

THURSDAY
February 19
2009

The Observer & Eccentric
Newspapers

Volume 34
Number 68

75 CENTS

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Connection

Library seeks input

The Canton Public Library is seeking community input as it embarks on a process to create a strategic plan for the future. "With declining revenue and the current economic climate, it's very important to know what our community wants and needs from our library," library Director Eva Davis says. "A plan to guide us for the next three years will help us focus our efforts and resources to best serve the community."

The library has contracted with Susan Kennedy, owner of Canton-based K2Communication Plus, to facilitate. Kennedy will oversee research to gain an understanding of user needs, expectations and experience with the Canton Public Library in order to provide a framework for the strategic planning process.

Residents may give feedback in a number of ways. Eight focus group sessions were held in early February to gather the opinions of specific user groups. The Canton Public Library Web site, www.cantonpl.org, has a strategic plan page with updates and a blog comment format to encourage community response. Web users may also contribute through the library's Facebook and Twitter accounts. Strategic plan comment boxes are located throughout the library to collect feedback cards and discussions with staff are encouraged.

"We really value the input of community stakeholders and look forward to hearing their comments," Davis said.

'Mocha Moms' recruiting

Canton Mocha Moms, Inc., a support group for stay at home mothers of color, is recruiting new members. The group will hold an informational session 4-5:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 21, at Canton Public Library community room, 1200 S. Canton Center Road.

The Canton chapter has established itself in the community by hosting events such as Mom's Night Out, Couples Game Night and various fun play dates for youngsters. Part of the national organization of Mocha Moms, the group's mission is to support and encourage women of color who choose to make parenting a priority.

Mocha Moms, Inc. welcomes people of all genders, religions, races, educational backgrounds, and income levels. Anyone who supports the mission of Mocha Moms, is welcome to join. All are welcome. For more information, visit www.MochaMoms.org.

District targets stimulus for green projects

BY BRAD KADRICH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Administrators in the Plymouth-Canton school district are hoping the recent emphasis being placed on renewable energy by both President Barack Obama and Michigan Gov. Jennifer Granholm is a sign of good things to come for the district.

With some \$14 million in "green" projects on their wish list at the high school park and various middle schools, administrators are hoping to take advantage of money in Obama's

stimulus package and renewable energy incentives expected from Granholm to help them get some shovels in the ground.

"With 300 acres (at the park) and a lot of rooftops, there are a lot of options to employ these kinds of projects," said Ken Jacobs, the district's deputy superintendent. "The park provides an economy of scale for a lot of these projects. We're in a position to employ a lot of different things because of our size."

At the top of the district's wish list for renewable energy projects are a way to cool off the gymna-

siums, particularly at Plymouth High School, which can reach temperatures as high as 95 degrees during the summer, and covered, solar-heated walkways to provide cover for students moving between the park's three buildings.

COST CONCERNS

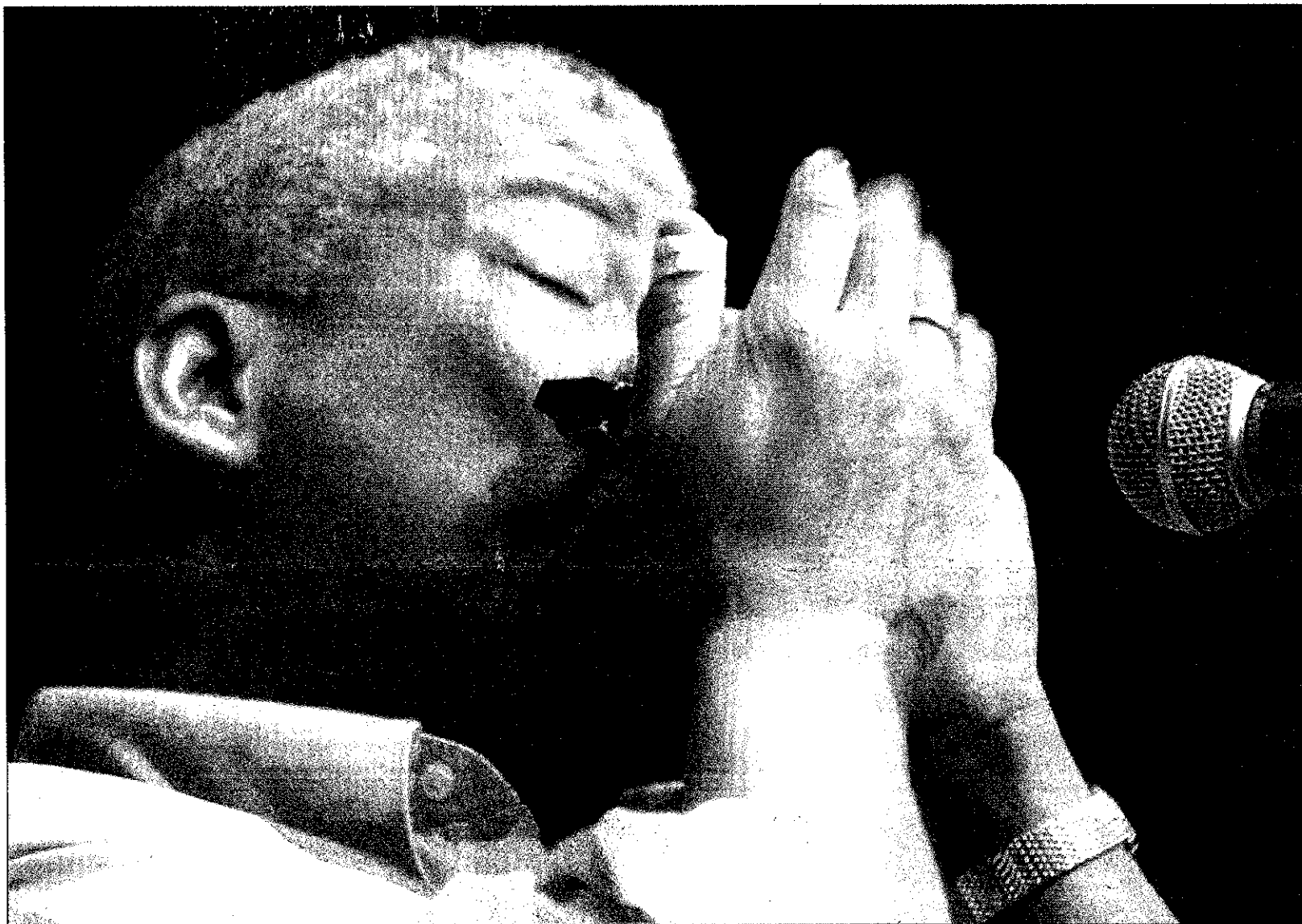
Athletic director Sue Heinzman got the ball rolling when she took a request to air condition the Plymouth gym to Jacobs, but the \$200,000 initial expense made it cost-prohibitive.

Please see **GREEN, A6**



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

District officials said covered walkways between buildings at the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park were considered as part of the 2004 bond issue, but were considered a 'want' and not a need.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The power of song

The Reverend Robert Jones plays American roots music for a group of local fifth and sixth graders during 'African American History Through Artist's Eyes' at the Village Theater in Canton. It was more than just a performance, however. Jones, along with local folk artist Matt Watroba, explained and demonstrated to the children how folk music is the root of the blues, gospel, rock 'n roll and even today's rap, and that diversity - in people as well as music - should be celebrated. For the story and more photos, please see page A2.

Local charities seeing a boon from gaming events

BY TONY BRUSCATO
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The economic downturn has not bode well for charities and nonprofit organizations as they struggle to raise enough money to help those in need. However, with the increased popularity of state-

licensed Texas Hold 'em poker tournaments, charitable groups are now able to raise as much money in several days than they can organizing multiple fundraisers throughout the year.

"In 2008, we raised less than \$20,000

Please see **GAMING, A6**

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Do you think local charities should be able to put on (state licensed) poker tournaments to raise funds for their causes, or should they be limited like one state legislator is proposing? E-mail your opinion to Editor Kurt Kuban at kkuban@hometownlife.com, or post a comment on our Web site at www.hometownlife.com.

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Second Canton Wal-Mart to sport new look

BY TONY BRUSCATO
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Wal-Mart officials Tuesday told the Canton Township Planning Commission demolition of an old cement factory on the southwest corner of Michigan Avenue and Belleville Road will occur soon to make way for a second Wal-Mart store in Canton.

"We're just finishing up our permits with Wayne County ... and hope to get that work started this spring," said Rebecca Baker, an engineer with Wade Trim, which represented Wal-Mart. "Tentatively the store construction should begin this fall, with the store opening sometime late summer of next year."

"We are still talking about 173,000-square-foot supercenter, which is groceries and gen-

eral merchandise," Baker added. "We still have entrances ... at the grocery, general merchandise and garden center."

The Planning Commission voted unanimously to send its recommendation to the Board of Trustees, which could vote in favor of the new store at its March 10 session.

Aysha Moore, an architect with James F. Sims in Dallas, Texas, said Canton will be one of the first communities in the nation to sport the new Wal-Mart look. "Wal-Mart is moving forward to having a more recognizable brand, so that you can go to a Wal-Mart anywhere in the country and identify it, just like you would a Best Buy or Circuit City," Moore said. "They wanted to come up with a building design that would work with cities all over the country, but

would be aesthetically pleasing to the pedestrian and the customer. This will be the standard."

Wal-Mart's first store, at Ford and Lotz roads, is also getting a makeover to update the outside design.

Last year, Wal-Mart opened 166 new stores, but company officials say this year that number will be between 125 and 140. Baker said the Canton project was moved forward for one main reason.

"They think Canton is a good place to build a store. It's still a vibrant community," she said.

Meijer, which has a store at Ford and Canton Center roads, has also announced plans to build a second store at Michigan Avenue and Morton Taylor.

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Finding similarity in diversity

Village Theater program gives students unique view of black history

BY TONY BRUSCATO
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Hundreds of fifth- and sixth-graders converged on the Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton Tuesday to learn that the music of days gone by is the root of even today's biggest hits. 'African American History Through Artist Eyes' also showed students how music played a big part during the days of slavery and the civil rights movement.

"All the music we listen to today — on television, radio or iPod — all that stuff came out of folk music," said musician Robert Jones, in between playing his harmonica on stage in front of students from Plymouth Christian Academy in Canton, and Plymouth-Canton Schools Fiegel and Miller elementaries.

"When you look at this music closely, you discover there are a lot more similarities than differences," added Matt Watroba, as he strummed his guitar. "Same thing true with the people



The fifth grade students join in singing "We Shall Overcome."

who came to this country and brought their music with them from all over the world. And how that music fueled the Underground Railroad and civil rights movement." Not only was the lesson to show folk music is the root of the blues, gospel, rock 'n roll and even rap, but that diversity — in people as well as music — should be celebrated.

According to Village Theater Director Jennifer Tobin, all Plymouth-Canton fifth graders, as well as those from several area private schools, participated in the field trip this year. The program featured a 45-minute concert and a sing-along with Jones and Watroba, as well as an art exhibition led by Canton artist Bryon Reed. There were also several break out sessions where the students learned some drumming and hip hop dance moves.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Percussionist Kevin Collins performs for the students.

Kathy O'Connor said it's one of many programs designed to teach students diversity at one of the most diverse schools in the Plymouth-Canton school district.

"We do a lot of multi-cultural activities throughout the year celebrating different cultures," said O'Connor, who resides in Canton. "The kids are really exposed to a lot of different cultures through the different types of learning experiences we give them at our school."

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Canton artist Byron Reed uses his art to talk to the fifth graders about diversity.

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CORRECTION

In the story "Right up their alley" about the bowling program at Canton High School, which ran in the Feb. 12 *Observer*, Rob Korstjens' name was spelled incorrectly.

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PUBLIC SAFETY

Police make series of arrests in unrelated thefts

The Canton Police Department has made three unrelated arrests during the past week for a series of unrelated thefts around town.

On Feb. 10 officers arrested Neil Edward Kiersz, 57, of Canton, after police say he attempted to steal food from Holiday Market at Lilley just south of Cherry Hill. When approached by a store employee a struggle ensued, but employees were able to hold Kiersz until police arrived. Kiersz was charged with unarmed robbery, a 15-year felony. He was arraigned in 35th District Court by Judge James Plakas who set bond at \$25,000.

On Feb. 18, police arrested Jarrod Alan Robinson, 31, of Trenton, on charges of attempting to steal and return



Voss



Nelson



Kiersz

several hats from JC Penney on Ford Road. When confronted by store personnel, a struggle ensued, and store employees were able to detain him until police arrived. Robinson is also charged with unarmed robbery, a 15-year felony and habitual offender fourth offense, punishable by up to life imprisonment. He was arraigned in 35th District Court by Judge Lowe who set bond at \$50,000, no 10 percent.

In both of these larceny cases the charges were elevated to unarmed robbery based on force or violence against a person in the course of committing the larceny.

The third arrest also occurred on Feb. 18 when Dennis Nelson, 44, of Detroit, was arrested for allegedly stealing money out of parked vehicles near Warren and Sheldon roads. Nelson was identified on video surveillance cameras at the Mobil gas station at the same intersection. He was ticketed for misdemeanor larceny and held for unrelated outstanding warrants.

Businesses cited for selling to minors

The Canton Police Department's Special Enforcement Unit recently conducted alcohol and tobacco sales checks. Decoy minors attempted to purchase either alcohol or tobacco at 13 businesses in Canton. Six businesses sold to a minor decoy, while seven refused the sale.

According to police records, businesses that sold alcohol to a minor included Rite Aid, 180 S. Lilley, Mobil Gas, 8773 N. Haggerty, and 7-11, 43340 Warren.

Businesses that sold tobacco to a minor included Smokers Express, 45156 Ford, BP Gas, 8787 Sheldon, and BP Gas, 44345 Ford.

The Special Enforcement Unit has performed alcohol and tobacco compliance checks at local businesses for the past several years.

The SEU utilizes a "zero tolerance" enforcement strategy when dealing with violations of alcohol and tobacco sales to minors. Under local ordinance, alcohol sales to under

age persons as the result of an undercover operation result in a civil infraction ticket being issued to the server or salesperson with a fine of not more than \$100.

The establishment is cited for a Liquor Control Commission (LCC) violation, resulting in an administrative hearing with the LCC. Sales of tobacco products to persons under age 18 result in a misdemeanor ticket being issued to the sales person with a fine of up to \$50.

Baseball cap thief

A 31-year-old Trenton man is being held on \$50,000 cash bond after being charged with unarmed robbery and being a habitual offender for attempting to steal baseball caps from J.C. Penney Monday evening.

Canton police say Jarrod Alan Voss purchased a Detroit Tigers baseball cap from the store located at 43690 Ford Road. After paying for his purchase, Voss reportedly went back into the store, put four additional hats into his bag and then tried to return them for \$84. Because he didn't have a receipt, the clerk gave Voss a \$54.03 gift card.

Once he had the card, Voss was approached by a store loss prevention officer and attempted to flee. The two scuffled and Voss was held by store employees until Canton police arrived.

Voss was arraigned Wednesday in front of 35th District Court Judge Ron Lowe. Unarmed robbery carries a maximum penalty of 15 years. However, if Voss is convicted of being a habitual offender, he could be sentenced to life in prison.

Purse stolen at Chili's

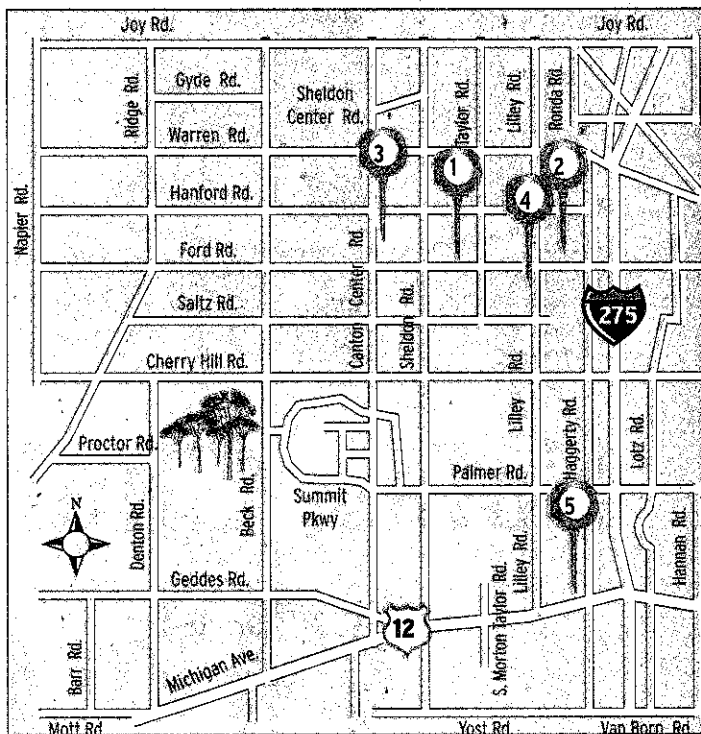
A woman reported her purse stolen at Chili's restaurant located at 41680 Ford Road. The victim was at the bar with friends about 9 p.m. Feb. 13. She paid her bill and placed the purse straps over the back of the bar stool. When she went to retrieve the purse it was gone.

Thieves steal drugs in pharmacy break-in

Canton police are seeking two suspects who reportedly stole an undisclosed amount of pharmaceutical drugs in the break-in of the Cherry Oak Pharmacy at 42468 Cherry Hill Road.

Police say the suspects drove to the rear of the shopping

CANTON COP CALLS



Truck driver robbed

A truck driver reported he was robbed while unloading his semi at Matheson's Hardware located at 6130 N. Canton Center Road just after 1 p.m. Feb. 10.

The driver heard a voice say "don't do nothing stupid old man" and when he turned around saw a man pointing a gun at him. The suspect took his necklace, watch, wedding ring and \$22 in cash before locking him in the trailer. The victim's wife found him after the company called to find out why the semi wasn't moving. Police are looking for a black male wearing

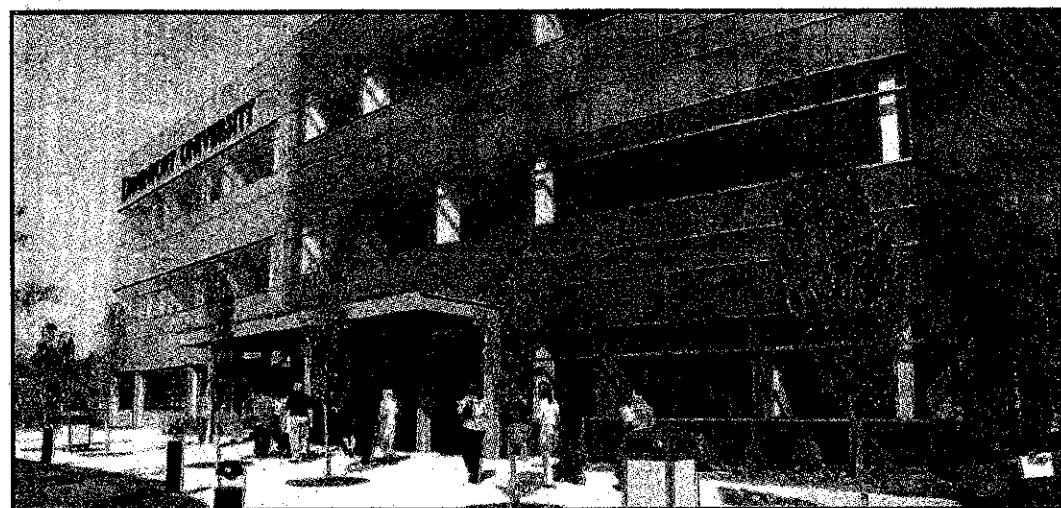
baggy blue jeans and a black hoodie.

Wallet goes missing

An employee at Home Goods, 42615 Ford Road, said he wallet was stolen from her purse while she was cashing her check at the store on Feb. 14.

Catalytic converter stolen

A man reported the catalytic converter was stolen from his minivan, which was parked at Dick Scott Nissan at 42175 Michigan Avenue on Feb. 13. The victim said he went to move his vehicle and it sounded unusually loud.



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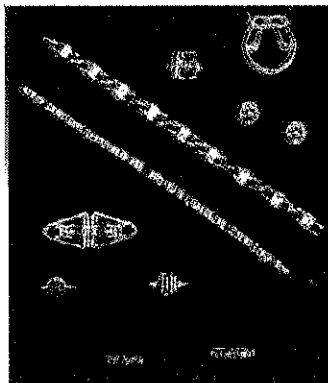
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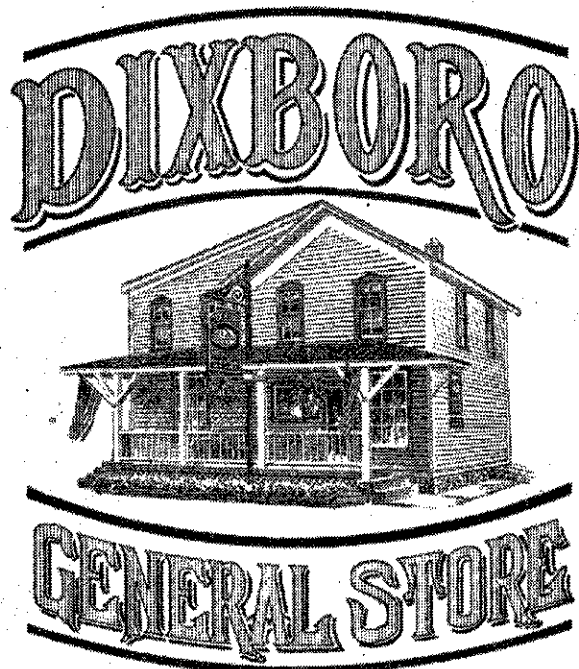
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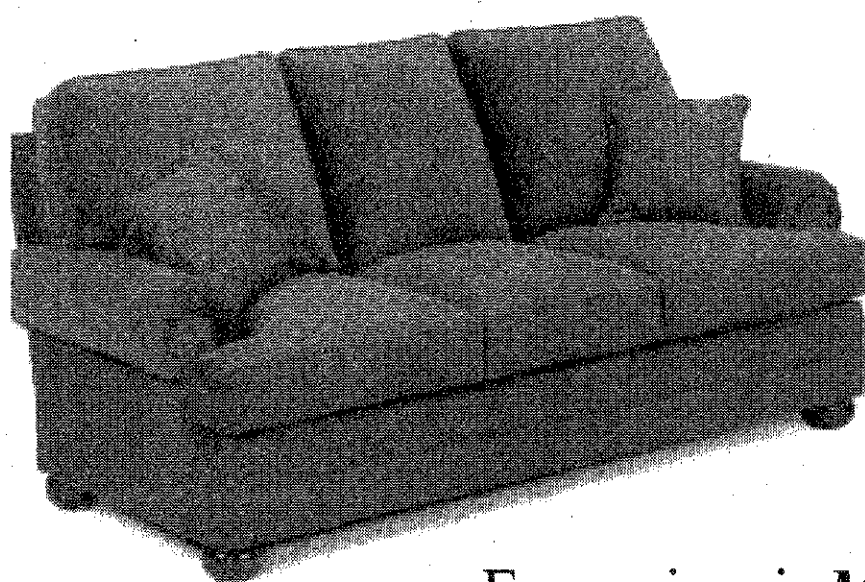
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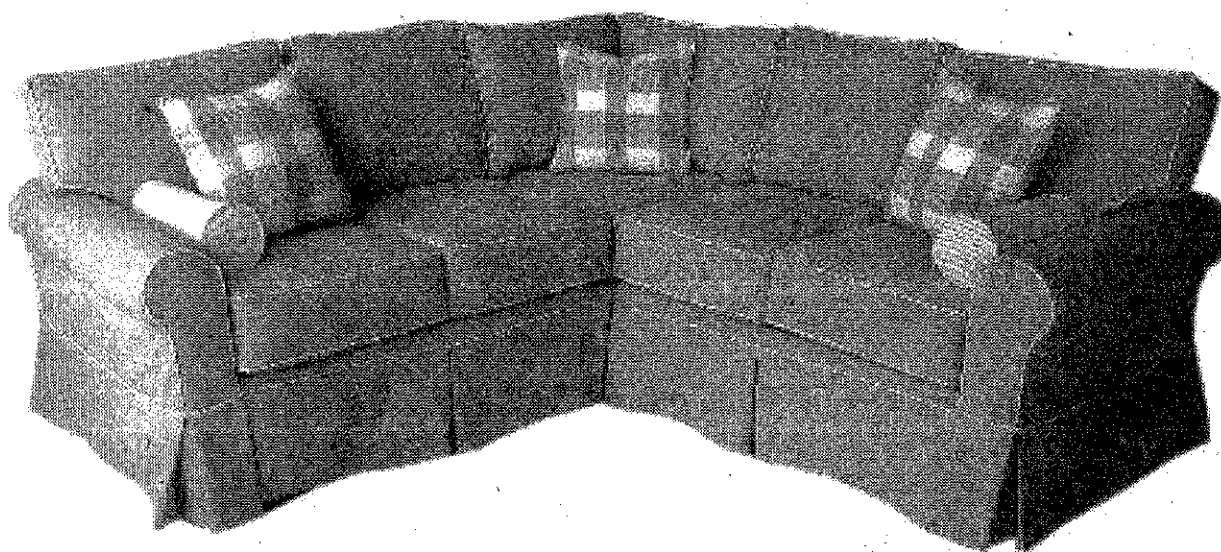
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Night with the stars

If you are looking for a special way to spend Sunday evening and watch the Oscars, plus help out the community at the same time, the Canton Community Foundation has a perfect event planned. The Foundation is hosting Magical Night with the Stars at the Emagine Theatre in Canton.

The event, which takes the place of the Foundation's winter ball, begins at 6 p.m. and will feature plenty of glitz. Attendees will be able to walk down the red carpet and watch that night's Academy Awards show on the big screen as well as Oscar-nominated movies.

The subtitle of the event is Helping Hunger and Homelessness Disappear. The Foundation, which has used the annual fund-raiser to earn \$30,000-\$40,000 for its programs, will donate this year's proceeds to First Step, a local shelter for abused women and their children, and Gleaners Community Food Bank in Detroit, which has several distribution points in Canton to help feed those in need. During these economic times both organizations have seen a jump in need.

Tickets for the charitable event are \$100. A table for 10 costs \$1,000. For more information, call (734) 495-1200, e-mail info@cantonfoundation.org, or visit www.cantonfoundation.org. Walk-ins will be welcome.

Rotary poker fund-raiser

The Canton Rotary Club will host a "Texas Hold-em" tournament fund-raiser at 5 p.m., March 4-7 (Wednesday-Saturday) at Town and Country Lanes, 1100 S. Wayne Road, Westland (south of Cherry Hill). After all payouts, all additional money will be used by the Rotary Club for local programs. For more information call (734) 787-5758 or (734) 722-5000.

St. Michael open house

St. Michael Christian School is hosting an open house on Thursday, Feb. 19 from 6:30-8 p.m. The school offers 3 year old preschool through fifth grade classes including all day kindergarten and half day Young Fives. St. Michael Christian School provides a Christ centered education

using the Holy Bible, the Concordia Publishing House study series, and a weekly chapel service led by the pastoral staff.

St. Michael Christian School is located at 7000 N. Sheldon Road in Canton. For more information, call (734) 459-9720 or visit www.stmichael-church.org.

'Brazil and Beyond'

Brazil and Beyond will be performing at 8 p.m., Friday, March 6, at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill at Ridge Road in Canton. Tickets are \$12. For more information call (734) 394-5460.

'Divine Stella Devine'

The Spotlight Players theater group will perform the comedy 'Divine Stella Devine' starting later this month at Canton's Village Theater at Cherry Hill. The show runs Feb. 20, 21, 27, 28, March 1, 6, 7, and 8.

The show revolves around character Stella Devine, the aging star of the popular Ritz Theatre, and her fellow company of actors, who are preparing for the epic play 'Civil War Darlin's.' The cast is comprised of local actors.

"This production will add some style and glamour to an already well-written and funny show. With actors frequently in the house engaging the audience, Broadway-style lighting effects, and even a little song and dance, this run of Divine Stella Devine promises to be an 'all out' assault on the senses," said Director Christian Cash.

To buy tickets and for more information (discounted tickets are \$13 each and available online only) visit www.spotlightplayers.net. At the box office tickets are \$15-\$18. Call



Women's charity picks new leadership

Giving Hope Women's Giving Circle has elected six new members to their advisory board and selected new officers for 2009. New members of the advisory board are (seated from left) Olivia Scott of Canton, Debi Maloni of Plymouth, and Barb Rodenberg of Canton, (standing from left) Marion Rozum of Canton, Sally Welch of Canton and Kathy Males of Canton. The new officers are members of the founding board and are Chair Nancy Richter, Vice-Chair Betty Bloch, Secretary Linda Radtke and Treasurer Ellen Tucker. Organized in 2007, the group has 60 members who are combining their philanthropic dollars for the betterment of women and children in need within the greater Plymouth-Canton communities. The Circle's first grants, totaling \$6,000 were made in the fall of 2008 to two local organizations, First Step and Eldercare and Advocacy Center. The women hope to be granting to local organizations each year as they continue to grow their membership. For more information, contact Loren Wadington at LAW5300@aol.com.

the box office at (734) 394-5300.

LWV scholars

The League of Women Voters of Northwest Wayne County announces a \$1,000 scholarship to be awarded in June to a qualified United States citizen, male or female, college undergraduate.

Applicants must reside in the LWV's service area (Canton, Garden City, Livonia, Wayne County portion of Northville, Plymouth, Redford, Wayne or Westland);

attend a Michigan college or university; major in government, political science or public policy; and be entering the third or fourth year of undergraduate study.

Additional information and the scholarship application can be found at the League's Web site at www.lwvnw.org (click on 2009 Scholarship Application). Applications must be postmarked by April 17.

Blood drives

NorthRidge Church hosts

a blood drive 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 28.

It's one of several the church has scheduled in 2009. The others: April 5, July 25 and Oct. 24.

Donors can register to give online at www.givelife.org and enter NorthRidge in Step One (sponsor code) or call (800) GIVELIFE (1.800.448.3543).

Business Network Professionals

Business Network Professionals, a local chapter of Business Network International, meets weekly on Wednesday mornings from 7-8:30 a.m. at the Canton Coney Island (at the corner of Lilley and Joy roads). Any person in business in the Plymouth, Canton and surrounding area is invited to attend as a guest and meet with other businesspersons, for purposes of networking, referrals, and supporting one another.

Contact Bill MacFarland, chapter president, at (734) 812-3845 for more information.

In need of heat

The Lighthouse Home Mission, which operates a warming center for the homeless, is in need of some heat itself.

Actually, it needs \$9,000 to have a new furnace installed in the center, according to Thelma Ivey, outreach coordinator.

"We have an urgent need," the Garden City resident said. "The furnace is 20 years old and works sometimes. If it goes out, we'll have to close down."

Housed in a building at the Full Gospel Temple on Palmer Road in Westland, the center provides overnight accommodations for 45 homeless men and women. It also operates soup kitchen there Monday through Friday and clothing and food bank which also

would be affected.

"We have to raise the money, or may be the right person will hear and put one in for us," Ivey said.

Donations can be sent to the Lighthouse Home Mission at 34033 Palmer, Westland, MI 48186. For more information, call (734) 326-3885 between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. weekdays.

Outreach program

The ARC of Northwest Wayne County in cooperation with the Garden City Public Schools is offering informational outreach sessions for all parents and families of young children with disabilities, delays and special needs, beginning Wednesday, Feb. 25.

Gain information, support and parent mentoring services so your children will be able to enter school ready to learn. Sessions will provide parents and families with information about technical assistance and training in both navigating the service and education systems and successfully advocating for a child's maximum development.

The programs will be 6-8 p.m. at the Garden City Public Schools Administrative Center, 1333 Radcliff, between Marquette and Ford. Light refreshments will be served and child care will be provided.

On Feb. 25, consultant Ann Heler will present "Just Like Everybody Else," on March 11, Michelle Driscoll, advocacy director for ARC Northwest, will present "Understanding IEPs and Special Education Rights," and on March 18 the topic will be Conflict Resolution and Negotiating Techniques for Parents and Students.

Parents interested in attending can reserve a seat by contacting Barbara Lea Jones at (313) 532-5776, Ext. 205 or by e-mail at barbaraajones@aol.com.

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11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
For more information, call 734-464-2789

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GREEN

FROM PAGE A1

So Heinzman began to investigate alternative solutions and wound up hooking up with a Canton company, Mechanical Engineering Systems, to come up with a solution. The idea is to use night air and well water to pre-cool the gymnasium using the existing duct system. Additional measures — adding natural lighting with solar tubes and dehumidifying the air — would help drop interior temperatures to more like 70 degrees.

The district would employ the same technique at Canton High School; the Salem gym is air-conditioned.

"We won't be able to regulate (the temperature), but it will be a lot more comfortable," said Heinzman, who pointed out the initial \$50,000 cost is much more palatable.

The other major initiative is one talked about as far back

as nine years ago: covered walkways connecting the park's three high schools. The discussion was part of a study in 2000 when the district was putting together what would become the 2004 bond issue. But Jacobs said it was discarded as "a want, not a need."

Now, with an emphasis being placed by nearly everyone on "going green," the idea is back. This time, though, the suggestion is to cover the walkways — which as they exist now take a lot of maintenance in terms of snow removal, salting and repairs — with solar panels.

The walkways would use active solar-power collection, wind power and use passive hot-water heating to preheat them in winter.

TEACHING ELEMENT

In addition to connecting all the schools and minimal maintenance, the walkways would also serve as an educational tool, with "dashboard

displays" that would show students how the building systems work, the amount of energy being expended, etc.

The educational aspect was an important part of the package.

"We hope to fold renewable energy into the curriculum," Heinzman said. "It's obviously the wave of the future, an important piece of their education."

The district is hoping to take advantage of grants that may be available because of Granholm's desire to go green. James Larson-Shidler, the district's assistant superintendent for business services, said the district explored the idea of private partnerships, but didn't want to relinquish ownership of the projects.

"There are drawbacks to that," Larson-Shidler said. "We're looking at grants and stimulus money. What we wanted to do was realize a savings district-wide, so it made more sense to go that way."

Jacobs said they hope to schedule meetings with area legislators and even with Granholm in the near future.

"If we can get the funding, we believe we can have shovels in the ground within 180 days," he said.

GAMING

FROM PAGE A1

total," Canton Lions Club Treasurer Eugene Hammonds said. "By holding four (Texas Hold'em) tournaments a year, we can make \$20,000-plus in addition to our other fund-raisers."

Hammonds said fund-raisers like the free pancake breakfast during Liberty Fest in June netted the Lions Club less than \$1,000 in donations, the corn roast during the Village Fair in August raised less than \$2,000 for the entire day and the White Cane sales about \$3,000.

Don Turner of Canton, president of the Salem High School football boosters and treasurer of the wrestling boosters, gave an emphatic "not even close" when asked if his booster clubs could raise the same kind of money by holding car washes, raffles and other events as it does with the poker tournaments.

"We discovered charitable gaming last year and we had such a successful run we are doubling our commitment to charitable gaming this year,"

Turner said. "We were able to raise several thousand dollars in a couple of days with little work. We're projecting to bring in \$7,500 this year for both the football and wrestling boosters. It delivers as promised."

Turner said they plan to split their 16 days allowed under state law for charitable gaming to equally benefit both booster clubs. Their poker events, like the Lions Club tournaments, are held at the Shark Club in Canton, which — as provided by state law — shares in 50 percent of the night's profits.

While charitable gaming is becoming increasingly popular to raise money, state Rep. Tom McMillin, a Rochester Hills Republican, has submitted language for legislation that would allow venues like the Shark Club — which holds Texas Hold'em tournaments seven days a week — to hold only one, four-day charitable gaming event per month. McMillin said he's concerned about communities supporting part-time casinos.

"It wouldn't so much restrict our fund-raising, but the way the money is being spent," Hammonds said. "We'd like to expand the number of groups we support. We have a huge program in providing eyeglasses and vision service to mostly low-income school children in Canton, Westland and Belleville."

Pat Williams of Canton, a member of the Canton Lions Board of Directors, said tough economic times means more

people in need. "In the current economy, more and more people are coming to us for help because they're losing jobs," Williams said. "They need eye testing and eye care."

"We're feeling the pinch, too," he added. "We had about 18 groups we helped out last year, and there are four or five groups we weren't going to help support because of the numbers going down. Now, we can add these groups back in."

Williams said he contacted legislators — Reps. Dian Slavens, D-Canton, and Marc Coriveau, D-Northville, plus state Sen. Bruce Patterson, R-Canton — none of whom were familiar with the pending legislation. He also contacted McMillin with his concerns.

Turner likes to call the new-found charitable gaming windfall "outside money."

"Money mom and dad won't have to supply so the kids can play football or wrestle," he said. "Frankly, in this economy, we're looking at not impacting families any more than we need to."

"Charitable gaming is the community supporting the sports programs," Turner added. "Folks are playing poker and we're benefiting from it, and the Shark Club is making some money and they get more people in the restaurant. It's a win-win situation, so the threat of losing it would be a terrible thing."

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CITY OF PLYMOUTH
2009 MARCH BOARD OF REVIEW

The City of Plymouth Board of Review will be conducting the 2009 March Board of Review and will convene in the City Commission Chambers, 201 S. Main Street, Plymouth, MI 48170, for an Organization Meeting to be held on Tuesday, March 3, 2009 from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

The regular Board of Review schedule is as follows:

Wednesday, March 4, 2009 from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Friday, March 6, 2009 from 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Friday, March 13, 2009 from 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Saturday, March 14, 2009 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Monday, March 16, 2009 from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Other hearing dates and times may be scheduled as needed. Hearings are by appointment only. COMPLETED 2009 BOARD OF REVIEW PETITIONS ARE NECESSARY, and must be submitted to the Front Office located on the First Floor of City Hall, prior to your appointment. The "Deadline" for submitting petitions for all persons wishing to appeal in person before the Board of Review is Monday, March 16, 2009.

A resident or non-resident taxpayer may file a petition with the Board of Review without the requirement of a personal appearance by the taxpayer or a representative. An agent must have written authority to represent the owner. Written petitions must be received by Monday, March 16, 2009 by 3:00 p.m. Postmarks are not accepted.

Copies of the notices stating the dates and times of the meetings will be posted and published in the local newspaper.

All Board of Review Meetings are open meetings in compliance with the "Open Meetings Act".

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Assessor's Office at 734-453-1234, ext. 263 or 262.

Linda J. Langmesser, CMC
City Clerk

Publish: February 12, 19 and 26, 2009

0308041236-216

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH
NOTICE OF HEARING
ASSESSMENT BOARD OF REVIEW

NOTICE OF HEARING given that the Plymouth Township Board of Review will meet on the following dates and times:

Hearings are by appointment, please call 354-3269, between 8 am and 4:30 pm for an appointment.

Tuesday, March 3	9 am - Noon 2 pm - 5 pm	Organizational Meeting Hearings by Appointment
Monday, March 9	2 pm - 5 pm 6 pm - 9 pm	Hearings by Appointment Hearings by Appointment
Wednesday, March 11	9 am - Noon 2 pm - 5 pm	Hearings by Appointment Hearings by Appointment
Saturday, March 14	9 am - 11 am	First Come- First Served

Other hearing dates and times may be scheduled as needed.

All persons protesting their assessment must complete petitions prior to appearing before the Board. A personal appearance is not required. Appeals by mail will be accepted if received by March 20, 2009.

The Board of Review will be held in the Board Meeting Room of Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty Road, Plymouth, MI 48170.

Please come prepared as a ten (10) minute time limit before the Board of Review will be strictly adhered to.

Publish: February 12, 15 and 19, 2009

0308041236-216

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
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Publish: February 19, 2008

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HONEST & DOWN-TO-EARTH
Cute, outgoing woman, 40, love animals, the outdoors. Seeking honest, calm, honorable, compassionate gentleman, 40s-early 50s, for friendship, dating, possible LTR. **2259421**

TAKE A CHANCE
SF, 48, 57", 210lbs, medium brown hair, ND, NS, no children, enjoys drama time, shooting pool, playing cards, sports events, long drives, more. Seeking SM, 45-55, who enjoys the same. **2253038**

LOOKING FOR MR RIGHT
Cute, laid-back SWF, 40, sincere and light-hearted seeks easygoing, fun SM, who knows how to enjoy life, to share laughs, dates, friendship and possible LTR. **2255010**

LET'S GET TOGETHER
Sexy, mature, intelligent BF, 35, 5'5", 130lbs, seeks mature, intelligent men, for casual dating and friendship. **2267634**

GOOD SENSE OF HUMOR?
WF, 48, 5'9", brown hair, has pets, NS, great sense of humor, looking for WM, 45-55, who likes doing out, museums, movies, reading and more, to do things with. **2250581**

HOMEBODY SEEKS SAME
SBF, 44, 5'2", 165lbs, black hair, brown eyes, light complexion, ND, NS, enjoys movies, bowling, dining, plays, concerts, reading. Seeking SBM, 38-51, **2254388**

ARE YOU THE ONE?
SF, 41, 5'4", dark complexion, brown eyes, short hair, looking to meet an honest, loyal, funny man, 37-45, to spend a lot of time together. **2259947**

CURVACEOUS
SWF, 47, 5'7", 155lbs, hazel eyes, dimples, enjoys 80s music, jazz, dancing, dining out, blues, sports, seeking SM, 42-48, with similar interests, for friendship first, possibly more. **2253905**

VERY DOWN-TO-EARTH
SBF, 37, 5'9", 125lbs, slim build, enjoys nice walks in the park, movies, bowling, basketball games. Seeking SBM, 30-43, **2259111**

ARE WE A MATCH?
SBF, 38, very shapely, NS, light drinker, very independent, loves movies, sports, mood pool, dining, Seeking SBM, 35+, very independent, who enjoys life, movies, etc. **2259793**

I'M UNIQUE...
complex with a good sense of humor, good listener and great teller. God-fearing, enjoys movies, music, books and more. Searching for a male companion with the same or similar qualities. 35-50. **2250159**

HOPING WE CLICK!
SBF, 23, 5'1", 105lbs, wants to meet SM, 30-38, for friendship first, possibly more. Call me, let's talk. **2257890**

DOWN-TO-EARTH
Easygoing DW, early 40s, you like to meet a really nice WM, 30-55, with the same qualities, minimal baggage, to share the ups and downs of life. Seeking possible LTR. **2251765**

ARE YOU LONELY?
Attractive female, 6'5", 150lbs, fun-loving blonde, retired, would love a life of your time to enjoy each other's company. Seeking pleasant gentleman, 65-75. **2257614**

CALLING ALL GOLFERS!
WWF, 62, seeking golfer, best friend, 62-70, must be honest, NS, and active. Looking for LTR, don't delay call now. **2257614**

SEEKING FRIEND
DW/CF, 71, looks much younger, 5'2", long dark brown hair, brown eyes, positive attitude, seeks faithful SBM for LTR. **2258254**

GREAT EXPECTATIONS
Good looking SBF, 40s-47, with mature, spiritual, seeking a SM, 5'7" - 40-50, physically fit, good looking inside and out, loving, who likes traveling, for friendship first leading to LTR. **2214765**

TAKE A CHANCE
SBF, looking for SBM, 45-57, with no children at home, who likes to have a good time, I enjoy going to movies, dining out, ball, outdoor and indoor activities. Let's develop a friendship first, possibly leading to more. **2250623**

VERY ATTRACTIVE
SBF, 37, mother, looking for attractive, sexy, tall, dark-complexioned, intelligent SM, 35-50, for friendship possibly leading to LTR. **2255115**

HARD WORKER SEEKS SAME
SBF, 44, NS, mother, seeks old-fashioned BM, 38-48, NS, homebody, to explore all life has to offer! I enjoy reading, bike rides, playing tennis. **2254619**

BEAUTIFUL

SBF, 37, beautiful, classy and open-minded, looking for BF, 25-40, nice open, DID free, HW proportionate. You must be confident with who you are. **2257180**

HEART OF GOLD
SBF, 39, 5'6", average build, smoker, enjoys crossword puzzles, old-school lifestyle, movies, dining. Seeking athletic, active BM, 30-42, 6', smoker, for friendship, possible romance. **2256442**

LET'S DANCE IN THE RAIN
Pettie SBF, 38, 150lbs, brown eyes, mother of two, enjoys cooking, music, church. Looking for SM, 35-76. **2251372**

GREAT-LOOKING BF...
35, seeks sexy, mature, financially secure man for LTR. Call me, you won't be disappointed! **2253172**

BEAUTIFUL SBF...
37, seeks SWM, 30-50, who is spontaneous and knows how to have a fun relationship first, maybe leading to more. **2257153**

ONE GOOD WOMAN LEFT
SBF, 47, 5'7", full-figured, NS, likes roller skating, dancing, exercise, theater, travel. Seeking a gentleman, 45-70, who is healthy, fun-loving, financially secure, looks decent. **2257305**

A POLISHED DIAMOND
Attractive, easy BF, 34, seeks true gentleman. You will not be disappointed when we meet! **2258767**

A NEW BEGINNING
SBF, 47, 5'4", likes action movies, swimming, dancing, plays, outdoors, just having fun. Seeking SBM, 45-55, for friendship or more. **2258151**

PETTIE AND CUTE
SWF, 35, great sense of humor, very friendly, would like to meet a SWM, 35-45, who will love me for me. **2254943**

THAT SPECIAL ONE
SBF, 39, enjoys movies, walks in the park, picnics, just chilling. Looking for SM, 35-45, for possible relationship. **2255025**

SEEKING STRONG BM
Can you handle me? SBF, mid 40s, healthy and beautiful, seeks strong, calm BM, 40-60, who knows how to handle his own business. IM-40s-back, gentle, soft. **2255568**

MUSICAL GIRL
Chatterer WF, 19, enjoys playing guitar, singing, going to church and more. Looking for SM, 18-25, who enjoys the same things. **2252558**

ACTIVE WOMAN
SBF, dark hair and eyes, NS, social drinker, likes bowling, bingo, game shows, funny movies and more. If you would like to meet for coffee, let me know. **2252181**

SEARCHING FOR A MAN...
40-40, who's looking for commitment, love and laughter. IM-47-year-old who's bright, sunny and pretty. Only Jewish men please. **2252177**

CLASSY LADY
I am in my early 20s, 5'2", brown hair, I enjoy dancing, outdoors, and travel. Seeking a companion, 25-35, and maybe a relationship. Please call. **2252205**

SINGLE DAD WELCOME
PBF, 40, looks younger, attractive, independent, loving, caring, enjoys working, dining out, quiet times at home. Seeking handsome, well-built, warm-hearted, considerate WM, 35-45, to share what life has to offer. **2258002**

SEEKING A MATURE MAN
Attractive SBF, 35, NS, ND/Drugs, would like to meet respectable, happy SBM, 25-50, to enjoy life together. **2250580**

COULD YOU BE THE ONE?
Bright, sunny, pretty SBF, 47, educator, outgoing, pretty eyes, wishing to meet a kind Jewish man, 45-60, who's looking for commitment, love and laughter. **2250694**

HONESTY A MUST
BF, 42, 6'4", 180lbs, shapely, brown-haired, seeking an honest man, 40-50, ND/Drugs, who enjoys the good things in life. I like plays, dancing, dining out, good company and working out. **2256508**

BLACK BEAUTY SEEKS...
White female, spontaneous SBF, 28, brown eyes, in search of adventurous, honest, attractive WM, 25-50, with great sense of humor. I enjoy movies, reading, working out, more. **2256029**

LET'S GET TOGETHER!
Sexy SBF, 40, NS, seeks fun and witty WM, 35-50, for friendship first, maybe more. **22570132**

LOVELY VIRGO
SBF, 47, with a young heart, enjoys cartoons, music, dancing, good food, good fun. Looking for BF, 30-45, with same interests. **2259375**

SEEKING SBM COMPANION

IM short and cute, brown eyes, black hair, honest, funny, good cook, very sincere. I hope to find a friendship to enjoy things with. Preferably 55-75. Life is too short - have fun with me. **2250211**

SEEKING LOVING KINDNESS?
SBF, 55, 5'4", interested in developing new friendship, maybe more. Seeks attractive, NS SM, 40-55, that loves reading, midnight picnics, walking, and exciting conversations. Must have good SOP and self-worth. **2252618**

PLUS-SIZED LADY...
34, 200lbs, easy single mom, looking for SM, 37+, for friendship and dating leading to LTR. Is this you? Call me! **2251724**

READY FOR A FRESH START?
DW, 51, 5'5", 120lbs, long blonde hair, well-proportioned, very feminine, attractive, self-employed. Seeking SWM, 45-57, 6'1", 225lbs, good sense of humor, energetic, traveler, outdoor/country, adventure, family. **2252549**

STILL SEEKING
Very cute SBF, 37, 135lbs, interested in fit, good-looking, confident male, 45-58, NS, intelligent, sincere, down-to-earth, who wants to commit to someone special. **2251198**

GET TO KNOW ME
Loving, open-minded SBF, 30, 145lbs, attractive, enjoys music, dining, concerts, travel. ISO honest, compassionate SM, 57-65, NS. Possible LTR. **2253750**

TAKING A PEEK
Attractive SWF, 20 years old, loves to be outdoors and have fun, enjoys clubs, movies, reading at home. ISO male who likes the same, and wishes for companionship. **2257708**

IT'S WORTH THE CALL
SBF, 20, 5'3", 230lbs, hard-working, student, no kids, seeking a cool guy, to chill with, get to know, have good times and see where it goes. **2253973**

GORGEOUS SMILE!
SBF, 26, 5'6", 130lbs, slim build, smoker, DID-free, no kids, seeking a cool guy, for friendship, possible romance. I enjoy movies, dining, television, cutting. **2257589**

FUN & OUTGOING
SBF, 18, 190lbs, brown eyes, walks on the beach, movies, basketball. Seeking SM, same age, for companionship. **2256772**

HELLO THERE
Asian woman, 52", 110lbs, slim, attractive, health-conscious, vegetarian, ND, NS. Enjoys dining, movies, quiet times. Seeking clean-cut, fit, attractive, professional Asian or White male for dating and possibly more. **2251390**

A WOMAN OF CLASS
SWF, 60, seeks younger, in search of a SWM, 62+ who likes movies, dining, theater. Is it you? **2257108**

GREAT SENSE OF HUMOR
SWF, 27, mother, enjoys swimming, walking, nature, being outdoors. Seeking similar SWM, 25-45, for companionship. **2252205**

LET'S GET TOGETHER
SBF, 54, 5'8", NS, enjoys life's simple pleasures. Seeking SWM, 48-62, NS, for friendship or LTR. **2252444**

OUTGOING
BF, 24, student, looking for BM, 35-45, to go out and have fun with. Friendship first, hopefully leading to LTR. **2252540**

PRETTY EYES
SBF, 33, voluptuous in all the right places, enjoys life, long walks, international conversation. Seeking SM, 30-50, similar interests. **2258970**

CLASSY LADY
SWF, 70 years young, 5'8", NS, average height, brown hair, elegant, outgoing personality. Seeking honest SWM, 70-75, NS, who is not boastful, but is well-grounded. Sense of humor a must. Life is a one-way street and I don't have time to back up. **2257314**

WORTH A LOOK
SBF, 30, 5'7", 150lbs, nurse, loves music, trying new things and just having fun. Looking for good-hearted, open-minded man to share the good times in life, friendship and maybe more. **2253841**

I NEED LOVE
Fun-loving, down-to-earth, outgoing, smart SBF, 20, loves having fun. Seeking SBM, 18-30, who shares my love for life. **2250010**

CLASSY LADY
SBF, middle-aged, attractive, enjoys dining, movies, play and bowling, seeks a SM, 48-58, NS, who is a good person and good values/morals. **2257254**

DOWN-TO-EARTH

Asian woman, 52", 110bs, slim, attractive, independent, loving, caring, enjoys movies, fine dining, travel, quiet times at home. Seeking very handsome, successful, mature man. Would love to meet a man who is a good person, for friendship first. **2258123**

ENJOYS THE OUTDOORS
BF, 57", 150lbs, likes cooking, listening to music, camping and more. Would love to meet a man to enjoy life with. 36-50. **2254316**

ZOOMER SEEKS ADDED ZIP
SWF, 55, passionate about life, enjoys the outdoors, good political discussions, dancing, more. Would love to meet a man who is a good person, for friendship first. **2254371**

SINCERE AND HONEST
Happy SF, loves country music, dancing. Looking for honest, sincere SBM, 30-40, who enjoys bookstores, movies, dining, travel. **2258432**

MATURE MAN WANTED
SBF, 33, 5'4", 110lbs, caramel complexion, brown eyes, short blonde hair, wears glasses. Seeking tall, muscular SBM, 25-40, who enjoys bookstores, movies, dining, travel. **2257358**

KEEP COOL
SBF, 19, 5'3", looking for cool, down-to-earth, attractive SBM, 18-25, who is a good person. **2257598**

WANT A DATE?
SBF, 21, NS, looking for SM, 21-40, for friendship first, possibly more. Call me, let's talk and get to know each other! **2257187**

PRETTY COMIC BOOK NERD
SWF, 21, NS, looking for a lovely handsome man, 20-30, race open, clean-cut, open-minded, who can make me laugh and who is witty. **2252913**

GET TO KNOW ME
BF, 57", full-figured, brown eyes, NS, social drinker, looking for a gentleman, 45-60, to share good, clean fun with. **2256736**

SEEKING SAVED MAN
SBF, 27, NS, seeks one good man, 28-51, NS, no games, who likes movies, bowling, church, for friendship first. **2258500**

School board, recall group end dispute

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The group of residents and the two Wayne-Westland school board members they had hoped to recall have decided to set aside their differences and work for the betterment of students.

School board President Martha Pitsenbarger and Vice President Skip Monit met with recall organizer Shawn Maxwell after her group "collectively decided to put the recall aside."

"The best thing for the kids is for us to work together collectively to make things better," said Maxwell. "Skip and Martha agreed to help."

"We've come to an amicable

agreement with the recall committee, our goal is to work together for the betterment of the community," Monit said. "It was a joint decision that going forward with the recall would not be good for the district, so we decided to put our efforts toward positive action."

The meeting came a week after the school board approved a settlement agreement with the Wayne-Westland Education Association. The vote brought to an end a contentious round of contract negotiations that included a four-day strike by teachers in October and the threatened recall after the school board approved the drawing up of procedures to discipline teachers.

Residents angered by the strike launched the recall effort in November and were able to collect more than 5,000 signatures before calling it quits. Maxwell said that during that time her group received many calls from parents who had concerns and didn't know how to get answers.

"We will be able to call them when we have concerns or ideas," Maxwell said. "We've put contacts in place where we can work one-on-one to get help for people who call us."

Monit acknowledged that school board members are in office because of the community and that they must "address the community's concerns."

"I think this will be positive, I'm very optimistic about this," he said. "Martha and I have made a commitment to work with them."

He added that it's important to let the community know that the two sides want to put the recall behind them.

"There's no animosity," he added.

Maxwell added that she is relieved the recall effort is at an end, noting that she always said "a recall isn't pretty, it's not a positive thing."

"We're going to have to work together as a group," she said. "Our goal is to get problems solved and keep the district strong."

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

W-W updates high school textbooks

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The amount of money the Wayne-Westland Community Schools has spent on new textbooks in the past 18 months has topped \$1 million.

The school board this month approved the purchase of seven sets of mathematics and science books for the high schools, totaling more than \$242,000.

"Since July of 2007, we have spent \$1.2 million on major textbook adoptions, and that doesn't include the ancillary things," said Superintendent Greg Baracy.

The latest purchases approved this month include new pre-calculus books for grades 11-12 and calculus books for grade 12, both published by Pearson Prentice

Hall. The books replace textbooks with copyrights dating back to 2001 and 1999, respectively.

"One of the key things was that we wanted to do was make sure the pre-calculus aligns with the curriculum. We hope to increase the number of students attending college," said teacher Susanna Smelcer. "We looked at the technical component to try and make sure the calculus aligns with the AP (Advanced Placement) calculus."

"It was important to make sure that students will be successful in AP calculus," added Donna Lochlear, director of secondary development.

The pre-calculus book is written with a high school student in mind. The book it replaces was a college-level book, Lochlear added.

The board also approved the purchase of six high school science books for chemistry and accelerated chemistry, physics and accelerated physics for grade 11 and human anatomy and physiology and astronomy for grade 12 as well as two different sets of safety goggles.

"We want the core classes and the elective classes to be excellent, Prentice Hall fit the need of the district," said teacher Elizabeth Bozyk about the chemistry book. "This chemistry book has it all in one. It works for the student who's struggling in math to one of our college-bound students."

She noted that the astronomy book replaces one that has a 1999 copyright.

This is the second time in as many months that the board has approved the purchase of new textbooks. In January, it

approved spending more than \$200,000 on new social studies books for the second, third and 10th grades.

Baracy pointed out that the science books adoption process took 2 1/2 years with the committee also looking at what is taught to eighth- and ninth-graders. The purchase also includes 10 data projectors and carts and CPS clickers to assess knowledge instantaneously.

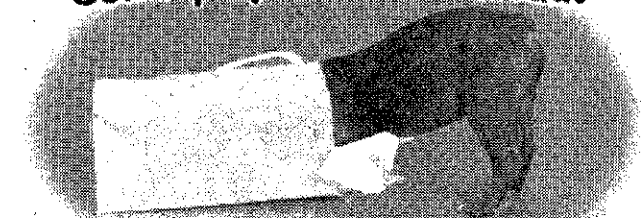
"This is the end of a long process," he said. "Our students are being provided with the best, up-to-date, topnotch books and the teachers picked them. It's tremendous to have so many teachers put in the time. Kudos to Aggie and the Textbook committees. They've done an excellent job."

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CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON NOTICE TO PUBLIC BOARD OF REVIEW APPOINTMENTS

Notice is hereby given by the undersigned, Terry G. Bennett, Clerk of the Charter Township of Canton, County of Wayne, State of Michigan to all residents of the Charter Township of Canton: that all persons protesting their assessment must complete petitions prior to appearing before the Board. A personal appearance is not required. All petitions must be received in the Assessor's office by March 13, 2009 at 12:00 p.m.

The Board of Review will be held in the Canton Township Hall on the first floor, at 1150 S. Canton Center Road. Entry into the building can be accessed through the front doors of Township Hall. Please come prepared, as an eight (8) minute limit before the Board will be strictly adhered to.

The following is the schedule for March Board of Review.

Tuesday, March 3, 2009 Organizational Meeting - 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
(No Appointments)

Monday, March 9, 2009 Hearings from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. and
1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
(Appointments Only)

Tuesday, March 10, 2009 Hearings from 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. and
6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
(Appointments Only)

Wednesday, March 11, 2009 Hearings from 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. and
6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
(Appointments Only)

Thursday, March 12, 2009 Hearings from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
(Appointments Only)

Friday, March 13, 2009 Hearings from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
(Appointments Only)

Please be advised that on Tuesday March 10 after 5:00 p.m. and Wednesday, March 11 after 5:00 p.m. entry to the building can only be accessed through the front entrance of the Township Hall.

If you have any questions regarding the March Board of Review, you may call Courtney Dugger, Secretary to the Board of Review (734) 394-5111.

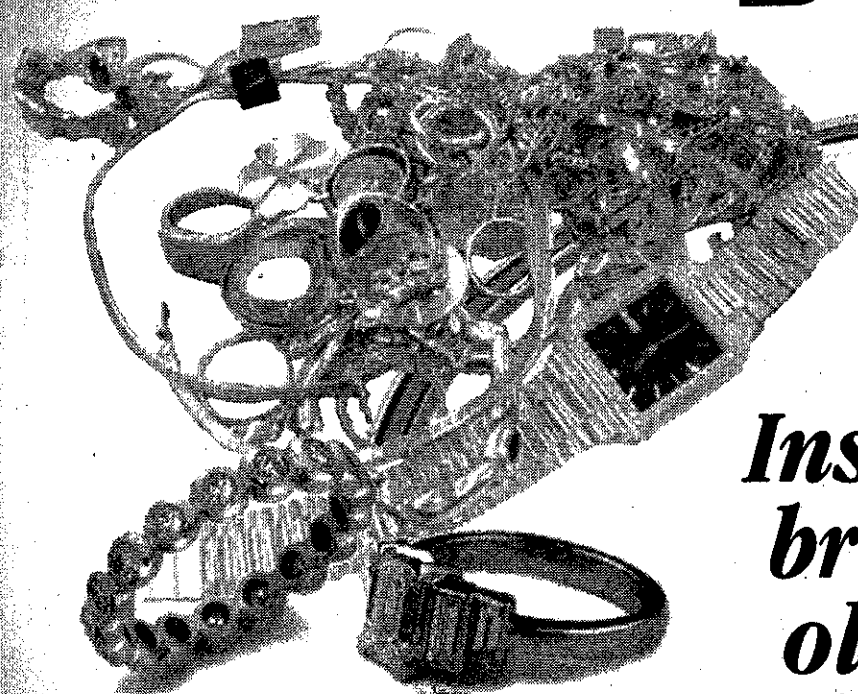
TERRY G. BENNETT, CLERK
Charter Township of Canton Township

Publish: February, 12, 15, 19 and 22, 2009

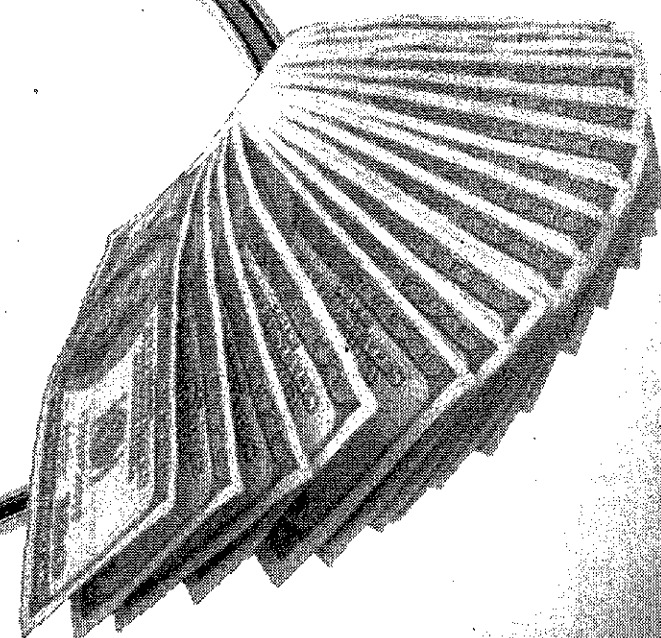
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Our fundamental purposes are to enhance the lives of our readers, nurture the hometowns we serve and contribute to the business success of our customers.

OUR VIEWS Foundation fund-raiser reaches for the stars

There will be millions of people watching the Oscars on Sunday. The vast majority will be watching on television sets from the confines of their living rooms, far from the pomp and circumstance surrounding the actual event in Hollywood.

If you ever wanted to experience a little of the glitz that surrounds the Academy Awards, however, there is an event Sunday evening at the Emagine Theater in Canton that just might whet your appetite — in more ways than one.

The Canton Community Foundation, which provides funding for numerous local programs and initiatives, is hosting a glitzy fund-raiser at the theater called Magical Night with the Stars. Emagine owner Paul Glantz, who is truly a community-minded businessman, agreed to let the Foundation take over the entire giant multi-plex theater for the night.

Those who attend the fund-raiser will get to walk up the red carpet, eat gourmet foods, mingle with the paparazzi, watch several of the Oscar-nominated films in Emagine Canton's many theaters, and even take in the Academy Awards on the big screen.

Tickets for the event are not cheap at \$100 a pop, especially in this economy. However, this fund-raiser is all about the community. The proceeds from the event — like all the Foundation's events — will fund community-based programs. In the past, the Foundation has used its fund-raisers to pay for things like scholarships for local students. This year, however, the Foundation will use the proceeds to meet a couple immediate needs in the community — hunger and homelessness.

The Foundation will donate this year's proceeds to First Step, a local shelter for abused women and their children, and Gleaners Community Food Bank, which has several distribution points in Canton. Let's face it, on average, people in Canton are doing better than most in this region. But not all in Canton are doing well. Both organizations say there has been a surge of need in the Canton community, which means this economy is wreaking havoc even here. So attending the event, while it will be a glitzy social gathering, will really go a long way towards helping the most unfortunate in the our community. And remember, this is a charitable event that is tax deductible.

So, if you have the means and want to help the community out, not to mention have a fun night out during the doldrums of winter, get out and enjoy a little Hollywood right here in Canton.

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LETTERS

Stop destroying nature

This letter is about Canton Township's plan for the Rouge River trails project. The Michigan DNR is responsible to ensure the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund is used for its intended purpose, and not wasted by special interests. It is good that the Rouge has been cleaned up by concerned citizens. However, those who polluted it should have cleaned their messes.

About a year ago I attended a single meeting of the local Canton Rouge trail collectivists, and knew I was amongst just another faction focused on walking and biking trails. I later took a leisurely stroll through what had already been developed near Michigan Avenue and Morton Taylor Road. To sum it up, I walked away from the site wondering why do we continue to rape Mother Nature's various plants and topsoil that took thousands of years to create? Natural woodlands such as Holliday Park and the one out on Cherry Hill Road west of Prospect is a better choice. There are already concrete or asphalt ways, roads, trails all over. Why are these controversial nuisance theories of wasting funds allowed to continue without proper policing or good sense?

Leisure Services Director Ann Conklin "thinks" the trails are beautiful. Could she teach us the history and problems of aesthetic philosophy, along with other subjects such as aesthetic attitude, distance, imagination,

What do you think?

Mail comments to the Canton Observer, 615 W. Lafayette, Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226 or e-mail to kkuban@hometownlife.com.

aestheticism and judgment? Leisure Services has built a huge pyramid over the years by embracing other special interests, competing with private sector businesses, and the education system itself, which is in the business section of the real telephone book. Since when does government dictate to the whole of the people what they will do for leisure?

Charlie Page
Canton

Excellent story

My congratulations to Kurt Kuban for his excellent coverage of the work Canton dentist Dr. Howard Volk is doing with the Plymouth Canton Symphony Society's Celebration Youth Orchestras.

In addition to helping strings students with their techniques and performance, he is a living example of the difference instrumental music can make throughout one's life. What Dr. Volk has been able to give these students is something that can't be conveyed in a lecture or taught from a book. Hopefully, more adults will step up and share their special skills with other stu-

dents in schools, churches, Scout troops or wherever their interests lie.

I would like to clarify the fact that the Celebration Youth Orchestras consist of four ensembles — the Strings, an entry level for string players, the Sinfonia for more advanced string players who are not quite ready for the Youth Symphony, the Flute Choir and the Youth Symphony, which is a full orchestra. Both the Flute Choir and the Youth Symphony are for more advanced middle school and high school musicians. It is the string players in the Youth Symphony with whom Dr. Volk works in special sectional rehearsals.

Jane Libbing, education coordinator
Plymouth Canton Symphony Society

Don't combine dispatch

If Farmington, Plymouth or Northville wanted to share a dispatch center that would make more sense to me due to the fact that they border Livonia. Canton does not. I could see delays in immediate response to fire or police protection and that is not what I pay my taxes for. After the Northville debacle, I am leery of some of Mayor Jack Kirksey's ideas. There are some areas where dollars should not be cut and that is fire and police. My suggestion is that Canton talk to Plymouth or Westland. Take Livonia out of the equation.

Gini Krenz
Livonia

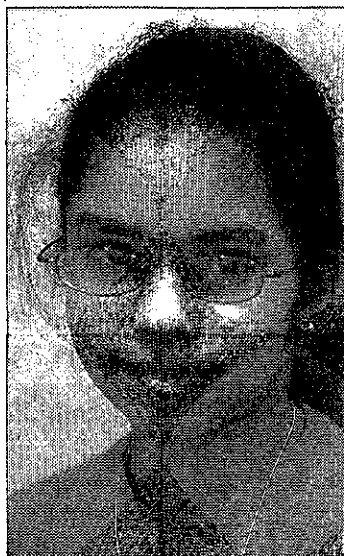
COMMUNITY VOICE

Fifth-grade students from Miller Elementary were among those who have attended 'African American History Through Artist Eyes' at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton, which is a demonstration through music to embrace diversity. What did you learn from this program?



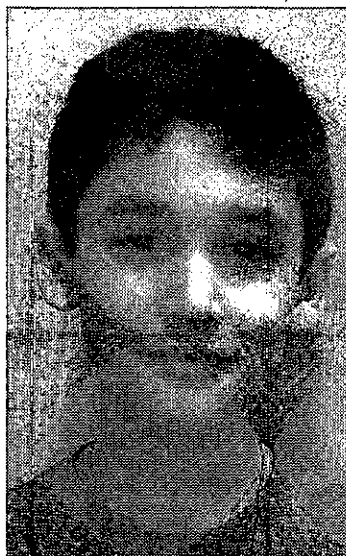
"I love how they brought you back to where music originated, how rock came from the blues. I never connected them."

Kayla Gough, 10, Canton



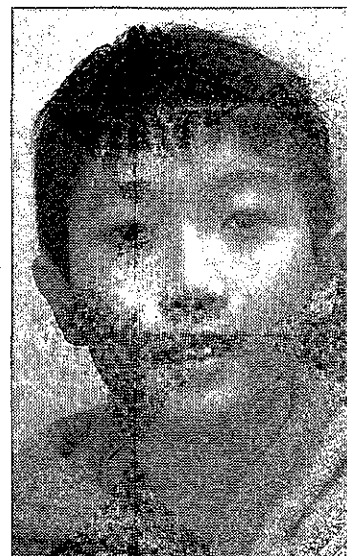
"Music gave African Americans the freedom they could soar up to any height, and it gave me a good feeling to know."

Anagha Mulpur, 10, Canton



"I was interested by the fact black culture had a lot to do with music and arts, and not just the whole civil rights movement."

Deven Misca, 10, Canton



"I think diversity is a good thing because then you can learn about other people's cultures. There are a lot of different religions and languages."

Peter Wei, 10, Canton

Join the discussion

What do you think about ...?

What impact will the stimulus bill have on the economy?

- Make it better
- Make it worse
- No change
- Unsure

Go to hometownlife.com to give us your feedback.

CANTON OBSERVER

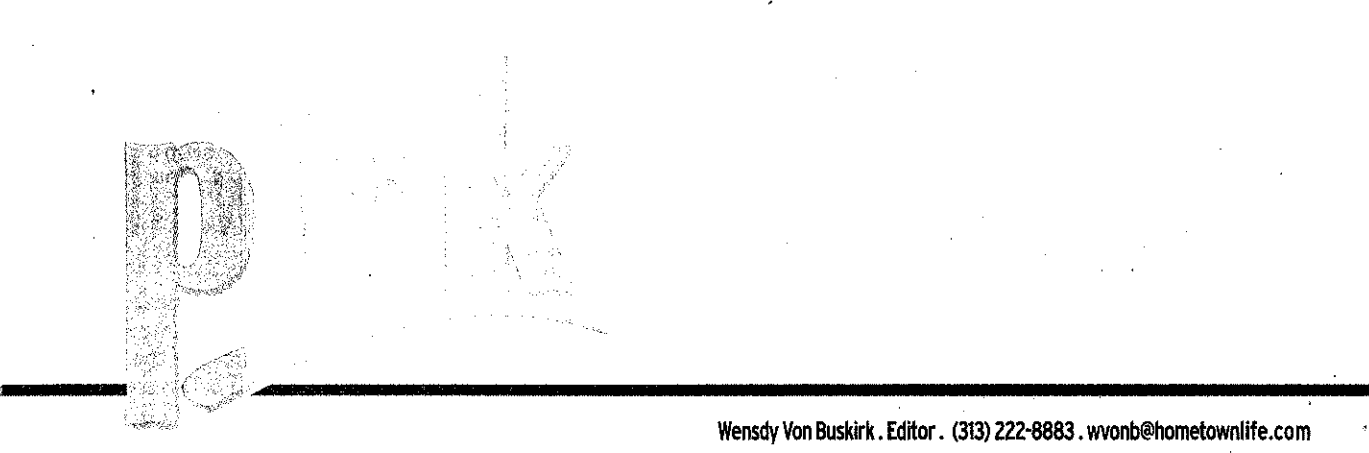


Kurt Kuban
Community
Editor

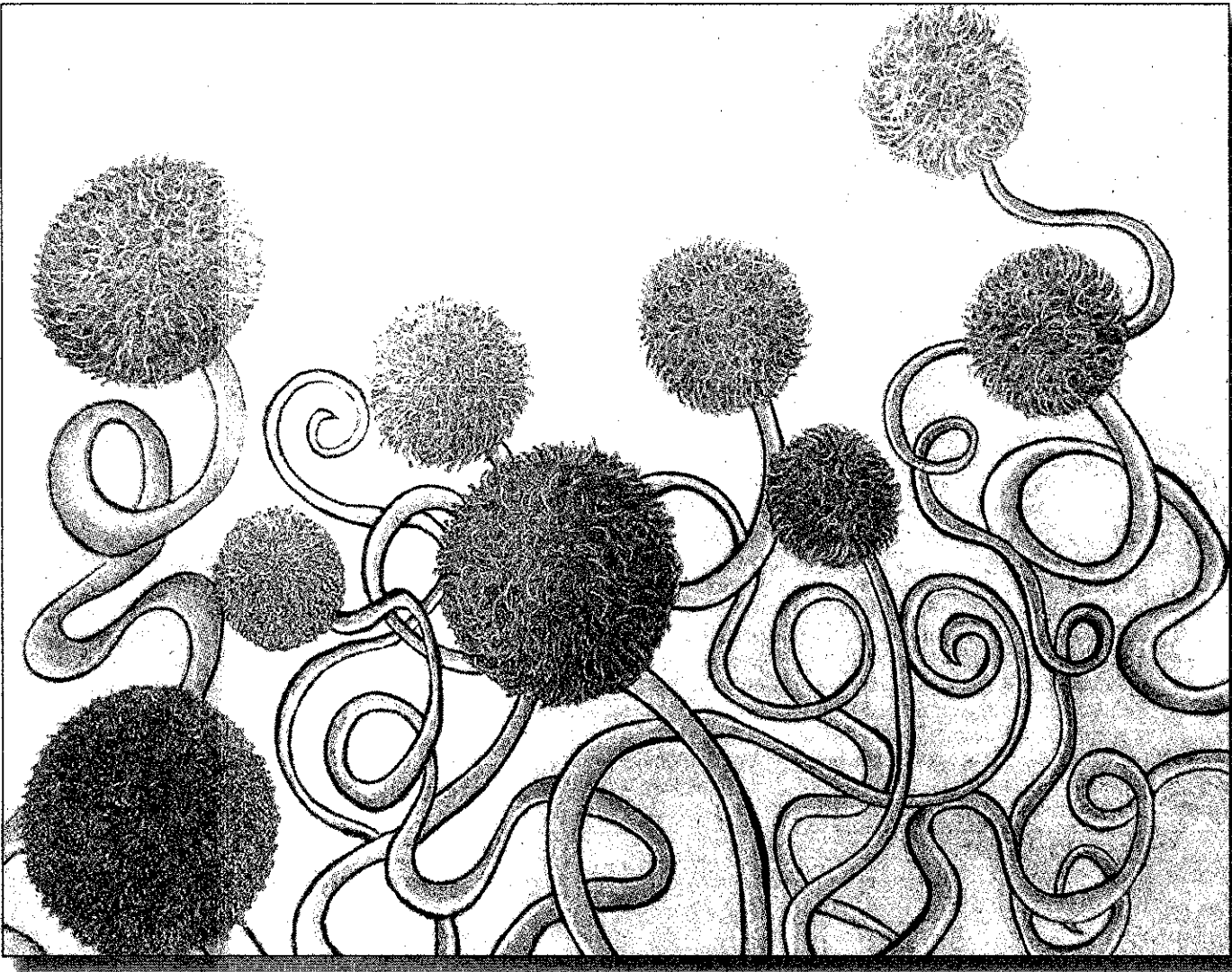
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"Globe Thistle," pastels on cotton paper, by Heather Williams.

Art & Beauty converge at salon gallery

BY WENS DY VON BUSKIRK
O&E STAFF WRITER

Once a month, Birmingham's Beauty (SALON) morphs into an art gallery. It takes on the alias b.gallery, and becomes the site of swanky opening receptions to christen new art on the walls.

This weekend, Beauty (SALON) receptionist Heather Williams assumes her alter ego of artist and debuts her own artwork in the exhibit "Bloom."

"Our clients had been asking me when I was putting up my own work for quite some time and with the weather being so dreary and all, I thought it was about time for another show," she said.

Williams, of Bloomfield Hills, attended Mercy High School, then graduated from College for Creative Studies in May with a B.A. in Fine Arts. She has worked for Beauty (SALON) since it opened in 2005, and also acts as curator for its b.gallery concept. Normally, she invites CCS students to display their work at the salon's monthly exhibits.

This time, she'll hang her own pastel illustrations, featuring large swirling flowers and bright organic patterns.

"I start with the brightest and grossest colors in my set with the intention of making the final color a little more this or a little more that," Williams said. "The result is usually toned down quite a bit."

Williams said her preferred medium is printmaking, and her long-term goal is to track down traditional printmaking equipment of her own.

In the meantime, she uses CCS.

"I actually snuck into the print studio and I'm making three etchings that I'm finishing off with pastel," she said. Those prints, along with paintings and drawings by Williams, will be for sale. Works range from \$50-\$3,200, but the wine and conversation at the salon-turned-gallery are free.

"People generally like to turn out," she said. "It's a good party and everyone's got their witty stories and it's a good time."

Bloom will be on display through March.



"Milk Thistle," pastels on cotton paper, by Heather Williams.

BLOOM
What: New Pastel Works by Heather Williams
When: Opening reception, 7-10 p.m. Feb. 21
Where: b.Gallery, Beauty (SALON), 235 Willits Ave., Birmingham
Call: (248) 540-0046 or visit www.hwilliamscreative.wordpress.com

"Bloom: Pastels by Heather Williams" opens at Beauty (SALON) in Birmingham on Feb. 21.

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Veggie Scramble, don't forget the Swat Sauce, at The Fly Trap in Ferndale

Drink It!
Chambord, the official drink of Mercedes-Benz Fashion Week in NYC

Do It!
Cirque de Monaco Masked Ball Feb. 28 at The Roosertail

Experience It!
Star Trek: The Exhibit, at the Detroit Science Center

MALLS & MAIN STREETS

JOURNALIST SIGNS BOOKS AT MACY'S

TROY — Photojournalist Scout Tufankjian, the only independent photographer to cover the Obama campaign from start to finish, will sign copies of his new book "Yes, We Can: Barack Obama's History Making Presidential Campaign" (\$29.95) while supplies last, 6 p.m. Feb. 20, at Macy's Somerset, 2752 West Big Beaver Road.

FASHION UNLEASHED AT ORCHARD MALL

WEST BLOOMFIELD — Detroit-area teenagers will model spring fashions for a cause at Fashion Unleashed 8:30 to 10:30 p.m. Saturday, March 7 at the Orchard Mall in West Bloomfield. Fashion Unleashed, a benefit for Michigan Region B'nai B'rith Youth Organization, will feature great clothes from The Shirt Box, Guys N' Gals and Moosejaw.

Tickets are \$10, students; \$15, general admission; \$250 with pre-glow (wine and hors d'oeuvres at Tapper's) and prime seats. Michigan Region BBYO is a nonprofit that provides leadership training, educational, social, athletic and community service programs for Jewish teenagers from all backgrounds. Call BBYO at (248) 788-0700.

ADELE WECHSLER PERSONAL APPEARANCE

TROY — The Bridal Salon at Macy's Somerset will host couture wedding gown designer Adele Wechsler as she takes appointments during her trunk show, Feb. 27-March 1. Wechsler is known for timeless gowns, emphasized by sheer overlays which flirt with light and move-

ment. Call (248) 816-4270 or visit the store, 2752 West Big Beaver Road, Troy.

PAMPER THE BRIDE AND BEYOND

SOUTHFIELD — Silver Garden of Southfield will host the third annual "Pamper the Bride & Beyond" Bridal Expo 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 28. This event will feature interactive workshops, live music, exclusive exhibitors, giveaways, pamper services, a Spotlight Fashion Showcase and a "Grooms Lounge." Call (248) 809-2117 or visit www.pamperthebrideexpo.com.

PARISIAN HOSTS COMMUNITY DAY

LIVONIA — Parisian locations, including Laurel Park Place in Livonia and The Village of Rochester Hills, will host Community Day on Feb. 28. Purchase a \$5 booklet stuffed with coupons good exclusively on Community Day, and all proceeds go back to local non-profit organizations.

The Bon-Ton Stores, Inc., parent company of Parisian, recently announced that Community Day raised over \$10 million nationwide last year. There's still time for non-profits to join the event. Call (734) 953-7500.

SHOP CHANEL AT SAKS FIFTH AVENUE

TROY — Saks Fifth Avenue will preview the CHANEL Spring 2009 Ready-to-Wear and Accessories Collections, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 24, with informal modeling 11 a.m.-3 p.m. in the Ready-to-Wear Boutique on Two (248) 614-3302 and Accessories Boutique on One (248) 643-9000 ext. 5404.

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An ancient world is revealed in Hatching the Past

My trek of nature exploration in Michigan has been long. Thousands of school children and adults have joined me on the trails that led to wilder sides of suburban living. That trek includes almost 15 years of nature ramblings for the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers*.

Yesterday, my ever-evolving journey of mixing profession with outdoor passions sent me back to Cranbrook where it all began over three decades ago. Back then — after migrating west from Buffalo — I did not know Michigan was a mitten and some Michiganders lived in the thumb.

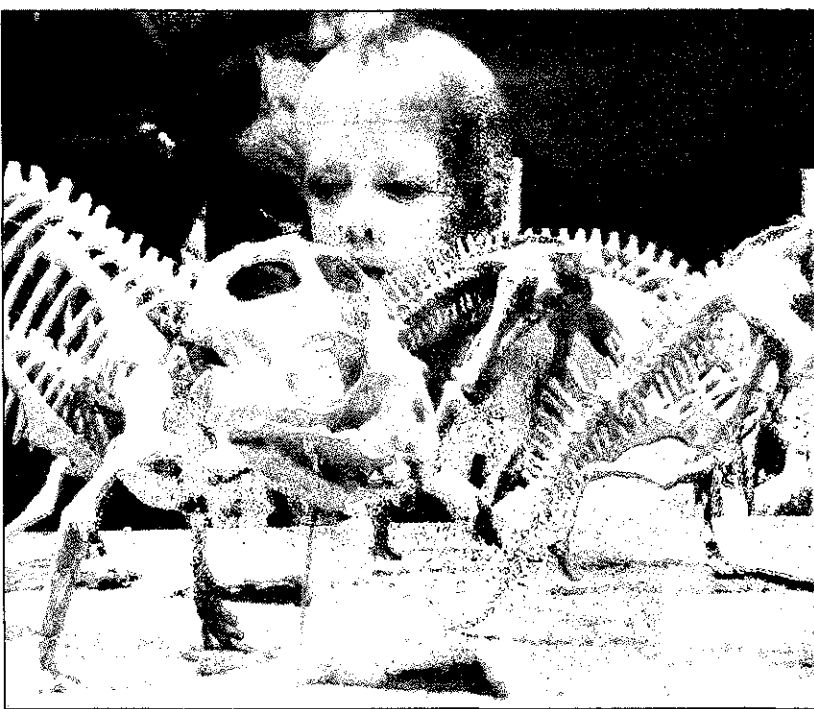
Hatching the Past is what this ramble is about. And it's also the name of the newly



Nature's way
Jonathan Schechter

opened exhibit at the Cranbrook Institute of Science. Thanks to the dedicated efforts of their current staff and the generosity of Michael and Barbara Sincak, dinosaurs roam the lower level of the Institute. The Sincaks' gifted fossil casts valued at over \$80,000 have been infused into a new exhibit that takes you on a journey back in time millions of years — a journey well worth taking.

John Zawiskie, geologist and paleontologist at the institute, summed up what's in store perfectly with one sentence: "This exhibit reveals some of the remarkable new discoveries that have allowed us to better understand the reproduction, growth, behavior and



evolution of dinosaurs, related reptiles and birds."

During the member's night preview, I had close encounters with a young Psittacosaurus (sih-tack-oh-SORE-us), the eggs of a Gigantoraptor (JI-gant-oh-RAP-tor), a feathery Sinornithosaurus (SIGH-nor-ni-tho-SORE-us), the gliding four winged Microraptor (My-crow-rap-tore) and Confuciusornis (con-FEW-shus-OR-nis), the first primitive bird with a beak and a reduced tail. Of course there was the expected T-Rex skull. But it was a glass encased eye level display of skeletal juvenile Protoceratops that pulled in wide-eyed children and me. When I knelt for a closer look, my mind morphed into that

"wonder mode" of a bare-footed 6-year-old, a time when my dreams, reality and science were all the same. It's still often that way today. And it's the passion of exploring nature, be it in a museum or a woodland swamp of Oakland County that fuels the spirit of this graying naturalist.

Hatching The Past provides an intimate look at all the major plant and meat eating dinosaur groups that tromped about Earth. Some exhibits are interactive. Others are dramatic in their stark presentation: A flock of a dozen young protoceratops buried alive when a sudden catastrophic event preserved them in action.

And then there is the Paleo Cold Case

Files that allows you to decide whether or not the dinosaur Coelophys (see-LOH-fye-siss) cannibalized their young. Want the answer? Go see it! Hatching the Past is free with museum admission and left me musing about modern-day dinosaurs: great blue herons and snapping turtles.

But Hatching The Past was more than a dynamic exhibit for me. There is a footnote. Here's the rest of the story: While Cranbrook was putting final touches on its rare glimpse of dinosaur life I was incubating a plan with Cranbrook to join their science camp staff this summer, bringing my nature writer's trek through Michigan full circle. My Urban Naturalist Explorer camp egg hatches this summer and will join Cranbrook's expanded Summer Explorer camp series that includes their ever-popular Ecology, Science and Crime Scene Explorer Camps. Urban Naturalist Explorer runs the week of June 22-26 and is for children entering fifth, sixth or seventh grade (pre-registration required). Perhaps your young naturalist will join me in exploring, photographing and writing about nature's way on the Cranbrook Campus. A field trip to a glacially created bog, home to meat-eating plants, is included. For information on Hatching The Past and to explore all of Cranbrook's exciting science camps call the Cranbrook Institute of Science at (248) 645-3210 or check out the newly revised Web site: www.science.cranbrook.edu.

Jonathan Schechter writes on nature's way. Visit him at oaknature@aol.com.

Zoo fountain in new film

The Detroit Zoo's Horace H. Rackham Memorial Fountain makes several appearances in the new stop-motion animated 3-D adventure, *Coraline*, which opened in theaters nationwide on Feb. 6.

Featuring the voices of Dakota Fanning as Coraline and Teri Hatcher as the Other Mother, the film tells the tale of a young girl who moves from Michigan to Oregon and discovers a secret door in her new home that leads to a bizarre fantasy world.

In one scene, Coraline reflectively picks up a snow globe holding a replica of the iconic Detroit Zoo fountain as a joyful reminder of her favorite place back home. The snow globe figures prominently in a pivotal scene later in the film. Sharp-eyed moviegoers will also spot a photograph of Coraline and her parents in front of the fountain.

The Horace H. Rackham Memorial Fountain features two 10-foot-tall bronze bears in a 75,000-gallon pool with life-sized sea lions, turtles and frogs. The fountain is a favorite meeting place at the Detroit Zoo and one of the zoo's most-photographed attractions.

Since *Coraline* premiered, the zoo has been receiving inquiries regarding a snow globe similar to the one seen in the film. The item is in production and will be available at Zoofari Market in the spring. To order a snow globe, call (248) 541-5717, Ext. 3274.

Good time to refinance your mortgage, but know your options

Mortgage rates have plummeted recently and homeowners are finding that refinancing makes sense. In today's economic environment, if homeowners can take advantage of lower interest rates and reduce their monthly payments, the question is why not? People shouldn't just rush out and refinance, but in certain situations it does make sense.

Most people want to know what is the best mortgage. There is no one answer. The real issue is what is the best mortgage for your situation. In the past few years, too many people obtained mortgages they didn't understand and were great for the mortgage company but not good for their individual situation. Before you refinance, it is important to review some of the basics.

Know exactly what a new mortgage will cost.

Contrary to what some companies would like you to believe, all mortgages have fees and costs. That doesn't necessarily mean when you obtain the mortgage you write a check to the company for fees and costs. Many times, the mortgage company will roll the costs into the mortgage. For example, if your present mortgage is \$100,000 you may refinance the mortgage and find the new mortgage is \$102,000.

Just looking at what your new monthly payment is can be a mistake. After all, if five years ago you obtained a 30-year mortgage and you refinance and lower your



Money Matters
Rick Bloom

monthly payment, you must factor into the equation you will pay that mortgage for 30 more years, not the 25 under the old mortgage. Just because your monthly mortgage payment goes down doesn't mean it makes sense to refinance. Factor in the years on the loan.

I generally recommend a fixed-rate mortgage. In some situations I recommend some sort of adjustable rate mortgage, but that is not the norm. The problem I have with adjustable rate and other types of exotic mortgages is they can be difficult to understand. Many people find that after they've paid their mortgage for five years, they owe more money than when they initially obtained the mortgage. They didn't know that they had a negative amortization mortgage.

Before you sign on the dotted line, understand the ins and outs of the mortgage. Know if your mortgage interest rate can adjust and how your loan is amortized. Most people are familiar with traditional fixed-rate mortgages where so much of your monthly payment goes to interest and some goes to the debt you owe. However, not all mortgages are like this. There are some that are for interest only, which means that 100 percent of your money pays the interest and nothing goes to the retirement of the debt.

Mortgage documents are difficult to understand. That is why it is important to deal with an individual you trust to work in your best interest. Deal with a professional — someone who understands the mortgage market and who can explain the terms to you.

Who should refinance in today's environment? It's difficult to say. However, in general

if you could lower your interest rate by at least 1 percent, it probably makes sense to consider refinancing. In addition, if you have been in your home for a number of years and your initial mortgage included paying private mortgage insurance (PMI), and you now have 20 percent equity in your home, you can consider refinancing and removing that PMI cost.

An important issue when it comes to refinancing is how long you plan to be in your home. For those who plan to stay in their home for another year or two, it doesn't make sense to refinance because you won't recoup your costs in that short period of time.

There is no single mortgage that is the best mortgage for everyone. I believe in the great majority of situations, the traditional 30-year, fixed-rate is the best mortgage for most people. I find this mortgage offers the greatest flexibility and helps plan finances. You never know down the road what your monthly payment will be with some of the gimmicky mortgages or the adjustable mortgages. Fixed-rate mortgages offer more certainty and that is why I generally recommend 30-year fixed.

No matter what type of mortgage you obtain, the adage "let the buyer beware" certainly rings true. There has been a lot of mortgage fraud perpetrated on the American people over the last few years, and it is important to be careful.

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

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THURSDAY
February 19
2009

SECTION B
(CP)

Ed Wright, editor (313) 222-2047
ewright@hometownlife.com

Check out listings of great events and destinations in Filter, B8-9

SPORTS, FILTER, FOOD & WINE

HOMETOWN LIFE

Salem girls seize first in Central

BY JEFF THEISEN
SPORTS WRITER

Salem and South Lyon threw every bit of defense at each other in a battle for the KLAAs Central title.

Salem (10-7, 8-1) came out on top 33-31 to clinch the first-ever division title.

"It was an awesome game," Salem head coach Fred Thomann said. "South Lyon is such a good team and they present so many problems because they've got a great outside game and a great inside game."

"They hadn't been beaten on their home floor all year, so for us to come in here and lock up the division championship in their gym was really a big win for us."

South Lyon loses its third straight and falls to 13-4, 6-3.

"They're a good defensive team, but I think we started to doubt where we could score from, and we stopped taking it to the basket," South Lyon head coach Erica Thomas said.

Both teams struggled to put anything in the basket in the first quarter. The Rocks ended up on top 6-4, but it was all Lions in the second quarter.

After starting the game 1-for-13 from the floor, South Lyon finished the half making five of six shots for a 17-9 lead until the final second.

Bret deBear launched a shot as the buzzer went off for a three-pointer that cut the deficit to 17-12 at the half and proved to be a huge shot in the end.

"Getting behind like we did really put us behind, but Bret made a great shot at halftime," Thomann said. "That was huge."

The Rocks carried the momentum into the third with Sara Stone scoring six points to help cut the lead to 23-22 heading into the final eight minutes of play.

The lead was never more than three points for either team, but Victoria Brotz's lone three-pointer of the game with 3:26 to play tied the score at 29.

The Lions had three opportunities to retake the lead but turned it over three-straight times. Tracy Whalen hit a basket to give the Rocks the lead with around two minutes left.

The Lions cut the lead to one on a make and a miss at the line by Kelsey Kaminsky, but the Rocks answered with a pair of free throws by Brotz for a 33-30 lead with 25 seconds remaining.

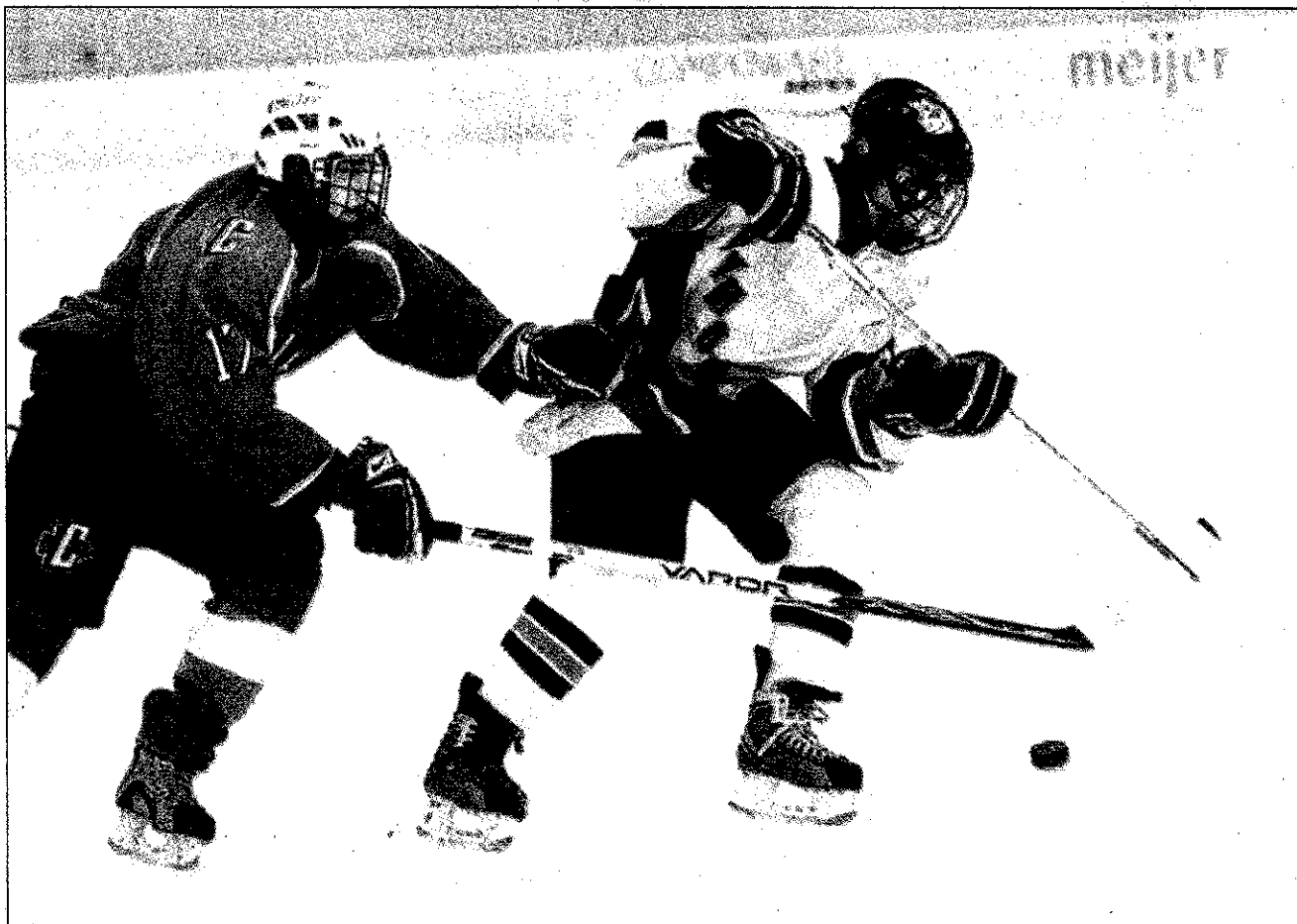
South Lyon center Danielle Gotham was fouled with seven seconds left and made one of two, making the score 33-31.

Chelsea Davis was fouled but missed the front end of a one-and-one, and Gotham grabbed the rebound and got a time-out.

The last gasp came with three seconds left. The inbound went cleanly to Kristin Short, who was wide open behind the arc, but she dribbled once to get closer to the three-point line, and the Rocks' defense closed in to force a shot that fell well short at the buzzer.

"This was a better game than we played the last time (against Salem)," Thomas said. "The defenses played better this time, but we weren't able to score more than we did last time either."

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PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth's Taylor Currier (right) tries to create some separation from Canton's Dan Bielak during Tuesday night's cross-campus showdown. The Wildcats won, 7-3.

Making a 'skate' ment

Plymouth scores early, often in 7-3 victory over Chiefs

Salem icers clinch Central, Page B4.

BY ED WRIGHT
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The bold, black-and-white ad printed on the boards just to the right of the Plymouth hockey team's bench Tuesday night could have served as the Wildcats' motto.

The ad shouted "WE DELIVER!", which the Wildcats did over and over again against cross-campus rival Canton.

Plymouth bolted to a 3-0 lead before the pre-game Zamboni fumes had evaporated and then skated to a convincing 7-3 victory.

The Wildcats improved to 12-8-2 overall while Canton slipped to 15-6.

"I wasn't really sure how we'd come out tonight because we're so young, but we had some good practices this week," said Plymouth coach Paul Fassbender. "We worked on getting the puck to the net and crashing hard, and that's how we scored a couple of goals tonight."

"I thought our defense played extremely well. Chris Merrill was huge tonight. He did a nice job of protecting the puck when it was in our zone."

Merrill's most memorable play unfolded with 4:55 left in the contest when he jolted Canton's Nick Tomilenko so forcefully that the Chief's stick flew at least 20 feet into the air over the

Wildcats' bench.

The Wildcats built a 3-0 advantage over the game's opening 10 minutes thanks to goals from Ryan Renault (from Luke Merandi and Pat Smiatacz), Merandi (from Renault and Smiatacz) and Taylor Currier, who picked up a helper from John Deal.

The Chiefs regained a dose of momentum just before the first intermission when Alex Berlin scored from Bryan Davison and Tomilenko.

The most-impressive net-finder of the night came with 6:47 left in the second period when Kyle Callahan controlled a loose puck at mid-ice and while fending off a Canton defenseman with his right arm, directed the puck into the net with his left to make it 4-1.

"That was a huge goal, not only because of Kyle's effort, but because it gave us a three-goal lead," Fassbender confirmed. "If Canton had scored when it was 3-1, who knows what happens?"

Plymouth cemented the win by scoring the first two goals of the third period. The first came when freshman Tyler Sanders — who was solid at both ends of the ice — lit the lamp from the door-step just 90 seconds into the period. Forty seconds later, Tyler Currier found the back of the net to make it 6-1.

The never-say-quit Chiefs retaliated with a Mark Barath goal from A.J. Rosales two minutes later,



Plymouth hockey players celebrate a first-period goal during Tuesday night's 7-3 victory over Canton.

but Plymouth quickly re-upped its five-goal lead 50 seconds later when Renault scored from Merandi and Smiatacz.

Canton capped the scoring

with 1:30 to go on Berlin's goal from Rohn Gaudi and Ryan Lash.

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GAME WRAPS

Wildcats win

Plymouth's girls basketball team upended visiting Livonia Churchill, 55-42, Tuesday night.

Senior guard Kelsi Robinson led all scorers with 20 points. Fellow senior Shaakira Haywood also shone, netting 17 points, 10 rebounds and a pair of blocked shots.

Stacey Klonowski added nine points and seven rebounds to the winners' cause.

"When Churchill doubled down on Shaakira, it left Kelsi open from outside, and she made her shots," said Plymouth coach Ted Sturdivant. "Stacey played great, too."

Churchill was paced by Alysia Boldizar, who scored 15 points.

Chiefs dominate

Canton's girls basketball team pulled off a feat nearly unheard of in high school basketball Tuesday night at Wayne Memorial.

The Chiefs' stifling defense held the Zebras to single digits in their 52-8 triumph.

The win improved state-ranked Canton's record to 15-2 overall and 8-1 in the KLAAs South Division. Wayne dropped to 2-15 and 0-9, respectively.

CarolAnn Sexauer led the Chiefs with 13 points. Kari Schmitt added 10 points and five rebounds.

Kayla Bridges sparked, too, netting nine points and seven boards. Sara Schmitt pulled down six caroms.

Crystal Hughes led the Zebras with four points.

Canton led 16-2 after one quarter, 31-6 at the half and 51-7 with eight minutes to play.

"We did a good job against their packed-in zone," said Canton coach Brian Samulski.

Ignition stalled

The Detroit Ignition was defeated for the first time this year by the Milwaukee Wave, 8-4, at U.S. Cellular Arena on Sunday.

The Ignition fell to 6-3 while the Wave improved to 7-4 in the four-team Xtreme Soccer League.

The Ignition was able to finish just two of its 16 chances.

Wave midfielder Chad Burt booted in the first tally of the afternoon at 9:33 of the opening frame. Ignition defender Zach Wilkes evened the count at two-all at 2:27 of the second, but Brett Weisner scored another two for Milwaukee with just 35 seconds left in the half.

Neither team was able to find the back of the net in the third, but Burt notched his second goal of the night just 50 seconds into the fourth quarter.

THE DAVISON FILE

Name: Bryan Davison;
School: Canton
Athletic interests: Plays defense for Canton's state-ranked hockey team and high school lacrosse;
Family: Parents Tim and Lori; brother Patrick and sister Erin;
Favorite NHL player: Brendan Shanahan;
Favorite sports movies: 'Miracle' and 'Friday Night Lights';
Favorite TV show: Man vs. Wild (Discovery Channel);
Favorite restaurant: Leo's Coney Island;
If I could change one rule in high school hockey, it would be.... "I don't want to sound like a goon, but I would allow a little fighting. It's part of the sport."

Red Zone Defender

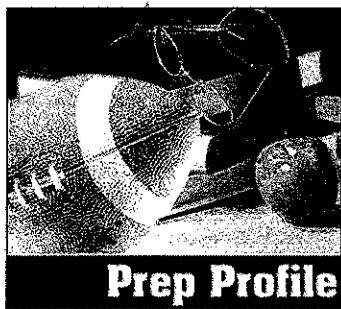
Canton's Davison presents imposing obstacle for foes

BY ED WRIGHT
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Like two trains speeding toward each other on the same set of tracks, Canton senior defenseman Bryan Davison and the Dearborn Heights Crestwood hockey player were destined for a ground-shaking collision behind the Chiefs' net during a game early this season.

Unfortunately for the Crestwood player, instead of an even-even collision, it was more like an accelerating red freight train (Davison) meeting Thomas the Tank Engine.

You see, Davison is 6-foot-2, weighs 200 pounds and



Prep Profile

can skate like the wind.

"It was a clean check and the other guy didn't get hurt," Davison remembered, "but his helmet ended up somewhere around the blue line. His equipment was scattered all over the place. When he got up, he joked to me that it kind of looked

like a yard sale."

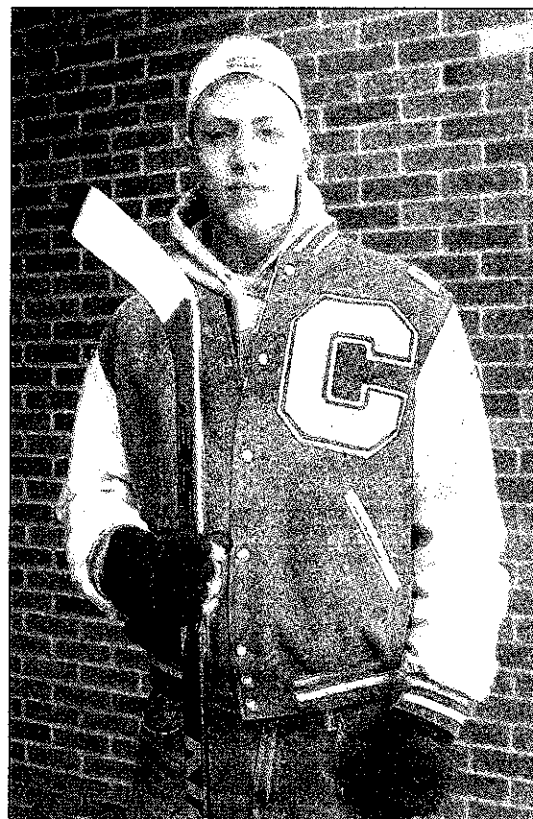
The jolt was just one of many the physical Davison has deposited into his "check"ing account this season — his second as a member of the Chiefs' state-ranked hockey team.

Imposing defender

Davison has provided the thunder to leading scorer Nick Tomilenko's lightning during a season in which they've been ranked as high as eighth in Division 1 by the Michigan High School Hockey Coaches Association.

"First of all, Bryan is an

Please see **DAVISON, B4**



Canton hockey player Bryan Davison presents an ominous obstacle for opposing forwards to overcome when they cross the Chiefs' blue line. The 6-foot-2, 200-pound senior has helped lead the Chiefs to their best season in 10 years.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

John Glenn puts headlock on first KLAA Kensington Conference crown

BY ED WRIGHT
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

With the do-or-die state tournament just around the corner, Westland John Glenn re-fueled its tank with some high-performance momentum at Saturday's inaugural Kensington Lakes Activities Association's Kensington Conference individual wrestling tournament at Salem.

The Rockets blasted off the launching pad with a fiery fury by winning three of the first four weight classes — 103 pounds, 119 and 125 — before capping their championship afternoon with 256.5 points, 29.5 more than runner-up Canton.

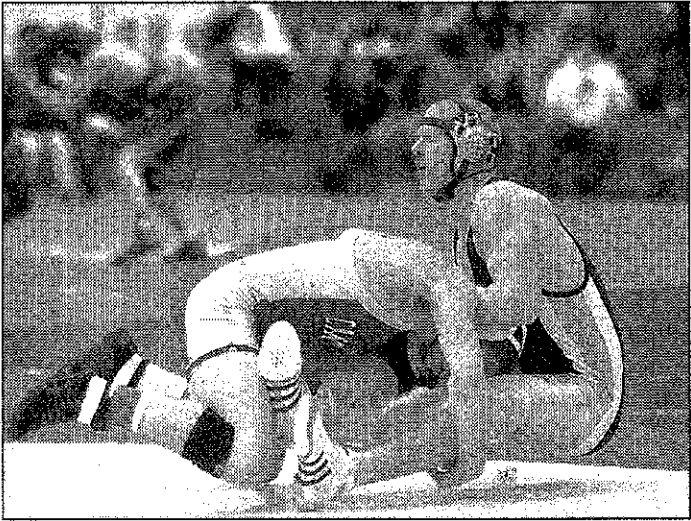
"It was nice to win (Saturday) because we finished in a three-way tie in our division with Canton and Franklin during the regular season, so it was nice to know we had the best team on Saturday," said John Glenn coach Bill Polk.

Northville finished third with 204.5 points, just ahead of the host Rocks (193.5). Fifth-place Livonia Franklin earned 186 points, but there was a severe drop off to sixth and beyond.

Overall, John Glenn crowned six champions, including 160-pound Zaid Ammari, who improved to 39-10 with a 4-0 day capped by a dramatic 9-8 triumph over South Lyon's Joe Powell in the title tilt.

"I was confident today, but I still had a few butterflies," said Ammari. "This means a lot, to place first in the first conference tournament. Now, hopefully, I can win districts, regionals and go to the state meet."

Also turning in gold-medal efforts for the Rockets were 103-pounder Steve Wakeford, who defeated Franklin's Paul Hanni, 8-5, in the final; Josh Austin, who edged Canton's Carl Lucke by the same score in the 119 title match; 125-pounder Mark Thompson, who edged South Lyon's Joe Johnson for first; 140-pounder Jimmy Mann, who defeated Livonia Stevenson's Raz Markosian, 10-6; and heavyweight Dustin Gajowiak, who decided Franklin's Mike



Canton's Brent Winekoff (left), pictured in action earlier this season, was the 145-pound champion at Saturday's KLAA Kensington Conference Individual Team Tournament.



Salem's Sam Lepper captured the title in the 215-pound weight class at Saturday's KLAA Individual Team Tournament.

Modes, 5-3, in the final match.

"Josh's win over Carl Lucke was big because Lucke beat Josh earlier in the season," said Polk. "And Steve's win at 103 was impressive. We knew the Franklin kid was going to be tough because he dropped down a weight class or two. And Mark Thompson seems to be peaking at the right time."

Canton's runner-up finish was highlighted by a quartet of first-place finishers. Junior 112-pounder Waleed Faraj ignited the Chiefs' trips to the top step of

the podium by defeating South Lyon's Brooks O'Brien, 6-3, in the final match.

Less than a half hour later, senior Jeremy Filippelli registered an emphatic 59-second pin against Livonia Churchill's Jonny Banora in the 130-pound championship showdown.

A pair of Canton juniors — Donnie Watkins and Brent Winekoff — continued their season-long dominance by winning at 135 and 145, respectively.

Watkins crushed John Glenn's Jared Stephens, 14-2, while Winekoff earned an 18-3 technical fall triumph over Northville's Jon Nelson.

Winekoff's day was spectacular as the No. 1-ranked 145-pounder in the state netted two pins and two tech falls.

"It's just the result of working hard and staying motivated," Winekoff said, when asked for the key to his 47-1 record heading into Wednesday's Division I team district tournament.

Other local grapplers who earned gold medals included Salem's Sam Lepper, who upended Franklin's Cody Hay, 9-5, in the 215-pound final; and the Patriots' Garrett Hay, who earned the 189-pound title with a hard-fought 3-2 decision over Salem's Austin Root.

WRESTLING RESULTS

KLAA Kensington Conference Individual Team Wrestling Tournament
Saturday at Salem
FINAL STANDINGS: 1. Westland John Glenn, 256.5; 2. Canton, 227; 3. Northville, 204.5; 4. Salem, 193.5; 5. Livonia Franklin, 186; 6. Livonia Stevenson, 114; 7. Plymouth, 102; 8. South Lyon, 86.5; 9. (tie) Livonia Churchill and Novi, 79.5; 11. Wayne Memorial, 78; 12. South Lyon East, 24.

INDIVIDUAL RESULTS
103 pounds: 1st-place match: Steve Wakeford (JG) decided Paul Hanni (LF), 8-5; 3rd: Nick Kim (S) dec. Daniel Filippelli (C), 8-2; 5th: Said Youssef (P) won by forfeit over Tyler Fole (SLE).

112: 1st: Waleed Faraj (C) dec. Brooks O'Brien (SL), 6-3; 3rd: Steve Tuyo (LF) dec. Connor Caldwell, 14-7; 5th: Ian Phillips (S) dec. Omar Mostafa (LS), 4-0.

119: 1st: Josh Austin (JG) dec. Carl Lucke (C), 8-5; 3rd: Greg Lorrain (NVL) won by major dec. over Erik Czech (LF), 14-3; 5th: Matt Mecksel (LC) won by injury default over Nick Byrnes (SLE).

125: 1st: Mark Thompson (JG) dec. Joe Johnson (SL), 6-4; 3rd: Mitch Wolski (C) won by major dec. over John Billis (S), 10-2; 5th: Jordan McGuire (LF) dec. Kane Kanouse (LC), 9-4.

130: 1st: Jeremy Filippelli (C) pinned Jonny Powers (LC) in 59 seconds; 3rd: Justin Robinson (JG) dec. James Middleitch (S), 6-0; 5th: Clayton Caldwell (N) pinned Jay Bishop (LS) in 4:04.

135: 1st: Donnie Watkins (C) won by major dec. over Jared Stephens (JG), 14-2; 3rd: Tevin Hines (WM) dec. Josh Wright (NVL), 8-5; 5th: Johannes Olin (S) pinned Bryan Fortney (LC) in 2:04.

140: 1st: Jimmy Mann (JG) dec. Raz Markosian (LS), 10-6; 3rd: Justin Giacobbi (SL) pinned Harry Eichholtz (NVL) in 1:14; 5th: Glen Malear (N) dec. Ryan Terrel (C), 5-2.

145: 1st: Brent Winekoff (C) won by tech. fall over Jon Nelson (NVL), 18-3; 3rd: Robert Schultz (S) pinned Josh Mills (WM) in 49 seconds; 5th: Martin Bunney (N) dec. Dusti Poisson (LS), 5-4.

152: 1st: Matt Hagan (NVL) dec. Jeff Adkins (JG), 8-4; 3rd: Brandon Billiau (LF) won by major dec. over Anthony Abro (C), 14-5; 5th: Josh Gustitus (C) pinned Chris Sweet (S) in 2:15.

160: 1st: Zaid Ammari (JG) dec. Joe Powell (SL), 9-8; 3rd: Matt Roos (LF) dec. Derrick Davey (P), 9-7; 5th: Kevin Mantay (NVL) dec. Collin Gross (S), 5-2.

171: 1st: Nick Muder (NVL) dec. Keith Zech (C), 8-4; 3rd: Jake Burns (LS) dec. Vince Rizzo (P), 8-3; 5th: Adam Paul (N) dec. Zach Leuenberger, 19-14.

189: 1st: Garrett Hay (LF) dec. Austin Root (S), 3-2; 3rd: Colin Marech (NVL) dec. Andrew Schramm (LS), 5-2; 5th: Alex Winn (P) won by tech. fall over Kameron Jones (JG), 18-3.

215: 1st: Sam Lepper (S) dec. Cody Hay (LF), 9-5; 3rd: Bobby Laniff (NVL) pinned Gerald Powell (JG) in 2:24; 5th: Dylan Korzetti (WM) pinned Brian Chandler (P) in 2:52.

285: 1st: Dustin Gajowiak (JG) dec. Mike Modes (LF), 5-3; 3rd: Steve Widzinski (NVL) pinned Rich Arvig (LS) in 3:27; 5th: Blake Abbey (S) won by injury default over Wally Eppler (P).

Salem subdues ferocious Lions with pin-point shooting, 50-44

BY ED WRIGHT
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

What's the best way to tranquilize a bunch of ferocious Lions?

Fire a bunch of pin-point three-pointers at them.

That was the winning game plan in Salem's stunning 50-44 upset of South Lyon Tuesday night.

The victory boosted Salem's record to 5-10 overall and 3-6 in the Kensington Lakes Activities Association's Central Division. The Lions fell to 8-1 heading into Friday's first-place-deciding showdown with Novi, which is also 8-1.

"They started pressing us in the third quarter and we kept our composure," said Salem coach Bob Brodie. "Plus, we started hitting some threes, which hasn't been our forte this season, and we made some clutch free throws down the stretch."

Senior forward Joe Posler paced the upset with 15 points. Fellow senior Heath Parling added 11, including a pair of clutch fourth-quarter triples.

The difference-maker for the Rocks may have been junior reserve Andrew Daniels, who contributed nine points and eight rebounds off the bench. He also calmly sank 5 of 6 late-game free throws when the game was still in the balance.

Overall, Salem drained 9 of 12 freebies while South Lyon was just 5 of 11 from the stripe.

South Lyon led 10-6 after one quarter before the Rocks clawed back to knot the game at 16-all at the half.

Salem posted 17-point third and fourth quarters while holding the Lions to 28 second-half points.

"The last time we played them at their place, we led by two going into the fourth quarter," Brodie remembered. "But then we made one basket in the fourth quarter."

"We played well defensively tonight, holding them to three threes."

WAYNE MEMORIAL 70, CANTON 58: On Tuesday at Canton, the Zebras clinched the KLAA South Division title thanks in large part to Robert Woodson and Daniel Hill, who both netted 19 points. Jimmell Bennett also played well Wayne, twining 14.

Marlan Glenn led the Chiefs with 18 points. Kiere Daniels was also solid, contributing 13 points and six rebounds. Dietrich Lever added eight points and Daniel Stoney chipped in with six boards.

The loss dropped Canton to 8-7 overall and 5-4 in the division. Wayne improved to 11-4 and 8-1, respectively.

Wayne led 19-8 after one quarter, 32-21 at the half and 50-35 with eight minutes to play.

"We got off to a slow start, which you can't afford to do against a skilled team like Wayne," said Canton coach Dan Colligan. "Every time we made a run, they responded."

"They're probably the quickest team in the league, which hurts us because we rely a lot on dribble penetration."

Canton was 7 of 10 from the free-throw line. The Zebras canned 7 of 11.

LIVONIA CHURCHILL 70, PLYMOUTH 46: On Tuesday at Churchill, the Chargers surged to a 33-24 half-time lead that they extended to 52-38 after three quarters.

The victory improved Churchill's record to 7-8 overall and 3-6 in the KLAA's South Division. Plymouth slipped to 8-7 and 4-5, respectively.

Sophomore Justin Moss led the Wildcats with 18 points. Brennen Beyer added 10 and Cliff Buttermore chipped in with

Ryan Woods and Adam Bedell both netted 16 points for the winners, who also received 15 from Tony Frezzell.

"Churchill played really well," said Plymouth coach Tom Van Wagoner.

Plymouth made 5 of 13 free throws while Churchill canned 9 of 15 shots from the stripe.

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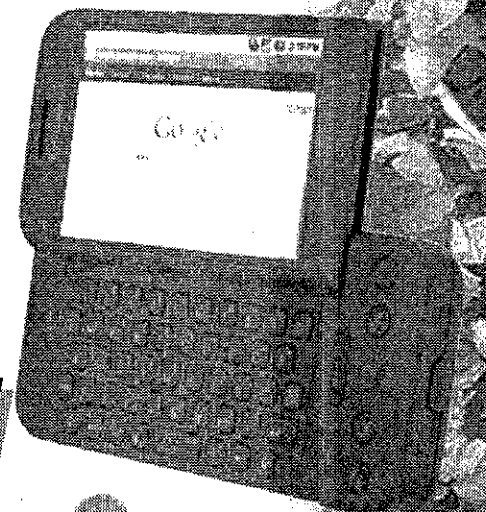
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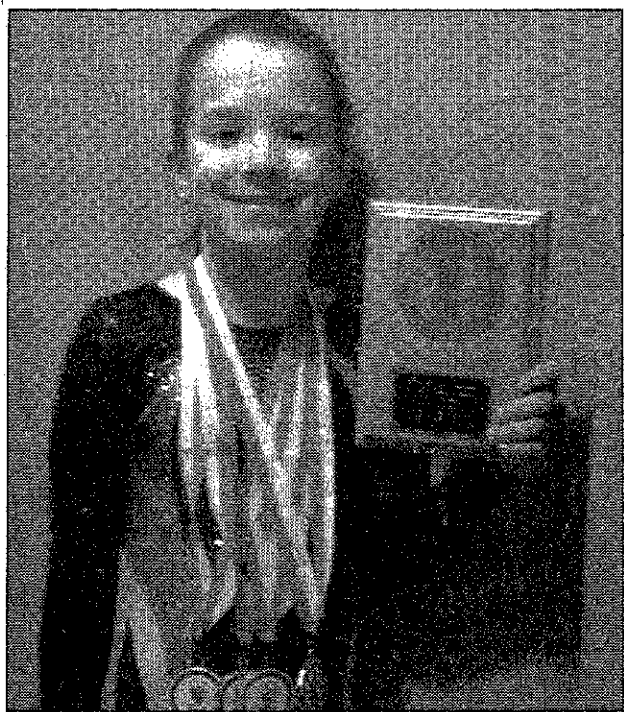
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Give her a high 5

Camille Burt, a 9-year-old Plymouth gymnast who trains at Ann Arbor-based Gym America, won several honors in her age-group at the 2009 state-qualifying meet at Bounce Gymnastics in Hartland on Jan. 17. Burt, who attends Bird Elementary School, competed as a Level 5 gymnast and won all-around with a score of 35.5 and bars with a score of 9.0. She finished second on floor (9.0) and sixth on vault and beam. Teams from throughout Michigan were represented at the meet. Burt is coached by Claudia and Ed Kretschmer, owners and directors of Gym America.

Chiefs make Livonia Red sing the blues

Led by sophomore Cathy Huang's near-record-breaking performance, Canton's gymnastics teams edged Livonia Red, 142.70-136.20 Tuesday night.

Huang registered an all-around score of 37.45 — just .40 less than the school record held by Katy Gilles.

"If it hadn't of been for a fall Cathy had on her last pass on the floor exercise, she would have set the school record," noted Canton coach John Cunningham. "She had a great night."

In the all-around, Huang edge teammate Robyn Piowar, who registered a stellar 36.35. Red's Katina St. Pierre was third (34.70), Canton's Mallory Hudak was fourth (34.30) and Red's Lauren Patla was fifth.

"We had four nines on beam, which was the first time we've done that all year," said Cunningham. "That was the telling tale. When you score well on beam, your chances of winning improve a lot."

CANTON 142.70 LIVONIA RED 136.20

VAULT: 1. Cathy Huang (C), 9.55; 2. Robyn Piowar (C), 9.45; 3. Olivia Stephens (C), 8.8; 4. (tie) Mallory Hudak (C), Lauren Patla (LR) and Sidnee Madison (LR), 8.65.

UNEVEN BARS: 1. Cathy Huang (C), 9.25; 2. Katina St. Pierre (LR), 8.8; 3. Robyn Piowar (C), 8.45; 4. Lauren Patla (LR), 7.95; 5. Olivia Stephens (C), 7.9; 6. Kate Carroll (C), 7.85.

BALANCE BEAM: 1. Cathy Huang (C), 9.65; 2. Alicia DiMauro (LR), 9.4; 3. Mallory Hudak (C), 9.2; 4. Robyn Piowar (C), 9.1; 5. Marina Milad (C), 9.0; 6. Sally Osenkowski (LR), 8.85.

FLOOR EXERCISE: 1. Robyn Piowar (C), 9.35; 2. Cathy Huang (C), 9.0; 3. Alicia DiMauro (LR), 8.9; 4. Mallory Hudak (C), 8.85; 5. Katina St. Pierre (LR), 8.8; 6. (tie) Lauren Patla (LR) and Marina Milad (C), 8.65.

ALL-AROUND: 1. Cathy Huang (C), 37.45; 2. Robyn Piowar (C), 36.35; 3. Katina St. Pierre (LR), 34.70; 4. Mallory Hudak (C), 34.30; 5. Lauren Patla (LR), 33.50.

CANTON 138.45 SALINE 135.35

VAULT: 1. Robyn Piowar (C), 9.15; 2. Cathy Huang (C), 8.95; 3. Mallory Hudak (C), 8.85; 4. (tie) Jordan Toor (S) and Teneng Wilce (S), 8.55; 6. Olivia Stephens (C), 8.5.

UNEVEN BARS: 1. Robyn Piowar (C), 9.225; 2. (tie) Cathy Huang (C), Kristy Richart (S), 8.6; 4. Jordan Toor (S), 8.5; 5. Samantha Richart (S), 8.3; 6. Brooke Plegler (S), 8.0.

BALANCE BEAM: 1. Robyn Piowar (C), 8.9; 2. Brooke Plegler (S), 8.65; 3. Kristy Richart (S), 8.4; 4. (tie) Mallory Hudak (C) and Alex Hamric (C), 8.2; 5. (tie) Samantha Richart (S) and Teneng Wilce (S), 8.2.

FLOOR EXERCISE: 1. Robyn Piowar (C), 9.375; 2. Mallory Hudak (C), 9.1; 3. Cathy Huang (C), 9.05; 4. Brooke Plegler (S), 8.85; 5. Jordan Toor (S), 8.75; 6. Alex Hamric (C), 8.7.

ALL-AROUND: 1. Robyn Piowar (C), 36.65; 2. Cathy Huang (C), 34.4; 3. Mallory Hudak (C), 34.05; 4. Brooke Plegler (S), 33.95; 5. Jordan Toor (S), 33.70; 6. Samantha Richart (S), 33.25.



Two Rocks with 'Grand' futures

Salem football players Anthony Mullins (seated left) and Heath Parling (seated right) recently signed letters of intent to play college football for Grand Valley State University. Pictured behind the two college-bound gridders are (from left) PCEP athletic director Tom Willette, Sarah Parker (Mullins' mom), former Salem coach Parker Salowich and Linda Manni (Parling's mom).

DAVISON

FROM PAGE B1

all-around great kid," Canton coach Dan Abraham emphasized. "On the ice, he's a very physical player who works hard to get the job done. He does a great job of using his size to defend our goal."

"He does a nice job moving the puck, too. He doesn't score a lot of goals, but his shot is so hard it's NHL-like."

In the middle of success

With a 15-5 record heading into Tuesday's cross-campus showdown with Plymouth, the Chiefs are enjoying their most-successful season in the program's 10-year history.

What's the key to success, in Davison's estimation?

"Probably the biggest thing is that we have 14 returning seniors on this team," said Davison. "Plus, we're playing together more than we have in the past. It feels good to be ranked, but we have to keep playing hard to stay ranked."

Davison had a hunch this season may be special following a dramatic early-season victory over a talented Chelsea team.

"I think it was our first or second game of the season," Davison reflected. "We were trailing most of the game then we came back and tied it up late."

Then we scored the game-winner with

about one or two seconds left. That game kind of put us on a nice roll."

All in the family

It's not shocking that Davison developed a passion for hockey almost the minute he laced on his first pair of skates at the age of 5. After all, his dad, Tim, was born and raised in the hockey-loving town of Brampton, Ontario; his mom, Lori, was once an accomplished figure skater; his older brother, Patrick, excelled for Canton's hockey team back in the day; and his sister, Erin, is also a proven player.

"I've always liked hockey," Davison said. "I always watched the Red Wings and that made me want to play."

In the fall, Davison is taking his 3.3 grade-point average to Central Michigan University, where he'd like to follow in his dad's footsteps and earn a degree in international business.

"I'll probably try out for the club hockey team, too," he said. "I've heard they may start up a Division 1 team, too, but I'm not sure about that."

In the spring, Davison will close out his career in his second-favorite sport: lacrosse, an activity that possesses many of the qualities that have drawn him to hockey.

"It's just like hockey with more players and no skates or ice," said Davison. "And it gets pretty physical, which I like."

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Rock icers clinch KLAA Central Division, 9-1

BY ED WRIGHT
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The Salem hockey team's ascension to the top of the Kensington Lakes Activities Association's South Division hasn't been easy, but then nothing worthwhile ever is.

The Rocks put the latest touches on an amazing turn-around season Friday night when they mercied Livonia Franklin, 9-1, to clinch the South Division crown in the inaugural season of the KLAA.

It wasn't too long ago that coach Ryan Ossenmacher's team was sitting at 5-6-3 and hoping to finish with a record on the plus side of .500. Now, the 12-7-3 Rocks — winners of seven of their past eight games — are preparing for Saturday's conference title showdown against Central Division champ Northville, the No. 1 team in the state.

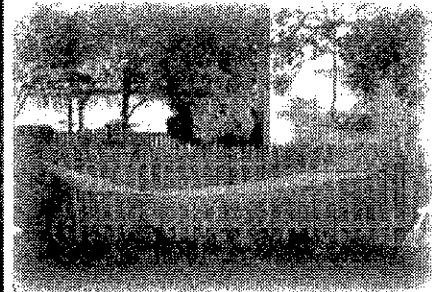
The game is set to face-off at 6 p.m. at the Novi Ice Arena.

"It's a big accomplishment," said Ossenmacher, the Rocks' second-year coach. "With this being the first year of the KLAA, it's nice to have a place in history. More importantly, it shows how the guys' effort has increased as the season has gone on. We've improved so much since the first of the year."

"A lot of it has come down to confidence, learning how to win and learning how to play with a lead."

Senior Kyle Powell spearheaded the thrashing of the Patriots as he notched a hat-trick — a rarity for a defenseman. Wes Gates and Garrett Berg scored the winners' eighth and nine goals, respectively.

Salem goalie Eric Fiorentino was about as busy as the Maytag repairman as he faced just five shots. But he played well, stopping four of them.



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BIRMINGHAM 1 bdrm condo, 1st floor, newly renovated, heat & water included. \$750/mo. 248-540-7994

FERDALE-N 2 bdrm, private entrance, hardwood floors, new appliances, finished bsmt. \$1000/mo. 248-417-0667

LIVONIA 2 bdrm upper unit. Non-smoking, no pets. Heat & water incl. \$650/mo. Avail. March 1st. (734) 634-5458

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

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BLOOMFIELD HILLS - Updated 4 bdrm colonial, finished bsmt, \$1795/mo. (possible land contract sale) Call: 248-641-1887

CANTON
4414 Saltz - 3 bdrm - Open House Sunday, 3-5pm or call for appt 734-658-7738

FARMINGTON HILLS
10 Mile/Middlebelt. 2 bdrm, 1 bath, remodeled in 2007, no bsmt, no garage, \$700/mo + utilities. Call: (248) 672-2200

FARMINGTON HILLS
12 Mile & Drake. Executive 4 bdrm Colonial, two fireplaces. \$1750/mo. 248-650-9098

FARMINGTON HILLS 3 bdrm, 2 full bath, 1000 sq. ft., appliances, garage. 1g. backyard. \$950/Mo. (248) 342-0314

GARDEN CITY 28933 JAMES
Clean 3 bdrm updated home, finished basement w/laundry room, all appliances, 2.5 car garage, fenced yard. \$1100. 734-674-1764

HIGHLAND
3 bdrm, \$695/mo. 248-568-8900

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PLYMOUTH 289 E. PEARL ST. - Old Town - 3 Bdrms, bath, basement. New carpet; fenced yard. No pets! Ed Hines Park. Water included. \$765/ month. 248-207-8805

REDFORD NW Lg. 3 bdrm, 2 bath, attached gar, full bsmt, all new, double lot. \$1200/mo. 248-535-2300

REDFORD SOUTH
Charming 3 bdrm, many updates, sec 8 okay, \$800 + sec. 866-250-2497 ext. 4005.

SHELBY TWP
Executive home, 4 bdrm, neutral colors, inground pool. \$2100/mo. 248-650-9098

SOUTHFIELD 3 bdrm, 2 bath, finished bsmt, immed. occupancy, lease w/ option, easy terms. \$1,200. 718-253-0106

WESTLAND
3 bdrm, 2.5 car, newly updated, nice neighborhood. \$750/mo + \$1200 sec. Sec. 8 ok. 313-815-7726.

WESTLAND - 2 bdrm, bsmt, blinds, all appliances, A/C, pets neg. \$750/mo. + sec. Section 8 OK. 734-397-8187

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Homes For Rent **4050**

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WESTLAND Ranch, Ford & Hix Rd. area. 2 bdrm, single story, 800 sq. ft., all new. Ideal for senior. \$800 per month + sec. Sec. 8 OK. 734-564-2993

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Strictly Business

BUSINESS MILESTONES

Logos 10th anniversary

★ This year marks the 10th anniversary of public relations and marketing firm Logos Communications of Canton. Logos Communications, 43041 Ryegate Street, Canton, was founded by Susan Voyles in 1999 due to the desire to have more flexibility and balance in life. Since then, the company has steadily grown to six staff members and a diverse clientele. "I started out with \$500 cash, my rolodex, a phone, a desktop computer and an Internet connection," said Voyles. "I made a lot of phone calls and attended various networking meetings to introduce myself and my firm." Today, the clients represented by Logos Communications come from a variety of industries such as financial services, staffing, business media, print management, law, technology, human resources, education, human services and business associations. The firm's success is based on strong client service, word of mouth referrals and focusing on small and medium-sized businesses and startups. "I didn't always know I wanted to be an entrepreneur," says Voyles. "I was in my 40s when I decided to leave my job and follow the dream of having a business." Logos Communications, Inc. is a full-service public relations and marketing firm serving a

wide range of small to medium-sized businesses. It provides ongoing counsel to the 20,000 member Michigan Business and Professional Association and the Incentive Marketing Association. For more information about services, call (734) 667-2005 or visit www.logos-communications.com.

Cuts for a 'Cure'

★ Blondie & Lefty's Hair Salon, 42013 Ford Road, will host a fund-raiser for Egg'cited for a Cure, a Canton Relay for Life team, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Feb. 22. The event will feature \$10 haircuts, \$25 partial highlights, a bake sale and raffle. Proceeds will benefit breast cancer research and The American Cancer Society. For more information, call (734) 981-6190. A similar fund-raiser will be held from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., March 1 at August Salon & Day Spa, 1755 Plymouth Road in Ann Arbor. For more information on either event, call (734) 981-6190 or (734) 662-8578, or e-mail adpsalons@sbcglobal.net.

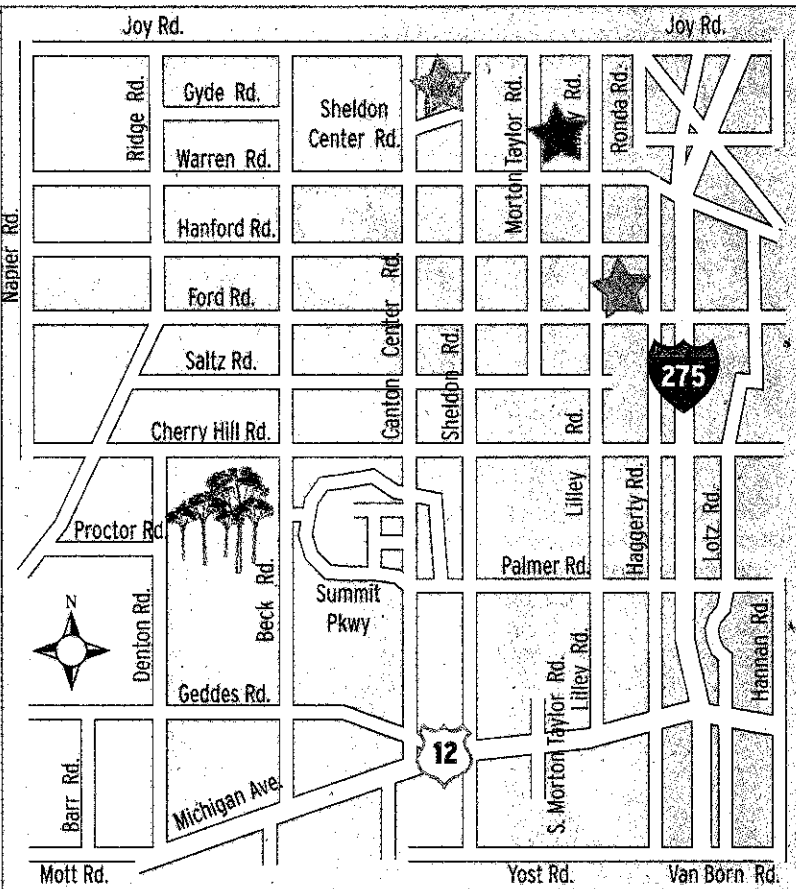
Beach party

★ Clearly You Skin Treatment Center, 44633 Joy Road, is hosting Caribbean Beach Party from 6-9 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 24. Proceeds from the event, which will feature a variety of services including beach facials,

waxing, mini manicures and foot treatments, self tanner applications, lash tinting, chair massage and more, will benefit the Great Lakes Rabbit Sanctuary. Teens are welcome. For more information, call (734) 453-7475 or visit www.clearlyyouonline.com.

Stroller Strides registration

Registration is now underway for Stroller Strides of Canton. These classes offer both fitness and support for new moms. Stroller Strides is a unique fitness program for new moms incorporating both the baby and stroller. In 60 minutes, you will get a total body workout improving your cardiovascular endurance, your strength and your flexibility. Along with walking, Stroller Strides uses the environment as a gym by doing intervals of body toning using exercise tubing and the stroller. The class registration ranges from one class to a monthly membership. Classes are ongoing so you can register at anytime by contacting Stroller Strides of Canton or visiting their Web site at www.strollerstrides.com. Stroller Strides of Canton also offers weekly playgroups, Moms Night Out and specialty classes. For more information on how to register for classes, or what classes are offered in the Canton area, contact Jennifer Garrow at jennifergarrow@strollerstrides.net.



IT'S YOUR BUSINESS Q&A



Linda Robin of Showroom of Elegance.

Jewelry store understands important moments of life

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

Linda Robin: Showroom of Elegance fine jewelry is a store that caters to the customer no matter what the purchase. Our collection includes everything from the latest sterling silver jewelry to elegant platinum designs. We have a master craftsman on site that creates breathtaking custom designs and completes almost all repairs in house. What does this mean to the customer? They can work with and speak to an expert that they can have complete confidence in.

Observer: What makes your business unique?

Linda Robin: Our store is unique because we make the purchasing of an engagement ring easy. Our associates all understand how important this moment is in a couple's life and we take extra time to ensure we understand which engagement ring and diamond fits that particular couple perfectly. We have a huge selection of merchandise to choose

SHOWROOM OF ELEGANCE

Address: 6018 Canton Center Road, Canton, MI 48187

Your name: Linda Robin, owner

Your hometown: Whitmore Lake

Business opened when?: October of 2000

Number of employees: 5

Your business specialty:

"Building relationships that turn our customers into lifelong friends."

Business phone/Web site:

(734) 207-1906, www.showroomofelegance.com

store that our customers really appreciate.

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

Linda Robin: When we first started putting together the plans for a retail store (which was five years in the making), we looked at many communities in the western metro area. At the time, I lived in Canton and saw a need for a store like ours in a growing community.

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

Linda Robin: I feel that we should have named our store Murphy (as in Murphy's Law) because just five months after we opened, Canton Center was closed completely in front of us for the widening of the road, then right after that 9-11 hit, then the following Christmas we were robbed and had to close for four days during our busiest season and now the economy is just another feather in our cap. Maybe someone is trying to tell us something! My mother always said that I don't listen.

CHAMBER CHAT

Computer classes

On Wednesday, Feb. 25, from 6-9 p.m., the Canton Chamber of Commerce is offering an "Intro to MS Publisher-Part 1" course presented by Canton Computers. The course will be held at the Canton Chamber of Commerce office located at 45525 Hanford Road in Canton. This is one of many computer training courses that have been scheduled throughout 2009. These classes are open to Chamber members and to the public.

Cost for the seminar is \$25 for Chamber members and \$40 for non-members. Class size is limited. Registration will be accepted on a first come, first serve basis. To register, contact

the Canton Chamber of Commerce at (734) 453-4040. Registration deadline is Friday, Feb. 20. All 2009 Seminars and Computer training courses are sponsored by Showroom of Elegance and Waltonwoods of Canton.

First address

New Canton Supervisor Phil LaJoy will present his first State of the Township address during the Canton Chamber of Commerce's March luncheon at 11:30 a.m., March 5 at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill. Tickets are already on sale, and cost \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door.

To make reservations, contact the Chamber office at (734) 453-4040, or e-mail receptionist@cantonchamber.com.

BUSINESS NEWSMAKERS

Attorney gets appointment

Canton attorney Gurinder J. Singh of the law firm Miller Canfield has been appointed vice president and director of events planning for the Indo-American Chamber of Commerce of Michigan.

At Miller Canfield, Singh has helped several U.S. and international clients with complex mergers and acquisitions, both on the sell and the buy side. She also has experience with ITAR and export controls matters. "As a business attorney, I strive to serve my clients' business as if it were



Gurinder

meet their business needs," said Singh, an associate in Miller Canfield's Ann Arbor office specializing in corporate and commercial transactions. She was the founder and president of

my own. I have operated my own businesses for over nine years, giving me a unique insight into issues my clients face. I can give my clients not only legal advice, but also practical advice to

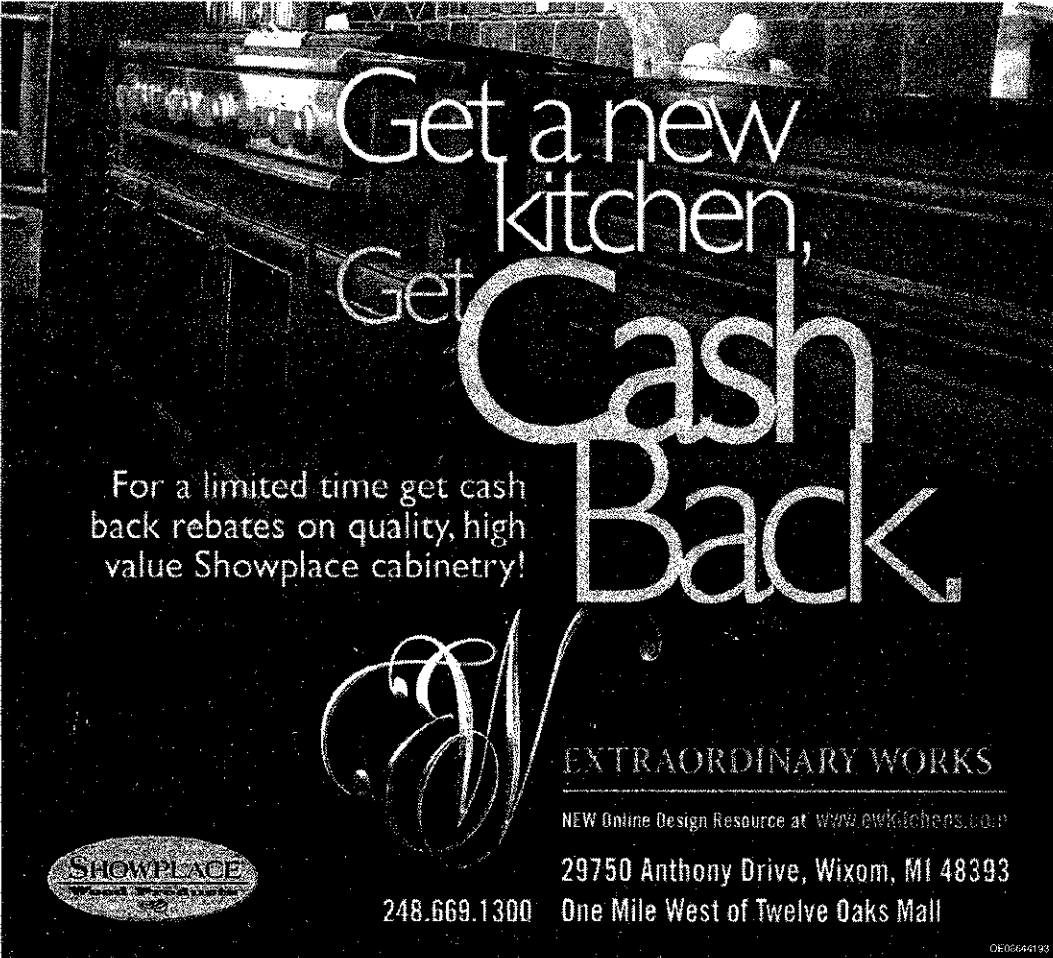
Hype Events, an event management firm based out of Canton. Her vision of bringing Indian cultural events to the Detroit area has made Hype one of the most successful South Asian event management firms in the Midwest. Working with individual and corporate sponsors, she has organized annual international events such as Bhangra Fusion, Bollywood Project and the Miss India-Michigan pageant. She received her J.D. from Wayne State University School of Law. For more information, visit www.millercanfield.com.

SEND IT

Get in on the 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 [\[townlife.com\]\(http://townlife.com\) and he will take care of the rest.](mailto:kkuban@home-</p></div><div data-bbox=)

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



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Orthodox church council launches Web site

The Council of Orthodox Christian Churches of Metropolitan Detroit has launched its first Web site at www.coccdetroit.com/.

The site features information about the COCC and Orthodox Christianity, directories of Orthodox parishes and monasteries in southeastern Michigan, and a calendar of events sponsored by the COCC, Orthodox parishes, and other Orthodox organizations in the metropolitan area.

"Throughout our 52-year history, our clergy and laity have devoted their energies to fulfilling our mission of promoting Orthodoxy within our community," COCC President Richard Shebib said. "Our newly designed Web site is today's vehicle for helping us reach our goals."

Haitham Fakhouri of iKonik Creations (www.beikonic.com) developed the site and will serve as webmaster.

The COCC is a 52-year-old clergy

and lay association that represents various canonical Orthodox churches in metro Detroit. Its mission is to promote Orthodox Christianity throughout the area through worship, fellowship, and charitable, educational and outreach programs.

For more information on the COCC or the Web site, contact Shebib at (734) 422-0278 or paschabooks@sbcglobal.net, or visit www.coccdetroit.com/.



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JOHN C. AKERLEY

Age 96. Went home to heaven February 12, 2009. Born November 28, 1912 in Pugwash, Nova Scotia, Canada. He moved to Birmingham, Michigan in 1926. At 27, he met and married his first love, Lela and lived the American dream for 61 years. They were members of the First Baptist Church of Birmingham, Michigan for over fifty years. He worked for General Motors, Corp. for forty years and was retired for thirty-five years. John spent many hours restoring furniture and caning chairs. He was the loving father to Daniel Akerley (Nancy) and Judith Kortryk (Wilbert). Grandfather to Christine DeGrendel (Grant), Linda DuCernase (Steven), Karen Todd (Alan), Terrance and Alyssa Akerley. Great-grandfather of ten who he said made him great. He is survived by his beloved wife, Edna, for eight years in sunny Florida. His extended family consist of Beverly and Ed Bohlin, Jim and Diane Reiter, Bonnie and Ron Graham. Seven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. Member of St. Paul United Methodist Church of Largo, Florida for many years. His life has touched so many and we will love and miss him always. Memorial Service at a later date. Local arrangements by Potere-Modetz Funeral Home. On-line guestbook www.modetzfuneralhome.com



SHIRLEY IRENE CEASER

January 30, 1928 - February 14, 2009. Born in Detroit, Michigan and resided in Canton. Shirley will be reunited with her parents Willard and Helen Aho, sister Phyllis Wilson, beloved daughter Diane Kroll and grandson Craig Kroll. Survived by husband Michael Ceaser, brother Ed Aho of Arizona, sister-in-law Barbara Bain of White Lake, daughter Janice May (Gary) of Brighton, daughter Debbie Wilkinson (Ed) of Westland, son-in-law Greg Kroll of Livonia, stepson Michael Ceaser Jr. (Mihoko) of Riverview, and stepdaughter Diane Reszetar (John) of Saline. 10 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren also survive Shirley. Shirley was employed with General Motors in several positions and retired in 1979 from the Human Resources department. Shirley will be deeply missed and always remembered by her loving family and friends. May she live eternally in peace with God's love. A Memorial service will be held Friday, February 20, 10:30 a.m. at St. Thomas A'becket, 555 S. Lilley Rd., Canton, MI 48188. Family requests memorial contributions be sent in Shirley's name to the American Heart Association, 3816 Paysphere Circle, Chicago IL 60674 or www.honor.americanheart.org. Please sign Shirley's online guestbook at www.cremationmichigan.com.



ROBERT E. ELLISON

Age 84, February 15, 2009. Beloved husband of the late Bernadine. Loving father of Jean (Paul) Kurily, Joan (Larry) Witko, Carol Ellison and Cathy (Mark) Schneider. Very proud grandpa of Bryan, Kristen, Paul, Kelly, Jenny, Shaelyn and Robert. Brother of Gordon (Joyce). Also survived by many nieces and nephews. Bob was always honorable and did everything with a high degree of integrity. His friends were numerous. He will be missed by all who knew him. Visitation at R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, 15451 Farmington Rd., Livonia Friday from 10 a.m. until time of Memorial Service at 1 p.m. Memorial contributions may be directed to American Cancer Society or Juvenile Diabetes Research Fund. Please share a memory at www.rghharris.com



ARDEMIS KALOUSDIAN

Age 91, of Bloomfield Hills, MI. Died on February 10, 2009, after a heart attack. She is survived by her daughter, Dr. Sona Kalousdian (Dr. Ira D. (Don) Lawrence); son, Raffi Kalousdian (Kathleen M. Hennessey); and grand-daughter, Ani Kalousdian. She was married to Dorian Kalousdian until his passing in 1992. Mrs. Kalousdian was the only child of Harry G. and Zabel Kouzian. She is also survived by her cousins: Armen Topouzian and family; Armand Krimian and family; Carol (Stan) Edwards; and Lucy Ardash and family. Mrs. Kalousdian received both Bachelor and Master of Arts degrees from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. Her long career included serving as field coordinator for the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics during World War II. She was also the Capitol District Director for the New York State School of Industrial and Labor Relations, Cornell University; University Editor at the University of Detroit; and the founding Executive Director of Project Transition, a program sponsored by the League of Catholic Women of Detroit. A great proponent of volunteerism and a vocal advocate for seniors, Mrs. Kalousdian served as Chair, Advisory Council, Area Agency on Aging-18; Executive Board member, League of Catholic Women; Trustee, Village Women's Club Foundation; and Treasurer and Board Member, Women's Economic Club of Detroit. Friends and family will be notified about a memorial service to be held in the Spring. Individuals may make contributions in Mrs. Kalousdian's memory to the Area Agency on Aging-18, Drawer # 1141, P.O. Box 79001, Detroit, MI 48279-1141.



IAN HARLEY HALL

Age 23. Of Farmington Hills, MI. Feb. 12, 2009. Arrangements by THAYER-ROCK Funeral Home, Farmington.



DOROTHY S. HILTY

February 12, 2009, age 94. Retired teacher with the Birmingham Schools, and longtime Birmingham-Bloomfield Hills resident. Beloved wife of the late John Carl Hilty. Dearest mother of Susan Hilty and the late John Carl Hilty, Jr. Grandmother of Carl and Daniel Zimring. Sister-in-law of Evelyn Schwarze. Also many nieces and nephews. Daughter of the late Herman and Clara Schwarze. Sister of the late Carl, Bruce, Herman, Ralph, and Fred Schwarze. Inurnment will be at White Chapel Cemetery. Memorial Tributes to Hospice of Michigan, A. J. Desmond & Sons, 248-362-2500. View obituary and share memories at www.DesmondFuneralHome.com



BARBARA M. KETCHERSIDE

Passed away February 14, 2009. Age 78. Beloved wife of the late Charles. Dearest mother of Roxan Micol-Szymanski, Christine McKinnon, Robin Melow, Charles and Lee Ketcherside. Also leaves nine grandchildren and numerous great-grandchildren. Sister of Norma Van Dyke and John Van Dyke. Services were held on Wednesday at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home in Plymouth. Share your special thoughts and memories at www.schrader-howell.com



JANE CAROL MacKINNON

February 17, 2009. After a courageous 20 year battle with cancer. Age 76, of Beverly Hills. Jane was a member of the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center for over 40 years where she enjoyed water color and acrylic painting. Beloved wife of Donald "Ted". Dear mother of Brad (Kirstyn) and Scott. Grandmother of Emily and Robert. Aunt of Nancy Brys (Dan), Charles MacKinnon (Leslie) and Pam MacKenzie (Scott). Cousin of Ted Beatty (Patty). Also survived by many friends in Presque Isle, MI. Family will receive friends at A.J. Desmond & Sons (Vasu, Rodgers & Connell Chapel), 32515 Woodward (btwn 13-14 Mile), Friday 3 p.m. until memorial service 6 p.m. Memorial tributes to the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center, 1516 S. Cranbrook Rd., Birmingham, MI 48009. View obituary and share memories at www.desmondfuneralhome.com



RETA D. MOSSHAMER

Age 92. Of Farmington, MI. February 12, 2009. Arrangements by THAYER-ROCK Funeral Home, Farmington.

May You Find Comfort in Family & Friends



JAMES S. BONADEO

Age 92, of Plymouth. February 14, 2009. Beloved husband of Earlene. Loving father of Carol (David Kera) Matthews, Nancy Bonadeo, and Mark J. Bonadeo. Dear brother of Baldo Bonadeo and Lee Allegrina. Doting grandfather of Siri (Brian) Compton, Tansy Matthews, and Maia Matthews; and loving great-grandfather of Eric, Celia, Lily and Justin Compton. Builder and land developer in SE Michigan since 1947. Three term President and Lifetime President Emeritus of the Building Industries Association of Michigan. Generous Philanthropist and member of the Board of Trustees of Madonna University. The family will gather with friends Thursday 2-9 p.m. at Vermeulen Funeral Home, 46401 W Ann Arbor Rd. (btwn Sheldon and Beck), Plymouth. Memorial service to be held Friday 10:30 a.m. at the Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to American Kidney Fund, St. Joseph Mercy Hospital or American Heart Association. To leave a message of condolence, please visit vermeulenfuneralhome.com.

Paying Tribute to the Life of Your Loved One

RELIGION CALENDAR

To submit an item for the religion calendar, send e-mail to Ichomin@hometownlife.com 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.

FEBRUARY

Diversity event

You can make a difference. Recognition, Reconciliation and Renewal Initiative, a community wide meeting for all Plymouth-Canton residents. Join us in exploring our history and creating an inclusive future 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 19, at the Plymouth Township Offices, 9955 N. Haggerty. Visit www.miroundtable.org for information about efforts to create change in Plymouth-Canton. This is an effort supported by the Michigan Roundtable for Diversity and Inclusion and the Ford Foundation. RSVP to Stacy Stevens (248) 331-7036, [sstevens@miroundtable.org](mailto:ssstevens@miroundtable.org) or to Nikol Atkins at natkins@miroundtable.org

Open house

St. Michael Christian School hosts an open house 6:30-8 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 19, at 7000 N. Sheldon, Canton. St. Michael offers a 3-year old preschool through fifth grade including a Young Fives program and all day kindergarten. For information, call (734) 459-9720.

Lecture on St. Paul

During this year of honoring St. Paul, St. Priscilla Church welcomes Rev. Richard J. Cassidy as presenter of a program on the life of St. Paul 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 20, at the church, 19120 Purlingbrook, Livonia, MI 48152. Cassidy is a professor of Sacred Scripture at Sacred Heart Seminary and has authored many articles and books on the New Testament. For information, call Mary Rice at (734) 522-1095.

VBS preview

Presented by International Christian Education Association 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 21, at Ward Church, Six Mile and Haggerty, Northville. A day of meeting Christian publishers to view their curriculum. Sit in on four of 20 workshops. This is a nondenominational event. Call (248) 557-5526 or visit www.iceaonline.org.

Bethany singles

■ 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.

■ Saturday, Feb. 28, Annual Chili Cook-Off and Uno tournament will be held 7:30-10 p.m. at St. Mel's Catholic Church, 7506 Inkster Rd., Dearborn Heights. Admission is \$5 or a pot of Chili including the recipe, cash prize for winner of Cook-Off and tournament. For details, call Kathy (734) 513-9479 or Judy (734) 261-5630.

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

Catholic date night

St. Michael the Archangel Marriage and Family Life Committee invites you to Catholic Date Night 6:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 22, at the Box Bar, 777 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth, to enjoy an evening of fellowship with other Catholic couples. The meeting is open to any couple (dating, engaged, married) who has an interest in forming, building or enhancing a strong, faith-based marriage. St. Michael's Pastoral Associate, Sharon Williams, speaks about God's plan for marriage and what it is meant to be. No charge. For information, call (734) 261-1455, ext. 207 or visit www.livoniastmichael.org.

Sunday night lights

Riverside Park Church of God presents the non-traditional service designed to touch all the senses, every second and fourth Sunday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at the church, 11771 Newburgh, corner of Plymouth Road, Livonia. Call (734) 464-0990 for more information. Step into the light with relevant messages and modern music within a casual atmosphere.

Rush concert series

Continues every Tuesday with gathering and refreshments at 5 p.m., concert from 5:30-6 p.m. for a rush hour concert featuring performances by local and national jazz artists at Metropolitan United Methodist Church, 8000 Woodward, Detroit. No charge. For information, visit www.metroumc.org.

Midweek Lenten services

Lola Park Lutheran Church, 14750 Kinloch, Redford, will have midweek Lenten services on Wednesday evenings beginning 7:30 p.m. Ash Wednesday, Feb. 25. Pastor Gregory Gibbons preaches on the theme Father, Forgive Them. The church will have a free Ash Wednesday Soup and Sandwich Supper beginning at 6:30 p.m. For more information, call (313) 532-8655 or (734) 968-3523.

Ash Wednesday service

7:30 p.m. Feb. 25, in Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church, 9601 Hubbard

at West Chicago, Livonia. Communion will be served and the mark of the ashes will be given.

A spaghetti dinner hosted by members of the Young Adult Fellowship Group will be held 6-7 p.m. Tickets \$5 adults, \$3 ages 3-12, and available at the church as well as at the door. Proceeds benefit the Young Adult Mission trip in June to Iowa. Call (734) 422-0494, or visit www.rose-dalegardens.org

Lenten services

7 p.m. Ash Wednesday, Feb. 25, in the chapel at St. James Presbyterian Church, 23530 W. Six Mile, Redford, Call (313) 534-7730. Lenten Services 7 p.m. every Wednesday through April 1. Passover Seder Dinner at 6 p.m. for \$8 followed by the Maundy Thursday service at 7 p.m. April 9. Easter Sunday Worship Service 10 a.m. April 12.

Wednesday Lenten Service Hosanna-Tabor offers a mid-week Lenten Service at 7 p.m. in the church at 9600 Leverage, Redford. The Lenten Series will be "Places of the Passion" with the focus not on the physical locations of our Lord's passion but on the spiritual wonders of his work. A free will offering dinner will be served beginning at 5:30 p.m. prior to the service each week through April 1. For information, call (313) 937-2233.

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.

Families in action workshops

The National Association for Mental Illness 10-week educational program begins 7-9 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 25, at St. Regis Parish School Campus in Bloomfield Hills. The program is for people with a loved one diagnosed with a serious mental illness.

The workshop meets either every Wednesday or Thursday evening and ends on April 29/30. The goal is to help families better understand mental illness, how it affects the family and what they can do to help. A nominal fee of \$20 per person or \$30 per couple will be charged at the time of registration. Families in Action is funded in large part by the Oakwood Healthcare Foundation and the Oakwood Heritage Hospital Auxiliary. For information or to register, call Mary Ellen at (248) 348-7197. Space is limited; so pre-registration required.

All you can eat fish fry

Mark your calendars for the return of St. Michael the Archangel Parish's "All You Can Eat" Lenten Fish Dinners beginning 4:30-7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 27, and continuing March 6, March 13, March 20, March 27, and April 3, in the cafeteria of St. Michael School, 11441 Hubbard, south of Plymouth Rd., between Farmington and Merriman, Livonia. Dinners feature a choice of hand-dipped fresh Alaskan cod, fried or baked, along with a large assortment of side dishes and beverages. Cost \$8 adults, \$7 seniors, \$4 children ages 3-11, and free for age 3 and under. Carryout orders available at \$7 each. For information, call (734) 261-1455, ext. 200.

Free movie night

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church (14175 Farmington Rd., north of I-96, Livonia) will be showing the movie "FireProof" 7 p.m. Friday, February 27, doors open at 6:30 p.m. Register at www.christsavior.org. "FireProof" touched the hearts and impacted the marriages of millions of moviegoers. Over the span of just a few weeks, this movie showed in top box-office charts. At work, inside burning buildings, Capt. Caleb Holt lives by the old firefighter's adage: Never Leave Your Partner Behind. At home, in the cooling embers of his marriage, he lives by his own rules. His job is to rescue others. Now Caleb must face his toughest job ever... rescuing his wife's heart.

Blood drive

8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 28, at NorthRidge Church, 49555 North Territorial at Ridge Rd., Plymouth. Register at www.givelifc.org and enter NorthRidge in Step One (sponsor code) or call (800) 448-3543 (GIVELIFE).

Clothing bank

Free clothing (men, women and children) for those in need 10 a.m. to noon on the fourth Saturday of each month, 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.

Fish fry

Begins 4-7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 13, and continues every Friday through April 3, at First United Methodist Church of Wayne-Westland, 3 Town Square across the street from the Wayne Post office. For more information, call (734) 721-4802 or (734) 891-2523. Choose from fried or baked fish. Includes baked potato or french fries, cole slaw, roll and coffee, tea, or punch all for only \$8. Special kids meals like chicken nuggets, corn dogs and fries for \$4.

Variety show spotlights church's 175-year history

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
O & E STAFF WRITER

Barbara Erickson jokes that it was a little tricky to choose music to reflect the early years of Newburg United Methodist Church since she wasn't alive then. Spotlighting the journey is another story. Ever since the 175th anniversary committee decided to put on The Variety Show to celebrate the special year Erickson's been studying the history from the time the place of worship was established in 1834.

She's not only written the narration for the production but directs the nearly 75 cast members when the curtain goes up 7 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 21, at the church in Livonia.

Erickson directs three handbell choirs at the church, but don't expect to hear any hymns. Popular music documents each of the decades of the church's existence including Elvis in the 1950s. A quartet of barbershop singers bring back the Roaring '20s with "Down By the Old Mill Stream."

"It's a fun element of this 175th anniversary," said Erickson of Livonia. "We have a senior citizen group for the kitchen band and they'll probably steal the show. We have the kitchen band playing the Charleston, flappers to dance, a barbershop quartet for the 1890s, and the Not Ready for Prime Time Dancers in a black light number where all you see is their hands moving and their feet. We promised these ladies we wouldn't show



Gary Fry (left to right), Ken Klein, Jeff Everett, and Don Lobb sing "Down By the Old Mill Stream" as part of The Variety Show celebrating the Roaring '20s era in the 175-year history of Newburg United Methodist Church in Livonia.

their faces. Almost every group in the church is doing something, the children's chorus, adult Chancel Choir. We want to celebrate the 175th anniversary in a fun way with popcorn and pop. Just bring your family and friends and come."

The church has definitely come a long way since Marcus Swift, the first circuit rider, rode in on horseback to preach to the congregation

at the site on Ann Arbor Trail, east of Newburgh Road, across from Union Cemetery (now Newburg Cemetery). Early on the Methodists joined with the Congregationalists in the area to share the church built in 1848 by the Congregationalists. In 1915 the Methodists moved the church to the corner of Newburgh and Ann Arbor Trail. This structure still exists today at Greenmead

Historical Park but is restored to the 1915 era. The present day Newburg United Methodist Church was built in 1962 on Ann Arbor Trail, between Newburgh and Wayne roads. Today 600 members from Livonia, Westland and Plymouth and the townships of Redford, Canton and Plymouth worship at the church where Rev. Marsha Woolley is pastor. This year a number of

THE VARIETY SHOW

What: Variety show spotlights 175 years of Newburg United Methodist Church history

When: 7 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 21

Where: Newburg United Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, between Newburgh and Wayne, Livonia

Details: No charge. For information, call (734) 422-0149

events highlight the 175-year history including a closing ceremony in December.

"I think we've always been on the Trail," said Erickson. "The church and parsonage moved in 1977 to Greenmead and we still use the church for Easter Sunrise Service. There's a lot of history for this particular congregation. We didn't have a permanent minister until 1924."

Ken Klein's been attending services at the church since 1964 when members knew him as the secretary's son. While Cecelia typed away in the office, he started singing in the children's choir as a soprano and eventually worked his way down to baritone in the Chancel Choir. The four parts of the barbershop quartet performing in The Variety Show all sing in the adult choir.

"There's the sense of community from the people there," said Klein. "I've been in choir a long time. There's a connection there with people."

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

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Sat. 11:00 a.m.
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Confessions Heard Prior to Each Mass
Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions
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St. Genevieve School • Pre-K-8
29015 Jamison • Livonia • 734-427-5220
(East of Middlebelt, between 5 Mile & Jeffries)
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CE0825244

St. Maurice Roman Catholic Church
32765 Lyndon • Livonia • 734-922-1616
(between Marmon & Farmington Roads)
MASS: Mon. 8:30 a.m., Fri. 8:30 a.m., Sat. 6 p.m., Sun 9a
CE0825244

CHURCHES OF THE NAZARENE

PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
45801 W. Ann Arbor Road • (734) 453-1525
Sunday School - 9:45 A.M.
Sunday Worship - 11:00 A.M.
Sunday Evening - 6:00 P.M.
Family Night - Wed. 7:00 P.M.
NEW HORIZONS FOR CHILDREN LEARNING CENTER
(734) 455-3196 CE0825244

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 CE0825244

EVANGELICAL COVENANT

FAITH COVENANT CHURCH
14 Mile Road and Drake, Farmington Hills
(248) 661-9191
Sunday Worship
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9:15 A.M. Contemporary
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Child Care Provided At All Services
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SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST

Cherry Hill Seventh-Day Adventist Church
33144 Cherry Hill, Garden City, MI 48135
(1 block west of Venice) 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 CE0825244

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) CE0825244

UNITED METHODIST

Clarenceville United Methodist
20300 Middlebelt Rd. • Livonia
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Pastor Beth Librande
Worship Service 9:30 AM
Sunday School 11:00 AM
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Worship Services
9:00 a.m. & 11:30 AM
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9:00, 10:30 & 11:30 AM
Pastor:
Dr. John Grenfell III
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First United Methodist Church of Plymouth
45201 North Territorial Road
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(734) 453-5280
www.pfumc.org CE0825244

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CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

First Church of Christ, Scientist, Plymouth
1100 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth, MI
734-453-0970
Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School 10:30 a.m.
Wed. Evening Testimony Meeting 7:30 p.m.
Reading Room located at church
Saturday 12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.
734-453-0970 CE0825244

Redford Aldersgate United Methodist
10000 Beech Daly
313-937-3170
9:30 - Trad. Worship & Sun. Sch.
11:00 - Contemp. Family Worship
www.redfordaldersgate.org CE0825244

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9601 Hubbard at W. Chicago, Livonia, MI
(between Marmon & Farmington Rds.)
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www.rosedalegardens.org
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9:00 am
Traditional Service
10:30 am
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26350 West Six Mile Rd.
Redford (313) 534-7730
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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: 8:30 P.M.
website: www.stpaulslivonia.org CE0825244

LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church
14175 Farmington Road, Livonia just north of I-98
734-522-6830
Sunday Worship
8:30 & 11:00 am - Traditional
Sunday/Bible Class
9:45 am
Early Childhood Center
Phone 734-513-8413
Staffed Nursery Available
Making disciples who share the love of Jesus Christ
Pastors: Robert F. Bayer and Anthony M. Creedan CE0825244

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313-532-2266 REDFORD TWP.
Worship Service
9:15 & 11:00 A.M.
Sunday School
9:15 & 11:00 A.M.
Nursery Provided
The Rev. Timothy P. Halbois, Senior Pastor
The Rev. Dr. Victor F. Halbois, Assistant Pastor CE0825244

HOSANNA-TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
9600 Levee • So. Redford • 313-937-2424
Pastor - Reverend Paul Unolin
Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m.
Education Hour 10:45 a.m.
Christian School
Pre-Kindergarten-8th Grade
For more information call
313-937-2233 CE0825244

Immanuel Lutheran Church
Pastor Milton Schumm
27035 Ann Arbor Trail, Dearborn Heights
(just East of Inkster Road)
(313) 278-5755
Worship Service & Sunday School 10:30 a.m.
<http://ourchurch.com/members/immanuelchurch>
The Friendly Church on the Trail CE0825244

Risen Christ Lutheran
David W. Martin, Pastor
46250 Ann Arbor Road • Plymouth (1/2 mi. W. of Redwood)
(734) 453-5252
Worship: 8:15 & 10:45 am
Sunday School 9:30 • Adult Bible Study 9:30
Wednesday Lenten Worship 7 pm
Nursery Care Available. All are welcome. Come as you are.
www.risenchrist.info CE0825244

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 580
The WMUZ Word Station
For additional information visit www.wardchurch.org CE0825244

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: 8:30 P.M.
website: www.stpaulslivonia.org CE0825244

FILTER

Cozy up with community theater

BY WENDY VON BUSKIRK
O & E STAFF WRITER

Beat the winter blahs by escaping to a warmer world through community theatre.

This weekend, two local troupes will raise the curtain on their latest plays, just as a third wraps up production. All three shows are comedies with reasonable ticket prices, sure to bring relief from both the weather and the economic climate.

DIVINE STELLA DEVINE

Spotlight Players of Canton will present "Divine Stella Devine," Feb. 20-March 7. It's the story of an aging actress preparing for a new play, as Ginger, a "sweet Southern belle," visits rehearsal to watch her favorite star up close — and steal her role.

"It's silly, it's just silly," said Barbara Bloom, who plays Stella Devine. "There's no deep message. It's just an enjoyable and light-hearted evening."

Bloom, who lives in Novi and serves as president of Spotlight Players, discovered the play and brought it to the script reading committee. She said it was chosen because it's 'audience friendly,' and suitable for all ages.

"It's sort of a satirical look at 'Gone With the Wind' and 'All About Eve' combined with a lot of crazy characters thrown in," she said.

And since the show depicts an acting troupe in rehearsals, sets are minimal.

"We generally try to do one show a year that isn't set heavy," Bloom said.

The Spotlight Players, formerly the Plymouth Theatre Guild, is based in Canton, but draws actors and crew from throughout the region. The group presents four plays each season, two of them musicals.

Auditions are underway now



Barbara Bloom of Novi as Stella, and Meg daPonte of Canton as Ginger in "Divine Stella Devine," Feb. 20-March 8 at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill.

for the last show of the 2008-09 season, "Pajama Game," coming in April. The 2009-10 season will add a cabaret show and a murder mystery. For now, the players are immersed in "Divine Stella Devine."

"With this one being so over the top, it's just been a lot of fun to participate in," Bloom said.

SAME TIME, NEXT YEAR

Barefoot Productions of Plymouth will present "Same Time, Next Year" tonight through March 1. The romantic comedy,

written by Bernard Slade and directed by Craig A. Hane, tells the story of Doris and George, who meet on the same weekend every year to be with each other — and away from their spouses.

The play was a Broadway hit in the '70s and a classic film in the '80s. The local production stars Betty Berryman of Canton as Doris and Benjamin Karl of Redford as George.

NOT BROADWAY, BUT IT'S CLOSE

Westland's Inspire Theatre continues its production of "It Ain't

Broadway, But It's Close" Feb. 20-21 at Warren Road Light & Life Free Methodist Church.

The musical revue brings to life favorite show tunes like "Give My Regards to Broadway," "No Business Like Show Business," and "Singing in the Rain."

It also includes a children's chorus, which revisits songs from "Sound of Music."

The Broadway hits are strung together by a farcical plot that has a national theatre company clashing with a local troupe. The result is pure, family-friendly fun.

WINTER THEATRE PRODUCTIONS

Divine Stella Devine

Who: Spotlight Players, Canton
When: 8 p.m. Feb. 20-21, Feb. 27-28, and March 6-7; and 2 p.m. March 1 and 8
Where: Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton
Tickets: \$13 online at www.spotlight-players.net; \$15-\$18 at the door
Call: (734) 394-5300

Same Time, Next Year

Who: Barefoot Productions, Plymouth
When: 8 p.m. Feb. 19-21 and Feb. 26-28; 2 p.m. Feb. 22 and March 1
Where: 240 N. Main St., Plymouth, in the Walker/Buzenberg Furniture building
Tickets: \$15 general; \$10 students/seniors 60+, (734) 560-1493, www.ticketleap.com, or www.justgobarefoot.com

It Ain't Broadway, But It's Close

Who: Inspire Theatre, Westland
When: 7:30 p.m. Feb. 20-21
Where: Warren Road Light & Life Free Methodist Church, 33445 Warren Road, Westland
Tickets: \$11, call (734) 751-7057.



Benjamin Karl of Redford and Betty Berryman of Canton star as Barefoot Productions of Plymouth presents "Same Time, Next Year" Feb. 19-March 1.

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HAPPENINGS

PLYMOUTH HOSTS MARDI GRAS FUN

PLYMOUTH — Starting at Noon, Main Street will come alive with the 1st Annual Downtown Plymouth Mardi Gras Celebration on Saturday, Feb. 21. Enjoy the artful Mardi Gras displays of Plymouth Canton High School Art students painted on the windows of 20 Downtown Stores. Collect beads from Downtown Merchants, win prizes, join in kid-friendly activities in the park and then rock the town with Steve King & the Ditties in a free concert in Kellogg Park at 5 p.m. The party continues into the night at any of over 30 shops, bars and restaurants, many offering a wide variety of festive foods. Call (734) 455-1453 or e-mail dda@ci.plymouth.mi.us.

DIA-FJC PRESENTS CIRQUE MASKED BALL

DETROIT — The Founders Junior Council of the Detroit Institute of Arts will present Cirque de Monaco Masked Ball, 7 p.m.-midnight, Feb. 28 at The Roosertail, 100 Marquette, Detroit. The event includes live DJs, '60s jazz, hand rolled cigars, a red carpet photo shoot with showgirls, signature 'Grace' cocktails, Monte Carlo-style casino games, and an after party at the Rattlesnake Club, 300 River Place Dr., Detroit. Attire is '60s chic, with masks. Tickets, \$75-\$150, benefit FJC. Call (313) 833-4005, or visit www.foundersjuniorcouncil.org.

Please see **HAPPENINGS, B9**

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GET OUT

Art In Stitches

Deconstruction I by Joan Potter Thomas is among works by nine Michigan artists on display during "Art in Stitches, A Fiber Arts Exhibition" at the Northville Art House, 215 W. Cady St., through Feb. 22. The exhibit features traditional to non-traditional techniques using cloths, fibers and mixed media, by Thomas, Ann Avery, Boisali Biswas, Juliana Cerra, Anne Hiemstra, Sidney Savage Inch, Lynn Krawczyk, Jackie Lams and Linda Larsen. Northville Art House is located at 215 W. Cady St. Call (248) 344-0497 or visit www.northvillearts.org.

Huron, Pontiac, (248) 645-6666.

The Fillmore: Flogging Molly, Feb. 19; Dropkick Murphys, March 3, 215 Woodward, Detroit, (248) 645-6666.

The Fox Theatre: Celtic Woman: Isle of Hope, Feb. 20, 2211 Woodward, Detroit, Ticketmaster.com (248) 433-1515.

Joe Louis Arena: Nickelback, Feb. 28, (248) 645-6666, www.ticketmaster.com.

Olympia Entertainment.com.

Michigan Theatre: John Hiatt and Lyle Lovett, Feb. 20, 603 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor, (248) 645-6666.

The Palace of Auburn Hills: Fleetwood Mac, March 8, 1 Championship Drive, Auburn Hills, (248) 645-6666 or Palacenet.com.

Royal Oak Music Theatre: MMA: Xtreme Caperlighting Championships, March 6, 318 W. Fourth, Royal Oak, (800) 919-6272, www.royaloakmusictheatre.com.

St. Andrew's Hall: Ben Kweller with The Watson Twins, Feb. 19, 431 E. Congress, Detroit, (248) 645-6666.

DANCE

Detroit Institute of Arts: The Kusun Ensemble, African music and dance, 7 and 8:30 p.m. Feb. 27, 5200 Woodward Ave., (313) 833-7900, www.dia.org.

Detroit Opera House: "Aladdin," Grand Rapids Ballet Company, Feb. 28; "Roméo & Juliet," American Ballet, March 13-15, 1526 Broadway, Detroit, (313) 237-3426, www.michiganopera.org.

BENEFITS

Newport Furnishings: Comfy Couch Concert series, Bill Bynum & Co., 8 p.m. Feb. 21, w/ 7 p.m. potluck, \$10-\$15 (\$3 off with donation of toothpaste, child-sized toothbrushes and warm socks), benefits Sweet Dreamzzz, 29240 Lyon Oaks Drive, Wixom, (248) 910-4941, www.comfycouchconcerts.com.

The Roster: Cirque de Monaco Masked Ball, 7 p.m.-midnight, Feb. 28, 60s chic attire with masks, \$75-\$150, benefiting FJC, Detroit Institute of Arts, (313) 833-4005, www.founder-sjuniorscouncil.org.

CHAMBER MUSIC

Detroit Chamber Winds & Strings: "Fun and Games," 3 p.m. Feb. 22; Birmingham Unitarian Church and 4 p.m. March 1; Cathedral Church of St. Paul, Detroit, (248) 559-2095, www.detroitchamberwinds.org.

CHORAL

Rackham Choir: "Dear Mrs. Parks" with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, March 6-8, Orchestra Hall, Detroit; "The Armed Man: A Concert for Peace" with original film, April 5, Ford Center for the Performing Arts, Dearborn, www.rackhamchoir.org.

CLASSICAL

Max M. Fisher Music Center: Pops Goes Las Vegas, March 19-22; The Music of Billy Joel & More by Michael Cavanaugh, April 16-19; A John Williams Adventure, March 14-17, 3711 Woodward, Detroit, (313) 576-5111 and online at www.detroitssymphony.com.

Plymouth Symphony Orchestra: "Fanfare for Freedom," 8 p.m. March 14, all at Ward Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile, Northville; Benefit Concert of the Plymouth Canton Symphony Society, 8 p.m. April 24, Penn Theatre, 760 Penniman, Plymouth, (734) 451-2112, www.plymouthsymphony.org.

Schoolcraft College: Avalon String Quartet, March 20; Cellist Robert de Maine, May 15; \$10, students, \$20 adults, Presentation Room in the VistaTech Center, 18600 Haggerty, Livonia, (734) 462-4403.

COMEDY

Fox Theatre: Ron White, March 14; Spring Comedy Jam with Mike Epps, Teddy Carpenter, Dominique Witten, March 21, 2211 Woodward, Detroit, Ticketmaster.com (248) 433-1515.

Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle: Tommy Johnigan w/ Paul Piziks and MC Jason Hagle, Feb. 19-21; Rocky LaPorte w/ Dwayne Gill and MC Gary George, Feb. 26-28, 269 E. Fourth, Royal Oak, (248) 542-9900, www.comedycastle.com.

The Second City: "Kwame A River: The Chronicles of Detroit's Hip Hop Mayor," through May, 42705 Grand River Ave., Novi, (248) 348-4448, www.secondcity.com.

CONCERTS

Clutch Cargo: Jesse McCartney, Feb. 19, 65 E.

HAPPENINGS

FROM PAGE B8

STEWART FRANCKE PERFORMS AT BORDERS

BIRMINGHAM — Stewart Francke will perform songs from his newest CD, "Alive and Unplugged at the Ark" (Blue Boundary Records and Burnside Distribution) at 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 20 at Borders Birmingham, 34300 Woodward Ave.; and 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 27 at Borders Novi, 43075 Crescent Boulevard.

Francke, a Huntington Woods resident, has earned awards and accolades as a solo singer/songwriter, and has also toured in support of many famous musicians, including Sheryl Crow, Warren Zevon, Chris Isaak, Robert Cray, Hall & Oates and Michael McDonald. A leukemia and bone marrow transplant survivor of 10 years, Francke often performs benefit concerts and donates his time to cancer support efforts. Call Borders Birmingham, (248) 203-0005; or Borders Novi, (248) 347-0780; or visit www.stewart-francke.com.

FLIGHT OF THE CONCHORDS LAND AT FOX THEATRE

DETROIT — The Grammy Award-winning Flight of the Conchords, featuring New Zealand comedy folk duo Jemaine Clement and Bret McKenzie, are set to perform at the Fox Theatre at 8 p.m. Friday, April 24.

Flight of the Conchords' comedy and acoustic folk music became the basis of a BBC radio series and then an American television series on HBO in 2007, also called Flight of the Conchords.

Tickets (\$38.50) may be purchased at Olympia Entertainment.com, the Fox Theatre and Joe Louis Arena box offices, Hockeystown Authentics in Troy (without service charge) and at all Ticketmaster locations, including Macy's and Ticketmaster.com.

To charge tickets by phone, call (800) 745-3000.

For additional information, call (313) 471-6611.

SOUTHFIELD THROWS WINTER FUN FEST

SOUTHFIELD — The City of Southfield will present its 2nd Annual Winter Fun Fest, 2-6 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 22 at the Southfield Pavilion & Sports Arena, 26000 Evergreen Road. The free afternoon of music, fun and games for the whole family includes children's arts and crafts, a petting farm, airbrush face painting, s'mores marshmallow roast, hayrides, ice sculpture carving demonstrations, Wii gaming, a moonwalk and more. Free ice skating at the Southfield Sports Arena will be open 3-6 p.m. Music includes Paul Miles, 2:30-3:30 p.m. and Skye Island, 5-6 p.m. Call (248) 796-5130.

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Feb. 20, 21, 27, 28

Mar. 1*, 6, 7, 8*

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Same Time, Next Year

a romantic comedy by Bernard Slade

directed by Craig A. Hane

February 19, 20, 21

26, 27, 28 at 8:00 PM

Feb. 22 & March 1 at 2:00 PM

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240 N. Main St., Plymouth (Walker/Buzenberg Building)

Call 734-560-1493 for tickets or go to www.Ticketleap.com

www.justgobarefoot.com

FOOD & WINE



Country Nicoise Salad.

Hiller's chef hosts fish Fridays



PHOTOS BY JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Hiller's Executive Chef Peter Julian displays Baked Wild Sockeye Salmon Patties and Country Nicoise Salad during a recent Healthy Cooking Demonstration at Orchard Mall in West Bloomfield.

BY WENDSY VON BUSKIRK
O & E STAFF WRITER

Whether you observe Lent or not, Hiller's Fish Fridays will inspire you to add fish to your menu.

Hiller's Markets will host Fish Fridays noon-2 p.m. every Friday for seven consecutive weeks starting Feb. 27.

Hiller's Executive Chef Peter Julian will cook up exclusive fish dishes on site, and share samples with guests.

He'll also pass out recipes and demonstrate how to prepare several kinds of fish.

One of Julian's featured recipes is Baked Wild Sockeye Salmon Patties.

Many types of salmon, from farm raised to wild, can be used in his recipe, he said. One of the more exotic

FISH FRIDAYS

Learn how to prepare dozens of kinds of fish and sample exclusive dishes made by Hiller's Executive Chef Peter Julian, noon-2 p.m., starting Feb. 27. Recipes included. Feb. 27, Plymouth March 6, Northville March 13, Ann Arbor March 20, Union Lake March 27, Commerce Township April 3, West Bloomfield April 10, Berkley Visit www.hillers.com for more information.

varieties Hiller's carries is Black Pearl Salmon, flown overnight direct from Scotland.

"The big to-do about the Black Pearl Salmon is that it's definitely organic food and raised on an organic diet," Julian said. "It's very popular now."

As for Julian, he uses them all.

"What's nice about the salmon patty recipe is you can buy a nice piece of salmon, have it for dinner, and if you have leftover

salmon turn it into a totally different meal," he said.

Hiller's has seven stores located in Ann Arbor, Berkley, West Bloomfield, Commerce Township, Union Lake, Northville and Plymouth.

Visit www.hillers.com.

CITY BITES

FRESH PACZKIS FOR FAT TUESDAY

LIVONIA — Celebrate Fat Tuesday with traditional Paczki at Polanka Market, 28905 Plymouth Road, Livonia. The market will mark Mardi Gras by cooking up fresh paczki filled with mixed marmalades or plum, on Tuesday, Feb. 24. They're 99 cents each, and the bakery opens at 10 a.m. Call (734) 466-9725 or visit <http://polankamkt.com/>.

OAKLAND YWCA HOSTS ETHNIC MEAL

CLAWSON — The YWCA Oakland Branch, 839 S. Crooks Road, Clawson, is having an Albanian Dinner 5-7 p.m. Feb. 21. The menu will consist of traditional home cooked Albanian food. Tickets must be purchased in advance, \$15 for adults; \$8 for children under 10. The YWCA is located at 839 Crooks Road. Call (248) 435-9100.

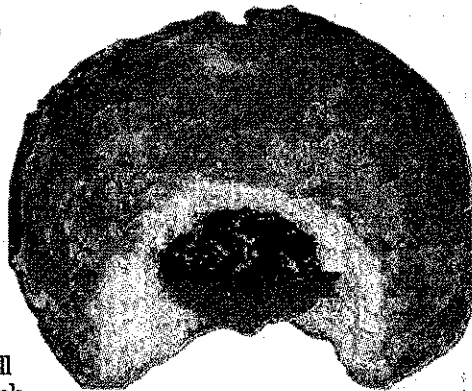
FREE 'BUY AMERICAN' COFFEE AT AJS

FERNDAL — AJ's Music Cafe, 240 W. Nine Mile Road, is offering free cups of coffee to customers who sign a promise that they will buy an American-made car as part of the national campaign IPromiseAmerica.com.

Sign The Promise online, print it out and turn it in for a free cup. <http://IPromiseAmerica.com> also includes a sign-up for other coffeehouses.

ZOUP! OPENS AT OAKLAND U

ROCHESTER — Zoup! has entered the college campus market with its new outlet at Oakland University. Zoup! is known for its changing menu of six daily soup offerings. The OU Zoup! location will be managed by Chartwells, a division of Compass Group that serves as the campus food service provider.



"We're very excited about this new opportunity for Zoup!," said CEO and co-founder Eric Ersher. Zoup! is a Michigan company which celebrated 10 years in business in 2008.

Zoup! owns and operates six corporate stores and 14 franchises throughout Michigan, Pennsylvania and Ohio, with new stores coming in Connecticut, Indiana and New Jersey.

BACCO CHANGES WITH THE TIMES

SOUTHFIELD — Acclaimed Southfield restaurant Bacco Ristorante has gone smoke-free, and is presenting a new menu featuring smaller, more traditional Italian-sized portions.

"With smaller portions, we can be more creative in the kitchen and our guests can get more creative in dining," says Luciano Del Signore, proprietor and chef. "Our prices have been reduced to reflect the smaller sizes. Now, our customers can enjoy a three-course meal for the same price as what a full entrée was previously."

Each entrée will be a complete meal consisting of a protein, two vegetables and a starch on each plate. Favorites such as the Piemontese filet, veal tenderloin, high quality seafood and decadent desserts will remain available. Bacco's wine menu now includes half-pour options, for half the price of a full glass, so patrons can sample more wines throughout the course of a meal.

Bacco Ristorante is located at 29410 Northwestern Highway. Call (248) 356-6600 or visit www.baccoristorante.com.

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Wall Street Journal

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THURSDAY

February 19
2009

SECTION C

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

online at hometownlife.com

REAL ESTATE

Families facing autism get help, including housing, at OU benefit

BY JULIE BROWN
O&E STAFF WRITER

Oakland University's Center for Autism Research, Education and Support (OUCARES) has teamed with local nonprofit Homes for Autism to host a 5k run, 5k walk and 10k run on May 17.

"This in its essence hasn't been done before," Avni Dalal, development project manager for OU's School of Education and Human Services, said of the spring benefit. OU students have raised money for the cause in the past, she said, but the event is new.

The event, which raises money for both OUCARES and Homes for Autism, is designed to raise awareness of autism spectrum disorders and help improve the quality of life for individuals affected by them. OU was approached by Homes for Autism, Dalal said.

The May 17 benefit will be on the Oakland University Rochester campus. Dalal provided a couple of Web sites for those seeking information on autism, including oakland.edu/oucares, which offers information on what autism is and local support. The Homes for Autism site at homesforautism.org also offers a lot of information.

"We're pretty excited about it," said Anne Gerard, executive director of Homes for Autism, which has a Birmingham post office. "We've never had a run before."

Autism is a neurological disorder that impairs communication and social skills. According to the Autism Society of America, the disorder impacts as many as 1.5 million American adults and children.

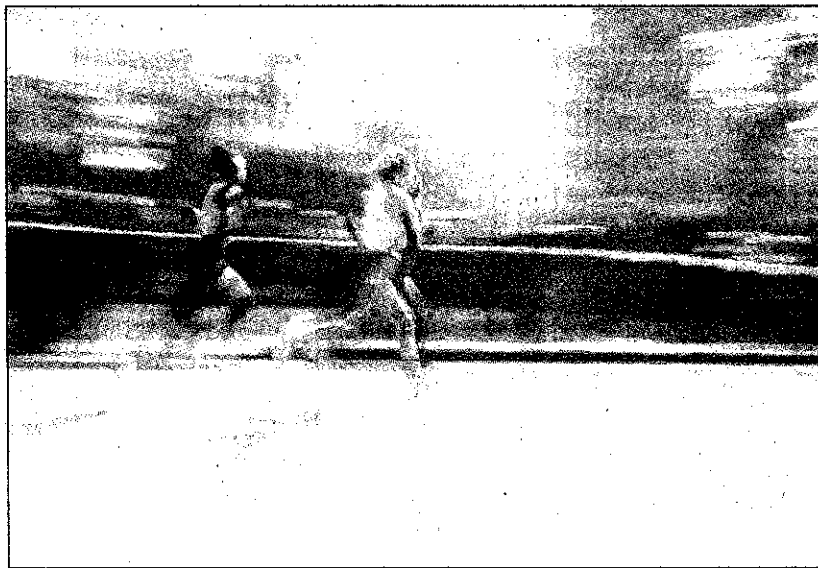
OUCARES integrates academic course work, knowledge and research with hands-on work in the community to prepare professionals to be leaders in the autism community. Through these academic and service programs, OU also provides supportive individual and family programs.

The center, housed in the School of Education and Human Services, encourages the exchange of ideas relating to the education and support of individuals with autism spectrum disorder, as well as provides services and support needed to improve daily living.

At OUCARES, individuals are empowered to communicate with others and about themselves through unique, fun and interactive classes, as well as social clubs and recreational and learning programs.

Homes for Autism focuses its mission on the question, "What happens to children with an autism spectrum disorder when they grow up?" The organization's name conveys its commitment and mission to provide housing for adults with autism.

"We buy and maintain homes for adults with autism," Gerard said. "It's a good partnership with OU." The university focuses heavily on children with autism and research, while Homes for Autism focuses on adults and their housing needs.



Homes for Autism was founded about 15 years ago, and works directly with families. "We're a very small organization," Gerard said. They help families find a home nearby, with the adults involved who have autism usually on the lower end of the functioning spectrum.

The organization has an annual black tie fund-raising dinner, and Gerard noted like many nonprofits it is having a tough time raising money. "That was why we embarked on this association with Oakland University."

Homes for Autism owns five homes, which are involved in a lease situation based on family income. A couple homes have three residents each who've lived there a long time, while others have one resident.

Life expectancy is normal for those with autism, Gerard said. "That's what makes this so needed. We are very unique in that way." Autistic children, who can be destructive in other group home settings, often outlive their parents.

"There still is no cause, no cure," added Gerard, noting more are being diagnosed with autism now. The larger Autism Speaks organization and its advocates have boosted awareness significantly, she said.

Homes for Autism owns homes in southeastern Michigan in order to provide independent living to adults with autistic challenges, while working in a coordinated effort with support programs available to these adults to provide peace of mind to families. Homes for Autism provides initial down payments and becomes financial partners with families to help with both unexpected and expected annual maintenance needs.

For more information on sponsoring, participating in or volunteering for the Run for Autism, visit www.oakland.edu/oucares. Participants who register early will receive a T-shirt to commemorate their support and participation. Gerard noted the event Web site at therunforautism.org is live and has "all the information you could possibly need."

Check-in time will be 8 a.m. Race start time is 9:15 a.m. (5k) and 9:50 a.m. (10k). Early entry fee is \$25 (with commemorative shirt). Late entry fee is \$30 after May 1. There will be medals for the top three 10k runners in each age category.

The Oakland University and Homes for Autism Web sites contributed to this report.

Check terms of listing agreement

Q: I am attempting to rent my property and found that the real estate agent has offered me a three-year lease but wants a double commission as opposed to one month's rent, i.e. two months' rent because of that. What do you think?

A: It of course depends upon your listing agreement with the real estate agent. But I do not believe that the real estate agent should be attempting to collect more than one month's rent regardless of the length of the lease unless you are willing, as a matter of gratuity, to pay same. Basically the terms of the listing agreement will apply but I have seen that several real estate agents are attempting to collect additional commissions even though they may not be strictly entitled to it under the listing agreement. It then becomes a matter of negotiations with you and the real estate agent should you wish to pay any more of a commission.



Robert Meisner

Q: I am interested in making a modification to the exterior of my condominium unit to allow one of my wife's sisters to visit the premises who is in a wheelchair. I have asked the association for permission but the managing agent, it appears on his own, has denied my request. What do you think?

A: The Michigan Condominium Act as well as the Michigan Handicappers Act and federal law provide that you are entitled to reasonable access to your unit if you are handicapped. Moreover, the Michigan Condominium Act provides that if a person who regularly visits your unit is disabled, then you have a right to seek approval from the association to make modifications to provide access to that disabled person. The association is under an obligation to allow you to make the modification assuming it is reasonable although it will be at your cost. Moreover, if the managing agent is unilaterally denying you such approval, that matter should be brought to the attention of the Board of Directors as it is not management company's responsibility to unilaterally make such a decision which, in my judgment, would be a basis for that managing company being terminated.

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

Short sale

There will be a Homeowner Short Sale Informational Seminar 6-7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 24, at the Bank of America office, 28746 Woodward Ave., Royal Oak. This presentation will offer positive options offered by professionals with a successful track record working with sellers and lenders to agree upon a "short sale." A short sale is defined as selling a property for less than what is owed with an opportunity to be relieved of the remaining loan balance.

E-mail jahalpin@metropolitantitle.com or call Julia Halpin at (248) 722-4071 to RSVP. Space is limited. Sponsored by: Metropolitan Title/Julia Halpin; attorney Scott Galloway of Galloway and Collens PLLC; Bank of American/Tim Wayland; Woodwardside Office GMAC Sine Monaghan Real Estate/Susan Carter.

Seminar

There will be a Homebuyers & Sellers Seminar Thursday, Feb. 26, at 6 p.m. It will cover: What is a short sale? Should I sell or buy with a short sale transaction? Sponsored by Great Lakes GMAC Real Estate & Homesite Mortgage. Location of the seminar is 2915 S. Rochester Road, Rochester Hills (on the northeast corner of Rochester and Auburn roads).

To reserve a seat, call (248) 293-0000. Space is limited.

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

Tax seminars

Weir Manuel Realtors will be presenting "Everything You Need To Know About Property Taxes." The public is invited to the 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.

erty tax profile.

Kelly Sweeney is the 2008 Michigan Association of Realtors' Realtor of the Year for the Michigan Consolidated Association of Realtors. He is a highly sought after public speaker and has appeared on radio, TV and in print. Sweeney is also a contributor to National Public Radio's business show, "Marketplace."

"More than ever before, taxpayers need to take control of their rights as homeowners and understand every aspect of home ownership," said Sweeney.

Seminars will be held the evenings of Feb. 24 in Birmingham; Feb. 23 at the Rochester Community House; and Feb. 25 in West Bloomfield. Refreshments will be served. Consumers are asked to reserve a complimentary seat at any seminar by phoning Weir Manuel Realtors, Birmingham, at (248) 644-6300.

HOMES SOLD

These are the Observer & Eccentric-area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Oct. 27-31, 2008, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office, plus some from Oakland County.

Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices for the properties sold in that time period.

Canton	
1684 Brookdale Dr	\$220,000
45120 Brunswick Dr	\$186,000
43266 Candlewood Ct	\$200,000
4071 Cornerstone Dr	\$146,000
1714 Fern Ct	\$168,000
41971 Glen Arbor St	\$205,000
6195 Gloucester Dr	\$170,000
49563 Great Falls Dr	\$300,000
48557 Greenview Cir	\$290,000
4000 Hunters Cir E	\$104,000
44512 Meadowcreek Ln	\$138,000

370 W Canford Park	Farmington	\$73,000
33840 Grand River Ave		\$230,000
20919 Robinwood St		\$160,000
35898 Smithfield Rd	Farmington Hills	\$235,000
23703 Barfield St		\$122,000
31078 Berryhill St		\$158,000
32402 Bonnet Hill Rd		\$198,000
23496 Derby Ln		\$206,000
29375 Laurel Dr		\$100,000
21324 Lauren Ln		\$290,000
21324 Mulberry Ct		\$60,000
28374 Schroeder St		\$355,000
23985 Springbrook Dr		\$78,000
34368 Thornbrook Dr		\$214,000
30024 W 12 Mile Rd		\$33,000
30535 W 14 Mile Rd		\$39,000
2501 W Wayburn St		\$122,000
27283 Winterset Cir		\$283,000
31124 Dawson St	Garden City	\$119,000
919 Garden St		\$50,000

29415 Sheridan St		\$87,000
29521 Warren Rd		\$105,000
9924 Arden St	Livonia	\$136,000
15793 Blue Skies St		\$253,000
16001 Foch St		\$93,000
15679 Liverpool St		\$183,000
14942 Melrose St		\$94,000
33047 Middleboro St		\$177,000
18281 University Park Dr		\$80,000
4216 Bordt Ln	Milford	\$295,000
44438 Broadmoor Blvd	Northville	\$460,000
20805 E Glen Haven Cir		\$100,000
46924 Greenridge Dr		\$315,000
18858 Heather Ridge Dr		\$475,000
45443 Tournament Dr		\$875,000
542 W Dunlap St		\$525,000
50842 Calvert Isle Dr	Novi	\$607,000
22282 Chase Dr		\$415,000
26417 Crestwood Dr		\$530,000

22719 Heatherbrae Way		\$200,000
45631 Irvine Dr		\$400,000
30915 Jasper Rdg		\$160,000
24501 Kings Pointe		\$206,000
51110 Mayfair Ter		\$341,000
23525 N Rockledge		\$75,000
41266 Scarborough Ln		\$335,000
39879 Village Wood Ln	Plymouth	\$75,000
40739 Firwood Dr		\$192,000
40403 Newport Dr		\$120,000
9326 Rocker Ave		\$160,000
1200 Ross St		\$176,000
1098 Simpson St		\$165,000
10003 Arnold	Redford	\$63,000
19353 Poinclana		\$35,000
14342 Sarasota		\$107,000
25929 Student		\$55,000
1244 Denice St	Westland	\$80,000
30414 Hivley St		\$48,000
1253 Woodbourne St		\$39,000

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Canton 3080

CANTON - Custom built 4 bdrm, 3 bath home with 5800+ SF of fin. space. Vaulted great room w/tons of natural light, and fin walkout. \$560,000. #2811184, Brent Flawelling 734-646-4263, 734-747-7777, Charles Reinhart Co., Realtors.

Canton 3080

FOR SALE OR LEASE
Fantastic 4 bdrm, 2.5 bath home w/granite kitchen, FR w/fireplace, patio & fenced yard. Call Jim Stevens 734-416-1201. \$299,900 (264LI)

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Preferred, Realtors
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A word to the wise, when looking for a great deal check the

Farmington 3140

WALK TO DOWNTOWN
Open floor plan, LR w/fireplace, bsmt w/bath, & sun porch for enjoying summer days. \$139,900 (849MA)

COLDWELL BANKER
Preferred, Realtors
734-459-6000

Farmington Hills 3145

FANTASTIC HOME
4 bdrm, 2.5 bath, 3500 sq ft ranch w/in-ground pool, 3 car garage, 3 fireplaces, study, fenced yard & more. Call Jim Stevens 734-416-1201. \$299,900 (814HA)

COLDWELL BANKER
Preferred, Realtors
734-459-6000

Garden City 3170

BEAUTIFUL UPDATED RANCH
3 bdrm, 2 bath ranch, master w/jacuzzi tub. Updated windows, kitchen, baths, roof, plumbing & more. \$129,000 (444BA)

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Observer & Eccentric
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Garden City 3170

GREAT STARTER
Clean 2 bdrm home w/new kitchen flooring, master w/WIC, 2.5 car garage, & double lot. \$89,900 (406JO)

COLDWELL BANKER
Preferred, Realtors
734-459-6000

Garden City 3170

MANY NEWER UPDATES
3 Bdrms, full bsmt, Garage, \$119,900 Century 21 Castelli (734) 525-7900

Livonia 3250

BUILT IN 2003
Great colonial w/3 bdrm, 2.5 bath, oak kitchen, master w/WIC, fenced yard & deck. \$149,900 (216AN)

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Preferred, Realtors
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Livonia 3250

LOVELY COLONIAL
3 bdrm, 1.5 bath, backs to open common-like area, FR w/fireplace, finished basement, & oversized garage. \$227,900 (490NO)

COLDWELL BANKER
Preferred, Realtors
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Novi 3290

CUSTOM BUILT
Great home w/2-story GR w/fireplace, granite kitchen, deck, 1st floor master, finished walkout, & 3 car garage. \$515,000 (025DA)

COLDWELL BANKER
Preferred, Realtors
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Plymouth 3347

MOVE RIGHT IN!
4 bdrm, 2.5 bath, 3 season room, updated kitchen, FR w/fireplace, part finished bsmt, & home warranty. \$189,900 (425OR)

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NICE COLONIAL
4 bdrm, 3 bath, 2 fireplaces, great room, 3 car garage, 1st floor laundry, formal DR, & more. \$319,900 (490MA)

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Preferred, Realtors
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Redford 3350

2 FAMILY FLAT
18835 Fivepoints. Worth \$130,000 will sell for \$65,000. Cash or mortgage. 248-737-0018.

Westland 3445

UPDATED WESTLAND RANCH
3 bdrm, 2 bath, oak kitchen, nice sized yard w/2.5 car garage, hot tub in gazebo, and finished basement. \$114,900 (629FL)

COLDWELL BANKER
Preferred, Realtors
734-459-6000

Real Estate Services 3640

Condos 3720

CANTON: ENTRY LEVEL CONDO
Master w/WIC, kitchen w/dining area, LR w/doorwall to lovely yard, & lots of updates. \$114,300 (538LI)

COLDWELL BANKER
Preferred, Realtors
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Canton: Golf Course Location

Beautiful setting on 14th tee.
2 bdrm, 2 bath, 2-sided fireplace, garage, deck. \$239,900 (721CA)

COLDWELL BANKER
Preferred, Realtors
734-459-6000

Local News Online
hometownlife.com

COMMUNITY NEWS

CANTON: IMMACULATE!
Turn key 2 bdrm, 1.5 bath, master w/WIC, bsmt, new windows, patio & more. \$89,900 (599AR)

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Manufactured Homes 3740

HUGE DISCOUNTS ON REPOSSESSED HOMES! EASY FINANCING AVAILABLE!
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Mobile Homes 3750

WESTLAND - New carpeting throughout, freshly painted. 3 bdrm, 2 bath, C/A, fridge, washer/dryer, dishwasher, disposal, gas furnace/stove, storage shed, large deck-partially covered, 2 car parking. At Westland Meadows. Avail now, \$12,000. (734) 595-7535

Commercial/Retail For Sale 3755

CANTON - Busy Michigan Ave corridor in Canton. New 5100 SF building, completely occupied. 4.5 acre site has room for another 15,000 SF building. \$1,400,000. #2615853

Bela Sipos
734-669-5813, 734-747-7898
Reinhart Commercial.

Lots & Acreage/Vacant 3820

NORTHVILLE - Great lot in Pine Creek Estates w/ mature trees. On cul-de-sac & backs to Johnson Creek. Community walking trails. \$78,000. #2805844, Brent Flawelling 734-646-4263, 734-747-7777, Charles Reinhart Co., Realtors.

Cemetery Lots 3880

MOUNT HOPE MEMORIAL GARDENS - incl 2 spaces, 2 vaults & one marker, estate #1310 in Garden of Valor. Value \$5925, only \$3900. Call: (989) 846-5144

Business Opportunities 3900

WESTLAND HAIR SALON
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Accurate Mortgage Solutions	(800) 593-1912	5.125	0	4.75	0	J/A
Advanced Mortgage Corp.	(248) 748-8822	5	0.25	4.625	0.25	J/A
BRINKS Financial	(800) 785-4755	4.75	0.875	4.375	1.125	J/A/V/F
Clear Services by Golden Rule	(800) 391-3922	4.875	0.5	4.5	0.25	J/A/V/F
Co-op Services Credit Union	(734) 466-6113	5.375	0	5	0	J
Cornestone Community Financial	(800) 777-8728	5.5	1	4.5	1	J/A/V/F
Countrywide Home Loans	(800) 641-2384	4.625	2	4.375	1.75	J/A/V/F
Eastern Federal Savings Bank	(313) 585-3100	5.25	0	5.125	0	A
DFCU Financial	(800) 739-2770	5.25	2.25	4.75	2.25	J/A
First Bank	(800) 782-8888	5.25	0	5.125	0	J/V/F
Gold Star Mortgage	(800) 784-1074	5	0.25	4.625	0.125	J/A/V/F
Golden Rule Mortgage	(800) 391-3922	5	0.25	4.625	0.125	J/A/V/F
Group One Mortgage	(248) 282-1602	5.25	0	4.875	0	J/A/V/F
Mortgages by Golden Rule	(800) 391-3922	5.125	0	4.75	0	J/A/V/F
Michigan United Mortgage	(810) 844-2222	4.75	0.625	4.375	0.875	J/A
Mountain Financial	(248) 826-6188	5.125	0	4.75	0	J/A/V/F
Shore Mortgage	(800) 678-6663	4.5	2	4.625	2	J/A/V/F

Above information available as of 2/13/09 and subject to change at anytime. Rates are based on a \$200,000 loan with 20% down & credit score of 740 or above. Jumbo rates, specific payment calculations & most current rates available Fridays after 2:00 P.M. at www.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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Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

Classified

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ONLINE..... www.hometownlife.com
EMAIL..... eads@hometownlife.com
HOME DELIVERY/CIRCULATION..... 866-887-2737
BILLING/INVOICE..... 313-222-8748

Deadlines:
Sunday edition..... 4:30 p.m. Friday
Thursday edition..... 2:00 p.m. Tuesday

Offices and Hours:
Eccentric office..... 6200 Metro Pkwy., Sterling Heights, MI 48312
Observer office..... 41304 Concept Drive, Plymouth, MI 48170
Hours..... 8:30 - 5:00 Monday - Friday

POLICY
All advertising published in the Observer and Eccentric Newspapers is subject to the conditions stated in the applicable rate card. Copies are available from the advertising department, Observer and Eccentric Newspapers, 41304 Concept Drive, Plymouth, MI 48170 866-887-2737. The Observer and Eccentric Newspapers reserves the right not to accept an advertiser's order. Observer and Eccentric Newspaper sales representatives have no authority to bind this newspaper and only publication of an advertisement shall constitute final acceptance of the advertiser's order. When more than one insertion of the same advertisement is ordered, no credit will be given unless notice of typographical or other errors are given in time for correction before the second insertion. Not responsible for omissions. Publisher's Notice: All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 which states that it is illegal to advertise "any preference limitation, or discrimination". This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal housing opportunity basis. (FR Doc. 724983 3-31-72) Classified ads may be placed according to the deadlines. Advertisers are responsible for reading their ads the first time it appears and reporting any errors immediately. The Observer and Eccentric Newspapers will not issue credit for errors in ads after THE FIRST INCORRECT INSERTION. Equal Housing Opportunity Statement: We are pledged to the letter and spirit of U.S. policy for the achievement of equal housing opportunity throughout the nation. We encourage and support an affirmative advertising and marketing program in which there are no barriers to obtaining housing because of race, color, religion or national origin. Equal Housing Opportunity slogan: "Equal Housing Opportunity". Table III - Illustration of Publisher's Notice.

Classified

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1-800-579-7355
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• RNs • LPNs • EMTs
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• Dental Assistants
• Respiratory Therapist
• Medical Assistants
• Nurse Managers
• Psychologists
• Medical Biller
• And more!

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Batmobile Look-Alike Saturn Sky Has The Fun Factor

Advertising Feature

CAReport



By Dave Menard
For All Opinions All the Time.com
and Avanti News Features

I'm not quite sure how I feel about the 2009 Saturn Sky Red Line. It looks great in your driveway, with a look that can compete with a fine European roadster. Once inside, its ride and handling are quick and nimble. And it has plenty of power and acceleration.

So what's the problem?

Nothing serious, I suppose. Just the fact that getting in and out of the Sky is a chore, and once inside, tall drivers (like me) can feel like they're inside one of those clown cars.

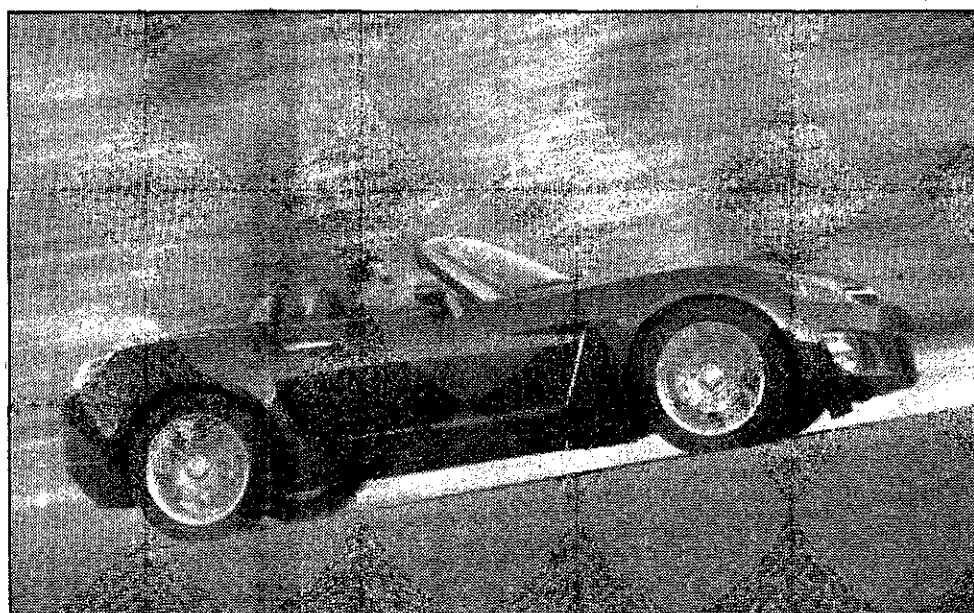
The interior, while it looks like the interior of a nice roadster, is just a little too small and cramped for tall drivers like me. Opening the convertible top helps, but even with the seat all the way back, there is not a lot of leg and hip room.

And forget about using the Sky for anything like shopping. The trunk is tiny and there is no room behind the seats for storage. Heck, there aren't even cupholders.

No, this is not the car for long road trips, doing the grocery shopping or picking up the kids from soccer practice. But you know what? There are plenty of other cars, vans and trucks for those chores. The Saturn Sky Red Line, however, is the kind of car that's built to scoot around town and have some fun doing it. And at that, it excels.

The Sky Red Line will get you noticed. Start with sharp lines and an aggressive look. The Red Line features decorative hood vents, a pronounced fender peak, functional brake cooling vents and black headlamp bezels. The raised peaks on the trunk lid behind the seats remind me of the Batmobile. The Sky Red Line has polished aluminum alloy wheels and dual polished aluminum exhausts; 18-inch wheels on a car this small and low to the ground make for a very cool, sporty look.

Inside the cramped interior, you'll find a well-designed cockpit. The instrument panel features a side-by-side speedometer and tachometer, driver information center and a digital boost gauge. Climate and audio controls are logically laid out. The steering



The Sky is great if you're not tall but can be hard to get into and out of if you're over 6 feet tall.

wheel is leather-wrapped and features auxiliary audio controls. The shift knob is also leather-wrapped and the standard leather seats are comfortable and provide good support.

The Sky Red Line comes with power windows and locks, power mirrors and air-conditioning. The standard audio system is an AM/FM/CD system with six-speakers. A Monsoon 225-watt, seven-speaker system is also available.

As with all General Motors vehicles, OnStar is standard, and it includes Bluetooth connectivity. With OnStar, you can make and receive calls hands-free, get updated vehicle diagnostics, ask for directions or restaurant recommendations or summon emergency help at the touch of a button. The system also automatically calls for assistance in the event airbags are deployed.

Speaking of airbags, the Sky Red Line has dual-stage frontal airbags. The car also comes with tire-pressure monitoring, remote keyless entry and an engine immobilizer.

The rear-wheel drive Red Line version of the Sky comes with a Ecotec turbocharged 2.0-liter engine, rated at 194 horsepower and 260 lb.-ft. of torque - more than enough to get a car this size off the line quickly.

The standard transmission is a standard transmission (get it?); a five-speed manual is the tranny that comes with the Red Line. You can get a five-speed automatic if you prefer. I'd normally say that I'd prefer the manual on a roadster, but the thought of me having to use a clutch in the cramped cabin is not very appealing. The automatic in the test vehicle was more than adequate. This powertrain is EPA rated at 19 mpg in city driving and 27 mpg on the highway. Add an extra mile-per-gallon in the highway if you get the five-speed manual. Saturn recommends premium fuel, but it's not

required.

The Red Line gives you the ride and handling you'd expect from a good roadster - plenty of road feel without being uncomfortable. With power rack-and-pinion hydraulic steering, the car is easy to maneuver and park, and the steering responds quickly to changes in direction.

The suspension is an independent short/long arm system with coil springs and a 33.3mm stabilizer bar in the front and a 25.4mm stabilizer bar in the rear. Electronic Stability Control is standard.

The standard four-wheel anti-lock disc brakes are very good. Electronic Brake Distribution is standard; it senses and distributes braking power to the four wheels depending on road conditions, traction levels and vehicle load.

The 2009 Saturn Sky Red Line starts at about \$32,500. Add the automatic transmission (\$995) and you're at \$33,500.

The Saturn Sky Red Line is a sharp car to look at, and fun to drive. If you're looking at something like this, chances are you already aren't expecting to be able to load it up with stuff or be a great passenger car.

But a few more inches of room inside would really be nice.

AllOpinionsAlltheTime.com auto critic Dave Menard is senior editor of Avanti News Features. He can be reached at Avanti1054@aol.com <mailto:Avanti1054@aol.com>

2009 Saturn Sky Red Line
Vehicle class: Two-seat sports car.
Power: 2.0-liter, Ecotec turbo engine.
Mileage: 19 city / 27 highway.
Where built: Wilmington, DE.
Base price: \$32,500.
Price as tested: \$33,495.

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*Rebates to \$8,000 Inc. Bonus Cash \$2,000, Customer Rebate of \$2,000 & Returning Lessee \$3,000, Dealer Inventory Certificates \$1,000 while supply lasts. **Plus tax, lic., doc. & title. Net all Incentives including Lease to Buy Incentives - GM Employee Pricing. ***36 Mo. 36,000 Mile Lease w/ predetermined purchase option at lease term, plus tax, lic., doc., title w/approved credit. Lease disposition fee of \$395.



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Belleville 734-455-7000

GREAT CONDO! Spacious 2nd fl ranch. 2BR/2 full BAs. Cathedral ceilings. Neutral decor. Newer fling, lights & 3 ceiling fans. All appls. Huge closets. Deck overlooks pond.

(29017075) \$99,000



Canton 734-591-9200

Shows like model, located on cul-de-sac enjoy backyard backing to trees from your lg trav deck & brick pavers. Tasteful decor, beau decor, crown moldings, wainscoting, updated tile in MBA, newer carpet. A must see!

(29005601) \$274,900



Canton 248-851-4100

WELCOME HOME! 4 BR, 2.1 bath brick contemporary features 2 story foyer, French doors to library, large granite island kitchen w/breakfast rm, & great rm. Fantastic deck & yard.

(27188915) \$270,000



Canton 734-591-9200

Beau hme dwn street frim pk. Wlk to villag theater & main shps. Lg front por & upper balcony. 2 story fam rm, gourmet kit w/stnls stl appliances & high end cabinets. Cust blinds. Hdwld flrs in foyer, kit, brkfst nook.

(29016572) \$229,900



Canton 734-455-7000

4 BR COLONIAL! Nice porch & hardwd foyer, kitchen w/breakfast nook, family rm w/ fireplace, formal dining/living rms. Fin bsmt w/ full bath and office. Large deck. 2 car att gar.

(29013025) \$211,000



Canton 734-455-7000

BEST BUY FOR THE MONEY IN CHATTERTON! Very well-maintained and conveniently located condo. Cherry cabs, wood floors, neutral carpet & paint, bonus loft, WIC, open & spacious floor plan. Att. garage.

(29013390) \$159,900



Canton 734-455-7000

SPACIOUS UPDATED COLONIAL ON CUL-DE-SAC! Porgo style flr in hall/kitchen, berber carpet & bay window in family rm, thermo windows '05, furn 02, FP w/raised hearth, crown moldings, new drive & steel door.

(29016271) \$156,900



Canton 734-455-7000

SPECTACULAR CANTON CONDO in a golf course community w/2BRS & 2 full baths. Neutral all thru w/custom kitchen cabinets & attached garage w/openers. All SS appls + washer & dryer.

(28193271) \$129,900



Canton 734-455-7000

SHARP RANCH CONDO! Very nice 2BR private end unit ranch in North Canton. Remodeled kitchen/bath, full basement under whole unit. Best spot in complex!

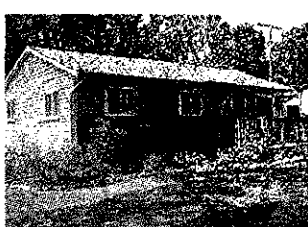
(29008595) \$79,900



Commerce 248-684-1065

Charming ranch on half acre parcel. Great location, new carpet, 6 panel drs., FR w/FP, neutral decor, FF laundry, MBR w/closet organizers, bsmt, deck.

(28195345) \$234,900



Commerce Twp 248-348-6430

Great Home With Many Updates! New roof & siding, newer windows, well & finished W/O BSMT. Newer decks on front & rear. Enjoy lake access on all sport lake! Must see, ready to move right in!

(28144672) \$179,900



Dearborn 734-591-9200

Super clean, 4BR Brick Col shows pride of ownership. All BR's hv walkin closets, lots of improv. Newer roof, carpeting and paint T/O. 3 car garage w/new drs, updated kitc and bath. A must see to appreciate.

(28145546) \$190,000



Dearborn Heights 248-348-6430

Charming Bungalow Buy for less than rent. Completely updated inside and out. Can't beat it at this price. 3 bedroom, 1 bath, new appliances. Ready for you. Great neighborhood.

(28183038) \$49,900



Detroit 248-208-2900

643 McDougall If Living Downtown Detroit Is Where You Want To Be This Is The Place For You. This 1 Bedroom Condo Has Been Totally Redone.

(27225278) \$65,000



Detroit 248-348-6430

2 Story Brick Tudor! Traditional 2 stry brick tudor, LR, DR, KIT, BRK nook, FP, HWF, appl. Being sold as is. Buyer to assume any & all municipal requirements pertaining to occupancy.

(28144941) \$57,657



Farmington Hills 248-348-6430

End of Cul-de-sac 1+ Acre Lot Updates since 2002 include new roof & furnace, Pella windows & DWs. KIT w/cherry cabs, granite, HWH 2007. Walkout basement has in-law qtr, rec room, new BA, KIT

(28195842) \$243,537



Fenton 248-684-1065

Build your dream home on this fabulous Lakefront acreage! 500 acres of all-sports lakes, wooded, W/O sites, gorgeous views! Minutes from dwn Lndn.

(29002286) \$225,000



Garden City 734-591-9200

Newer home built 2001. Move in Ready. Needs no work. Well Maintained in excell cond. Every new on 2001. Spac kit w/opn flr plan. Hdwld flrs, newer crt, excell stor, neut decor, Lg MBR w/BA, Min 1% EMD to be bid by LB

(29004146) \$139,900



Green Oak 248-437-3800

Relocation Forces Sale! Custom lake front home on Hidden Lake w/private dock. This home offers the lifestyle you are looking for. The home has it all w/soaring ceilings, 1st flr mstr.

(29019609) \$999,950



Green Oak 248-437-3800

Ring In The New Year With This Colonial Set in great family neighborhood! Extensive landscaping surrounds hm w/many mature trees for back yard privacy. Large deck wraps around side entry & back of hm.

(28204093) \$199,000



Highland 248-684-1065

Sweet home in Huntwood! Neutral & move-in ready! Fin BSMT w/corner bar. Mstr BA w/stone tile. HDWD flrs, crown moulding, ceramic baths, jetted tub, patio.

(29017348) \$249,000



Holly 248-684-1065

Beautifully maintained 2BR ranch w/lake access to Spring Lake and all-sports Crooked Lake. 3 car garage & separate heated workshop. Wooded lot.

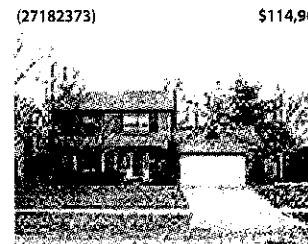
(29016532) \$119,500



Inkster 248-208-2900

You Will Amazed At This Property. The Home Has Newer Carpet, Newer Windows, Updated Bath And Updated Kitchen.

(27182373) \$114,900



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 Koi ponds. Fin basement. 2 car attached garage.

(28197688) \$214,900



Livonia 248-851-1900

GORGEOUS UPDATED HOME Cultured stone ext. Leaded glass front door. Oak kit, w/recessed lights, HWF, crown molding. Newer roof. Full bsmt. Full BA w/solid surface counter, ceramic flr FR w/FP

(29017118) \$173,900



Livonia 734-591-9200

SELLERS RELO FORCES SALE Well Kept 3BR Brk Ranch w/open floor plan & vault cell. Fin bsmt w/4th BR, newer roof, prime priv loc on quite low traf ct backing to Park, patio, 2 car det gar.

(28166444) \$119,900



Lyon 248-437-3800

1.5 Acre Lot Backs To Coyote Golf Course Add'l fin. bonus room upstairs. Cherry cabinets, granite countertops in kitchen. Some hardwood-shows well. 4 BR, 3.1 BA. Bank owned.

(28206790) \$279,900



Lyon Township 248-437-3800

Ready For Immediate Occupancy! Waiting for buyer's flooring & countertop choices. Great flr plan. FP in great rm. Maple cabinets in kitchen & baths. Lrg mstr suite with walk-in closet & bath.

(28185040) \$209,900



Millford 248-684-1065

Luxury riverfront condo in downtown Millford across from Central Park! Craftsman style inspired with fin w/o. oak cabs, granits crops, HDWD flrs, deck.

(28129939) \$485,000



Millford 248-684-1065

Home with 3.9 acres. First floor laundry. Unfinished basement. Two car attached garage with side entry. Dining, living and family rooms. Library/study.

(29017806) \$334,900



Milford 248-684-1065

Well maintained home on 1.5 wooded acres. Huge LR w/ hdwd flrs. DR w/D/W to covered porch. Oak kit. Spacious FR w/D/W to deck. 1st flr laun. 2 car gar.

(28171749) \$189,900



Milford 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



Milford 248-684-1065

Adorable 3 bedroom brick ranch in downtown Milford Village. Huge FR in finished lower level with glass block windows. All appliances included.

(28199659) \$120,000



Northville 248-348-6430

Charming and Immaculate Walk to dwnntn Northville! Cozy, yet bright & cheery home! Updates: wind, roof, furn, HWH, Lt new carp v/o. Cove cell, gas FP w/brk hearth in LR. Fr rm w/skylight.

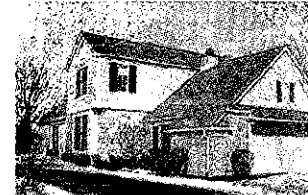
(28139466) \$320,000



Northville 248-348-6430

Beautiful Architects House Built In 1963 2 FP lots of light, wood floors, master suite w/ jacuzzi, 2.5 garage w/lots of storage. Beautifully landscaped. Deck, sandstone patio. Walk to town & schools.

(28168581) \$214,900



Northville 248-348-6430

Lovely End Unit Condo Spacious oak kitchen w/granite, formal living & dining rooms, 1st floor master with shower & soaking tub, 2nd floor bedrooms have private baths & dressing areas

(29020493) \$2,350



Northville 248-348-6430

2 Bedroom Duplex Close to downtown Northville, Cider Mill, and Ford Field. Move in condition. No pets. Owner is agent.

(28196916) \$800



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 248-348-6430

Smoke & Pet Free 4 Bedroom Colonial that backs to woods & commons, large kitchen with lots of storage, new roof, ext. security lights, back up sump pump, finished walkout basement.

(29007870) \$300,000



Novi 248-348-6430

Lovely 3 Bedroom Colonial with cherry kitchen, granite island, great room with transom window & gas fireplace, formal dining room, 2nd floor laundry, large basement plumbed for bath.

(29015355) \$260,000



Novi 248-348-6430

Lovely CT Location Awesome Move in condition. 2 BD, 1.5 BA, fabulous cherry & granite KIT. All appl, main bath w/ marble & whirlpool tub. Fin BSMT, 1 car att HDWD FL deck roof 07 new win.

(28191007) \$119,900



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



Plymouth 734-591-9200

Spacious Ranch in Deer Creek! Very Open Flr Plan. Lg kit & BFT rm; all kit appls stay; Grt Rm w/FP & D/W to lg deck. Mstr BR w/BA has roll-in shower. Home has handicap access w/ramp from gar to bsmt.

(29009792) \$314,900



Plymouth 734-455-7000

TWO PLYMOUTH HOMES FOR THE PRICE OF ONE! Two separate houses on one lot in downtown Plymouth. Live in one-rent the other! Numerous updates in main house. Other home continually rented.

(27097266) \$194,900



Plymouth 734-455-7000

COUNTRY LIVING IN THE CITY! Come home to this warm & cozy bungalow w/natural fireplace and lots of natural wood. Oak cabinet kitchen w/laminate floor. 2 full baths. Large backyard.

(29015504) \$155,000



Romulus 248-208-2900

Great Opportunity! Own this 2yr old home at a great price. 4 bdms, 2.5 baths. Just needs some elbow grease and kitchen rehab.

(28167307) \$93,586



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 backplash. GR w/hrdw flrs, soaring ceiling.

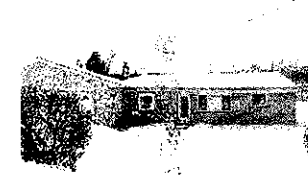
(28085461) \$289,900



South Lyon 248-437-3800

Transfer Forgoes Sellers to Sell! Stunning home in desirable subdivision at today's prices. Beautiful flr w/vspacious kitchen-family rm, hrwd flrs, maple cabinets, 2ns flr laundry.

(29019799) \$283,500



South Lyon 248-437-3800

All Sports Lake Front Ranch. This chain of lakes is a well kept secret, beautiful tranquil area close to everything. 3 BR, 2 BA, updated kitchen. Move in condition. Estate Sale.

(28094869) \$275,000



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/I closets & mstr bath.

(28145429) \$269,900



South Lyon 248-437-3800

Charming Home In Great Neighborhood Lrg deck, hot tub & stream in backyard, near trails, woods & park. Natural fireplace, oversized garage w/high ceiling & door. Part. fin. bsmt.

(29017748) \$179,900



South Lyon 248-437-3800

Just Listed...Take A Closer Look! This house is perfection plus! Enjoy total privacy in back yard w/heated pool & backing to a park-nature setting. Many updates. Finished bsmt w/ba. A MUST SEE!

(29020244) \$159,000