bloomfield Hills physician blames the increase on the crisis in the economy. As a result, women and men have come to her complaining of chest pain, making this year's Go Red for Women Luncheon on Wednesday, Feb. 25, more important than ever.

For the sixth year, the American Heart Association event educates women about heart disease and the difference in symptoms for the sexes. Instead of pains in the chest and left arm as in men, women need to question the reason behind shortness of breath, fatigue, palpitations, and light-headedness.

"We have an opportunity to impact 700 to 800 people to make sure they're aware heart disease is the No. 1 killer of women," said Crawford, chief of cardiology at St. John Oakland and Macomb hospitals, director of St. John Macomb women's services, and medical director of the Go Red campaign which culminates with Wear Red Day on Friday, Feb. 6.

"Anyone with a new set of symptoms needs to be checked out. Detroit's going through a rough time. I have a lot of people coming in panicked because they're going to lose health care, lost a job, taken a pay cut, and get chest pain. They might be nervous but don't make that assumption. Many are younger, prettier, fitter than you think but if mom, dad or a sibling had an early heart attack, congenital heart defects, a doctor's visit is not that expensive. What is expensive is having a heart attack and having an \$80,000 hospital bill."

EQUALITY CONCERNS

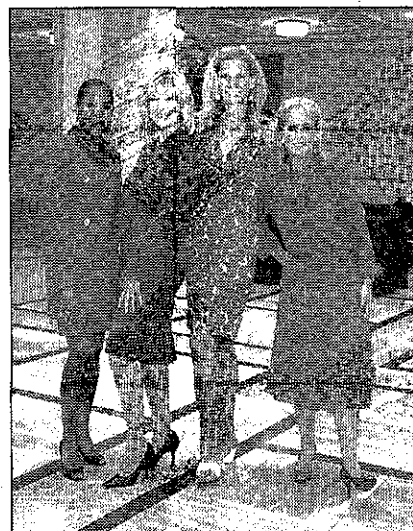
Although Crawford is less concerned than a decade ago about women's symptoms going unrecognized, she still believes not all of the medical community treat women equally with men. Crawford recently came in contact with a University of Michigan student who had just finished a rotation in the ER and said he couldn't believe the hysterical women who come in complaining.

"Physicians are being informed, but we have to keep re-educating," said Crawford who's equally concerned about patients who can't afford medication for high blood pressure, a major cause of heart attacks and stroke. She receives about 20 calls a week and warns them not to stop their medicine. "There are programs out there



PHOTOS BY NANCY SWEARINGEN

More than two dozen health care professionals, executives and media members took part in a photo shoot at the Detroit Institute of Arts in August for a calendar to promote awareness of heart disease in women.



Vivian Pickard (left) Lin Cummins, Dr. Joan Crawford, and Debbie Dingell pose for a photograph at the Detroit Institute of Arts for the 2009 Go Red calendar.

through Wal-Mart, Target, Kroger for pills that only cost \$4. Tell your doctor. We still have closets with free pills."

In addition to a healthy lunch and blood pressure screenings, guests can once again learn about topics including staying fit to prevent heart disease. The fashion show returns as well with designs, red, of course, by students from the International Academy of Design & Technology in Troy. As a special treat, everyone coming through the door receives a calendar featur-

GO RED LUNCHEON

What: Go Red for Women Luncheon features a fashion show, keynote speaker Dr. Annabelle Volgman, and a silent auction including celebrity purses donated by the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers.

When: 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 25

Where: Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center, 100 Renaissance Center

Details: Tickets are \$250 and available by calling Tasheena Young at (248) 936-5806. Proceeds benefit education and research on women and heart disease.

ing photographs of local health care professionals and media taken at the Detroit Institute of Arts in October by Nancy Swearingen. One of the highlights of the event is sure to be the silent auction of items including celebrity purses donated by the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Luncheon chairman Lin Cummins is especially excited about the keynote speaker, Dr. Annabelle Volgman who's probably best known to the public as Oprah's cardiologist. Cummins still gets a thrill every time she enters the room at the Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center where the women assemble for the luncheon.

"There are 500 women dressed in red," said Cummins, a Rochester resident. "It's the most amazing thing you've ever seen to see so many people in the room at one time cheering for the same cause and to learn more about what you can do to save your life from not only heart disease but stroke."

Cummins became involved with the American Heart Association after her mother died of heart disease. Initially, she was executive leader of the annual heart walk in Southfield and the No. 1 fund-raiser. As a busy professional woman, Cummins knows it's usually her who comes last.

"I've been a career woman for over 30 years and with the kind of work schedule professional women have we don't take care of ourselves," said Cummins, executive vice president of communications for ArvinMeritor in Troy. "I haven't had a physical in almost two years because I didn't have the time. If we don't speak about this we won't be around to take care of everybody else."

"It's good as a career woman to see how many professional women have joined in this campaign for this disease. Most research is done on men and women don't know symptoms like a sore jaw, nausea should be checked out. My mom was feeling nauseated before her heart attack."

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MEDICAL DATEBOOK

JANUARY

Understanding diabetes

St. Mary Mercy Hospital hosts Diabetes Support Group presentations 7-8:30 p.m. Wednesdays, Jan. 14, and Feb. 11, in the hospital's Auditorium, 36475 Five Mile at Levan Road, Livonia. Please use the Main Entrance on Five Mile Road. Registered dietitian Katie Dooley presents Understanding Carbohydrates for Better Blood Sugar Control on Jan. 14. On Feb. 11, registered dietitian Judy Swancutt presents Diabetes and Vitamins, Minerals and Herbs: What's Right for You. All are welcome. A new topic is presented on the second Wednesday of each month for adults with diabetes and family members. There is no charge, pre-registration not required. For information, call (734) 655-8961.

Get ready to have a baby

Learn what to expect during pregnancy, labor and delivery and make the entire experience more rewarding. Childbirth Education Weekday programs held 7-9 p.m. Wednesdays to Jan. 14. There is a fee. Registration required. Call (734) 655-1162.

Healthy eating workshop

Start the New Year Healthy: What Are You Eating? is the topic for a workshop 7-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 28, with guest speaker Dr. William H. Karl, D.C. The workshop is for everyone who needs help making healthy choices when buying food at the grocery store, deciding what to eat at a restaurant or cooking family meals. Karl will talk about organic vs. non-organic, GMO foods and the role of supplements in a diet. To register, call (734) 425-8588.

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 eat-

ing compulsively is welcome. For more Greater Detroit Overeaters Anonymous information visit www.oa.org or call (248) 559-7722.

UPCOMING

Winter fitness classes

Exercise classes for men and women begin Monday, Feb. 2, and continue through April for 22 sessions at the Metropolitan Adventist Jr. Academy Gym, 15585 Haggerty, north of Five Mile. Jeanie Weaver is a certified personal fitness trainer with 30 years of teaching/training experience. The session infuses pilates, functional strength training, balance work, flexibility, and motivational techniques in a 90-day fitness plan. Call (248) 446-9176 or (313) 300-0957 to register. For information send e-mail to jeanie-weaver@charter.net.

Thyroid cancer support

The group is free and open to all thyroid cancer patients and survivors as well as their family members and friends. The next meeting is 7-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 27, at 1641 Charlevoix Drive, Troy. For more information, call Gwynne at (248) 740-9759.

Butterfly ball

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

ONGOING

Breast cancer support group

Meets 6:30-8 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month in the Atrium of Our Lady of Hope Cancer Center, at St. Mary Mercy Hospital, 36475

Five Mile (use south entrance off Levan Road), Livonia. Call (734) 655-1100 for more information, or visit www.stmarymercy.org.

Caregiver's support group

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

Wayne metro caregiver support

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

Physical performance classes

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

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

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) 433-1071.

Flu shots

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

Flu shots

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

Get in shape while helping blood cancer patients

Want to get in shape, make lasting friendships and help save lives? The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's Team In Training (TNT) sports endurance program is recruiting participants through information meetings held in metro Detroit through January to give help and hope to thousands of blood cancer patients by raising funds as they achieve their dream of completing a marathon, half marathon, triathlon, 100-mile (century) bicycle ride or hike adventure.

TNT provides four to five months of personalized fitness training by certified coaches. In addition to weekly training sessions, TNT offers clinics on nutrition, equipment, injury prevention and the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society arranges airfare and lodging to send participants to the event of their choice.

The Michigan Chapter is recruiting teams now to participate in summer events such as Hike Grand Canyon, Traverse City State Bank Bayshore Marathon in Traverse City, Mich., Rock 'n' Roll Marathon in San Diego, Mayor's Marathon and Half Marathon in Anchorage, Alaska, Rock 'n' Roll Seattle, America's Most Beautiful Ride in Lake Tahoe, and the Philadelphia Insurance Triathlon.

For meeting dates and information, call (248) 581-3942 or visit www.teamtraining.org/mi.

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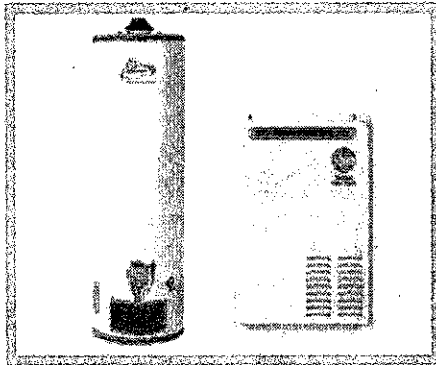
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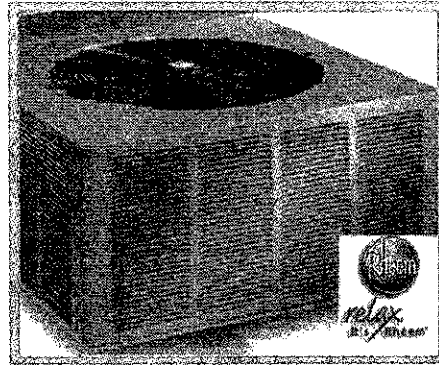
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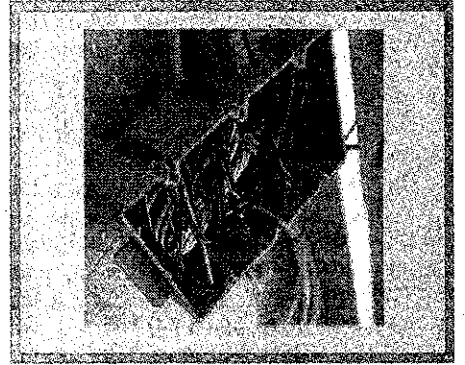
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Trinity church sponsors mobile food pantry

Trinity Evangelical Presbyterian Church is more than just a place to pray. The Plymouth house of worship is composed of members and staff who care about the community, which is why they're partnering with Gleaners Food Bank Saturday, Jan. 17, to provide food for those in need in western Wayne County and Ypsilanti.



Linda Chomin

Recipients must register between 9:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m., Tuesday-Thursday, Jan. 13-15, by calling (734) 459-9557 to schedule a pick up.

This is the second time the church has arranged for the mobile food pantry. In November the refurbished beverage truck arrived with 2,500-3,000 pounds of food. Between 450 to 500 families showed up then in the parking lot at Kmart on the corner of Haggerty and Ann Arbor Road. On Saturday, a hot lunch will be served as well, this time at the church by members who come not only from Plymouth, but Livonia, Westland, Canton, Ann Arbor, Novi and Northville.

"We purchase food from them and distribute to folks in need," said Ellie Schupra, director of outreach at Trinity church. "There's enough food for five to seven days for a family of four. We want people in Plymouth and Canton and nearby communities to benefit. We certainly aren't going to turn people away. The reason we instruct people to call a certain number is to reserve a time is to avoid pandemonium."

Trinity's Team Mission is always looking for ways to serve people in the

'It's a matter of looking at the needs and plugging in. At Sherwood Village we gave turkeys and food at Thanksgiving. November was phenomenal. We had some seniors, but the bulk was mostly people with families... It was a beautiful picture of the community coming together to help others.'

ELLIE SCHUPRA, director of outreach at Trinity church

community. Volunteers from the church have worked at Gleaners' Howell site and the main warehouse downtown to sort and package food. Last summer members helped Central Detroit Christian renovate a former dry cleaners to open the Peaches and Cream market so inner city residents could eat fresh fruit and produce.

"It seemed obvious for us to host the mobile food pantry given our economic times," said Schupra. "We have families in need at Trinity. We're meeting the needs of our own family here as well as outside. We've organized volunteers for Grace Centers of Hope in Pontiac, helped distribute food at Hope Clinic in Ypsilanti, and when gas prices were high went into service stations to buy down people's gas 20 cents and wash their windows."

"It's a matter of looking at the needs and plugging in. At Sherwood Village we gave turkeys and food at Thanksgiving. November was phenomenal. We had some seniors, but the bulk was mostly people with families. We gave chickens, eggs, sausage patties, fresh fruit and bread. It was a beautiful picture of the community coming together to help others. One person brought all the workers pizza. Others brought food and donated it. People were very appreciative. There were tears of gratitude."

The team at Trinity hopes to offer at least two more mobile food pantries during these trying economic times. Schupra is hoping families with young children are attracted to the effort. The church, which first held services at Isbister Elementary in Plymouth nearly 30 years ago, is always looking for new members to join the 650-700 worshippers on Sundays.

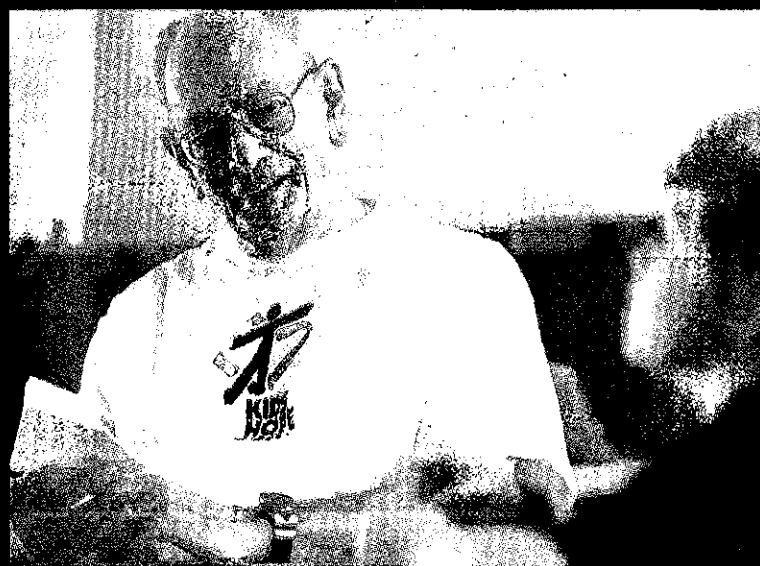
"We have a lot of young families attracted to Trinity," said Schupra. "We have a great children and youth ministry with youth and children involved. We're very intentional about some of the things we choose to do so children can learn about helping others."

Linda Ann Chomin is the health and community life reporter for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. She can be reached at lchomin@hometownlife.com or (313) 222-2241.



Coolidge Elementary School third-grader Brian Smith works with Kids Hope USA mentor Gail Cebalak on following directions.

A time for children



Kids Hope USA mentor Norm Sorensen enjoys the time he spends with Coolidge Elementary School third-grader Cole Custer.



Coolidge Elementary School third-grade teacher Ann Brady talks about the impact the Kids Hope USA mentoring program has on students such as Brian Smith.

Mentors make a difference for students

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
O&E STAFF WRITER

Cole Custer never cared much about reading until Norm Sorensen began volunteering as part of Kids Hope USA at Coolidge Elementary in Livonia. The pilot program is proof that mentors make a difference when it comes to instilling a love for books and school in children.

Sorensen, as a member of Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Livonia, spends one hour weekly with Cole in the program that unites volunteers with first- to fourth-grade students in need of one-on-one attention. Sorensen craftily used his interest in paper airplanes to form a bond with the boy who's nearly 9. In return, Cole draws a dragon for Sorensen on this Tuesday afternoon.

The first 20 minutes of the program focuses on academics. The rest of the time is for playing games and talking.

"He taught me how to make airplanes, how to read and write more. I hadn't been reading a lot," said Cole, a third-grader.

Sorensen, on the other hand, is able to spend time with a child.

"My son is 52 and doesn't want to make airplanes anymore," quipped Sorensen. "I get the fun of hanging out with a young person and hear stories from teachers about positive changes in Cole."

INFLUENCING CHILDREN

Rickey Amstutz was looking for a way to influence a child's life when she organized the local program with the help of the national organization begun as a research project in 1993. Holy Cross pastor Dana Runestad learned about Kids Hope USA from a college friend. She wants the public to understand there are no strings attached, only a hope that children "feel loved" by mentors from the church.

"One of the big things at Holy Cross is to reach out to the community," said Amstutz, director of the program that started Oct. 1, at Coolidge. "We have 16 mentors including myself to work with at risk children who may have learning problems or can't get along. We need 15 more mentors from the congregation, but have seven new mentors joining in January. Twenty percent of the congregation is involved. We're starting to make a difference. We hope other churches come in. Although faith-based, church and state are kept totally separate."

Principal Ann Kalec has embraced the program with open arms. She has a waiting list of children who could use help from the volunteers trained last fall on the importance of confidentiality.

"A mentor provides that one-

Please see **CHILDREN, C2**

Boot camp builds healthy bodies, minds, spirits

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
O&E STAFF WRITER

Edwin Petty runs through the drill designed to build not only a healthy body, but mind and spirit. The format offers a way to get or stay in shape without a military environment.

As troop leader, Petty won't be yelling commands in the faces of those participating in the Michigan Transformation Boot Camp. Instead the certified personal trainer uses encouragement as motivation in the metabolic boosting workout, incorporating exercise and information about fitness and nutrition.

Petty lives what he preaches. At age 48, he's slim and moves through the squats without missing a breath while speaking about

the Monday through Friday program at Boliard's Martial Arts Studio in Canton. Petty first started studying for a black belt at age 12, so he was attracted to the camps founded by fitness expert Mike Thornton in Texas. The routines combine karate kicks with army exercises like pushups, free weights, and yoga. The matted area is set up with stations at which campers perform tasks including jumping rope.

"There are two separate drills to increase heart rate and re-energize you," said Petty. "Everyone is not ready for a boot camp. They can go at their own pace. Someone may be an athlete. Another may not have exercised for years. We can regress or modify each exercise. Basically, nobody gets left behind. I've trained peo-

ple 100 pounds overweight. They can walk instead of run."

Boot campers, no matter their fitness level or age, warm up by jogging around the room then doing jumping jacks and stretches. In summer Petty plans to move the camps outdoors.

SECOND CAREER

These are the first camps Petty is holding so he's learning as he goes, just like participants. Petty took an early retirement from Blue Cross/Blue Shield last year to offer the program for men, women and families. He and his wife, Patricia, son Sean, 23, and daughter Brittany, 19, work out together. For years, he and Sean have taken martial arts classes

Please see **BOOT CAMP, C2**

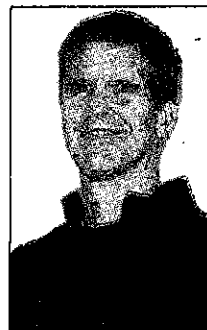
MICHIGAN TRANSFORMATION BOOT CAMP

What: A Dallas-based boot camp offered locally five days a week

When: 5:30-6:30 a.m. and 4-5 p.m. beginning Monday, Jan. 19. A free boot camp session is offered 7:30 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 17

Where: Boliard's Martial Arts Studio, 43663 Michigan Ave., between Sheldon and Morton Taylor roads in Sheldon Corners plaza, Canton

Details: Visit www.michigantransformationbootcamp.com or call (734) 667-4070.



Edwin Petty is offering a free trial session for the Michigan Transformation Boot Camp 7:30 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 17, at Boliard's Martial Arts Studio in Canton.



TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Coolidge Elementary School third-grader Cole Custer works with Kids Hope USA mentor Norm Sorensen on a Tuesday afternoon last month.

CHILDREN

FROM PAGE C1

on-one relationship. They can teach them to read and write and to believe today may be dark but tomorrow will be better," said Kalec. "I've been talking it up with other principals and hope to present to the board in spring. It's been fantastic. The most important thing we need is relationships. All children don't have good relationships. Research shows at risk kids made it because they had a mentor."

SHOWING APPRECIATION

Livonia Public Schools Superintendent Randy Liepa is just as supportive of ensuring success in students.

He recently spoke at a spaghetti dinner put on by teachers and staff to show appreciation for the volunteers.

"The concept is wonderful to have mentors working with children," said Liepa. "Any kind of support for a child supports the teacher. We're thankful for the organization."

As student assistant provider, Loretta Zimes has seen the benefits first hand. She works with children with social, behavioral, and emotional problems including grieving the loss of a loved one.

"They glow when mentors come in. They get a little extra boost," said Zimes, a social worker. "It's made a difference behaviorally."

Brian Smith probably doesn't realize the progress he's made since Gail Cebelak began

devoting time to the third-grade student. This day he was learning to follow directions for building a race car.

"He's starting to be more himself," said Cebelak. "He was very quiet, only spoke when spoken to, now he's willing to state what he wants. He's come out of himself some. I heard last year he had trouble focusing and staying on track. This year he's good at math and numbers."

Brian's teacher Ann Brady has noticed "a big change."

"It builds his self-confidence, gives them an opportunity to shine with an adult, to find success," said Brady. "Sometimes parents don't have the time."

Third-grade teacher Kristina Collyer says the program has helped two of her students.

"My students need more emotional support," said Collyer. "Kids look forward to mentors coming. For them to be excited about coming to school is a big deal."

WORKING TOGETHER

Frank Stenrose was having trouble completing assignments when Bill Coughlin became a mentor to the fourth-grade student who will be 10 in April. Coughlin is still working on Frank's favorite subject being recess.

"We talk about football," said Coughlin. "Frank and I are building a good relationship, focusing on academic needs, playing multiplication baseball. Frank plays left guard on the Livonia Eagles whose coach tells him school comes first."

lchomin@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-2241

Bacteria-covered drain pan may cause health problems

In 1994 I wrote my first book titled, *Appliance First Aid*, and the following can be

found on page 75 under the headline, Clean drain pan underneath the refrigerator:

This small tray designed to hold the runoff created in self-defrosting refrigerators has to be cleaned with hot soapy

water every time you clean the coils. It doesn't matter if it looks dry. The small amount of water from the defrost cycle evaporates rapidly but the dark, moist climate under the refrigerator makes the drain pan the ideal place for bacteria formation.

Dr. Shildberg, a good doctor friend of mine tells me that the drain pan is the worst place in the kitchen as far as bacteria is concerned. It is a "hot house" and a definite health hazard.

Many refrigerators also locate blower motors on the under side of the appliance. This blows the bacteria ridden

air around the kitchen. To stop this nonsense, wash the drain pan out in hot, soapy water at least once a month. Use a brush and get into all the corners. Get rid of the calcium deposits left by the evaporating moisture. Rinse and dry the pan and replace. Dr. Shildberg recommends pouring some Hydrogen Peroxide into the pan to kill off the bacteria before replacing.

Drain pans are made of very flimsy materials; therefore they tend to crack easily. If you spring a leak, you usually don't have to replace it. Just line the pan with aluminum foil. This fix should last for about ten years.

For 30 years before I wrote this book and many years after, I visited many American homes and worked on refrigerators where there was an odor in the kitchen that was not traceable by the homeowner. Odor comes from bacteria and when I pulled a drain pan out and placed it in the customers kitchen sink and showed them what it looked like, I'm sure they kept it cleaned from then on.

Back in those days the refrigerator manual you received also had instructions telling

you to clean the drain pan. Isn't it rather scary to realize that your flu and cold symptoms or worse could be caused by that hidden drain pan?

Now let me give you some more alarming news. The majority of today's modern refrigerators don't allow you to pull out the drain pan and clean it.

Yes, you just read this correctly. You can't pull it out because it is welded in place under the refrigerator and is very difficult for you to get a wet rag inside it to clean it. In my view the manufacturers redesigned the product to save on the cost of a replaceable drain pan without any consideration whatsoever of the health factor involved. They couldn't care less whether or not you get sick from using their product, just so long as you purchase it. I personally think that these corporate heads should be locked up in a combined out house some place. Stay tuned.

Joe Gagnon can be heard at 8am, Saturdays on WAAM 1600 and Sundays at 2 p.m. on WDTK 1400. You can e-mail your problems and questions on appliances to appldr@twm1.rr.com

Dads conference to host author of The Last Lecture

The Last Lecture was a talk, then a worldwide phenomenon, and now a best-selling book that has changed millions of lives.

Jeff Zaslow, the West Bloomfield man who co-authored the book with Randy Pausch, brings his experiences of working with the terminal professor to the 9th annual Midwest Fathers Conference 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 24, at North Farmington High School, to help dads

make every minute with their family count.

Sponsored by Partnership for Dads, the conference is a cutting edge secular forum where all ages can explore and enrich their roles as fathers.

Along with the keynote by Zaslow, 14 smaller group workshops cover topics ranging from discipline strategies to setting priorities as a father and husband, grandfathering, "love and logic," dads and daughters, divorced dads'

issues, and the joys of African-American fatherhood.

The first 300 registrants receive an autographed copy of the book, *The Last Lecture*.

For more information or to register, visit www.partnershipfordads.org or call (248) 646-1445.

The cost in advance, including breakfast and lunch, is \$29, \$60 for 3 people, or \$40 at the door.

North Farmington High School is at 32900 W. 13 Mile.

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

ACID DRINKS AND ENAMEL LOSS

Nationwide, dentists have noted an increase in dental erosion (tooth enamel loss), which has now been confirmed by a recent study. When researchers examined 900 middle-school students (aged 10 to 14), they found that nearly a third of them displayed eroded tooth enamel. When searching for possible causes, researchers had to look no farther than many of the popular soft drinks, sport drinks, some fruit drinks, and herbal teas that many of us consume. Some of these beverages have sufficient acid content to strip teeth of their enamel, causing brittleness and sensitivity. It is the dentist's job to make patients aware of this problem so they can make the adjustments necessary to prevent or stop it.

Preventive techniques of all kinds are the keystone of our practice. Whether it's as simple as cutting down on beverages loaded with enamel-eating acid and brushing and flossing daily, or more complicated like replacing lost fillings, repairing a broken crown or wearing a custom mouthguard, we urge you to keep on top of your dental healthcare needs. We'll help here at 496 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Ste. 201, Plymouth, with complete, compassionate dental care, including cleanings and checkups, restorative work, and cosmetic dentistry. Please call 734-453-9413 for an appointment.

P.S. Other possible causes of dental erosion include, some medications (such as aspirin) and certain medical conditions (such as acid reflux disease) that introduce gastric acids into the mouth.

CE06838533

BOOT CAMP

FROM PAGE C1

with Grand Master Greg Boliard. Last summer Petty helped Brittany strengthen her core muscles with simple exercises to run track and field at the University of Michigan where she is a student.

"There's no magic about working out on machines. It's about movement," said Petty. "If we just started moving we'd be a healthier nation."

SAME PHILOSOPHIES

Petty is doing everything possible to transform everyone's health including writing the Christian-based e-book, *Organic Brain and Body Fitness*.

He and Boliard believe the brain needs exercise as much as the body. A physical education teacher at Marshall Elementary in Wayne-

Westland Schools for 34 years, Boliard holds many of the same beliefs about fitness so he welcomes Petty and the camps to his studio, which has offered classes in martial arts, weaponry and self-defense since 1988 in Canton. Boliard began teaching martial arts through continuing education at John Glenn High School in 1973. He coached volleyball for 29 years.

"My martial arts movements can be seen in everyday life and sports," said Boliard of Canton. "I begin the year teaching my middle school students about muscle groups and the importance of movement which is the same whether it's a volleyball block or a basketball throw or a tennis serve. It's all repetitive and exercises the brain. The brain loves to be challenged. I like to work on sequencing, constantly activating the brain not to atrophy."

lchomin@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-2241

Crafters needed for show

Livonia Franklin High School is looking for crafters for its spring show to be held 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, March 21. Deadline for application is March 1.

For more information, call Tami Dawe at (734) 261-4805.

Arthritis Today

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



So Desperate You Will Try Anything - DON'T

Physicians understand that the pains of arthritis can become intense, and if conventional medical therapy fails, you may feel driven to look elsewhere for relief.

However, stay away from newspaper or Internet ads, and put little faith in what you see in television commercials or even newspaper reports about "breakthroughs" in medical care. The medical community skepticism does not come from disappointment at not finding the "right" treatment. Rather, distrust of commercial claims of success comes from medical experience in seeing how difficult is the road to prove that a therapy works.

The first problem is the false claim. A testimonial is suspect because you don't know if it is made up or if the pain relief obtained, was short lived. The second problem is the medication's ingredients. Wonder cures in arthritis have a history of being laced with steroids; such medications, when taken over months, will lead to serious side effects.

The third problem is lack of a clinical trial. A properly designed drug trial will take into account differences in individual metabolism, the chance of spontaneous cure, and will compare the new medication with what drugs are already available. The clinical trial will also bring to light side effects of the new therapy.

Finally, these unproven cures are often costly. You can laugh at the people taken in by phony stock market gains, but don't turn around and be fooled by hucksters pushing drugs of dubious merit. The saying holds for drugs as well as stocks: if it is too good to be true, it isn't.

www.drjjweiss.yourmd.com

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REUNION CALENDAR

The Reunion Calendar runs Sundays in the newspaper as space allows, and online in its entirety at www.hometownlife.com. Submit your reunion announcement at least two weeks in advance to Linda Chomin, e-mail lchomin@hometownlife.com.

**Brighton High School
Class of 1989**

Planning a July 25 reunion at Barnstormer Entertainment Complex in Green Oak Township. There will be a buffet dinner, DJ, and cash bar. Tickets \$75 per person or \$140 per couple. Contact Kelley (Doan) Simpson at (269) 375-5773 or at email4kelley@yahoo.com, or see groups.yahoo.com/group/brightonclassof1989.

Class of 1959

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



Passages

Obituaries, Memorials, Remembrances
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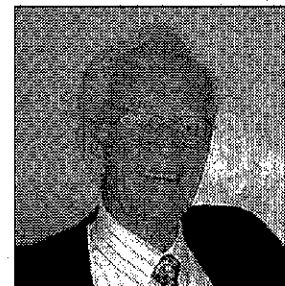
**HARRIETTE B.
ALEXANDER**

Age 89, a life-long resident of Birmingham and Bloomfield Hills and parishioner at St. James Episcopal Church in Birmingham, died January 5, 2009. Preceded in death by husband J. Reed Alexander, parents Irving and Clover Babcock, and sister June Vinton. Survived by children Anne Hilton and James R. Alexander and his wife Donna; grandchildren Peter Cartwright, Kenneth Cartwright and his wife Dawn, and Edmund Cartwright and his wife Samantha; great grandchildren Katherine, Ethan, Jamie, David and Hannah Cartwright; her sister Clover Weeks; nieces Joan Hendrickson and Linda Harrison; and nephews Scott, Rodney, John, and Jason Weeks. Memorial service will be held at St. James Episcopal Church, Birmingham at a later date. View obituary and share memories at www.DesmondFuneralHome.com

In Memory Of

**In Memory Of
GAIL JUNE
(KITTEL) BROWN
1/10/44 - 8/25/08**

Preceded in death by husband, William Dale Brown, parents, William & Henrietta Kittel, and brother William Kittel, Jr. Loving mother of daughter Holly Page, sons, Michael (Anita), Keith & Matthew Brown. Devoted grandmother of Zachary and Hannah Page and Anna Marie Brown. Dear sister of brother, Robert (Barbara) Kittel, and sisters, Joyce (Leonard) Augustyniak and Christine Wein.



ROBERT EUGENE COOK

Ret. US Army Major of St Petersburg, FL passed away unexpectedly on Sunday January 4, 2009. He leaves behind his loving wife Diane (Peretti); sons Eric Alan of Park City, UT, Robert Jr. and his wife Christina of Spartanburg, SC, Douglas of Winchendon, MA and daughter Susan Lyle and her husband Charles of Jaffrey, NH, along with five grandchildren; Charles Lyle, Bradley and his wife Erica Cook, Candice Cook, Jessica Cook and Robert J. Cook. His family was always his first love and, in addition to spending time with them, he had a love for the outdoors and traveled across the country in his RV. Sailing, fishing and skiing in both Utah and NH well into his 70's brought him great joy. Born in Boston on August 23, 1928 and the son of Joseph and Helene (McCarty) Cook, he leaves behind one brother Joseph F. Cook III of Bradenton, FL and two sisters Helen Raymah Horan of Pittsburgh, PA and Margaret Winn of North Springfield, VT. He served as an altar boy at Holy Name Church in West Roxbury, MA. A graduate of UNH with a BS in Mechanical Engineering and a MS from Purdue, his career brought him to a wide range of assignments, including England and West Bloomfield, MI. He returned to NH at retirement and was active in the town of Brentwood in the Brentwood Recreation Commission and the Rockingham Development Commission. A Memorial Mass was held on Friday, January 9, 2009, 10:30 am at Blessed Trinity Catholic Church St. Petersburg with full Military Honors. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to St. Jude Children's Hospital.

**ANJA M. KIPPOLA
(MRS. ARNOLD KIPPOLA)**

Of Ishpeming, age 88, passed away on Thursday January 8, 2009 at Eastwood Nursing Center in Negaunee. She was born June 6, 1920 at Ironwood, Michigan to William and Anna Nurmi. Anja grew up north of Hurley, Wisconsin, where she attended the Defer School, and was a 1938 graduate of Hurley High School. Anja moved to Detroit in 1940, and she contributed to the war effort working at Woodall Industries during World War II. She was married to Arnold Kippola in 1945. They lived in Detroit and Plymouth until 1970 when they moved to Ishpeming. Anja was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church in Ishpeming. She is survived by her husband, Arnold, two sons, Jerry (Jeri) of Ishpeming and James (Jan) of Negaunee, four grandchildren, Megan (Christopher) Penney, Aaron, James, and Leah (Alex Budnick), one niece, Jean (Keith) Sorrick, and three nephews, William (Doris), Robert (Pam Wooten), and Leonard (Ann) Nurmi. Visitation was held on Saturday, January 10th preceding a simple service at Bjork and Zhulkie Funeral Home in Ishpeming with Pastor Kenneth Lahners presiding. Honorary pallbearers are her precious grandchildren, Megan, Leah, Aaron, and James. Burial will be at Ishpeming Cemetery. Anja's obituary may be viewed at www.bjorkandzhulkie.com where relatives and friends may leave a note of remembrance.



**KATHERINE "KITTY"
PATTERSON (MOULE)**

January 7, 2009, age 85. Predeceased by her mother "Ging". Beloved mother of Georgia (Earl) Kiel and CDR Valerie Moule, USN (Ret). Cherished grandmother of Yvonne, Donald (Ruth) and Monique (Steven Cynewicz) Cadoret. Adoring, fun-loving, proud great-grandmother of Dennis, Benjamin, Emma, Isabelle and Alexander. Preceded in death by husband, Vernon "Pat" Patterson. Dear mother of Kirk (Shixiang) and Terry (Jennifer) Patterson. Dear grandmother of Brian, Angie, Kevin, Scott, Eric, Xi Yu and their children. Loving Aunt Kitty of Judy, Jill, Christine and their families. Kitty was an extraordinary person who loved life and touched the heart of everyone she met. She truly "never met a stranger". Kitty's gifts to her family and friends are those of laughter, kindness, generosity and love. In lieu of flowers, the family requests expressions of remembrance be sent to the Michigan Humane Society, Detroit Rescue Mission, Capuchin Soup Kitchen, Angela Hospice or to any other cause that is personally special! Visitation 1 p.m. on Sunday, January 11th until time of memorial service at 3 p.m. at the R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, 15451 Farmington Rd., Livonia. Share a memory of Kitty at: www.rgrgharris.com

DOROTHY M. PETTIT

Of Royal Oak, 88, died January 1, 2009 at Orchard Creek Supportive Care. Born in Detroit on Dec. 30, 1920 the daughter of the late Esther and George Mints. Survived by daughter, Wendy Sandtveit; grandchildren, Curt (Annie) Sandtveit, Paula and Holly Sandtveit, Rusty (Katy) Tobel and Brian and Brock Tobel; great grandchildren, Macie and Nathan Tobel, Kaitlyn Sandtveit, Teagan and Breckin Nerg. She was also preceded in death by daughter, Lynne Tobel and great grandson, Collin Tobel. A celebration of life will be held 1pm Saturday, January 17th at Greenfield Presbyterian Church in Berkley, MI with Pastor Peter Moore officiating immediately following the service desserts will be served. Contributions may be made the church. Jowett Family Funeral Home, Benzonia is handling the arrangements.

PEARL G. ROWE

November 2, 2008. Age 101. Beloved wife of the late John E. Rowe. Loving mother of Violet "Dee Dee" (the late Norbert) Dittmar and the late John Tomaszewski. Proud grandmother of Wendi (Gary) Stull, Perri (Gary) Frost, Dani-Sue Dittmar and John (Julie) Dittmar. Great-grandmother of nine and great-great-grandmother of one. Private memorial service will be held at a later date. Care and services were entrusted to Neely-Turovski Funeral Home, Livonia. Memorials may be made to Seedlings Braille Books For Children, P.O. Box 51924 Livonia, MI 48151.
www.neely-turovski.com

PHYLLIS DUWALL SMITH

Passed away at her home in Farmington, MI on January 3, 2009 after a second battle with stomach cancer. Born on June 20, 1923 in Belle Vernon, PA, she had raised her family in many states along with her husband Thomas Edward Smith who preceded her in death in 1998. She is survived by three daughters, a son-in-law, six grandchildren, and nine great-grandchildren. Per her request, there will be no services. Phyllis' ashes will be scattered on her beloved childhood farm in Pennsylvania. Memorials may be made to Angela Hospice, 14100 Newburgh Road, Livonia, MI 48154-5010. www.thayer-rock.com

**ANTHONY J. (TONY)
WOLF**

January 3, 2009; passed away suddenly at age 86; beloved husband of the late Mary Jo (nee Burkett); devoted father of Lou Wolf Vallance (Russell Henckel) of Rockford, MI and Rose Ann (Dr. Richard) Dulski, of Elma, NY; loving grandfather of Colin and Guy Vallance; loving brother of Evangeline Bauer, of Newport, OR, and brother-in-law of Loretta Wolf, of Moscow, ID. Predeceased by Naomi (Alfred) Stojanik of Portland, OR, Clifford Wolf, of Moscow, ID, Lester (Marie) Wolf and Arthur Wolf of Uniontown, WA. and Lawrence Bauer of Newport, OR. Although Tony was an electrical engineer by degree, he spent much of his spare time as an amateur astronomer and avid sailboat yachtsman of the great lakes in his earlier years. In 1972, he co-founded the mechanical and electrical consulting engineering firm "Wolf Wine-man" in the Farmington Hills area, which is still in business today. Retiring in 1992, Tony was currently a resident of Grand Rapids, MI and (formerly) Bloomfield Hills, MI. A service to celebrate his life will be held on Saturday, January 17, 2009 at 1:00 p.m. at Heritage Life Story Funeral Homes - Van Strien Creston Chapel, 1833 Plainfield NE, Grand Rapids, MI. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the service. You may read more about Tony's life, share a favorite photo or memory, or sign the online register book by visiting www.lifestorynet.com. Memorials, if desired, may be made to the St. Regis Fund, 3695 Lincoln Road, Bloomfield Township, MI 48301-4055.



OLIVE H. WOODIN

Age 101, of Livonia, MI and formerly a longtime resident of Columbus, OH, passed away Monday, December 22, 2008 at Marywood Nursing Care Center in Livonia, MI. She was born in Yale, Oklahoma on June 17, 1907, the youngest of nine, to Leonard A. and Olive J. (Swisher) Eagles. Olive graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Business Education from Oklahoma Baptist College. At age 50, Olive returned to school and received a Master's Degree in Special Education. She was an outstanding vocalist and loved to quilt. Preceded in death by two husbands: Walter Emery and Ralph Woodin. She is survived by her children: Helen Cooley, Paul Emery and Evelyn Longmire; four grandchildren: Tyler Young, Mitchell Cooley, Benjamin Emery, and John Young, Sr.; four great-grandchildren: John Young, Jr, Devan Young, Kirsten Cooley, and Tiffany Young; and four great-great-grandchildren. Visitation was held from 2-4 & 6-8 p.m. on Friday, January 9, 2009 at SCHOEDINGER NORTHWEST CHAPEL, 1740 Zollinger Road, Upper Arlington. Funeral Service was held at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, January 10, 2009 at Mountview Baptist Church, 2140 Fishinger Blvd., Columbus, OH 43221. Interment followed at Union Cemetery.

Let others know...

When you've lost a loved one, place your notice on our website and in "Passages"...a directory located in every edition of your hometown newspaper.

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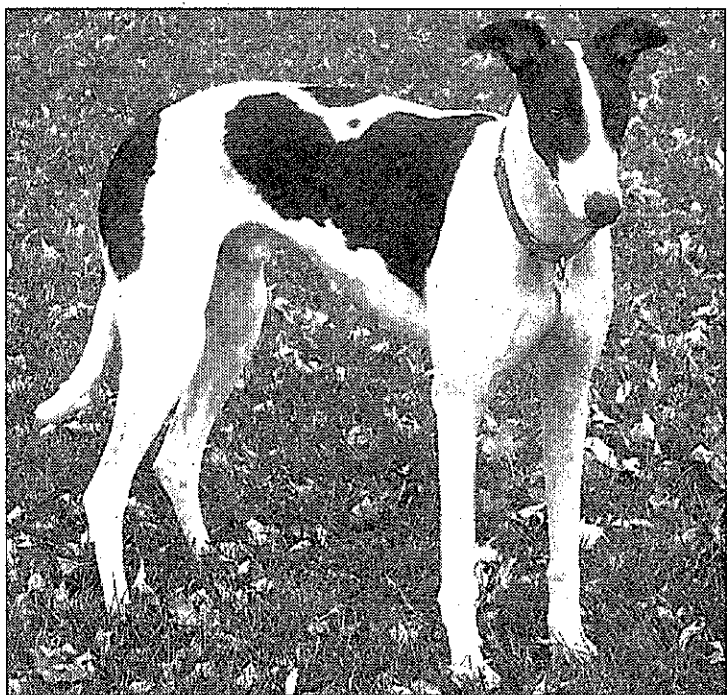


Sweet and playful

Bailey is a 2-year-old male greyhound in need of a good home. He is black and a very sweet boy. Bailey is affectionate and he's very playful and well-mannered. He loves soft beds and fluffy toys. Bailey is neutered and up to date on his vaccinations. For information, contact Greyheart Greyhound Rescue and Adoption at (866) 438-4739 or visit www.greyheart.org. A Meet and Greet with greyhounds like Bailey will be held noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 25, at PetSmart, 385 Haggerty, in Commerce Township.

Greyhound rescue

Solomon is a 3½-year-old male greyhound. He is white with black patches. Solomon is very affectionate and kid friendly. He loves to play and is looking for his "forever home." For information, contact Greyheart Greyhound Rescue and Adoption at (866) 438-4739 or visit www.greyheart.org



ENGAGEMENT



Vidusic-Czubaj

John and Barbara Vidusic of Westland announce the engagement of their daughter, Natalie, to Michael Czubaj, son of Raymond and Trina Czubaj of Gaylord. An autumn wedding is planned.

ANNIVERSARY



Golden Anniversary

Richard and Betty Lake of Plymouth celebrated their 50th anniversary at a party hosted by their daughters, Maria Lake of Westland and Susan Blaskie, South Lyon. The couple then flew to Montego Bay, Jamaica to renew their vows originally taken Oct. 25, 1958. The ceremony was followed by a party at Sandals. They enjoyed the rest of their vacation before heading back home to Plymouth where they've lived 43 years.

Betty (Bauer) Lake retired from the Headstart program at Plymouth-Canton Community Schools 11 years ago. She enjoys gardening and has won Plymouth Beautification awards.

Richard retired from Northville State Mental Hospital 12 years ago and is vice-president of the Kiwanis, Goodfellows.

The couple have two grandchildren. They enjoy traveling throughout the U.S. and Europe. They have been to Jamaica 28 times.

Irish genealogical society to meet

On Saturday Jan. 24, 2009 the Irish Genealogical Society of Michigan will present a program on "Utilizing Footnote.com at the Library of Michigan and from Home". Kris Rzepczynski will explore the interactive repository of millions of images of original documents, many from the National Archives, including naturalization records, city directories, and Civil War service records. He is currently the Michigan/Genealogy Coordinator at the Library of Michigan, where he has

worked for eight years. He holds a Masters in Library and Information Science from Wayne State University, a Master of Arts in History from Western Michigan University, and a Bachelor of Arts in History from the University of Michigan. In addition, he currently serves as president of the Mid-Michigan Genealogical Society.

The meeting will begin at 1:30 p.m. at the Gaelic League/Irish American Club in Detroit.

For more information, call Liam Neary at (734) 464-4645.

Friends of opera to hold auditions

The Friends of the Opera and City of Dearborn will hold auditions for *The Most Happy Fella*, a love story, 6:30-9:30 p.m. Thursday-Friday, Jan. 15-16, at the Ford Community & Performing Arts Center, Studio A, 15801 Michigan Ave., Dearborn.

Call (313) 943-2359 to set up an audition time.

Performance dates are April 17-18.

Baritones, tenors, a soprano and mezzo soprano are needed for the production with music by Frank Loesser.

GARDEN CALENDAR

If you have an item for the garden calendar, please submit it at least two weeks prior to the event to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com.

North American gardens

Oakland University's Meadow Brook Hall Garden Club will meet at 10 a.m., Friday, Jan. 23, in the Meadow Brook Hall Ball Room. Guest speaker Julia Hoxley, will present a travelogue of favorite public and private gardens from trips across America and British Columbia. Guests are welcome. Coffee and refreshments will be served at 9:30 a.m. There is a \$5 non-member donation. Reservations are not required. For more information call (248) 887-1983, or (248) 276-0136, or visit www.meadowbrookhall.org.

Living Green

Learn how to properly select and care for plants that will thrive

indoors at a free workshop, at 1 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 10, at all English Garden stores. Local locations include: 6370 Orchard Lake Road at Maple, in West Bloomfield, (248) 851-7506; 4901 Coolidge, north of 14 Mile, in Royal Oak, (248) 280-9500; and 44850 Garfield at Hall Road, Clinton Township, (586) 286-6100.

Flowering baskets

2 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 10, at all seven English Gardens stores. Fee is \$29.99. The store will provide everything needed to create a basket filled with long-lasting greens and flowering plants. Register in the store or online at www.englishgardens.com. Local stores include 6370 Orchard Lake Road at Maple, in West Bloomfield, (248) 851-7506; 4901 Coolidge, north of 14 Mile, in Royal Oak, (248) 280-9500; and 44850 Garfield at Hall Road, Clinton Township, (586) 286-6100.

Rain Gardens

This day-long how-to-do-it seminar is designed for ecological gardeners who are working with clay soil. Register beginning at 6:30 p.m., Monday, Feb. 9, at the Southfield Public Library, 26300 Evergreen, south of I-96.

The program will run from 7-8:30 p.m., and cover topics such as compost benefits and water quality, native wildflowers and shrubs for rain gardens, and sizing and locating a rain garden. Speakers will include Rick Lazzell, landscape designer and consultant; Suzan Campbell, Michigan Natural Features Inventory; Lilian Dean, Southeast Oakland County Water Authority (SOCWA) Healthy Lawns and Gardens program. There is no admission charge, but advance registration is required. Call Karen Bever at (248) 288-5150 or e-mail LFDean@aol.com.

OBITUARY POLICY

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

Deadlines:

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

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

e-mail your obit to oeobits@hometownlife.com or fax to:

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For more information call:
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586-826-7115

or Charolette Wilson
586-826-7082

or toll free
800-579-7355

ask for Jennifer or Charolette
0208579123

AGE DISCRIMINATION: PROMOTIONS AND ASSIGNMENTS



WORKWISE

by
Mildred L.
Culp

Under the Age Discrimination in Employment Act (ADEA), you don't have to be white-haired to experience age discrimination. Cincinnati's Timothy Davis, who practices on behalf of employees through The Lawrence Firm P.C., states that a company acts

illegally "any time (it) treats workers 40 and over differently from younger workers. Termination is not required for a valid claim." How can you be certain you're experiencing age discrimination in a promotion or assignment? How should you respond?

OTHERS

Kira Fonteneau of The Fonteneau Firm in Birmingham, Ala., whose employment law clients are almost exclusively employees, says that some of the most subtle discrimination occurs in promotions and assignments. To gather data, she advises:

- listening, observing and analyzing,
- being alert to "code words, such as 'fresh appeal' and 'new perspective.'"
- developing and documenting your findings to suggest an age-related problem. (For example, if management is under 40 and well-qualified older people

who apply are rejected, you might have evidence.) -- watching for "obstacles, such as a new restriction being put in your way, like a college diploma or, in a job description, the omission of requirement X, which only you have."

-- determining whether you have every qualification the younger person has but a different outcome.

-- "noting whether older workers are penalized for being late, while younger ones aren't."

-- "being intuitive when things just don't seem right."

If an employer hands your job to a younger employee to increase your discomfort with the idea you'll resign, you're facing age discrimination, according to Fonteneau. The same kind of discrimination, termed constructive discharge, is possible if younger employees receive encouragement and support but older ones don't, adds Davis. Fonteneau asks, "How much do they turn up the heat on the individual? Be able to prove that the situation was unbearable."

Martin Gringer of Franklin, Gringer & Cohen P.C., in Garden City, N.Y., who represents management in labor and employment law cases, cautions against concluding that you're privy to every factor behind a company's decisions or practices. In addition, excellent performance reviews might be irrelevant if the company has new management.

YOU

If you remain silent, you waive the employer's right to redress the situation. "Under the law, you're required to

follow the complaint route," Gringer points out. "If you don't... the company is not required to act on (the discrimination)."

How can you cautiously take action? Donna Ballman of Ft. Lauderdale's Donna M. Ballman P.A., for whom about 90 percent of clients are employees, says, "Make sure you apply for positions. Don't take yourself out of the running. If you apply and a younger person is put in, don't assume you're out of the running for promotions."

Former middle manager Scott I. Barer of Los Angeles' The Law Offices of Scott I. Barer serves frequently as expert witness for employees. He mentions that accurate, succinct documentation is essential should an investigation take place. "It's very frustrating for investigators to ask about the employee's allegations and (see) the employee have difficulty recalling details," he comments.

Who should hear your complaint? Barer recommends bypassing your immediate supervisor in favor of HR. "If the supervisor is doing the discriminating or knows the person involved," he remarks, "you risk him circling the wagons. If HR does nothing, and you know the company's attorney, go there. He'll then... call HR. I've worked with a lot of HR people. I think the vast majority of them really want to do the right thing."

Lodge your complaint formally. Ballman directs you to write it up: "To preserve your protected status, say that it's a 'formal complaint of age-based harassment' or formal complaint of age discrimination. These are the powerful (phrases), which will protect you from retaliation. She says



Credit: The Fonteneau Firm

Attorney Kira Fonteneau represents employees on employment law matters. She provides tips for spotting subtle age discrimination in promotions and assignments. Fonteneau practices at The Fonteneau Firm in Birmingham, Ala.

to omit words like "longevity, harassment and hostile work environment," which won't.

(Dr. Mildred L. Culp welcomes questions from readers at culp@workwise.net. Copyright 2008 Passage Media.)



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HOMETOWNlife.com

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HOMETOWNlife.com

4 easy ways to place your ad:

PHONE..... 1-800-579-SELL (7355)

FAX..... 586-826-7318

ONLINE..... hometownlife.com

EMAIL..... oads@hometownlife.com

HOME DELIVERY/CIRCULATION..... 866-887-2737

Deadlines:

Sunday edition..... 4:30 p.m. Friday

Thursday edition..... 11:00 a.m. Wednesday

Offices and Hours:

Eccentric office..... 805 E. Maple, Birmingham

Observer office..... 41304 Concept Drive, Plymouth, MI 48170

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

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CE08039548



Help Wanted-General 5000

A Real Estate License in One Week for \$79

Salary positions available

Career Talks

Thursday Noon & 6pm

Real Estate One
217 W. Ann Arbor Rd
Plymouth

734-455-7000 ext. 105

Observer & Eccentric Classifieds
Just a quick call away...
1-800-579-SELL

Help Wanted-General 5000

Accountant

For Construction Division of Multi-State Developer

Job Requirements:

Successful candidates must have an exceptional knowledge of computers including MS Word and MS Excel, a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting, knowledge of AIA documents, construction accounting/job costing knowledge, lien waiver exp. & excellent organizational & multi-tasking skills. Exp. in using Timberline is required & MRI preferred. Duties require a self-starter who is highly organized & has the ability to work well independently. We offer competitive compensation package.

Please send resumes to:

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DMP Att: O&E Newspapers

6200 Metropolitan Parkway

Sterling Heights, MI 48312

ce_resume@hometownlife.com

(Code 1756)

hometownlife.com

Help Wanted-General 5000

ADULT CARRIERS NEEDED



Western Wayne County & Farmington Area

Previous experience preferred. Must be available on Thursday morning, Saturday evening/Sunday morning. Reliable transportation. Possible earnings of \$40-\$80 per delivery. Some Porch delivery. No Collections.

Call Toll Free

1-866-887-2737

Observer & Eccentric

Apply now, firm has

37 FT/PT

openings

\$14.25 base-appt.

We train, great for resume,

conditions apply, must be

18+, advancement optly.

Call Today (248) 426-4405

Help Wanted-General 5000

AUTO BODY PERSON

Busy shop in Wayne.

Benefits.

Call: (734) 641-0750

CLASSIFIEDS WORK!

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Automotive

ENGINE TECHNICIAN

Great pay & benefits. Must be ASE certified. GM experience a plus. Apply in person to:

TENNYSON CHEVROLET

32570 Plymouth Rd.

Livonia, MI

(734) 422-6500

BOOKKEEPER

Full charge for Novi based business. Must be proficient in all areas of accounting with a strong emphasis in bank reconciliations, AR, AP and journal entries. Candidate must have excellent communication skills, be detailed oriented and able to handle multiple tasks. Email resume with salary requirements and history to: okandjobs@hotmail.com

Cable

Sales Managers, Exp'd Technical Positions

Michigan's leading Cable Co. is seeking self-motivated, professionals. Needed immediately.

Send resume to:

cablesales@comcast.net

or fax: 586-791-2690

Help Wanted-General 5000

CALL NOW!

\$1,800/mo. co. program

37 people needed

immediately in 5 departments

• permanent positions

• production bonuses

• promotion within 90 days

• pay weekly

• vacation program

For immediate interview call

734-425-7180

Caregiver

Primary Caregiver

Toddler & Preschool Rooms

2 Part-Time Positions:

Application, along with

photocopies of college

transcript(s) from regionally

accredited institution(s),

must be received in Human

Resources no later than

Monday, Jan. 19, 2009 at

4:30pm. To download, print

or submit an application

online visit our website:

www.schoolcraft.edu/jobs

EOE

Help Wanted-General 5000

CAREGIVERS

Healthcare company looking

for private duty care givers for

all shifts including alternate

weekends. Fax resume to

248-735-1010

CARPET CLEANING

Immediate openings, min. 2

yrs. exp. required. Certification

a plus! Good driving record

required. 734-464-8028

CLEANERS NEEDED

For Plymouth area homes.

\$10 hr. to start. No nights

or weekends. Full-Time.

Car required. 734-455-4570

CUSTODIAN POSITION

Part-time at church

in West Bloomfield.

Call: 248-855-9191

Customer Service Rep

Personal lines CSR for insurance

agency in Plymouth.

Full-Time. Call 734-459-8272

Ask for Mary Jo or Tony

Help Wanted-General 5000

CUSTOMER SERVICE TRAINEE

We need a mature, reliable,

helpful, friendly, professional,

positive person to help us with

our busy Plymouth insurance

office. We will provide all

training and a professional

workplace. Work hours for this

position are: Mon-Fri 1pm-5pm.

Permanent position with

growth potential. \$10/hr. Call

248-596-1552 to leave msg.

Only call between 8am-7pm.

DELIVERY TECHNICIAN, P/T

Located in Detroit hospital for

DME company. 1-2 days/week,

noon to midnight. Fax resume:

800-552-9443 or email:

amsdme@sbcglobal.net

DIETARY AIDES & HOUSEKEEPERS PART-TIME

Needed for retirement home

in Northville. Good wages.

Apply in person: Oakmont,

42000 Seven Mile Rd. W. of

I-75, or call: 248-449-1480

Help Wanted-General 5000

DIRECT CARE ASSISTANT

Assist persons we serve in

residential settings. Feel good

about your work. \$7.65 total

plus good benefits.

Livonia: 734-469-4523

734-469-4519, 248-474-0283

DIRECT CARE STAFF

\$6.20 wages & benefits.

Must be trained/valid license.

313-255-8295

DIRECT CARE-- Make a difference!

Support people with

disabilities living their life the

way they want to! Assist with

personal care, meals, taking

care of their homes, getting

places etc. Many locations,

many shifts! If you are at least

18 years old, have a valid

Michigan's Driver's License &

are CLS, Inc. trained, call our

Job Line 734-728-4201, 0#

DRIVERS: TOW TRUCK

Full-Time, Experience,

afternoon shift, Contact Walter

or Karen: 734-455-1130

Help Wanted-General 5000

FT/PT positions available

in the Waterford &

Auburn Hills Area:

Catering Assistant

Must have exp., clean

driving record and be

able to work flex. hrs/

occasional weekends.

Cafe Mgr/ Supervisor

Must have exp., and

computer knowledge.

Must be able to multi-

task and do daily pro-

duction/ inventory/

paperwork/ customer

service focused and be

Serve Safe Certified

Cashier

Previous exp. req'd.

Must be available to

work evenings.

Send resume/inquires:

csresume@continentalssv.com



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HOMETOWNlife.com

Help Wanted-General 5000

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

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.
Fax resumes to: 248-471-0001 - EOE

LEASING CONSULTANT
For Suburban apt. complex. Candidate should be outgoing & results driven. Previous leasing & marketing exp. a must. Weekend hrs. required. Fax resumes to: 248-471-0001 - EOE

Picture Can Make A Difference!
1-800-579-SELL(7355)
Observer & Eccentric

Maintenance
For Southfield apts. Must have HVAC and prior exp. Benefits available. Call 248.353.9050

Maintenance
Full time position available for Northville and Canton commercial sites. Duties include general maintenance skills. Competitive wage including benefits. Fax resume to (248) 855-0915

Help Wanted-General 5000

LOOKING FOR A CAREER (not a job)
Real Estate Agent
(Special pricing for Pre-licensing now only \$79)
Salaried positions available if you qualify
This is the time to buy homes in Michigan, be the one to sell the House. Change your life personally & financially register today.
CALL ED BOWLIN AT 734-591-5940, EXT. 107

MEDIA BUYER
Some radio experience helpful for Direct Response Buyer. Mail resume with salary history to: YMT Vacations, 24824 Michigan Ave., Dearborn, MI 48124 Attn: Mr. Supnick

MILL OPERATOR
CNC Floor type boring mill operator.
MINIMUM 5 YEARS EXP. Apply in person at Dalton Industries, 2800 Alliance Drive in Waterford, or send resume to P.O. Box 300888, Waterford, MI 48330-0888. EOE

CALL ED BOWLIN
AT 734-591-5940, EXT. 107

IT DOESN'T GET ANY BETTER THAN THIS... Observer & Eccentric Classifieds!
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NEW YEAR! NEW CAREER! BE YOUR OWN BOSS
Searching for independent, outgoing and resourceful individuals who want unlimited income potential.
Bring in the New Year with a New Career.
CALL TODAY!
800-889-9001

PRESS OPERATOR
Printing Ryobi 3302 with Experience.
(734) 427-2887

PRODUCTION TECHNICIANS
Premiere bottled water manufacturer has openings for Production Techs at our facility located in Plymouth.

Qualified candidates will have a related associate degree and/or at least 2 yrs. of hands on exp. operating, maintaining and adjusting manufacturing equipment to maximize production output while maintaining quality and safety. This is a 24/7 operation with various shifts/schedules. We offer a competitive benefits package including Medical Insurance with Health Savings Accounts, Dental, Life Insurance, 401K with company match and more!

Requirements for position:
•Associates/Technical Degree, equivalent educational/military exp. or 2 yrs. in high speed filling & packaging environment
•Basic Mechanical & Electrical skills required
•Basic Computer Literacy
•Maximize production output
•Assure high quality standards & follow GMP's
•Ability to lift 50 pounds repetitively
Interested candidates please email resume to: hr25@econofield.com
E.O.E.

SALES ENGINEER
See website for details
www.axis-systems.com/
Jobs.htm

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

Help Wanted-General 5000

SALES MANAGER
For Livonia office: This position requires an individual who is experienced leading and inspiring a sales force, communicating the vision and mission for the organization and fostering a "can do" environment. Experienced understanding of Life, Disability and LTC insurance is a must. Responsible for overseeing a training and development system that promotes growth and productivity. To learn more, contact Brad M. Kreiner, Agency Manager at 248-619-3972
Email to bkreiner@qic.com
Or apply/see full details at: careerbuilder.com
Keyword: eo08638522

Snow Removal
On call snow removal help needed for Canton, Southfield, Farmington Hills, and Beverly Hills locations.
Call 248.851.0111

Southfield Based REO
service company is hiring individuals to help manage properties and dispatch crews. Individuals that have computer skills, can multi-task, have a positive attitude and can be a team player will do well in our non-smoking and drug free work environment. We have competitive wages, paid time off and health benefits.
E-mail resumes to A-Son's Construction North, Attn: Jessica at cs223@asons.net or fax to 248-552-6794.

Warehouse Coordinator
Plumbing contractor has opening for responsible, motivated, and detailed oriented individual. Management of warehouse space and stocking experience is essential. Must have knowledge of commercial plumbing/plumbing supplies. MISOHA Forklift cert. is preferred. Candidate will be responsible for organizing, sorting, loading, unloading, staging and transporting material, tools and equipment. Other duties will include managing tool logs, tool repairs and material returns to suppliers. Good communication skills, computer knowledge and problem solving abilities a plus. Attention to detail is critical. Candidate should have 5 plus years of relevant work exp. Physical exertion is req'd such as stooping and lifting material or equipment (which may be heavy). A state of MI GDL or minimum of a chauffeur's license, clean driving record, criminal background check, and a drug test and pre-employment requirements. Please fax resume and salary req to 248-548-9130.

When seeking out the best deal check out the Observer & Eccentric Classifieds!
1-800-579-7355

ORTHODONTIC CHAIRSIDE ASSISTANT
For our high-quality, fun, orthodontic practice. 3 or 4 days/wk. Experience preferred. Call: 734-961-2444

Help Wanted-Medical 5060
Attn: HHA's
Health Partners is seeking experienced caregivers for nice private duty home care cases. Great pay/tot benefits.
Call Maria at: 800-969-7723

Help Wanted-Office 5020

BOOKKEEPER
Full-time for Oakland County wholesaler/distributor. Minimum 3 yrs. as full charge including payroll. Exp. communication, HR & computer skills required. Submit resume with salary requirements in Word format to: bagatmadroy@yahoo.com

OFFICE ASSISTANT, Full-Time
Clerical/Dispatch for a plumbing & HVAC Company in Livonia. Phone & typing skills a must. Good pay & benefits. Fax resume: 734-467-7817

Sales Greeter
Career minded individual needed for part-time 12 hrs/wk to assist in the office of an attractive Condominium Development in Southfield.
Fax resume: 248-358-3779

Help Wanted-Dental 5040
DENTAL ASSISTANT
Exp'd. Westland office. Part-Time or Full-Time. Fax resume: 734-425-7675

DENTAL ASSISTANT
Full-Time. Experience Only. For premier office in Ann Arbor. Excellent pay & benefits: health insurance & fitness membership.
Send resume to: mhalldes@aol.com
or Employment Application 24 Frank Lloyd Wright Dr. PO Box 326
Ann Arbor MI 48106

DENTAL ASSISTANT:
Full-time. Dental Exp. required
248-355-9800
wattz@msn.com

PHLEBOTOMY EDUCATION
Saturday accelerated classes beginning in February, 10-4pm. Garden City, \$925. Incl. book. (313) 382-3857

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Full-Time Lead Tech with day-time/nightly & supervisory responsibilities for an accredited Sleep Center. Computer skills should be exceptional/BRPT registration a must. Salary + Benefits. Please email resume: pranar123@aol.com

RN or LPN
Part-time afternoons for small basic nursing home. Long-term care experienced req'd. Please email resume to: svosburgh@stannismead.org
Or send resume to:
Sue Vosburgh
Director of Nursing
St. Anne's Mead
16106 W. 12 Mile Rd.
Southfield, MI 48076

Sell it all with Observer & Eccentric
1-800-579-SELL

RN, LPN
Adult & Pediatric Nurses
For private duty cases in Wayne, Washtenaw & Oakland Counties. Full & Part-Time, All Shifts. Call: Friends Who Care (800) 352-5340

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Help Wanted-Medical 5060

CNAs, LPNs, OTAs, OTRs, Direct Care Workers & Activities Coordinator
PT, FT & Contingent positions avail. for certified/licensed individuals to work in one of our Metro Detroit residential locations. Send resume, certification & references to:
Fax 313-286-0864;
Or email: theadventgroupinc@yahoo.com

MEDICAL ASSISTANT
5 yrs. exp. Internal Medicine Practice in West Bloomfield. Fax resume: 248 479-0301 Email: glinam@me.com

MEDICAL ASSISTANT
Part-time for internal medicine office. Exp. preferred. Paid vacation. Resume: 990 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Suite 104, Plymouth, MI 48170.

MEDICAL TECHNICIAN/TECHNOLOGIST
VPA Laboratory in Farmington Hills is currently looking for MLT/MTS. Must have good computer skills, strong Hematology/Chemistry background and be ASCP registered. Fax resume to (248) 324-0790 or e-mail: laboratory@visitingphysicians.com

PHLEBOTOMY EDUCATION
Saturday accelerated classes beginning in February, 10-4pm. Garden City, \$925. Incl. book. (313) 382-3857

R PSG T
Full-Time Lead Tech with day-time/nightly & supervisory responsibilities for an accredited Sleep Center. Computer skills should be exceptional/BRPT registration a must. Salary + Benefits. Please email resume: pranar123@aol.com

RN or LPN
Part-time afternoons for small basic nursing home. Long-term care experienced req'd. Please email resume to: svosburgh@stannismead.org
Or send resume to:
Sue Vosburgh
Director of Nursing
St. Anne's Mead
16106 W. 12 Mile Rd.
Southfield, MI 48076

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Adult & Pediatric Nurses
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Help Wanted-Medical 5060

CNAs, LPNs, OTAs, OTRs, Direct Care Workers & Activities Coordinator
PT, FT & Contingent positions avail. for certified/licensed individuals to work in one of our Metro Detroit residential locations. Send resume, certification & references to:
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Or email: theadventgroupinc@yahoo.com

MEDICAL ASSISTANT
5 yrs. exp. Internal Medicine Practice in West Bloomfield. Fax resume: 248 479-0301 Email: glinam@me.com

MEDICAL ASSISTANT
Part-time for internal medicine office. Exp. preferred. Paid vacation. Resume: 990 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Suite 104, Plymouth, MI 48170.

MEDICAL TECHNICIAN/TECHNOLOGIST
VPA

Engineering

Be remarkable.

BAE Systems is pushing technological boundaries to meet the demands of the military sector and other core industries. We are seeking innovative talent in order to expand our business in Michigan. If you're eager to cross new frontiers, join our team.

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Troy Marriott • 200 W. Big Beaver Road • Troy, Michigan

One Team...Many Opportunities.

• Mechanical Engineers

Work with leaders in military systems to develop and integrate wheeled and tracked vehicle systems. Responsibilities include development, design and integration of the mobility, weapon, survivability, structures, auxiliary, crew, mechanical, and mission system components. The candidate will be responsible for the assimilation of the design requirements, exploring concept solutions, conducting trade studies, developing selected designs, overseeing hardware prototype build, and verification of the design performance characteristics through test validation in preparation for field tests and production. A BSME plus a minimum of 2 years' design experience or equivalent technical degree and experience is required. Pro-E knowledge is desired.

• Designers

Must work with engineers and drafters to design and develop subsystems and component parts, which can include, but are not limited to, powertrain, suspension, survivability, structures, auxiliary automotive, mechanical, and/or electrical. The candidate is responsible for the documentation, analysis, layout, and design, up to and including final engineering drawings. Proficiency in Pro-E, 3-D and solid modeling is required, proficiency in CADD5; an AA degree plus a minimum of 5 years' design experience or equivalent work experience is required.

• Checker

Ensures the accuracy, completeness, and sound design of engineering documentation to prescribed standards and contractual requirements. Exercises authority to reject incorrect documentation in terms of technical content, standards, and specifications. Supports Model and Drafting/ Drawing Standards and reference manual revisions. Interprets applicable model and drawing standard requirements and assesses the quality of the technical backup data. Must have proficiency in Pro-E with 6 years' mechanical design experience and checking experience. Must be familiar with ASME Y14.100, ASME Y14.41, and proficient with GD & T applications.

• Project Engineers

Responsibilities include the technical coordination, lead, and execution of proposals, designs, and development projects (e.g. powertrain, suspension, survivability, structures, auxiliary automotive, mechanical, and/or electrical). As a member of an engineering team, the project engineer is the primary technical point of contact to the customer and is responsible for the project's overall technical compliance. A Bachelor's Degree with 11 years of experience or a Master's Degree with a minimum 9 years' as a project engineer is required.

• Electrical Engineers (Mobile, Power Generation and Management, FPGA Logic, Motion Control, Hybrid Electric Automotive, High Voltage Testing)

Requires a broad knowledge of systems and components for electrical/electronic embedded and test hardware for military systems and vehicles. Bachelor's in Electrical Engineering and 2+ years' experience.

• Quality Engineers

Uses a wide range of mechanical or electrical engineering and quality skills to research/review technical design development activities, test, and support documentation for mechanical, digital & analog integration of systems and subsystems. Routine interaction with all levels of management and the customer. Develops quality systems and procedures to monitor design assurance activities. Develops quality provisions, specification, and validation requirements.

• Program Manager

Responsible for managing one or more programs. Manage any or all forms of contracts. Oversee program budget and schedules. Has primary responsibilities for program growth; may be responsible for developing and marketing new technology or follow-on business acquisition. Accountable for all schedules, quality, profit, performance, and customer satisfaction with respect to relevant program. Manage departmental personnel, budgets, and administration.

• Program Control Analyst

Develop and monitor Earned Value Management (EVM) baselines (budgets, management reserve, undistributed budget, network schedules, and scope changes) for all EVM and other engineering contracts. Analyze cost and schedule variances, determine root causes, program impact, and report contract performance to internal and external customers. Develop and assist in implementation of corrective action strategy for cost and schedule issues. Interact with Program Managers and Control Account Managers to guide problem resolution. Ensure data integrity and quality of all performance reporting submitted to both internal and external customers. Make presentations to management on contract performance status and implications of problems/ issues. Prior EVM experience is required.

• Configuration Data Management Specialist

A minimum of 10 years of experience working in a CDM environment of which 5 or more years is spent in supporting a project in the DoD acquisition environment, or an equivalent mix of project and CDM Core staff experience. Three years of related work experience in a manufacturing or engineering environment with a demonstrated understanding of functional interrelationship of contract administration, design engineering, manufacturing, quality and logistics are required. Must have extensive knowledge of

identification, change control, status accounting and audit requirements and procedures. Requires excellent knowledge of CDM computer applications (i.e. CDM systems, CCC, SUN, PC, UNIX) and be thoroughly skilled in their operation.

• Specialty Engineers (Senior Reliability/Maintainability, Quality)

Requires strong/broad background in reliability/probability with application to complex military or aerospace systems; Bachelor's in ME, EE, Math or Physics.

• Systems Engineers

Requires knowledge in one or more of the following: weapon systems, requirements analysis and performance optimization, vehicle design and physical architectures, embedded system integration, architectures and interfaces, C4ISR, sensor integration, survivability suites, ballistic fire control, integrated diagnostics, control systems, operations research, requirements management, objective oriented modeling. Requires a Bachelor's or Master's in Engineering or related technical field.

• Supply Chain

Responsible for gathering, analyzing, and presenting program data across all systems platforms within a particular program; the development and implementation of tools and procedures to aid in the strategic execution of materials procurement; and guiding and instructing key members of the supply chain organization in proper and efficient use of company technological and systems assets. Requires B.S. degree in Business, Finance, or Information Systems; strong analytical, communication (written & verbal) and excellent presentation skills. Strong technical skills in an information systems discipline with the ability to perform financial analysis.

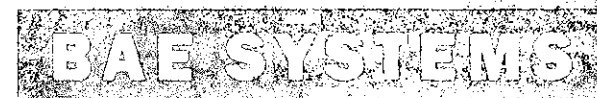
U.S. Citizenship is required for most positions.

We offer a friendly, professional environment where individuals can expect exciting challenges, personal growth, competitive salaries and excellent benefits including 401(k), tuition reimbursement, performance share, flexible work schedules and more. Contribute to our vision of the future.

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Stock #91191

**New 2009 Ford
Focus "S" 4 Door**

WAS \$16,505

A/Z Plan Purchase Only

\$9454¹⁴**



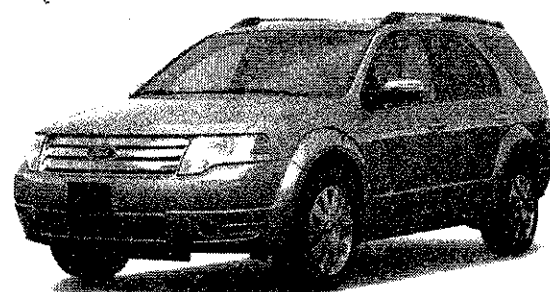
Stock #83315

**New 2008 Ford
Taurus FWD Limited**

WAS \$28,895

A/Z Plan Purchase Only

\$19,116⁹⁰**



Stock #82911

**New 2008 Ford
Taurus X FWD Limited**

WAS \$32,695

A/Z Plan Purchase Only

\$22,497⁶⁵**



Stock #90918

**New 2009 Ford
Fusion SE FWD**

36 Months Lease A/Z Plan

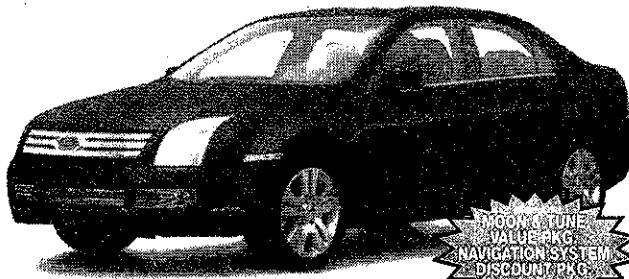
\$257³³**
mo.

**"0" DUE
SIGN & DRIVE**

\$185⁰⁹**
mo.

**OR
\$2000
DOWN**

\$2526.70 DUE AT SIGNING



Stock #91175

**New 2009 Ford
Fusion SEL FWD**

36 Months Lease A/Z Plan

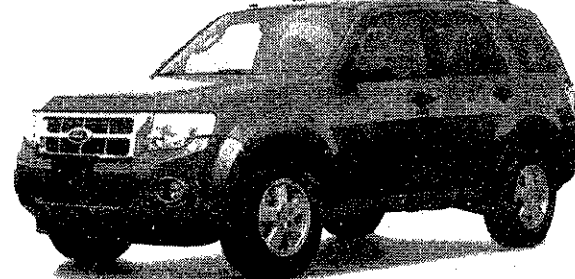
\$280²⁶**
mo.

**"0" DUE
SIGN & DRIVE**

\$207³⁶**
mo.

**OR
\$2000
DOWN**

\$2525.30 DUE AT SIGNING



Stock #90912

**New 2009 Ford
Escape XLT FWD**

36 Months Lease A/Z Plan

\$297⁴²**
mo.

**"0" DUE
SIGN & DRIVE**

\$238¹⁵**
mo.

**OR
\$2000
DOWN**

\$2473.44 DUE AT SIGNING

\$750⁰⁰**
Extra
for your
Trade
Coupon

24 MPG!
Hwy Rated

Stock #91051

**New 2009 Ford
Flex SE Fwd**

36 Months Lease A/Z Plan

\$322²⁰**
mo.

**"0" DUE
SIGN & DRIVE**

\$262⁹³**
mo.

**OR
\$2000
DOWN**

\$2616.71 DUE AT SIGNING

STX DECOR
PACKAGE

Stock #90906

**New 2009 Ford
F150 Supercab**

**BUY
FOR**

\$376^{}**
mo.

72 Mo. with \$0 DOWN

**Just
Announced
Incentives
Extended
Until
1/12/09**

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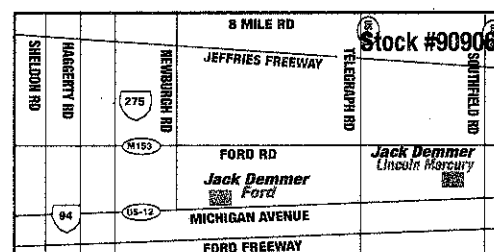
Sales Hours

Mon & Thurs 8 am - 9 pm
Tues & Wed - Fri 8 am - 6 pm



Service Hours

Monday - Friday
7 am - 6 pm



All lease payments and buy prices are for qualifying A/Z Planners. For qualifying non A/Z Planners an additional \$900 to \$1500 would be required to keep the payments or prices the same. **All payments and prices exclude acquisition fee, tax, plates, doc fees and destination charge. 10,000 miles per year. Security deposit waived. Buy for price add tax, title, doc, and destination fees. Subject to availability. All factory rebates assigned to dealer including owner loyalty or previous lease where applicable and may require Ford Credit financing. Pictures may not represent actual vehicle. Payments and prices per program in effect at publication and are subject to change. All offers expire 1/12/09 and see dealer for details. ***Must finance thru FMCC and qualify for Rot/Roe renewal. **98 model or newer with less than 100,000 miles. All prior sales excluded. One coupon per customer.

New Homes



Sunday, January 11, 2009

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

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

www.hometownlife.com

My Sarona offers comfortable lifestyle, room to grow

The Sarona (D8526) mixes traditional siding with rock accents to form an attractive façade. The three pillars for the porch along with the rock cornices on the garage add eye appeal. Numerous windows and a large dormer bathe rooms with light as well as adding character to the home. The Sarona has 2,061 square feet of finished living area and an unfinished basement of 1,025 square feet of area to be developed later.

Entry into the Sarona faces the great room in the rear and has the dining room on the right. A coat closet is tucked between the stairs and the door. The great room has a fireplace on the left wall, with large windows and a window seat in the rear. Opening off the great room is the nook and kitchen. Sliding doors open off the nook to the back yard.

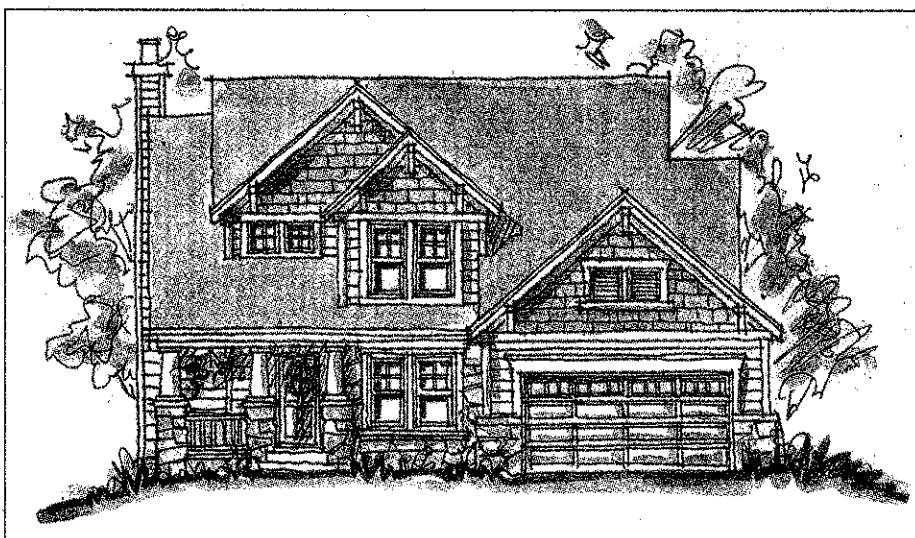
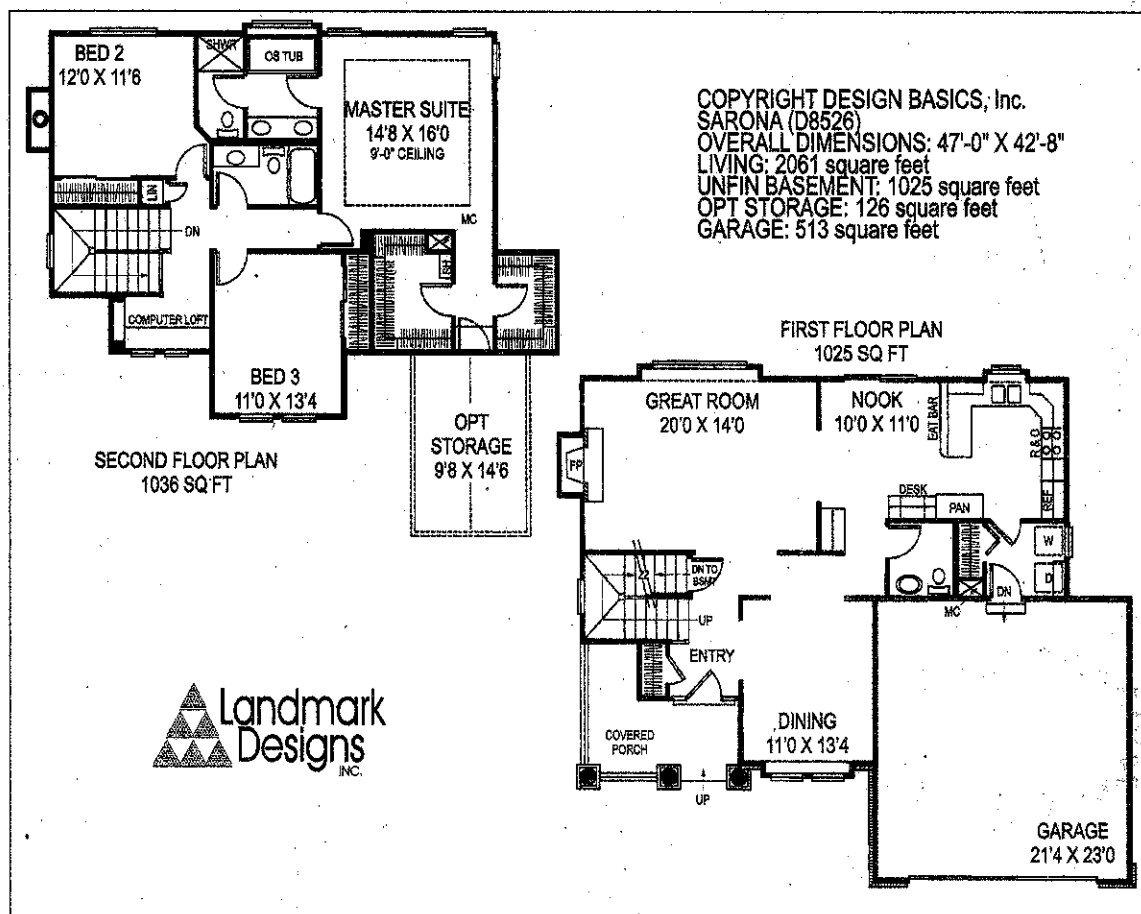
The kitchen runs down the right and rear walls with an eating bar facing the nook. A desk as well as a pantry is opposite the nook. The utility is at the front part of the kitchen, with doors from the kitchen to the two-car garage. This is easy access to the pantry for storing groceries. Beyond the nook is a half bath. The dining area is in the front of the home and has large windows that look out over the street.

Upstairs is the sleeping area. There are two bedrooms with wall closets and large windows. A linen closet and a full bath with a tub is adjacent the rooms for convenience. A computer loft is located next to the stairs, ideal for homework or for Mom and Dad to use for work or fun.

The master suite takes up the balance of the upstairs. The main suite has a coffered 9-foot ceiling with a set of corner windows. There are two large walk-in closets that can be used as "his and hers." A door opens between the two closets into an option storage room. The master bath has an oversized tub and shower as well as dual sinks.

The entire layout of the Sarona is quite open and would be ideal for a family with smaller children that need to be close to Mom and Dad.

The Sarona (D8526) is our plan of the week. For a limited time, we are offering up to 50 percent off construction plans for this design. Call us at (800) 562-1151 or visit us on line at www.ldiplans.com for details. A \$25 study plan is also available consisting of: an artist rendering, elevations, floor plans, and cross section. Order online or search hundreds of other designs including garages, multifamily, and standard and luxury homes at www.ldiplans.com. Order this week to save up to 50 percent off construction plans using the discount code (LOE48) or send payment to Landmark Designs, Inc. PO Box 5625 Eugene, OR 97405, remember to indicate Sarona (D8526) and code.



BRIEFS

Appraising & Staging

Keller Williams Realty is seeking experienced or non-experienced people in the real estate field. 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.

On board

Jerry Moyer, CPM, CCIM, a property manager at Broder & Sachse Real Estate Services, Inc., in Birmingham, has been named to the Michigan chapter board of the CCIM Institute, a global association for professionals involved in commercial real estate investment.

Moyer holds the Certified Commercial Investment Member (CCIM) designation, conferred by the CCIM Institute after a professional completes a minimum number of projects of a certain size, a series of advanced real estate investment courses, and an exam.

A Livonia resident, Moyer has managed commercial real estate portfolios of more than one million square feet and office buildings as large as 970,000 square feet in his 13-year property management career.

Moyer earned a bachelor's degree from Michigan State University and an M.B.A. from Wayne State University. He holds the Institute of Real Estate Management's (IREM) Certified Property Manager (CPM) designation and was named CPM of the Year by IREM's metro Detroit chapter in 2005. Moyer is a past president of the IREM chapter, and also its special events chair. He holds a state of Michigan real estate sales license.

The CCIM Institute, an affiliate of the National Association of Realtors, has more than 19,000 members in 33 countries.

Birmingham-based Broder & Sachse Real Estate Services, Inc. (www.brodersachse.com) is a full-service office, retail and multifamily property

management and development company that currently manages more than 70 properties totaling more than nine million square feet and 2,000 units of multifamily residential property. Founded in 1993, the firm has developed and acquired more than \$250 million of multifamily, retail and boutique office properties in Michigan and the southeastern U.S., and ranks as one of metro Detroit's top 15 property management firms in *Crain's Detroit Business* and among *Midwest Real Estate News'* top 50 property management firms.

Peter Basso Associates

■ Dionne promoted: Peter Basso Associates announced that Richard E. Dionne has been promoted from senior associate to principal.

Dionne is involved in all phases of a project, from design conception through construction administration and move-in. His responsibilities include the investigation of existing field conditions; product research and equipment selection; the production of technical drawings and specification documents; and overseeing construction and start-up activities.

Dionne's work history has included the design of medium- and low-voltage power distribution systems, HID, incandescent and fluorescent lighting systems, and fire alarm and security systems. Dionne received his bachelor of science in electrical engineering from Tennessee Technological University.

Peter Basso Associates is a consulting engineering firm specializing in the design of technically challenging, sustainable and high performance mechanical/electrical systems primarily to the Education, healthcare/Laboratory, and corporate/governmental markets. Headquartered in Troy, the firm also has offices in Ann Arbor, Las Vegas and Phoenix.

■ New associates: Jessica J. Spak, PE, RCDD, LEED AP, Ronald A. A. Chapdelaine, Joseph R. Seidl, PE, Scott T.

Peck, PE, and Stephen E. Bryk are promoted from project leaders to associates.

Spak has achieved proficiency in the application of telecommunications codes and standards. She has earned registration as a Registered Communications Distribution Designer and takes the lead on or lends her expertise to many of the technology projects the firm undertakes. Spak has a bachelor of science in electrical engineering from University of Detroit Mercy. Chapdelaine works closely with the team members in the technical production and management of a project, primarily for the firm's higher education projects. Seidl's engineering experience includes HVAC system design; heating and cooling load calculations and analyses; production of technical drawings and specifications primarily for college and university facilities. Seidl has a bachelor of science in mechanical engineering from Oakland University and is a member of the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air Conditioning Engineers. Peck has been involved in the design of general lighting systems and control components; electrical distribution equipment and branch circuiting; and performing detailed electrical load calculations, with a focus on K-12 School facilities. Peck has experience in dimming system design and interface requirements for classroom, video teleconferencing and art gallery facilities. He has a bachelor of science in electrical engineering from Wayne State University and is a member of the Engineering Society of Detroit. Bryk assists in the technical production of a project, including electrical system design and layout, product research, documentation and drawing review submittals, and field investigations for the firm's healthcare/laboratory sector projects.

■ New project leaders: Michael V. Romano, PE, Christopher A. Young, Christopher J. Kennedy, and Daniel J. Yensch Jr. have been promoted from engineers/

designers to project leaders.

Romano assists in the technical production of a project, including electrical system design and layout, product research, documentation and drawing review submittals, and field investigations. Romano has a bachelor of science in electrical engineering from University of Michigan-Ann Arbor. Young brings more than 19 years of experience to his role in the firm's Education market sector. He is responsible for the technical production of a project, including building heating and cooling load analyses; HVAC system design; production of technical drawings and specifications; product research; equipment selection and layout; and site supervision. Young has a bachelor of science in engineering technology and associates of science in mechanical engineering technology from Lawrence Technological University. Kennedy produces electrical systems design primarily for the firm's health care laboratory projects, includes his work system layout, product research, documentation and drawing review submittals, and field investigations. Kennedy has a bachelor of science in electrical engineering from Michigan State University. Yensch assists in the technical production of a project, including electrical system design and layout, product research, documentation and drawing review submittals, and field investigations. Yensch is pursuing a bachelor of science in electrical engineering at Wayne State University.

Kudos bestowed

Weir Manuel Realtors has achieved the coveted status of "MD Preferred Real Estate Provider" and the privilege of displaying the MD Preferred Services Medallion. This distinction, awarded to fewer than 100 Realtors nationally by US Medical Specialties, a national health care consulting firm, recognizes Weir Manuel Realtors' experience and commitment to serving the unique needs and demands of today's busy physi-

cian, officials said.

"The metro Detroit area boasts world-class medical facilities and some of the most scenic and prestigious communities in America in which to live. We have so much to offer physicians and their families here," said Carolyn Bowen-Keating, vice president of Relocation Services at Weir Manuel. "Everyone will benefit: the physician and his/her family will be able to have a highly-prized lifestyle in one of our communities, and we will benefit by having the physician practicing in our area and enjoying its lifestyle."

U.S. Medical Specialties created the MD Preferred Real Estate Program to recognize the work that selected Realtors are doing to help attract health care professionals to their communities. The MD Preferred Real Estate Network is part of a national physician resource center hosted online at MDPreferredServices.com. The resource center matches professional service providers in real estate, relocation, health care law and mortgage services with physicians on the move.

"Physicians represent a very distinct consumer group with strong financial power, high net worth and career stability," said Michael O'Malley, project manager for the MD Preferred Real Estate Network. "Today's doctor is extremely busy and the legal, real estate, mortgage and relocation needs of physicians require special handling; but the reward for the preferred professionals who provide these services is a deeply loyal client base in a challenging economic environment."

"This network allows us to partner with hospitals and other medical facilities to help physicians achieve their lifestyle and career goals," said Kelly Sweeney, President & CEO of Weir Manuel Realtors. "Our company can offer them the finest properties in Southeast Michigan, along with concierge services from our agents and administration to make the transition to moving here a transparent one. It's a perfect fit for us."

Weir Manuel Realtors is

a leading real estate company in Southeast Michigan, with more than 150 real estate professionals in three Michigan offices: Birmingham, Rochester and West Bloomfield. Its full-service Web site is at www.weirmanuel.com.

BIA

■ Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan (BIA) will present its economic forecast luncheon and meeting — "Moving Michigan Forward" — on Tuesday, Jan. 27, from noon to 2 p.m. at the Best Western Sterling Inn, 34911 Van Dyke Avenue in Sterling Heights.

Featured speakers are Robert A. Ficano, Wayne County executive, and Dennis W. Archer, former mayor of Detroit, and chairman of Dickinson Wright, PLLC. The speakers will address topics pertinent to those involved in the residential and light construction industries including: What can we expect during 2009? What new companies are locating in Michigan? Potential economic stimulus for our area. The vision for moving Michigan into the future.

Registration fees are \$40 for BIA or Apartment Association of Michigan members with advance reservations made by Jan. 21; \$60 for members at the door, and \$75 for guests. Registration fees include entry to BIA's Builders & Remodelers Trade Show at the same location from 10 a.m. to noon. For registration information, call (248) 862-1008 or register online at www.builders.org

Tours, classes

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

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

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

Sunday

PUZZLE CORNER

Challenging fun for ALL ages

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS

- 1 Highest degree
- 4 Just scrape by
- 7 Fledgling
- 11 On vacation
- 13 Burning
- 14 Hunch
- 15 Two-wheeler
- 16 Lamb's parent
- 17 Sorority member
- 18 Zodiac sign
- 20 Bellows
- 21 Ms. Gabor
- 22 Knock gently
- 23 Kind of arcade
- 26 Flip
- 30 Tend the garden
- 31 Ms. Zetterling
- 32 Boathouse implement
- 33 Whole number
- 34 Hint of color
- 36 Ocean dweller
- 39 San Francisco hill
- 40 Diver's find
- 43 Mariachi gig

DOWN

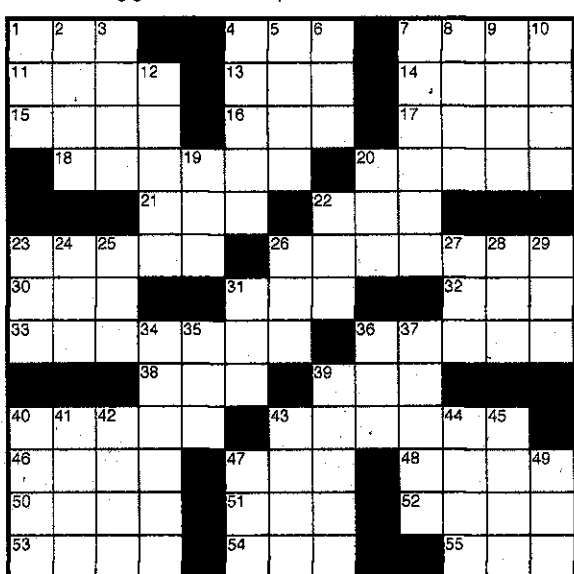
- 46 Science magazine
- 47 Part of UK
- 48 Severe of the news
- 50 Embankment
- 51 Resinous deposit
- 52 Centering point
- 53 Top player
- 54 Strong soap
- 55 — kwon do
- 1 Seize suddenly
- 2 Branch
- 3 Cod kin
- 4 Helen, in Spanish
- 5 Fuzzy fruit
- 6 Summer, to Pierre
- 7 Hunks flex them
- 8 "White Wedding" singer
- 9 Lurch
- 10 Pops

Answer to Previous Puzzle

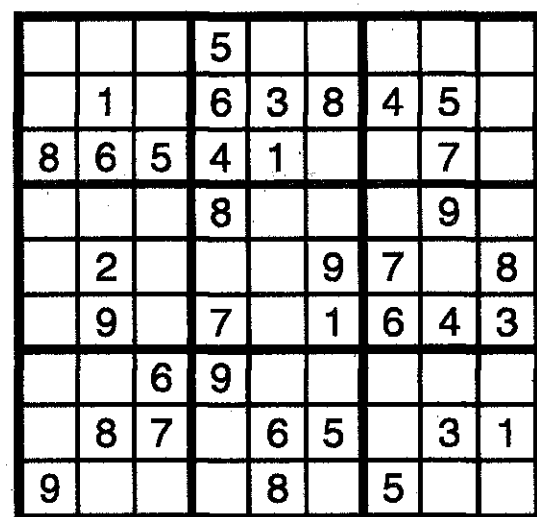
JAY UKE ALDA
MATE MAX COAX
ISLA ANA DOME
SOARS SMACK
ONS ABASH OAF
ONUS FUSE
PARKED SOOTHE
ALAS TILE
HIM PAUSE PAC
BEGUN OMEGA
ELLA TEA ARAB
GEES OUR YIPS
GARY SPA ALE

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- 12 Gulf nation
- 19 Creeping vine
- 20 Puppy sound
- 22 — chi ch'uan
- 23 Frat letter
- 24 Untold centuries
- 25 Fish catcher
- 26 BMW, e.g.
- 27 Lightning byproduct
- 28 Sharp turn
- 29 Previously
- 31 Brooks or Gibson
- 34 Weirder
- 35 Congeal
- 36 "Little piggie"
- 37 Peer Gynt creator
- 39 Female relative
- 40 Pea holders
- 41 Throw off heat
- 42 Tuneless Paul —
- 43 Wear at the edges
- 44 Easy gait
- 45 Verdi opera
- 47 Feverish
- 49 Decent grade



SUDOKU



Fun By The Numbers

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

Level: Beginner

Here's How It Works:

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

SEEK AND FIND

FIND THESE WORDS IN THE PUZZLE BELOW.

BIG DIPPER
CANCER
CASSIOPEIA
CIRCINUS

GEMINI
LEO
ORION
PISCES

SCORPIUS
TAURUS
VIRGO

THE WORDS READ UP, DOWN AND ACROSS.

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

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

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

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

R O B
I S C E S P R O B
A V I N I M G S C J
S I R O N D Z O S
U R V O R A Z Z O N
R E J J I D G I B N
U C O R R I A V A I C
V U N W O R I E A I
L V A B A C V O A R
A V I S S I O P E I A
A V I S S I O P E I A

SUDOKU

SEEK AND FIND



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HOMETOWNlife.com

Continued From The PREVIOUS SECTION



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Any area, any condition.
Cash or Terms.
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DRAKESHIRE APARTMENTS-
Check us out during our Limited Time Only Apartment Sale. OPEN HOUSE 01/16, 01/17, & 01/18. 1 & 2 bdrm apts AVAILABLE FOR IMMEDIATE OCCUPANCY. RENT STARTING AT \$500!!!! Refreshments & snacks. Foreclosures welcome, preferred employer programs, AND Job LOSS early termination available on all leases. Ask for details. Located in fabulous Farmington, on Grand River & Drake. You'll love the life! 248-477-3636
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LIVONIA-OPEN SUNDAY JAN 11, 12-2:30
17173 Stamwich - \$169,900 N off 6 Mile, E of Merriman 3 bdrm completely updated colonial. Family room, dining room, finished bsmt, attached 2 car garage.
Karen Allerton, 734-718-8185 Century 21 Today

Garden City

BEAUTIFUL RANCH!
Updated top to bottom! 3 bdrm, 2 bath, garage & finished bsmt. Walk to school & playground! \$129,900
DENISE MCGUIGAN
734-357-2032
REMERICA HOMETOWN III
6231 N. Canton Center Rd.

REAL ESTATE & CONTENTS AUCTION

Sun. Jan 19 at 2 pm.
6409 Whittby. Beautiful 3 bdrm Ranch on Double Lot. Name Your Price! AEAuctions.com (248) 473-1547 Preview: Tues. Jan. 13 from 6-7:30.

Redford

BEAUTIFUL & BIG!
Renovated, move in cond 3 bdrm, 2 full bath, over 1200 sq. ft. with bsmt & 2 car attached gar. Florida rm, patio, fenced yard too, \$99,900.
DENISE MCGUIGAN
734-564-4310
REMERICA HOMETOWN III
6231 N. Canton Center Rd.

SOUTH REDFORD

3 Bdrms, 1 1/2 baths, updated kit, Bsmt, Garage, \$84,900.
Century 21 Castelli
(734) 625-7900

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Wayne County

HUD HOMES FOR SALE \$100 DOWN \$2,500 BUYER INCENTIVE
Owner Occupant Status ALL AREAS
C21 CASTELLI
734-525-7900

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Brick Ranch, 3 bdrm, 1.5 baths, finished bsmt, 2 car garage, \$77,600.

GARDEN CITY
4 bdrm, 3 full baths brick 2 story, finished bsmt, 2 car garage, large lot, \$67,500.

2 full baths, 4 bdrm, 1123 Sq. Ft., garage, \$45,000.

2175 Sq. ft. 3 bdrm, 2.5 baths, formal dining room, large family room on 84X124 foot lot, \$96,000.

WAYNE
Colonial with old world charm, 3 spacious bdrms, formal dining room, bsmt, garage, \$62,000.

Cozy 2 bdrm Ranch, part finished bsmt, garage, nice condition, \$20,000.

CENTURY 21 CASTELLI
(734) 525-7900
EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

Lakefront/Waterfront Homes

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Lakefront homes and cottages. Homes on acreage, vacant land. Full time realtor since 1981.
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Century 21 Elite
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Remerica Hometown III
734-357-2032

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HUGE DISCOUNTS ON REPOSSESSED HOMES! EASY FINANCING AVAILABLE!
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2009 NEW YEARS SPECIAL!
Move into your new home before January 31, '09 and we will help pay your Christmas Bills with \$3000 Visa Gift Card
Payments start at \$650 per month
Call (248) 446-6600 for more information

Drastic Price Reduction
Farmington Hills 1 & 2 bdrm, carpeting, appliances, in accessible convenient location. We will finance qualified buyers. Call 248-474-2131.

Mobile Homes
3750

WALLED LAKE
Pick Your Special 1st Mo. Free or Free Heat This Winter!
1 Bdrm. \$499,
2 Bdrm Townhomes: \$650
Reduced deposit, pets & Section 8 welcome.
(248) 624-6606 EHO

WESTLAND
First Month FREE!
1 Bedroom - \$485/mo.
Walk-in Closets
Newburgh Colonial Apts.
2400 Newburgh Rd.
(734) 721-6699 EHO

WESTLAND
PAY WHAT ???
Live Great! Pay Less!
2 Months Free Rent
734-261-5410

Westland Park Apts.
LOOK
FREE RENT
1st Month Free and Reduced Rate
2 Bdrm, 1.5 Bath, \$565, 936 Sq. Ft.
1 Bdrm, \$490, 728 Sq. Ft.
\$200 Security Deposit
Heat and Water Incl (New residents only) with approved credit
No Pets, C/A, Vertical Blinds, Intercom
Appliances include dishwasher.
Very clean Apartments
Excellent Maintenance
(734) 729-6636

Westland
VENOY PINES APTS.
Rent Starting at \$499
• 1 & 2 bedroom apts. with fireplace.
No Application Fee, Limited Time Only.
(734) 261-7394
www.yorkcommunities.com

Westgate Tower
SENIORS: Stay Warm with FREE HEAT!!!
Rent starting at just \$414.00!!
• Lots of Fun Activities
• 24 Hr. Laundry rooms
• Free Heat & Water
• Lounge
• Group Transportation
• Ample Parking
• One Small Pet Allowed
Call 734-729-2900
*Must be 62 or Older, Income Limits Apply

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Apartment

Apartment/Unfurnished
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FARMINGTON PLAZA APTS
Luxury 2 bdrms, A/C, pool & parking. New Kitchen & baths, laundry rooms, heat incl. \$650/mo. Call for specials. (248) 476-8722

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1ST MONTH FREE
Studios, 1, 2 & 3 Bedrooms
Furnished apartments avail.
Gorgeous new kitchens and baths. Available in town Birmingham at the 555 Building.
Call Michelle (248) 645-1191

DETROIT 7 Mile & Telegraph area. 1 bdrm upper. Cozy. \$400/mo + sec dep & ref. Super clean. (313) 657-8125

Facing Foreclosure?
If you have \$1,500 down and a verifiable income of \$1,800/mo we have a home for you! Move in ready within 7 days! EZ Financing!
Call 248-461-3028

FACING FORECLOSURE? NEED A HOME? 2-3 BEDROOMS W/APPLIANCES FROM \$799/MO!
\$1,500 MOVES YOU IN! E-Z IN HOUSE FINANCING
CALL #248-461-3033

FARMINGTON HILLS
ANNIE APTS.
NO APPLICATION FEE
FREE HEAT! 1 bedroom \$505. 9 Mile/ Middlebelt
248-478-7489

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

FARMINGTON HILLS
RENTAL SPECIAL
Spacious 1 & 2 bdrms, updated kitchen, blinds and carpet incl. Starting at \$600/mo. 1 year lease. 1st month free with good credit. Call: (248) 763-4729

NOVI
FREE FLAT SCREEN TV
Newly updated 1 & 2 bdrm apts. New berber carpet, new cherry flooring, full size washer/dryers, central air. EHO
\$300 Security
50% off 1st 3 Months w/ good credit!
Call: (734) 453-8811

PLYMOUTH-SHELDON PARK
Spacious 1 & 2 bdrms. From \$565
\$300 Security
50% off 1st 3 Months w/ good credit!
Call: (734) 453-8811

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

PLYMOUTH
1 Bdrm. \$600, 2 Bdrm. \$670
First month free w/approved credit. W/ 1 yr. lease. 1215 closets. (734) 455-1215

PLYMOUTH - OLD VILLAGE.
Small 1 bdrm, hardwood floors, ceiling fan, breakfast bar, cable ready, storage and laundry, very clean and cute. \$145/wk incl all utilities. 1 yr lease. (248) 425-4853; broker.

PLYMOUTH - Prime location,
1 bdrm avail, \$580 plus security. Near downtown. Incl. heat. No dogs. 734-455-2635

PLYMOUTH
1 Bdrm: \$637/mo.
\$300 Sec Dep
1st Month Free
Private entry/patio
Washer/Dryer included
Single story, attic storage.
(734) 459-6640 EHO

PLYMOUTH DUPLEX
Re-done 2 bdrm. Appliances, laundry, air. \$650/mo + utilities & dep. No pets. 734-459-0854

PLYMOUTH Park Manor Apts.
444 Plymouth Rd. New tenants only - 1 bdrm. \$490. Non-smoking. Includes heat & water. No pets. 1 parking space per apt. 734-454-9274

Plymouth Rent Starting at \$499
1 & 2 Bedroom Apt's.
Plymouth Manor
Plymouth House
734-455-3880
www.yorkcommunities.com

LIVONIA
Spacious 1 bdrm, great location, across from Livonia rec. center. \$650/mo. incl. utilities. 248-255-2412

NORTHVILLE
Downtown, 2 bdrm, 1 bath, hardwood floors, short term lease considered. Call: Kristin Halmaghi 248-330-4660.

Apartment/Unfurnished
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Apartment/Unfurnished
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Apartment

Observer & Eccentric

HOMETOWNlife.com

Apartments/ Unfurnished

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Westland-LIVONIA SCHOOLS
1 & 2 bdrm, 2 baths.
Washer & dryer.
Private entrance & balcony
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**Ypsilanti - Reduced Rent
Plus \$99 Sec Dep***
Section 8 Welcome
Large 1 & 2 bedroom
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*Some restrictions apply

Apartments/ Furnished

4010

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1 bdrm newly furnished, parking,
short term, \$995/mo, incl.
utilities.
Molly: 248-705-8281

PLYMOUTH 1 bdrm, living
rm, kitchen & utensils, washer/
dryer, utilities incl. \$900/
mo. 3 mo. min. 734-416-5100

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

SOUTHEAST/FRANKLIN

Weatherstone Townhomes

Spacious 2 & 3 Bedrooms from
\$1,395

\$499 Security Deposit
\$8 Good Credit Pays \$8
2 Car Attached Garage
Condo Style Living
Full Basement
Close to Northwestern Hwy
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\$499* per mo.
2 Bedroom, 1.5 baths,
Immediate Occupancy.
Call 248-290-5300 ext 306
*First 3 months.

SOUTHEAST 1250 sq. ft., 2
bdrm, full bsmt, 12 Mile &
Telegraph. \$699/mo. 734-
968-6275, 734-722-6646

WESTLAND 2 bed-

room, all appliances,
newly updated,
fenced yard. 2023
Stieber. \$800/mo. + security.
734-578-0246.

WESTLAND CONDO

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

Duplexes

4030

CANTON
3 bdrm, 1 1/2 bath, move-in
mid December. 1741 Elm-
hurst. \$900/mo. + security
deposit. (734) 455-1215.

LIVONIA - 2 bdrm,

fireplace, all appli-
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yard. \$775/mo.
231-392-6373

Northville - 2 bdrm, quiet, near
downtown. Recently updated.
Must See! \$600/mo + securi-
ty. No dogs. 248-474-2056

WESTLAND - NORWAYNE

2 bdrm. Clean. Remodeled
kitchen. \$545 & up.
734-397-0069

Flats

4040

PLYMOUTH TWP
Lg upper studio w/ gar. Free
heat! Avail immed. \$575. One
bdrm upper avail Feb 1. \$625.
Pets welcome. 248-735-5464

Homes For Rent

4050

BIRMINGHAM
1420 Emmons.
Cozy, modern 3
bdrm home near
downtown.
Utilities included. \$1000.
Tommy: 313-617-7954

BIRMINGHAM

2 Bdrms, 1 master bdrm/private
bath, 2 baths, carport,
central air, laundry facilities.
Updated kitchen, carpet and
paint. Immediate Occupancy.
\$1250. 248-421-3113

BLOOMFIELD HILLS Updated
4bdrm colonial, finished bsmt.
\$1800/mo. (possible land con-
tracts sale) 248-641-1887

CANTON 45666 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 45666 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

NEW YEAR'S SPECIAL
1 MONTH FREE
3 BR 2 Bath all appliances
including washer/dryer &
cra. FROM ONLY \$649
Call College Park Estates &
Sun Home Sales
888-264-4080
APPLY ONLINE
www.40collegepark.com
Must close by 1/31/09

CANTON, Spotless 2100 Sq.
Ft. 3 bdrm, 3 full baths, with
den/library, raised ranch. Gas
fireplace, formal dining and
living room. 2 & 1/2 Car
attached garage. Plymouth-
Canton schools. \$1575/mo.
248-425-4853. See pics:
www.bekamanagement.com

DEARBORN HEIGHTS - Sharp
3 bdrm ranch, bsmt, garage.
C/A, new vinyl windows,
option, \$850, (248) 788-1823

DETROIT - 2 bdrm, basement,
\$575/mo., 16580 Woodbine,
6 mile & Telegraph.
Call: (248) 476-6498

DETROIT LASHER RD AREA
2 bdrm, bsmt, \$475/mo.
18971 Westbrook
3 Bdrm, bsmt, garage,
\$600/mo. 20021 Chapel
(248) 476-6498

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

FARMINGTON HILLS - 21508
Middlebelt. 2 bdrm, new car-
pet, new paint, \$650/mo.
Call Mike: (248) 408-3328

Homes For Rent

4050

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

FARMINGTON HILLS
12 Mile & Hagerty.
4 bdrm, 2.5 bath,
dining rm, living rm,
family rm, fireplace, 2 car
garage. 248-553-4874.

FARMINGTON HILLS
2-3 bdrm. Very clean, new
windows. \$800-\$1000/mo. +
security. 248-787-5808.

Farmington Hills Immaculate,
3 bdrm brick w/ vaulted ceil-
ings, granite kit. & fireplace,
garage. \$1300. 248-755-0461

FARMINGTON HILLS, 21187
Rensselaer. Completely reme-
died 2 bdrm, garage, appli-
incl. \$785/mo. 248-514-3075

Farmington Hills-Renovated
Clean, 3 bdrm brick ranch,
garage, fenced, w/side-
walks. \$950. 248-755-0461

PLYMOUTH - Spotless 3 bdrm
ranch, updated kitchen &
bath, 1100 sq. ft. air. all appli-
ances incl washer & dryer. 2.5
car garage, corner lot,
\$950/mo incl water & security.
9004 Elmhurst. 734-455-8889

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bath, 1100 sq. ft. air. all appli-
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2009 Lexus Gs 350 Is Pleasure Driving At Its Best

Advertising Feature

CAReport

By Dave Menard
Avanti News Features

I normally find driving to be kind of a pain in the neck. Ironic, I know, considering what I do. I don't mind the wide-open spaces of the highways (once you get out of the city), but stop-and-go, bumper-to-bumper, I-need-stuff-from-the-store type driving is never a pleasure. Most of the time, anyway.

Some vehicles, though, can even make this kind of bump-and-grind driving much more bearable. The 2009 Lexus GS 350 is one of those. Its combination of power, smooth ride and fancy toys will make you look for excuses to go driving—even with gas still hovering around \$4 a gallon.

The GS 350 is a midsize four-door with a 112.2-inch wheelbase and rear-wheel drive (AWD is optional). Four independent headlamps surround the grille, which includes the Lexus logo. The GS 350 comes with fog lamps, 17-inch alloy wheels (18-inch wheels are optional), dual heated outside mirrors and high-density discharge headlamps. The long hood, pulled-back cabin and short rear deck make for a nice package; elegant without being overwhelming.

The GS 350 is powered by 3.5-liter, DOHC 24-valve V6 rated at 303 horsepower and 274 lb.-ft. of torque; plenty of power for quick acceleration and passing (0-60 in 5.7 seconds). It's EPA rated at 21/29 mpg and it does require premium fuel.

It's mated to a six-speed automatic transmission that features a sequential manual-shift mode. You can also select from three transmission modes—Normal, Power and Sport—depending on your driving environment. The best luxury transmissions are like a sports referee; the less you notice it, the better. And you really don't notice the shifting on this one, unless you're really trying to pay attention.

Which might be hard to do if you look around the cabin. The GS 350 is full of goodies, most of them standard. The car comes with dual-zone automatic climate control, power moon roof, power windows and locks, rear window defogger, Bluetooth technology, memory settings and cruise control. The audio system, climate control and navigation system are all controlled via a touch-screen.

The standard audio system is an AM/FM/cassette (why cassette, Lexus?) system with a six-disc CD changer, 10 speakers and 134 watts of power. You can upgrade to a Mark Levinson audio/navigation system that adds four speakers, ups the power to 330 watts, and includes a rear back-up camera and easy-to-use navigation system. It's just too bad



The 2009 Lexus GS 350 continues the Lexus tradition of power and luxury

that the only way to get the back-up camera is to add this expensive system because the camera is a great feature, particularly if you live in a neighborhood with a lot of small children. The audio system itself is excellent, and you can add satellite radio to the package, as well.

Inside the cabin, you'll find comfortable seats, an attractive instrument cluster and plenty of room. The cabin is trimmed in wood and leather. The GS 350 comes with heated 10-way power adjustable power seats for both driver and front passenger. You can get ventilated seats (\$200) as an option. The seats are comfortable and provide good support.

The attractive instrument panel features three pods that include a tachometer and a coolant temperature gauge, in addition to the speedometer and fuel gauge. There's a multi-function touch-screen display in the center, which is where the video monitor for the back-up camera and the display for the navigation system will be, if you order it. I'm still not sure if I like all the functions for navigation, climate control and audio combined into one screen. You have to touch a button to get to the right screen before you make the desired adjustment and that's an extra step.

Another interior feature I'm not crazy about is the GS 350's drop-down box that contains several controls, including fuel door, power mirror adjustment, trunk release, headlamp washer, rear sunshade and interior lamps. I see what Lexus is trying to do by putting the less-used controls out of the way, but, again, it's an extra step. It may be just me but I like everything in view where I can get to it. That, however, is a minor quibble.

There's plenty of room in the GS 350, front and rear. The trunk is large enough to hold your grocery shopping.

The GS 350 gives you a comfortable ride, without turning into a couch on wheels. The front suspension utilizes double wishbones with high-mount upper arms, coil springs, gas-filled shocks and stabilizer bar. In the rear, it's a multi-link suspension with high-mount upper arms coil springs, gas-filled

shocks and stabilizer bar. Traction control and vehicle stability control are standard. The speed-sensing power-assisted steering makes handling a breeze and the GS 350 is easy to maneuver. The four-wheel power-assisted ABS brakes are excellent.

In addition to the front driver and passenger airbags, the GS 350 comes with front and rear side curtain airbags, seat-mounted side-impact airbags for the front seats and driver and front passenger knee airbags. The optional Pre-Collision System can help you avoid an accident.

A millimeter-wave radar sensor helps detect obstacles in front of the car, while vehicle speed, steering angle and yaw-rate inputs help to determine whether a collision is unavoidable. If that's the case, PCS switches the Adaptive Variable-air Suspension to sport mode for optimal chassis response, preemptively retracts front seat belts, and pre-initializes Brake Assist so that increased braking will be applied the instant the driver depresses the pedal. The active-braking feature will automatically apply the brakes up to a deceleration rate of 0.3 g if the driver fails to react to system warnings.

The GS 350 starts at a little over \$44,000. Add the larger tires, audio/navigation system and the package that gives you wheel locks, a cargo net and a trunk mat and you're at a little over \$47,000. That's more than a few pennies, but how much would you spend to not mind driving to the store to get milk?

Dave Menard is senior editor of Avanti NewsFeatures and an auto critic for allopinionsallthetime.com. Write to him at avantil054@aol.com. Distributed by Fracassa News Group.

2009 Lexus GS 350
Vehicle class: Midsize sedan.
Power: 3.5-liter DOHC V6 engine.
Mileage: 19 city / 27 highway.
Where built: Japan.
Base price: \$44,550.
Price as tested: \$47,435.

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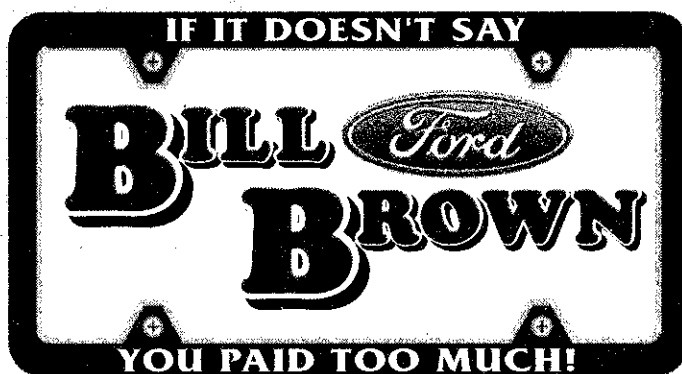
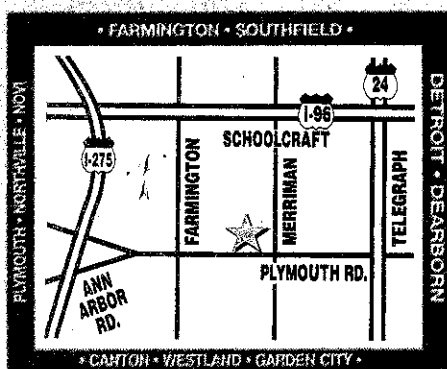
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