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THURSDAY

January 22, 2009

CANTON Observer

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Canton police track down man wanted in armed robberies

BY TONY BRUSCATO
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A 22-year-old Ann Arbor man is being held on \$500,000 bond after being arrested Monday night in connection with the armed robbery of a sandwich shop in Canton.

And that may be only the beginning of his troubles, as he's also a suspect in restaurant robberies in Plymouth Township, Livonia and Garden City.



Bowman

Following a number of leads from the public, Shawn William Bowman was taken into custody without incident shortly before 10 p.m. Monday night while driving near Sheldon and Ford roads. Canton police believe Bowman is responsible for the robbery of a Subway restaurant on Canton Center Road Friday afternoon. An undisclosed amount of cash was taken after the robber showed the clerk a gun in his waistband and demanded money from the cash register.

"We received numerous tips from our Community Alert program and known associates of the suspect," Canton Police Sgt. Debra Newsome said. "We were able to follow the leads and tracked him down as he was driving to a meeting in Canton."

Bowman was arraigned Tuesday afternoon in 35th District Court in front of Judge Ron Lowe. The list of charges includes felony armed robbery, which is punishable by up to life in prison, and being a habitual offender. Lowe set a preliminary exam date of Jan. 30 at the Plymouth court. Bowman can be released from jail if he posts 10 percent — \$50,000 — of the bond amount.

Several police departments want to question — and possibly charge — Bowman. Plymouth Township may be interested in him as a suspect in the robbery of a Jet's Pizza store. Livonia police are looking at Bowman for armed robberies at three businesses — Quiznos, Tubby's and Town Peddler. And Garden City believes he may be the gunman in an attempted robbery at the Lucky Wok restaurant. All the robberies occurred this month.

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



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Praising peace, togetherness

Sisters Courtney and Andrea Shelby of Canton kicked off Canton's annual Martin Luther King Jr. celebration on Monday with their rendition of 'The Star Spangled Banner' and were joined by many of the 350 people who attended the event at the Village Theater. For more photos and a story about the celebration, please see page A7.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Emagine Theaters in Canton showed the inauguration on the big screen. Plymouth resident Mark Lee cheers the swearing-in of Barack Obama, the 44th president of the United States.

Time to get to work

Those watching historic inauguration at Emagine Theater have advice for Obama

BY TONY BRUSCATO
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

As President Barack Obama gets down the business of running the country, Jeffery Shamberger of Canton Township is hopeful the new president will get to work immediately on a stimulus package that will benefit cash-starved Michigan.

"We've been hit very hard because so many things are related to the automotive industry," said Shamberger. "There's a lot of unemployment and home foreclosures. Nobody's looking for a free lunch, we just want to have jobs." Shamberger's wife, ReGina Coles-Shamberger, understands the new president has a lot on his plate.

"I think that Americans are really feeling good about this country and will get behind him, and hopefully Congress will get behind him and stop the partisan bickering and unify this country," she said.

The Shambergers were among several hundred people — many who cheered, gave standing ovations and chanted "Obama" — in the theater No. 9 at the Emagine Theater in Canton Tuesday while watching Obama being sworn in as the nation's 44th president.

Most who watched it on the big screen didn't know one another. However, despite



Canton residents Jeffery Shamberger and wife ReGina talk about the inauguration at Emagine Theater.

being strangers, on this day they were one to share in the experience, just like the millions in Washington, D.C.

"It felt like you were there, you could feel the enthusiasm," said Mark Lee, 48, of Plymouth Township. "We just celebrated Dr. (Martin Luther) King and talked about his dream, and I think this is the next step in fulfilling that dream. When he took that oath of office, and you looked at the faces in the crowd, it was very diverse and everybody was so proud, with no racial or economic boundaries."

"I really appreciate the fact he talked (in his

inaugural address) about responsibility and accountability," added Lee. "I think it's time for us as Americans to stop blaming everybody else and be responsible for our own actions."

Jeffery Shamberger said the inauguration of the first African-American president reminded him of his parents and the inequities they had to endure.

"Growing up and seeing their struggles and always wanting to make a better country for us," said Shamberger, 59. "Though they couldn't be here, what they were saying to us about keep strong and keep working, and it pays off like this."

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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.

For every new checking account opened in January 2009, Community Financial will contribute \$10.00 to THAW.



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Coming Sunday:
Stars we love

Orchestra Canton

Orchestra Canton will present its second concert this season under the direction of Music Director and Conductor Nan Washburn — "Mozart's Birthday Blast" — at 8 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 24, at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill.

Celebrate this great composer's birthday with an evening of his most well-known



Mozart

and beloved works. Along with solos by Plymouth Symphony Orchestra and Orchestra Canton concertmaster, Mark Schuppener and principal violist, Mircea Cure, the orchestra will showcase Mozart's range of genius through performances of "Contra Dances K 603", "Sinfonia Concertante", and the great "Jupiter" Symphony No. 41. The evening will also include a special piece based on Mozart's music by Aaron Jay Kemis called, "Mozart en Route, A Little Traveling Music" with a bluegrass twist.

Orchestra Canton is supported by the Partnership for the Arts and Humanities, the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts, and through the donations of its patrons.

Orchestra Canton tickets, which are \$25 for adults, \$20 for seniors, and \$10 for children, may be purchased in person at the PSQ office or by calling (734) 451-2112 or online at www.plymouthsymphony.org.

Blood drive

Canton Township will host a Red Cross Blood Drive on Monday, Jan. 26 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Canton Administration Building's lower level meeting room B. For more information or to make an appointment, contact John Spencer at (734) 394-5246 or jspencer@canton-mi.org.

Plakas investiture

The investiture of James A. Plakas as judge of the 35th District Court will be held



Plakas

at 5 p.m., on Wednesday, Feb. 4, at The Inn at St. John's, Grande Ballroom, 44045 Five Mile Road, Plymouth Township. A reception will immediately follow. Judges are asked to bring their robes. The public is welcome. For more information, call (734) 414 0600.

Local comedian to perform

Local comedian Wyatt Giangrande, who is just 13 years old and has been performing comedy for more than seven years now, will perform Friday evening at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill, along with comedians Ryan Hamilton and Steve Macone, who are both nationally known acts. Wyatt, who is a student at St. Damian School in Westland, has



Giangrande

performed at Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle in Royal Oak, as well as local venues throughout the year.

Tickets for the show, which begins at 8 p.m., are \$15. For more information or to purchase tickets visit www.canton-mi.org/village theater. 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.

Arts and crafts exhibitors wanted

The Plymouth-Canton Music Boosters (PCMB) is hosting its Annual Spring Arts and Crafts Ensemble on Saturday, March 14. Exhibitors who hand-craft their own items are invited to submit an application to

exhibit at the fund-raising event to be held at Plymouth High School in Canton. The juried art event is produced twice each year by the PCMB to help support the band and color guard programs at the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park.

Artists and crafters who are interested in applying for consideration to exhibit should visit www.pcmb.net/artcraft to download an application and submit with photos by early February or contact Carol Rosati at (734) 455-0714. Only 100 exhibitors will be permitted to exhibit at this artistic event. Over the last four years, more than 6,000 attendees have visited the PCMB Arts & Craft Ensembles.

"The Arts & Craft Ensembles are two of the most successful fund-raisers we host each year," stated Dennis Carnevale, president of the 2009 Plymouth-Canton Music Boosters. "The money raised helps the concert and marching bands, color guard and percussion programs that provide students with a one of a kind arts experience. Our craft shows have built a reputation for being some of the best run arts and craft events in the area."

For more information, visit www.pcmb.net.

Divorce support group

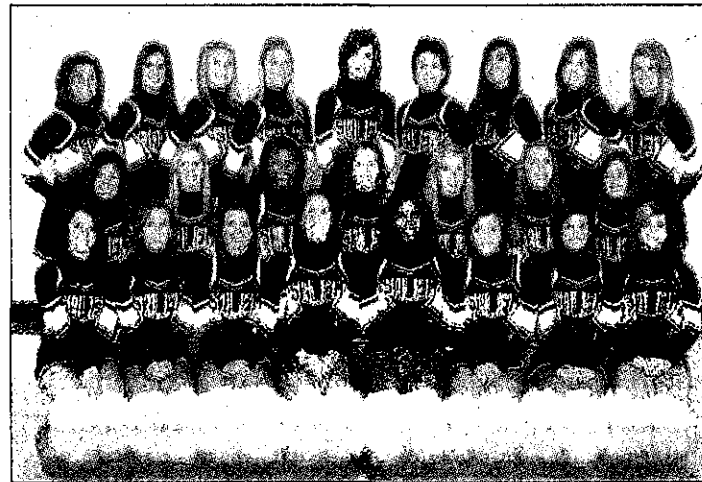
DivorceCare, a divorce recovery seminar and support group meets at Calvary Baptist Church (43065 Joy Road, Canton) each Wednesday at 7 p.m. Child care and children ministries programs are provided. DivorceCare features nationally recognized experts on divorce and recovery topics. Seminar sessions include "Facing My Anger," "Facing My Loneliness," "Depression," "New Relationships," "KidCare" and "Forgiveness."

This is a safe place where confidentiality is required. If you are divorced, separated, or considering either, this could be a good fit for you.

For more information, call Tony and Jean Laughter at (734) 981-1767.

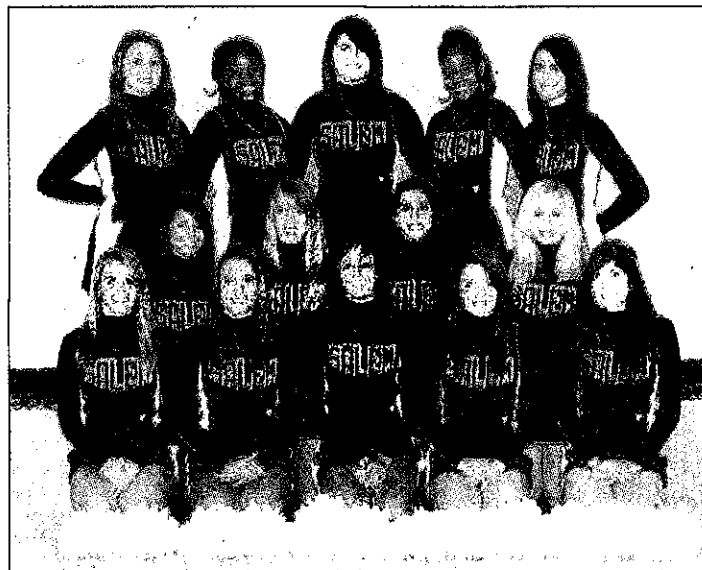
'Hilarity for Charity'

The homeless fund-raiser "Hilarity for Charity" will take place at 7 p.m., Feb. 6, at the Village Theater in Canton.



Rockettes shine in competitions

The varsity and junior varsity Salem High Rockettes both did well at a dance competition on Jan. 17 at the Palace of Auburn Hills. The varsity team (above) placed fourth in the pom division, and the junior varsity (below) placed fifth in the pom division. The varsity squad is leaving on Jan. 30 for Orlando to compete in the UDA National Competition. Good luck ladies!



The event will feature appetizers, a cash bar, two stand up comedians, and a premier for a short comedic film. It is a family friendly night with 100 percent of ticket sales going straight to benefit the homeless of downtown Detroit. Tickets are \$25 for a student and \$40 for everyone else. If interested tickets can be purchased by calling (248)-473-2000 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. or through the Summit on the Park by calling (734)-394-5460. Cash, Visa, and Mastercard are all accepted.

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 fit-

ness, 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.cantonmi.org.

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.

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

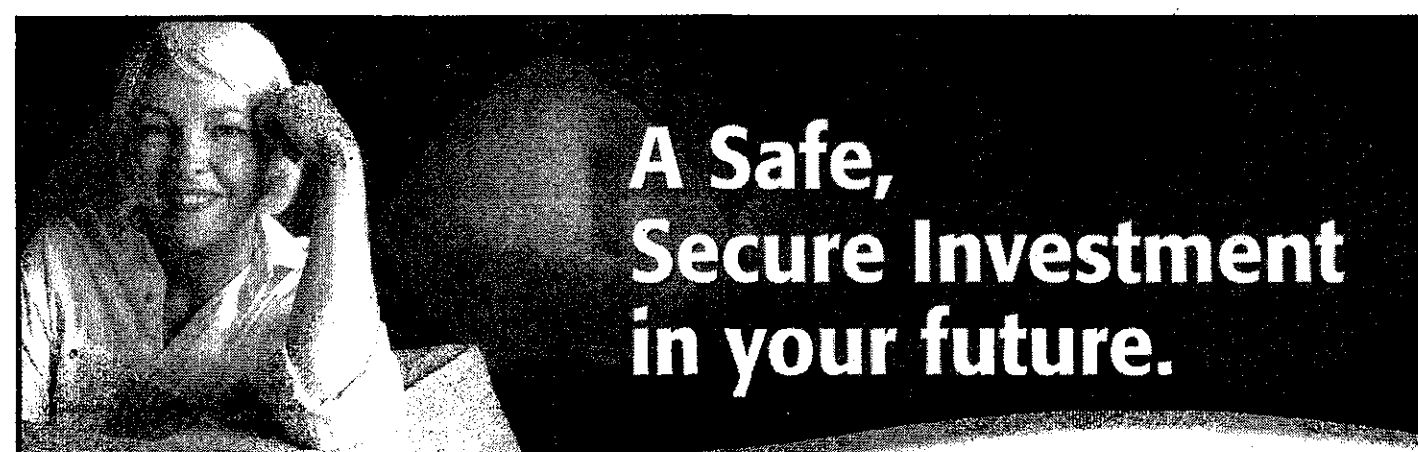
Kiwanis fund-raiser

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 to register or to get more information. Walk-ins are welcome.

Canton Toastmasters

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



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After 30 years, everyone knows bartender's name at Rusty Nail

BY TONY BRUSCATO
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

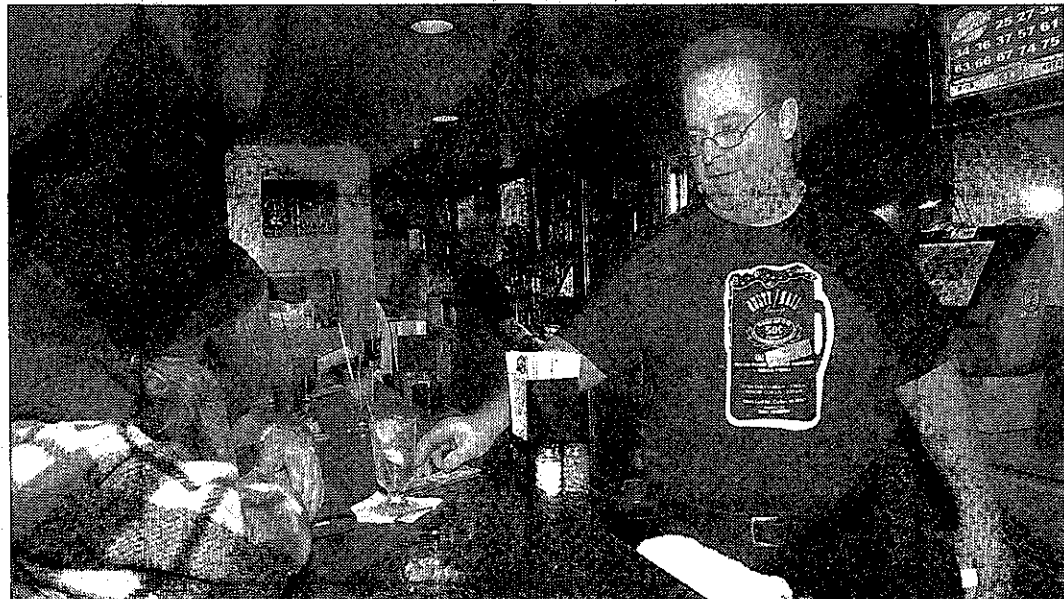
The Rusty Nail on Ford Road is probably as close to television's *Cheers* as you'll find in Canton.

However, unlike the famous Boston bar where "everybody knows your name," that's not necessarily the case at "The Nail."

"I don't know hardly anybody's names, it takes you forever to remember them," said Robert "Moose" McIssac, bartender at the Rusty Nail. "But you always remember what they drink. If you come in two years later, I will know it's vodka tonic."

Moose — a nickname since seventh grade because he laughs "like a moose in heat" — has been at the Rusty Nail for 30 years, and that's a whole lot of drinks to remember. Not bad for a guy who was hired as a bartender even though he didn't know anything about mixing drinks.

"I was on medical leave from my job shoveling sand



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Robert 'Moose' McIssac has served patrons at the Rusty Nail for 30 years.

at a foundry at Chrysler and I just kind of found this job," said McIssac, 55, of Canton Township. "It was a whole lot more fun and when my medical was up, I went back

to Chrysler for one night and said, 'Screw this' and I've been here ever since.

"I didn't know anything about pouring drinks, but I faked it," he added. "I knew I was good

with people, so I let it ride from there."

It's been a good ride. So much so the Rusty Nail is throwing a 30th anniversary party in McIssac's honor 1-6 p.m. Sunday.

To some regulars, McIssac is the Rusty Nail.

"This is our *Cheers*, and we love it," said Kathy Zawacki, who patronizes the Rusty Nail with her husband, Walt, Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. "Moose is very friendly. He's the personality and the jokes guy. He's always happy."

McIssac said during his 30 years behind the bar serving drinks he's heard it all, and rarely gives advice to forlorn lovers because "they're not going to listen to you anyway." However, McIssac will put a stop to conversations surrounding politics.

"You either have to throw them out or tell them to watch their language," he said. "They say it's freedom of speech, but I tell them to take it out the door because all you're doing is getting ready to start a fight with somebody."

But behind the "tough guy" image is a man most consider a friend and the guy who will drive a patron who's had too much to drink home after the

bar closes at 2 a.m.

"I love my Moose," said Shelley Mehal of Canton, a waitress at the Rusty Nail for 20 years. "He's just a down-right good guy. He tries to be mean, but he's really not."

Second-generation Rusty Nail owner John Johnson was only a teen working at the bar when his father, Russell, hired McIssac.

"Moose is an icon," said Johnson, 49, of Canton. "When you talk about the Rusty Nail, everyone wants to know if Moose is still there. I never have to worry about the business when I'm not there. We feel very fortunate he's still working for us. He's there as long as he wants to be."

And it doesn't appear McIssac is ready to hang it up. "I still look forward to going to work every single day," he said. "The customers are great, I have the greatest crew of girls in the world to work with and the owners have always been good to me. It's like going to a party every night and getting paid for it."

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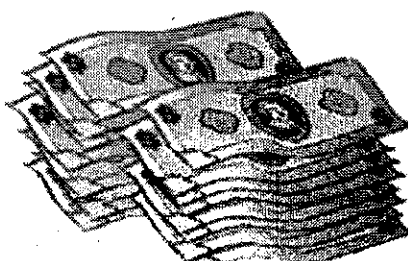
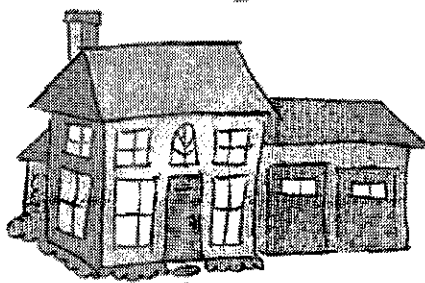
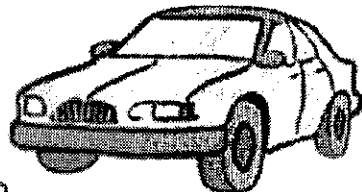
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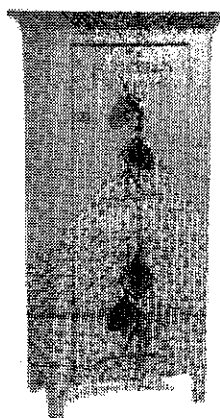
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Today's Health

The road to a new you

GARDEN CITY HOSPITAL

Westland Specialty Center offers sophisticated care

BY ALISON BERGSIEKER
ADVERTORIAL COORDINATOR

When it comes to making New Year's resolutions, health-related pledges are the most common choices, with many vowing to shed unwanted pounds, eat healthier, stop smoking or learn to manage stress at work.

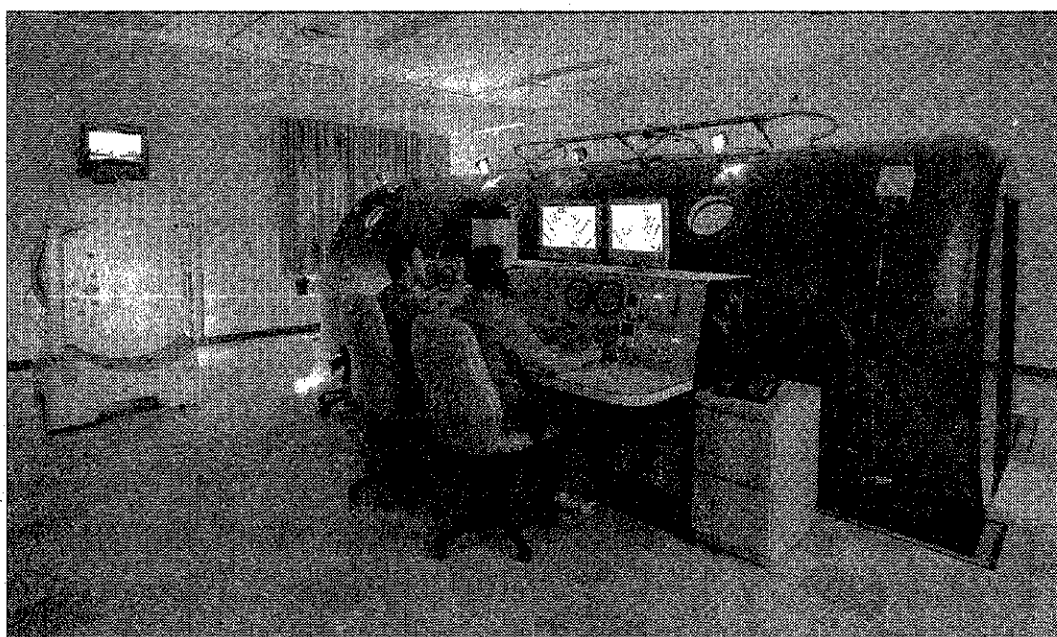
But maintaining good health is important year-round, making the need for reliable treatment facilities, physicians and services a necessity within Metro Detroit's communities.

Garden City Hospital's newly renovated 30,000-square-foot Westland Specialty Center has a fresh look this year with customized programs for various needs — all conveniently located in a modernized facility.

"We've added capacity, capabilities and new programs," said Art Greenlee, Vice President of Operations. "Here, in one location, is some of the most sophisticated care of its type available anywhere."

The Westland facility celebrated its grand opening March 15, 2008, and provides a number of services, including the hospital's Wound Healing & Hyperbaric Center, which houses an eight-person hyperbaric chamber that delivers oxygen therapy to patients with hard-to-heal wounds.

The chamber space is similar to what you would experience in a first class cabin of an airplane with room to stand and walk around. As the second largest chamber in the state, it measures 8 feet in diameter by 24 feet in length



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The center is home to a Wound Healing & Hyperbaric Center, which houses an eight-person hyperbaric chamber (shown above) that delivers oxygen therapy to patients with hard-to-heal wounds.

and includes a bathroom. Patients may enjoy a personal TV monitor, nap or read during their treatment.

The multi-person chamber — one of the largest in Michigan — commonly treats diabetic foot wounds, chronic bone infections, compromised skin grafts and flaps, radiation damage, surgical wounds and crush injuries. In addition, Westland Specialty Center offers a monoplace, single person chamber, which extends the treatment options available to patients.

A range of offerings

Located at 35600 Central City Parkway just north of

Westland Mall, the center also offers the community:

- **Garden City's Sleep Disorders Center** — sleep studies are performed within six hotel-like bedrooms with state-of-the-art sleep monitoring equipment.
- **Garden City Home Medical Equipment** — for home care needs including walkers; respiratory and oxygen therapy supplies; breast pumps; and bathroom safety aids.
- **Laboratory Services Draw Station** — a private setting for patients to have blood drawn quickly and comfortably.
- **Sports Rehabilitation Center** — houses an aquatic therapy pool, team of physical therapists, a workout

area and Nautilus machines. Garden City Hospital's Sports Medicine program is sure to help patients return back to their game.

"We are extremely proud of how this center has grown and changed," Greenlee said. "We have excellent people and great technology to meet our patients' complex needs."

To schedule an appointment with a physician or at the Westland Specialty Center, call 877-717-WELL or visit www.gchosp.org.

WESTLAND SPECIALTY CENTER PHYSICIANS

Marshall Medley, D.O.
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Sleep Medicine

Get fit

The latest in fitness and weight training accessories

BY JOHN R. HALL
SPECIAL WRITER

Some of the most popular fitness and weight training accessories are also some of the most traditional ones too.

Some are steeped in tradition, only to be enhanced and improved for fitness and weight training routines and workouts.

For example, the hula hoop, made popular in the '50s and '60s, has made a comeback as a fitness accessory, albeit more weighted to enhance workouts.

The items in the list below represent some of the more popular products used by people who choose to set up their own "in-home gymnasium" in order to achieve the goals they set forth to become fit and healthy in 2009. If you need more information on any of these products and name brand manufacturers, do a word search in your Internet browser. For example, keying in "hula hoop" brings back over five million results!

• **Weighted fitness ball** — Sometimes known as an exercise ball, it is constructed of elastic soft PVC with a diameter of approximately 14-34 inches. It is most often used in physical therapy and exercise.

• **Medicine ball** — Weighted ball usually sold in 2-25 lb. sizes and used in plyometric weight training to increase explosive power in athletes in all sports. Helps develop core strength and improve coordination, balance and endurance.

• **Kettlebell** — A traditional Russian cast iron weight resembling a cannonball with a handle. The kettlebell has become a popular exercise tool in the United States. Some modern kettlebells feature adjustable weights. Kettlebell workouts are intended to increase strength, endurance, agility and balance.

• **Indian clubs** — Juggling equipment that was popular in the late 19th- and early-20th century in Europe, the British Commonwealth and the United States. These are bowling-pin shaped wooden clubs of varying sizes and weights that are swung in certain patterns as part of an exercise program.

• **Dumbbells** — Possibly the most recognizable of any weight training accessory. Two types make up this category: Adjustable dumbbells, which are weight disks slid onto the outer portions of the dumbbell and secured with clips or collars; and fixed-

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Internal Medicine
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program!

See advertisement below

weight dumbbells, available in a variety of weights and created in a dumbbell shape.

• **Lifting straps** — Designed to alleviate pain associated with heavy lifts but a key ingredient in weight training, i.e. lateral pull-downs, shrugs, deadlifts and low rows; any movement, set or exercise requiring a sure grip.

• **Resistance band** — A portable alternative to weights for strength training. A variety of exercises have been devised to target specific muscle groups.

• **Aerobic step** — A common piece of equipment for use in many exercise/fitness programs. It can come with adjustable sizing or stacking platforms and is part of low-impact, high-intensity aerobic exercise.

• **Jump rope** — Its use can avoid knee damage that may occur during running, since the impact of each jump or step is absorbed by both legs. Jumping rope also helps strengthen the arms and shoulders. This combination of an aerobic workout and coordination-building footwork has made jumping rope a popular form of exercise for athletes, especially boxers and wrestlers.

• **Exercise mat** — Portable mat that comes in various sizes and materials, designed to give a person the option of working out in a variety of indoor locations.

• **Weightlifting gloves** — Used for all-purpose training and weightlifting. Many of these gloves are made of stretch material, including mesh, to let fingers and hands bend naturally.

• **Slimmer belt** — Can be worn for long periods of time and adjust to any waist size. It "slims and trims" physical appearance immediately and helps support lower back and abdomen.

• **Pedometer** — Used originally by sports and physical fitness enthusiasts and are now popular as an everyday exercise measurer and motivator. Often worn on the belt and kept on all day, it can record how many steps the wearer has walked that day.

• **Stopwatch** — A handy product to time and record various exercise routines.

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Having been a consulting physician for the 1996 Olympic Games and numerous professional, college and high school athletic teams, Stanley Szczecienski, D.O., or "Dr. Stan" as he is called by his patients, has demonstrated his excellence in the area of Sports Medicine. He is currently an Associate Professor at Michigan State University and Des Moines University, and a member of the American Osteopathic Academy of Sports Medicine. He is board certified in Sports Medicine, Family Practice and Pain Management.

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NEW PATIENTS

W-W offers schools of choice for 2009-10

Parents or guardians interested in moving their elementary middle schoolers to a different Wayne-Westland school will be able to sign up for Schools of Choice beginning Friday, Jan. 30. The district will again offer district residents the program to kindergarten through eighth-grade students for the 2009-2010 school year.

The program provides parents the opportunity to move their child from one school to another within the boundaries of the school district provided there is room available in the school. Transportation to and from the school of choice must be provided by the parents or legal guardian.

School district residents who would like their child to attend an elementary or middle school other than their school of residency must submit a 2009-2010 Schools of Choice application which will be available in every Wayne-Westland school by Friday,

Jan. 30.

Schools of Choice applications for elementary school students will be accepted in the Pupil Accounting Office at the Board of Education, 36745 Marquette, Westland, between Jan. 30 and March 2. Schools of Choice applications for middle school students will be accepted in the Pupil Accounting Office between March 9 and April 20.

No new Schools of Choice applications will be accepted for high school students. Applications received according to these time lines will permit, if space is available, selected students to begin the 2009-2010 school year in their school of choice. If more students apply for a grade and/or building than there are openings, a random selection process will be used to select students. The names of students not selected will be placed on a waiting list for the 2009-2010 school year.

Current Schools of

Choice students must reapply to remain eligible for the program.

After the deadlines, Schools of Choice applications will be accepted until Sept. 7, at the elementary or middle school the parent and/or guardian would like the child to attend. These names will be added to the 2009-2010 school year waiting lists on a first-come, first-served basis. Building principals will use the waiting lists to notify qualified students of an opening. Building principals will be allowed to place Schools of Choice students only through Sept. 18.

A Schools of Choice student will be moved back to his or her home school, if an overcrowding situation occurs within the first 10 weeks of the school year. After 10 weeks, the student will be permitted to remain in the school of choice for the remainder of the school year, provided all other conditions continue to be satisfied.

Wayne High seeks nominations for Distinguished Alumni Medal

The call has been put out for nominations for the Wayne Memorial High School Distinguished Alumni Medal. The award is presented annual as part of commencement ceremonies at the Wayne high school.

"We have had many outstanding people graduate from Wayne Memorial," said Wayne Memorial Principal Valerie Orr. "Many have contributed significantly the betterment of society on a local, state, national or international level. The Distinguished Alumni Award is our way of honoring an outstanding graduate on an

annual basis."

The prestigious award has become a part of the annual commencement ceremony of Wayne Memorial High School. Each winner is awarded a medal inscribed with the official school seal.

"This is an opportunity for our current graduating class, to hear first hand from a former alumnus who has made his or her mark on society," Orr said.

The most difficult task is to locate the many alumni who have distinguished themselves since their graduation. For that reason, Wayne Memorial is ask-

ing the community to help in its search. Members of the community can nominate a Wayne Memorial graduate by contacting ... Rawson, secretary to the principal, at Wayne Memorial High School, 3001 Fourth St., Wayne, MI 48184 or by calling (734) 419-2206. Nominations are due by Feb. 27.

A "Distinguished Alumni" committee has been established at Wayne Memorial to decide on the recipient for 2009. An announcement of the winner will be made in mid-May. The recipient will be honored at commencement on June 6.

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Conference of Western Wayne taps Wild to serve as chairman

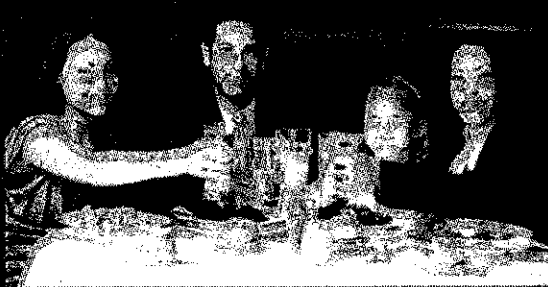
Members of the Conference of Western Wayne have elected Westland Mayor William Wild to serve to chair the executive committee for 2009 and 2010.

The CWW represents 18 Wayne County communities, including Canton, that have collaborated for nearly 30 years to improve public service and create efficiencies by working in a bi-partisan manner.

"Due to our region's declining tax revenues, it will be even more challenging to maintain the level of quality services for our residents," said Wild. "Therefore, the biggest charge of the CWW this year is to work collaboratively to share and consolidate municipal resources so that we can not only protect vital city services, but also stimulate economic development to spur job growth within our region."

The CWW Board of Directors is made up of the mayors and supervisors of all member municipalities. Also elected to the Executive Committee were Wayne Mayor Al Haidous, vice-chair, Plymouth Township Supervisor Richard Reaume as secretary and Northville Township Supervisor Mark Abbo as treasurer. The chair emeritus is Livonia Mayor Jack Kirksey.

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OUR VIEWS

Staff changes will not change our focus

These are difficult times we are enduring. It seems everywhere you look people are losing their jobs or their homes, or both. For too many people things that have been taken for granted, like putting food on the table or paying the mortgage, have become a struggle.

The newspaper business has gone through its share of troubles just like most sectors of the economy. We have not been spared here at the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers*. Recently we had to lay off some quality people, including several people in our editorial department. Unfortunately one of those people was Canton reporter Tiffany L. Parks.

Most of the people reading this can relate to the situation, having to watch a respected colleague take a layoff, not because of performance but due to this rotten economy. Ms. Parks spent the better part of three years getting to know the Canton community, covering its government, its business community and most importantly its people. Her colorful stories were almost always uplifting and full of hope. Hopefully you had the chance to meet with her. If you did, you probably feel like her colleagues — sad that she is leaving.

However, neither her departure nor the other changes that our newspaper is going through changes our core mission here at the *Canton Observer* — and that is to do the very best bringing you, our readers, the important news that impacts the lives of the people in the Canton community. That has always been our mission.

The new Canton reporter isn't exactly new to the newspaper or to Canton. Tony Bruscato, who is a longtime Canton resident, will take over the duties of covering Canton. You may recognize the name, because Tony has been covering the Plymouth-Canton school district for many years. He has been with the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers* for more than a decade, spending most of the time covering the city of Plymouth along with the school district. Like all of you, Tony has a great interest in the Canton community.

Tony is very much looking forward to his new beat. The learning curve won't be so great because he already knows the main players in the community, as well as many of the good people he calls neighbor. Still he would love to hear from you, especially if you have a good story idea to share about a business or neighbor. He can be reached at (313) 222-2637 or via e-mail him at tbruscato@hometownlife.com. Chances are you will even run into him out in the community. Don't hesitate to say hello.

Along with Editor Kurt Kuban and Sports Editor Ed Wright, Tony is devoted to providing the very best news coverage to you — our readers. We will never lose sight of that goal.



Bruscato

State must fight the urge to raid trust fund

Since the advent of the conservation movement, the state of Michigan has had few successes like the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund. The fund, which derives its revenue from royalties earned on oil, gas and mineral extraction from state lands, was initiated in 1976. Since then, it has provided more than \$600 million for the acquisition of important recreational lands and to develop state and local recreation assets.

During a time of strained budgets, especially in Lansing, the trust fund has been a constant and dependable source of revenue for the Department of Natural Resources to fund important projects and conserve vital natural lands from the onslaught of commercial development. This year alone, it will dole out more than \$48 million to fund 81 projects across the state.

Some of those projects include \$450,000 for Redford Township to build a non-motorized trail along Bell Creek; \$500,000 to develop and renovate the Bald Mountain Shooting Range in Oakland County; \$1,452,500 to acquire 2.5 miles of railway corridor in West Bloomfield for a recreational trail; and \$1,405,000 to acquire 67 acres for a nature preserve along an important tributary of the Huron River in Scio Township. This year, Canton Township will also receive a \$350,000 grant to construct six pedestrian bridges along the Lower Rouge Recreation Trail.

Unfortunately, its dependability is now endangering the trust fund. A transportation funding task force created by the state Legislature in 2007 to find ways to fix the state's aging road infrastructure recently released a report recommending the state "redirect all or a portion" of the trust fund to address transportation needs.

While we recognize the state needs to address its crumbling roadways, raiding the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund is not the way to do it. That's not what the voters of this state intended when they overwhelmingly supported the trust fund several times, most recently in 2002. Besides, to divert funding from the trust fund would require a change in the state's constitution, which makes it unlikely.

Still, environmental groups have raised the red flag, because they know how important the trust fund has been in conserving some of the state's most important natural landscapes for current and future generations. State lawmakers should resist the temptation to raid the trust fund. It is one of the true environmental success stories in this state — one that has benefited all Michigan residents. Hopefully, it will continue to do so for many years to come.



What are we paying for?

I have lived in Canton for 25 years and the snow removal program from Wayne County has never been so bad in the years I have lived here in Brentwood Estates, south of Ford Road and west of Morton Taylor. I pay my taxes on time and expect the same results, so far in 2009 this sub has not seen a snow plow to this date. Times are tough and reductions are almost mandatory in today's economy. Although there has been no cost reductions as recorded to snow plowing in this subdivision with no reduction in payments for the services in which we pay for.

The collection department does not hesitate to send collection bills for the services that are part of our government agreements, although they will contest any no payments aggressively. We pay our tax dollars and would like our tax dollars in our sub shared with the rest of Wayne County as our government officials were voted to protect and serve.

Is it too much to ask for our share of services, or will they just keep taking our money, and disregard the services in which we depend on.

Robert Ross
Canton

Plowing has been terrible

I thought the snow plowing has never been so lax as it has been this winter. At the very least they should target the main roads a bit quicker ... like Ford, Michigan Avenue, and Canton Center roads. It was very interesting to me as I finally made into Plymouth to work, how great those roads were.

Rose Burns
Canton

Radio program is unique

With a big smile, I read your awesome article on Swirls Café ("Cupcake maker taps into a 'sweeter' lifestyle," Jan. 8) and decided to write to you. Swirls Café was my first client to advertise with Church and State Talk Radio. Our production team believes they make the best cupcakes around!

Immediately following the historical presidential election for Barack Obama, Church & State Talk show was created. I was asked to be the host and help produce the show, as an educational, empowering and informative production for the Metropolitan Detroit area and surrounding cities. We focus on national and local political issues and religion.

Our team is composed of innovative young talent and seasoned professionals working together. Our mission is to educate our community on the political issues that matter to our struggling economic society by interviewing national and local political and religion leaders in a bipartisan approach. We will present special Washington segments featuring Team Obama and couples in politics. Currently these segments are with Jackie Martin, CNN Contributing Analyst Roland Martin's wife.

Church & State is the first radio program of its kind in Metropolitan Detroit, to explore the religion of politics and the politics of religion. We strive diligently to interview guests on each show. As a Canton resident and the host of Church & State Talk Radio, I was pleased to have our Congressmen, Thaddeus McCotter, accept

our live interview invitation. Congressman McCotter was our first male guest.

Please take the time to read our guest book and see what Detroiters are saying at www.ChurchandStateUnited.com. We air live at 1 p.m. Saturdays on 1500-AM. We are streamlined live at www.AM1500WLQV.com.

Thank You.

Nina Calahan-James
Canton

Deal or no deal?

I purchased a copy of the *Observer* and read the article about the Plymouth-Canton Schools and its need to reduce costs.

My company attempted to get business with the district and other school districts in Michigan, but we ran into the dreaded "not invented here" syndrome. My company, Pangea Waste Systems LLC, based in Northville, works with a wide variety of businesses to audit their trash removal programs. We are very successful in reducing these costs by tens of thousands of dollars (check out our Web site at www.pangea-waste.com).

We are wrapping up a project this week with a large multinational chemical company based in Midland. We've saved them over \$20,000 and obtained a refund from their trash hauler of \$7,000. This from one of their smallest operating sites where they employ 80 people.

Just think about what we could achieve at a school district with 24 schools?

The savings we generate for our clients won't come from funds for instruction or impact any unionized personnel. The money's already been allocated in the school district's 2008-2009 budget.

Superintendent Fiegel and school board President Judy Mardigian stated in the article that "every line item" will be looked at, and that they will need "a lot of creativity and a lot of ideas" to help the district improve its fiscal stance.

Well, I'm calling them both out. School districts employ a person called "the business official." This is typically the person who will "bid out" the trash removal programs for all of the schools. The problem is they don't want someone like me to investigate these costs because when we find tens of thousands of dollars in savings, their boss will wonder what the heck they've been doing for the past 20 years?

I know I'm opining here, but the fact is that we've been doing this for over 11 years, and each project has been successful in generating substantial and sustainable savings for our clients.

We're willing to give the school district another shot. They have nothing to lose and savings to gain.

Deal or no deal?

Michael J. Smith
President, Pangea Waste Systems LLC
Northville

Leading America back

Even as the epic failure of the Bush administration recedes into the past, there is a concerted and widespread attempt by Republicans and conservative political operatives to rewrite the disastrous history of the past eight years in America. Conservative attempts to rewrite history are nothing new; in fact, the practice of first framing and then

incessantly repeating myths and outright falsehoods is central to the modern practice of their failed ideology.

Examples of this abound, such as the often repeated myth that America was founded as a "Christian" nation. Unfortunately, the corporate media has often willingly enabled and continues to enable such nonsense; journalistic fact-checking of right-wing disinformation is often lost or drowned out by the Republican noise machine.

Defenders of the Bush disaster frequently try to paint the administration in a more favorable light with the specious claim that "he kept us safe for the past seven years," while conveniently ignoring the multiple failures of the Bush administration that led to the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks to begin with. Moreover, the "kept us safe" claim is factually erroneous — remember the anthrax attacks a few months later — and is easily debunked by the application of the most rudimentary logic. It is akin to carelessly leaving a young child unattended by a swimming pool and then after the inevitable tragedy occurs, keeping all the other children locked in the house for seven years, and then bragging you kept them safe.

In fact, the Bush administration has left America much less safe than when he took office, thanks to a belligerent foreign policy highlighted by the foolish invasion of Iraq under false pretenses, ultimately the worst foreign policy debacle in United States history. Bush policies have alienated allies, destroyed the goodwill of the world community and served as a recruiting tool for even more foreign terrorists.

In spite of the desperate historical revisionism being undertaken by defenders of America's worst president ever, the destruction that the Bush administration leaves behind is deep and wide. We have a shredded Constitution, a wrecked economy, a worsened environment, a shattered multilateralism, a strengthened plutocracy, a partisan legal system, an undermined scientific community, crippled national security, trashed diplomacy, battered checks and balances. These cannot be fixed in a few months or even a few years.

Godspeed to Barack Obama and his administration, as he leads America back from the train wreck of Republican political malfeasance.

Joe Golonka
Westland

SHARE YOUR OPINIONS

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

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

QUOTABLE

"We did a citizens survey in 2004 and the No. 1 thing on the list were trails and walking paths. It's been a combination of public and private partnerships, people working together, to get it done. It exposes people to the Lower Rouge River that nobody has ever had access to, and it's absolutely beautiful."

— Canton Leisure Services Director Ann Conklin discussing the Lower Rouge Recreation Trail, which will soon receive five new pedestrian bridges that will link the different segments of the trail

Celebrating diversity

Hundreds show up at Village Theater to celebrate King's legacy

BY TONY BRUSCATO
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The first Martin Luther King, Jr. celebration in Canton Township drew 20 people to the Canton Public Library.

Monday night - seven years later - the event which honors King and his struggles to bring peace among all races attracted a diverse crowd of 350 to the Theater at Cherry Hill.

"I will try to keep peace, make the world more peaceful and try to change the world ... and not take as much for granted," said Joshua Mayberry, 13, of Canton, after attending the nearly two-hour celebration. "Martin Luther King really had an impact because we now have an African-American president."

People young and old and of all races joined in the celebration, which included young dancers and singers from Youth Under Construction, which used their talents to spread the word of peace; as well as keynote musician Robert B. Jones, who demonstrated - through music - that what we perceive as differences among people may be closer to being one in the same. With his guitar slung over his shoulder, Jones played music from the days of slavery to the present, telling stories that indicated blacks and whites had many common cultural themes, not just differences.

"We should celebrate diversity because we're all produced by it," Jones told the audience. "We have no rock 'n roll if you have no rhythm and blues. You have no rhythm and blues if you have no gospel. You have no gospel if you have no blues. You have no blues if you have no spiritual. It all comes out of the same American mix."

Tony Kirk, 52, of Canton said he felt it his duty to be at the celebration, which paid tribute King.

"For a community like Canton, when you try to get as much cultural diversity as possible and the effort they



Musician Robert B. Jones played music from the days of slavery to the present, telling stories that indicated blacks and whites have many common cultural themes, not just differences.

do, you want to be a part of it," said Kirk, who called it an honor to be with his wife and children who are 2-, 5- and 17-years-old at the event. "I just

try to impress upon them it's good to understand the history, the struggles other folks went through; and also understand this movement hasn't

just started now, it began a long time ago and we're seeing some of it come to life now."

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



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Five-year-old Kendali Kirk enjoys the reception before the beginning of Canton's Martin Luther King Jr. celebration.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

At Canton Township's Village Theater at Cherry Hill, Deidra Clements and Craig Stemas perform hip-hop songs with a positive message. They perform with Youth Under Construction, an organization using music for life-transforming opportunities.

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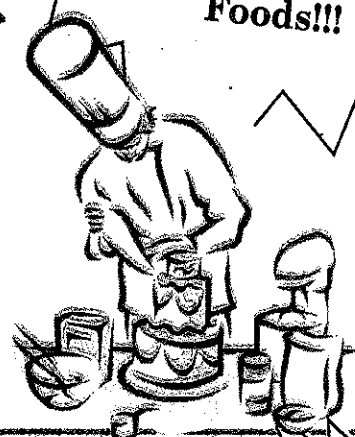
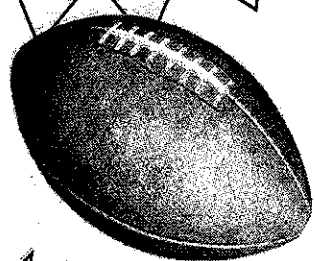
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SPORTS

B

(CP)

Thursday, January 22, 2009

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

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

www.hometownlife.com

LIVONIA FRANKLIN 37, CANTON 34

Up for grabs

Patriots survive late Chiefs rally to post key KLAA win

BY ED WRIGHT
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The unofficial theme song for Tuesday night's girls basketball clash between Canton and Livonia Franklin was *Let's Get Physical*.

From the opening tip to the final buzzer, bodies collided like demolition derby cars in an ongoing struggle for rebounds, loose balls and all-important positioning.

At game's end, no one would have blamed the Patriots if they were humming *I Will Survive* after they held off a furious Chiefs rally to pull out a 37-34 road victory.

Franklin, which improved to 8-1 overall and 1-0 in the KLAA South Division, won despite scoring just two fourth-quarter points.

Canton's second straight setback dropped it to 7-2 overall and 0-1 in the division.

"Considering Canton is one of the best teams in the division and we were playing at their place without one of our starters (Senneca Scott), this was a big win," Franklin coach Dave McCall said. "With Senneca out and another girl sick, we had to play with some different combinations tonight, but the girls pulled it out."

The Chiefs trailed 35-24 with eight minutes to play before mounting a defense-led

rally that all but suffocated the Patriots' offense following Amanda Borieo's fast-break layup two minutes into the quarter.

Trailing 37-26 with just under six minutes to play, Alyssa Cottrell ignited the Canton rally with a 15-foot jumper.

With 3:15 left, freshman guard Robyn Mack drained a 17-footer to close the gap to 37-30.

The play that epitomized the rough-and-tumble action unfolded with 49 seconds to play when three players — Canton's Kari Schmitt and Franklin's Brittany Taylor and Chelsea Williams — all hit the deck simultaneously for a loose ball.

All three players got up slowly, but it was Schmitt who was awarded two free throws, which she calmly sank to bring Canton to within 37-32.

Ten seconds later, following a Canton steal, Schmitt was fouled and swished two more freebies to make it 37-34.

Three turnovers (two by Franklin, one by Canton) and 30 seconds later, Schmitt ended up at the line again.

After missing the first free throw, she purposely tossed the second one off the rim; however, Franklin controlled the rebound to seal the victory.

"It boils down to handling the

Please see **HOOPS, B3**



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton's CarolAnn Sexauer (21) and Livonia Franklin's Amanda Borieo battle for a rebound during Tuesday night's KLAA South Division contest. The Patriots won, 37-34.

Sidelines

SPARQ challenge

Canton-based Velocity Sports Performance will be holding a Nike SPARQ Challenge at 3 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 7, for baseball players age 12 or older.

Players can receive an official Nike SPARQ Rating to compare their athleticism to other baseball players across the country.

To register, call (734) 485-2561 or visit www.velocitysp.com/canton.

Velocity Sports Performance is located at 46615 Michigan Avenue in Canton.

Coaches: Please report results

Local high school athletic coaches are encouraged to report results of their teams' games to *Observer* Sports Editor Ed Wright.

Results can be phone in to Wright at (734) 578-2767 or e-mailed to him at ewright@hometownlife.com.

The deadline for the Thursday edition of the *Observer* is 11 p.m. Tuesday. Sunday's deadline is 11 p.m. Friday.

Olech nets honor

Madonna University forward Kim Olech (Plymouth) was named Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference Player of the Week in women's basketball after recording a pair of double-doubles as the Crusaders went 1-1.

Olech scored a career-high 20 points and grabbed a career-best 21 rebounds Wednesday in MU's win over Siena Heights and then came back Saturday to drop 13 points and grab a like number of rebounds against No. 24 Aquinas.

Olech extended her double-double streak to four straight and her total for the season to eight.

For the week, she scored 33 points, grabbed 34 rebounds, had seven blocks and two steals while shooting 11-for-12 from the free-throw line.

My link to Obama: pickup basketball

As I write this column on Inauguration Day, I realize I have at least three things in common with Barack Obama and, unfortunately, one of them isn't a degree from an Ivy League university (although I've often heard Central Michigan University referred to as the "Harvard of the Midwest").

We are both 47 years old, left-handed and — most importantly — we have a shared passion for pickup basketball.

As I read a recent *Sports Illustrated* article ("The Audacity of Hoops") that described our newest president's love for the informal but most intense brand of basketball — where there are no coaches, no fans (except the ones attached to the gym ceilings), no refs and often a no-autopsy/no-foul understanding between players — I found myself nodding in agreement with the words that described President Obama's favorite recreation-based hobby.

Powerful game

Pickup hoops is an activity that

has the power to turn strangers into friends after just a few trips down the court as mutual respect can be generated with a single pick or one instinctive back-door pass.

High-fives and fist-bumps are readily exchanged — even though some high-fivers and fist-bumpers met five minutes earlier.

In a cool kind of way, a person's character — good or bad — is often exposed on the pickup basketball court. The cherry-pickers probably cut corners in the real world, too, while the unheralded, in-the-paint "bangers" are the ones most likely to pull over on the freeway to help a senior citizen change a flat tire.

Three magic words

And I'm sure the president and a large majority of my pickup brethren would agree: Three of the sweetest words our ears can spak in during a back-and-forth, no-easy-points game are: "Next basket wins" — especially when the gym is packed and a loss means your team is sitting out the next three games.

Please see **WRIGHT, B4**



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

They've got game

Pictured are four of the MRPA Hoop Shoot age-division champions who were crowned following Monday's annual competition at the Summit on the Park. Pictured (left to right) are Mitchell McKenzie (8-9 champ), Nathan Kelly (10-11 champ), Evan Horne and Zach Hardy, who won the 14-15 title. At left, Eleven-year-old Evan Horne focuses on the basket during Monday's MRPA Hoop Shoot competition at the Summit on the Park. Thirty-five youngsters competed in the event, which was hosted by the Michigan Recreation and Parks Association. All first-place finishers advance to regional competition with an opportunity to move on to the state finals. Not pictured is girls winner Sarah Miller.



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GUYS' NIGHT OUT - 2-paks starting at \$59

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THIS SUNDAY, 1/25 vs. ROCKETS • 6:30 PM

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SWIMMING RESULTS

CANTON 119 LIVONIA CHURCHILL 67
Jan. 15 at Canton
200-yard medley relay: 1. Canton (Victor Zhang, Ryan Boes, Jay Jin, Richard Zhang), 1:46.96; 2. Canton, 1:55.45; 3. Churchill, 2:05.44.
200 freestyle: 1. Eddie Koeltzer (C), 2:03.83; 2. David Vincentini (LC), 2:05.89; 3. Robert Goodwin (C), 2:06.46.
200 IM: 1. Jay Jin (C), 2:07.82; 2. Chris Krebs (C), 2:23.38; 3. Brandon Tolinski (C), 2:25.23.
50 freestyle: 1. Richard Zhang (C), 23.17; 2. Patrick Jenner (C), 24.05; 3. Nate Larsen (LC), 24.89.
1-meter diving: 1. Andrew Richards (LC), 200.10 points; 2. Matt Figlewicz (C), 193.55; 3. Travis Holt (LC), 187.40.
100 butterfly: 1. Richard Zhang (C), 57.06; 2. Brandon Tolinski (C), 1:02.76; 3. Alex Mailisky (C), 1:03.91.
100 freestyle: 1. Victor Zhang (C), 49.74; 2. Nate Larsen (LC), 56.27; 3. Evan Champine (C), 56.44.
500 freestyle: 1. Jordan Gorzalski (C), 5:26.71; 2. David Vincentini (LC), 5:35.36; 3. Robert Goodwin (C), 5:49.35.
200 freestyle relay: 1. Churchill (Alex Lamerand, Nate Larsen, Greg Van Gorp, David Vincentini), 1:45.71; 2. Canton, 1:49.91; 3. Churchill, 2:00.79.
100 backstroke: 1. Victor Zhang (C), 56.06; 2. Jay Jin (C), 59.87; 3. Chris Krebs (C), 1:06.50.
100 breaststroke: 1. Ryan Boes (C), 1:11.95; 2. Eric Tian (C), 1:15.84; 3. Jacob Dillon (C), 1:19.12.
400 freestyle relay: 1. Churchill (Nate Larsen, Richard Scully, David Vincentini, Greg Van Gorp), 3:57.17; 2. Canton, 4:12.00; 3. Churchill, 4:19.66.

Plymouth-Canton Little League



Spring Registration Walk-in Registration

Jan. 24, 2009
12-5pm • High Velocity Sports
 46245 Michigan Avenue, Canton

Feb. 14, 2009
11am-4pm • Plaza Lanes
 42001 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth

Registration also available online at:
www.ply-canll.com

Leagues Offered

League is open to all Plymouth, Plymouth Township and Canton Township residents

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Now Offering Coach Pitch (ages 6-8)

Minor League (ages 7-10)
Major League (ages 10-12)
Junior League (ages 13-14)

Plymouth-Canton Little League
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A Honeybaked title

The Honeybaked hockey team captured the 1994 Birth Year North American Silver Sticks title Jan. 8-11 in Port Huron when it defeated Compuware, 4-3, in the championship game. Thirty-two teams from across the country competed in the four-day tournament. Among the standouts for the winners were Canton's Brandon Hope, a goalie; and Plymouth resident Cameron Yarwood. Pictured (front row from left) are Christian Lampasso, Brandon Hope, Sheldon Dries, Vincent Brophay, Nick Schilkey, (second row from left) Trevor Cope, Nolan Gluchowski, Connor Wood, Cameron Yarwood, Max lafrate, (third row from left) Mitch Wedding, Bryan Yim, (fourth row from left) Joshua Henke, Alex Archibald, BJ Kolcz, Jess Young, (back row from left) Aaron Soave and Ben Israel. Not pictured is Grant Webermin.

Galaxy of stars shines in Chiefs' win

BY ED WRIGHT
 OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Picking an MVP for Tuesday night's 58-51 comeback victory over host Livonia Franklin was almost as difficult as picking the winning numbers in that night's Mega Millions lottery game for Canton coach Dan Colligan.

There were too many candidates to choose from. "We received key contributions from a lot of players, especially in the fourth quarter," said Colligan, whose team improved to 4-3 overall and 1-0 in the Kensington Lakes Activities Association's South Division. "Dan Stoney and Sheriff Hassanien both hit big threes in the fourth quarter, Kevin Weisz went 6-for-6 from the free throw line, Kyle Biega hit two big free throws and Dietrich Lever didn't have a turnover even though he was controlling the ball most of the time."

Weisz, a junior reserve forward, led the Chiefs with 13 points while Lever recorded 11.

BOYS PREP HOOP

Hassanien, Stoney and Brandon Duffey netted seven points a piece.

Jeff Poole and Connor Leidal both scored 14 points to lead the Patriots.

Canton forged a 23-18 half-time lead before the resurgent Pats stormed back to seize a 38-35 advantage with eight minutes to play.

"Kierre Daniels and Brandon Duffey did a great job defensively on Poole," said Colligan. "He had 14 points, but he had to work for them."

The Chiefs were stellar from the stripe, nailing 19 of 23 attempts. Franklin hit 11 of 17 freebies.

JOHN GLENN 65, PLYMOUTH 50: On Tuesday in Westland, the Rockets scored 40 points in transition and drained eight of nine free throws to hold off the Wildcats in the KLAA South Division opener for both squads. The Rockets improved to 5-1

overall while the 'Cats slipped to 4-3.

"They forced us to run our offense too far from the basket and we didn't cash in on a lot of the layups we did get," lamented Plymouth coach Tom Van Wagoner. "Our transition defense wasn't good either."

Austin Anderson enjoyed a break-out performance for the Rockets, torching the Wildcats for 26 points. Anderson swished a trio of first-half triples.

Jon Swagerty also played well for Glenn, netting 10 points.

Senior guard Cliff Buttermore paced Plymouth with 12 points, nine the result of three threes.

Sophomore forward Justin Moss added 11 points while Marquee Taylor chipped in with eight off the bench.

The Rockets led 11-8 after one quarter, 30-23 at the half and 43-33 with eight minutes to play.

Plymouth didn't help itself at the charity stripe, sinking just nine of 21 attempts.

ewright@hometownlife.com | (734) 578-2767

Penguins play well in 3 setbacks

Unfortunately for the Plymouth-Canton-Salem girls hockey team, the flu season has coincided with one of the toughest portions of their schedule the past 10 days.

As a result, the Penguins dropped three straight contests — two of them nip-and-tuck battles — to drop to 1-11 on the season.

"We've actually played pretty well lately, but we've had a lot of illness and injuries, so we've been less than 100 percent," said PCS coach Lori Callahan.

Last Friday, the Penguins dropped an 8-0 mercy rule-shortened decision to Ann Arbor, which never looked back after tallying six first-period goals.

On Jan. 13, the Penguins fell to host Cranbrook-Kingswood, 4-1.

PCS jumped ahead 1-0 49 seconds into the game when Amanda Heisler scored off assists from Jenny Fedon and Rebecca Majszak, but the Penguins were unable to put together much offense the remaining 44 minutes.

Callahan praised the play of freshman goal-tender Emily Bullock.

"She kept us in the game," said Callahan, whose team trailed just 2-1 with 15 minutes to play.

On Jan. 9, the Penguins dropped a heart-breaking 3-2 setback at University Liggett.

The hosts broke a 2-all draw with a goal with 18.6 seconds left.

With her team trailing 2-0 in the third, Heisler netted a pair of unassisted goals. Bullock sparked again between the pipes for PCS, which is idle until Jan. 28.

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USA WEEKEND MAGAZINE

This Sunday in... **Observer & Eccentric** and **Mirror**
 NEWSPAPERS

Davis shines in Rocks' 39-30 win over Mustangs

Salem's girls basketball team used a strong fourth-quarter effort to pull away from Northville, 39-30, Tuesday night in the Kensington Lakes Activities Association Central Division contest for both teams.

The Rocks improved to 3-6 overall while the Mustangs dropped to 4-5.

Senior forward Chelsea Davis paced the winners with 18 points, nine rebounds and seven blocks.

"Chelsea's really been coming around the past week," said Salem coach Fred Thomann. "She came up big at the line in the fourth quarter for us, making six of eight."

Junior guard Sara Stone added eight points for Salem while Tracy Whalen contributed six. All four of Victoria Brotz's points came in the pivotal fourth quarter when Salem outscored Northville, 14-9.

"Rachel Norman didn't score for us, but she came in when Brett de Bear fouled out early in the fourth quarter and really did a nice job," Thomann said.

Chelsea Atzinger led Northville with 14 points. Julia Ramey also played well, netting 11.

Salem led 9-6 after one quarter, 16-13 at the break



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth's Megan Quinlan, pictured during a game earlier this season, netted five points in the Wildcats' impressive victory over Westland John Glenn Tuesday night.

and 25-21 with eight minutes to play.

The Rocks ruled the paint, blocking 12 Mustang shots.

PLYMOUTH 46, JOHN GLENN 30: On Tuesday at Plymouth, the Wildcats won their KLA South opener thanks in large part to Kelsi Robinson's 15 points. Shaakira Haywood (10

GIRLS PREP HOOP

points) and Megan Quinlan (five) also excelled for the triumphant 'Cats.

Nyah McReynolds led the Rockets with 10 points. Brittany Holbrook registered seven.

DETROIT COMMUNITY 54, SALEM 32: On Saturday at Community, the hosts prevailed in a game that was much closer than the final score would indicate.

The unbeaten and state-ranked Hurricanes, who finished runner-up in the state in Class B last spring, led just 22-18 at the half and 32-23 with eight minutes to play.

"With four minutes to go, we were only down nine and they went on a run," said Salem coach Fred Thomann. "I was very pleased with how the girls played. They played very hard. It looks like we may be turning the corner."

The loss dropped the Rocks to 2-6 heading into this week's first week of crucial Kensington Lakes Activities Association divisional play.

Senior forward Chelsea Davis led the Rocks against Community with nine points and eight rebounds.

Junior guard Brett de Bear added eight points while Victoria Brotz chipped in with seven.

HOOPS

FROM PAGE B1

ball under pressure, taking care of the ball, making our shots and defending at the other end," Canton coach Brian Samulski said. "I thought we attacked their defense well, but we have to shoot with more confidence."

"I didn't like the way we defended in the first half, giving up 25 points, but we did a lot better job in the second when

they only scored 12."

On a night solid statistics were hard to come by, Franklin's Brianna Taylor registered a double-double (11 points and 10 rebounds). Brittany Taylor and Amanda Borioe both added eight points for the winners, who won in spite of 23 turnovers.

Kari Schmitt led the Chiefs with 10 points — eight of which came from her 8-of-10 marksmanship from the foul line. CarolAnn Sexauer added eight points (all in the first half) for

the Chiefs, while Mack chipped in with six. Sexauer yanked down a team-high eight boards.

Canton struggled from the field, hitting just 12-of-47 shots (27 percent). The Chiefs were particularly frigid in the third quarter, when they connected on just 2-of-18 shots.

The Chiefs were better from the line, where they went 10-for-16.

Franklin made 17-of-36 field goals and 3-of-7 free throws.

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Saturday, January 31, 2009

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10:00 to 10:30 a.m. - Warm-up time

10:30 to 11:45 a.m. - Basketball Clinic

11:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. - Coach's Corner

Boys & Girls Grades 4-6

Noon to 12:30 p.m. - Warm-up time

12:30 to 1:45 p.m. - Basketball Clinic

1:45 to 2:30 p.m. - Coach's Corner

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CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH

To all residents and other interested parties: Agenda's and Minutes for the Township of Plymouth Board of Trustees Meetings scheduled for January 20, February 17, March 10 & 24, April 21, May 12 & 26 and June 9 & 23 are available for review under the Reference Desk Page of the Township Website: www.plymouthtwp.org.

Minutes and agenda's are also posted in the Clerk's Office at Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty Road, Plymouth, for public perusal.

Joe Bridgman, CMC
Clerk, Charter Township of Plymouth

Publish: January 22, February 15, March 8, April 19, May 10, and June 7, 2009

CE08840268-2x2.5

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON ACCESS TO PUBLIC MEETINGS

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

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

Publish: January 22, 2009

CE08840447-2x2.5

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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, February 5, 2009 for the following:

PLANT PROTECTANTS & FERTILIZERS

Bids may be picked up at the Finance and Budget Department, on our website at 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

Publish: January 22, 2009

CE08840452-2x2



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, February 5, 2009 for the following:

TREE PLANTING PROGRAM SPRING 2009

Bids may be picked up at the Finance and Budget Department, on our website at 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

Publish: January 22, 2009

CE08840485-2x4

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Canton Township, 1150 S Canton Center, Canton MI will accept sealed proposals at the Office of the Clerk up to 3:00 p.m. Thursday February 5, 2009 for Engineering Design and Construction Management Services for the design and construction of the 2009 Water Main Replacement and Rehabilitation Program. The proposals must address the company's ability to provide the following services:

- Design of cost effective, low-impact water main replacement/rehabilitation projects.
- Demonstrate extensive design and construction experience with alternative methods of water main replacement; including slip-lining, pipe-bursting, and directional drilling.
- Demonstrate successful project management on previous projects.
- Coordinate and apply for necessary permits.
- Prepare bid documents and specifications.
- Construction management, administration and inspection.

Requests for Proposal Documents are available to pick up at 2nd Floor, Public Works, Canton Township Hall, 1150 South Canton Center Road, Canton, MI 48188. 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. The Township reserves the right to reject any or all proposals.

Terry Bennett, Clerk

Publish: January 22, 2009

CE08840495-2x4.5

Charter Township of Canton Board Proceedings-January 13, 2009

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton was held Tuesday, January 13, 2009, at 1150 Canton Center S., Canton, Michigan. Supervisor LaJoy called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Roll Call Members Present: Anthony, Bennett, LaJoy, McLaughlin, Taj, Williams. Members Absent: Caccamo. Staff Present: Executive Director Santomaro, Director Eva, Director Conklin, Director Faas, Dave Medley. Adoption of Agenda Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried by all members present. **Approval of Minutes** Motion by Bennett, supported by Taj to approve the Board Minutes of December 9, 2008. Motion carried by all members present. **Payment of Bills** Motion by McLaughlin, supported by Anthony to approve payment of the bills as presented. Motion carried by all members present. **1. RECOGNITION OF TONY CALDERONI FOR HIS SERVICE TO THE MERIT COMMISSION.** Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to adopt the resolution recognizing the service of Tony Calderoni for his role as a Merit Commissioner. Motion carried by all members present. **CONSENT CALENDAR: Item 1. CONSIDER REAPPOINTMENTS TO FIRE BOARD OF REVIEW.** (PSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to re-appoint William Fishback and David Klim to the Fire Board of Appeals, terms to expire October 10, 2012. Motion carried by all members present. **Item 2. CONSIDER AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP CLERK TO SIGN THE ANNUAL MDOT PERMIT AND PERFORMANCE RESOLUTION FOR 2009.** (MSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to approve the Township Clerk as the designated officer to execute the 2009 Annual Permit for Underground Utility Operations within the Michigan Department of Transportation right-of-way. Furthermore, I move to authorize the Township Clerk to certify the Performance Resolution for Governmental Agencies. Motion carried by all members present. **GENERAL CALENDAR: Item 1. CONSIDER AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP CLERK TO SIGN THE INTER-AGENCY AGREEMENT WITH WAYNE COUNTY FOR THE ROUND 9 DETENTION BASIN ENHANCEMENT GRANTS.** (MSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to authorize the Township Clerk to sign the Inter-Agency Agreement with Wayne County for the Pheasant Run Golf Club Detention Basin Enhancements. Motion carried by all members present. **Item 2. SALT PURCHASE FOR 2009 WINTER SEASON.** (CLS) Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to approve purchase of bulk salt from Wayne County, Division of Roads, 29900 Goddard Road, Detroit, MI 48242 in the amount not to exceed \$30,000. Funds to be taken from the following accounts: 101-270-79.930.0070 (Administrative-Heritage Park-Grounds Maintenance) for \$4,000, 101-270-83.930.0070 (Administrative-Freedom Park-Grounds Maintenance) for \$500, 101-270-84.930.0070 (Administrative-Summit-Grounds Maintenance) for \$2,000, 101-270-81.930.0070 (Administrative-Flodin Park-Grounds Maintenance) for \$500, 101-270-85.930.0070 (Administrative-Griffin Park-Grounds Maintenance) for \$500, 101-270-86.930.0070 (Administrative-Independence Park-Grounds Maintenance) for \$1,000, 101-270-87.930.0070 (Administrative-Victory Park-Grounds Maintenance) for \$2,500, 101-270-88.930.0070 (Administrative-Other Sites-Grounds Maintenance) for \$19,000. Motion carried by all members present. **Item 3. RENEW OAKLAND FUEL CONTRACT FOR PARKS AND GOLF MAINTENANCE OPERATIONS.** (CLS) Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to award the purchase of unleaded gas and diesel fuel for the Parks and Pheasant Run Golf Club operations to Oakland Fuels, 3943 Airport Rd., Waterford, MI 48329 in the amount of \$110,000. Funds to be taken from the Parks budget account #101-270-50.860/Transportation for \$75,000, and the Pheasant Run Golf Club budget account #584-756-75.860/Transportation for \$35,000. Motion carried by all members present. **Item 4. AWARD CONTRACT FOR SEPTIC TANK REPLACEMENT.** (FBD) Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to award the contract for emergency septic tank replacement at a residence on Denton Road to Al Pearson & Son Septic Tank Cleaning Co., Inc. in the amount of \$21,243 plus a 10 percent contingency of \$2,124, for a purchase order total of \$23,367 (CDBG Affordable Housing Contingency, Account #274-666.970.0070). Motion carried by all members present. **Item 5. AWARD 11 HOUSING REHABILITATION CONTRACTS.** (FBD) Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to award the contract for a housing rehabilitation on Cather to Trinity General Building Co. in the amount of \$12,102 plus a 10 percent contingency of \$1,210 for a purchase order total of \$13,312 (Affordable Housing Contingency #274-666.970.0070). Motion carried by all members present. Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to award the contract for a housing rehabilitation on Edmuntson to Trinity General Building Co. in the amount of \$13,557 plus a 10 percent contingency of \$1,355 for a purchase order total of \$14,912 (Affordable Housing Contingency #274-666.970.0070). Motion carried by all members present. Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to award the contract for a housing rehabilitation on Hannan to Trinity General Building Co. in the amount of \$22,158 plus a 10 percent contingency of \$2,215 for a purchase order total of \$24,373 (Affordable Housing Contingency #274-666.970.0070). Motion carried by all members present. Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to award the contract for a housing rehabilitation on Buckingham to Trinity General Building Co. in the amount of \$13,983 plus a 10 percent contingency of \$1,398 for a purchase order total of \$15,381 (Affordable Housing Contingency #274-666.970.0070). Motion carried by all members present. Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to award the contract for a housing rehabilitation on Old Michigan Avenue (#1) to Trinity General Building Co. for \$4,975 (Affordable Housing Contingency #274-666.970.0070). Motion carried by all members present. Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to award the contract for a housing rehabilitation on Quaker Hill to Rambaldi Building Co. in the amount of \$7,690 plus a 10 percent contingency of \$769 for a purchase order total of \$8,459 (Affordable Housing Contingency #274-666.970.0070). Motion carried by all members present. Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to award the contract for a housing rehabilitation on Greenwood to Rambaldi Building Co. in the amount of \$6,799 plus a 10 percent contingency of \$679 for a purchase order total of \$7,478 (Affordable Housing Contingency #274-666.970.0070). Motion carried by all members present. Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to award the contract for a housing rehabilitation on Argonne Court to Rambaldi Building Co. in the amount of \$4,178 plus a 10 percent contingency of \$417 for a purchase order total of \$4,595 (Affordable Housing Contingency #274-666.970.0070). Motion carried by all members present. Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to award the contract for a housing rehabilitation on Old Michigan Avenue (#2) to Rambaldi Building Co. in the amount of \$4,744 (Affordable Housing Contingency #274-666.970.0070). Motion carried by all members present. Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to award the contract for a housing rehabilitation on Applewood to ABC's Carpentry in the amount of \$4,820 plus a 10 percent contingency of \$482 for a purchase order total of \$5,302 (Affordable Housing Contingency #274-666.970.0070). Motion carried by all members present. Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to award the contract for a housing rehabilitation on Brandywine to Reflections Building Co. in the amount of \$8,884 plus a 10 percent contingency of \$888 for a purchase order total of \$9,772 (Affordable Housing Contingency #274-666.970.0070). Motion carried by all members present. **Item 6. APPROVE THE GRANT AGREEMENT WITH THE DNR FOR PEDESTRIAN BRIDGES ON LOWER ROUGE RIVER RECREATION TRAIL, INCLUDING AN AMENDED BUDGET.** (FBD) Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to adopt the resolution to approve the grant agreement with the DNR for Pedestrian Bridges on Lower Rouge River Recreation Trail, including an amended Budget. Motion carried by all members present. Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to approve the following budget amendment to the 2009 Community Improvement Fund budget. Increase Revenues: Community Improvement #246-000.695 \$350,000 Fund Balance - Fund Balance Appropriation Increase Appropriations: Capital Outlay—Land #246-750.970.0080 \$350,000, Improvements The budget amendment increases the Community Improvement budget from \$2,332,501 to \$2,682,501. Motion carried by all members present. **Item 7. CONSIDER PURCHASE OF PATROL IN-CAR PRINTERS.** (PSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to waive the bidding and purchase 28 Zebra RW420 Printers, associated hardware, paper and 3-yr warranty in-car printers for patrol vehicles through a State bid from Advanced Public Safety, 500 Fairway Dr. Ste #204, Deerfield, FL 33441 in the amount of \$23,642.08. Funding to come from Police Capital Outlay Computer Equipment account # 207 301 50.970.0010. Motion carried by all members present. **Item 8. CONSIDER PURCHASE OF 5-PATROL MOTOROLA MW810 LAPTOP COMPUTERS.** (PSD) Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin to waive the bidding and purchase five (5) Motorola laptop MW810 workstations through a State bid from Motorola, 1309 E. Algonquin, Schaumburg, IL 60196 in the amount of \$25,975. Funding to come from Police Capital Outlay Computer Equipment account # 207 301 50.970.0010. Motion carried by all members present. Other: Supervisor LaJoy stated there will be a Board Leadership meeting on Saturday January 17, 2009 at 8:30 a.m. at the Holiday Inn Express on Michigan Avenue. Supervisor LaJoy stated there will be a Board Study Session on January 20, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in the Administration Building, First Floor, Board Room, 1150 Canton Center S., Canton, Michigan. **ADJOURN:** Motion by Williams, supported by Taj to adjourn at 7:50 p.m. Motion carried by all members present. — Phil LaJoy, Supervisor — Terry G. Bennett, Clerk — Copies of the complete text of the Board Minutes are available at the Office of the Charter Township of Canton, 1150 S. Canton Center Rd, Canton, MI 48188, during regular business hours and can also be accessed through our web site www.canton-mi.org after Board Approval.

Publish: January 22, 2009

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Ignition vaults to first in XSL

With a dominant 24-14 win over their rivals, the Detroit Ignition took sole position of first place in the Xtreme Soccer League Sunday afternoon at Compuware Arena.

The Ignition's offense was firing on all cylinders as seven different players scored against the visiting Milwaukee Wave.

The victory improved Detroit to 4-2 while the Wave dropped to 4-3.

Detroit wasted no time getting on the scoreboard as the team posted a 6-0 lead in the first quarter with goals from Vahid Assadpour, Drew Ducker and Leo Gibson.

The game's second stanza saw the Wave notch five points, three of which came off the foot of defender J.P. Rodrigues with his third three-point goal of the season.

Detroit was able to secure its lead as it took a 10-5 advantage into halftime thanks to goals from Gibson and Miki Djerisilo.

The two teams traded goals in the third quarter, but Milwaukee's momentum slowed with a three-point dagger from Ignition defender Nate Craft.

The Ignition kept on running as the game came to a close, as Drew Crawford, Worth Sampson and Tino Scicluna netted seven points between them to cap the scoring.

The Ignition returns to action Sunday when it hosts the New Jersey Ironmen (3-3) at 4:35 p.m. at Compuware Arena.

WRIGHT

FROM PAGE B1

And minor discretions in pick-up ball — an ill-advised three or a way-off-target no-look pass — are quickly forgiven with a simple two-word admission: "My bad."

The early years

My pickup hoop days began on the basketball-loving streets of southwest Lansing in the early '70s, when my dad had a 20-foot-by-20-foot court installed in our backyard.

Once the last square inch of cement dried, I instantly became the most popular kid in my neighborhood.

Other than the fact he was a great guy and he wanted to do something nice for his son, my dad's motive was clear-cut in my mind: He didn't want me wasting my afternoons indoors playing "Pong."

Nearly every day after school, the court served as a meeting place for myself and 10 to 12 buddies. We quickly picked teams and played three-on-three tournaments until our moms called us in for dinner.

Nothing stopped us

In the winter, when it snowed, we formed shovel brigades, meticulously cleared the court, then played through the flakes and wind.

Our non-hooping mothers probably wondered why we weren't nearly as diligent when it came to cleaning our bedrooms.

And in the summer, when it was 90 degrees — well, I can't lie — we went inside and played "Pong" — at least until it cooled off.

On Monday nights in the fall,

while our dads played euchre and our moms bowled, my cousin Danny and I flipped on the far-from-illuminating back-porch light and played one-on-one by twos up to 100. The pride-filled games usually came down to the last shot.

Magic-al times

During my teen-age years, I was blessed to have the opportunity to play on the same black-topped, netless outdoor Dwight Rich Middle School courts Earvin "Magic" Johnson had dominated just a few years earlier.

After college, my pickup hoops experience graduated to annual Gus Macker tournaments and in Canton-area gyms and playgrounds, where I've met some great, life-long friends.

My current hoop regimen is limited to driveway contests with my 18-year-old and 8-year-old sons, and twice-a-week lunch-time runs with a great group of 40-and-over guys who have labeled their pickup league "Fossil Basketball." (Allegedly, some of the "Fossil" players were around when Dr. James Naismith hung his first peach basket, but those rumors have not yet been confirmed.)

Ultimately, when my number is up and it's time to elevate to the golden gym floor in the sky, I hope I go out like my all-time favorite player Pete Maravich, whose final heartbeat came while playing in a pickup basketball game.

My only condition: It happens in an 85-and-over league.

Ed Wright is the sports editor of the Plymouth and Canton Observers. He can be reached at (734) 578-2767 or ewright@hometownlife.com.

Series of Canton pins ties up Salem

BY ED WRIGHT
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

An early-match avalanche of Canton pins proved to be too much for Salem's wrestling team to dig out from Jan. 14 in a cross-campus dual meet in the Rocks' gym.

After Salem's Nick Kim opened the match with a 9-3 triumph over Canton's Daniel Filippelli in the 103-pound showdown, the Chiefs chalked up pins in six of the next seven matches to build a sturdy foundation for their 43-27 victory.

"I thought we were really good 112 through 160," said first-year Canton coach Cory Mancuso. "We won the matches we were sup-

posed to win — the ones we knew we were going to win. Everybody else lost, and some got pinned, which is not good enough."

"Salem is getting better every year. They're very tough in the upper weights and at 103."

Canton's lead swelled to 43-6 after the Chiefs' Keith Zech edged Colin Gross, 7-5, in the 160-pound matcher.

Despite the hefty deficit, the Rocks persevered, winning three of the final four matches — two on pins by Austin Root (189) and Sam Lepper (215).

Canton junior Donnie Watkins remained unbeaten for the season with a 38-second pin at 135.

**CANTON 43
SALEM 27**
Wednesday at Salem
103 pounds: Nick Kim (S) decisioned Daniel Filippelli, 9-3;
112: Waleed Faraj (C) pinned Devan Stratton in 4:57;
119: Carl Lucke (C) pinned Ian Phillips, in 1:59;
125: Mitch Wolski (C) pinned John Bills in 3:06;
130: Jeremy Filippelli (C) pinned Kyle Middleitch in 1:34;
135: Donnie Watkins (C) pinned Jacob McKabo in 38 seconds;
140: James Middleitch (S) dec. Ryan Terrell, 10-5;
145: Brent Winekoff (C) pinned Dillon Hatcher in 45 seconds;
152: Anthony Abro (C) dec. Robbie Schultz, 11-2;
160: Keith Zech (C) dec. Colin Gross, 7-5;
171: Adam Turner (S) dec. Austin Mach, 7-4;
189: Austin Root (S) pinned Patrick Durocher in 29 seconds;
215: Sam Lepper (S) pinned Tyler Bourcier in 1:47;
285: Blake Abbey (S) pinned Julius Malvux in 1:34.

Hackett-led Whalers silence Owen Sound, 5-0

Matt Hackett stopped 37 shots, Matt Caria scored a goal and added three assists and Chris Terry scored twice as the Plymouth Whalers defeated the Owen Sound Attack, 5-0, in an Ontario Hockey League game played Saturday night at Compuware Arena.

Ryan Hayes and Tyler G. Brown added single goals for the Whalers, who won their third straight game while moving to a season-best record 21-19-4-0. Owen Sound is now 16-18-6-4.

Give Plymouth head coach Mike Vellucci an assist as well. When center A.J. Jenks received a game misconduct 11 seconds into the game for the second

fight in the same sequence, Vellucci mixed his lines around seamlessly, moving Tyler G. Brown on the line with Caria and Terry, and shifting Tyler Seguin (who had been playing with Caria and Terry) on a line with Hayes and Tyler J. Brown.

The result? Both lines played well with no loss of efficiency.

After Terry opened the scoring with his team-leading 21st goal of the season at 6:17 of the first period with a shot from the right circle, Hayes scored at the left lip of the Owen Sound crease at 15:18 when Tyler J. Brown intercepted an Attack clearing pass along the right boards in the Owen Sound zone, skated to the right circle and fed

a cross-ice pass to Hayes, who one-timed the puck past Owen Sound goaltender Scott Stajcer.

Hackett's best work came in the second period when Owen Sound outshot Plymouth, 17-5, but Hackett made all the saves. He got help from the video goal judge midway through the period when it appeared that Josh Ocampo stuffed the puck into the Plymouth goal at the left goal post. But after a lengthy review, the goal was waved off.

Meanwhile, Terry scored the only goal of the period at 7:38 when he accepted Caria's pass in front of the Owen Sound goal, switched forward to backhand and stuffed the puck past Stajcer.



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WEEK #21
THE BIG GAME!
SUNDAY,
FEBRUARY 1, 2009
ARIZONA
CARDINALS
VS.
PITTSBURGH
STEELERS

RELIGION CALENDAR

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

Clothing bank

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

Open house

Curriculum fair and open house for families interested in 2009-2010 school year enrollment 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 25, at St. Mary Catholic School (K-8), 34516 Michigan Ave. near Wayne Road, Wayne. Guided tours offered. For more information, call (734) 721-1240.

New worship schedule

Sunday Worship at 8 a.m., Faith Forum at 9 a.m., Worship and Sunday School 10 a.m. Wednesday Worship at 7:30 p.m. in the Chapel, at Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA), 30650 Six Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 427-1414.

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-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. ■ 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 or call (734) 425-5950. Facilitator is Michele Schmidt at (734) 367-0353 or mtschmidt@sbcglobal.net.

Child psychologist to speak

Well-known clinical child psychologist, Dr. Ray Guarendi, speaks about the challenges of Christian parenting 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 27, in the school at St. Michael the Archangel Parish, 111441 Hubbard, south of Plymouth Road, Livonia. Guarendi, who is the father of 10 adopted children, has worked as a clinical psychologist with school districts, Head Start programs, mental health centers, substance abuse programs, juvenile courts, and in private practice and brings a wealth of hands-on experience to his presentation. He is heard regularly on EWTN's "Catholic Answers Live" and hosts a weekday call-in program, The Doctor Is In, on Ave Marie radio out of Ann Arbor. His books include "You're a Better Parent Than You Think" (now in its 25th printing), "Back to the Family," and his newest offering, "Good Discipline, Great Teens." No reservations necessary, all are welcome. For more information, call (734) 261-1455 or visit www.livoniastmichael.org.

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 or send e-mail to 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

Special needs dance

Emmanuel Lutheran Church and their Open Arms Ministry is hosting a Valentine's Dance for adults with special needs, developmental disabilities, and their caregivers 6:30-8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 13, at the church 34567 Seven Mile, between Farmington and Newburgh roads, Livonia. Snacks will be served. Reservations required as space is limited. If you plan to join us, contact Judy Cook at (248) 442-8822 or e-mail to elc-ed@arouunddetroit.biz no later than Friday, Feb. 6. If Livonia schools are closed due to inclement weather, this event will be canceled.

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.

Hunger workshop

Bread For The World, a Christian non-partisan hunger legislation organization, holds a Hunger Offering Of Letters workshop 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 14, at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 814 North Campbell, Royal Oak. Registration and continental breakfast start at 8:30 a.m. For information, contact Bob Krzewinski at (734) 487-9058, e-mail wolverbob@gmail.com or visit www.breadmichigan.org. During an Offering of Letters, individuals and congregations are asked not to donate funds, but write Congress on specific hunger-fighting legislation. The event is free and open to the public. Congregations are especially invited to send representatives as the workshop is an excellent avenue for hunger advocacy.

Lenten services

Holy Communion & Imposition of Ashes 7:30 p.m. Ash Wednesday, Feb. 25, Lenten Evening Prayer 7:30 p.m. Wednesdays, at Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA), 30650 Six Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 427-1414.

Music at St. John's

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

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.

ONGOING

Caregiver's support group

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

Worship

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

Sunday school

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

Hall rental

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

Parkinson Support

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

Overeaters Anonymous

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

Mid-week Service

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

New worship schedule

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

Bible study

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

Time change

Faith Lutheran Church, 30000 Five Mile, west of Middlebelt, Livonia, returned to its fall-spring worship schedule. Services are at 8:15 a.m. and 10:45 a.m., with Sunday School

at 9:30 a.m. for all ages. For information, visit www.livonfaith.org.

Wednesday activities

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

Thursday fellowship dinner

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

Eucharistic adoration

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

Worship schedule

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

Sunday worship

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

Sanskrit chanting

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

Church schedule

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

Single Place Ministry

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

Prince of Peace Church

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

Tai Chi and strength classes

Orchard United Methodist Church is hosting a Tai Chi class 7-8:30 p.m. Mondays in the Mac at the church, 30450 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills. The cost per class is \$10 or \$40 prepaid for five classes. The strength class takes place 9:30-10:30 a.m. Monday and Wednesday. Cost is \$5 per class. Drop-ins welcome. For information, call (248) 626-3620 or visit www.orchardumc.org.

Tai Chi class

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

Thrift store

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

New schedule

9 a.m. Sunday school for all ages and Faith Forum, 10 a.m. Worship Service with Communion and nursery, at Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA), 30650 Six Mile, Livonia. All visitors welcome. For more information, call (734) 427-1414 or visit www.holycrosslivonia.org.

Please see **CALENDAR, B7**

CUSTOMER APPRECIATION DAY!

TAKE AN ADDITIONAL
15% off
YOUR ENTIRE PURCHASE*
ONE TIME ONLY
THURSDAY, JANUARY 22ND

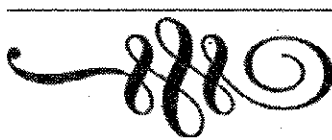
TJ-maxx Marshalls HomeGoods A.J. Wright

*Offer does not include gift cards or layaway purchases.
©2009 The TJX Companies, Inc.



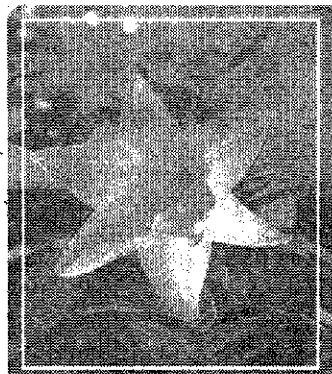
JANET M. SMITH

January 11, 2009. Age 71, of Westland. Beloved wife of the late Ronald. Dear mother of Dan (Melissa). Sister of Joan (Joe) Perkowski and Judy (Don) Barton. Cremains interment service will be Saturday 11:30am January 24, 2009 at Glen Eden Memorial Cemetery of Livonia.



KRIS NEAL WHITE

January 22, 1959 - December 27, 2008. Beloved husband of Norma White. Devoted son of Conception and the late Ronald White. A memorial Mass will be held at St. Raphael in Garden City on January 24, 2009 at 10:00 a.m.



Passages

Obituaries, Memorials, Remembrances

1-800-579-7355 ♦ fax: 734-953-2232

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View Obits On-Line @ www.hometownlife.com



ELIZABETH ANN WELCH

Age 79, of Farmington. January 3, 2009. Farmington High School graduate and a Ford Motor Co. retiree. Elizabeth is survived by her sister, Mary (Ken) McRae, sister-in-law Norma (the late George) Welch of Naples, FL; and many loving nieces and nephews. She is preceded in death by her parents, George and Alice Welch, originally of England; her brother Henry and her twin infant brothers. Memorial Service Sunday, January 25th, 4:00 p.m. at Faith Covenant Church, 35415 W. 14 Mile Rd., Farmington Hills. Memorials suggested to St. John Hospice, P.O. Box 673271, Detroit, MI 48237-3271 or the charity of your choice. Inurnment Grand Lawn Cemetery, Detroit. Arrangements entrusted to the Heeney-Sundquist Funeral Home, downtown Farmington, 248-474-5200. heeney-sundquist.com

OBITUARY POLICY

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

Deadlines:

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

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

e-mail your obit to
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Attn: Obits c/o Jennifer Musztuk
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Jennifer Musztuk
586-826-7115
or Charlotte Wilson
586-826-7082

or toll free
800-579-7355

ask for Jennifer or Charlotte

OE08579124

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE B6

Day of service

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

Worship Service

10:30 a.m. Sunday, Adult Bible Class at 9:30 a.m., Children's Sunday School during worship at 10:30 a.m., at Immanuel Lutheran Church, tots through high school and Adult Faith Forum at Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA), 30650 Six Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 427-1414 or visit www.holycrosslivonia.org. Visitors welcome.

Worship service

10:45 a.m. Sundays, Adult Sunday School at 9:30 a.m., Children's Sunday School during worship. Youth Group 5-7 p.m. and Catechism for

Grown-ups 5:30-6:30 p.m., at Trinity Church of Livonia, 34500 Six Mile. For information, call (734) 425-2800.

F.I.R.E. ministries

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

New worship schedule

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

Sunday worship

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

Worship services

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

Men's breakfast

Ham & eggs, hash browns, pancakes, and more when you come to the Men's Breakfast at 8 a.m. on the

first Saturday of every month at The Senate Restaurant, located off Haggerty Road between Five Mile and Six Mile in Northville. All men are invited for fellowship and food. Sponsored by Riverside Park Church of God, 11771 Newburgh, Livonia. Call (734) 464-0990.

MOPS meetings

The Hosanna-Tabor Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) group began meeting this fall at a new time at the Lutheran church, 9600 Laverne, Redford. Meetings continue the first and third Thursdays of the month at 9:30 a.m. Join in for teaching, discussion, creative projects and presentations. For more information, call (248) 470-5202 or send e-mail to nikkitiernan@gmail.com.

MOPS groups

Mothers of Preschoolers meets on the first and third Friday mornings or first and third Wednesday evenings at Calvary Baptist Church, 43065 Joy Road, Canton. Call (734) 455-0022, Ext. 4, or send e-mail to cbcwomensministries@hotmail.com.

LOGOS Youth Club

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

HeartCry

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

Women of the word

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

Bible study

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

Fellowship Dinners

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

Thrift Shop

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

Registration

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Early Childhood Center is now taking registrations for the fall program at 14175 Farmington Road, north of I-96, Livonia. It is open from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Friday. Loving and caring programs are offered for toddler, preschool, pre-K, and child care. Call (734) 513-8413.

Morning prayers

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

J.O.Y. meeting

The J.O.Y. Builders (Just Older

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

Higher Rock Cafe

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

Worship service

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

Sunday worship

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

Sunday services

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

Farmington Women Aglow

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

Worship services

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

Worship services

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

Celebrate Recovery

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

Sunday service

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

Worship service

At 10:30 a.m. Sundays at New Beginnings United Methodist Church, 16175 Delaware at Puritan, Redford. Congregation is hearing lessons from 1 Peter. Call (313) 255-6330.

Your Invitation to Worship

CATHOLIC

ST. ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
Immemorial Latin Mass
Approved by Pope St. Pius V in 1570
St. Anne's Academy - Grades K-8
29310 Joy Road • Redford, Michigan
5 Blocks E. of Telegraph • (313) 534-2121
Mass Schedules:
Fri. 7:00 p.m.
Sat. 11:00 a.m.
Sun. Masses 7:00 & 10:00 a.m.
Confessions Heard Prior to Each Mass
Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions
Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M. CE0608044

St. Genevieve Roman Catholic Church
St. Genevieve School - PreK-8
29015 Jamison • Livonia • 734-427-9220
(East of Middlebelt, between 5 Mile & Jeffries)
MASS: Tues. 7 p. Wed., Thurs. 9 a.
Sat. 8 p. Sun 11a

St. Maurice Roman Catholic Church
32765 Lyndon • Livonia • 734-522-1616
(between Merriman & Farmington Roads)
MASS: Mon. 8:30 a. Fri. 8:30 a.
Sat. 8 p. Sun 9a CE0608046

CHURCHES OF THE NAZARENE

PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
46301 W. Ann Arbor Road • (734) 453-1855
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) 455-3196 CE0608039

PRESBYTERIAN

Fellowship Presbyterian Church

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

Pastor: Dr. Jimmy McGuire

Services held at: Madonna University's Kresge Hall
36600 Schoolcraft Road • Livonia • Parking lot is on N.W. corner of Levan & Schoolcraft
Nursery provided • www.fellowship-presbyterian.org CE0608041

EVANGELICAL COVENANT

FAITH COVENANT CHURCH
14 Mile Road and Drake, Farmington Hills
(248) 661-9191
Sunday Worship
and Children's Church
9:15 A.M. Contemporary
11:00 A.M. Traditional
Child Care Provided At All Services
Youth Groups - Adult Small Groups CE0608030

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST

Cherry Hill Seventh-Day Adventist Church
33144 Cherry Hill, Garden City, MI 48135
(1 block west of Venoy) 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 CE0608035

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

Timothy Lutheran Church
A Reconciling in Christ Congregation
8820 Wayne Rd.
(Between Ann Arbor Trail & Joy Road)
Livonia • 427-2290
Jill Heather, Pastor
10:00 a.m. Family Worship
(Nursery Available) CE0608055

UNITED METHODIST

Clarenceville United Methodist
20300 Middlebelt Rd. • Livonia
248-474-3444
Pastor Beth Librande
Worship Service 9:30 AM
Sunday School 11:00 AM
Nursery Provided CE0608039

Cherry Hill United Methodist
321 S. Ridge Road
Canton, MI
734-495-0035
Rev. Merlin Pratt
Worship 10:30
Prayer Hour Thursday 7:30
www.cherryhillumc.org CE0608031

"More than Sunday Services"
Worship Services
9:00 a.m. & 11:30 AM
Sunday School & Nursery
9:00, 10:30 & 11:30 AM
Pastor:
Dr. John Grenfell III
Associate Pastor:
Rev. David Wichert

First United Methodist Church of Plymouth
45201 North Territorial Road
(West of Sheldon Road)
(734) 453-5280
www.pfumc.org CE0608036

NON DENOMINATIONAL

BELL CREEK COMMUNITY CHURCH

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 CE0608038

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

First Church of Christ, Scientist, Plymouth
1100 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth, MI
734-453-0970
Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School 10:30 a.m.
Wed. Evening Testimony Meeting 7:30 p.m.
Reading Room located at church
Saturday 12:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.
734-453-0970 CE0608033

LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church
14175 Farmington Road, Livonia Just north of I-96
734-522-6830

Sunday Worship
8:30 & 11:00 am - Traditional
Staffed Nursery Available

Sunday/Bible Class
9:45 am
Early Childhood Center
Phone 734-513-8413

Making disciples who share the love of Jesus Christ
Pastors: Robert F. Bayer and Anthony M. Creedon CE0608037

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD

26630 GRAND RIVER at BEECH DALY
313-532-2268 REDFORD TWP.
Worship Service
9:15 & 11:00 A.M.
Sunday School
9:15 & 11:00 A.M.
Nursery Provided
The Rev. Timothy P. Halbois, Senior Pastor
The Rev. Dr. Victor F. Halbois, Assistant Pastor CE0608037

HOSANNA-TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
9600 Laverne • So. Redford • 313-937-2424
Pastor - Reverend Paul Undlin
Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m.
Wednesday Evening Service 7 p.m.
Education Hour 10:45 a.m.
Christian School
Pre-Kindergarten-5th Grade
For more information call
313-937-2233 CE0608036

Immanuel Lutheran Church
Pastor Milton Schmitt
27035 Ann Arbor Trail, Dearborn Heights
(just East of Inkster Road)
(313) 278-5755
Worship Service & Sunday School 10:30 a.m.
<http://churchchurch.com/members/immmanueldhhs>
The Friendly Church on the Trail CE0608035

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN

WARD Evangelical Presbyterian Church

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 WNUZ Word Station
For additional information
visit www.wardchurch.org CE0608039

Risen Christ Lutheran
David W. Martin, Pastor
46250 Ann Arbor Road • Plymouth (1 mile N. of Sheldon)
(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.
www.risenchrist.info CE0608033

LUTHERAN CHURCH WISCONSIN SYNOD

St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church & School
17810 FARMINGTON ROAD,
LIVONIA (734) 261-1360
WORSHIP SERVICES
SUNDAY: 8:30 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.
THURSDAY: 6:30 P.M.
website: www.stpaulslivonia.org CE0608034

PRESBYTERIAN (U.S.A.)

ROSEDALE GARDENS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)

9801 Hubbard at W. Chicago, Livonia, MI
(between Merriman & Farmington Rds.)
(734) 422-0494
www.rosedalegardens.org
Chapel Worship Service
9:00 am
Traditional Service
10:30 am
WE WELCOME YOU TO A
FULL SERVICE CHURCH CE0608037

St. James Presbyterian Church, USA

25350 West Six Mile Rd.
Redford (813) 534-7730
Sunday Worship Service - 10:00 A.M. Sunday
School - 10:15 A.M. Thursday Dinners - 8:00 P.M.
Thrift Store every Sat. 10am-2pm
Nursery Care Provided • Handicapped Accessible
Rev. Paul S. Bousquette CE0608034

Canton Strictly Business

BUSINESS MILESTONES

Potbelly opens

Potbelly Sandwich Works, located at 42477 Ford Road (near Lilley) in Canton has opened. The store features the first Potbelly drive-thru in Michigan. Store hours are Sunday through Thursday 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Friday and Saturday 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. The store can be reached at (734) 844-0842.

Potbelly, which began with a store in Chicago, has grown from one to more than 200 company-owned and operated stores. Potbelly features hot sandwiches, hand-dipped shakes, made to order salads, and live local music. Potbelly has stores in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas, Virginia, Wisconsin, and the District of Columbia. For more information visit the company's Web site at www.potbelly.com.

Ribbon cutting

Gerou Chiropractic Office will host a ribbon cutting ceremony at noon, Thursday, Jan. 29 at its office located at 7277 N. Lilley Road (the northwest corner of Warren

and Lilley roads) in Canton.

Owned by Dr. Thomas Gerou, who is a sports-certified doctor of chiropractic and is himself an accomplished distance runner having competed in 54 marathons, offers the following family health care services:

- Complete chiropractic services
 - Massage therapy
 - Rehab/fitness training
 - Computerized nutritional assessment
- The public is welcome to attend the event and learn more about the business. Refreshments will be served. Free product samples will be available, and drawings for winning various products and services will be held throughout the day.

For more information, please contact Gerou at (734) 981-6969.

Second anniversary

The evolve yoga studio celebrated its 2nd anniversary in December. The studio provides a peaceful space for physical, mental and spiritual evolution as it provides yoga to the community. The tradition of yoga says that as we develop and grow, we are actually moving toward our own

true nature.

The studio is located at 7986 Lilley Road in Canton. For more information, call evolve at (734) 454-YOGA (9642). Their class schedule, pricing and upcoming events can be found on their Web site at www.evolve-yoga.net.

Scrapbooking workshop

Local business Creative Memories, owned by Chrissy Detary, will host a 2009 New Year Celebration - 12 Hour Scrapbooking Workshop (6 hour options available also) from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 24 at Extended Stay America, 2000 Haggerty Road in Canton. Creative Memories offers a variety of fun and easy memory celebration options, including everything you will need to tell your story and celebrate your memories. They offer workshops to help people complete their albums in the company of other scrapbookers and friends.

The cost of the workshop is \$30 per person (lunch, dinner included). For more information or to register, contact Chrissy Detary at (734) 454-4321, cdetary@hotmail.com or www.mysite.com/chrissydetary.



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 kkuban@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



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Asif Zafar's Caffe Italia features gourmet pizza, panini, gelato, smoothies, and a complete espresso bar. They are also adding Zingerman's products to their offerings, and hosting a ribbon cutting ceremony on Feb. 6 to mark the business relationship with Zingerman's, which is based in Ann Arbor.

Local cafe inspired by tastes of Italy

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

Zafar: We are a family owned business. We get to know our customers and treat them with great respect. At our cafe, we feature exciting food items such as gourmet pizza, panini, gelato, smoothies, and a complete espresso bar. Our services include catering, delivery and hosting events. We feature events such as acoustic night, story time for toddlers, and team events such as "Pizza 101" where a group can go behind the scene and learn how to make their own pizza. We also retail products by Zingerman's, a company well known for its quality products, based in Ann Arbor.

Observer: What makes your business unique?

CAFFE ITALIA

Address: 41985 Ford Road, Canton
Your name: Asif Zafar / Shalini Venkateswaran (owners)
Your hometown: Ann Arbor
Business opened when?: May, 2006

Number of employees: Six
Your business specialty: Gourmet pizzas and gelato; retailer of select Zingerman's products

Hours of operation: Sunday through Thursday 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Friday and Saturday 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. (closed Mondays)

Business phone/Web site: (734) 844-2255, www.pizzage-lato.com

Zafar: We have combined a pizzeria, gelateria (ice cream),

and a coffee shop at a single establishment. We offer services at a personal level, and ensure a very high level of quality in all our products and services.

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

Zafar: We were inspired to open an Italian style cafe during one of our trips to Italy.

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

Zafar: Canton is a very diverse community which can appreciate the atmosphere, the products, and the services which we offer.

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

Zafar: Most of our employees are local residents, who came in originally as customers and liked the cafe enough to ask for employment.

BUSINESS NEWSMAKERS

Exhibit and classes

Canton author and photographer Cheryl A. Vatcher-Martin's solo art exhibit, "Expressions," runs through the end of January at the Flat Rock Public Library. Her fine art photography has been a popular exhibit at the library this month.

"My pictures are a collection of some of my favorites. Two of my favorite pieces are 'Crimboli's Pond' and 'Canton's Cows,' both are local photographs," said Martin.

In addition to that her fine art photograph of "Charlestown's Rhode Island's One Room School House" is there, which is the cover of her third book, "Haiku For You - With Some One Room School House History," which will be released shortly.

Martin is also happy to have three of her pieces showcased in the Northville Art House through Jan. 25. The art house has plenty of hours for individuals to go see the artwork on display right now.

With the beginning of the new year brings many new classes that Martin teaches. The classes she is offering at the end of January and beginning of February include Creative Writing, Writing Haiku & Poetry, and French. Contact



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Cheryl Vatcher-Martin

Michigan, through the Rackham School of Education.

Those looking for one-on-one instruction or need writing or consulting services, e-mail Martin at peroinc5@comcast.net or call (734) 397-1626.

Wayne-Westland Community Schools for registration for these classes and her other courses at (734) 419-2426.

She's also the owner of Pero Inc., a full service writing, editing, consulting, photographic and publishing company. In addition she tutors in many languages and a variety of subject matters inclusive of reading comprehension and writing. She has a Master's Degree through the University of

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 Cojei, 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.

Magical night

Please join the Canton Community Foundation for an event that benefits First Step and Gleaners Community Food Bank when it hosts A Magical Night With the Stars at 6 p.m., Feb. 22 at Emagine Theatre Canton, 39535 Ford Road, Canton.

The cost of the event is \$100 per person and is one

of the foundation's biggest fund-raisers. To RSVP or for more information, call the Foundation at (734) 495-1200.

Girls' night out

The Plymouth Whalers are excited to invite girl teams of any sports to the Whalers game on Saturday, Jan. 24, at 7:05 p.m. The game is at Compuware Arena, 14900 Beck Road, Plymouth Township. Meet Cheryl Ford, the captain of the three-time WNBA champion Detroit Shock.

To reserve a ticket for the Whalers Girls Rock Night, which cost \$11, visit the Whalers Web site at www.plymouthwhalers.com, or call (734) 453-8400.

Chocolate Fantasy Ball

The fifth annual Chocolate Fantasy Ball will take place at 6 p.m., Saturday, March 7, at the Hawthorne Valley Country Club, 7300 Merriman Road, Westland. The cost of the event is \$40 per person. To RSVP or for more information, call (248) 255-8241 by Feb. 27.

This evening will help women achieve their goals in life continues to be the focus of the Women of Westland organization. This is an opportunity to come together to recognize our unsung heroes. This event supports the Barbara Douglas Scholarship Program, giving financial assistance to women of the community who want to attend college for undergraduate credit or trade school.

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Real Estate



Thursday, January 22, 2009

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

Julie Brown, editor . (313) 222-6755 . jcbrown@hometownlife.com

www.hometownlife.com

Hardware pros have tips on keeping home shipshape

BY JULIE BROWN
O&E STAFF WRITER

January may not strike you as a big home improvement month, but experts agree there are things you can do now to keep your home tiptop.

Nancy Henry, manager at Town 'n' Country Hardware on Ford Road in Garden City, said a door in front of your fireplace is great for energy efficiency. You'll want to check your furnace regularly for its efficiency, she said.

If you're on a budget, Henry, who manages the True-Value store, recommends one improvement a year, such as windows or a deck.

You can start to look at paint colors for spring work, said Henry, who doesn't generally paint indoors in winter.

"Start lining up your home improvement projects," Henry said. "You may want to get some quotes. I really think it's best to stay local." She recommends two-three quotes for home improvement projects.

Henry recommends home improvement shows such as those in Canton, Novi and the ones presented by pro Glenn Haeg. The Canton Township Home Improvement Expo is March 7-8 at the Summit, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, March 7, and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, March 8. Admission is free.

The next Novi Home Improvement Show at Rock Financial Showplace will be Friday through Sunday, Jan. 23-25. It runs noon to 9 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday. Admission is \$10 for

adults, \$9 for seniors, and kids 12 and under are free.

"The next few months are going to be all the home shows," Henry said. "It's definitely a good resource." She recommends the public library and Internet as good places to find home improvement information.

Some large hardware stores also offer do-it-yourself seminars, she said. "Definitely reading up and getting your information together. You've got to line those things up. Contractors get too busy," she said.

There's some indoor work like plumbing projects that can be tackled now, "things you've been pushing aside you need to address. I would say you could do flooring projects."

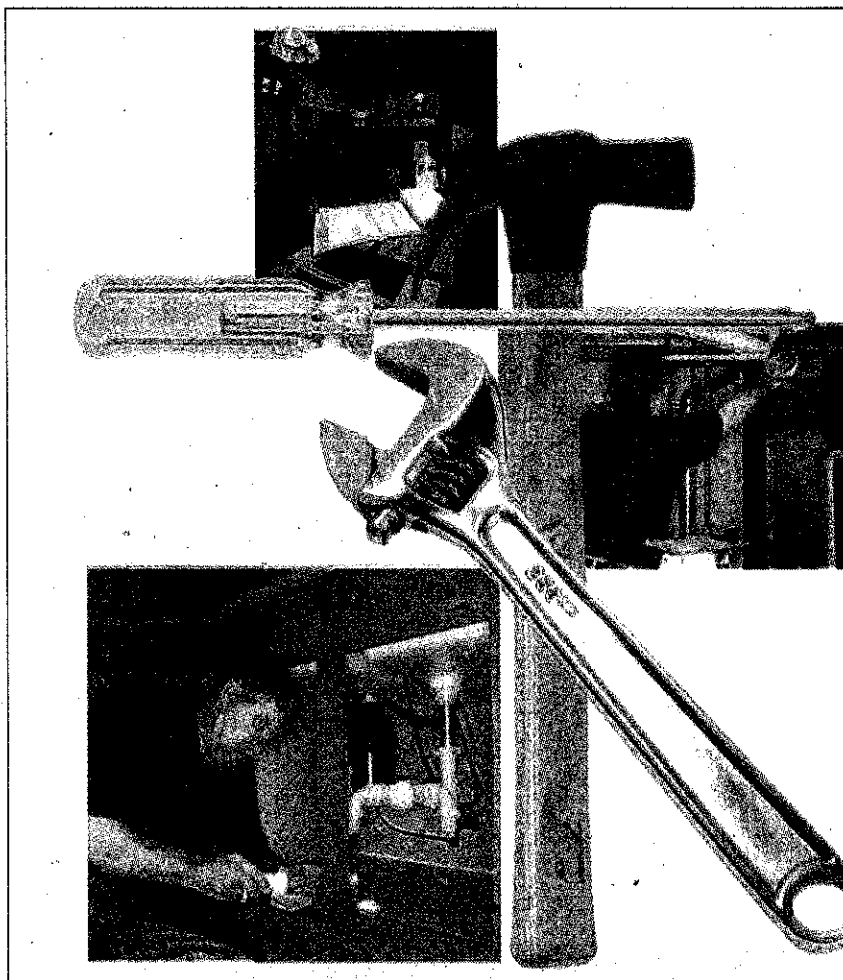
When spring comes, many are eager to get to their gardens and clean up leaves left when snow fell early. Town 'n' Country Hardware gets busy in spring with barbecue sales and repairs.

Henry notes you should have your snowblower drained and ready for storage when spring comes.

Bob Rates, manager of Nankin Hardware & Hobby on Ford Road in Westland, said checking furnace filters in winter is essential. "People sometimes forget about that," he said. Some filters last longer than a month, but you want to be sure to change your furnace filters often.

"There really isn't much in January/February," said Rates, noting it's a slower season for hardware stores. Chores like sealing windows are done earlier. "You've already done it typically in the fall," Rates said.

He finds people do indoor painting



in the winter, and Rates doesn't like to paint in summer in extreme heat. He's replaced flooring in his home in winter.

These days at Nankin Hardware and Hobby, more customers come in with "It broke, can you fix it?"

requests. Rates and co-workers don't see a lot of people now interested in decks or other spring projects.

"It's still too early," he said. "I don't think you get that until you get your first 50-degree day."

Research Naples market carefully

Q: With the economy tanking, I wonder how things had gone in Naples, Fla., as I am interested in buying a home down there, hopefully at a substantially reduced price. What information do you have?

A: Based upon research as of the end of October 2008, home sales are up for the year but are down excluding bank foreclosures. They have been down for almost every month



Robert Meisner

since at least January 2007. The problem is that there are a flood of foreclosures in Southwest Florida but the numbers are skewed because of the foreclosure

problem. Some of the statistics, of course, are not relevant to sales made directly by owners, builders or developers but there is an increased tendency to work with real estate agents. This continues to be a good time if you have the cash to purchase.

Q: We are personal guarantors on a promissory note on a real estate transaction and there is a deficiency as a result of a sheriff's sale. Do you think we have any liability?

A: Of course, it depends on each set of facts, but if the individual guarantors were brought into the foreclosure action under MCL 600.3160, that provision allows the court to order the payment of the deficiency by any person besides the mortgagor who secures by obligation the mortgage debt after the foreclosure sale. Accordingly, it would not be required that the liability of an individual guarantors be included in the judgment of foreclosure in order for the guarantors to be held liable for the deficiency. Presumably, the guarantors in that case were made parties to the lawsuit. My best advice is to consult with an attorney as to potential liability.

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

BRIEFS

Real Estate Agents, Appraising & Staging

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

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

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

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.

Investors

Learn "How Do You Make Money in Real Estate in a Downturn" at the

Metropolitan Detroit Real Estate Three-Day Conference presented by Woodward Promotions LLC and Real Estate Investors Association of Oakland. Friday/Saturday/Sunday, Feb. 6-8, at MSU Management Education Center, 822 W. Square Lake Road, Troy. Pre-register for \$97; or \$129 at the door.

Call (248) 991-1851.

Tax seminars

Weir Manuel Realtors will be presenting "Everything You Need to Know About Property Taxes." The public is invited to these free seminars being held in Birmingham, Rochester and West Bloomfield in February.

The seminars, conducted by Kelly Sweeney, owner and CEO of Weir Manuel and former state certified assessor, will be geared towards helping consumers understand how property taxes are assessed, and how to know when a property tax assessment can — and should — be appealed. Attendees who pre-register will be given a personal property tax profile.

Kelly Sweeney is the 2008 Michigan Association of Realtor's Realtor of the Year for the Michigan Consolidated Association of Realtors. Seminars will be held the evenings of Feb. 10

and 24 in Birmingham; Feb. 23 at the Rochester Community House; and Feb. 25 in West Bloomfield. Refreshments will be served.

Interested consumers are asked to reserve a complimentary seat at any of the seminars by phoning Weir Manuel Realtors, Birmingham, at (248) 644-6300.

Milestone

Kurtis Kitchen and Bath Centers announced its 40th anniversary celebration.

"We will celebrate our anniversary all year long with customer appreciation events, special sales and giveaways," said Wayne Weintraub, owner of Kurtis Kitchen and Bath Centers. "We are proud of still being a family-owned third-generation business providing quality products and services for homeowners."

Kurtis is highlighting its 40th anniversary with a new logo that will be introduced at the Novi Home Improvement Show, Jan. 23-25 at Rock Financial Showplace in Novi. Show visitors will have the opportunity to win the \$2 million dollar 2009 HGTV Dream Home in Sonoma, Calif., courtesy of one of Kurtis's featured suppliers, Wellborn Cabinetry, who provided

the home's cabinetry for the kitchen, dish and food pantries, laundry, master bath and both guest baths. Entries will be available at the exhibit.

Kurtis was founded in 1969 by Louis Kuretzky and was joined by his sons, Howard and Marty, the following year. Wayne Weintraub came on board in 1994 to run business operations and support its continued growth and success. The third generation of the Kurtis family, Steve Edelman and Aaron Kuretzky, are now in the wholesale and retail sales divisions. Kurtis started in Warren as a wholesaler of countertops and stock cabinets for kitchens and baths. In 1971, it was the first building industry company to open a retail showroom in Detroit servicing do-it-yourself clients and small contractors. They have since expanded to seven locations throughout southeastern Michigan helping thousands with new kitchen, bathroom and cabinetry needs. A full service installation division was added in 1998 for retail clients.

Kurtis Kitchen and Bath Centers are located in Clarkston, Farmington Hills, Livonia, Rochester Hills, Royal Oak, Warren and Woodhaven. For further information or to register for the open house, call (888) KURTIS-1 (587-8471) or visit www.KurtisKitchen.com.

HOMES SOLD

These are the Observer & Eccentric-area residential real-estate closings recorded the week of Sept. 29 to Oct. 3, 2008, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office, plus some from Oakland County. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

Canton	
47397 Bartlett Dr	\$235,000
41612 Bedford Dr	\$69,000
50349 Black Horse Ln	\$79,000
4343 Bridgeview Ln	\$158,000
50010 Cherry Hill Rd	\$262,000
48311 Chesterfield Dr S	\$305,000
4131 Cornerstone Dr	\$120,000
461 Harbor St	\$345,000
48402 Manor Bridge Dr	\$46,000
7412 Pointe Dr	\$154,000

6484 Raintree Ct	\$174,000
45936 S Stonewood Cir	\$226,000
42366 Saratoga Rd	\$140,000
Farmington Hills	
23874 Barfield St	\$130,000
28349 Bayberry Rd	\$117,000
27433 Doreen St	\$149,000
29551 Geraldine Rd	\$188,000
22303 Harsdale Dr	\$315,000
28787 Hidden Trl	\$385,000
30071 Mullens Dr	\$196,000
21523 Oxford Ave	\$100,000
21124 Randell St	\$88,000
29518 Strathmore Dr	\$390,000
31191 Sudbury St	\$295,000
22028 Tredwell Ave	\$150,000
37357 Wellsley	\$390,000
25402 Wyckshire Rd	\$219,000
Livonia	
29518 Bentley St	\$143,000
17333 Deering St	\$145,000
38051 Donald St	\$148,000
17526 Doris St	\$150,000

37495 Eagle Dr	\$75,000
20026 Edgewood Ave	\$365,000
35810 Elmira St	\$240,000
27670 Oakley St	\$260,000
18592 Shrewsbury Dr	\$240,000
9074 Sunbury St	\$140,000
18249 Sunset St	\$187,000
17869 University Park Dr	\$95,000
18449 University Park Dr	\$100,000
28272 W Chicago St	\$100,000
17620 Woodside St	\$180,000
Milford	
768 Forestberry Ct	\$171,000
748 Mill St	\$288,000
Northville	
16857 Abby Cir	\$345,000
859 Carpenter St	\$161,000
19856 Irontop Ct	\$83,000
16029 Morningside	\$135,000
16074 Morningside	\$148,000
49003 Rainbow Ln S	\$376,000
49017 Rainbow Ln S	\$335,000
17675 Ridge Rd	\$340,000

21508 Summerside Ln	\$315,000
Novi	
41893 Canterbury Dr	\$140,000
50722 Chesapeake Dr	\$562,000
23616 Dunston Rd	\$304,000
1661 Harbor Cv	\$230,000
27995 Hopkins Dr	\$128,000
45273 Jacob Dr	\$306,000
24703 Jamestown Rd	\$222,000
24396 Knollwood St	\$150,000
25987 Petros Blvd	\$207,000
23707 Stonehenge Blvd	\$73,000
39729 Village Wood Ln	\$97,000
Plymouth	
11865 Chandler Dr	\$330,000
45015 Deer Run Rd	\$240,000
14801 Greenbrier Ct	\$180,000
13642 Hilltop Dr W	\$375,000
12545 Lighthouse Ct	\$340,000
46490 Rockledge Dr	\$240,000
14881 Thornridge Dr	\$195,000
Redford	
24814 Ashley Ct	\$160,000

9141 Berwyn	\$140,000
15965 Dalby	\$45,000
18426 Fox	\$97,000
20384 Fox	\$65,000
16762 Inkster Rd	\$136,000
15596 Leona Dr	\$96,000
9306 Louis	\$117,000
26211 Lyndon	\$177,000
25200 Pembroke Ave	\$85,000
13022 Sioux	\$43,000
25562 Student	\$70,000
9944 Virgil	\$55,000
South Lyon	
60935 Deer Creek Dr	\$180,000
423 Lyon Ct	\$130,000
23640 Lyon Ridge Dr	\$304,000
Westland	
38501 Deer Creek Blvd	\$110,000
6856 Geronimo St	\$105,000
6594 Quail Run Cir	\$133,000
1576 S Hubbard St	\$93,000
786 Van Lawn St	\$140,000
7226 W Frumlin Ct	\$92,000

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Today, Inc.

Thinking Real Estate?

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Thursday

PUZZLE CORNER

Challenging fun for ALL ages

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS

- 1 Caught ya!
- 4 Zeppo's brother
- 9 Concealed
- 12 Bagel partner
- 13 Yeah (hyph.)
- 14 Chuck Yeager, e.g.
- 15 Still-life subjects
- 17 Orange lovers
- 19 Leia Organa's brother
- 21 Steal from
- 22 Pulling ahead of
- 25 Bake — (cooking contests)
- 29 Former spouse
- 30 Works a cure
- 32 La femme
- 35 Wrestler's coup
- 38 Burn with steam
- 37 "Delicious!"
- 38 Shower bar
- 40 Dirt path
- 42 Distance meas.
- 43 Urchins
- 44 Hires
- 46 It may be tidy
- 49 Broad smile
- 50 Bumped against
- 54 Wipe out data
- 57 Tenn. neighbor
- 58 Does perfectly
- 60 Cloud backdrop
- 61 Oater answer
- 62 Low voices
- 63 Step on it

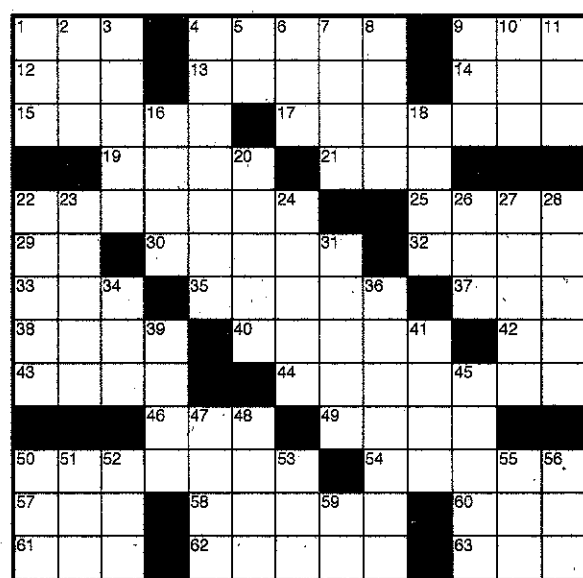
DOWN

- 1 Dark brew
- 2 Common query
- 3 Ice-skating leaps
- 4 Sled dogs
- 5 Sign of delight
- 6 Greek P
- 7 Feline response
- 8 Indiana neighbor

Answer to Previous Puzzle

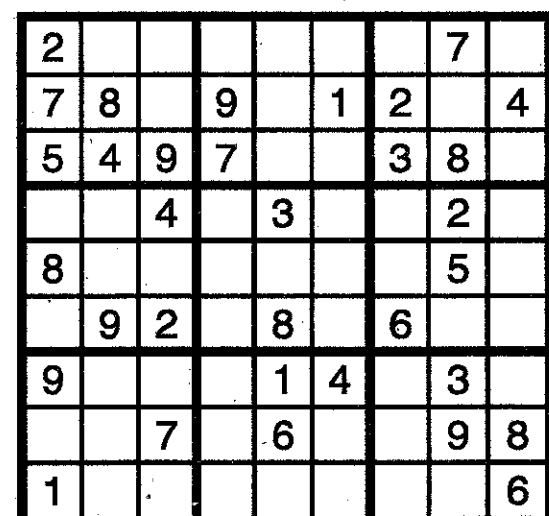
BIN ELGIN JUG
UNA BUENO UTE
RAGTAG CORRAL
GUY HANOI
MEET BE SWEAR
ORD CURS ESSE
BO RACECAR CT
IDEA STUN NOR
LEAVE ID AUTO
RELIC BIC
KENNEL OODLES
ERE NEEDS ELI
GAD ASHES IFS

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- 9 "2001" computer
- 10 Clinch a deal
- 11 — Plaines, Ill.
- 16 Big hurry
- 18 Woodwind
- 20 Make into law
- 22 Coke rival
- 23 Principle
- 24 Driving hazard
- 26 Pop-up
- 27 Water chute
- 28 Turnpike rumblers
- 31 Teen lingo
- 34 Rug texture
- 36 Stray from the topic
- 39 Furtive sound
- 41 Bear's pad
- 45 Grind, as teeth
- 47 Arm bone
- 48 Ground corn
- 50 Noisy bird
- 51 Flamenco shout
- 52 Maple syrup base
- 53 Telegraph signal
- 55 Zoom on runners
- 56 Peacock spot
- 59 Cry of surprise

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.

BLACK
BROWN
GRIZZLY

KOALA
KODIAK
PANDA

POLAR
SLOTH
TEDDY

THE WORDS READ UP, DOWN AND ACROSS.

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

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

9 7 9 6 2 8 8 1
8 6 1 9 9 4 2 7
2 8 7 1 8 9 9 6
7 1 9 9 8 7 2 6 8
6 9 7 2 6 9 1 2 8
6 2 8 2 6 1 7 9 9
1 8 8 9 2 2 6 7 9
7 9 2 1 9 6 8 8 7
9 2 6 8 7 8 9 1 2

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

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

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Master bath. Huge bsmt. 2 car attached. Great schools.
\$244,900
Mutual Realty
248-474-6464 or
248-417-5249

Garden City **3170**

FANTASTIC PRICE
4 Bdrms, 2 baths, Formal Dining Rm, Garage, \$89,900.
Century 21 Castelli
(734) 525-7900
Call to place your ad at
1-800-579-SELL (7355)

Manufactured Homes **3740**

HUGE DISCOUNTS ON REPOSSESSED HOMES! EASY FINANCING AVAILABLE!
Call Steve @ (734) 414-9760 in Plymouth Hills

When seeking out the best deal check out the Observer & Eccentric Classifieds!

Manufactured Homes **3740**

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2000
NEW YEARS SPECIAL!
Move into your new home before January 31, '09 and We will help pay your Christmas Bills with **\$3000 Visa Gift Card**
Payments start at \$650 per month
Call (248) 446-6600 for more information
Call to place your ad at
1-800-579-SELL (7355)

Commercial/Retail For Sale **3755**

CANTON - Busy Michigan Ave corridor in Canton. New 5100 SF building, completely occupied. 4.5 acre site has rm for another 15,000 SF building. \$1,400,000. #2615853
Bela Sipos
734-669-5813, 734-747-7888
Reinhart Commercial.

Business Opportunities **6900**

CANTON Six chair salon for sale. Located in strip mall, near Westland. 5 person staff, plus clientele. Price neg 313-550-4927

Sell it all with
Observer & Eccentric
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Apartments

4000-4300
Real Estate
For Lease

Apartments/
Unfurnished **4000**

3 Bedrooms / 2 Bathrooms
Starting at \$499 per month
Free rent in February
Expires 01/31/2009
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BIRMINGHAM
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Studios, 1, 2 & 3 Bedrooms
Furnished apartments avail.
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Birmingham at the
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ANGIE APTS.
NO APPLICATION FEE
FREE HEAT! 1 bedroom
\$505. 9 Mile/ Middlebelt
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Apartments/
Unfurnished **4000**

Best Deal Around!
APARTMENTS FROM \$499*
• Reduced deposit • Livonia Schools
• Close to I-96 • Open 7 days a week
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www.FranklinSquareApts.com
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Apartments/
Unfurnished **4000**

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
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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

GARDEN CITY - Spacious updated 1 bdrm, air, deck, storage room, laundry. FREE heat & water. \$605. 248-346-6108

GARDEN CITY - Updated 2 bdrm, completely remodeled, clean & quiet. Winter Specials! 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.
313-386-8720

Apartments/
Unfurnished **4000**

Apartments/
Unfurnished **4000**

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

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

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

NORTHVILLE ~ 1 block from Main St. w/Brook side setting, updated 1 br. apt. Only \$700. Available now! 734-420-1027

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

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

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

Over 1400 Sq. Ft.
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PLYMOUTH - DOWNTOWN
Quiet complex. 1 bdrm, C/A, storage, carport, laundry facilities, 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) 455-1215

PLYMOUTH - 1 bdrm duplex, washer & dryer, \$595/mo. Canton 1 bdrm, \$575/mo., heat incl. Lease. 734-455-0391

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

Apartments/
Unfurnished **4000**

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

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

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

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

REDFORD Inkster & Plymouth area. 1 bdrm loft apt. \$500/mo. Includes utilities, plus \$300 sec. dep. (248) 681-9325

ROCHESTER - 1 bdrm, \$565 incl heat. 2 bdrm, \$665 incl heat. Spacious, great area, close to town. (586) 295-8540

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

WESTLAND
2 bdrm, 1.5 bath, close to schools. \$800/month. 248-892-0262

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

WESTLAND/NORWAYNE
Updated 2 & 3 bdrm apts & homes. \$450-\$775. Move in special! Call: (734) 449-0966.

Ypsilanti - Reduced Rent
Plus \$99 Sec Dep*
Section 8 Welcome
Large 1 & 2 bedroom
734-434-0576 EHO
*Some restrictions apply

**Apartments/
Furnished** **4010**

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

Condos/Townhouses **4020**

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

HUTCHINSON ISLAND
STUART, FL
2 bdrms, 2 bath ocean front w/loft. Available Feb./March, \$2850/mo. 248-568-7375.

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

Duplexes **4030**

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

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

WESTLAND - 2 bdrm, 1 bath duplex, near elementary, fridge/stove, new carpet & paint, \$675/mo. Sec 8 welcome. Greg: (734) 934-2724

THE OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MORTGAGE MONITOR

		30 Yr.	Pts.	15 Yr.	Pts.	Other
1st Choice Mortgage Lending	(734) 459-0782	5	0	4.625	0	J/A
Ameriplus Mortgage Corp.	(248) 740-2323	5.125	0.25	4.75	0.25	J/A
BRINKS Financial	(800) 785-4755	4.5	1	4.25	1.125	J/A/V/F
Client Services by Golden Rule	(800) 991-9922	4.625	0.75	4.375	0.5	J/A/V/F
Co-op Services Credit Union	(734) 466-8113	5	0	4.75	0	J
Cornerstone Community Financial	(800) 777-6728	5.5	1	4.5	1	J/A/F
Countryside Home Loans	(800) 641-2384	4.375	1.75	4.375	1.5	J/A/V/F
Dearborn Federal Savings Bank	(313) 565-3100	5.25	0	5.125	0	A
DFOU Financial	(800) 739-2770	4.5	2.25	4.25	2.25	J/A
Fifth Third Bank	(800) 792-8830	5	0.125	4.75	0.125	J/V/F
Gold Star Mortgage	(800) 784-1074	4.75	0.25	4.5	0.25	J/A/V/F
Golden Rule Mortgage	(800) 991-9922	4.75	0.25	4.5	0.125	J/A/V/F
Group One Mortgage	(248) 282-1602	5.125	0	5.125	0	J/A/V/F
Mortgages by Golden Rule	(800) 991-9922	5.125	0.5	4.875	0	J/A/V/F
Michigan United Mortgage	(313) 644-2222	4.75	0.5	4.5	0.25	J/A
Northlawn Financial	(248) 988-8488	5	0	4.625	0	J/A/V/F
Shore Mortgage	(800) 578-6663	4.375	2	4.25	2	J/A/V/F

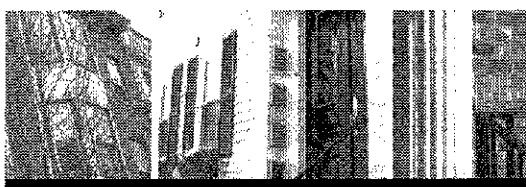
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loan with 20% down & credit score of 740 or above. Jumbo rates, specific payment calculations & most current

rates available Fridays after 2:00 P.M. at www.rmreport.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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HOMETOWNlife.com

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ONLINE..... www.hometownlife.com
EMAIL..... oeads@hometownlife.com
HOME DELIVERY/CIRCULATION..... 866-887-2737

Deadlines:

Sunday edition..... 4:30 p.m. Friday
Thursday edition..... 11:00 a.m. Wednesday

Offices and Hours:

Eccentric office..... 805 E. Maple, Birmingham
Observer office..... 41304 Concept Drive, Plymouth, MI 48170
Hours..... 8:30 - 5:00 Monday - Friday

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OE0563547

Duplexes

WESTLAND - 3 bdrm, mint condition. 3 car garage w/ storage. Backs up to school. \$700/mo. 248-962-3281

Westland 2 bdrm, w/3rd room in bsmt, bath, basement. Fenced yard. \$760/mo. Mike: 734-576-3434

WESTLAND/NORWAYNE Tax refund special! 3 bdrm, \$625 & also 1 bdrm apt \$425. Sec. 8 OK. 248-959-1491

Flats

FERDALE (N.W.) Charming 2 bdrm upper flat, hardwood & ceramic floors, C/A, close to downtown. \$700/mo. + util. 586-412-1760

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

Homes For Rent

Academy / Westpoint Homes for rent Starting at \$499 per month Michigan Ave & Haggerty in Canton Call 888-268-7434 Expires 01/31/2009 Or visit our showcase of homes at academywestpoint.com

Homes For Rent

BERKLEY Cute 2 bdrm, 2 car garage, hardwood floors throughout, appliances. \$750/mo. 734-368-4431

BLOOMFIELD TWP 2-3 bdrms \$750. 248-540-5998

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. \$30 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 888-264-0480 APPLY ONLINE www.collegepark.com Must close by 1/31/09

Homes For Rent

Clubhouse, Pool and Playgrounds Homes for rent Starting at \$499 per month 3 Bedrooms / 2 Bathrooms Free rent in February Offer won't last long Expires 01/31/2009 Call 888-268-7434 Or visit our showcase of homes at academywestpoint.com

DEARBORN HEIGHTS, 3 bdrm ranch, bsmt, garage, a/c, \$850; 2 bdrm ranch, bsmt, a/c, \$650, option. (248) 788-1823

DETROIT 2 bedroom, basement, \$575/mo., 16580 Woodbine. (248) 476-6498

DETROIT 3 Bedroom, basement, garage, \$600. 20021 Chapel (248) 476-6498

FARMINGTON HILLS 12 Mile & Haggerty. 4 bdrm, 2.5 bath, dining rm, living rm, family rm, fireplace, 2 car garage. 248-555-4874

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

Homes For Rent

FARMINGTON HILLS 2-3 bdrm. Very clean, new windows. \$800-\$1000/mo. + security. 248-787-6808.

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

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

FERDALE 1931 Martin Ave. 3 bdrm, completely remodeled, laundry, hardwood, fenced yard. \$895/mo. 248-349-9357

FERDALE Bungalow, 9 Mile & Pinehurst. 1500 sq. ft., 3 bdrm, 2 bath, \$799/mo. 734-966-8275, 734-722-6646

GARDEN CITY 3 bdrm., close to schools, garage, nice yd., good neighborhood. \$900 a month. 734-776-1303

HAZEL PARK 2 bdrm, 1 bath, 1 car, many updates, move in ready! \$650/mo. + \$990 sec. dep. Steven 248-207-7606.

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Sharp 3 Bedroom, 2 Bath homes from 924 sq. ft. Appliances included. Pets welcome. Call Lauren at Sun Homes 888-264-5842 www.academywestpoint.com

LIMITED TIME OFFER FREE MOBILE HOMES Security Deposit equal to one month's rent Contact Lauren or Jamie at Academy West Point 888-268-7434

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

Homes For Rent

LIVONIA - Remodeled large 3 bdrm, 2 bath ranch. Gorgeous 1 acre lot. 6 & Farmington Rd. \$1250/mo. (248) 508-1975

LIVONIA 3 bdrm ranch, 1 1/2 bath, bsmt, garage, new carpet, no pets. \$950/mo. + deposit. 248-735-1779

PLYMOUTH 3 bdrm brick ranch, 1.5 bath, garage, bsmt, fireplace, appliances, \$1250/mo. Lease. 734-455-0391

REDFORD 18411 Poiana, 3 bdrm bsmt, \$875 (734) 664-1884

ROCHESTER HILLS, 3000 Sq. Ft. 4 Bdrm, 2.5 bath Colonial located on the 3rd hole of Great Oaks Golf Course. Hardwood floors, all appliances incl washer and dryer, 2.5 car attached garage. Must see! \$2000/mo. 248-425-4853. See pics www.bekamanagement.com

SOUTHFIELD - REDUCED 2 bdrm, 1 bath, large yard, appliances incl. \$625/mo. Call: (734) 625-3157

SOUTHFIELD - Sharp 3 bdrm brick ranch, bsmt, C/A, option, immediate occup, bad credit okay, \$900. (248) 788-1823

Sun Homes \$499 3 Bedrooms / 2 Bathrooms For rent won't last long Expires 01/31/2009 Or visit our showcase of homes at academywestpoint.com

Sun Homes \$599 3 Bedrooms / 2 Bathrooms For rent won't last long Expires 01/31/2009 Or visit our showcase of homes at academywestpoint.com

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

WEST BLOOMFIELD 6007 Shillingham, \$1,700. 4 bdrm, 2.5 baths, fin bsmt, 2 fireplaces, 2 car garage, open house 1-3, Sun Jan 25. Broker owned, (248) 318-3453

WESTLAND Small 3 bdrm, carpeted, C/A, garage, \$675/mo. Ross Realty: (734) 326-8300

WESTLAND - 3 bdrm duplex, remodeled, neat, clean house, friendly neighborhood. Call: 734-287-5178

WESTLAND 2 Bdrms, all appliances included. Large fenced-in yard \$350, biweekly 734-398-6668

Homes For Rent

WESTLAND Act Now! 2 & 3 bdrm duplexes. Excellent Condition. 1.5 bath, carpet, near school. 313-418-9905

WESTLAND Cute 2 bdrm, country kitchen, fenced yard, nice area. Newly updated, pets neg. \$690. 248-306-3333

WOODHAVEN Remodeled 3 bdrm brick ranch, finished bsmt, 2 car, C/A, 2 baths, option, \$900. (248) 788-1823

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

FARMINGTON HILLS 1 & 2 bdrm, \$60/wk. & up. Appliances. Seniors welcome. No pets. Dep. req. 248-473-5535

Vacation Resort/Rentals 4110

MARCO ISLAND, FL. 2 bdrm ocean front condo. Avail. 3/13-3/20. \$1600/wk. mpick@aol.com or 248-887-8490

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CANTON Executive home on 5 wooded acres, \$450 master suite w/private bath, incl. utilities. 734-658-8823

Redford - My home to share to qualified, reliable, non-smoker. \$425 + 1/2 util. & electric. have dog. Call: 313-255-8744

TROY - farmhouse on 1 acre. Quiet. Full house privileges. Utilities included, non-smoker. \$395/mo. (248) 879-7430

Rooms For Rent 4140

GARDEN CITY Working male, drug-free, sleeping rooms, furnished. \$75-90/wk. sec. 734-781-2657, 734-255-5909

NORTHVILLE - 3 bdrm condo. Mature professional, non-smoking, Laundry. (248) 349-7334 (248) 505-0614

REDFORD Plymouth & Inster area. \$100/per week. \$200 security, utilities included. 313-937-1750

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Office/Retail Space For Rent/Lease 4220

FARMINGTON HILLS RETAIL SPACE Great Exposure. Last Available Space 1716 sq.ft. Excellent Rate. CERTIFIED REALTY INC. 248-471-7100

Office/Retail Space For Rent/Lease

ROCHESTER DOWNTOWN 1000 sq. ft., newly renovated with private lavatory. Faces free public parking. Avail. Feb. 1st. \$1600/mo. Gross Lease. 248-892-3863

Commercial/Industrial For Rent/Lease 4230

DOWNTOWN NORTHVILLE Prime location on Main St. Avail for lease. 2800 sq ft, full bsmt, C/A, excellent parking, front & rear entrances. Great opportunity! \$2,875/month. Call Jim at 734-416-1201

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Apartments/ Unfurnished

4000

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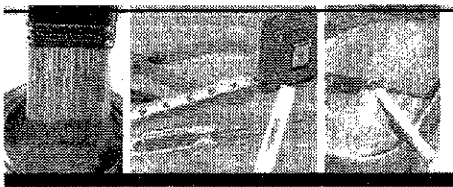
Luna Apts. Move-In Specials! Near Westland mall (734) 425-0930

HUGE Bathrooms **Village Apts.** Bordering Westland (734) 425-0930

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Help Wanted-General 5000

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Michigan Dairy, a Kroger Company owned manufacturing plant, is seeking a **Production Mechanic/Maintenance Electrician**. Qualified candidates will be able to demonstrate skills related to National Electrical Code interpretation; industrial electrical installation practices; Allen-Bradley PLC installation and troubleshooting; PLC and relay logic troubleshooting; temperature, flow and pressure sensing and recording instrument installation, calibration and troubleshooting and OSHA/NFPA Electrical Safe Practices. These skills will typically be acquired through at least 5 years of process industry experience.

Salary & benefit package commensurate with exp. and proven ability. Send resume to: john.palmer@kroger.com

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Help Wanted-General 5000

PRODUCTION TECHNICIANS

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

Requirements for position:
• Associates/Technical Degree, equivalent educational/military exp. or 2 yrs. in high speed filling & packaging environment
• Basic Mechanical & Electrical skills required
• Basic Computer Literacy
• Maximize production output
• Assume high quality standards & follow GMP's
• Ability to lift 50 pounds repetitively

Interested candidates please email resume to: hr25@coconfidential.com

E.O.E.

Help Wanted-General 5000

Service Tech
Heating & air company looking for sales oriented service technician. Own truck & own tools.
Call Jason 248-231-2102 or email: harimanheating@comcast.net

TREE TRIMMERS
W/exp. Good hourly wage. Call: 734-459-4655

Help Wanted-Office Clerical 5020

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
Part-Time Position. Ideal candidate will have a minimum of 5 yrs. exp. Candidate must be able to perform in a fast paced, flexible environment. Proficiency in Word, Excel and database programs are job necessities. If you are organized with excellent oral and written communication skills, can work with minimal supervision and comfortable with all levels of management, either fax: 248-879-2430 or email resume: submissions@haymanco.com

Administrative Assistant (Sr.) To Pastor Washington at the Canton Christian Fellowship. Full-Time. Salary negotiable. For details contact the church at: 734-404-2480

Help Wanted-Dental 5040

DENTAL ASSISTANT
Part-Time. Skilled. Dependable. Personable. Canton: 734-981-2880

DENTAL INSURANCE BILLER
Must have exp. 20-25 hours per week, some Saturdays. Fax resume: 313-565-3057

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Full-Time. Needed for premier office in Ann Arbor. Minimum 5 yrs. exp., salary based on exp. & education. \$35,000-\$50,000. Excellent benefit package. Please send resume to: mhaldds@aol.com or Employment Application 24 Frank Lloyd Wright Dr. PO Box 326 Ann Arbor MI 48106

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Help Wanted-Medical 5060

Attn: HHA's
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Help Wanted-Medical 5060

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MEDICAL ASSISTANT
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NURSE/MEDICAL ASSISTANT
Part-Time for OB/GYN practice in Livonia/Westland area. OB/GYN experience only. Email resume to: adm01308@aol.com

PHLEBOTOMY EDUCATION
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Help Wanted-Medical 5060

RNs & LPNs
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Help Wanted-Food/Beverage 5080

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Positions available for mature, dependable person. Apply in person, no calls: Comparis, 350 S. Main St., Plymouth.

Help Wanted-Sales 5120

INDEPENDENT SALES CONTRACTORS NEEDED
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Help Wanted-Domestic 5240

Housekeeper
Great opportunity for self-motivated, hard worker with good judgment to work for family as a part or full-time housekeeper. Duties encompass general housekeeping skills (laundry, vacuuming, mopping, dusting; windows, bathrooms, etc.) Must like children and animals. Must be a non-smoker, from a smoke-free household. Must speak English. Must have own transportation. Household experience required. Hourly wage flexible. Please forward list of qualifications and resumes. Fax: 248-593-5849 Email: housekeeper2007@gmail.com

Help Wanted-Domestic 5240

Live in housekeeper
in Luling, Texas. Call evenings 830-875-5571

LIVE-IN MATURE light housekeeper for gentleman. English speaking Valid drivers license required. Farmington Hills. (248) 921-7244

Position Wanted 5340

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Certified Geriatric Nurse. Avail for weekdays. Exc. references. (734) 844-8828

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ADORABLE infant needs NANNY Monday & Tuesday 7am-6pm. 15 Mile & Ryan Call Amy: 248-646-4596

Childcare Needed 5380

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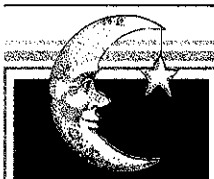
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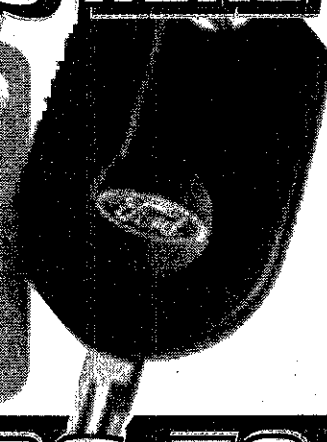
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WAS \$16,505

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\$9,954¹⁴**



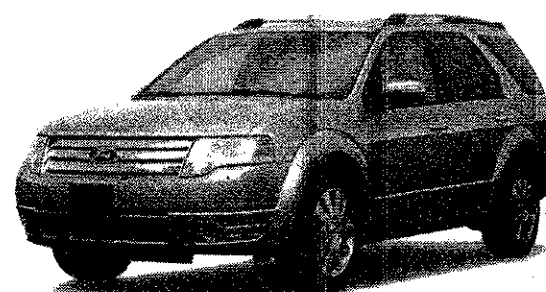
Stock #83315

New 2008 Ford Taurus FWD Limited

WAS \$28,895

A/Z Plan Purchase Only

\$20,116⁹⁰**



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New 2008 Ford Taurus X FWD Limited

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A/Z Plan Purchase Only

\$23,497⁶⁵**



Stock #90918

New 2009 Ford Fusion SE FWD

36 Months Lease A/Z Plan

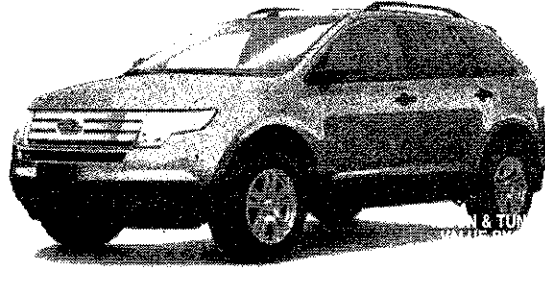
\$235³¹** mo.

"0" DUE AT SIGNING

\$166³⁴** mo.

OR \$2000 DOWN

\$2427.32 DUE AT SIGNING



Stock #91017

New 2009 Ford Edge SE FWD

36 Months Lease A/Z Plan

\$292⁰¹** mo.

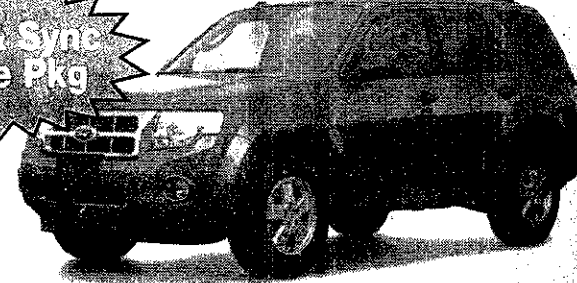
"0" DUE AT SIGNING

\$219²¹** mo.

OR \$2000 DOWN

\$2573.36 DUE AT SIGNING

Sun & Sync Value Pkg



Stock #90912

New 2009 Ford Escape XLT FWD

WAS \$25,030

A/Z Plan Purchase Only

\$17,090⁷⁷**

\$750⁰⁰**
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24 MPG! Hwy Rated



Stock #91051

New 2009 Ford Flex SE Fwd

36 Months Lease A/Z Plan

\$353⁶⁹** mo.

"0" DUE SIGN & DRIVE

\$279⁵¹** mo.

OR \$2000 DOWN

\$2574.28 DUE AT SIGNING

STX DECOR PACKAGE



Stock #90906

New 2009 Ford F150 Supercab

WAS \$30,100

A/Z Plan Purchase Only

\$20,072⁴⁵**

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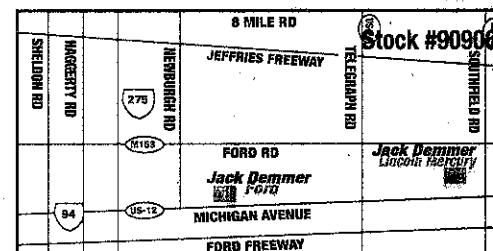
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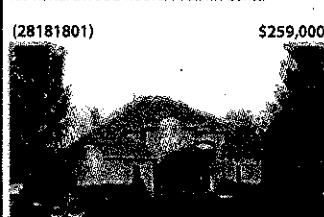
Belleville 734-455-7000
 JUST REDUCED! Why settle for the city... when 5 awesomely fertile acres -- some woody w/creek -- can be yours! Sharp red brick ranch trimmed in gardens. Country living just 1 mile from downtown.
 (28201498) \$199,000



Belleville 734-455-7000
 GREAT HOUSE! GREAT PRICE! Plenty of room in this 4 bedroom/2 bath home in Van Buren Estates. Huge backyard, partially finished basement, 2 car garage. Home Warranty!
 (28200791) \$98,000



Brighton 248-437-3800
 Great Home To Entertain In Wide open floor plan, GR has soaring ceilings, fireplace & lots of windows. 1st flr mstr suite w/jetted tub. Large kit w/hardwood floors. Prof/fin bsmt.
 (28181801) \$259,000



Canton 734-591-9200
 Beautiful home & sub backing to tree line. Neutral decor, 10 ft ceilings on 1st flr, spiral str/case w/2 stry foyer, lg kit open to Fam rm. Mstr ste w/cathed cell 2 wlk/in clos. Fin bsmt w/fi bath & poss 5th BR
 (28186254) \$349,900



Canton 734-455-7000
 STAR QUALITY! Amazingly attractive home totally remodeled w/quality and care throughout. Super location, park-like yd, paver patio, open floor plan - the list goes on and on!
 (28181903) \$168,900



Clarkston 248-684-1065
 Wonderful site condo w/ 2 BR and 2 full BA up and BR/full BA in Fin W/O bsmt. GR w/ FP. Association fee includes yard, street maint, garbage pick-up.
 (28156385) \$249,000



Commerce 248-437-3800
 Bank Owned "As Is" Enclosed front porch, ext. access to basement. Detached garage/polebarn. Needs tub/shower in bath. Nice Clean Home. Great Bargain with Crestwood Schools.
 (28206191) \$44,900



Dearborn 734-455-7000
 DESIGNED AND BUILT BY OWNER WITH PRIDE! Hand-made kitchen cab & fin upstairs. Beautifully fin hwd flrs. Updtd bath, roof, elec & plumb. High efficiency furn 08. Priv. yd. 2 car + gar. Home Warri
 (28206357) \$98,000



Dearborn Heights 734-591-9200
 Must See! Orig Own. Home Updtd Thru Years New Furnace, Hardwood Floors Under Carpet. Fin Bsmt w/BA. Kitchen Updtd. Nice Clean Home. Great Bargain with Crestwood Schools. Buyers Agent to Verify All Info.
 (28185364) \$114,900



Farmington Hills 248-348-6430
 Original Owner, custom built 3 bedroom home on 2 acres! New hardwood floors & huge kitchen, family room overlooks 20x16 deck & spacious backyard, low utilities.
 (28068848) \$214,999



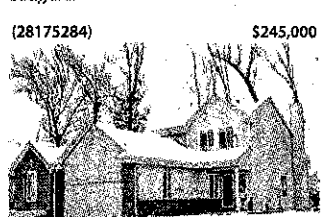
Garden City 734-455-7000
 Large Corner Lot 3BR/2.5BA ranch w/two 2 car garages attached by a 16x14 breezeway, family rm w/FP & doorwall. Newer plumbing, glass block windows, bay window in living rm.
 (29005419) \$149,900



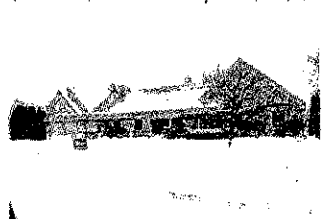
Green Oak 248-437-3800
 Wooded Retreat Like Setting Custom built. Lrg windows span back to view the natural area. Appraised 2007 for \$438,000. Argon filled windows & skylights, high eff. furnace. Prof. fin. W/O.
 (28205138) \$299,900



Green Oak 248-437-3800
 Just Listed! 2 story home in sought after Windcrest sub. Home features 4 bedrooms, 2.1 baths, partially finished W/O LL. Treed backyard.
 (28175284) \$245,000



Hartland 248-684-1065
 2-3 BR condo w/ 2 full BA. Many updates. Fin 2-car gar. GR w/ vaulted ceiling, gas FP, private deck, 1st flr MBR, open kit, 1st flr laundry, fin LL.
 (28172465) \$179,900



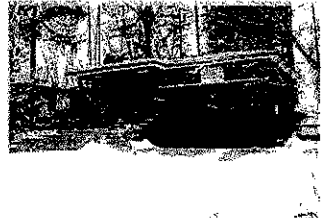
Highland 248-684-1065
 Total remodel on all-sports Duck Lake! HDWD flrs, 6 panel drs, arch top windows, granite ctrs, maple cabs, 1st flr laundry, deck, patio, 3-car garage.
 (28170487) \$724,500



Highland 248-684-1065
 Custom built lfrt home; 1.7 acres. Maple cabs & granite t/o 2 kits & baths. 2 story GR w/ fp. 1st flr mstr w/ ba & 2 WICs. Fin W/O prof Indsclng.
 (28152095) \$529,900



Highland 248-684-1065
 Beautiful home! Quality materials & trim details t/o! HDWD flrs & staircase, granite & natural cherry kit, SS appl, bonus 4th rm., 150' on All Sports Duck Lake.
 (28198231) \$499,900



Highland 248-684-1065
 Privs on Dunham Lake. LR w/ bay wndw & fp. Updtd kit w/ corian cntrs, cherry cabs, troy cell, ceramic flr & backsplash. Lg DR w/ D/W to deck. Fin in fin LL.
 (28179730) \$200,000



Holly 248-684-1065
 Beautifully maintained 2-BR ranch w/ lake access to Spring Lake and all-sports Crochted Lake. 3-car garage & separate heated workroom. Wooded lot.
 (28132165) \$125,000



Howell 248-348-6430
 4 Bedroom Colonial, 2 Full Baths Corner lot w/above ground kayak pool, fenced yard, 2 car ATT garage. Neutral T/O w/large kitchen, 2 BLKS to ELEM school. Walk to town, access to Thompson Lake.
 (28160445) \$149,900



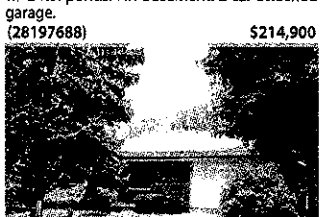
Livonia 734-591-9200
 UNIQUE PERFECT BACKYARD LOVER! FULL 8th on each flr, new wndws upstns, new ext drs, new furn-a/c-hwh, new carpet & pfergo flrs, updtd bthrms, huge fin bsmt, fam rm leads to deck w/hot tub, pond.
 (29000129) \$229,900



Livonia 248-851-1900
 ABSOLUTELY BEAUTIFUL 2005 BUILT COLONIAL. Large private lot features flagstone & paver patio w/spa. 3 BR, 2.1 bath. Ceramic, marble & granite in kitchen & all baths. Upgraded fixtures & hardware. Quiet street
 (28146911) \$229,900



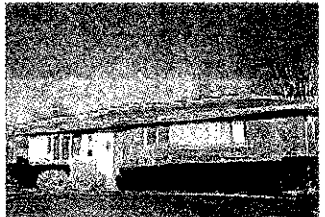
Livonia 734-284-5400
 PACK YOUR BAGS & COME HOME 3 possible 4 BD, 2.5 BA brick colonial. Natural fireplace in family room w/ door wall to deck & backyard w/ 2 Kol ponds. Fin basement. 2 car attached garage.
 (28197688) \$214,900



Livonia 734-591-9200
 4 Star offering. 40K in upgrdes. No expns spared. Map kit w/ceramic tile & stainless steel app. Hrdwd flrs. Decorat in neutral tones. Spac low liv. Fam rm w/dry bgnd off. Roof tear off, updted wind. Furn & CA.
 (28196107) \$159,900



Livonia 248-851-4100
 BEAUTIFUL UPDATED HOME - GREAT LOCATION 3 BR, 1.1 baths. Brand new HWF, gorgeous kitchen w/black granite, tile backsplash, stainless appl. Main bath w/jetted tub, granite, marble. New furnace, C/A, windows, more!
 (28163318) \$155,000



Livonia 248-348-6430
 Highly Desirable Northwest Livonia! Features: Updated kitchen, ceramic baths. Stamped concrete walk & patio, bay window, full finished basement, BR and new driveway, 2.5 car garage & much more!
 (29001443) \$135,000



Livonia 248-348-6430
 Lovely Desirable 2 Bedroom, 2 Bath 1st floor condo. No stairs to climb! New kitchen, carpet, paint & all appliances stay. Set in a private wooded location just steps away from pool and clubhouse.
 (28162574) \$65,000



Lyon 248-437-3800
 Located In Popular Carriage Club Sub Custom window treatments stay. Corian counters in kitchen. Hardwood floors in kitchen, breakfast, foyer and powder rm. Basement is finished with large rec rm.
 (28185774) \$219,900



Millford 248-684-1065
 Beautifully maintained w/ many extras! On 2.58 acres. Lots of privacy & trees. New roof, new cedar shake & trim, granite baths, W/O bsmt, wet bar.
 (29001408) \$234,900



Millford 248-684-1065
 Newly renovated tri-level in established neighborhood. Move right this amazing home with immediate occupancy. Wooded private backyard. Walk to town.
 (29000432) \$154,000



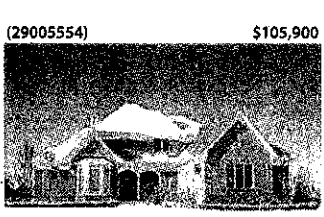
Northville 248-348-6430
 EXQUISITE EXECUTIVE HOME. Prestigious Northville Hills Golf Club sub: beautifully maintained w/prof decor touches t/o. 4br, 4.5 ba, elegant formal DR. 2stry GR w/Paladium windows.
 (28017178) \$999,000



Northville 248-348-6430
 Beautiful Remodeled 2006 Historic Home in downtown Northville, abundance of windows, fabulous new kitchen, elegant dining & living room, great room, family room & 3 porches. A spectacular home!
 (28191049) \$574,900



Northville 734-455-7000
 THIS ONE'S A HONEY! Freshly listed! Cholest Northville 2BR/2BA walk/out ranch condo with views worth painting! Stroll to town.
 (29005554) \$105,900



Novi 248-348-6430
 A True Gem! Beautiful 4 BDRM, 4.1 bath colonial on 1 acre, 2 story great room with views of the garden, chef's dream kitchen with upscale appliances, finished lower level.
 (28151022) \$674,900



Novi 248-684-1065
 Lovely 4 BR, 3.5 BA w/ vaulted ceiling in formal LR. 2008 updates: granite countertops, HDWD flrs, carpet, paint. Fin bsmt w/ exercise rm, BA, rec.
 (29002237) \$408,900



Novi 248-437-3800
 Totally Redone Neo-Classic Inside Colors very appealing for today's look. Shows like a 2008 home. Elaborate master bath with extensive use of limestone. Wide plank hardwood in most of 1st floor.
 (28152434) \$279,700



Lyon Twp. 248-348-6430
 Lovely Country Estate on 5 acres! Large garage, hay barn with loft, horse barn for 4, house has been remodeled from top to bottom, hardwood floors spacious kitchen.
 (28119437) \$349,000



Novi 248-348-6430
 Bargain Priced! Novi Schools! 4 BR, 2 BA Sharp UPDTD KIT w/granite & SS appls. New carpet, main UPDTD BA, Andersen windows, fieldstone FP, patio w/LG scenic yard! Comm pool & clubhouse. You'll love it!
 (28154102) \$174,900



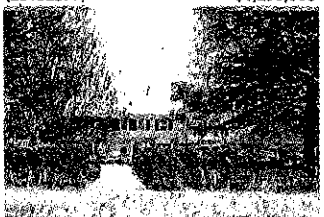
Novi 248-851-4100
 Gorgeous completely updated 3 BR condo. Enclosed brick paver patio. New windows, doorwall, HWF in foyer, kit. & DR. Tiled backsplash in kitc, new appl, new bathrooms. California closets. New furnace & AC.
 (28131329) \$106,000



Novi 248-348-6430
 Excellent Opportunity! Spic & span condo all appls, move-in ready. Across from Walled Lake, backs to wooded area. Nice building w/lovely lobby & gathering rm. Wonderful Community of adults 50+! No pets.
 (28177558) \$55,000



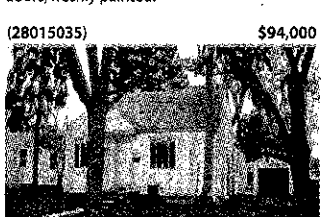
Orchard Lake 248-348-6430
 Cass Lake Site Here's your opportunity! 0.41 ac lake lot on the Southern shore of Cass Lake.
 (28132377) \$1,299,000



Plymouth 734-455-7000
 AN ADVENTURE INTO ELEGANCE! Most Admired Historic Cape Cod in the City of Plymouth! Designed by GM Bldg architect. 1st time marketed in 45 years! 5 bedrooms/5 baths. Spectacular wooded acre!
 (28172722) \$825,000



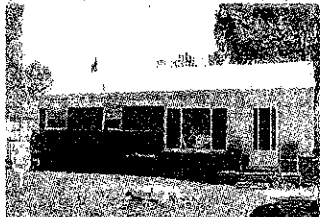
Redford 248-348-6430
 Picture Perfect Home Hard to beat the price of this beautifully updated brick ranch, new KIT, totally remodeled bath, new interior & exterior doors, freshly painted!
 (28015035) \$94,000



Redford 734-591-9200
 Updated-Freshly pnted, New Oak Cabinets and Counter top. New interior doors. New stove and fridge. Come and see
 (28196134) \$90,500



Redford 248-851-4100
 ATTENTION FIRST TIME BUYERS! Cute ranch home features fireplace, HWF, formal DR, LR, double closets in master bedroom & large kitchen. Updated electrical & bath. 1 year home warranty.
 (29006079) \$80,000



Redford 248-851-1900
 GREAT OPPORTUNITY! Must sell this 3 bedroom ranch. Furnace and A/C replaced 5 years ago. Make sure you see this one and make an offer!
 (28162148) \$51,500



South Lyon 248-437-3800
 Well Kept Home! Well kept home in Popular Carriage Trace. Seller has \$440,000 invested. Granite kit w/cherry cabinets, ceramic backsplash. GR w/hrdwd flrs, soaring ceiling.
 (28085461) \$299,900



South Lyon 248-437-3800
 Newer Quality Built Colonial Loads of upgrades! Living rm has gas fp, kit w/breakfast nook. Both rms have door leading to deck, formal DR w/bay window, mstr BR has 2 W/O closets & mstr bath.
 (28145429) \$269,900



South Lyon 248-437-3800
 Premium Lot Overlooking Pond... With view of fountain. 500 sq ft of maintenance free Trex decking captures peaceful water views. 4 BR, 2.1 BA. Subject to short sale.
 (29003042) \$219,900



South Lyon 248-437-3800
 Sharp Condo Unit... Move In Condition Located close to clubhouse w/indoor pool & fitness rm. Next to tennis court. Features include vaulted ceiling in lrg living rm, nice separate dining area.
 (28205923) \$79,000



Southfield 248-348-6430
 Nicest You'll See! Huge Price Reduction. Not a drive-by! Extensively remodeled. To die for KIT, Big FR w/skylights, Quaint patio! 2.5 heated gar w/water. Easily converted to 3 BDRM, MBR w/sitting rm.
 (28150010) \$69,900



Van Buren Twp 734-591-9200
 Remodeled 3BR RCH. New roof/windows. Kit remodeled. New HWF and C/A unit. Updtd bath has jetted tub. Updtd plumb and elect. All on 1/2 acre. Seller will incl Home Warrant (\$50) Deductible. BA comm is 3.5%
 (28188084) \$79,900



Walled Lake 248-684-1065
 Well maintained and updated condo! Hdwd flrs on entry level. Natural FP in cathedral ceiling living room. Part fin. bsmt. Some exclusions apply.
 (28132803) \$135,500



Walled Lake 248-348-6430
 PRVT Ranch Duplex Condo Great Location Quiet cul-de-sac. 3 BD, 2 BA with W/O LL. Soaring ceilings, skylights & FP in FR. Separate DR & KIT w/hdwd flrs. FF laundry. MBR has double closets & priv BA.
 (29004085) \$2,000



Wayne 734-455-7000
 OH ME, OH MY! Updates galore! kitchen, baths, trim, doors, roof, furnace, floors. 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, basement, garage.
 (29004240) \$85,000



Westland 734-284-5400
 BETTER THAN NEW with more charm than a Builder could desing in today's market. Library could be 4th BD. Sunroom w/ skylight. Granite Kitchen Island. 1st flr laundry. Must See!
 (28204536) \$239,900



Westland 734-455-7000
 SURE TO PLEASE! Open, spacious floor plan. Great rm w/cathedral ceiling & marble FP. Upgraded white cabinets in kitchen, appliances stay. 1st flr master & laundry. neutral t/o.
 (28141520) \$179,900



Westland 248-348-6430
 Best Buy In Westland! Updtd Galore! Newer furnace, air, siding, roof, tankless HWF, concrete & 2+ garage w/attic. Fenced yard. Updtd kit, BA, plumbing, electric. Near City Hall. Home Warranty!
 (28206757) \$49,900

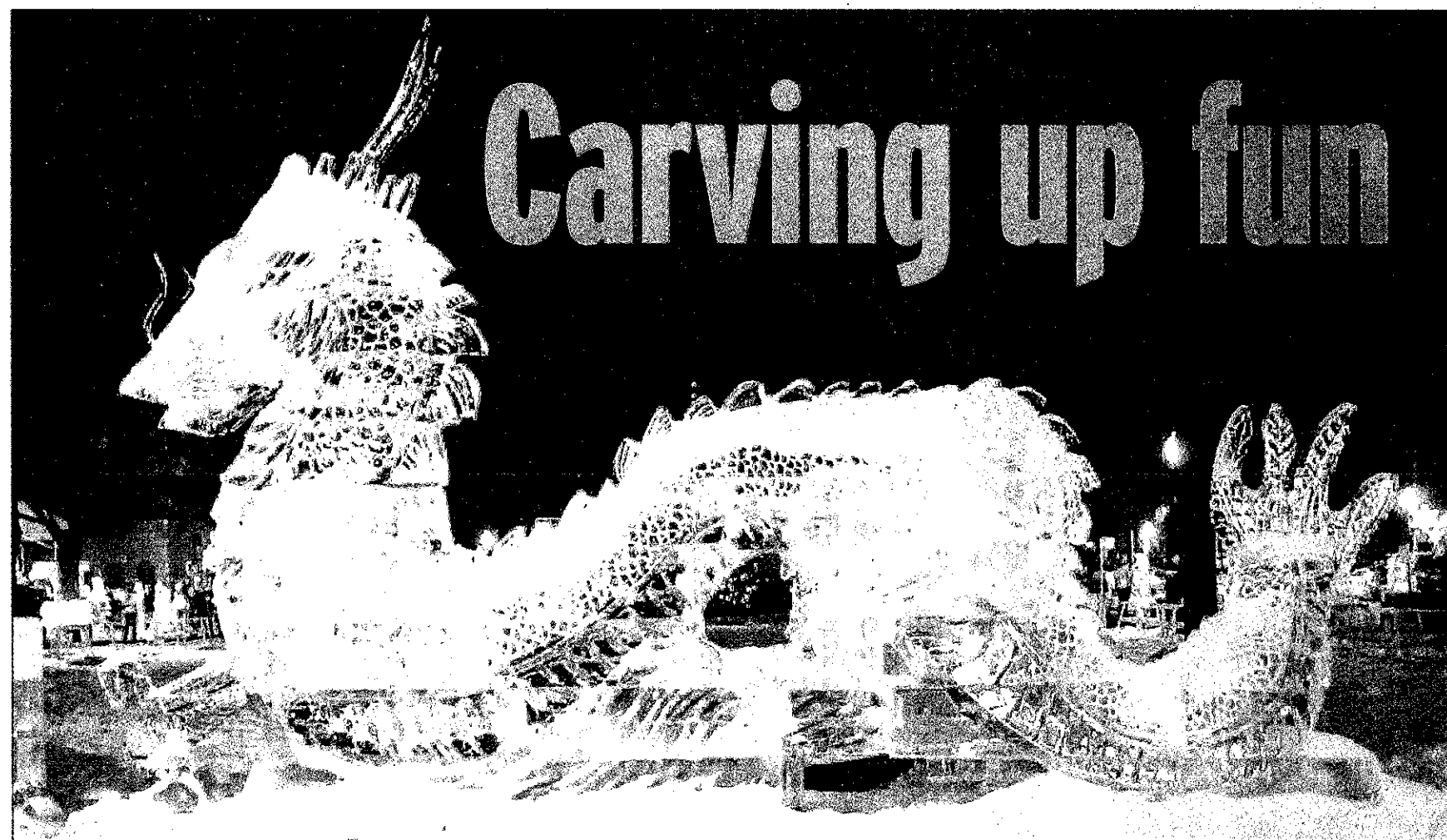
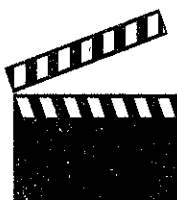


White Lake 248-684-1065
 110 feet on the canal 56 feet on the road. Lg Kitchen w/doorwall to lrg 17x11 deck. Spectacular view of White Lk from living room w/ water view from every window
 (28038434) \$189,900



White Lake 248-684-1065
 White Lake Canal! Affordable home to call your own! Close to main body of lake. Wooded, good-size lot. New roof, well pump, FP. Needs some work.
 (28146975) \$125,000

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Sculptures like this award-winning dragon, are lit at night for a romantic effect.

2009 PLYMOUTH ICE SCULPTURE SPECTACULAR

Where: Kellogg Park and downtown Plymouth
When: Jan. 23-25

Friday, Jan. 23 – Official Opening

■ Pedestal sculptures displayed in Kellogg Park and at sponsoring businesses.

■ 3-7 p.m.: High School Individual Competition in Kellogg Park, 1 block of ice, 4 hours to carve.

■ Community College Ice Carving Clubs and Professional Carvers complete their displays.

Saturday, Jan. 24

■ 11 a.m.-5 p.m.: Grabber will distribute free samples of hand and foot warmers.

■ 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.: AM 901 Radio Disney broadcasts from The Gathering in downtown Plymouth. Get autographs from Plymouth Whalers and photos with Shooter. Autograph

■ noon-4 p.m.: College Individual Competition in Kellogg Park, 1 block of ice, 4 hours to carve.

■ 11 a.m. until completion: Cut & Carve Chainsaw Artistry, Master Wood Carvers carve and sell their artwork.

Major Ice Carvings on display, including carvings by Japanese Team.

Sunday, Jan. 25

■ 11 a.m.-3 p.m.: College Team Competition in Kellogg Park, 3 blocks of ice, 4 hours to carve.

■ 11 a.m.-3 p.m.: High School Team Competition in Kellogg Park, 3 blocks of ice, 4 hours.

■ 11 a.m. until completion: Cut & Carve Chainsaw Artistry, Master Wood Carvers

■ noon-5 p.m.: Grabber will distribute free samples of their hand and foot warmers.

■ Major multi-block displays and individual competition works on display

Note: The process of building and carving major ice sculpture displays requires two to three days for each carving. Times are approximate and all events are subject to change.

Information: Call (734) 453-1540 or visit plymouthice.com



Royal Oak resident Tyler Colman, a student at Oakland County Community College, works on a carving during last year's college individual ice carving competition. The Plymouth International Ice Sculpture Spectacular runs January 23-25.

Sculptures are icing on cake during Plymouth's annual festival

BY WENDSY VON BUSKIRK
O & E STAFF WRITER

The romance of ice sculpture is that it doesn't last. The art is beautiful and ephemeral, precious because it must be viewed before it melts away.

For the 27th year in a row, ice sculptors and enthusiasts will gather to celebrate this transient art form during the Plymouth International

Ice Sculpture Spectacular, Jan. 23-25. The event is free.

According to organizer Mike Watts, Plymouth was among the first cities to host such a winter celebration.

"We believe we're the oldest and longest continuously running ice sculpture festival in the entire United States. We have an international reputation," Watts said. "More importantly it brings in business to

the community during a slow time of year and an extremely slow time in the economy, so the business it generates will be a big help to the retailers, bars and restaurants."

Ice carvers from across the country and around the world have competed in past years, including teams from Russia, Norway and Sweden. This year, the award-win-

Please see **ICE, D7**

HAPPENINGS

COMEDIAN HAMILTON COMES TO CANTON

Laughs are coming to the Village Theater at Cherry Hill as comedian Ryan Hamilton takes the stage 8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 23.

Known for his clean brand of comedy, Hamilton continues to receive national attention



Hamilton

for his quick wit and was recently featured on NBC's *Last Comic Standing*. In 2003, Hamilton was a semi-finalist in the Seattle International

Comedy Competition and a finalist at Las Vegas Comedy Festival's *Laugh Across America Contest*.

In 2005, Hamilton won America's Next Great Comic Search, which included a national tour. Hamilton made his Comedy Central debut on *Live at Gotham* in 2007.

The evening also includes a performance by Comedian Steve Macone (content may contain adult material.) For tickets, \$15, call (734) 394-5460, visit www.canton-mi.org/villagetheater or purchase at the Village Theater, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton.



Horlock

LOCAL ROCKERS RELEASE CDS AT MAGIC BAG

Two of metro Detroit's top rock artists — Brandon Calhoon and Robin Horlock — celebrate the release of their new discs with a joint CD release party Friday, Jan. 23 at The Magic Bag in Ferndale. Doors are at 8 p.m., tickets are \$8 and ages 18 and over are welcome. Ann Arbor roots rock quartet Dirt Road Logio-open the show.

Brandon Calhoon, of Berkley, has been a contender on CBS' hit reality TV show *Rock Star INXS* with his gritty neo-Motown rock 'n' roll style. His debut CD *Detroit City* was released on Blunk Street Music.

Robin Horlock, of Northville, is hot off an 89x-sponsored New Year's Eve performance with Blind Melon. He is celebrating the release of his second full-length CD *Musik* (Risk. 2 Try Records), an eleven-song disc is an engaging mix of rock, pop, folk/acoustic and reggae.

The Magic Bag is located at 22920 Woodward Ave. For more information, call (248) 544-3030 or visit www.themagicbag.com.

LIVONIA SYMPHONY SPOTLIGHTS DSO BASSOONIST

The Livonia Symphony Orchestra presents a Viennese Classics Celebration 4 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 24, at Clarenceville High School, 20155 Middlebelt, south of Eight Mile, Livonia.

Guest artist is Robert Williams, principal bassoonist with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra. He performs Karl Maria von Weber's Concerto for Bassoon and Orchestra.

Tickets are \$17, \$5 students, and available by calling the hotline at (734) 421-1111. For group discounts of 10 or more (\$12

Please see **HAPPENINGS, D3**

Circus-themed family event a 'hoot'

Well, I've finally returned to the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers after taking a 12-week maternity leave.

Being back at work also means practice with the Mydols has resumed. Since we're an all-mom band, it was no problem going on hiatus so that I could bond with my new baby daughter Violet. But now it's time to buckle down, and since we have a new lead singer and drummer, we have quite a bit of work to do.

Our next gig is the Circus Family Hootenanny 2:30-5 p.m. this Sunday at the Magic Stick. Our new lead singer, April Boyle, has been staging

Family Hootenannies since 2001. The events bring local musicians together to play kid-friendly music at hip venues throughout metro Detroit. April

told me she was inspired to start the Hootenannies after attending a similar event in Chicago.

She's married to musician Brian Boyle, a founding member of the popular alt-country band Blanche, and has always been deeply involved in the music scene, so she was horrified upon becoming a mom to find that Barney, Disney and Kindermusic were taking over her stereo.

She decided to do something about it. "I wanted my kids to be exposed to real music, something fun and cool that I could enjoy too," she said.

So, twice a year April stages Hootenannies and she has even put out two amazing compilation CDs featuring local bands - the Detroit Family Hootenanny in 2006; and Christmas Hootenanny in 2007.

At the upcoming Circus-themed Hootenanny, the Mydols will be joined by Almond Joy from Candy Band and Mr. Seley. In addition to the music, a major highlight will be Hoopin' for the Hood, a band of local hula hoop enthu-

siasts who make and distribute hoops to at-risk kids, and promote hooping as a form of fun and physical fitness.

We're playing a new song, "Hula Twist," in their honor.

I'm looking forward attending the Hootenanny with my 3-year-old Verick, along with Violet in her Baby Bjorn, and I hope lots of other families show up. Popcorn, face painting, balloon animals, circus performers and a DIY craft show will add to the fun.

It will be the first gig for our new drummer Laura Spenn, a Madison Heights mother of six who started playing drums after she got hooked on the Rock Band video game.

Of course, since we're a mom band, we're most concerned with what we're going to wear. So far plans include circus-themed costumes like a trapeze artist, ringmaster, snake charmer and lion tamer.

The Mydols might not be 'the greatest show on earth,' but we sure have a great time.



Boyle



Wendy
Von Buskirk



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Oakland County hosts 2nd annual Ice Fest

ROCHESTER — A TasteFest, toboggan run and dog sled rides are new highlights for the second annual Fire & Ice Fest, Jan. 23-24 in Downtown Rochester.

Snow shoeing, ice sculptures, cross-country skiing and ice skating also will be part of the family event, presented by Oakland County, the Rochester Downtown Development Authority and Oakland County Parks.

Fire & Ice Fest is free to the public.

County Executive L. Brooks Patterson and Rochester Mayor Jeffrey Cuthbertson will kick off the festival at 7:50 p.m. Friday. Fireworks will follow the opening ceremonies on Friday and the closing ceremonies on Saturday near the corner of East Third and Water Streets, at about 8 p.m. each night.

The TasteFest includes offerings from Andiamo Osteria, Bean & Leaf Café, Gus

O'Connor's Public House, Mind, Body & Spirits; Rochester Mills Beer Co., and the Royal Park Hotel. An ice-carving demonstration is set for Friday evening behind the Rochester Mills Beer Co.

"We want everyone to come out and enjoy what Rochester and Oakland County have to offer," Patterson said. "We've put together a program that is a true celebration of winter. You can learn to snow shoe, take a ride down the toboggan run, go on a horse-drawn trolley or just enjoy the ice carvings. We live in a state that embraces winter and I hope everyone takes advantage of it. And if you haven't seen fireworks in winter, you're in for a real treat."

The festival runs 6-9 p.m. Friday; and noon-9 p.m. Saturday. For more information, visit www.oakgov.com or www.DowntownRochesterMI.com.

FIRE & ICE FEST

Friday, Jan. 23:

6-9 p.m.: Under the Sea ice sculpture show, Shopping Spectacular, entertainment by Kevin T & the Firebirds, ice skating (bring your own skates), TasteFest, toboggan run, ice-carving demo, free horse-drawn trolley rides
7:50-8 p.m.: Opening Ceremony
8 p.m.: Fireworks

Saturday, Jan. 24

Noon-6 p.m.: Dogsled demos and rides, Geocaching scavenger hunt
Noon-8 p.m.: Shopping Spectacular, toboggan run
Noon-9 p.m.: Under the Sea ice sculpture show,

ice skating, TasteFest

1-4 p.m.: Free horse-drawn trolley rides
2-6 p.m.: Cross country skiing instruction, snow shoeing, snowmen and snow angels
7:50-8 p.m.: Closing Ceremony
8 p.m.: Fireworks
Entertainment:
Noon: Magician Tom Plunkard
1 p.m.: South Eastern Michigan Indians
2 p.m.: JC's Drummin' Music Center
3 p.m.: OU Gospel Choir
4 p.m.: Paul Green School of Rock Music
5 p.m.: Juggler Ric Roc Zoo
6 p.m.: Good Gravy Band

Brave the cold and celebrate the blues

Ferndale Mayor Craig Covey sounded as if he were writing the lyrics to a blues song as we talked about the upcoming eighth annual Ferndale Blues Festival, set for Jan. 23-31.

"The weather is bad. The economy is worse. It's easy to hole up for the winter," he mused. "You've got to get out and get some fresh air, mingle with people and listen to music. Music soothes the soul."

With more than 60 concerts at two dozen venues, there will be plenty of opportunities

during the nine-day festival to celebrate your troubles, have a great time listening to live blues music, and help out two worthy charities — Ferndale Youth Assistance and the Midwest AIDS Prevention Coalition (MAPP) of which Covey is the founder and CEO.

Last year, the festival raised almost \$25,000, said Monica Mills of MAPP, who along with Covey and other volunteers founded the citywide blues fest. Most of the concerts are free.

Aside from some sponsorship monies, the majority of funds are raised by volunteers who encourage concert goers to "feed" the blue pig banks found at venues around town.

"We have volunteers who pass the pigs around during breaks in the music," Mills said.

"The bar owners pay for the

bands but they don't charge a cover charge, so we expect the patrons to pony up and put something in the pig."

"We have about 50 to 60 volunteers over the nine-day period who are the backbone of this effort," Covey said. "Our volunteers represent everything from millennial, twenty-something kids to grandmas. We have a host of volunteers from the senior group ... They're the best because it's hard to turn down a little old lady who's trying to get you to put a dollar in the little blue pig."

BEST OF THE BLUES

Of course, it's the music that draws crowds to downtown Ferndale, even on the dreariest nights. A major sponsor of the Blues Fest, Dino's hosts entertainment every day of the festival. Owner Dean Bach and wife Denise (of the band Bocco) started booking in March to create an eclectic lineup of entertainment that includes the Black Cat Blues Band, Chris Canas Blues Revolution, the Sax Maniacs, and The Reefermen.

"Traditionally, I do not do blues music for nine days in a row. I couldn't handle it," Bach said with a laugh. "I have some gypsy blues/rock with The Luddites. Denise has more acoustic, classic rock covers, and I have the Calcutta Rugs, a rock and roll band, opening the Blues Festival."

Dino's raised nearly \$10,000 for the festival charities last year, due in part to a highly successful Barbecue Rib "Burn off" held in a heated tent. Bach

will sponsor the cook-off again this year on the last day of the Blues Fest. For a \$10 entrance fee visitors can taste specialty ribs prepared by several competitors and vote for their favorite. The Howling Diablos will be rockin' in the tent early that evening.

"It's a lot of work, I'm not going to kid you," said Bach, who also serves up hot dogs and beer in the tent. "Last year we got four inches of snow the day before and we were scratching our heads as to how this was going to affect it ... It turned out to be a fun party."

Terri Reeder, executive manager of Rosie O'Grady's, also books early to get the best blues acts. Luther "Badman" Keith, Doug Deming & the Jewel Tones, Bobby Murray & Lenny Watkins, and Pete (Big Dog) Fetter are on this year's schedule.

"The bands start at 9 p.m. Usually if people want a seat they need to get here by 8 p.m. because the place fills up fast. If they have groups of six or more I recommend they make reservations," said Reeder, who holds raffles and gives away prizes on the nights when groups perform.

BIRTHDAY BLUES

Rosie O'Grady's will feature Alberta Adams, "Detroit's Queen of the Blues," on the final night of the festival. Covey, who turns 50 at midnight (his birthday is Feb. 1), said he asked Reeder if she would book the "jump blues" artist who is well into her 90s.

"My birthday will be celebrated on Saturday and we're

going to do a concert for the mayor at Rosie O'Grady's. I'm really excited about that," Covey said. "Another one, Bobby Murray, one of the world's most accomplished guitar players who plays for Etta James, is also going to play that evening at Woodward Avenue Brewers, so I'll be going back and forth to those two venues."

It's likely that Covey will wrap up his birthday celebration at Tony's Sport's Bar (a small place that can, maybe, pack in 50 people) to see the rock and blues band Albert Young and the Straight 8's play into the wee hours.

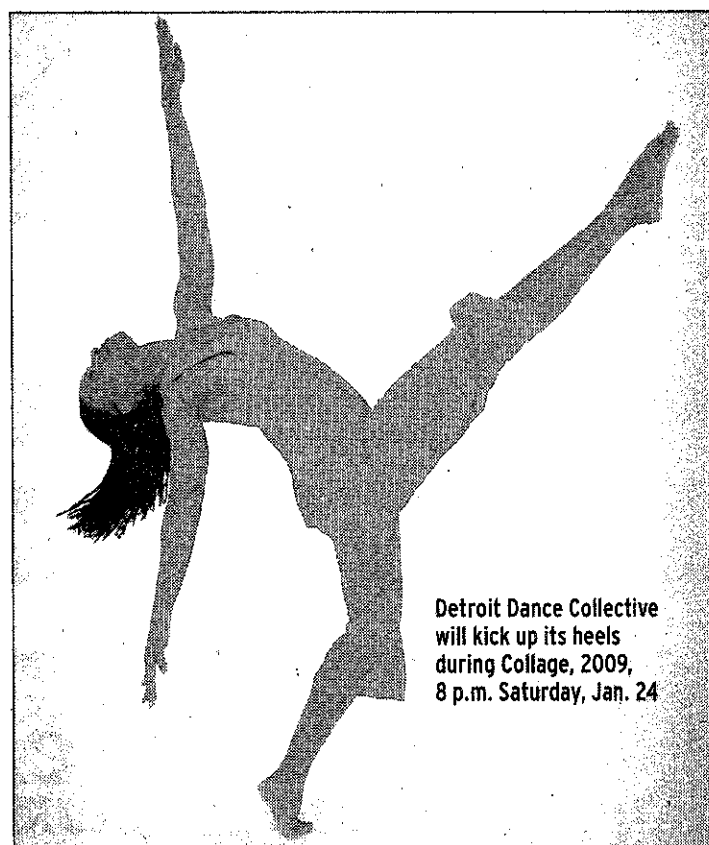
"He really doesn't play anywhere else. They just play here," said bar owner Tony Bielski, who hosts the group on the last weekend of the festival every year. "People know him. They come to see him, and his band is really good."

With so many concerts to choose from, Covey said, sometimes it's the little venues on an odd night that can surprise you.

"You'll have people just show up and join in," he said. "There'll be a band playing and a guy will take a break and someone from the audience will get up, and it turns out to be somebody really big."

A free shuttle will run between all the venues on Friday and Saturday nights. To see the Blues Fest schedule and venue locations, visit www.ferndalebluesfestival.org.

Send Around Town news to Diana Wing at rotown@ameritech.net.



Detroit Dance Collective will kick up its heels during Collage, 2009, 8 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 24

HAPPENINGS

FROM PAGE D1

each), call Ron Laing at (313) 538-2536.

The concert is sponsored by Livonia Town Hall.

DETROIT DANCE COLLECTIVE PRESENTS 'COLLAGE, 2009'

The Detroit Dance Collective will kick up its heels during Collage, 2009, 8 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 24, with another matinee tomorrow at 3 p.m. at the Ford Community & Performing Arts Center, Studio A. This annual performance highlights the work of numerous artists including Detroit Dance Collective artistic director, Barbara Selinger, of Farmington Hills. Also featured will be a performance by Marygrove College

Dance Company. An 'Artistic Insights' Q&A will follow the performance. For tickets, \$15, students and seniors, \$12, call (313) 934-2354 or visit www.detroitdancecollective.org.

OAKLAND BRASS BAND PLAYS AT BERKLEY HIGH

The Oakland Brass Band, a non-profit organization committed to British brass band traditions, will perform 8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 30 at Berkley High School. The ensemble was founded in 2006 by several local musicians with the desire to provide Detroit area professional and semi-professional musicians with an outlet for expressing their talent through the brass band style and heritage. Tickets are \$15; \$9 seniors/college students; free, under 18. For more information and to hear the Oakland Brass Band, visit www.oaklandbrassband.com.

Southfield company tapped to bring 'Intent' to big screen

New Castle Entertainment has signed on with Parallax Production Studios in Michigan to help bring their suspense thriller *Intent* to theaters. The agreement includes creative and technical work on editing, creating trailers and film mastering. The announcement was made by Calvin Perry, CEO at Parallax.

"This movie is perfect because it lets us showcase our superb Michigan production talent and versatility," said Perry. "We believe *Intent* is going to do extremely well and that's good for New Castle and just great for making films in Michigan."

Parallax was given the opportunity to take on the project after state-sponsored production incentives in Florida, where the picture was originally scheduled to be shot, were dramatically cut by the Florida legislature.

Producers then decided to take advantage of Michigan's favorable incentives and moved production to Michigan where

filming on *Intent* finished last month.

"Michigan has incredible incentives working right now — up to 42 percent in production rebates even if the films are not shot here in-state," Perry reported. "Consequently, producers and directors all over the world are learning about Parallax Production Studios, our best-in-industry equipment and our seasoned creative talent. When you put those elements next to literally millions of dollars in savings and rebates, it's clear where the movie industry is going," said Perry. "And we're greeting it with open arms."

Before Parallax opened, there were no facilities in or around Michigan with the kind of high-end film transfer and color correction technologies filmmakers demand.

For more information on Parallax Production Studios, call (248) 357-5500 or visit parallaxproductionstudios.com. For more information about "Intent," visit www.intentmovie.com.



Tune in Time

When Actress Sigourney Weaver spent a few months in Oakland County last summer filming the Lifetime movie 'Prayers for Bobby' — an emotional true story about a mother struggling to accept that her son is gay — the production opened doors for aspiring local actors. Five students from Beverly Hills' Groves High School earned parts — including graduate Shannon Eagen who portrays Bobby's sister and Anna Badalamenti who plays Bobby's girlfriend. Also earning smaller roles in the film were Hillary Sussman, Allyson Rupe and Spencer Perrenoud, who can be seen hugging Weaver during the final parade scene in the film's trailer online now at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IBVcTCpKx3g>. West Bloomfield actor and filmmaker Sam Logan Khaleghi served as a casting assistant and played a small part in the film as well. Now, the wait is over for all involved. The movie is set to air 9 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 24 on the Lifetime cable network. Learn more at www.mylifetime.com.

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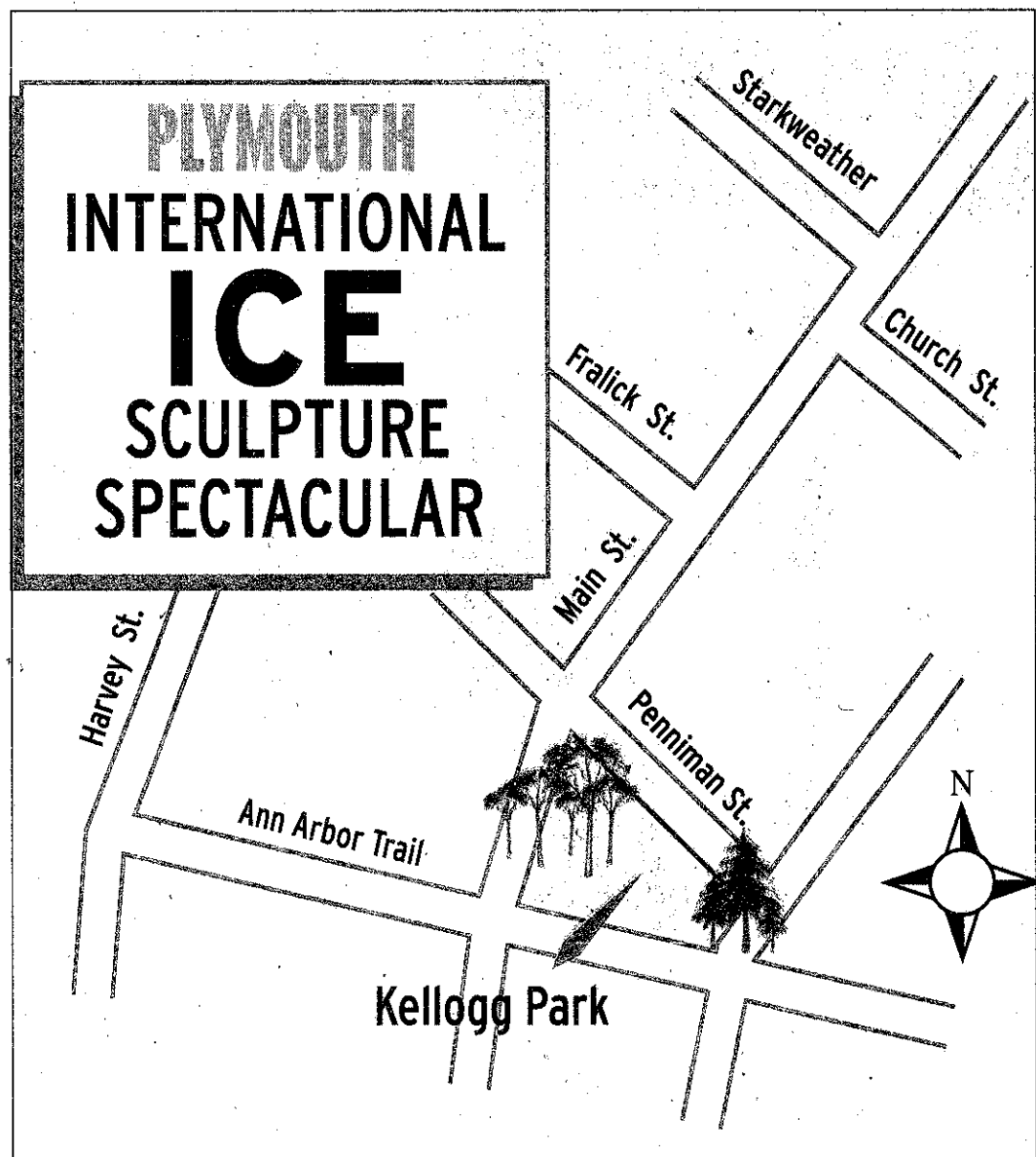
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This ice sculpture of a Native American is surrounded by horses and is an example of a multiple-block display.

Ice carving is culinary arts specialty

BY WENDY VON BUSKIRK
O&E STAFF WRITER

The majority of ice carvers come to the unusual craft through the culinary arts. About 80 percent of carvers participating in the 2009 Plymouth Ice Sculpture Spectacular are chefs or culinary students, according to event organizer Mike Watts. "Many of the ice carvers are chefs or have been chefs, including our team from Japan, but we also have art students and others," Watt said. "This year the University of Michigan is bringing a team of 12 carvers and they do not have a culinary program. We have been working with the students there, and they just love doing it."

Students who participate, including a team from Romulus High School, get real world experience carving displays throughout the weekend and competing in individual and team carving competitions.

The school to beat this year is Oakland Community College. Their ice carving team has won several competitions, including first place in the U.S. at last year's National Ice Carving Association competition in Frankenmuth.

Doug Gahns, a 15-year chef instructor at OCC-Orchard Ridge, will coach a team of eight students as they use chainsaws, high-speed die grinders and chisels to carve a 35-block display in downtown Plymouth.

"We are doing a springtime theme with butterflies, birds, dragonflies, lots of flowers," said Gahns, of Grosse Pointe. "It's so cold out and everyone's looking forward to spring right now, it just seemed like a good thing to do. Hopefully it will warm some hearts."

STUDENT COMPETITIONS

Friday, Jan. 23 – Official Opening

- 3-7 p.m.: High School Individual Competition in Kellogg Park, 1 block of ice, 4 hours to carve.
- Community College Ice Carving Clubs and Professional Carvers complete their non-competitive displays.

Saturday, Jan. 24:

- Noon-4 p.m.: College Individual Competition in Kellogg Park, 1 block of ice, 4 hours to carve.

Sunday, Jan. 25:

- 11 a.m.-3 p.m.: College Team Competition in Kellogg Park, 3 blocks of ice, 4 hours to carve. Participating Schools: Henry Ford, Macomb, Oakland, Schoolcraft and Washtenaw community colleges; University of Michigan; Eastern Michigan University; Romulus High School and Oakland Tech-Southwest Campus.

According to Gahns, ice carving is an elective at OCC that only a small percentage of culinary students choose to take.

Even fewer continue to pursue the sub-specialty professionally. Those who do go on to create ice sculptures for banquets, weddings and parties that start at around \$250 and go into the thousands.

For a corporate party, Gahns once sculpted a life-size knight on a horse, as well as individual castles as centerpieces for each table. Together they cost more than \$5,000, and didn't last beyond the night.

Gahns said his team is looking forward to the college competitions this weekend.

"We like to win here. We're very competitive — in a nice way," he said.

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This exhibition has been generously supported by Dr. George and Vivian Dean. Additional support has been provided by the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs and the City of Detroit.

Karl Gustav Hjalmar Armfelt; Fabergé Manufactory, Fabergé Chess Set and Board (detail), ca. 1905; Kalgan Jasper aventurin, quartz, and silver pieces, board of silver-mounted Siberian jade and serpentine. Collection of Dr. George and Vivian Dean. Photo: Richard Brenner

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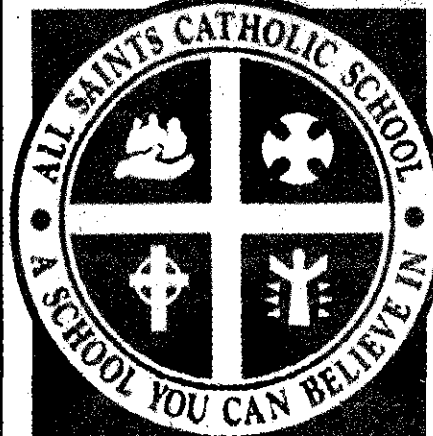
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Tajana Raukar works on a large sculpture of horses at the northwest corner of Kellogg Park during the 2008 festival. Her company, Ice Dreams, is located in Plymouth.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

ICE

FROM PAGE D1

ning Japanese team will return to create masterpieces on site. They have been known to use up to 90 blocks of ice in their sculptures.

"The Japanese carvers tend to be more of the traditional style. They tend to finish their ice carvings with really sharp chisels that create facets in the ice like a diamond," Watts said. "Americans use more power tools. It's faster, easier and quicker and you know Americans are always in a hurry."

Carving teams from local colleges and high schools also will vie for awards.

Competitions and demonstrations take place each day of the festival, allowing visitors to see the works of art take shape.

But the sculptures — numbering more than 100 — will also be on display throughout the night, cast in the warm glow of lights.

Watts said forecasted temperatures are perfect for the festival — cold enough to ensure that the ice sculptures will endure the weekend, yet not too chilling as to discourage crowds.

Spectators can stay warm by stuffing free Grabber hand and feet warmers into their mittens and socks, as well as taking refuge inside local shops and eateries.

And for the first time this year, a Soup Kitchen will be set up on Sunday to raise money for future festivals, with hot soups provided by Plymouth restaurant E.G. Nick's.

"The Ice Spectacular will be serving it, with

proceeds going to the nonprofit to help keep the event alive going into next year," Watts said.

The festival kicks off on Friday, with the placement of carvings in Kellogg Park and around downtown at sponsoring merchants, and the opening of the "Grand Sponsor Displays" on Main Street. Carving competitions commence at 3 p.m. with the High School Individuals competitions. That evening the sculptures will be lighted for the first time.

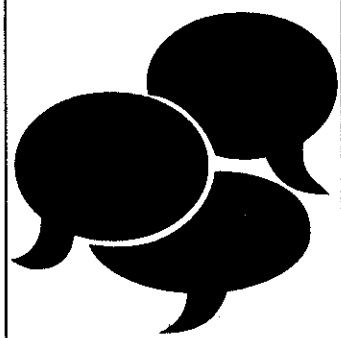
On Saturday, between 11:30-1:30 Radio Disney will host a Sing-Along and give out prizes, and Plymouth Whalers will sign autographs.

On both Saturday and Sunday, a master woodcarving group will create and sell their wares, and St. Joseph Mercy Health System will offer free health information to visitors.

College and high school team and individual competitions take place all weekend, and include Henry Ford, Macomb, Oakland, Schoolcraft and Washtenaw community colleges; University of Michigan, Eastern Michigan University, Romulus High School and Oakland Tech-Southwest Campus.

And throughout, hundreds of thousands of pounds of ice, delivered in mammoth 330-pound blocks, will take shape under the craftsmanship of professional and amateur carvers.

"We have many people who watch the carving, go shop and get something to eat, then come back and see how it's progressed," Watts said. "It's one of the only art forms where you see something created right in front of you."



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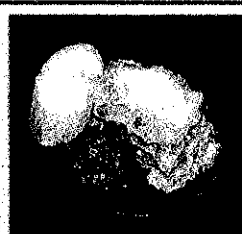
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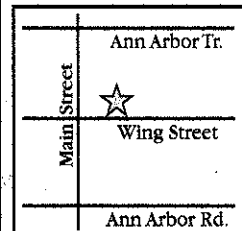
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Canton's Ted Wakar carves during the 2008 festival.

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For the first time this year, the Plymouth Ice Sculpture Spectacular will serve up hot soup on Sunday, Jan. 25, to raise money to keep the festival alive. The vegetarian vegetable soup will be prepared by the Plymouth restaurant E.G. Nick's, and sold for \$4 a bowl with proceeds benefiting the festival. The Soup Kitchen will open at noon on Main Street in front of the Santa House in Kellogg Park, and soup will be sold while supplies last.

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