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# CANTON Observer

## Boys' traumatic fall through ice shows dangers of local ponds

BY TONY BRUSCATO  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

It may be a while before 11-year-old Nolan Gerou of Canton Township and his friend, 12-year-old David Bindon of Canton, decide to take a walk onto a frozen pond.

Last week, the pair tested the ice on a retention pond in the Hampton Ridge North subdivision. It soon became an experience Nolan will never forget.

"We went on it to test it and out of the blue we fell through the ice," Nolan said. "We didn't even hear it crack. The water came up to our shoulders and we kind of touched the bottom."

"We tried to pull ourselves out of the water, but the ice kept falling through," he added. "We got to the side and I boosted David up and then he pulled me out. I thought I was going to drown."

Nolan's father, 35th District Court Judge Michael Gerou, said the incident "scared the heck" out of him when he learned of the story.

"It's a good thing they were together, because I'm not sure either one of them could have gotten out by themselves with their snow pants and boots on," Gerou said. "There are a lot of retention ponds in Canton that people use for ice rinks and skating."

Canton Fire Chief Michael Rorabacher said retention ponds in Canton range from approximately three to eight feet deep, with at least one in the township 10-12 feet.

"By their very nature, retention ponds are designed to regulate storm water runoff. And, unlike a natural pond, their water levels can fluctuate significantly," Rorabacher said. "You can actually have a layer of ice on top, and a gap of no water directly underneath."

Rorabacher cautioned about the use of retention ponds for winter activities. "Residents should consider all ice unsafe due to variables that you cannot see, such as thickness, deterioration, cracks and holes," Rorabacher said. "Ice that is three inches thick in one area may be a half-inch thick a few steps away due to water currents, depth or objects underneath."

Rorabacher said Canton firefighters train annually in ice water rescue utilizing frozen retention ponds in Canton. They use the department's new buoyant "Mustang Ice Commander" suits designed for cold water rescues. Firefighters practice cutting through the ice and into the water to "rescue" their partners.

tbruscato@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-2637



The Canton Historical Museum's Liz Carlson displays an old style baseball mitt that was left in a house that Bill Tesen moved into. A tag lists a patent dated 1910.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

## Toys from another era

### Museum's exhibit appeals to the child in everyone

#### GO PLAY: TOYS FROM DIFFERENT TIMES, DIFFERENT PLACES

**Where:** Canton Historical Museum (corner of Canton Center Road and Heritage Park Drive)

**When:** Through Feb. 27

**Hours:** Tuesdays, 1-4 p.m.; Thursdays, 2-5 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**More info:** Admission is free. Call (734) 397-0088 or visit www.cantonhistoricalsociety.org

BY TONY BRUSCATO  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The Canton Historical Museum's current exhibit — Go Play: Toys from Different Times, Different Places — may well be as much a toy story for adults as much as it is for kids.

With dolls and books from the 1860s, a Lionel train set complete with transformer and smoke pellets, baseball mitts from the 1930s and a Monopoly game with wooden houses and hotels from the same era, adults are certain to use the time to reminisce

Please see **TOYS, A3**

## County's snowplowing efforts drawing plenty of drivers' complaints

BY TONY BRUSCATO  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Canton resident Eugene Desjarlais said he wasn't too pleased with Wayne County's snowplowing of Canton's roads after last weekend's snowstorm.

"It's finally decent now, but it seemed to take forever," Desjarlais said. "It seemed like they were sitting on it for a while when they didn't salt ahead of time when they knew the ice was coming. I didn't slide a whole lot, though, thank goodness."

Canton Township Supervisor Phil LaJoy received enough complaints about road conditions that he contacted Wayne County officials with the concerns. LaJoy said he understands Wayne County's budget dilemma and the policy changes made before winter, which affected when and how the roads will be plowed. However, LaJoy said he wants to see a better effort as it pertains to snowplowing in Canton.

"The roads weren't safe and it took them too long to get the snow to an acceptable level," LaJoy said. "What they're supposed to do is have two pathways that are to be cleared, there's not supposed to be ice in those ruts. The rest of the snow is supposed to be half-an-inch. But, that didn't happen in all areas."

"I'm also concerned about the school buses traveling in ruts," he said. "I've been in communication with (Wayne County Commissioner) Kevin McNamara, and our staff has been in touch with the county. (Wayne County) had some issues and they've assured us they will work through them and do the best they can to fix all the problems they had."

McNamara, who recently was appointed chairman of the Wayne County Commission's committee on public services — which over-

#### WHAT DO YOU THINK?

What do you think of Wayne County's snowplowing efforts in Canton so far this winter? E-mail your thoughts to Editor Kurt Kuban at [kkuban@hometownlife.com](mailto:kkuban@hometownlife.com) or post a comment on our Web site at [www.hometownlife.com](http://www.hometownlife.com).

sees the roads — said a two-hour meeting Wednesday with the administration of Executive Robert Ficano resulted in a plan to mobilize Wayne and surrounding counties and their communities to ask the state for more money.

"We have a nightmare on our hands and we're ready to go after the state of Michigan concerning our roads," said McNamara, who lives in Canton. "The funding levels are so low we can't maintain the safety of our residents. More money will allow us to man up for storms, stockpile salt and buy enough equipment."

Assistant Wayne County Executive Alan Helmkamp said because of the budget cutbacks, expectations from communities need to be modified.

"Our routes have decreased from 133 to 99, so it will take longer to get out to any particular area," Helmkamp said. "That was forced upon us by layoffs we sustained in the last few years due to decreasing revenue and the fact we've not been able to buy any new equipment. But, service should be more than adequate."

Debbie Momeni of Canton wasn't too critical of last weekend's plowing of Canton's major streets, but admitted it could be better.

"(The plowing) was comparable to the snowfall, you can't be out there every second on every road," Momeni said. "It wasn't horrible ... it was worse in other areas."

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## Ficano to give State of the County at Village Theater

BY KURT KUBAN  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano will give his annual State of the County address Feb. 12 at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton's Cherry Hill Village.

According to the Ficano's press secretary, Vanessa Denha-Garmo, the program will begin at 6 p.m., with Ficano giving his speech about 7 p.m. The speech will be broadcast live on the radio by WJR-AM (760) and on television by WWJ-TV (Channel 2). WJR's Lloyd Jackson will emcee the program.

Denha-Garmo said details of the program are still

being worked out.

As for Ficano's speech, she said it will be both reflective and forward thinking.

"It's going to be a culmination of last year's successes and this year's challenges and plans," she said.

Topics will include the expansion of the Cobo Center and the importance of keeping the North American International Auto Show here in Detroit. "He will really be focusing on economic development," Denha-Garmo said.

The Village Theater at Cherry Hill holds about 300 people. According to Denha-Garmo, the audience will be composed of invited guests.



Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano will deliver his annual State of the County address at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton on Feb. 12.

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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 households in Michigan.

\*See branch for complete details. NCUA Your savings federally insured to at least \$250,000 and backed by the full faith and credit of the United States Government. Equal Housing Lender. ©2009 Community Financial

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## CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON ACCESS TO PUBLIC MEETINGS

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

David Medley, ADA Coordinator  
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# A familiar face

## Wayne mayor has spot in new second-grade textbook

BY SUE MASON  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A familiar face will grace the pages of a new social studies book that will be used by second-graders in the Wayne-Westland Community Schools.

Wayne Mayor Abdul "Al" Haidous is highlighted in the Macmillan/McGraw Hill book, *All Together Series*, because he is the first Arab American to be elected mayor in the United States.

"I'm honored, I'm humbled and honored to be a part of the educational process," said Haidous, who with his wife, Mary, sat and watched Monday night as the Wayne-Westland school board approved the purchase of the textbooks. "I thank you for creating an environment for our



Haidous

children." The textbook purchase were one of several approved by the board as the district continues to align curriculum to meet the standards set by the state. In addition to *All Together*, the district is purchasing a second social studies book, *Meet Michigan* by Hillsdale Educational publishers, for use by third-graders which will complete the realignment of the third-fourth-grade social studies curriculum, according to Aggie Kubrak, senior executive director of the curriculum department.

The board also approved buying *World History*.

*Patterns of Interaction* by McDougal Littell Publishers for the 10th-grade social studies curriculum.

Committees made up of teachers and administrators spent more than a year looking at textbooks and making sure the ones selected aligned with the state requirements. The fact that a local celebrity is in one of them was an fringe benefit and drew praise from two board members who live in Wayne.

"I just love it that you're in this textbook, that's wonderful," said board President Martha Pitsenbarger. "He absolutely loves being mayor. He does a great job."

"I've known him for many years and I think of him as nothing else than a great American and a great friend," added board Vice President Skip Monit.

A Lebanese native, Haidous immigrated to the U.S. in 1969 and with Mary ran Al's Friendly Market in Wayne.

In 1993, he was elected to the Wayne City Council where he served two terms. In 2001, he made history by being the first elected mayor in the city of Wayne as well as the first Arab American elected mayor of a city in America.

Haidous, who had five children go through Wayne-Westland schools, told the board "our schools have never looked better."

"You've worked hard and it shows," he said. "I know what the schools looked like before. I like what you've done. You're doing a fantastic job."

Board Treasurer Steve Becher, who also lives in Wayne, told Haidous that with the purchase of the book he will have to consider his political future.

"You're going to have to run for mayor a few more times because we can't afford to buy another book," he said.

smason@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-6751

## CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON INVITATION TO BID

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Charter Township of Canton, 1150 Canton Center S, Canton, Michigan will accept sealed bids at the Office of the Clerk up to 3:00 p.m. Thursday, January 29, 2009 for the following:

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Bids may be picked up at the Finance and Budget Department, on our website at [www.canton-mi.org](http://www.canton-mi.org), or you may contact Mike Sheppard at: 734/394-5225. All bids must be submitted in a sealed envelope clearly marked with the proposal name, company name, address and telephone number and date and time of bid opening. The Township reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals. The Township does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services.

TERRY G. BENNETT, CLERK

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## Filing deadline Feb. 10 for W-W school election

The clock is ticking for people who are interested in serving on the Wayne-Westland school board. As of Tuesday, only one person, appointed incumbent Shawna Walker, had pulled nominating petitions in advance of the Feb. 10 deadline for the election which will be held May 5.

The two four-year terms, held by incumbents Ed Turner of Westland and Steve Becher of Wayne, will be filled in the annual election.

Voters also will select a trustee to serve the remaining one year of the term of former board member Frederick Weaver, who resigned last August after it became known he had moved from the school district. Walker, a Westland resident, has been filing the position since being appointed to the board in mid-September.

A retiree, Turner is completing his fourth four-year term on the school board. He has served as board secretary and president. Becher was elected to the board in 2004 to fill the remaining one year of a term that had been held by the late Mathew McCusker and elected to his first four-year term in 2005. The current board treasurer, he is a retired Wayne-Westland teacher.

Candidates must be at least 18 years old, a qualified voter in the school district and a resident of the state for at least 30 days. They have until 4 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 10, to file an Affidavit of Identity and a nominating petition. Petitions must contain a minimum of 40 up to a maximum of 100 signatures of registered voters in the school district. A \$100 non-refundable fee can be filed in lieu of a petition.

Petitions are available from the Westland City Clerk's Office in Westland City Hall, 36001 Ford, west of Wayne Road, and the Wayne City Clerk's Office in Wayne City Hall at 3355 S. Wayne Road, south of Glenwood.

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# 'Vic the Brick' leaves his mark

Longtime planning commissioner proud of township's growth

BY TIFFANY L. PARKS  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

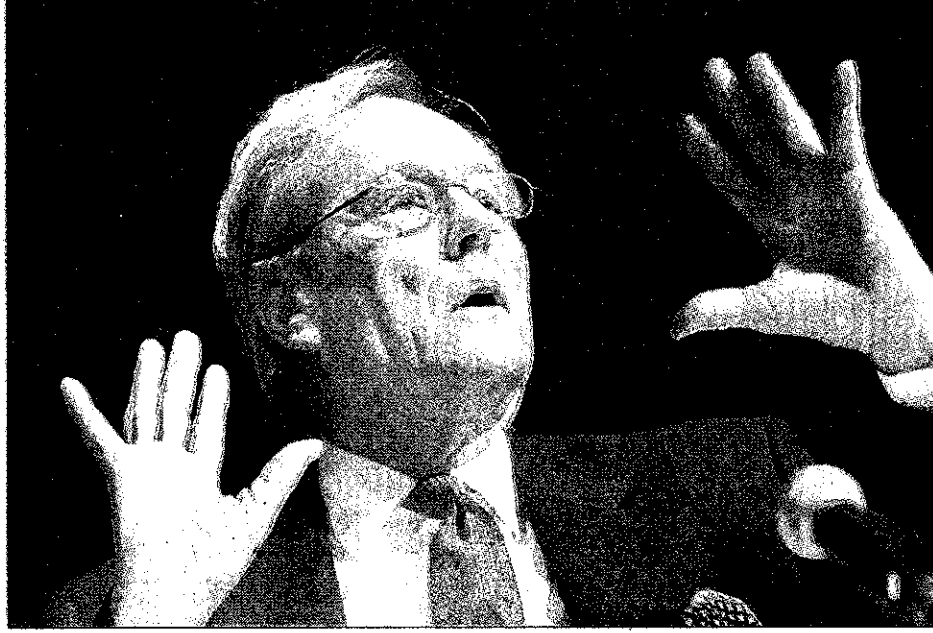
As the chairman of the Canton Planning Commission, Vic Gustafson haggled with developers, listened to residents and watched the township flourish.

And now, with 20 years of experience in his rear view mirror, he has passed the torch.

"Canton is a wonderful community that others recognize and admire — and I can say that without skipping a beat — but it is time to make room for the new kids," said Gustafson, who recently relocated to Macomb with his new bride. "We have come a long way."

After touching down in Canton in 1978, the father of three quickly jumped into local government, carving out his spot on the Planning Commission and gained the nickname "Vic the Brick" for his unyielding devotion to the construction material.

"We never questioned our standards," Gustafson said, adding that township officials, such as former Supervisor Tom Yack, joined together early on to carry out the vision for Canton's development. "When we first proposed upscale housing south of Ford Road, there were a number of people who thought it was pie in the sky, but if we hadn't done that we would



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Former Planning Commission Chairman Vic Gustafson spent two decades on the commission. He recently moved to Macomb Township with his new bride. Over the years he was in the middle of many heated battles, including a hostile meeting about the Oakwood Hospital project.

not have been able to attract the businesses we have today. Nothing ventured, nothing gained."

While throwing out acronyms that soon became staples of his vocabulary, such as PUD (planned unit development) and PDD (planned development district), Gustafson points to developments such as Cherry Hill Village and Pheasant Run as successes.

"I'm pretty happy with what we have

done. I think we are in the 95-100 percent strike zone," he said, adding that commissioners sometimes have to be the "bad guy" when negotiating with developers. "Rather than be just another community, we have become one to be admired and copied."

Commission Vice Chair Greg Greene called Gustafson's contributions to Canton "unique" and said his presence will be missed.

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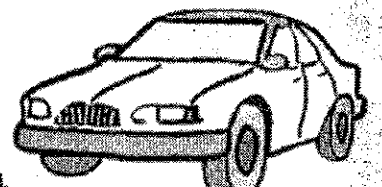
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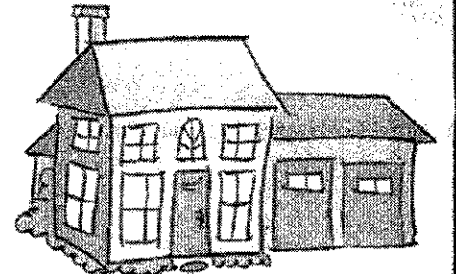
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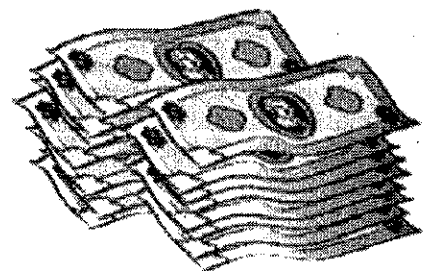
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## OUR VIEWS

# MacDonald served with pride, grace

The Plymouth-Canton area is made up of an endless number of people whose caring attitude and involvement make up the "hometown" feeling upon which we pride ourselves.

John MacDonald is certainly one of those.

MacDonald, forced to retire at the age of 72 from the 35th District Court bench, ended nearly a quarter-century of judicial excellence dispensed from high upon his seat atop the court.



MacDonald

He's replaced by Jim Plakas, the Northville attorney who beat Plymouth's own Joe Barone in the November general election. Plakas has large robes to fill.

MacDonald presided over a court that was generally well-run, fiscally responsible, never operated in the red and added programs and processes that ensured the smooth dispensing of justice in his court-house.

It wasn't all moonlight and roses during MacDonald's tenure. His relationship with fellow longtime Judge Ron Lowe deteriorated to the point where MacDonald openly campaigned against Lowe the last time Lowe had to seek re-election. You could argue — and some observers to whom we spoke agreed — such politicking was out of bounds for a sitting judge.

The animosity between the two is legend in the realm of off-the-record conversations, and that probably hurt the administration of the court.

But it never entered MacDonald's courtroom, where the veteran jurist ruled with charm, good humor and grace. He took the time to explain what was happening to those who came before him, listened to their stories and seemed genuinely caring about the people who found themselves in trouble.

He was active in the community, ranging from his annual benediction at the Plymouth Chamber of Commerce auction to his judging of the old *Observer* pie-eating contest during the fall festival.

It's a level of involvement Plakas would do well to emulate. The strike against Plakas has been that his involvement in the community didn't start until he wanted the job. You decide whether that bothers you; community involvement has to start somewhere; just because you just began doing it doesn't make it less genuine.

In the hallways, Plakas, the candidate MacDonald supported against Lowe a few years ago, must have a better working relationship with Lowe and fellow Judge Mike Gerou than MacDonald had at the end. But in the courtroom, Plakas will do well to simply match MacDonald's service.

# King would be proud of Obama's election

On Tuesday, Barack Hussein Obama will be sworn in as the 44th president of the United States. That historic event will follow the day we set aside to celebrate the life of Martin Luther King Jr., the martyred civil rights leader who helped set in motion the profound changes that made it possible for Obama to reach the nation's highest political office.

It has been a long, violent and often bitter struggle for African Americans to assert their place in America, moving from slavery, to Jim Crow laws in the South to widespread de facto discrimination in the North. It's a story of hardship that still afflicts the black community, where grinding poverty, limited opportunity and crime still separate many African Americans from the white majority.

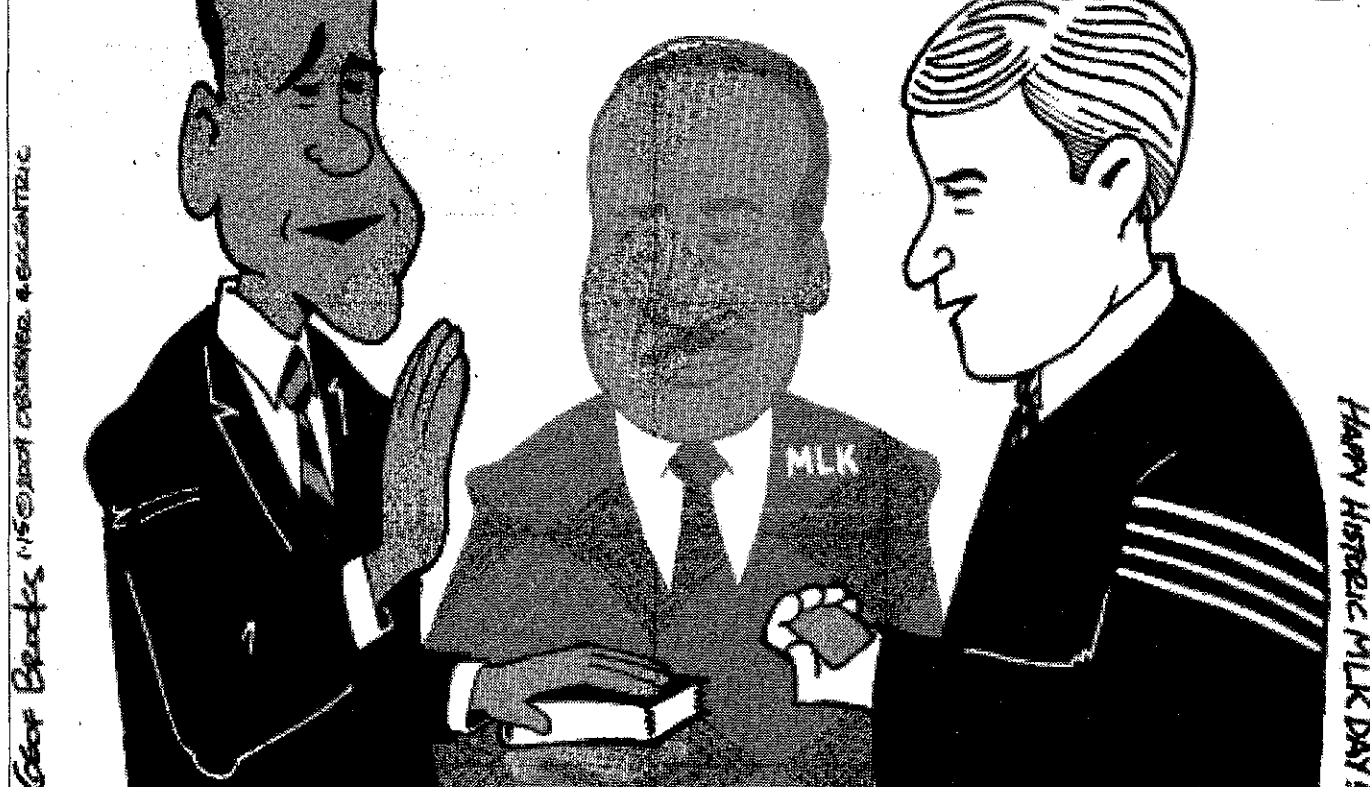
But each year, this nation moves closer to King's dream. In large ways and small, black Americans have taken their place as national, state and local leaders, prominent professionals and artists and prospering members of a growing black middle class.

In 1963, King set the mark not just for black Americans but for the United States as a whole. He challenged this great country to make real its vaunted claims of liberty and justice for all, to open the doors of opportunity, to break down the walls of racial separation and create a dialogue on what the promise of America really means.

George W. Bush, a Republican, appointed many cabinet members from minority communities, most notably his two secretaries of state, Colin Powell and Condoleezza Rice. Now Obama, a Democrat, assumes the position of the nation's leader at a time of great economic, political and military strife.

The nation looks toward this man of mixed racial heritage with overwhelming expectations. Martin Luther King would have been proud that the United States would choose to place their faith in this man at this time. It is a piece of the dream fulfilled.

# THE DREAM LIVES



## Board misses point

The school board is missing the point, as did the American car companies. The budget needs to start with the top, which is all the employees and their benefits.

There is NO doubt that the budget should include drastic cuts in administration salaries, and benefits. All teacher salaries and benefits should be reduced immediately. By reducing the legacy cost (pensions) that alone would create millions of additional revenue dollars in the budget.

With the addition of these cuts, we would not have to reduce any services to the students. We need to start thinking of the students, not keep raising teachers' salaries and benefits. Everyone and every company is cutting salaries and benefits, why are the administrators and teachers excluded from cuts? The Plymouth-Canton Schools employees need to start contributing more of their own dollars to cover health care and pension cost.

Let's stop just trimming the fat, and counting on state funds. Judy Mardigian has been protecting the teachers and administrators long enough.

All Judy Mardigian cares about is getting new money. As stated in your article today, "One of the difficult things in not getting new money is where are we going to be with union negotiations and salary."

I would love to read in the *Observer*, Plymouth-Canton Schools have reduced their budget by cutting salaries and reducing employee benefits. I have NEVER read where salaries and benefit cuts were even considered.

It's time the Plymouth-Canton Schools made the right cuts, and started spending less.

Martin Keith  
Plymouth

## MARSP shares holiday spirit

The Northwest Wayne County Michigan Association of Retired School Personnel (MARSP) shared the recent holiday spirit with the needy in our community. At the December luncheon and business meeting, over 135 MARSP members donated food for the food drive sponsored by the Memorial Church of Christ in Livonia. Memorial Church of Christ also works with Gleaners and the Light House Mission. Food, cleaning supplies and paper items collected were distributed to families in Livonia, Westland and Redford.

MARSP members also wrote Christmas messages that were sent to recovering American soldiers at Walter Reed Medical Center in Washington.

Five members of the "Classical Bells" provided musical entertainment for the luncheon and MARSP members participated in a festive holiday sing-along.

Martha Trafford  
Canton

## LETTERS

### Give peace a chance

As a Vietnam veteran, I sometimes wonder why do we have war.

I remember seeing men and women struggling to make a living. They farmed the land, they fished the waters and they cultivated the rice paddies. They didn't care whether the government resided in Saigon, Hanoi or Washington. They didn't know anything about the so-called Domino Theory. They just wanted to eke out some food for their families.

I bring this up because I see the same thing going on in Iraq, Afghanistan and in a way, the Gaza Strip. Governments are waging wars, but the people suffering the most aren't the antagonists but rather a poor population trying to live from day to day.

I remember when the Iraqi invasion began, there was a bombing of a wedding. It was a terrible mistake but think about it, what if was at Burton Manor. Would we call it a "terrible mistake"? Would we stand for mercenaries like Blackwater patrolling our streets, "accidentally" killing police officers?

I realize the war in the Gaza Strip is more complicated and there are many rocket attacks from both sides, but I keep seeing children being carried out, markets, not bunkers being destroyed and more innocent people being killed. I think John Lennon said it best: "Give Peace a Chance." PLEASE!

Skip Wehrle  
Garden City

### Ducking responsibility

Among those assembled at our president's inauguration will be the drag along special interests, the manipulating environmentalists, the UAW, WOW, and gay lobby each committed to defined objectives, followed tightly in line by the drunk politicians from American cities and states who have guided spending well beyond resources.

Jumping into the mix seeking attention are Hollywood hot dogs, trial lawyers, and the mainstream media too, all expecting to collect. Facing the barbarians at the gate, our new president may be run ragged by the often unhappiest Americans. While unanticipated, in control of the bully pulpit, it would be simply masterful if the president turned the tables and push serious detoxification of groupie expectations.

I do not envy our next President Obama and wish him well at receiving President Bush's weak punt in the auto industry bailout. More concerned about saving jobs, the president saved the UAW. What awaits is the unions' "card check" initiative. In view of the economic and political decay with a "highly unionized" and the unstable European populations, aggressive liberals may be given pause.

Are these conditions best reflected by segment of a significant European military program recently declared "unfit." A little messy!

The government might produce winners with a "payoff program" like a "thumb on the scale trick" to prop up sales of union-produced vehicles? The better idea is to get commerce working by igniting industries that bring a perennial compounding effect of action. Manufacturing! Eliminating corporate taxes and the capital gains works in the lubrication of business and commerce. Throwing cash at infrastructure projects simply bails out poor governance found in abundance in patronizing blue states. Cash that might be better directed to protect a Federal Pension Benefit Guarantee Program. As with FDR, problems may be punted as long as angst is politically useful. Still curious how AIG had such speedy and enormous support making us wonder if it has to do with underwriting governmental benefit programs.

Congress spends. Can even a strong president hold back more schemes authored or promoted by a Congress heaping heavier debt upon America's young? Our national debt must be eventually covered by empty dollars or heavy taxes on Americans' food and fuel. The U.S. Congress is responsible for this raw deal swindle and surge of debt facing this nation. In their largess will their chosen affected by Madoof's scheme be bailed out as well?

George W., however, provides a convenient excuse for any pre-existing or forthcoming problem. Costly government is a political industry bent upon spending. The tenured education mugging particularly shows unbridled growth and its population held unusually safe and harmless by the wavering economic fortunes. Especially in recent promotion of vaporous science beliefs for financial support. In difficult times, citizens fully locked up in struggles of the private sector could become unhappy with nesting sanctuaries. Hard to unravel the tightly entrenched and politically couched even if functionally phony and unsupportable. In politics bluster is common, actual leaders are rare. Too many of the elected tax easily, duck responsibility, and never, ever accept failures as their own.

Jim Nowka  
Northville

## SHARE YOUR OPINIONS

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

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Canton Observer  
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Detroit, MI 48226

Fax:  
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**Observer**

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

## QUOTABLE

**"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. 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."**

— Plymouth-Canton Schools Supt. Craig Fiegel, discussing the district's financial predicament, which has been exacerbated by the fact that state funding has not kept up with the rate of inflation



## Home school programs

Canton Leisure Services is offering new home school programs to the Canton community that will provide children ages 5 to 12 with classes that encourage physical fitness, art education and social opportunities regardless of where they study. All of these new programs were created in response to feedback received in 2008 from focus groups with area parents of home school children. More than 20 parents provided input on various classes they would like to see made available for their children.

The new programs are scheduled to begin throughout the month of January. Activities geared toward students, include: swim lessons; aerobics; gym and art classes, as well as drop-in opportunities in the Summit Aquatic Center on Wednesdays and Fridays from 1-3 p.m., located at 46000 Summit Parkway, and at the BLOCK Youth and Teen Center on Tuesdays from noon- 3 p.m., located at 44237 W. Michigan Avenue.

Registration fees vary per class or program. Some programs offer a 20 percent discount for additional children. The Summit Kids Corner will be available for parents with young children. Normal rates will apply. For more information or to see a complete class schedule, please visit [leisure.canton-mi.org](http://leisure.canton-mi.org) or contact the Summit Front Desk at (734) 394-5460. Parents who would like to be added to our news group and receive updates on current home school opportunities though Leisure Services, please e-mail Jason Lombardo at [jlombardo@canton-mi.org](mailto:jlombardo@canton-mi.org).

## Slavens coffee hour

New State Rep. Dian Slavens, D-Canton, is inviting residents to join her at her first coffee hour to enjoy a cup of coffee and share their ideas and concerns. The coffee hour is set for Monday, Feb. 2, from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. at the Canton Public Library, 1200 S. Canton Center Road. Slavens is the new State Representative for the 21st House District, which covers Canton Township, Van Buren Township and Belleville.

"I'm eager to sit down with the residents that I represent in the Michigan House and listen to their thoughts and concerns," Slavens said. "Talking with our residents about issues that are important to them and their families will help me to better represent our community at the Capitol. I know that Michigan is facing tough challenges right now. Through hard work and determination I will fight to create more good-



## Fund-raiser for family of David Jacobs

The family and friends of David Jacobs, who passed away because of cancer on Dec. 20, are hosting a spaghetti dinner benefit for his wife, Megan, and their 8-month-old son, Joshua, on Jan. 18 from noon-5 p.m., at Summit on the Park in Canton. David and Megan (Sleaff), who were high school sweethearts, both graduated from Salem High School in 1998 and married in March of 2004. It was a typical love story until cancer took David's life leaving his wife and son to continue on without him. Ironically, David's mother, Jan Jacobs, chaired Canton's Relay for Life for a number of years - an event that raises funds for cancer research. David had no life insurance to help pay the many medical bills associated with his illness. The cost of the fund-raiser is \$5. For more information, contact Cathy Hulett at (313) 715-2535. If you are unable to attend the fund-raiser, donations can be sent to: Community Financial Credit Union, PO Box 8050, Plymouth, Michigan 48170-9864. Attn: Connie Poremba for Jacobs Family Fund.

paying jobs for our workers and get our economy back on track."

## Kiwanis fund-raiser

The Plymouth Canton Kiwanis Breakfast Club is sponsoring a euchre party to fight off the winter doldrums on Saturday, Jan. 24, at the VFW Post 7575 at 33011 Ford Road in Garden City. All proceeds of the event will support community wide service programs such as their dictionary project that provides a personal dictionary to all third graders in Plymouth-Canton Community Schools.

The entry fee is \$10 with sign-in at 7 p.m. and games beginning at 7:30 p.m. There will be lots of prizes and a cash bar with refreshments available for purchase. Call Debby at (734) 282-2340 or e-mail at [dtorzy@hotmail.com](mailto:dtorzy@hotmail.com) to register or to get more information. Walk-ins are welcome.

## Patterson aide to host meeting

State Sen. Bruce Patterson's district representative, Sue Trussell, will be conducting office hours Friday, Jan. 16 from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Plymouth District Library located at 223 S. Main Street in Plymouth.

For directions and more information about the library, visit their Web site at [www.plymouthlibrary.org](http://www.plymouthlibrary.org). Come on in and share your questions or concerns with Sue. All are welcome.

## 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/villagetheater](http://www.canton-mi.org/villagetheater)

ater or call (734) 394-5300. For more information about Capitol Steps, visit [www.capsteps.com](http://www.capsteps.com).

## Car seat safety checks

The Canton Fire Department is offering car seat safety checks to Canton residents. It has been estimated that four out of five car seats are used improperly. By scheduling an appointment with one of the Fire Department's Certified Child Passenger Safety Technicians, residents can learn the proper installation of their child's car seat, how to secure their child properly in the seat, and determine if the seat is appropriate for their child, all based on National Highway Traffic Safety Administration guidelines.

Car seat safety checks are available by appointment only. To schedule your appointment contact the Canton Fire Prevention Unit at (734) 394-5456.

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

## 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 "Laugh Across America Contest."

Tickets are \$15, which also includes a performance by comedian Steve



Hamilton

Macone. Please be advised that content may contain adult material. For more information or to purchase tickets visit [www.canton-mi.org/villagetheater](http://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 and 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.

## Spotlight Players scholarships

Local theater group Spotlight Players is encouraging local middle and high school students to apply for a \$250 scholarship that can be used for a theater-related training program. Applications are due no later than Feb. 15, 2009 and can be downloaded from [www.spotlightplayers.net](http://www.spotlightplayers.net).

Students must be attending middle school or high school to be considered for the scholarship. Recipients will be selected by Spotlight Players board of governors. Selection criteria includes the scholarship application which requests applicants to list on and off stage theater experience, theater related training, and how they plan to use the scholarship. Affiliation with Spotlight Players is not necessary but will be taken into consideration.

Spotlight Players is the resident adult theater group for the Village Theater at Cherry Hill, located at Ridge and Cherry Hill Roads in Canton Township. Formerly the Plymouth Theater Guild, Spotlight Players is a non-profit organization and has been in existence for 62 years. For more information on Spotlight Players, scholarship applications and current shows visit [www.spotlightplayers.net](http://www.spotlightplayers.net) or call (734) 480-4945.

## Grief support group

The Compassionate Coffee Hour is an ongoing grief support group for widows and widowers hosted by Compassionate Care Hospice. The group is held 3-4 p.m. on the third Thursday of every month at Heartland Healthcare Center, 7025 N. Lilley Road, Canton. The focus of the group is on the later stages of grief, with an emphasis on learning to live with the loss. This group is open to anyone grieving the loss of a spouse or partner. There is no charge. For more information, contact Ann Christensen at (734) 983-9050.

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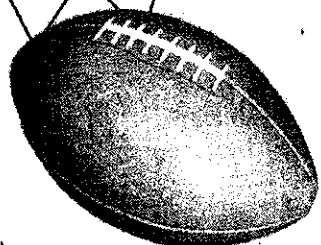
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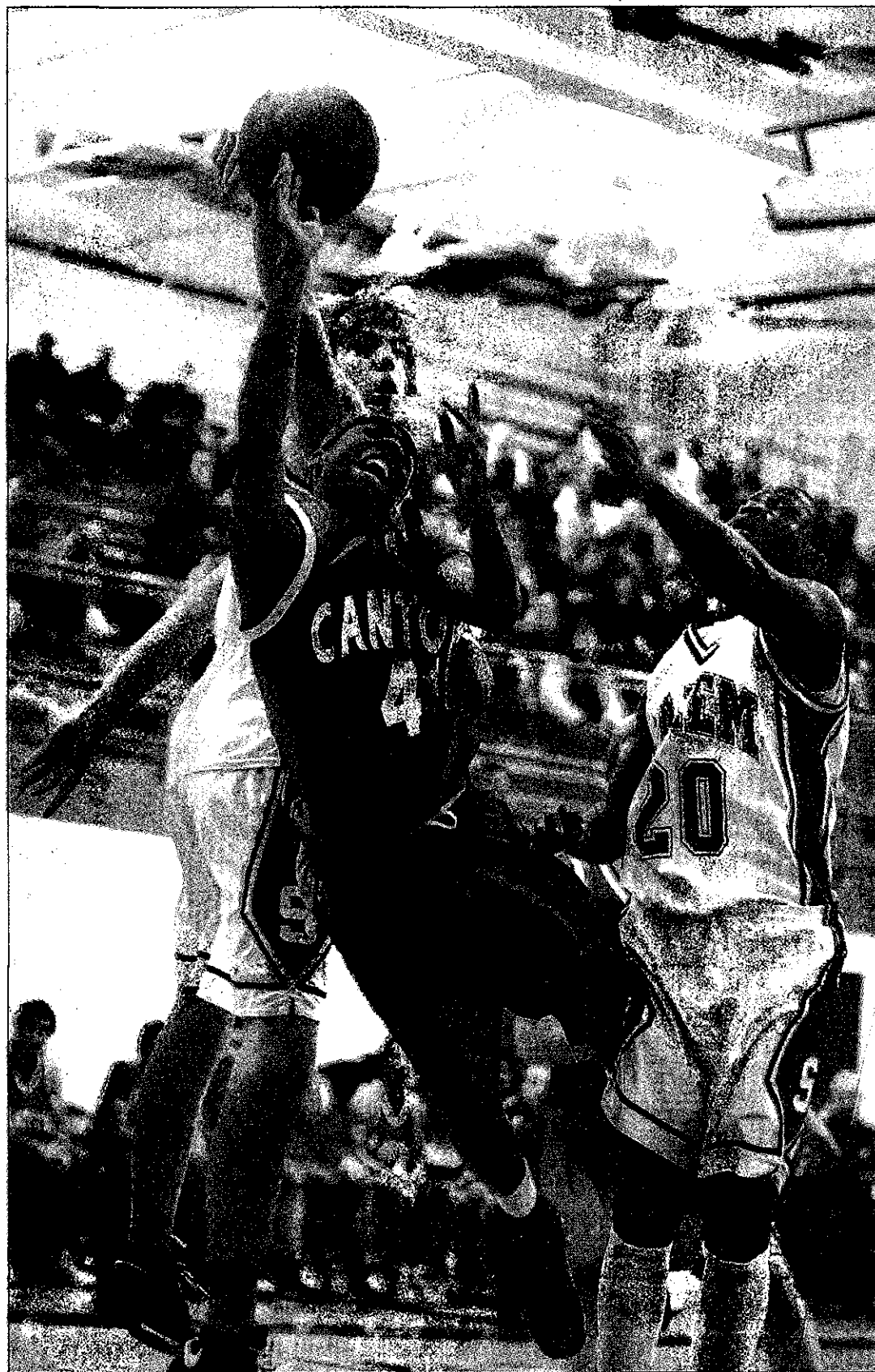
## SPORTS

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(CP)

Thursday, January 15, 2009

The Observer &amp; Eccentric Newspapers

Ed Wright, editor (313) 222-2047. [ewright@hometownlife.com](mailto:ewright@hometownlife.com)[www.hometownlife.com](http://www.hometownlife.com)

Canton sophomore guard Deltrich Lever is denied by Salem's Jake Peterson during the waning moments of Tuesday night's cross-campus clash. Salem's Anthony Mullins is pictured at right.

PHOTO BY ANDY RUBENSTEIN

## Riveting Rivalry

### Rocks' late free throw edges Chiefs in down-to-wire battle

BY ED WRIGHT  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

At least four times during the closing moments of Tuesday night's Salem-Canton boys basketball game, players from both teams hit the Salem gym floor hard in pursuit of loose basketballs.

What's a floor burn or two when a one-year lease on cross-campus bragging rights is at stake?

This year's lease has the Rocks' signatures on it — but just barely.

Salem erased an 11-point half-time deficit to pull out an exhilarating 59-58 victory — less than a week after dropping an equally-exciting double-overtime decision to Garden City.

Salem improved to 2-3 while the Chiefs slipped to 3-2.

"I love playing in games like this," said Salem senior forward Jim Dexter, whose 13-point/10-rebound effort paced the Rocks' balanced attack. "Big rivalry games like this are fun — whether you win by 20 points or one point. The close ones are definitely more fun, though."

"Coach (Bob Brodie) told us at halftime to just chip away, chip away, don't try and get it all back at once. He told us to try to get some little runs and play good defense, and that's what we did."

Ironically, on a night when both teams' late-game free-throw shooting was Ben Wallace-esque, the contest was decided by Heath Parling's free-

bie from the charity stripe that broke a 58-all draw with 15.3 seconds left.

The Chiefs rushed the ball up the court before calling a timeout with 7.1 seconds left. Senior guard Marlan Glenn then secured the in-bounds pass from underneath the basket, but his driving six-footer was blocked by Salem junior forward Jake Peterson, who has the wingspan of a 747.

A jump ball was called with two seconds left with the possession arrow pointing toward the Chiefs.

Following another timeout, Canton's in-bounds pass bounced out of bounds without touching a player.

Salem missed a free throw with 1.7 seconds to play, but the Chiefs were unable to get off a potential game-winning or game-tying shot.

"This win was huge for this team, especially coming off some tough losses, plus with it being against a rival," said Salem coach Bob Brodie. "Hopefully, it will be a springboard for us."

"We had great balance tonight. A lot of guys contributed. This was a good team win."

Led by Dexter's baker's dozen, five Rocks scored between 13 and eight points and two teammates nearly joined Dexter in the exclusive double-double club.

Joe Posler finished with

Please see **HOOPS, B4**

## Sidelines

### Demolition tryouts

Tryouts for the Detroit Demolition, a member of the Independent Women's Football League, will be from 9-11 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 17 and 31, at the Total Sports Complex, located at 30900 Wixom Road, Wixom.

The tryout fee is \$35 (cash, credit card or money orders accepted; no checks). Each tryout participant must bring a driver's license and a copy of their active health insurance card.

For more information, call tryout coordinator Alecia Sweeney at (248) 765-3419; or e-mail [asweeney@steelfishdesign.com](mailto:asweeney@steelfishdesign.com). You can also call owner Al Seder at (313) 299-1277; or general manager Kevin Kramis at (734) 427-2962.

### Pistons clinic

The Detroit Pistons Youth Basketball Clinic will be held at Ward Presbyterian Church in Northville on Jan. 31.

The first session for boys and girls in grade first through third will run from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

The second session for boys and girls in grades fourth through sixth will run from noon to 2:30 p.m.

The cost is \$20 per child. Each participant will receive an authentic "Piston Basketball" T-shirt.

For pre-registration and church location, contact Margy Burkhart at (248) 374-5932 or [margy.burkhart@ward-church.org](mailto:margy.burkhart@ward-church.org).

### Lacrosse meeting

An informational meeting for all athletes (and their parents) who are interested in playing for the Plymouth-Canton-Salem girls lacrosse team this spring will be held on Thursday, Jan. 22, at 7 p.m. in the Canton High School library. The meeting is for all varsity and junior varsity players and their parents.

For more information, visit [www.pcsladywarriors.com](http://www.pcsladywarriors.com).

## Strong second

### Canton gymnasts runners-up to only Farmington at Rockford meet

BY ED WRIGHT  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The roads to and from Saturday's Rockford Invitational were at times snow-covered and slippery for the Canton gymnastics team.

But it was smooth sailing for the Chiefs during their several-hour stay in the Rockford High School gymnasium.

Canton led the talent-rich competition for much of the day before settling for a second-place finish to perennial power Farmington United. The Chiefs racked up 140.60 points, just over three less than the winners.

Sturgis placed third with 137.95 points.

"I was thrilled with the way the girls performed," said Canton coach John Cunningham. "On the way there, one of the kids asked, 'So, how are we going to do today?' I said, 'Well, we probably won't win it because Farmington will be there, but if we perform well, we could finish fourth.' I'm very pleased with finishing second, especially considering it's only our third meet of the year."

The Chiefs were paced by sophomore

Cathy Huang, who placed second in the Division 1 all-around with a scintillating score of 36.375. Huang placed in three of the four events, including a second-place showing on the balance beam (9.25).

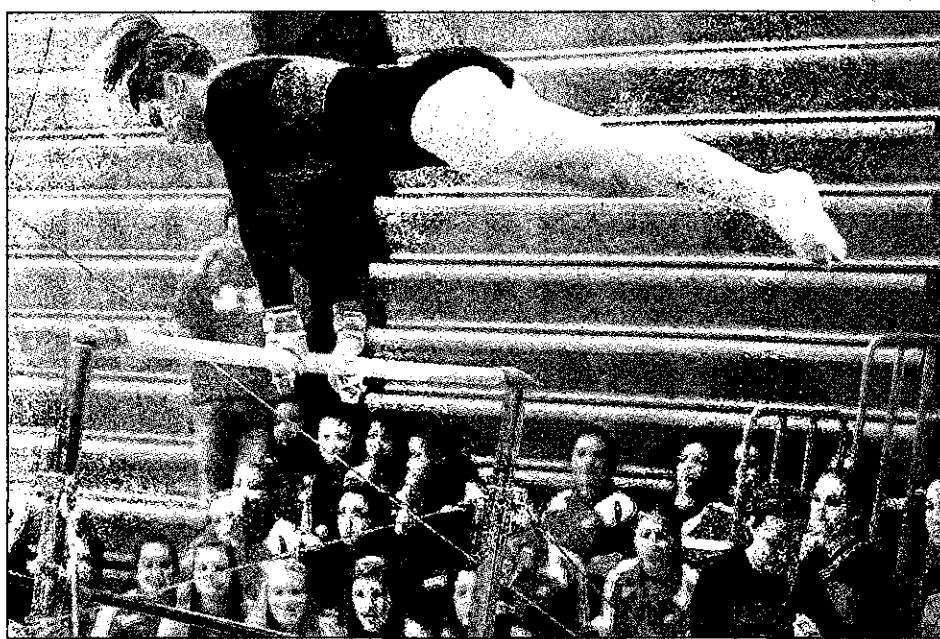
"Cathy had an outstanding day," said Cunningham. "On the floor exercise, she executed a double full twist on her first pass and her last pass, and still only got a 9.225."

Robyn Piwowar also excelled for the Chiefs, placing sixth in the D1 all-around with a 36.075. Piwowar's best event was the balance beam, on which she posted a 9.2, which was good enough for third place.

Canton's Division 2 standouts were Mallory Hudak, who placed second in the all-around, and Kali Pierce, who was 10th in the all-around. Hudak won the D2 floor exercise event thanks to a routine that garnered her a score of 9.175.

Cunningham also praised the performances of Alex Hamric, Marina Milad, Brittany Granowicz and Kylie Hakala.

[ewright@hometownlife.com](mailto:ewright@hometownlife.com) | (313) 222-2047



PHOTOS BY LORETTA O'FLYNN



Canton's Mallory Hudak, pictured above on the uneven bars, was instrumental in the Chiefs' impressive second-place showing at Saturday's Rockford Invitational. At left, Cathy Huang's outstanding performance at Saturday's Rockford Invitational lifted Canton to a second-place finish. Huang was runner-up in the all-around.

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**BOYS BASKETBALL**  
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 Oak and Christian, 8:30 p.m.  
**GIRLS BASKETBALL**  
Thursday, Jan. 15  
Huron Valley at Agape, 6 p.m.  
Friday, Jan. 16  
PCA at Oak and Christian, 7 p.m.  
Novi at Canton, 7 p.m.  
Salem at Plymouth, 7 p.m.  
**PREP GIRLS HOCKEY**  
Friday, Jan. 16  
Ann Arbor Pioneer at PCS  
at Arctic Edge, 6 p.m.  
**PREP BOYS HOCKEY**  
Friday, Jan. 16  
Plymouth at Canton, 3 p.m.  
Livonia Franklin at Salem  
at Plymouth Cultural Center, 8:30 p.m.  
**PREP WRESTLING**  
Saturday, Jan. 17  
Canton at Warren Woods Tower, 8 a.m.

Plymouth at Williamston Tournament, 8:30  
**PREP GYMNASICS**  
Thursday, Jan. 15  
Canton at Walled 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**  
Thursday, Jan. 15  
Churchill at Canton, 6:30 p.m.  
Stevenson at Salem, 6:30 p.m.  
**MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL**  
Saturday, Jan. 17  
Aquinas College at Madonna, 3 p.m.  
Schoolcraft at Oak Orchard Ridge, 3 p.m.  
**WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL**  
Saturday, Jan. 17  
Aquinas College at Madonna, 1 p.m.  
Schoolcraft at Oak Orchard Ridge, 1 p.m.  
**ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE**  
Friday, Jan. 16  
Barrie at Plymouth (Compuware), 7 p.m.  
Saturday, Jan. 17  
Owen Sound at Plymouth (Compuware), 7 p.m.

# Salem lady cagers stumble at Churchill

BY BRAD EMONS  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

It was a signature victory Tuesday night for the Livonia Churchill girls basketball team despite what the records indicate.

The host Chargers improved to 4-3 overall with a surprising 35-32 triumph over Salem, a preseason top 25-ranked team which was coming off its first win of the season last Friday against state-ranked Livonia Franklin (26-23).

Darcy DeRoo, a 5-foot-10 junior forward, led Churchill with a game-high 15 points, while senior point-guard Lindsey Graciak chipped in with 10.

Churchill trailed 10-7 after one quarter, but took a 23-17 halftime advantage with a 16-7 second-period run and kept the Rocks at bay during the final 16 minutes.

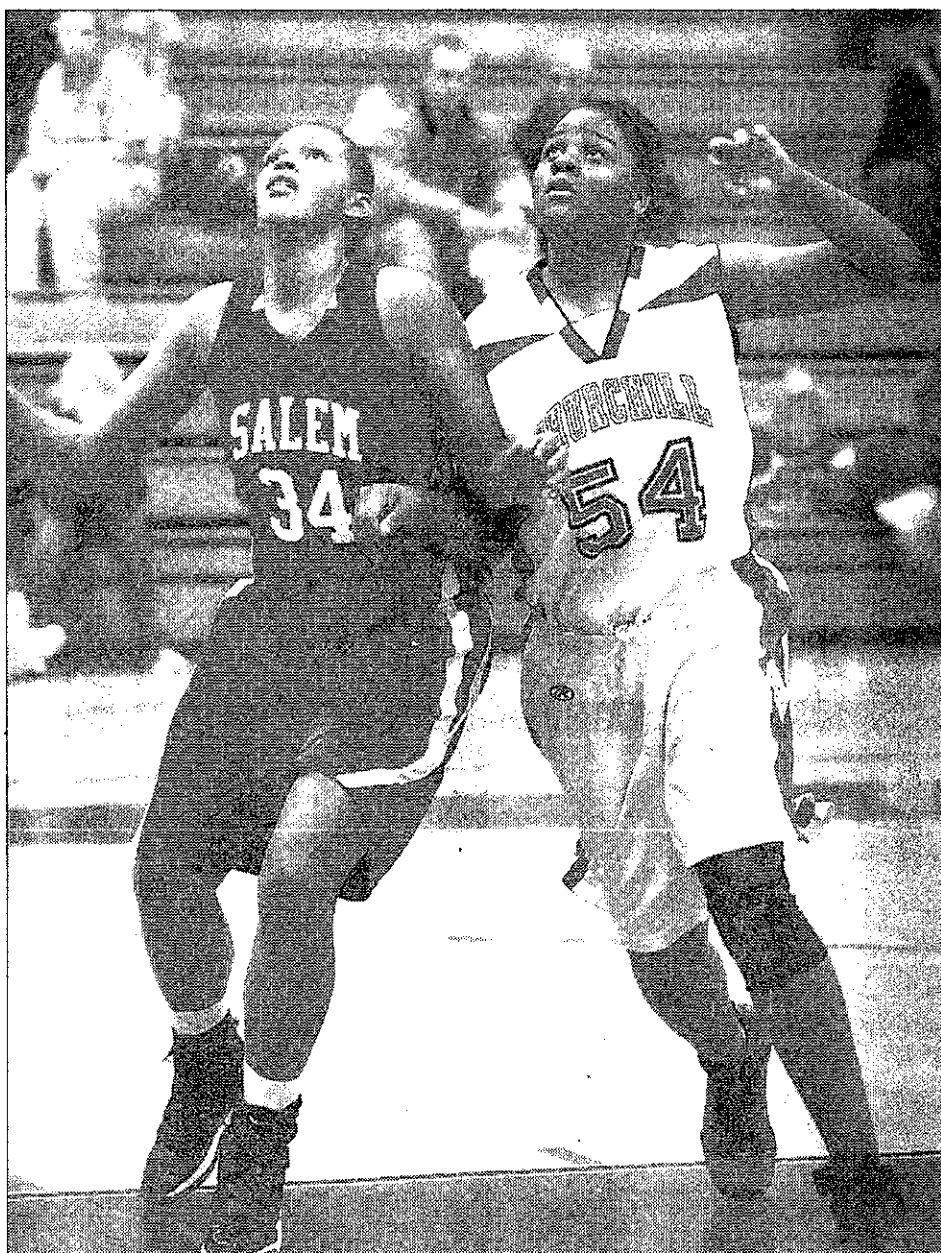
"It was our patience on offense and defensively we were able to take away the middle because of their size," Churchill coach Chad Jenkins said. "We wanted to take away the 'paint' and force them into perimeter shots. We did an excellent job of rotating defensively and not giving them easy looks. We limited them to one shot a lot and we took away the second-chances for them."

Tracy Whalen, a 6-foot senior transfer from Farmington Hills Mercy, led the Rocks (1-5) with 10 points. Chelsea Davis, a 5-11 senior, added eight, while 5-10 junior guard Sara Stone added seven.

"I'm having a hard time figuring this team out," said Salem coach Fred Thomann. "I thought we turned the corner with our win on Friday and we started well tonight, but they took it to us in the second quarter."

"As a whole we were working together as a team and everybody did their part," Jenkins said. "Offensively we were very patient. We waited for the best shot and got some layups."

Churchill was 4-of-9 from the foul line, while Salem made 1-of-3.



TOW HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Salem's Chelsea Davis tries to keep Churchill's Nakia Griffin from rebounding a foul shot near the end of the game Tuesday night.

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# Last-second three dooms Wildcats, 35-32

BY ED WRIGHT  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

On Tuesday night, for the second time in the past week, a Plymouth girls basketball game was decided with a SportsCenter-caliber shot.

Unfortunately for the Wildcats, the latest one was not as memorable as the earlier one.

Northville's Katherine Jansen drained a three-point shot just before the buzzer sounded to lift the Mustangs to a 35-32 victory. One week earlier, Plymouth's Stacey Klonowski's last-second putback edged Southgate Anderson, 38-37.

The setback dropped the Wildcats' record to 2-5 heading into Friday night's home game against Salem. The opening tip is slated for 7 p.m.

Kelsi Robinson led a balanced Plymouth attack with eight points. Shaakira Haywood contributed seven points and 14 rebounds.

Jansen paced the Mustangs with 11 points while Chelsea Atzinger twined seven.

**CANTON 56, STEVENSON 37:** Kari Schmitt led a balanced scoring attack with 13 points Tuesday to power the state-ranked Chiefs (7-0) to a win

over visiting Livonia Stevenson (3-4).

Sara Schmitt and Kayla Bridges chipped in with 10 and nine, respectively, as Canton led 35-15 at intermission.

"They're a young, disciplined team doing all the right things," Stevenson coach Paul Tripp said of the Chiefs. "And they'll be a special team for years to come."

Stevenson made 19-of-26 free throws on the night, including 16-of-22 in the second half.

Senior center Kaylee McGrath had 10 points (4-of-4 free throws) with six rebounds. Freshman Jordyn York and sophomore Sarah Smith each added eight. The two were 6-of-8 and 6-of-6, respectively, from the line.

"We hope to build on this going into the conference (KIAA) schedule," Tripp said.

**CANTON AGAPE 48, FRANKLIN ROAD 28:** On Tuesday at Garden City United, the host Wolverines improved to 2-5 overall and 1-1 in the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference with an impressive triumph over Franklin Road.

Brooke Purcell led the winners with 18 points and nine rebounds.

Sequoia Hood also shone, adding 12 points and 15 boards.

Aayna Martin chipped in with 13 points and nine rebounds while Madison Miller chalked up four steals.

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**WEEK #20 GAMES CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIPS**

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 18, 2009**

**Philadelphia at Arizona**

**Baltimore at Pittsburgh**



# Plymouth boys cagers upend Vikings with strong second half

BY ED WRIGHT  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Combine a monster game by a spectacular sophomore, near-perfect free-throw shooting and a second half of lock-down defense and what do you get?

After Plymouth's basketball team threw all three of those factors into a blender, it came out with a 66-58 victory at Walled Lake Central Tuesday night.

The win improved the Wildcats' record to 3-2 while the Vikings dropped to 2-4.

Sophomore center Justin Moss paced the winners with 22 points — six of which were the result of three rim-rattling dunks. Possibly more impressive was Moss's 8-for-8 effort from the free throw line.

Fellow sophomore Brennen Beyer also shone, netting 15 points.

Senior Cliff Buttermore added 12 points and Brad Lineberry twined nine.

Moss (eight) and Beyer (seven) topped the winners' rebounding ledger.

Jake Paulson led Central with 22 points.

Joe Diamond added 15 and Jordan Anderson contributed 10.

Central built a comfortable 35-25 halftime lead thanks in large part to pin-point three-point shooting.

The Vikings drained six first-half triples, including one stretch of four in a row in the second quarter.

"We started in a match-up zone, but once they started hitting those threes, we switched to a straight man-to-man," said Plymouth coach Tom Van Wagoner. "We got

it done defensively in the third quarter."

The Wildcats knotted the game at 45-all after three quarters before outscoring their hosts 21-13 down the stretch.

Plymouth was 13-for-16 from the line. The 'Cats hit their first 13 free throws.

Van Wagoner praised the play of reserve guard Marquee Taylor, who added five points, including a pivotal triple during crunch-time.

ewright@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-2047

## HOOPS

FROM PAGE B1

11 points and nine boards — including a couple of huge offensive putbacks in the fourth quarter — Parling and Courtney Frazier added nine points each, and Anthony Mullins came off the bench to score eight.

Frazier was huge on the boards, too, pulling down a game-high 13.

Glenn sparked for the Chiefs, netting a career-best 21 points and three steals. Junior forward Kevin Weisz excelled in a reserve role, posting 14 points — 10 in the first half — and seven rebounds.

Sophomore guard Deitrich Lever chipped in with six points and four steals.

"Because we had a great second quarter (the Chiefs scored 25 points in the frame), I think maybe we thought we were playing better than we actually were," said Canton coach Dan Colligan. "Salem did a fantastic job in the second half. My hat is off to coach Brodie and his players. They owned the offensive boards in the second half."

Overall, Salem outrebounded Canton, 40-23. The Rocks pulled down 19 offensive boards to the Chiefs' nine.

Salem needed the rebounding dominance to off-set 19 turnovers — 13 more than the Chiefs committed.

The Rocks led 16-14 following a well-played first quarter.

Fueled by a turnover-forcing full-court press that produced several fast-break layups, Canton surged to a 39-28 half-time advantage.

A slicing drive by Lever with

'Because we had a great second quarter (the Chiefs scored 25 points in the frame), I think maybe we thought we were playing better than we actually were.'

DAN COLLIGAN, Canton coach

one second left in the third quarter gave Canton a 50-42 lead heading into the fourth, but that's when the Rocks starting chipping away at their deficit like a patient, but efficient, sculptor.

Posler registered five straight Salem points during a 70-second span mid-way through the final quarter to bring Salem to within 56-53.

With 1:46 left, Glenn buried a pair of free throws to extend Canton's lead to 58-55, but Parling answered 11 seconds later by grabbing a slick back-door pass from Peterson and converting a driving layup while getting fouled to bring his team to within 58-57.

Thanks to a succession of off-target free throws, Canton maintained a one-point lead until Dexter hit 1-of-2 from the line to knot the game at 58-all with 20.4 seconds remaining.

Five seconds later, Parling hit his game-winner.

Salem shot better from the field (45.3 percent) than it did from the free-throw line (39.1).

Canton connected on 23-of-51 field goals (45 percent) and 7-of-14 free throws.

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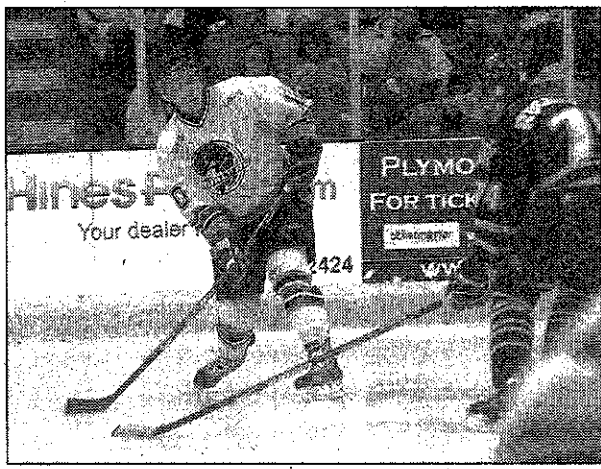
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Prices may vary after 1/19/09 if there are market variations. "Was" prices in this advertisement were in effect on 1/16/09, and may vary based on Lowe's Everyday Low Price policy. \*\*FINANCING PROMOTION DETAILS: Ask for Zero Monthly Payments and Interest for 12 Months applies to any single-receipt, in-store purchase of \$299 or more made 1/15/09 through 1/19/09 on a Lowe's Consumer Credit Card account. No monthly payments will be required and no finance charges will be assessed on this promotional purchase if you pay the following in full by 12 months: (1) the promotional purchase amount, and (2) any related optional credit insurance/debt cancellation charges. If you do not, finance charges will be assessed on the promotional balance from the date of the purchase and monthly payments will be required. Standard account terms apply to non-promotional purchases. APR is 21.99%. Min. Finance charge is \$1.00. Offer must be requested and coupon presented at time of purchase. Offer is subject to credit approval. Excludes Lowe's® Business Credit Accounts, Lowe's® Project Card® Accounts, Lowe's® VISA® Accounts, and all Lowe's® Canada Credit products. \*\*Ask for 10% Off any single-receipt in-store purchase charged to your Lowe's Consumer Credit Card Account between 1/15/09 through 1/19/09. Coupon must be presented at time of purchase and cannot be used in conjunction with any other coupon or discount. This coupon is good for a single receipt purchase of any in-stock or Special Order merchandise only up to \$5000 (Maximum discount \$500). Coupon is not redeemable for cash, is nontransferable and cannot be replaced if lost or stolen. Valid if altered, copied, transferred, or sold through any on-line auction. Limit one coupon per transaction. Not valid on sales via Lowes.com, previous sales, purchase of services or gift cards. Offer must be requested at the time of purchase. Offer is subject to credit approval. Excludes Lowe's® Business Credit Accounts, Lowe's® Project Card® Accounts, Lowe's® VISA® Accounts, and all Lowe's® Canada Credit products. \$139 entire-house carpet installation price for basic installation of carpet and pad. Prices stated for basic installation require purchase of both carpet and pad from Lowe's for installation in single-family residential homes. Additional charges may apply for services not included in basic installation. Prices do not include cost of materials to be installed. Not valid on prior purchase. See store for details. We reserve the right to limit quantities. While Lowe's strives to be accurate, unintentional errors may occur. We reserve the right to correct any error. Prices and promotions apply to US locations only. © 2009 by Lowe's®. All rights reserved. Lowe's and the gable design are registered trademarks of LF, LLC. (090191)



## Points well taken

Plymouth's Ryan Hayes, pictured above in a game earlier this season, notched a goal and an assist in the Whalers' 7-3 victory over Ottawa on Sunday. The Whalers play 10 of their next 11 games at Compuware Arena, beginning Friday with a 7:05 game against the Barrie Colts. For the complete Whalers schedule, visit [www.plymouthwhalers.com](http://www.plymouthwhalers.com).



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

# Seroka, Zhangs shine at Rock Kilgore meet

BY ED WRIGHT  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

In a meet dripping with state meet-caliber swimmers, the Salem and Canton boys swimming and diving teams more

than made their presence felt at Saturday's 10th Annual Salem Rock Kilgore Invitational. Although the host Rocks and the Chiefs placed fifth and sixth, respectively, in the six-

team field, a number of local swimmers excelled against four of the state's elite programs.

Shining the brightest was Salem sophomore Adam Seroka, who touched first in both the 200- and 500-yard freestyle races. Seroka nipped Ann Arbor Pioneer's Matt Gauthier by less than a half-second in the 200 before outlasting Pioneer's Seiji Osawa by nearly five seconds in the 500.

Canton's standouts were the Zhang brothers — senior Richard and freshman Victor, who both turned in a pair of top-three finishes.

Richard Zhang took second in the 50 freestyle and third in the 100 freestyle while his younger brother earned a second in the 200 individual medley and third in the 100 breaststroke.

## 10TH ANNUAL SALEM ROCK KILGORE INVITATIONAL Saturday at Salem

**FINAL STANDINGS:** 1. Ann Arbor Pioneer, 308; 2. Zeeland, 244; 3. Livonia Stevenson, 231; 4. Northville, 195; 5. Salem, 109; 6. Canton, 92.

**200-yard medley relay: (Heat 1)** 1. Zeeland (Dylan Zwiers, Gregg Elhart, Jason Vander Plaats, Zac Kraai), 1:40.10; 2. Stevenson, 1:42.13; 3. Pioneer, 1:42.69; **(Heat 2)** 1. Stevenson (Bryan Bielicki, John Loria, Adam Dabkowski, Ryan Scott), 1:45.44; 2. Pioneer, 1:46.93; 3. Zeeland, 1:48.68; **(Heat 3)** 1. Pioneer (Thomas Deegan, Karl Schwinghamer, Peter Court, Zach Averill), 1:49.67; 2. Stevenson, 1:50.93; 3. Northville, 1:54.05.

**200 freestyle: (Heat 1)** 1. Adam Seroka (S), 1:48.46; 2. Matt Gauthier (AAP), 1:48.88; 3. Zac Kraai (Z), 1:50.18; **(Heat 2)** 1. Kevin Naud (AAP), 1:49.47; 2. Matthew Collingwood (S), 1:50.73; 3. Charles Turlo (LS), 1:52.32; **(Heat 3)** 1. Kyle Anderson (AAP), 1:51.12; 2. John Bickle (N), 1:56.22; 3. Daniel Schoff (LS), 1:56.67; **(Heat 4)** 1. Patton Doyle (AAP), 1:53.61; 2. Noah Santer (S), 1:53.79; 3. Alex Miller (N), 1:58.10.

**200 IM: (Heat 1)** 1. Josh Geschwendt (Z), 2:00.10; 2. Victor Zhang (C), 2:02.13; 3. Kellen Schoff (LS), 2:02.80; **(Heat 2)** 1. Dylan Zwiers (Z), 2:05.41; 2. Seiji Osawa (AAP), 2:08.55; 3. Bryan Bielicki (LS), 2:10.92; **(Heat 3)** 1. Ethan Eaton (AAP), 2:14.27; 2. Chad Stears (Z), 2:10.56; 3. Ryan Winkler (N), 2:20.20; **(Heat 4)** 1. Eli Cornblath (AAP), 2:14.27; 2. Alec Wagner (N), 2:16.88; 3. Eric Schuman (LS), 2:18.52.

**50 freestyle: (Heat 1)** 1. Drew Coffin (Z), 22.25; 2. Richard Zhang (C), 23.12; 3. Nik Mirdal (AAP), 23.13; **(Heat 2)** 1. Jason Vander Plaats (Z), 22.49; 2. Grant Cole (AAP), 22.82; 3. Ryan Scott (LS), 23.40; **(Heat 3)** 1. Gregg Elhart (Z), 23.63; 2. Chris Behler (LS), 23.72; 3. Todd Truran (N), 24.31; **(Heat 4)** 1. Adam Dabkowski (LS), 23.71; 2. Edward Lee (AAP), 24.28; 3. Luke Bates (N), 25.02.

**1-meter diving: (Heat 1)** 1. Tyler Keelean (Z), 395.75 points; 2. Nick Nemetz (AAP), 392.15; 3. Kevin Bain (N), 392.15; **(Heat 2)** 1. Will Price (N), 306.40; 2. Riley Reiffer (Z), 302.85; 3. Jacob Rachford (AAP), 291.10; **(Heat 3)** 1. Ben Weber (AAP), 286.55; 2. Jonah Heemstra (Z), 230.75; 3. Ryan Kilgore (C), 214.40; **(Heat 4)** 1. Daniel Goldstein (AAP), 255.35; 2. Derek Walters (Z), 199.15; 3. Phillip Bondy (N), 187.26.

**100 butterfly: (Heat 1)** 1. Josh Geschwendt (Z), 52.18; 2. Robert Nichols (AAP), 55.47; 3. Michael Cruce (LS), 55.63; **(Heat 2)** 1. Dylan Zwiers (Z), 55.65; 2. Kyle Gunderson (AAP), 56.18; 3. Jerome Pesta (LS), 56.84; **(Heat 3)** 1. Kevin Naud (AAP), 56.52; 2. Kellen Schoff (LS), 57.44; 3. Sam Borgman (Z), 1:02.34; **(Heat 4)** 1. Adam Dabkowski (LS), 59.58; 2. Peter Court (AAP), 1:00.34; 3. Austin Davidson (N), 1:01.50.

**100 freestyle: (Heat 1)** 1. Drew Coffin (Z), 48.42; 2. Nik Mirdal (AAP), 49.89; 3. Richard Zhang (C), 49.94; **(Heat 2)** 1. Jason Vander Plaats (Z), 49.26; 2. Matt Gauthier (AAP), 50.05; 3. Clay Malloure (N), 51.72; **(Heat 3)** 1. Grant Cole (AAP), 50.20; 2. A.J. Aquino (N), 51.78; 3. Ryan Scott (LS), 53.25; **(Heat 4)** 1. Zach Averill (AAP), 52.64; 2. Mike Hagan (N), 52.81; 3. Brandon Bielecki (LS), 52.93.

**500 freestyle: (Heat 1)** 1. Adam Seroka (S), 4:53.75; 2. Seiji Osawa (AAP), 4:58.30; 3. Zac Kraai (Z), 4:58.82; **(Heat 2)** 1. Kyle Anderson (AAP), 4:57.67; 2. Matthew Collingwood (S), 4:58.56; 3. Daniel Schoff (LS), 5:04.28; **(Heat 3)** 1. Max Boyea (AAP), 4:55.79; 2. Max Mills (S), 5:09.08; 3. Joey Wingett (LS), 5:10.87; **(Heat 4)** 1. Patton Doyle (AAP), 5:14.40; 2. Adam Laporte (LS), 5:18.44; 3. Tim Shea (N), 5:20.58.

**200 freestyle relay: (Heat 1)** 1. Zeeland (Josh Geschwendt, Jason Vander Plaats, Gregg Elhart, Drew Coffin), 1:29.26; 2. Pioneer, 1:31.10; 3. Stevenson, 1:31.53; **(Heat 2)** 1. Pioneer (Kevin Smith, Ethan Eaton, Edward Lee, Matt Graziano), 1:34.20; 2. Stevenson, 1:34.83; 3. Northville, 1:36.24; **(Heat 3)** 1. Pioneer (Zach Averill, Michael Ferrara, Nick LeVeque, Max Boyea), 1:36.23; 2. Stevenson, 1:39.25; 3. Zeeland, 1:41.48.

**100 backstroke: (Heat 1)** 1. Robert Nichols (AAP), 54.63; 2. John Lubisco (N), 56.93; 3. Jonathan Mackey (Zeeland), 57.36; **(Heat 2)** 1. Kyle Gunderson (AAP), 56.83; 2. Bofeng Zhang (N), 1:00.82; 3. Zac Lindeman (Z), 1:00.83; **(Heat 3)** 1. Ty Daugherty (Z), 1:00.49; 2. Thomas Deegan (AAP), 1:02.42; 3. William Greenlee (N), 1:03.74; **(Heat 4)** 1. Ryan Winkler (N), 1:02.51; 2. Mohamed Ghotimi (LS), 1:02.61; 3. Kurt Jensen (AAP), 1:03.50.

**100 breaststroke: (Heat 1)** 1. Joey Wingett (LS), 1:03.24; 2. Gregg Elhart (Z), 1:04.50; 3. Victor Zhang (C), 1:06.48; **(Heat 2)** 1. Charles Turlo (LS), 1:03.73; 2. Chad Stears (Z), 1:06.68; 3. Eli Cornblath (AAP), 1:09.79; **(Heat 3)** 1. Eric Schuman (LS), 1:06.01; 2. Ethan Eaton (AAP), 1:07.82; 3. Jeremy Schumann (N), 1:09.67; **(Heat 4)** 1. John Loria (LS), 1:07.98; 2. Karl Schwinghamer (AAP), 1:08.24; 3. Andrew Roelofs (Z), 1:12.70.

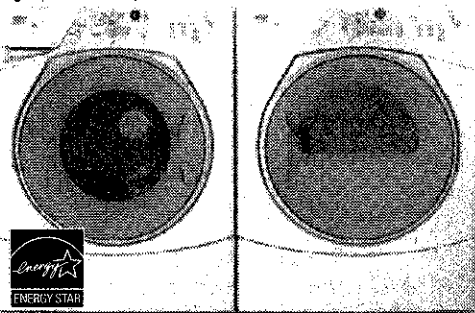
**400 freestyle relay: (Heat 1)** 1. Zeeland (Dylan Zwiers, Zac Kraai, Josh Geschwendt, Drew Coffin), 3:16.02; 2. Pioneer, 3:17.32; 3. Stevenson, 3:24.01; **(Heat 2)** 1. Pioneer (Max Boyea, Patton Doyle, Kyle Gunderson, Kyle Anderson), 3:25.76; 2. Stevenson, 3:30.64; 3. Northville, 3:35.93; **(Heat 3)** 1. Pioneer (Michael Ferrara, Zach Averill, Matt Graziano, Seiji Osawa), 3:35.12; 2. Stevenson, 3:40.17; 3. Northville, 3:41.16.

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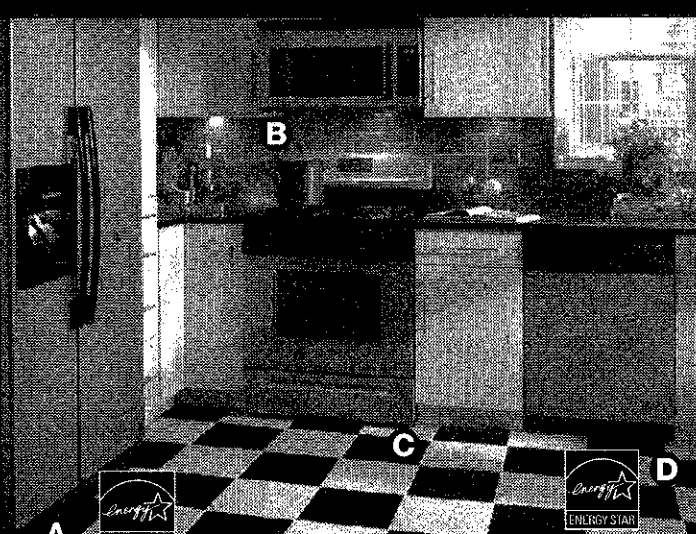
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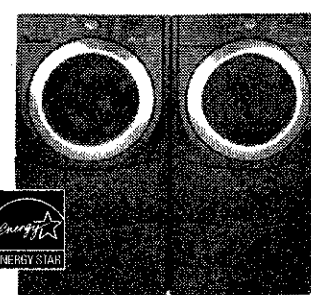
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4.6 Cabrio High Efficiency Washer

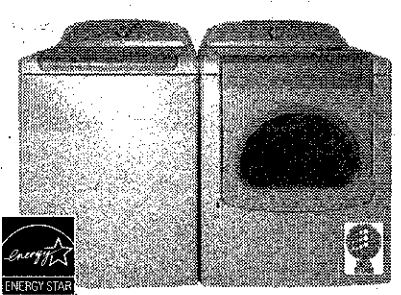
•Washes 3 baskets of laundry in a single load

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7.0 Cu. Ft. Steam Electric Dryer

•Naturally steams out wrinkles and odors (WED6600VW) #294001 \$998

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**\$998**

4.6 Cabrio High Efficiency Washer

•Washes 3 baskets of laundry in a single load

•11 cycles, including Woolmark, Bulky Items (WTW6700TW) #293997

7.0 Cu. Ft. Steam Electric Dryer

•Naturally steams out wrinkles and odors (WED6600VW) #294001 \$998

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**CLEARANCE MAJOR APPLIANCES**

Look for yellow clearance labels throughout appliance department. Price reflects discount. Offer starts 1/15/09. While supplies last. Selection may vary by store. See store for details.

**25% off**

**CLEARANCE LIGHTING**

Look for yellow clearance labels throughout lighting department. Price reflects discount. Offer starts 1/15/09. While supplies last. Selection may vary by store. See store for details.

Prices may vary after 1/19/2009 if there are market variations. "Was" prices in this advertisement were in effect on 1/9/2009 and may vary based on Lowe's Everyday Low Price policy. See store for details regarding product warranties. We reserve the right to limit quantities. While Lowe's strives to be accurate, unintentional errors may occur. We reserve the right to correct any error. Prices and promotions apply to US locations only, and are available while supplies last. We guarantee our everyday competitive prices. If you find a lower everyday or advertised price on an identical stock item at any local retail competitor that has the item in stock, we'll beat their price by 10% when you buy from us. Just bring us the competitor's current ad or other confirmation of the price that you have found. Lowe's reserves the right to verify the lower price prior to sale. Cash/charge card and carry purchases only. Competitor's closeout, special order, discontinued, clearance, liquidation and damaged items are excluded from this offer. On percent off sales, we will match the competitor's percent off offer. Limited to reasonable quantities for homeowner and one-house order quantities for cash and carry contractors. Current in-store price, if lower, overrides Lowe's advertised price. Price guarantee honored at all Lowe's retail locations. Labor charges for product installation are excluded from our price guarantee offer in our stores with an Installed Sales Program. Visit store for complete details. No-Hassle Return Policy: If you are not completely happy with your purchase, simply return it along with your original sales receipt to any local Lowe's store within ninety (90) days\*\* of purchase. We'll either repair it, replace it, refund your money or credit your account. \*\*30 days for Outdoor Power Equipment (mowers, chain saws, blowers, trimmers and pressure washers). Fair Purchase Policy: In order to provide fair purchase opportunity to all our customers, Lowe's reserves the right to limit quantities sold to individual customers. Non-Stock Policy: If, by chance, your local Lowe's store does not stock an item we advertise, we will be glad to order that item for you at the advertised price. Delivery Policy: Delivery applies to deliveries made to locations within the United States only. Certain restrictions apply. See store for details. © 2009 by Lowe's®. All rights reserved. Lowe's and the gable design are registered trademarks of LF, LLC. (090191\_1)

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# Canton Strictly Business

## BUSINESS NEWS

### New boot camp classes

★ The Transformation Boot Camp opened its newest location at Boliard's Martial Arts Studio, 43663 Michigan Ave. in Canton. The Transformation Boot Camp Canton offers non-military, completely motivational fitness programs for men and women of all fitness levels Monday through Friday at 5:30-6:30 a.m. and 4-5 p.m.

"With the success of this program in the Dallas area over the past five years, we really felt the need to make it available to the men and women of the United States looking for a fitness solution," said Mike Thornton, creator of the Transformation Boot Camp. "With campers losing anywhere from 10 to 100 pounds, we knew we had found a formula that worked for men and women of all fitness levels."

Using positivity and encouragement as motivators, the boot camp combines metabolic-boosting workouts with education to help people reach their fitness goals. For more information or to register, visit [www.MichiganTransformationBootCamp.com](http://www.MichiganTransformationBootCamp.com).

### Free music lessons

★ Metro Detroit Guitar Centers are teaming up with Axis Music Academy to offer free music lessons. The partnership, which includes Guitar Centers in Southfield, Allen Park, Roseville and Canton, provides free lessons to anyone purchasing music equipment (free lessons are for new students only). The Canton location is at 39415 Ford Road.

Axis Music Academy teaches students of all levels more than ten instruments with a primary focus on modern guitar, bass, piano, drums, and voice, and a secondary tier of western orchestral and classical instruments. The Canton location is located at 42114 Ford Road, and can be contacted at (734) 844-0100.

### Life Time triathlon

★ Canton's Life Time Fitness (1700 Haggerty Road) will host an indoor triathlon at 7 a.m., Sunday, April 5. The event will feature 60 minutes of competition for each participant plus an additional 15 minutes for transition between each leg of the event. The event will consist of a 10 minute swim in lap pool, 10 minute transition (swim to bike);

30 minute bike in cycle fitness studio; 5 minute transition (bike to run); and a 20 minute treadmill run. Scoring will be based on performance, which is measured by total distance covered during the three legs. The more distance you cover, the higher your score.

Start times are staggered, beginning at 7 a.m. Participants must register in advance. For rules and regulations, or to register, visit [www.lifetimefitness.com/events](http://www.lifetimefitness.com/events) or e-mail [events@lifetimefitness.com](mailto:events@lifetimefitness.com). There is no race day registration.

The cost of the event is \$35 for Life Time members and \$40 for non-members.

### Lighting sale

Materials Unlimited, located at 2 W. Michigan Avenue in Ypsilanti, is offering an unprecedented 30 percent off sale on the entire stock of lighting, Jan. 17-24. Materials Unlimited has the Midwest's largest collection of restored antique lighting, from Victorian to modern and everything in between. Store hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday. For more information call (734) 483-6980 or shop online at [www.materialsunlimited.com](http://www.materialsunlimited.com).



## SEND IT

Get in on the new Strictly Business page of the *Canton Observer* by sending us your business news, promotions, events or milestones.

It's simple. Just e-mail all of the details to Editor Kurt Kuban at [kuban@hometownlife.com](mailto:kuban@hometownlife.com) and he will take care of the rest.

Our new local business page runs each Thursday in your *Canton Observer*. We welcome comments and suggestions, too. We're looking forward to hearing from you.

## IT'S YOUR BUSINESS Q&A

## CHAMBER CHAT



Sharon Lee Dillenbeck works with student Eman Qureshi at D & M Art Studio.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

## Teaching comes from the heart at D & M Studio

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

Dillenbeck: Retail art supplies, hands on art classes in all drawing and painting mediums, school break workshops, curriculum based home school classes, summer fine art camps, scout workshops, high school portfolio classes: for kids as well as adults. We start them at 3½ and our oldest is 87 years old. We specialize in performance art and you can find us nationwide working chalk art in the street or living murals. Community wide we will be running painting workshops at festivals and school fairs. We also have the finest bunch of face painters for birthday parties or block parties. We are involved in the Cultural Arts and Heritage commission, as well as related sub groups. We have been a member of the area's oldest art club, Three Cities, for so long I have forgotten.

**Observer:** What makes your business unique?

Dillenbeck: You can be the amateur or the professional.

### D & M ART STUDIO

**Address:** 8691 North Lilley Road, Canton, Michigan 48188

**Your name:** Sharon Lee Dillenbeck, owner/director/artist

**Your hometown:** Has lived in Canton 25 years

**Business opened when?:** Store opened in 1987 (22 years old in March)

**Number of employees:** Family owned, family run and staff of professional artists

**Your business specialty:** Fine arts, retail sales, teaching, and gallery

**Hours of operation:** Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday noon to 9 p.m.; Thursday and Friday 9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.; Saturday 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.; closed Sunday

**Business phone/Web site:** (734) 453-3710, [www.dmartstudio.com](http://www.dmartstudio.com)

You can find most anything you need as well as staff that are actually painters and have so much passion they seem to be gobbled up by it. At anytime in the store you

will find someone drawing or painting, just because of the atmosphere. We have a huge library of reference materials for artists to use on site. We also are a clearing house for special commissions.

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

Dillenbeck: My gift isn't that I am just a good artist. My gift is that I can teach it. I firmly believe that art is a wonderful self-esteem builder. It sets you up for success.

There is no other area in your life where you can have a problem and you or your child already have the answer. It comes from the heart, the inner artist. We help you create those answers.

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

Dillenbeck: I was originally located in Old Village, Plymouth but wanted a larger place where I could have a gallery as well as retail sales. This place with all the windows became vacant, and this makes year 12 here.

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

Dillenbeck: I guess the funniest or maybe the greatest thing that I can share with the readers is: Over the 22 years I have taught a lot of adults and children, and recently I actually have been getting as students, children of my students (makes me feel older, kind of a dinosaur). It just makes me realize how many we have touched through the arts. Art is fun here at D & M Studio, please join us.

### Consumer Expo

The Canton Chamber of Commerce and Canton Downtown Development Authority will present the biannual Consumer Expo on Thursday, Feb. 12, at the Summit on the Park. The expo will be held from 5-7:30 p.m. in the Grand Ballroom.

"The Consumer Expo is an initiative of the Canton Chamber of Commerce and the Canton DDA to encourage the public to get to know their business neighbors," said Dianne Cojet, president of Canton Chamber of Commerce. "The expo is a great opportunity to learn firsthand about the businesses in our community. Attendees have the opportunity to meet local business owners and learn about the great products and services they have to offer."

The Consumer Expo is held twice annually in February and September, and features more than 60 businesses from the community who display their products and services to the public. Participating businesses include: AAA Insurance-Greg Greene, Absolute Solar Control, Admiral Cruise & Tour Center, Alsager Animal Care Center, America's Budget Storage, Bailey's Pub & Grill, Brackney Chiropractic, Downtown Development Authority, Canton Leisure Services, Citizen's Bank, Choice Insurance Agency, Coach's Catastrophe Cleaning, Comfort Keepers, Comfort Suites, Congressman Thaddeus McCotter, Curves of Canton, Evola Music Center, Fit4One, Gerou Chiropractic, Gordon Food Service, Graebel/

Michigan Movers, Gutter Toppers, Halliday's Pet Resort, Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites, Huntington Bank, Inline Chiropractic, iTownOnline.com, Marco's Pizza, Mill Street Gourmet Pastries, National City, Natural Health, LLC, Needle Graphics, Office Depot, Plymouth Community United Way, Premier Pet Care Services, Renaissance Roofing, Inc. Renewal by Andersen, Sally's Cruises and Travel, Schoolcraft College, Servpro of Canton, Showroom of Elegance, Super Bowl of Canton, Viscount Pools, United Home Health Care, Usana Health Systems, Waltonwood of Canton, Wedding & Celebration Creations, Wie Pan, Wright Asset Management Group, Xango, and Xuereb Snow PC.

### Member orientation

The Chamber will host a member orientation meeting at 8:30 a.m., Wednesday, Jan. 21, at the Chamber office located on Hanford Road, just west of Canton Center. Reservations are required. Call the Chamber office at (734) 453-4040.

### A night on ice

The Chamber will host "A Night On Ice" during the Plymouth Whalers vs. Sudbury hockey game, 7:05 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 24, at the Compuware Sports Arena in Plymouth Township. Families, groups, and co-workers are all invited to join the Canton Chamber of Commerce's Ambassadors. All kids 12 and under will be treated to a tour of the locker room immediately following the game.

Tickets cost \$11 each. Call the Chamber office for details and to register at (734) 453-4040.

Check us out on the Web every day  
at [hometownlife.com](http://hometownlife.com)

## ADVERTISING THAT MEANS BUSINESS!

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For advertising information, please call:

Oakland County: 248-901-2500

Wayne County: 734-582-8363

West Oakland County: 248-437-2011



Canton resident Lawrence G. Almeda, a shareholder in the Ann Arbor office of Brinks Hofer Gilson & Lione, one of the largest intellectual property law firms in the U.S., served as emcee at a recent dinner reception for Michigan State Rep Hoon-Yung Hopgood. Hopgood, who was completing his third and final term in the state House due to term limits, is known for his devotion to

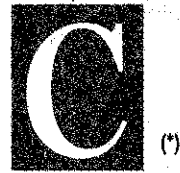
issues important to his constituents and the Michigan Asian Pacific community. The dinner was attended by many of the state's prominent Asian community and business leaders. Almeda, who has been recognized by both Crain's Detroit Business and Corp! Magazine for his commitment to diversity was selected as emcee because of his prominent role in Michigan's Asian Pacific community.



# Real Estate

The Observer &amp; Eccentric Newspapers

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



Thursday, January 15, 2009

www.hometownlife.com

## MSU biz prof offers views on finance woes

Michigan State University Eli Board College of Business professor Naveen Khanna, the A.J. Pasant Endowed Chair Professor in Finance, wrote a three-part commentary on the 2008 financial crisis. According to Khanna, "The crisis we are now facing is no longer due to the excesses in the housing market, but because of the excesses by our government in dealing with the problem."

The biggest bailout in U.S. history, which is now unfolding, was expected to stabilize the markets. Instead, the markets have lost nearly 20 percent of their value since the bailout was signed into law, leaving many experts and the government perplexed. In spite of injection of huge amounts of funds into the markets, why are the credit markets still frozen and businesses still starved for funds? In spite of the bailout's direct intention of helping banks become healthier, why are bank stocks swooning?

Naveen  
Khanna

I argue that the crisis we are now facing is no longer due to the excesses in the housing market, but because of the excesses by our government in dealing with the problem.

Let us not forget that originally the subprime loans amounted to only about 12 percent of the banks' assets. Since not all of these mortgages were likely to go bad, this should have been a manageable problem for the banks without government 'help.'

However, by intervening, and doing so in an unexpectedly heavy-handed way, the government has violated fundamental free market principles. The rules under which banks operate are suddenly very different. The Secretary of the Treasury now decides who lives and who dies. The penalty for a bank in financial distress is now draconian (potential takeover without compensation), inducing banks to hoard large amounts of money in an effort to establish a cushion against 'inviting' government intervention. This has caused the credit markets to remain frozen (or become even more frozen) in spite of the unimaginable amounts of liquidity being pumped into the system.

By expropriating most/all shareholder value of the institutions it "helped," the government has made investing in bank stocks extraordinarily risky. Who would want to invest knowing tomorrow the government, for potentially opaque reasons,

may decide to expropriate all/most shareholder value? This has led investors to demand a huge "intervention premium" for investing in bank stocks, thus reducing stock price and making banks even weaker.

The large bailout amount of \$700 billion with very few constraints on how the treasury may use it, serves only to make government's hand in determining any bank's future infinitely stronger. It is like we have unintentionally let loose a 700-pound gorilla which, in its desire to help out, is scaring off already nervous investors and making share prices tank. The very well-intentioned offer to help banks creates so much fear for the investors that they cannot wait to sell their bank stock. This sell-side pressure can become strong enough that even a previously healthy bank now needs to be helped. This is playing out like a tragic self-fulfilling prophecy with no end in sight.

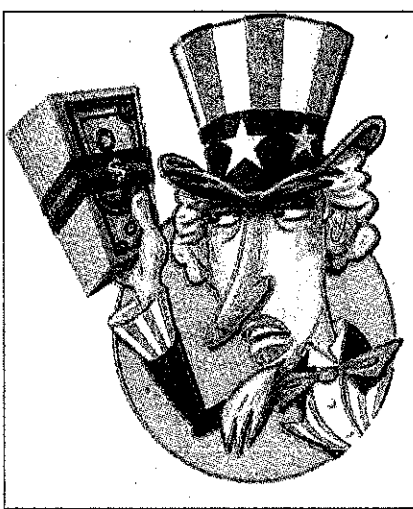
Hear the Podcast at <http://spartan-podcast.com/?p=477>.

### HELPING HAND VS. MORAL HAZARD

A bit of history may be in order. Early in the year 2008, the subprime crisis was becoming worse with falling house prices, weakening some financial institutions. The government faced a dilemma: How to extend a helping hand to these institutions without creating perverse incentives, popularly referred to as moral hazard. In other words, they wanted to support the institutions without condoning the excesses that arguably had brought these institutions to their knees.

The first "helping" hand they offered was to Bear Stearns in March of 2008. They allowed J.P. Morgan to buy it out for \$2 per share, even though a few days before the stock price was around \$30. In return they guaranteed \$30 billion of Bear Stearns' distressed assets. They punished Bear Stearns stockholders so severely, mainly to prevent any appearance of rewarding bad behavior. Ordinarily the firm would have reorganized in bankruptcy court and stockholders could have done much better, or even found a white knight to buy them time to recover.

That apparently was not punishment enough, so the government rushed them into the arrangement with J.P. Morgan under an archaic law from the Depression era, which allowed for such violation of shareholders' property rights. However, even they realized they may have gone too far when some Bear Stearns



OPINION

shareholders threatened law suits against what they considered blatant expropriation by the government, and increased the offer to \$10. While things appeared to settle down after this, bank stocks significantly underperformed the market from that time.

Unhappily for us, housing prices kept slipping and financial institutions came under increasing stress. There were bank failures, including IndyMac. The FDIC, which insures bank deposits up to \$100,000, had only around \$50 billion in reserve, an inadequate sum for the crisis. But the feeling that the government would stand behind the guarantee prevented visible bank runs, even though amounts above \$100,000, being uninsured, did start leaving some banks. The situation became even more tenuous when Warren Buffett instructed some of his companies to stop insuring deposits above \$100,000. Taking this as a sound decision by a very astute businessman made markets more nervous.

Then Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, who had been involved in much of the subprime lending in the last three years, ran into trouble. After running up huge losses, they could not access sufficient credit in the markets. The government had to bail them out as they were government-sponsored entities and thus, at least implicitly, presumed to be insured by the government. Not supporting them could damage the government's standing enough to create a financial panic. Though hard to prove, this was probably true.

The folly lay in the government's heavy-handed approach. Even worse than in Bear Stearns' case, the government wiped out all of the value of the

shareholders' equity and even that of the preferred stock. In return they gave access to \$200 billion of secured loans.

Then fell AIG, and the government took over 80 percent of its equity in return for \$85 billion in government debt and some billions more recently. Similarly Wachovia and Washington Mutual were sold for pennies to Citi and J. P. Morgan. Wachovia since has sold itself off to Wells Fargo for a much better deal at \$15 billion, something Citi is of course challenging. Also Merrill Lynch saw the writing on the wall and sold itself off to Bank of America at a bargain price.

### THE INVISIBLE HAND

Such blatant attacks on shareholder rights were bound to have the effects we are seeing. Risk aversion is peaking and risk premia are extraordinarily high. If we continue down this path, we will lose our capital markets and the invisible hand to which we owe much of our prosperity. Our policymakers have forgotten the failed experiments of socialism and have, with good intentions, started meddling with the fundamental pillars of capitalism: property rights, rule of law and free markets. They have forgotten the invisible hand is called that for a very good reason. No one understands it better than markets themselves.

Ironically, history is repeating itself, but for entirely different reasons. The causes for the Great Depression were traced back to too little government intervention. The causes for this market breakdown will be traced back to too much government interference. The effect is the same. Credit markets froze both times.

If the government is firmly decided on a bank bailout, which I apparently disagree with, then recapitalizing banks through preferred stocks is probably the one likely to do the least damage, though even that needs an important caveat: do not pick winners and losers, do it across all banks in proportion to their size and do it with minimal conditions. Also announce the decision right away as Europe did, so that this additional source of uncertainty is resolved. Then sit back and let the markets do their job.

Otherwise the "intervention premium" will remain high, bank stocks will be extremely depressed and credit markets will not work well. This is not the time to settle scores with "bad" managers and "bad" banks. It is time to look to the future, allowing banks to do their business and let the market decide the survivors.

## San Diego has some bargains

**Q:** I live in the Mission Bay area of San Diego and I am wondering if you have any knowledge of the real estate market there particularly waterfront property.

**A:** On a recent visit I had an opportunity to review the real estate market as it relates to waterfront property in Mission Bay. Both on the ocean and



Robert Meisner

on the Bay. Some developers with new construction are utilizing the option as a process for marketing but based upon my discussions with a

local Realtor, it appears that the minimum bid price is basically close to the fair market value of the property. There are also a substantial number of additional properties for sale but they have not reduced in value significantly. The better bargains deal with property inland from either ocean or the Bay area. You are best advised to consult with a knowledgeable local real estate broker.

**Q:** I love San Diego and am wondering if there are any new high rises in downtown San Diego which appear to be reasonable in price.

**A:** There is a brand new residential high end condo that is going up near Front Street but the prices are certainly not reasonable in the context of Michigan real estate by way of example. Units are ranging from \$750,000 to \$2,000,000 depending upon the size and elevation of the unit. Of course, that is not to say that the developer may not be in a bargaining position depending on the market and you may be able to secure a preconstruction discount. Obviously it may be better for you to consider existing condominiums in the downtown area that may be more favorably priced.

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

### BRIEFS

#### Real Estate Agents, Appraising & Staging

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

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

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

#### Free seminar

A free seminar offered by Keller Williams Realty will cover: \$7,500 tax credit for new buyers; current mortgage interest rates; inspections, appraisals, title work and more. It will be held 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 24, at Keller Williams Farmington Hills Market Center, 27555 Executive Drive, Suite 100, Farmington Hills.

Call with questions or for reservations: (248) 893-1550

### HOMES SOLD

These are the residential real estate closings recorded Sept. 22-26, 2008, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office, plus some from Oakland County. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

Canton	
50378 Black Horse Ln	\$76,000
46291 Briarcliff Dr	\$255,000
4180 Brighton Ln	\$168,000
7239 Camelia Ct	\$145,000
47995 Candace Ln	\$298,000
50509 Coolidge St	\$219,000
41495 Copper Creek Dr	\$114,000
49789 Courtyard Ln	\$165,000
1421 Delancy Cir	\$415,000
48761 Fifth Ave	\$233,000
6231 Guilford Dr	\$165,000
48240 Gwyde Rd	\$290,000
45125 Horseshoe Cir	\$143,000
1224 Kennebec	\$285,000
1535 Manton Blvd	\$184,000
44580 Meadowcreek Ln	\$144,000
2041 N Arbor Way Dr	\$83,000
207 Pinehurst Dr	\$310,000
2494 Premier Ln	\$76,000
2102 Preserve Cir W	\$175,000
233 Princeton St	\$195,000
299 Queens Way	\$182,000
47657 River Woods Dr	\$260,000
40036 Rolling Green Ct	\$188,000
4678 S Sheldon Rd	\$197,000
44029 S Timberland Cir	\$35,000
51041 Sleepy Hollow Ln	\$200,000
42943 Versailles Rd	\$222,000
1801 Vine Way Dr	\$105,000

Farmington	
8490 Westchester Ln	\$195,000
32291 Marblehead Rd	\$143,000
34199 State St	\$220,000

Farmington Hills	
21423 Archwood Cir	\$170,000
32847 Ardwick Rd	\$126,000
37788 Baywood Dr	\$160,000
23554 Canfield Ave	\$195,000
21610 Collingham Ave	\$175,000
29537 Foxgrove Rd	\$168,000
38160 Lowell Dr	\$260,000
21524 Orchard Lake Rd	\$100,000
26405 Pleasant Valley Rd	\$238,000
24875 Power Rd	\$198,000
22885 Walsingham Dr	\$393,000

Garden City	
30951 Balmoral St	\$133,000
28427 Hennepin St	\$125,000
33215 Hennepin St	\$57,000
31755 John Hawk St	\$105,000
28750 Kathryn St	\$119,000
29594 Maplewood St	\$122,000
6612 Sharon St	\$106,000
28981 Sheridan St	\$80,000

Livonia	
28700 Seven Mile Rd	\$103,000
33027 Allen St	\$161,000
31514 Arizona St	\$138,000
19001 Aspen Dr	\$360,000
34483 Bretton Dr	\$248,000
34647 Bristol St	\$185,000
37177 Bristol St	\$190,000
9909 Brookfield St	\$133,000
15580 Fitzgerald St	\$240,000
29069 Grandon St	\$115,000
29724 Hillbrook St	\$127,000
9724 Horton St	\$117,000
29626 Jacquelyn Dr	\$157,000
35658 Joy Rd	\$135,000

Milford	
8833 Knolson Ave	\$198,000
9131 Marie St	\$160,000
37846 Myrna St	\$232,000
19948 Myron Dr	\$215,000
29683 Nottingham Cir	\$125,000
19458 Parker St	\$139,000
8924 Perrin St	\$136,000
35137 Pinetree St	\$120,000
36698 Richland St	\$121,000
14437 Ronnie Ln	\$145,000
33159 Scone St	\$193,000
38974 Stacey Dr	\$209,000
36852 Sunnyside St	\$170,000
15421 Sunset St	\$157,000
20230 Sunset St	\$170,000
28736 Westfield St	\$100,000

Northville	
50880 Applebrooke Dr	\$420,000
40582 Coachwood Cir	\$370,000
15824 Hickory Ridge Dr	\$280,000
50104 Hidden Ridge Dr	\$872,000
19458 Meadowbrook Rd	\$336,000
16076 Morningside	\$140,000
48265 Nine Mile Rd	\$375,000
42282 Norwood Ct	\$93,000
40918 Rayburn Dr	\$245,000
16760 Yellowstone Dr	\$282,000

Novi	
40601 Brenda	\$82,000
30488 Bristol Circle Ct	\$304,000
44684 Ford Way Dr	\$268,000
24224 Hampton Hill St	\$171,000
45752 Irvine Dr	\$285,000
41024 Mooringside	\$103,000
27483 Sloan St	\$265,000

Plymouth	
42762 Wimbeldon Way	\$290,000
50437 Beechwood Ct	\$159,000
44541 Brookside Rd	\$285,000
40245 E Ann Arbor Trl	\$200,000
41218 Greenbrier Ln	\$153,000
42449 Lakeland Ct	\$134,000
50311 Maple Ridge Dr	\$525,000
9460 McClumpha Rd	\$240,000
188 N Harvey St	\$145,000
1062 Palmer St	\$160,000
9167 Redbud Ave	\$155,000
46097 Rockledge Dr	\$254,000
695 Simpson St	\$159,000

Redford	
25612 Deborah	\$100,000
18419 Denby	\$85,000
19905 Imperial Hwy	\$74,000
15831 Leona Dr	\$32,000
24446 Lyndon	\$148,000
14130 Marlon	\$85,000
9208 San Jose	\$88,000
13121 Sioux	\$112,000

Westland	
36100 Abbey Dr	\$165,000
37149 Amburst Dr	\$130,000
31564 Ann Arbor Trl	\$112,000
8267 August Ave	\$125,000
29098 Brody Ave	\$137,000
1275 Craig Dr	\$155,000
559 Darwin St	\$113,000
38596 Deer Creek Blvd	\$115,000
36767 Dover Dr	\$150,000
33110 Lancashire St	\$114,000
37690 Laramie St	\$160,000
35047 Marquette St	\$115,000
7823 N Henry Ruff Rd	\$125,000
7425 N Inkster Rd	\$77,000
7345 N Venoy Rd	\$126,000
38510 Winekoff Dr	\$200,000



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# Thursday

## PUZZLE CORNER

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#### ACROSS

- 1 Collector's item
- 6 — take forever!
- 9 Rug texture
- 12 Low dice roll
- 13 Firearms lobby
- 14 Govt. dept.
- 15 Concerning
- 16 Egyptian god
- 17 Hard to please
- 19 Prince Valiant's son
- 21 Realized, as profits
- 23 Adroit
- 25 ER personnel
- 26 Ms. Bombbeck
- 30 Nomad dwelling
- 32 Town official
- 33 Frightens
- 36 Make a choice
- 37 Postgame discussion
- 38 Aim
- 39 Department
- 40 — de-sac
- 41 Fishtails

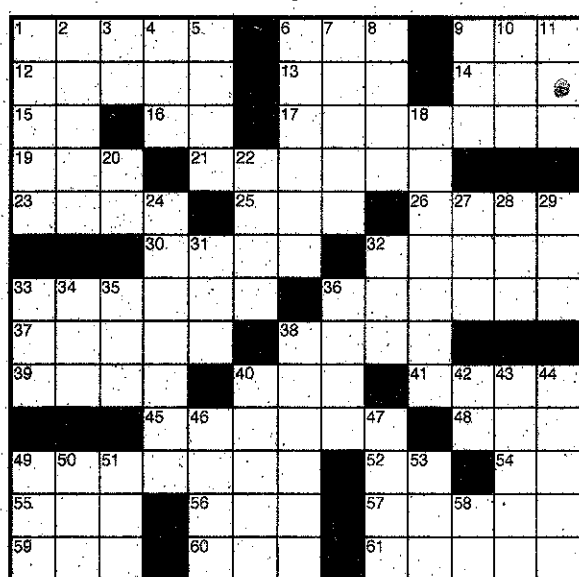
#### DOWN

- 46 Strenuous
- 48 Energy
- 49 Bulb cover
- 52 Uh cousin
- 54 Daphne
- 55 By way of
- 56 Get spliced
- 57 Bran provides it
- 59 Canning
- 60 "— Gratia Artis" (MGM motto)
- 61 Weather system
- 1 Famed violin
- 2 Yonder
- 3 Argon, in the lab
- 4 Mal de —
- 5 Orchard product
- 6 Neonate
- 7 Game-show prizes
- 8 Swede's neighbor

#### Answer to Previous Puzzle

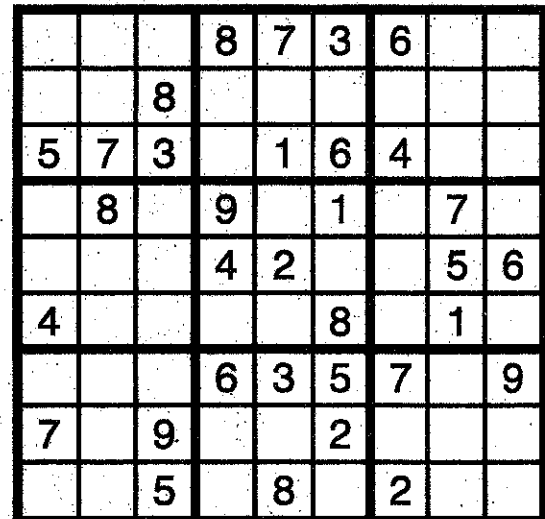
NTH EKE BIRD  
AWAY LIT IDEA  
BIKE EWE COED  
GEMINI YELLS  
EVA TAP  
PENNY CAPSIZE  
HOE MAT OAR  
INTEGER TINGE  
EEL NOB  
PEARL FIESTA  
OMNI IRE ERIC  
DIKE LAC NODE  
STAR LYE TAE

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- 9 Peacock
- 10 network
- 11 Seabird
- 12 Apply a jimmy
- 13 In a perfect world
- 20 Labrador prov.
- 22 Makes a typo
- 24 Cruel kings
- 27 Blended whiskey
- 28 Comfy shoe
- 29 Painter's work
- 31 Ballpark figure
- 32 Give — — break
- 33 Starfish part
- 34 Oahu welcome
- 35 Outstanding
- 36 Ans.
- 38 Medieval trade unions
- 40 Town —
- 42 Desert st.
- 43 Improve the highway
- 44 Gush forth
- 46 Hawkeye state
- 47 Back talk
- 49 HBO receivers
- 50 Mideast export
- 51 Ante up
- 53 Cosmonaut space lab
- 58 A famous Derek

### SUDOKU



Level: Beginner

#### 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!

**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.

BEAR CAMEL CHEETAH CHIMP  
DOLPHIN FOX GIRAFFE MINK  
SHEEP SQUIRREL TIGER ZEBRA

THE WORDS READ UP, DOWN AND ACROSS.

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

#### CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

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

#### CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

U N I T I B C A M E L  
L I R N I M A  
S E W B M  
X A H B X W M R I F  
R V A B O J N R I F  
T W E B F I R  
K I L I U R S O U I  
L R T I G E C A M E L  
N K M I R  
A V A Z B R A  
C H I M Z E B R R A

# Apartments

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For Sale

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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 @ \$500 on select units. Refreshments & snacks. Foreclosures welcome, preferred employer programs, & Job LOSS early terminations available. Ask for details. Located in fabulous Farmington on Grand River & Drake. You'll love the life! 248-477-3636  
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**SHARP 2 BDRM COLONIAL**  
2 full baths, all appliances, 1 car, fenced yard, \$114,900. D&H Properties 248-888-9133

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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

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Individual will trade 2.3 acre lot in premium Oakland Twp. gated community for your Florida home/condo. \$200-500,000 range. Lower your taxes, maintenance & insurance cost. Tom 248-506-8057; 854-263-4800.

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Smart  
smart  
SMART

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Smart

**0001-2450**  
Home & Service  
Guide

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

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Crowns, Doors, Oak Railings NO JOB TOO SMALL!  
Licensed • 734-927-4479

Looking for Someone to Paint, all kinds of Carpentry, & Install Carpet? Call Bill of Kubek's Carpentry at 248-545-2882

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Service All Makes & Models Same Day Service  
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Move scrap metal, clean basements, garages, stores, etc. Lowest prices in town. Quick service. Free est. Wayne/Oakland, Central location. 248-547-2764, 248-559-9138

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www.lacoureservices.com

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#### Painting/Decorating Paperhangers

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

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**SAFE SNOW REMOVAL**  
We use snow blowers - less wear & tear on your cement! No home too big or small. Call John 313-999-6610

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• Sump Pumps • Leaks  
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GREAT SENIOR DISCOUNTS  
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		30 Yr.	Pts.	15 Yr.	Pts.	Other
1st Choice Mortgage Lending	(734) 459-0782	4.875	0	4.625	0	J/A
Ameriplus Mortgage Corp.	(248) 740-2323	4.75	0.25	4.5	0.25	J/A
BRINKS Financial	(800) 735-3755	4.5	0.625	4.25	0.625	J/A/V/F
Client Services by Golden Rule	(800) 991-9922	4.5	0.25	4.25	0.125	J/A/V/F
Co-op Services Credit Union	(734) 466-6113	5	0	4.75	0	J
Cornerstone Community Financial	(800) 777-6728	5.5	1	4.5	1	J/A/F
Countrywide Home Loans	(800) 641-2384	4.375	2	4.25	2	J/A/V/F
Dearborn Federal Savings Bank	(313) 565-3100	5.25	0	5.125	0	A
DFCU Financial	(800) 739-2770	4.5	2.25	4.25	2.25	J/A
Fifth Third Bank	(800) 792-8630	4.875	0.125	4.625	0	J/V/F
Gold Star Mortgage	(800) 784-1074	4.625	0	4.375	0	J/A/V/F
Golden Rule Mortgage	(800) 991-9922	4.825	0	4.375	0	J/A/V/F
Group One Mortgage	(248) 232-1602	5.125	0	5.125	0	J/A/V/F
Mortgages by Golden Rule	(800) 991-9922	4.75	0.25	4.625	0	J/A/V/F
Michigan United Mortgage	(810) 844-2222	4.375	1	4.125	1	J/A
Northlawn Financial	(248) 988-8488	4.75	0	4.5	0	J/A/V/F
Shore Mortgage	(800) 678-6663	4.375	2	4.25	2	J/A/V/F

Above information available as of 1/9/09 and subject to change at anytime. Rates are based on a \$200,000

loan with 20% down & credit score of 740 or above. Jumbo rates, specific payment calculations & most current

rates available Fridays after 2:00 P.M. at [www.rmcreport.com](http://www.rmcreport.com). Key to "Other" Column - J = Jumbo,

A = Arm, V = VA, F = FHA & NR = Not Reported. All Lenders are Equal Opportunity Lenders.

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Observer &amp; Eccentric

HOMETOWNlife.com

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Unfurnished

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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

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**LINCOLN APTS.**  
4408 Trails Ct. Sec.  
8 waiting list is opening for 2  
bdrm units. 2-4 people only.  
Accepting pre-applications on  
Jan 20, 21, 22, 23 b/twn 10-  
12pm. Call: (734) 453-6500

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

**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  
carport incl. Starting at  
\$600/mo. 1 year lease. 1st  
month free with good credit.  
Call: (248) 763-4729

**FARMINGTON PLAZA APTS**  
Luxury 2 bdrms, A/C, pool &  
parking. New kitchen & baths,  
laundry rooms, heat incl.  
\$650/mo. Call for specials.  
(248) 478-8722

**FIVE, FIVE, FIVE**  
**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

**GARDEN CITY** - Spacious up-  
dated 1 bdrm, air, deck, stor-  
age room, laundry. FREE heat  
& water. \$505. 248-346-6108

**GARDEN CITY** - Updated 2  
bdrm, completely remodeled,  
clean & quiet. Winter Specialist  
Call: (248) 474-3005

**LINCOLN PARK**  
Deluxe 1 & 2 bedrooms.  
Lowest Rent in the area.  
Quiet, private balcony's,  
storage, laundry, ceiling  
fans w/ lights & blinds.  
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Mid 5/Middlebelt. 1 & 2 bdrm  
w/laundry room in unit. 50%  
off first 2 months with  
approved credit. \$640/mo.  
248-521-1378

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Need out of my lease-  
nice unit  
Make Offer  
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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 con-  
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**NOVI**

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

**TREE TOP MEADOWS**  
10 Mile, W. of Meadowbrook  
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www.BGcommunities.com

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Dryer, Private Entrance &  
Balcony. **248-348-0626 EHO**

**4000**  
**Unfurnished**

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Quiet complex. 1 bdrm, C/A,  
storage, carport, laundry facil-  
ities, walk-in closet. \$565/mo  
231-645-7222

**PLYMOUTH**  
1 Bdrm. \$600, 2 Bdrm. \$670  
First month free w/approved  
credit. W/ 1 yr. lease. Walk-in  
closets. (734) 455-0391

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

**PLYMOUTH**  
1 Bdrm: \$637/mo.  
\$300 Sec Dep  
1st Month Free  
Private entry/patio  
Washer/Dryer included  
Single story, attic storage.  
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laundry, air. \$650/mo + utilities  
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**PLYMOUTH** Lg 1 bdrm, newly  
remodeled, \$595, incl. heat &  
water. Mo to mo lease.  
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**Rent Starting**  
**at \$499**  
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**Plymouth Manor**  
**Plymouth House**  
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www.yorkcommunities.com

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From \$555  
\$200 Security  
50% off 1st 3 Months  
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Call: (734) 453-8611

**SOUTHLAKE** Senior apts, for  
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& water incl. 1 month free  
rent. \$99 sec. dep. Activities.  
Quiet area. 248-423-3690

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**Pick Your Special**  
**1st Mo. Free or**  
**Free Heat This Winter!**  
1 Bdrm; \$499;  
2 Bdrm Townhomes: \$650  
Reduced deposit, pets  
& Section 8 welcome.  
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**Westland**  
**Estates**  
**"WOW"**  
**One**  
**Bedrooms**  
**from \$495**  
No fine print in this ad!  
-Heat/Water included  
-\$30.00 Application Fee  
-\$200 Deposit w/ Credit  
**New Resident's Only**  
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Sat. Sun. 10-4pm

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First Month FREE!  
1 Bedroom - \$485/mo.  
Walk-in Closets  
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**FREE FLAT SCREEN TV**  
Newly updated 1 & 2 bdrm  
apts. Newer carpet, new  
cherry flooring, full size wash-  
er/dryers, central air.  
EHO

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1 & 2 Bdrm Apts. Washer/  
Dryer, Private Entrance &  
Balcony. **248-348-0626 EHO**

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Live Great! Pay Less!  
2 Months Free Rent  
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**4000**  
**Unfurnished**

**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  
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**Westland**  
**VENNY PINES APTS.**  
**Rent Starting**  
**at \$499**  
• 1 & 2 bedroom apts.  
with fireplace.  
**No Application Fee,**  
**Limited Time Only.**  
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**Westland-LIVONIA SCHOOLS**  
1 & 2 bdrm, 2 baths.  
Washer & dryer.  
Private entrance & balcony  
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**Yaslanli - Reduced Rent**  
**Plus \$99 Sec Dep\***  
Section 8 Welcome  
Large 1 & 2 bedroom  
**734-434-0576 EHO**  
\*Some restrictions apply

**Apartment/**  
**Furnished**

**BIRMINGHAM DOWNTOWN**  
1 bdrm newly furnished, park-  
ing, short term, 999\$/mo.  
incl. utilities.  
Molly: 248-705-8281

**CONDO/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

**SOUTHLAKE** 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.  
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**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-  
ances, bsmt, fenced  
yard. \$775/mo.  
231-392-6373

**Northville** - 2 bdrm, quiet, near  
downtown. Recently updated.  
Must See! \$600/mo + securi-  
ty. No dogs. 248-474-2096

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

**BEVERLY HILLS** 3 bdrm,  
\$850, BLOOMFIELD TWP 2  
bdrm \$750. 248-540-5998.

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

**4050**  
**Homes For Rent**

**BLOOMFIELD HILLS** - 1 bdrm  
gate house, incl. all utilities,  
fireplace no pets/smoking.  
\$950 248-855-1831 nights

**CANTON** - 45666 Augusta.  
Executive home, 2700 sq. ft.,  
located across from golf  
course, 4 bdrm, 3 1/2 bath,  
family rm w/fireplace, bsmt, 3  
1/2 car attached garage.  
\$2395/mo. Wed. 5:30 pm &  
Sunday 3:30 pm. \$0 dep if  
qualified. Paula: 734-444-5212

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

**Canton**  
**NEW YEAR'S SPECIAL**  
**1 MONTH FREE**  
3 BR 2 Bath all appliances  
including washer/dryer &  
c/a. **FROM ONLY \$649**  
Call College Park Estates &  
Sun Home Sales  
888-264-4080  
APPLY ONLINE  
www.4collegpark.com  
Must close by 1/31/09

**CLAWSON** - Sharp 2 bdrm  
colonial, 2 full baths, all appli-  
ances, 1 car, fenced yard.  
\$850/mo. D.H. Properties:  
(248) 988-9133

**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) 476-8498

**DETROIT LASHER RD AREA**  
2 bdrm, bsmt, \$475/mo.  
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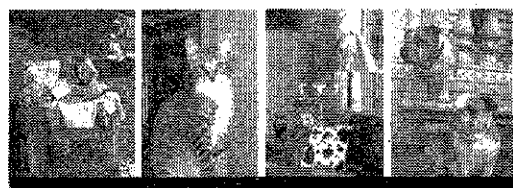
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Washenaw Farm Council Grounds, Saline, MI. 734-944-0713</p> <p><b>Auction Sales</b> (7060)</p> <p><b>AUCTION</b> Jan. 17, 6:30 pm. Old Winery General Store, 31505 Grand River, Farmington. 248-982-0105</p> <p><b>Call to place your ad at 1-800-579-SELL (7355)</b></p>	<p><b>Auction Sales</b> (7060)</p> <p><b>ESTATE AUCTION Saturday- Jan 17th - 7pm</b> Cultural Center 525 Farmer Plymouth, MI Collectibles Glassware/Furniture Coins/Jewelry Costume Jewelry Household Items Tools Cash/MC/Visa AmEx/Discover Bank Debit Cards No Checks Doors Open 6pm <b>JC Auction Services</b> 734-451-7444 jcauctionsolutions.com</p> <p><b>"We Work For You!"</b> hometownlife.com</p>	<p><b>7100 Estate Sales</b> (7100)</p> <p><b>ANOTHER GOOD ESTATE SALE!</b> FRI.-SAT. Jan. 16-17 10AM-4PM 25277 Hopkins Rd., Independence Commons, Farmington Hills, 48335- West of Drake, South of 11 Mile. Take Old Holmstead to Hopkins.</p> <p>Charming small house filled with mahogany furniture, oriental rugs, antiques &amp; collectibles, Duncan Phyfe dining room, mahogany bedroom, leather wingback, small tables, china, silver, crystal, antique toys, mission bookcase, sterling flatware. This house is filled with good things.</p> <p>Pictures and details at <a href="http://www.estatesales.net">www.estatesales.net</a>.</p> <p><b>See you there!</b> <b>EDMUND FRANK AND ASSOCIATES</b> 313-854-6806</p> <p><b>FIND IT ONLINE</b> HOMETOWNLIFE.COM</p>	<p><b>7100 Estate Sales</b> (7100)</p> <p><b>ANOTHER ESTATE SALE BY IRIS</b> Fri.-Sat., Jan 16-17, 10-4pm.</p> <p>27775 Rackham, Lathrup Village, 48074- Take 12 MI. bwn. Evergreen &amp; Southfield, to Bloomfield St. Go S. to San Jose, go W. to dead end.</p> <p>*Vintage collectibles *Early matchbox cars *Antique postcards *Old metal cans, etc. *Collectible paper goods, etc. *2 bedroom sets, *g. dining table &amp; 8 chairs, huge breakfast *2 leather sofas &amp; matching chair *Full nursery: furniture, toys, clothes, etc. *Bikes *Workout stuff *2 office desks, etc. *Gorgeous decorator iron king bed *8 new tires w/rims *Patio furniture *Too much to mention!</p> <p><b>IRIS KAUFMAN</b> 248-626-6335 <b>JAMES ADELSON</b> 248-240-3269</p> <p>Appraisers &amp; Liquidators for 45 Yrs in Metro Area.</p> <p><b>BLOOMFIELD HILLS</b> - 2089 W. Bend Ct. N/ Long Lk. E/ Middlebelt. Fri-Sat, 8:30-4. St. #s ck. 4 pics, estatesales.net</p> <p><b>hometownlife.com</b></p>	<p><b>7100 Estate Sales</b> (7100)</p> <p><b>LIVONIA</b> 9060 Hanlon, Ann Arbor Tri &amp; Wayne, Fri-Sun Jan 16-18, 9-5pm. Household furniture &amp; appliances &amp; misc. items.</p> <p><b>PRESTIGE ESTATE SALE</b> Fri., Jan. 16, 10-4 Sat, Jan 17 10-12 Noon 32550 Eastlady, Beverly Hills (S. of 14 Mile, btwn Cranbrook &amp; Lahser). Patio furniture sets, Formica table and 4 chairs, computer desk, lawn equipment, accessories and more! 586-662-7373</p> <p><b>Moving Sales</b> (7130)</p> <p><b>REDFORD - 3 Shopaholics Clean Out/Moving Sale!</b> Lots of furniture, couch sets, dining room, home decor, racks, racks &amp; more racks of gorgeous clothing, winter/spring, all sizes. Women's, men's &amp; kid's. Tons &amp; tons of jewelry, shoes &amp; purses. Most clothing &amp; accessories, \$1 each. You won't believe your eyes! Fri &amp; Sat, 1/16 &amp; 1/17, 10-5pm; Sun 1/18, 10-2pm (1/2 off). 15630 Meadowbrook, N of 5 Mile, E of Inkster.</p> <p><b>hometownlife.com</b></p>	<p><b>Household Goods</b> (7160)</p> <p><b>ENTERTAINMENT CENTER</b> 5 piece Hooker traditional oak wall unit. 36in. center ent. piece, 2- 34in. door units w/antique glass. 2- 14in. bridge units. \$1495. Call evenings. 248-474-3307</p> <p><b>ENTERTAINMENT CENTER</b> 59in. wide by 61in. high. 3 drawers. 6 shelves. TV area is 32in. wide by 28in. high. Off white. \$400 248-349-6521</p> <p><b>Call to place your ad at 1-800-579-SELL (7355)</b></p> <p><b>FURNITURE</b> Traditional style sofa, 3 piece entertainment center, and table, fabric ottoman, red painted chest, black computer cabinet, 50" round kitchen table with 6 chairs. Best offer. (248) 723-5373</p> <p><b>Table &amp; Bed</b> Glass top brass cocktail table- 40 sq. in. \$100. 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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

### OPTICIANS

Full-Time, Exp'd. Optician position in our new Wayne office. Excellent benefits & compensation package. Fax resume to SVS Vision 586-464-1452

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### Printing

Growing Livonia bindery has a full time entry level position for a helper to get on the job training on multiple machines. 1st and 2nd shift available. Benefits offered. Motivated individuals call for interview. Mon-Fri. 9-4 734-425-7500

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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!

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• Ability to lift 50 pounds repetitively

Interested candidates please email resume to: hr25@ecoconfidential.com E.O.E.

### SALES ENGINEER

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

### 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@aglic.com Or apply/see full details at: careerbuilder.com Keyword: 0608638522

## Help Wanted-General 5000

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 csr23@asonson.net or fax to 248-552-6794.

### WAREHOUSE CLERK

Fast paced medical supply company in Plymouth needs a highly organized, detail oriented person with good people skills and computer experience for our distribution team. In this position you will need to coordinate requests and prepare inventory for surgical procedures. This is full time with benefits. Send resume and compensation requirements to applicant@osteokinetics.com

### 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/piping supplies. MIOSHA 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 CDL or minimum of a chauffeurs 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.

### WAREHOUSE PERSON

Commercial door distributor looking for a qualified warehouse person. Applicant must have a valid drivers license and the ability to lift 50+ lbs. Fax resume to 734-422-9488

### WINDOW INSTALLER, PT

Must have experience in wood & vinyl installation. Neat, clean, dependable need only apply. 248-446-1750

## Help Wanted-Office Clerical 5020

### ADMINISTRATIVE/ACCOUNTING

Part-Time position. 20-25 hrs/wk. Motivated & resourceful employee with strong organizational skills. Proficiency with Word, Excel, Quickbooks, as well as exp. in bookkeeping, AP/AR & general office skills. Please forward resume & salary requirements to: gkrcek@pizzapapalis.com

### ADMINISTRATOR/SUPERVISOR

PT, Evenings. Call for appt. 248-559-0200

### ASSISTANT TO OFFICE MANAGER

Part to Full-Time for reconstruction co. Must have computer/people skills. Potential for advancement. Fax resume: 248-477-1777

### BOOKKEEPER/OFFICE MANAGER, Full-Time

Must be familiar with Quick-Books & payroll. Plymouth. Gregg: 248-417-1800

## Help Wanted-Office Clerical 5020

### LEGAL SECRETARY

Law Firm in Canton has entry level position, answering phones, keyboarding & filing. Willing to train. College grad/some college preferred. Fax resume to: 734-455-4826

### 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

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### DENTAL INSURANCE BILLER

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### DENTAL RECEPTION/PATIENT COORDINATOR

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### ORTHODONTIC CHAIRSIDE ASSISTANT

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## Help Wanted-Medical 5060

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Needed. Part time for afternoons 7:00-11:00 p.m. to start. CLS trained only. Call Debbie: 734-524-1361

### MEDICAL ASSISTANT

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

## Help Wanted-Medical 5060

### Medical Biller

2+ yrs. exp. Must be proficient in physician billing, CPT & ICD-9 coding, dependable. Full-Time/Benefits. Email: gpressley@pssb.net

### MEDICAL RECEPTIONIST

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## Help Wanted-Food/Beverage 5080

### WAITRESS

Evenings. Apply in person: Hercs. 36685 Plymouth Rd Livonia, MI 48150

### WAITSTAFF

FT & PT. DAY & NIGHT Apply at: Starting Gate 135 N. Center St., Northville

## Help Wanted-Food/Beverage 5080

### WAITSTAFF, Part-Time

Independence Village of Plymouth, a luxury retirement community. Apply in person: 14707 Northville Rd. Plymouth, MI 48170

## Help Wanted-Sales 5120

### DRIVER/SALES

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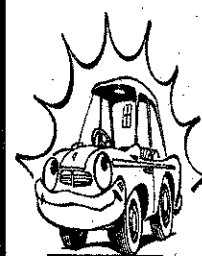
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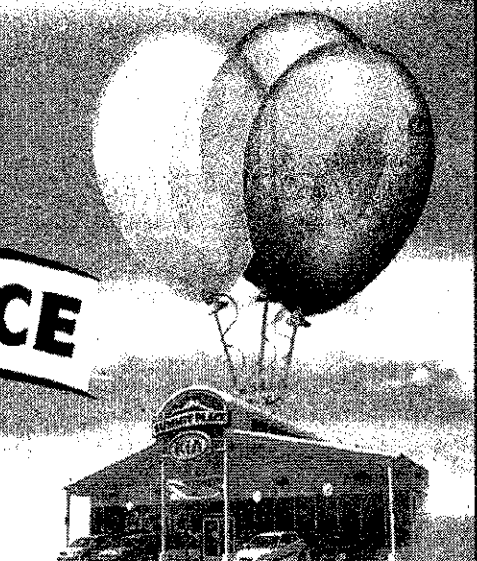
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## CANTON

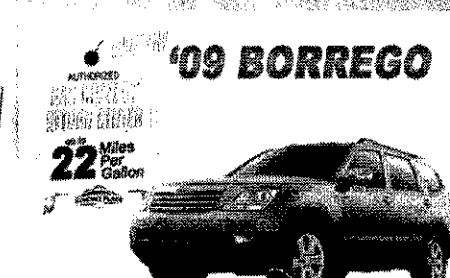


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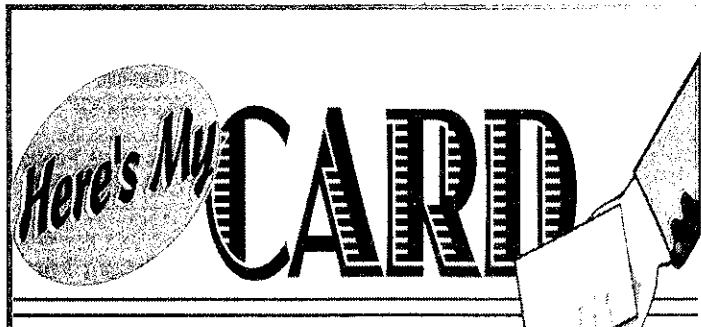
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# Automotive

## Classifieds inside

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Advertising Feature

### CAReport



By Dale Buss

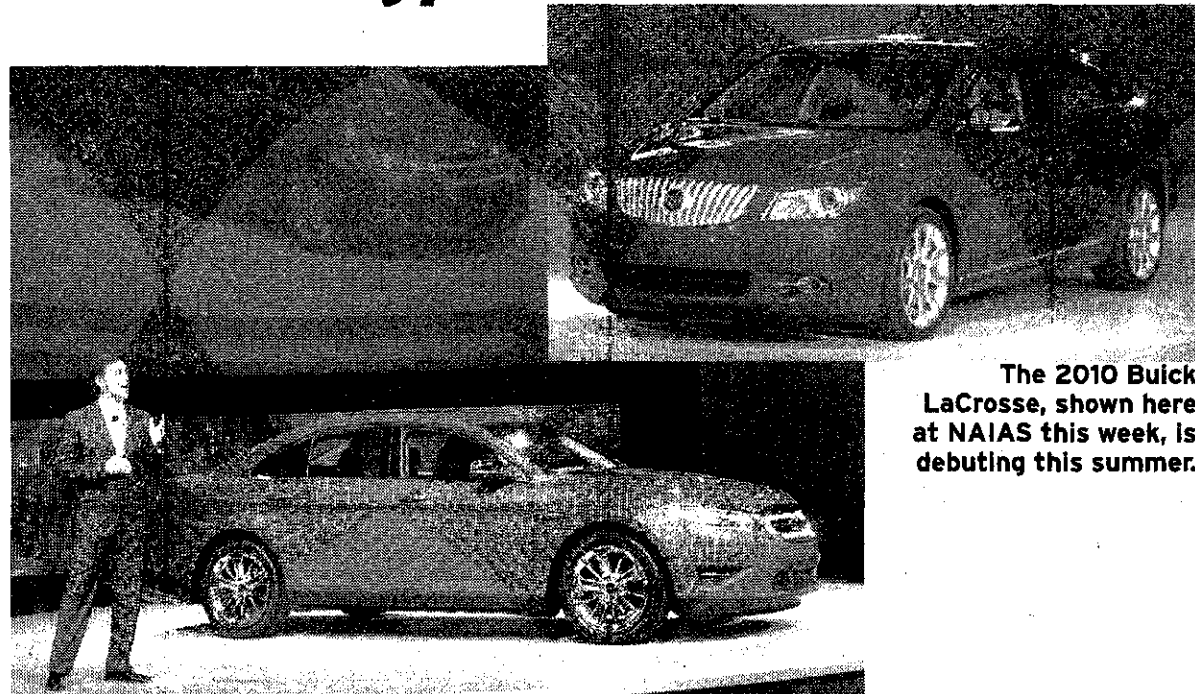
Automakers are emphasizing their continuing stream of new models and burnishing the environmental credentials of their latest propulsion systems as they prepare to host the metro Detroit public at the 2009 North American International Auto Show at Cobo Hall next week.

Things are so bad in the industry that some car manufacturers aren't even bothering to announce or highlight any of their products or other advances this year at the annual blowout in downtown Detroit, including Nissan. But the most beleaguered companies - General Motors and Chrysler - were attempting to turn the show and their performances at it into a springboard for a new year that they hope can possibly only improve over 2008. "Our plan is anchored by great products and great people," said Rick Wagoner, chairman and chief executive officer of General Motors, which of course is in the midst of forging a blueprint that will justify the federal government's extension of loan guarantees in late December. "Our focus is to rapidly implement our accelerated restructuring plan."

To that end, GM staged a literal parade of new vehicles, including the 2010 Cadillac SRX, 2010 Buick LaCrosse, and 2010 Chevrolet Equinox that go on sale this summer, and a collection of concept vehicles including the Chevrolet Spark "microcar" and Cadillac Converj, a two-door, all-electric crossover.

Under an unprecedented kind of scrutiny produced by the rescue drama, Wagoner introduced a procession of vehicles that made their way to the speakers' stage through a throng of 600 GM employees and retirees who volunteered to lead cheers on the show floor. Michigan Gov. Jennifer Granholm joined top GM executives at the front of the parade.

GM President of North American Operations Troy Clarke highlighted the three '10 vehicles. The '10 Cadillac SRX, for example, is a "new design in the form of a crossover," he said, by contrast with earlier versions of the vehicle, which relied on sport-wagon styling. The new SRX is "aimed at changing the priorities of luxury buyers,"



Mark Fields, of Ford, introduces the new 2010 Ford Taurus at NAIAS.

Clarke said.

The '10 Lacrosse reprises Buick's signature design cues, including a "waterfall" grille and "portals," and introduces cool-blue ambient lighting in the interior. It will be powered by two different V6 engines, offer a new six-speed automatic transmission, and introduce a new all-wheel-drive system.

The '10 Equinox will achieve 30 miles a gallon on the highway and utilize a six-speed automatic transmission to ensure that drivers a "range of at least 500 miles" for distance driving, Clarke said.

Meanwhile, Ford used NAIAS as the platform for the world premiere of the redesigned 2010 Ford Taurus and the 2010 Ford Mustang GT500 as well as an announcement for its plans for electric vehicles.

The flagship Taurus sedan has been completely redesigned inside and out to become a more athletic-looking, personal car versus the family one that it replaces (which began life as the Ford Five Hundred until Ford marketers realized their mistake of dumping the Taurus marque in the first place and re-applied it to the Five Hundred).

"It's intended to turn heads" as the original Taurus and Mercury Sable did, with their "jelly-bean" styling, when they were introduced in 1986, said Mark Fields, Ford's president of the Americas.

Ford CEO Alan Mulally announced that the automaker would embark on an aggressive new electric-vehicle plan that includes working with partners to introduce pure electric vehicles, next-generation hybrids

and plug-in hybrids.

Ford will sell in North America a new battery-electric commercial van in 2010, a new battery-electric small car in 2011 that will be jointly developed with Toronto-based auto supplier Magna International, and next-generation hybrid vehicles including a plug-in version, in 2012.

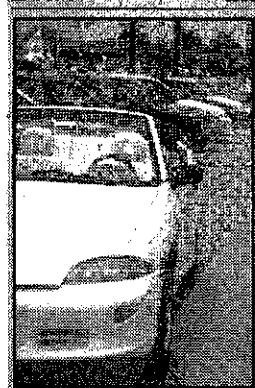
Chrysler's new ENVI all-electric powertrain technology is the basis of a raft of concept vehicles that the company is displaying at NAIAS, as it tries to move past its own economic travails that have necessitated the creation of a federal-government lifeline. The ENVI group includes a tangerine-colored Dodge Circuit EV and a Jeep Patriot EV as well as the 200C EV sedan.

The 200C EV features organic materials in the interior design and a host of new electronic features including "audio tagging" for the purchase of digital music from the vehicle and features that comprise a "virtual chaperone" for teen drivers, including speed-limiting and notification of parents if their kids are driving erratically in the car.

Among other interesting new vehicles at NAIAS, BMW launched its all-new Z4 roadster to world-wide debut at the show. It is the company's first roadster to employ a retractable hardtop, a feature increasingly common for luxury-sport convertibles. The two-piece hardtop retracts in 20 seconds. The Z4 will offer a choice of two versions of BMW's famous inline six-cylinder engine, a 255-horsepower variant and a twin-turbocharged unit that generates about 300 horsepower.

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FORD</b> <b>1-800-586-3518</b> <b>RAV4 2005</b> 4WD, moonroof \$16,998 AVIS FORD (248) 355-7515 <b>Volkswagen</b> (8740) <b>NEW JETTA 2005 2.5 LTR,</b> auto, warranty, power win- dows/locks/mirrors, leather, \$12,953 RALPH THAYER AUTO 734-425-5400
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**GMS** \$20,652  
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**4.9% or Customer Cash Back** \$1,250

**TOTAL REBATE \$4,250**  
**\$16,375\*\***

**OR LEASE FOR \$236\*\***

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Plus Returning  
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**\$4,000**

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**GMS** \$22,767  
**Returning Lease Offer** \$3,000  
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**5.9% or Customer Cash Back** \$1,750

**TOTAL REBATE \$5,750**  
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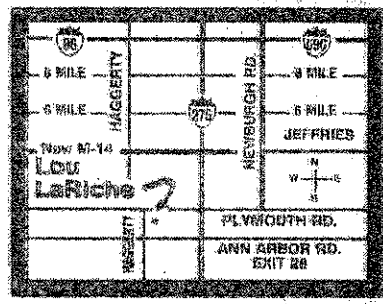
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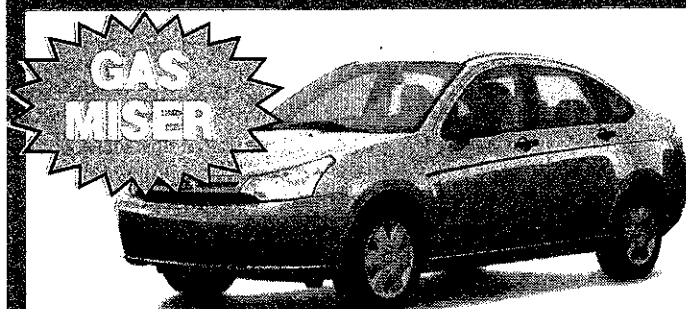
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**\$9,954<sup>14</sup>\*\***



Stock #83315

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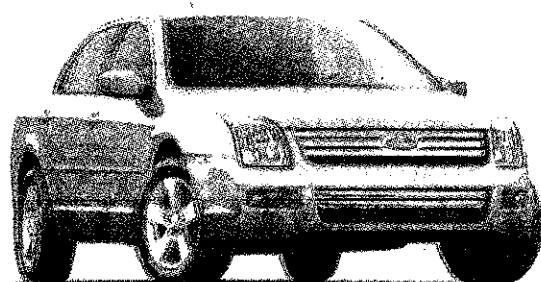
WAS \$28,895  
A/Z Plan Purchase Only  
**\$20,116<sup>30</sup>\*\***



Stock #82911

### New 2008 Ford Taurus X FWD Limited

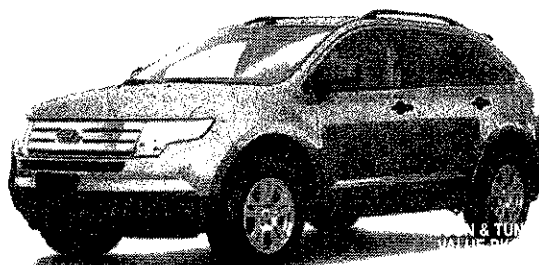
WAS \$32,695  
A/Z Plan Purchase Only  
**\$23,497<sup>65</sup>\*\***



Stock #90918

### New 2009 Ford Fusion SE FWD

36 Months Lease A/Z Plan  
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Stock #91017

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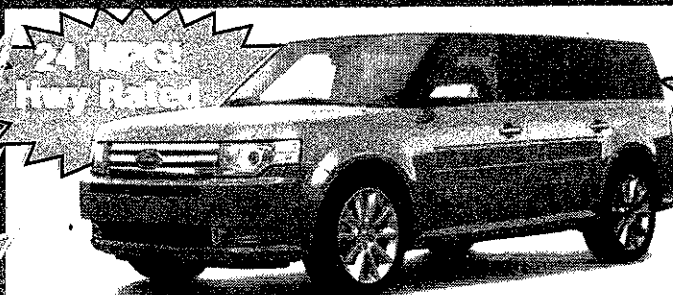
36 Months Lease A/Z Plan  
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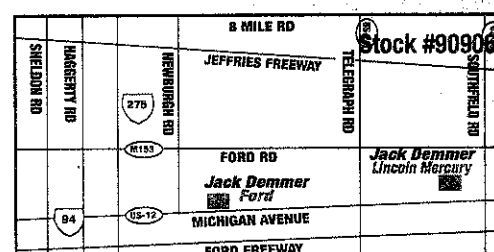
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Documentary shows what really happens to dogs in emergencies

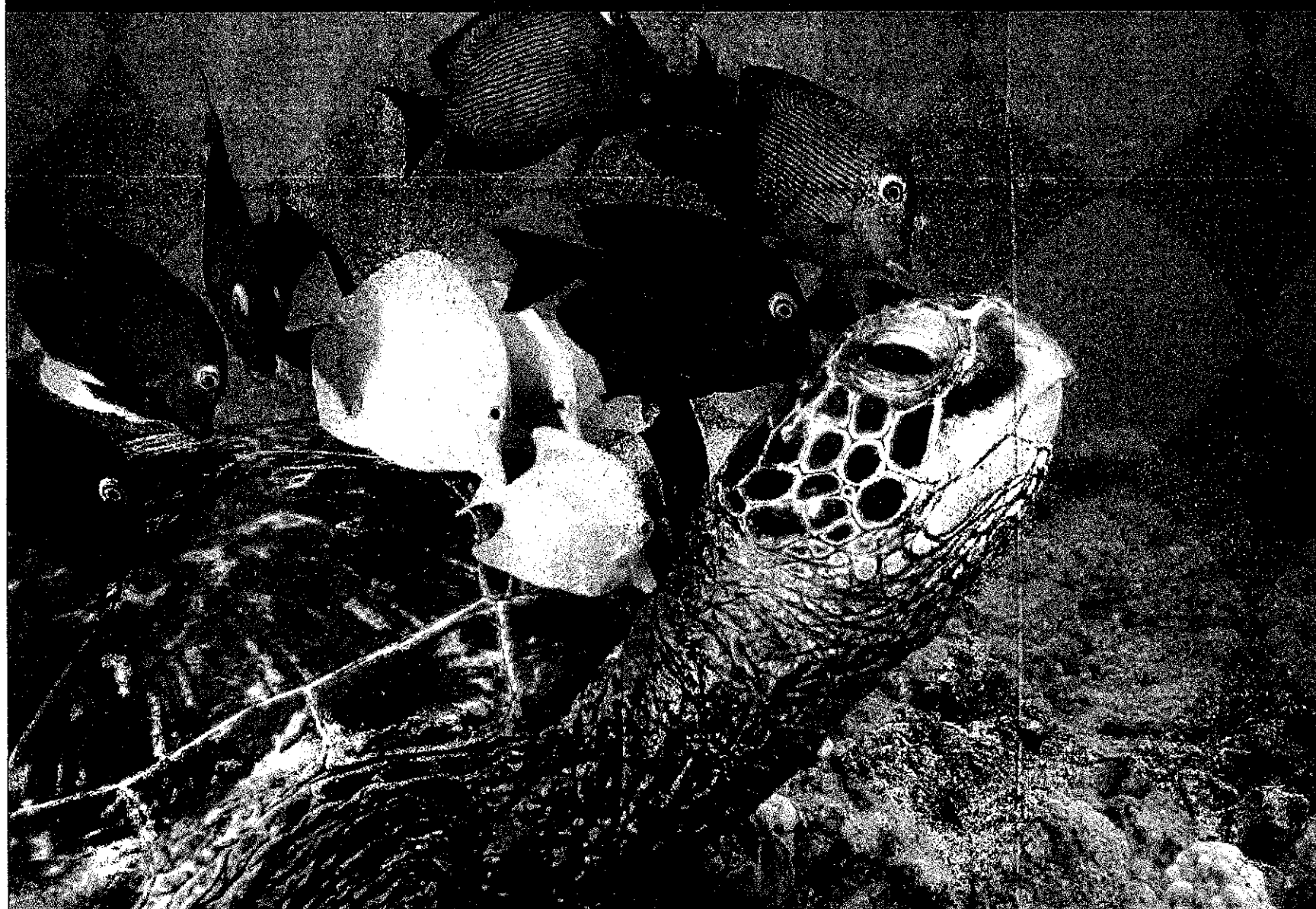
PAGE D3

Bridal Couture aims to provide the perfect dress and service



PAGE D6

## Delve into the 'Deep Sea' at the science center's IMAX



PHOTOS BY PETER KRAGH

Reef fish nibble algae from a green sea turtle's shell off Hawaiian shores in the IMAX® 3D film "Deep Sea 3D."

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA  
OGE STAFF WRITER

The Detroit Science Center's latest IMAX offering is sure to make audiences feel like marine biologists-in-training. *Deep Sea 3D* offers a wondrous close-up look at sea creatures from jellyfish and manta ray to sea turtles and squid.

Fred Huebener, IMAX manager at the center, said the film has been on his radar for a few years. "It is one of the most popular IMAX films of all time," he said.

Huebener attributes that success to the fact that the film shows only underwater sequences, allowing viewers to feel they're right there, deep in the ocean.

At the science center, IMAX films are typically rotated from land to sea to keep both members and patrons interested. "From year to year to year they will always experience something new and different," said Huebener.

*Deep Sea* was included in a Mystery Movie series of screenings

Please see 'DEEP SEA', D2



Director Howard Hall and cameraman Bob Cranston glimpse a Caribbean Reef Shark overhead in the warm Atlantic waters of the Bahamas for the filming of the IMAX® 3D film "Deep Sea 3D," now playing at the Detroit Science Center.

### DEEP SEA 3D

**What:** Howard Hall directs this undersea adventure narrated by Johnny Depp and Kate Winslet, with a score by Danny Elfman.

**When:** Showing now through June, various times listed at [www.detroitsciencecenter.org](http://www.detroitsciencecenter.org). Running time is 45 minutes.

**Where:** The Chrysler IMAX Dome Theatre at the Detroit Science Center, 5020 John R., Detroit.

**Tickets:** \$12.95 adults, \$11.95 children. Arrive 30 minutes before the last show on any day and see the IMAX only for \$5 off ticket price.

### BANJOS IN LIVONIA

The Friends of the Livonia Library will present The Banjos of Michigan 2 p.m. Jan. 25 at the Livonia Civic Center, 32777 Five Mile Road. The group started as a handful of banjo players who met in a basement in West Bloomfield, and has grown to include more than 100 members. Now one of the largest clubs in the Midwest, The Banjos of Michigan play in nursing homes, hospitals, retirement homes, civic events and concerts across the Metro area. The concert is free. Call (734) 455-2495.

### HAVE A "BLAST" WITH DDC

Detroit Dance Collective will host "The Blast!," a unique fund raising event, 5:30-6:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 16 at The Glass Academy, 25331 Trowbridge St., Dearborn. The evening includes dance performances, glass blowing demonstrations, wine, hors d'oeuvres, music, door prizes and more. Since 1980, DDC has created, premiered, and toured provocative dance works and touched the lives of thousands through dedicated educational programming. Funds raised from The Blast will support educational outreach in community schools, the creation of new company repertory, and continued employment for several Michigan dancers. Door prizes include restaurant certificates, spa packages, massage, wine baskets, performance tickets and more. Cost is \$10 in advance; \$15 at the door. Visit [www.detroitdancecollective.org](http://www.detroitdancecollective.org) or call (810) 444-4553.

### RON ASHETON REMEMBERED

Pay tribute to late Stooges guitarist Ron Asheton during "Ronnie ... Thanks a Million," 9 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 17 at Music Hall Center For The Performing Arts, 350 Madison, Detroit.

Hosted by artist Niagara, Asheton's former Destroy All Monsters and Dark Carnival bandmate, the evening will celebrate the life of the man Rolling Stone magazine called "one of the greatest guitarists of all time." Asheton was found dead in his Ann Arbor home on Tuesday, Jan. 4.

The night will include tributes, Asheton's music, a film retrospective by Tim Caldwell, and performances by special friends including Dark Carnival alumni led by BootseyX & The Lovemasters. Admission is free but donations are encouraged to cover the night's expenses and contribute to Asheton's favorite charity, The Michigan Humane Society. Visit [www.myspace.com/niagaradetroit](http://www.myspace.com/niagaradetroit) for more information.



Asheton



COLLEEN SCRIBNER

Joe Bailey (center, seated) is surrounded by the cast of *Deathtrap*, including (left to right) Jean Garringer, Melissa Beckwith, Tom James, and Jamie Richards.

## Pure Picks

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA  
OGE STAFF WRITER

Filtering your entertainment picks for the weekend beginning Jan. 16, 2009:



KAREN BALLARD

Daniel Craig is Tuvia Bielski and Liev Schreiber is Zus Bielski in the Paramount Vantage film, "Defiance."

16

**Defiance** opens in area theaters today, a true tale of family, honor and vengeance set during World War II. The film stars Daniel Craig, Liev Schreiber and Jamie Bell as brothers struggling to avenge the death of their loved ones. This film is rated R.

17

Sometimes you just want more Soup. Comedian Joel McHale, host of the E! Entertainment cable network's show *The Soup*, dishes it out live, 7:30 tonight at The Fillmore, 2115 Woodward, Detroit. Tickets \$32.50 to \$37.50, call (248) 645-6666.



McHale

19

Who Wants Cake theater company delves into thrilling territory with *Deathtrap*, showing at 8 p.m. at The Ringwald, 22742 Woodward, in Ferndale. Find out what happens when a struggling writer joins forces with an unsuspecting student to develop a potential Broadway hit. The plot twists and turns will keep you on the edge of your seat until the end. Tickets are \$10 on this and any Half-Off Monday shows. Call (248) 556-8581 or visit [www.whowantscaketheatre.com](http://www.whowantscaketheatre.com).

18

Leonard Slatkin conducts the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, along with performances by Olga Kern on piano and the MSU Children's Choir for *From Russia With Love*, 3 p.m. today at the Max M. Fisher Music Center, 3711 Woodward, Detroit. Call (313) 576-5111 or visit [www.detroitssymphony.com](http://www.detroitssymphony.com). Listen for Tchaikovsky's *Romeo and Juliet* Fantasy and the *Russian and Ludmilla* overture by Glinka.



Slatkin



## Winter | Spring 2009 UMS

### 14th Annual Ford Honors Program honoring Royal Shakespeare Company Michael Boyd artistic director Ralph Williams U-M Professor of English

SAT, JAN 24 | 6 PM  
Rackham Auditorium

The 14th Annual Ford Honors Program celebrates the partnership between the University Musical Society, the University of Michigan, and the Royal Shakespeare Company, whose first UMS appearance in 2001 launched the beginning of three major residencies that have included nine Shakespeare plays, the US premiere of a stage adaptation of Salman Rushdie's *Midnight's Children*, and hundreds of free educational events with local and regional partners. The 90-minute celebration will animate the partnership through a costumed performance of the courting scene from *Henry V* by the acclaimed RSC actors who brought the roles to life in London and Stratford, Shakespeare-related performances by students from the U-M Musical Theatre Department and the Mosaic Youth Theater, and Professor Williams's reflections on Shakespeare and theater, all woven together through brief video segments that highlight some of the profound impacts of the RSC residencies and of Williams's career at U-M.

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SUN, JAN 25 | 4 PM  
Hill Auditorium

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Chopin Mazurkas  
Scherzo No. 3 in c-sharp minor, Op. 39  
Barcarolle in F-sharp Major, Op. 60  
J.S. Bach Preludes and Fugues from *The Well-Tempered Klavier*, BWV 846-893  
Chopin Nocturne in F-sharp Major, Op. 15, No. 2  
Nocturne in D-flat Major, Op. 27, No. 2  
Waltz in c-sharp minor, Op. 64, No. 2  
Waltz in A-flat Major, Op. 64, No. 3  
Valse brillante in F Major, Op. 34, No. 3  
Polonaise-fantaisie in A-flat Major, Op. 61

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## Mardi Gras fun planned

During these trying times you can look to the blues for comfort or move in a different direction and go for Dixieland jazz. It's celebratory and fun.

It all depends on the mood you want to revel in.

If you want to Dixieland, mark your calendars for Sunday, Feb. 22 at the Monaghan Council Knights of Columbus in Livonia for the 17th Annual Mardi Gras Concert featuring the highly-

acclaimed Dixieland jazz band Tom Saunders' Detroit All-Stars. Saunders himself is a master cornetist.

The concert is 3-6 p.m. and includes a light menu. Costumes are encouraged.

The KOF is located at 19801 Farmington Road, Livonia, between Seven and Eight Mile roads. Tickets are \$15. Call (248) 478-0172 to order.

- By Lana Mini

## 'DEEP SEA'

FROM PAGE D1

for patrons of all ages. "We showed three films to two different audiences and this was the highest rated film."

The 45-minute sea exploration was released in 2006 and directed by world-renowned underwater cinematographer Howard Hall. This marks its Detroit Science Center debut. The center houses Michigan's only large-scale IMAX dome theater, which Huebener said is especially suited to films like *Deep Sea*. Because patrons sit at a 30-degree angle completely surrounded by the image, it offers the full experience of deep sea life — without ever getting wet. "You feel as if you're in a submarine looking at a giant squid," said Huebener. "You feel like you've been transported."

No matter how large a screen one might have at home, he said, it doesn't compare to the IMAX experience.

Movies are chosen about one year in advance and slotted into the schedule accordingly. Huebener said *Deep Sea* differentiates itself from more traditional nature films because it doesn't focus on a single animal or move linearly from one animal to the next.

Instead, viewers will see the sea animals interact in their natural habitat. Narration is provided by actors Johnny Depp and Kate Winslet — whose voices come across as friendly and familiar, said Huebener. "The filmmakers spent weeks and weeks (to get) a few seconds of a shrimp snapping its claws," said Huebener, adding that a Manta Shrimp does so with the force of a .22-caliber bullet being fired, a sound sure to catch the audience off guard.

The film will be showing daily through at least June. To enhance the experience, visitors will notice a brief LED light show precedes each IMAX film in the theater.

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## MOVIE GUIDE

Where available by deadline, features are listed.

Call your local theatre for showings for this week.

Please check listings below for phone numbers and websites.

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QUANTUM OF SOLACE [PG13]

SOUL MEN [R]

MADAGASCAR ESCAPE 2

AFRICA [PG]

ROLE MODELS [R]

BOY OF LIES [R]

BEVERLY HILLS CHIHUAHUA [PG]

SAW V [R]

TYLER PERRY'S THE FAMILY THAT PREYS TOGETHER [PG13]

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THE SPIRIT [PG13]

VALKYRIE [PG13]

DOUBT [PG13]

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SEVEN POUNDS [PG13]

THE TALE OF DESPEREAUX [G]

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BEDTIME STORIES [PG]

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MARLEY & ME [PG]

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SLIMDOG MILLIONAIRE [R]

THE TALE OF DESPEREAUX [G]

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# Documentary shows what really happens to dogs in emergencies

The small black Labrador was infested with more worms and other parasites than any other animal ever seen at Rochester Veterinary Hospital.



Lana Mini

She had heartworm, roundworm, hook worm and a host of other problems — and the enlarged but dry teats on her little body were evidence she had puppies.

She was a survivor of Hurricane Katrina from the rough Ninth Ward area of New Orleans and spent weeks swimming through parasite infested waters. She was finally saved when an animal rescue group from Michigan — called Sasha Farm — drove there to start helping.

The Labrador is healthy now because of Rochester Veterinary's extraordinary skills and kindness. She now lives with me, and her best friend is Macy, our spunky "pitbull" who cuddles with her daily. Life is good for Tula — her new name.

But what happened to other

animals of Katrina is mixed.

There were many heroes, many from Michigan, who risked their own safety to rescue animals like Tula.

The stories of Katrina animals can be seen in Ann Arbor on January 29, at the premiere of *An American Opera* — a documentary about perseverance and sadness during Katrina; filmed by Dearborn resident Tom McPhee. The award-winning film details the efforts of thousands of volunteers who attempted to save the lives of the animals immediately following the hurricane. McPhee delves into society's frustration, helplessness and anguish in the wake of such a massive crisis.

Proceeds from the screening benefit several local and national charities, including Best Friends Network, and a variety of senior service organizations in Southeastern Michigan.

The film is presented as "The Greatest Pet Rescue Ever!" and looks into the human-animal relationship.

When I look into Tula's eyes I wonder about the struggles she endured in New Orleans; if her puppies survived; and what she

## AN AMERICAN OPERA

**What:** Benefit Premiere of "An American Opera," a documentary about heroism, chaos and the lives of the animals in Hurricane Katrina. **Extra:** Filmmaker Tom McPhee will host a short question and answer session immediately following the screening.

**Where:** The Michigan Theater, 603 Liberty St., Ann Arbor, [www.mich-theater.org](http://www.mich-theater.org)

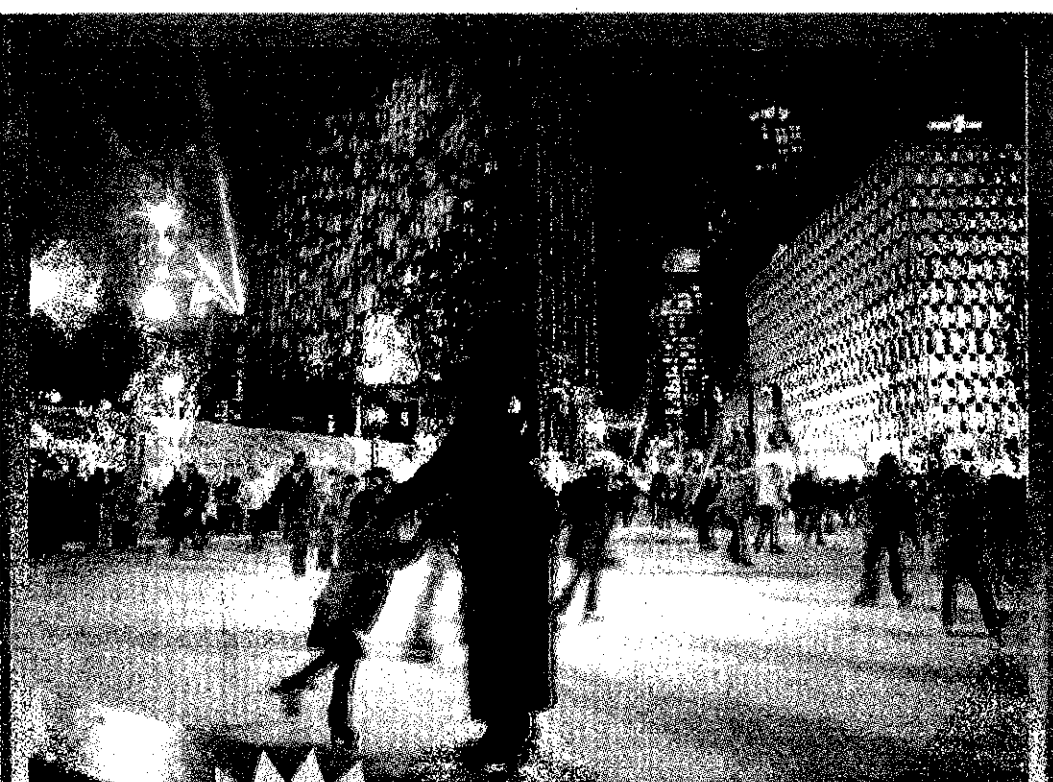
**When:** Thursday, Jan. 29, 7 p.m. reception with appetizers; 8 p.m. screening

**Admission:** \$10 general admission; \$25 VIP, which includes reserved seating and an autographed poster.

**Details:** See the trailer at [www.myspace.com/eyetoeeyedocumentary](http://www.myspace.com/eyetoeeyedocumentary)

saw. Her ability to climb like no dog I've ever rescued (I've fostered many) tells me she had to learn survival skills fast.

It worries me that if there's another disaster, officials still won't know what to do. Hopefully they will opt to be like the heroic folks in this documentary.



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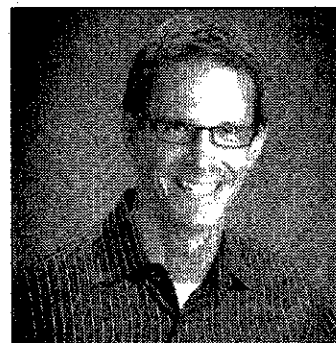
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# 'Expand your Canvas' with new series at NorthRidge Church

BY WENDSY VON BUSKIRK  
OGE STAFF WRITER

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Powell

That's the message a new series at NorthRidge Church in Plymouth Township hopes to convey.

During "Expand Your Canvas," now through Feb. 22, senior pastor Brad Powell uses the metaphor of art to help people understand God's creative and restorative power.

A unique feature of "Expand Your Canvas" is an exhibit featuring art by members of the church, on display in the Chapel Gallery through the duration of the series.

In addition, the NorthRidge stage is decorated with reproductions of famed mas-

terworks, which Powell references during his talks.

The series opened Jan. 10 with a sermon entitled "Defaced Masterpieces," during which Powell discussed "Patch of Grass" by Vincent Van Gogh.

"You would think he would start with a fresh canvas, but when you examine this masterpiece what you find under it is another portrait by Van Gogh," Powell said.

For whatever reason, Powell said, Van Gogh was unhappy with the original painting, and chose to cover it with a fresh work of art. In the same sense,

God is a great artist who has the power to renew lives and relationships fraught by bad choices.

"If you give the canvas back to God he can repaint a new masterpiece," Powell said.

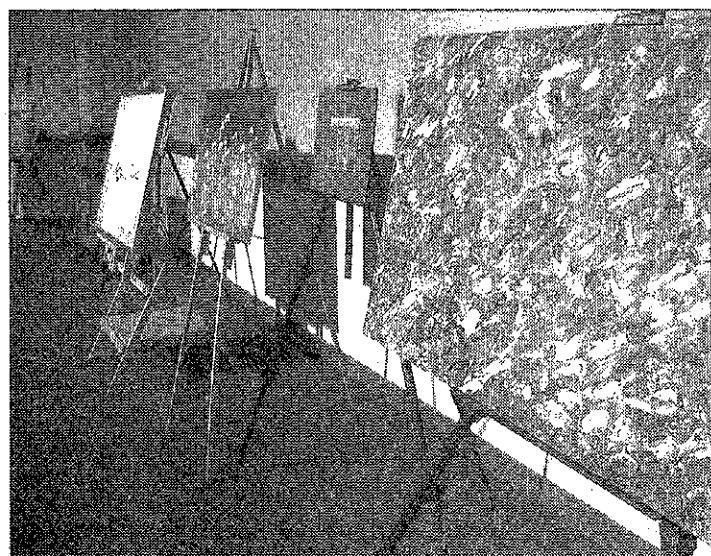
The series focuses on the Bible's Book of Nehemiah, which tells of the Jews who lingered in a devastated Jerusalem for 142 years until Nehemiah showed them hope.

In the same way, Powell said, many people today live amidst decline, decay and destruction without seeing a way out.

"Make the choice," Powell said. "Sit in the rubble or give the brush back to God. Sit in the rubble or give the sculpting tools back to God."

To further illustrate the metaphor, as well as showcase the talent of its diverse patrons, NorthRidge invited members to submit artwork for a juried gallery show.

Artists were asked to explain how God inspired



A juried exhibit of members artwork accompanies the series 'Expand Your Canvas' at NorthRidge Church in Plymouth Township.

their work, and their answers are displayed alongside each piece.

"This series fits right into our lives, especially at a time like this when we're entering a new year," Powell said. "Expand your canvas. There

really is hope. You don't have to waste your lives."

For more information and to view the talks online, including "Defaced Masterpiece" (Jan. 10-11), visit [www.northridgechurch.com](http://www.northridgechurch.com).

## Passages

Obituaries, Memorials, Remembrances

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### GEORGE TIFFANY GASTON II

Age 81, of Bloomfield Hills, retired owner of George M. Gaston, Inc., passed away Monday, January 12, 2008. Mr. Gaston graduated from the Cranbrook Academy, and the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania. He served his country in the U.S. Navy during WWII. Survived by his beloved wife of 49 years, Joan. Loving father of Lori (Amir) Gal, David T. (Carrie) and Mark M. (Lisa). He was the proud Poppy of Stephanie and Danielle Gal; Grace, Hayden and Taylor Gaston; and Alexandra, Annalise and William Gaston. Memorial visitation at Lynch & Sons Funeral Home, 1368 N. Crooks Road (between I-475 Mile Rd.), Friday, 4pm-8pm. Prayers at 7pm. Mass at the Academy of the Sacred Heart, 1250 Kensington Road, Bloomfield Hills, Saturday at 11am. Memorial donations may be made to: the George T. Gaston Fund at the Academy of the Sacred Heart or [CureSearch.com](http://CureSearch.com) in the name of his granddaughter, Grace Gaston. Obituary and condolences at [lynchfuneraldirectors.com](http://lynchfuneraldirectors.com)

### MICHAEL L. GATT

Age 89. Of Novi, formerly of Westland and Livonia. Died January 10, 2009. He was born November 28, 1919 on the Island of Malta, immigrated to America at the age of 7. He later served his country in the U.S. Army/Air Force during WWII, acquiring the rank of Captain. Mr. Gatt was a long time member of the Livonia Singles over Sixty (SOS) club as well as the Saturday night dancing Moonclusters, and had many friends from these activities. He was preceded in death by his loving wife, Marie, in 1988. Surviving are his sons, Michael (Kathy) and Robert (Susan), his daughters Julie (Timothy) Mack and Mary (Marc) Lorrain. Also surviving are his grandchildren Michael, Jacqueline, Robert, Mary, Andrea, Douglas, Gregory, Kellie, Kaitlin, Christopher, Steven, Emily and his great-grandchildren Michael, Katie and Nicholas. Also surviving Michael is his friend and the center of his love and attention Maryanne Gorski. Brother of Jane (the late Joseph) Pace, Joseph (Anne) Gatt and Evelyn Gatt. Services were held at Holy Family Church, Novi. Burial was at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Southfield. Donations may be made to the Muscular Dystrophy Association in honor of his grandchild Kellie Lorrain. On line sympathy message at [www.obrienfuneralhome.com](http://www.obrienfuneralhome.com)

### RONALD A. HUETTNER

Age 79, of Belleville, MI. Passed away Saturday, January 10, 2009 at Care Community in Springfield, MI. He was born August 27, 1929 in Nebraska the son of Althons and Elfrida (O'Black) Huettner. He worked at the Local Sheet Metal Workers Union and was also a truck driver. Ronald loved the outdoors, farming and animals. He is survived by his mother, Elfrida Huettner; children, Ronald Huettner, Margo (Ron) Schebel, Brenda (Alan) Schaffer, Charlene Stobb; brother, Lyle (Marie) Huettner, Gwen (Paul) Albright, Nancy (Dale) Kettler; cousin, Father Joseph Hemmer; 14 grandchildren, four great-grandchildren and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his father and grandparents. Visitation will be held at St. Peters Knight Catholic Church, 515 E. Knight St., Eaton Rapids on Thursday from 10:00 until the time of service. A funeral Mass will be celebrated Thursday, 11:00 a.m. at the St. Peters Catholic Church with Fr. Bennett Constantine celebrant. Memorial tributes may be made to the charity of one's choice. Arrangements by the Bachman Hebble Funeral Service, a member by invitation Selected Independent Funeral Homes. (269)965-5145

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### HELEN A. WALLACE

Age 93, of Plymouth. Passed away January 11, 2009. Helen was born on August 15, 1915, in Palo, Michigan, daughter of Harold R. and Olive (Roberts) Compton. She is preceded in death by her three sons, Richard B., Donald S. and Michael A. Wallace; her husband, Russell B. Wallace; and her sister, Jeanne Mettetal. She is survived by her two sisters, Catharine Sherrick and Doris (Herrick) Close, both of Northville. Also surviving her are loving daughters-in-law, Yvonne Wallace and Nancy Wallace; grandchildren, Deborah J. (Wallace) Cook, Michael (Dawn) Wallace, Bruce (Patricia) Wallace and John (Lorrie) Wallace; and great-grandchildren, Kevin Wallace, John Wallace, Stephen Wallace, David Wallace, Jonathan Foulkes and Rebecca Browne. She will be sadly missed by her many nieces and nephews and their families, as well as neighbors and the hundreds of friends over the years. Funeral from Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 280 S. Main St., Plymouth, Saturday, January 17, 11am. Friends may visit beginning at 10am. Visitation Friday 5-8pm. Burial in Davisburg Cemetery. Memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society in memory of Helen's son, Michael, and Southwest Indian Children's Fund, Box 906, Broken Arrow, OK 74013.



### ROBERT H. WATKINS

Age 65, of Westland. Passed at home January 6, 2009. Devoted husband of Mary. Predeceased by mother Mabel, fathers Woody Watkins and Bob Nelson, and son Wade Watkins. Survived by sons and daughter Eric (Beth), Christina (Matt), Jay (Emily) and Brian (Windy), 12 grandchildren: Ryan, Elizabeth, Kristi, Nelson, Brittny, Alan Jacob, Alexandria, Brandon, Nicolas, Seth and Calub. Brothers and sister Don (Darlene, Rand (Annette), Lauren (Doug), Rick (Sandy), Greg (Toni) and Kirk (Tina). Active in the 82nd Airborne Division Association, Wayne-Westland Parade Council, Lions Club, Veterans United, Poet, and Past Volunteer at Westland Court. A memorial service will be held in the Spring. Arrangements by R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, Garden City, MI.

### GEORGE D. YATICH, D.C.

Of Troy, January 12, 2009. Distinguished chiropractor for over 50 years. Beloved husband of Dorothy. Dear father of Ron. Special grandfather to Darrell (Sherry) and Scott (Regina). Brother of Olga Narich and Jennie Besovich. Arrangements were handled by A. J. Desmond & Sons Funeral Home, Troy, 248-362-2500. Memorial Tributes to charity of donor's choice. View obituary and share memories at [www.DesmondFuneralHome.com](http://www.DesmondFuneralHome.com)

Paying Tribute to the Life of Your Loved One

To submit an item for the religion calendar, fax it to (734) 591-7279 or write: Religion Calendar, Observer Newspapers, 615 W. Lafayette-second level, Detroit, MI 48226. Attn: Linda Chomin. Deadline for an announcement to appear in the Thursday edition is noon Monday.

### JANUARY

#### Mobile food pantry

Trinity Evangelical Presbyterian Church is partnering with Gleaners Community Food Bank to offer a mobile food pantry for those in need Saturday, Jan. 17. Recipients must register between 9:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 15, by calling (734) 459-9557 for a pick up time.

#### Bethany Singles

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

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

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

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

#### Special service

### RELIGION CALENDAR

4th annual "People of Life" Service 6 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 18, at St. Aidan's Parish, 17500 Farmington Road, Livonia, in remembrance of the 36th anniversary of the Roe vs. Wade Supreme Court decision. Special guest speakers are from St. Aidan's, St. Gerald's, Calvary Missionary Church and Christian Covenant Church. American Sign Language Interpreter provided. Refreshments to follow.

#### Worship service

The Wayne-Westland Ministerial Association will sponsor a worship service to remember the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, at 6:30 p.m., Sunday, Jan. 18, at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 37775 Palmer, Westland. There will be a combined choir from several churches led by Steve Holbrook. The preacher for the evening will be the Rev. Mike Wilson of the New Beginnings Church in Wayne. The public is invited. For more information call Neil Cowling at the Kirk of Our Savior, at (734) 728-1088.

#### All-you-can-eat pancakes

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

#### Chamber music concert

The Woodward Corridor Musicians present a "One of a Kind" concert 3 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 18, at First Baptist Church of Royal Oak (The Church on Main Street), 309 N. Main. The concert features the only woodwind

quintet written by August Klughardt; the only string quartet written by Giuseppe Verdi, and unique arrangements for clarinet quartet. Tickets \$10 adults, students K-12 free, and available at the door. For information, call (248) 546-5818 or send e-mail to [LFDean@aol.com](mailto:LFDean@aol.com).

#### Dare to be holy

Parish Mission with Bill Wegner, conducted by Good News International, a Catholic lay ministry, 7 p.m. Sunday-Wednesday, Jan. 18-21, at St. Mel Parish, 7506 N. Inkster Road, Dearborn Heights. Refreshments. Offering will be taken. Special session after 8:30 a.m. Mass Monday-Wednesday. For more information, call (313) 274-0684.

#### Protect yourself

Ward Evangelical Church's senior potluck luncheon features retired State Police officer Monte Oswald demonstrating how seniors can protect and defend themselves 11:30 a.m. Monday, Jan. 19, at the church, 40000 Six Mile, Northville. Bring your favorite dish to pass and enjoy the fellowship of other seniors. For more information, call (248) 374-7400. If you plan to attend, let the church know. For information on the program, visit [www.eyefight-back.com](http://www.eyefight-back.com).

#### Clothing bank

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

#### Time change

Worship is 9:30 a.m. Sunday, at Faith Lutheran Church, 30000 Five Mile, west of Middlebelt, Livonia. Learning hour is at 8:15 a.m. for all ages. For more information, visit [www.livon](http://www.livon)

Please see **CALENDAR, D5**

## Wedding Workshop

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## CALENDAR

FROM PAGE D4

faith.org.

## Special needs Bible class

Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Livonia invites adults with developmental disabilities and special needs to attend a new Open Arms Bible Class at the church, 34567 Seven Mile, between Farmington and Newburgh roads, Livonia. The class will include songs, Bible lessons, crafts and activities, prayer, snacks and fun. Contact Judy Cook at Emmanuel, (248) 442-8822 or e-mail to elc-ed@arounddetroit.biz.

## ENDOW

■ St. Michael the Archangel Parish of Livonia will host two different courses of the Archdiocese of Detroit's ENDOW program, a continuing women's study group focused on the dignity of women of all ages and faiths.

Course VI, called "Salvifici Doloris" addresses the Christian meaning of suffering. Based on the writing of Pope John Paul II, this is a new addition to the ENDOW curriculum and available 9:30-11:15 a.m. Tuesdays, in the convent meeting room. The class began Jan. 13.

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

■ St. Aidan Catholic Church also offers ENDOW. The eight-session course will focus on the ideas

about human beings and God that St. Thomas Aquinas explores in his work Summa Theologiae, 7-9 p.m., Thursdays, through March 5, in the parish office conference room at the church, 17500 Farmington Road, north of Six Mile, Livonia. Cost is \$60 for materials. Registration required. Visit [www.endowonline.com](http://www.endowonline.com) or call (734) 425-5950. Facilitator is Michele Schmidt at (734) 367-0353 or [mtschimidt@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mtschimidt@sbcglobal.net).

## Couples prayer series

7-9 p.m. Wednesday, through Feb. 18, at St. Aidan Catholic Church in

Livonia. Cost is \$55 per couple. Those unable to pay because of financial difficulty may register and join the group. To register, visit [www.coupleprayer.org](http://www.coupleprayer.org) or send e-mail to [davidjconrad@staidanlivonia.org](mailto:davidjconrad@staidanlivonia.org). The six-week Couples Prayer Series is for married or engaged couples, and designed to nurture a life-long pattern of sharing daily prayer together.

## UPCOMING

## Bethany singles

■ Dance, 8 p.m. to midnight Saturday, Feb. 7, in Redford. Cost is

\$10, includes refreshments. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. Call Diane for information at (734) 261-5716.

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

Kathy at (734) 513-9479. Bethany is a Catholic organization under the auspices of the Archdiocese of the Detroit Office for Family Ministry. Bethany provides spiritual, social and educational assistance through peer-to-peer ministry to the divorced and separated of all Christian faiths.

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Personal property described below in the matter of:

Ronald John Lithgow	A007	Boxes, Bags, totes
Tracey Wilburn	A016	Mattress, Boxes, Bags
Deborah Coe	B028	Boxes, Bags, Totes
Keyanna Wafford	B048	Boxes, Bags, Totes
Jennifer Jackson	B082	Boxes, Bags, Totes
Margaret Mercing	B097	Boxes, Totes, Dresser
Dwain Puryear	B128	Boxes, Totes, Bags
Tammy Whitehead	B176	Totes, Desks, Showcases
LaChanta Cooper	B190	Shelves, Dresser, Boxes
Stacie Van Tuyl	B233	Boxes, Bags, Totes
Clayton Smith	B238	Boxes, Bags, Totes
Kerby Dixon	B289	Boxes, Bags, Totes
E Victor Helb	B298	Boxes, Bags, Totes
Nicole Tomlinson	B329	Boxes, Bags, totes
Sheldon Turley	B330	Luggage, Boxes, Boxes
Danny Smith	B351	Boxes, Bags, Totes
Clint Adolph	B367	chairs, mattress, bikes
Donald Schwartz	B373	Boxes, Bags, totes
Connie Volpe	C009	Boxes, Bags, Totes
Ted Konesky	C013	Bike, Boxes, Bags
Stephan Mitchell	C034	Toys, Crib, Bags
Aaron Daniels	D030	Boxes, Bags, Totes
Latoya Marzette-mills	E002	Totes, Boxes, Dresser
Jason Hall	E008	Boxes, Bags, Totes

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<b>St Genevieve Roman Catholic Church</b> <b>St. Genevieve School - PreK-8</b> 29015 Jamison • Livonia • 734-427-5220 (East of Middlebelt, between 5 Mile & Jeffries) MASS: Tues. 7 p, Wed., Thurs. 9 a, Sat. 4 p, Sun 11a  <b>St. Maurice Roman Catholic Church</b> 32765 Lyndon • Livonia • 734-522-1616 (between Merriman & Farmington Roads) MASS: Mon. 8:30 a, Fr. 8:30 a, Sat. 6 p, Sun 9a	<b>SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST</b>  <b>Cherry Hill Seventh-Day Adventist Church</b> 33144 Cherry Hill, Garden City, MI 48135 (1 block west of Henry) Phone: 734-524-0880 Pastor: Eddie Petreaca Meetings on Saturdays for: Early Morning Bible & Health Class - 8am Worship Service-English-9:30 am Bible Studies English & Spanish (All ages) 11:00 am Wednesdays Prayer Meeting-7 pm	<b>Cherry Hill United Methodist</b> 821 S. Ridge Road Canton, MI 734-495-0035 Rev. Merlin Pratt Worship 10:30 Prayer Hour Thursday 7:30	<b>GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD</b> 25830 GRAND RIVER at BEECH DALY 313-532-2296 Worship Service 9:15 & 11:00 A.M. Sunday School 9:15 & 11:00 A.M. Nursery Provided The Rev. Timothy P. Halboth, Senior Pastor The Rev. Dr. Victor F. Halboth, Assistant Pastor
<b>CHURCHES OF THE NAZARENE</b>  <b>PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE</b> 46801 W. Ann Arbor Road • (734) 453-1526 Sunday School - 9:45 A.M. Sunday Worship - 11:00 A.M. Sunday Evening - 6:00 P.M. Family Night - Wed. 7:00 P.M. NEW HORIZONS FOR CHILDREN LEARNING CENTER (734) 455-3199	<b>EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA</b>  <b>Timothy Lutheran Church</b> A Reconciling In Christ Congregation 6820 Wayne Rd. (Between Ann Arbor Trail & Joy Road) Livonia • 427-2290 Jill Heather, Pastor 10:00 a.m. Family Worship (Nursery Available)	<b>NEWBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH</b> "Open Hearts, Minds & Doors" 36500 Ann Arbor Trail between Wayne & Newburgh Rds. 734-422-0149 Worship Service and Sunday School 9:15 am & 11:00 am Rev. Marsha M. Woolley Visit our website: <a href="http://www.newburgumc.org">www.newburgumc.org</a>	<b>HOSANNA-TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH &amp; SCHOOL</b> 9600 Levee • So. Redford • 313-937-2424 Pastor - Reverend Paul Urfin Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m. Wednesday Evening Service 7 p.m. Education Hour 10:45 a.m. Christian School Pre-Kindergarten-8th Grade For more information call 313-937-2233
<b>Immanuel Lutheran Church</b> Pastor Milton Scheuen 27035 Ann Arbor Trail, Dearborn Heights (just East of Inkster Road) (313) 278-5755 Worship Service & Sunday School 10:30 a.m. <a href="http://ourchurch.com/members/immmanueltlchris">http://ourchurch.com/members/immmanueltlchris</a> The Friendly Church on the Trail	<b>WARD Evangelical Presbyterian Church</b> 40000 Six Mile Road "just west of I-275" Northville, MI 248-374-7400 Traditional Worship 8:00, 9:30 & 11:00 A.M. Contemporary Worship 9:30 A.M. Nursery & Sunday School During the 9:30 & 11:00 Hours Evening Service • 7:00 p.m. Service Broadcast 11:00 A.M. Sunday WRDT-AM 560 The WMUZ Word Station For additional information visit <a href="http://www.wardchurch.org">www.wardchurch.org</a>	<b>Risen Christ Lutheran</b> David W. Martin, Pastor 46250 Ann Arbor Road • Plymouth • 734-453-5252 (734) 453-5252 Worship 8:15 & 10:45 am Sunday School 9:30 • Adult Bible Study 9:30 Nursery Care Available. All are welcome. Come as you are. <a href="http://www.risenchrist.info">www.risenchrist.info</a>	<b>LUTHERAN CHURCH WISCONSIN SYNOD</b>  <b>St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church &amp; School</b> 17810 FARMINGTON ROAD, LIVONIA (734) 261-1360 WORSHIP SERVICES SUNDAY: 8:30 A.M. & 11:00 A.M. THURSDAY: 6:30 P.M. website: <a href="http://www.stpaulslivonia.org">www.stpaulslivonia.org</a>
<b>Fellowship Presbyterian Church</b> Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. • Worship: 10:30 a.m. Pastor: Dr. Jimmy McGuire Services held at: Madonna University's Kresge Hall 36600 Schoolcraft Road • Livonia • Parking lot is on N.W. corner of Levan & Schoolcraft Nursery provided • <a href="http://www.fellowship-presbyterian.org">www.fellowship-presbyterian.org</a>	<b>BELL CREEK COMMUNITY CHURCH</b> a place to belong Casual, Contemporary, Excellent Children's Program Meets at Franklin H.S. in Livonia on Joy Road (Between Merriman and Middlebelt Roads) at 10:00 a.m. 734-425-1174 Join us for coffee, bagels and donuts after the service	<b>ROSEDALE GARDENS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)</b> 9601 Hubbard at W. Chicago, Livonia, MI (between Merriman & Farmington Rds.) (734) 422-0494 <a href="http://www.rosedalegardens.org">www.rosedalegardens.org</a> Chapel Worship Service 9:00 am Traditional Service 10:30 am WE WELCOME YOU TO A FULL SERVICE CHURCH	<b>St. James Presbyterian Church, USA</b> 25350 West Six Mile Rd. Redford (313) 534-7730 Sunday Worship Service - 10:00 A.M., Sunday School - 10:15 A.M., Thursday Dinners - 6:00 P.M., Thrift Store every Sat. 10am-2pm Nursery Care Provided • handicapped Accessible Rev. Paul S. Bousquette
<b>CHRISTIAN SCIENCE</b>  <b>First Church of Christ, Scientist, Plymouth</b> 1100 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth, MI 734-453-0970 Sunday Service 10:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Wed. Evening Testimony Meeting 7:30 p.m. Reading Room located at church Saturday 12:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m. 734-453-0970			



## Bridal Couture aims to provide the perfect dress and service

BY SUSAN STEINMUELLER  
STAFF WRITER

You could call Amy Pohlod a matchmaker — one who pairs women with their perfect wedding dress.

"When a bride puts on a dress and she loves it, when it's the dress that was made for her, I get so excited," said Pohlod, owner of Bridal Couture of Birmingham, 34000 N. Woodward Ave. and Plymouth, 570 South Main Street.

For Pohlod, matching a bride and dress should come with perfect service too.

That's something she said was lacking when she bought her wedding dress 10 years ago.

It inspired her to make service a top priority when she bought the former Julie's Bridal in November 2007.

She aims to provide excellent service from the first glance at the dress to the final fitting and delivery.

"It's a very important process to me," said Pohlod, a Birmingham resident who found her niche in the bridal business when she left the corporate world to do something more creative.

### EXCLUSIVE LINES

Bridal Couture stores have large dressing rooms so brides-to-be can view selections with those close to them.

The wide variety of styles include designer lines that can't be found elsewhere in Michigan.

"I've been really concentrating on designers that we have exclusives for — that really sets us apart," said Pohlod. They include Jane Wang, Kate Bennett and Birnbaum & Bullock.

Wang, of New York, will be featured and available to advise brides in a trunk show featuring her new collection, Jan. 30-31 at the Birmingham store. Pohlod describes Wang's look as "extremely elegant."

Kate Bennett, of Rochester



LAWRENCE MCKEE | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Amy Pohlod, owner of Bridal Couture in Birmingham and Plymouth, stands in front of two designs by Rochester Hills wedding designer Kate Bennett: a strapless gown called Lillie (left) and an empire waist design called Annie (right).

Hills, is her only local designer. Pohlod describes Bennett's look as "very much a fairy tale type of look. It's true romance."

Bennett says Bridal Couture "has a great staff. That's my main concern."

She finds the same reward as Pohlod does when a bride finds "her" dress.

"They have that moment when they look at themselves and then cry and it's the most amazing thing... It makes it totally worth it."

Bennett's most popular design is a classic one, called Lillie. It's a strapless ballgown of silk Duchess

satin with hand sewn French Alencon lace at the hem and waistband.

A more modern style is "Annie," one of four from her 2009 collection. It has a fashion forward silhouette with an empire waist and a loose, flowing chiffon skirt.

Every gown is available in a variety of colors and trims and some styles are customizable.

Bennett's next trunk show at Bridal Couture is Feb. 28 in the Birmingham store.

For more information, go to the store's Website at [www.bridalcouture.com](http://www.bridalcouture.com)

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## WHERE IMAGINATIONS RUN WILD.

**Friday Night Live!**  
Friday Night Live! has been cancelled for Friday, January 16.  
The museum will close at 5 p.m.

**Saturday:**  
Make a mosaic at the drop-in workshop

**Target Family Sundays:**  
Enjoy storytelling by Roan Ludd, drawing in the galleries and much more.

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