

THURSDAY
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2009

The Observer & Eccentric
Newspapers

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Local 'Foes' join 199 other bands at Blowout - Filter, B6

CANTON OBSERVER

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Your guide
to planning
a fabulous
wedding

Special Section
inside today's
newspaper

Connection Times spotlights McCotter

The *New York Times* on Monday featured an article on U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter, R-Livonia, and the impact of his vote against President Barack Obama's stimulus package on his 2010 election prospects. McCotter joined all Republican members of the House of Representatives in voting against



McCotter

the economic stimulus. On the other hand, McCotter has been a vocal supporter of government loans to General Motors and Chrysler.

Among those quoted in the article by Carl

Hulse was Michigan House Speaker Andy Dillon, D-Redford. Often mentioned as a candidate for other offices, Dillon was puzzled by McCotter's voting against the package that includes tax breaks for GM and incentives for car buyers.

The article quotes Dillon, "Since when do Republicans vote against tax cuts? They are betting the farm, because if this works, I think people will remember they were not on board."

The *Times* article notes that McCotter, chair of the Republican House Policy Committee, has broken ranks with his party on expanding health insurance for children and supporting a measure to ease union organizing.

3-on-3 hoops

Summit on the Park will play host to a children's basketball tournament on Saturday, Feb. 28. Boys and girls in grades three-eight are invited to participate. Boys and girls divisions will be set up for grades three-four, five-six and seven-eight to play starting at 10 a.m. Awards will be given to each division winner and runner-up. All games will be officiated and teams will be guaranteed two games.

Team registration will close at 3 p.m. Friday, Feb. 27. Four players may be on the roster. Only one person from each team is needed to register. Registration fees are \$52 per team. For more information or to register, call (734) 483-5600.

Chamber auction

The Canton Chamber of Commerce will hold its annual auction at 7 p.m. Friday, April 3, at Burton Manor, 27777 Schoolcraft, Livonia. This year's theme will be "M*A*S*H". The cost is \$75 per person. Tickets are on sale. Sponsorships are still available and donations are still being accepted. Donation deadline is March 2. If you are interested in attending, sponsoring or donating an item, please e-mail eventscoordinator@cantonchamber.com or call the chamber office at (734) 453-4040.



BILL BRESLER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Oscar party

Montina Canty photographs Mike Vinas, Stephanie Squires, Kristie Ligner, Philip Krstovski, J. Rozum, Lesley Rozum and Lisa 'Marilyn Monroe' Rozum with the big Oscar Sunday at the Canton Community Foundation's Magical Night with the Stars fund-raiser at Imagine Canton. Guests had the opportunity to watch the Academy Awards, see several Oscar-nominated films, eat gourmet food and even learn ballroom dancing steps. The event raised money for two local charities, First Step and Gleaners Community Food Bank. For more photos and the story, see page A2.

Township to give non-union employees pay increase

BY TONY BRUSCATO
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Canton Township's non-union, merit pay employees will begin receiving a 2½ percent pay increase following a 5-0 vote by the Board of Trustees Tuesday night.

Just over half of those 70 employees will also be receiving a 2½ percent step increase, which means their salaries will go up a total of 5 percent.

Trustees voted on the pay hikes after a recommendation from the township's Merit Commission. Township officials say the increases, which are retroactive to Jan. 1, were already approved as part of the 2009 budget.

"I certainly don't want to penalize non-union workers and make them feel less important than union workers," said Trustee Todd Caccamo. "We're trying to keep people who have been doing a good job."

"Look at the budget and you'll see overall spending restraint," he said. "We have a staff with less government workers per citizen compared to most municipalities."

Finance Director Rick Eva said

HIGHEST PAID NON-UNION EMPLOYEES

- Ann Conklin, Leisure Services director, \$124,048
- Tim Faas, Municipal Services director, \$124,048
- John Santomauro, executive director of Public Safety & Operations, \$124,048
- Richard Eva, Finance and Budget director, \$120,483
- Tom Casari, township engineer, \$115,932
- Mike Rorabacher, fire chief, \$115,932
- Mike Ager, Community Services manager, \$101,260
- Deb Bilbrey-Honsowetz, Recreation and Facilities manager, \$101,260
- Jeff Goulet, community planner, \$101,260
- Dave Medley, Human Resources manager, \$101,260
- John Weyer, building official, \$101,260

negotiations continue with several unions representing hundreds of other township workers. He said the police and fire departments are in the first year of a three-year contract that gives them 3 percent through July 1, followed by raises of 2½ percent and 2 percent.

In addition to the increases in base pay and salary grade ranges, current non-union workers will have their longevity frozen at the current rate, with no further increases. With Tuesday's vote, longevity will be eliminated for all future hires.

While current non-union work-

ers are enrolled in a defined benefit pension plan, future employees will be enrolled in a defined contribution plan in which the township will contribute 5 percent of wages and the employee 3 percent of their pay.

Current non-union employees don't pay for health care benefits beyond co-pays for doctor's office visits and prescription drugs. New employees will be required to contribute 10 percent of their monthly premium for health care, dental and prescription drug coverage.

"I believe the perception by some in the community is the movement

is not in line with what's happening in industry," said Trustee Pat Williams. "If you take a look at details and underlying factors, there is significant movement and there have been significant cost reductions in what has been agreed to. So, we're moving in the right direction."

According to a list of merit pay workers and their new salaries provided by Canton Township, three share the distinction of being at the top of the pay scale. They are Ann Conklin, Leisure Services director; Tim Faas, Municipal Services director; and John Santomauro, executive director of Public Safety and Operations. All have an annual salary of \$124,048.

The list indicates 11 non-union employees earn more than \$100,000. In contrast, Canton's elected officials — supervisor, treasurer, clerk and trustees — took pay cuts last year. The supervisor's salary went from \$127,073 to \$115,366; the clerk and treasurer from \$103,070 to \$98,700; and trustees from \$12,537 to \$12,000.

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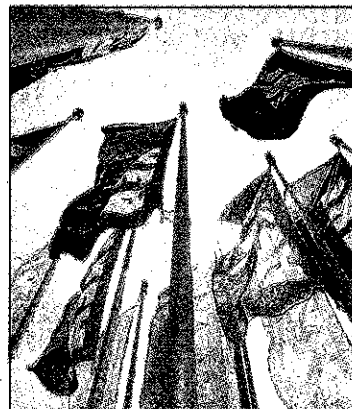
IKEA shuttle service to connect Canton and downtown Detroit

BY TONY BRUSCATO
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

IKEA plans to begin a monthly free shuttle service from its store in Canton to Campus Martius Park in downtown Detroit beginning March 12.

One weekend a month IKEA will have at least one 40-passenger bus to take visitors to Campus Martius, and on the return trip transport passengers from downtown to the IKEA store at Ford and Haggerty.

"Public transportation is not always available where we locate our stores," said Joe Roth, IKEA spokesman. "As we start settling into shopping patterns at our stores, we may have to provide transportation service for customers. This policy for IKEA Canton is consistent with our commitment to make IKEA stores accessible."



BILL BRESLER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

A new shuttle service to debut in March will take people back and forth from IKEA Canton to Campus Martius in downtown Detroit.

Canton will be the second area of the country to have the free shuttles. Roth said it's been successful in the Brooklyn, Manhattan and New Jersey area

since June.

Ashli Bobo of the BERLINE public relations company in Bloomfield Hills said the year-long shuttles will run hourly from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. The first shuttle will be March 12-15 in conjunction with the last weekend of ice skating at Campus Martius Park.

"We'll coordinate the shuttles with events in downtown Detroit at places like Hart Plaza, Cobo Center and Greektown and any big sales events at IKEA," Bobo said. "IKEA is looking at providing the shuttles during the popular Fourth Fridays with Ford entertainment series at Campus Martius. The shuttles will run all year long."

IKEA is expected to release more information and details about the monthly shuttles March 9.

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An evening of stars

Foundation fund-raiser celebrates Oscars, helps meet growing need

BY KURT KUBAN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Even though the Academy Awards were taking place a couple thousand miles away, there was certainly a Hollywood feel to the Canton Community Foundation's Magical Night with the Stars event at Canton's Imagine Theatre Sunday evening.

From the paparazzi (volunteers from St. Thomas a' Becket church) that greeted guests on the red carpet just inside the door, to the large "Oscar" statue in Imagine's lobby, there was no mistaking that the party was celebrating Hollywood's most celebrated event. Guests also had the opportunity to watch the Academy Awards program on the big screen, see several Oscar-nominated films, eat gourmet food and even learn ballroom dancing steps.

According to organizers, about 150 people attended the fund-raiser that benefited Gleaners Community Food Bank and First Step. Guests included Canton Township Supervisor Phil LaJoy and former Plymouth-Canton Schools Supt. Jim Ryan, as well as business owners and community leaders.

"We wanted to do more



Josh Saenz, Alex Cole and Diego Granados, volunteers from St. Thomas a' Becket church, acted as paparazzi and rushed the arriving guests for autographs and photos.

than just a fund-raiser for the organization as in the past. We found a real need in the community. These needs are not going to go away any time soon," said Jim Demmer, chairman of the Canton Community Foundation Board of Directors.

DeWayne Wells, president of Gleaners, also attended the event. He said support from groups like the Canton Community Foundation is critical for the organization to meet the growing need of hunger, which he said is widespread, even in Canton.

Gleaners provides food to several local agencies, including Open Door Ministries, First Step and the Salvation Army.

"The need is growing. We distributed in the last quarter 30 percent more food than we did during the same



Martha Snow chats with up to Canton Community board member Bob Boyer, who dressed as 'Frankenstein' for the occasion.

period the year before," Wells said. "We're expecting that trend to continue, especially with the unemployment benefits cycle ending for many people."

According to Foundation President Joan Noricks, once everything is tabulated, the

foundation will likely be presenting \$5,000 checks to both First Step and Gleaners.

"It was a wonderful evening. Considering the economy, I'm thrilled with the turnout," said Noricks. "I feel like we really supported the community."

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Dem lawmakers announce plan to make government accountable

BY TONY BRUSCATO
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

State Rep. Dian Slavens, D-Canton, and Rep. Mark Corriveau, D-Northville, were among several House members who announced this week a package of government reforms they say are designed to take aim at public disclosure and accountability.

The Canton Township administration building was the site Monday afternoon of one of several news conferences around the state where House Democrats called for passage of bills that would require elected officials to disclose their finances, prohibit legislators from becoming lobbyists for two years after leaving office, dock lawmakers' pay for each day of the legislative session they miss and authorize a 10 percent pay cut, a measure which passed the House two weeks ago.

Slavens said former lawmakers who left the state Legislature to become lobbyists "are not playing by the right set of rules."

"When a legislator becomes a lobbyist, sometimes within days after leaving office, it raises troubling questions," said Slavens. "Our residents deserve lawmakers who will stand up to the community and the state governments that work for them. We need to make sure they don't have their eyes on their next paycheck after they leave office."



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

State Rep. Dian Slavens, D-Canton, House Speaker Andy Dillon, D-Redford, and Rep. Marc Corriveau, D-Northville, discuss their proposed legislation at a Monday press conference in Canton.

Corriveau was involved in attempting to pass some of the same legislation last year, but it was stalled in the Senate.

"Michigan is one of three states where lawmakers don't have to disclose any of their personal assets," said Corriveau. "If the bill passes, you'll see us posting some of the things that we have in our personal lives so that my constituents know that the decisions we're making were done for their best interest and not for any political gain."

House Speaker Andy Dillon, D-Redford Township, said with many people facing job losses and home foreclosures now is the time to pass the package of bills.

"These are important reform

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Do you agree with a proposal to make government more accountable by requiring elected officials to disclose their finances, prohibiting legislators from becoming lobbyists for two years after leaving office, docking lawmakers' pay for each day of the legislative session they miss and authorize a 10 percent pay cut? E-mail your opinions to Editor Kurt Kuban at kkuban@hometownlife.com or post a comment on our Web site at www.hometownlife.com.

measures that will go a long way to restoring the public's confidence in their representatives and leaders in Lansing," said Dillon.

Dillon said despite the effort being thwarted by the Republican-controlled Senate last year, he believes chances of getting a positive vote on the measures this year are "fairly good."

State Sen. Bruce Patterson, R-Canton Township, said he remembers being a member of the state House and introducing bills for the sake of publicity.

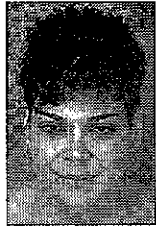
"This is more a solution looking for a problem," Patterson said. "More than attending session we should be looking at who accomplishes what, who is valuable to the system. We have an obligation to do good work, not just busy work."

Woman charged with stabbing brother

BY TONY BRUSCATO
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A 35-year-old Canton woman is jailed in lieu of \$1 million bond after reportedly stabbing her older brother with a kitchen knife.

Canton police say Katina Lynne Martinez was arguing with her 36-year-old older brother when she stabbed him in the right side of his abdomen at a residence in the 300 block of Buckingham last



Martinez

Thursday. The victim, who police have not identified, was transported to St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia.

He was subsequently taken to St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ypsilanti, where he was listed in stable condition.

Martinez was arraigned in front of 35th District Court

Judge Michael Gerou Saturday on charges of assault with intent to commit murder, which carries a life sentence if convicted; assault with intent to do great bodily harm, a 10-year felony; and assault with a dangerous weapon, a four-year felony.

Martinez can be free if she posts \$100,000. Her preliminary exam is scheduled for March 6.

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PUBLIC SAFETY

Police unit's job is to piece together cause of accidents

BY TONY BRUSCATO
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

When a Canton man was killed while crossing Ford Road east of Sheldon Road earlier this month, it was the Canton Police Department's Accident Investigation Team that was called in to piece the circumstances together and determine exactly how the accident occurred.

"If there's any serious injury or fatal accident our team gets activated," said Sgt. Pat Sullivan, 39, of Canton, an 18-year veteran and leader of the AI Team. "We've got a nine member team, and we all get the call when something happens. Depending on schedules, we usually get about five to the scene to investigate."

"We assign one person to take photographs, one to take video, another person to run what we call the Total Station (similar to surveyor's equipment) to map out the scene, somebody to sketch out the scene and officers to write the accident investigation report and the state accident form."

Other members of the AI team include Officers Joseph Bialy, Adam Falk, Matt Jenkinson, Mike Kowalski, Michele Kuznicki and Randy Rankin; and detectives Mike Wells and Tim Wright.

For the AI team, the accident scene could be one involving a couple of cars that collided or another that involves a mishap covering several hundred feet.

"When you have a high-speed crash, now you have skid marks that are hundreds of feet long and that's part of your accident scene," Sullivan said. "You have to document all that information and put it in a scaled diagram, which is our biggest tool in reconstruction of an accident because it helps determine the speed of the vehicle and the path it took."

Sullivan said skid marks are the most



Sgt. Pat Sullivan heads the accident investigation team.

telling evidence in an accident scene.

"We can tell a lot by those such as speed, direction of travel and even tell if the brakes are defective, depending on how skid marks start," he said. "A couple of years ago there was a fatal motorcycle accident at Ford and Lotz with only one skid mark left. We could tell he used only his front brake, and determined if he had used both (front and rear) brakes he would have stopped 10-feet short of the car he hit... and it would have saved his life."

Sullivan said it takes years of education to be part of the AI Team, and it includes plenty of math and physics.

"We take classes through Michigan State University's engineering program and they have accident investigation classes 1-25," said Sullivan. "They get progressively harder the farther you go. We like to get our team members to AI-9, which is accident reconstruction level."

One of the main pieces of equipment for the AI Team is the Mobile Operations Unit, a 36-foot mobile command center it shares with other squads in the department. It has outside lights, electrical outlets and video equipment; and inside



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Sgt. Pat Sullivan of Canton's Accident Investigation Unit says the video cameras mounted at the rear of the command center can be raised about 25 feet, high enough to get an aerial view of a crash site.

there are computers, radio equipment and space to interview witnesses and victims.

Sullivan and his team are like storytellers. In most cases they already know the ending, they just have to determine the circumstances from the beginning to get to the end.

"You try to coordinate what the physical evidence tells you, what the reconstruction tells you and what the victims and witnesses tell you so that it all makes sense," Sullivan said.



CANTON COP CALLS

Pair steals baby formula

Canton police arrested a 22-year-old woman for retail fraud on Monday for allegedly helping her brother steal 4-6 cans of Enfamil baby formula at Rite Aid at 2249 Canton Center Road. Police say the brother walked out of the store with the cans under his jacket. A store employee gave chase, but wasn't able to stop him. The woman said she told her brother not to steal the formula. However, police discovered she had one prior count of retail fraud and two convictions in Warren.

Smashed mailboxes

Several residents on the 7200 block of Emerson reported their mailboxes were smashed by someone during the early morning hours on Feb. 20. A mailbox was also

destroyed in the 44600 block of Westminister Way.

Retail fraud

Canton police arrested a 49-year-old man and a 23-year-old woman Feb. 22 for retail fraud when they attempted to steal a watch, CDs and other items from Wal-Mart on Ford Road. The man told police they didn't go into the store with the intention of stealing, they decided to do it while shopping.

Copper theft

Police are investigating the larceny of copper piping from a sprinkler system box at the Woodcreek Complex at Singh and Haggerty on Feb. 18. A witness saw a suspicious vehicle parked in the area and a white male run from the area.

PUBLIC NOTICE

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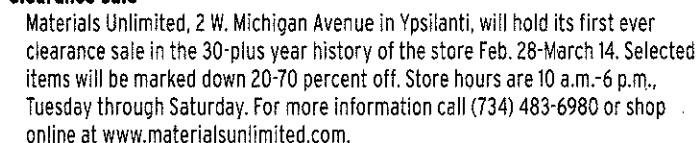
 The Robison Dental Group, 8504 Canton Center Road in Canton, will offer free dental care to children aged 4-17 on Saturday, Feb. 28. Dental professionals at Robison Dental Group are providing a one-day volunteer initiative to provide free dental screenings and treatment to the underserved children in our community. Services that may be provided include exams, cleaning, fluoride, fillings, sealants and extractions as needed. Please call for an appointment, as availability is limited. For more information, call (734) 453-6320.

Condon-based Bobilín Honey will host its very first bee boot camp at 10 a.m., Feb. 28, at 810 M-52, Manchester. For more information or to register, call (734) 748-2185 or e-mail bob@cimsurf.com. A syllabus of the class is posted at www.bobilinhoney.com.

 Meijer Pharmacy, located on Ford Road at Canton Center, will be holding their monthly health screening clinic on Saturday, March 21 from 8 a.m. until noon. Cholesterol, diabetes, and liver function screening are available at a very affordable cost. Appointments are required; please contact the pharmacy for details at (734) 844-2733.

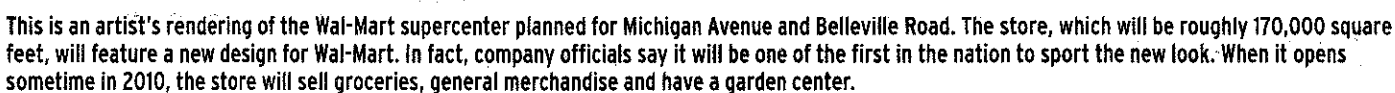
 The Canton Business & Professional Women (BPW), which promotes full participation, equity and economic self-sufficiency for America's working women, will hold its next monthly meeting from 6-8:30 p.m., Monday, March 9 at Palermo's Restaurant, 44938 Ford Road, Canton. Guest speaker Lynn Jarrett will present "Life Balance - Are You Kidding?" Lynn resides in Canton and is the author of the international best selling book "Why Bother Looking" along with three books in her "Hip Chick" series.

Palermo's is located in the strip mall behind Murray's Auto Supply on north side of Ford Road, east of Canton Center. For More Information please contact June Nicholas at (313) 610-2561 or junenicholas@comcast.net. Please RSVP for this meeting.



How-to workshops will be held all weekend on a variety

To view a complete list of the vendors, obtain the Expo layout, and download workshop and mini-workshop schedules visit www.canton-mi.org/homeexpo.aspx. The Expo is free of charge and hosted by Canton's Building and Inspection Services Division, the Canton Chamber of Commerce, and the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers*. For more information, please call Canton's Building and Inspection Services Division at (734) 394-5200.



SEND IT

Get in on the new *Strictly Business* page of the *Canton Observer* by sending us your business news, promotions, events or milestones. It's simple. Just e-mail all of the details to Editor Kurt Kuban at kkuban@hometownlife.com and he will take care of the rest. Our new local business page runs each Thursday in your *Canton Observer*. We welcome comments and suggestions, too. We're looking forward to hearing from you.

IT'S YOUR BUSINESS Q&A

Longtime specialty florist ready to 'bloom and grow'

Glenn Patton: The business was founded in 1898 by Charles Keller. Inspired by the industrial and cultural revolution of the day, Charles Keller opened the original store on Fort Street in Detroit, across from the Woodmere cemetery. The store was both a retail shop and had a number of greenhouses. Clark Keller, 3rd generation was offered a "once in a lifetime" opportunity to merge with a

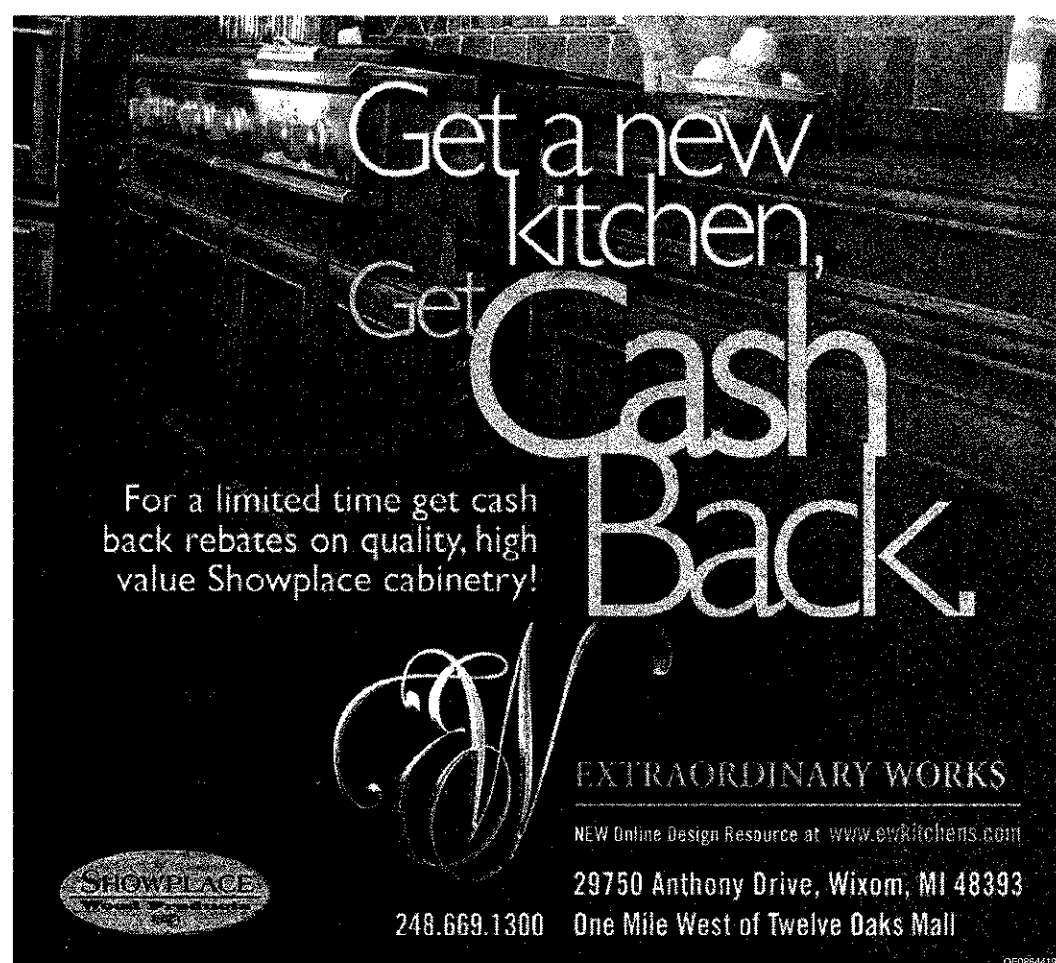


Glenn and Chris Patton are owners of Keller and Stein Florist and Greenhouses.

Address: 42158 Michigan Avenue, Canton
Your name: Glenn Patton, general manager
Your hometown: Plymouth
Business opened when?: 1898
Number of employees: 16
Your business specialty: Full service florist
Hours of operation: Monday-Saturday, 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.; open
 undays seasonally
Business phone/Web site: (734) 397-0800, www.kellerstein.com

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

Glenn Patton: During this past century, Keller & Stein Florist has endured many periods of economic turmoil, none of which have proven to be a challenging as the current times we all now face. While many businesses surrender to the current economic climate, Keller & Stein has instead renewed our commitment to moving forward with diversity, ingenuity and creativity as our building blocks. Our business has survived hard times and will continue to survive. It is our intention to further the vision of the founding generation and to bloom and grow with the exciting possibilities of the greater Canton community today.



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The map shows a street grid. S Main St runs vertically on the left. N Lilley St runs vertically in the center, marked with a star at its intersection with Ann Arbor Rd. E Ann Arbor Trail runs diagonally from the top center towards the right. N Margaret Rd runs vertically on the far right. Joy Rd runs horizontally at the bottom. The intersection of S Main St and N Lilley St is marked with a star.

THURSDAY
February 26
2009

Page A6 (C)

Kurt Kuban, editor
(313) 222-6714
kkuban@hometownlife.com

LOCAL OPINION

online at hometownlife.com



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

District right to look at programs

When the Florida Marlins won the World Series in 1997, team ownership — forced by economic conditions not of its own making — decided it was better for the franchise as a whole to tear down its foundation, get rid of its expensive players and start fresh.

When new administrators moved into the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools hierarchy, bringing a fresh set of eyes to the budget picture in the district, they decided — forced by economic conditions not of their own making — some programs needed review and, perhaps, change.

Faced with legislation that was going to force them to send out existing contracts for bid anyway, the new administration decided at least one of those programs — the food service program — could be done more efficiently in-house rather than with a contractor.

The decision raised eyebrows, and a few hackles, because Sodexo, the management company that had ably run the program for more than 20 years, has been a good partner. The program has been a solid revenue stream, having returned some \$78,000 to the district as recently as last year.

Still, the program was going to face some challenges. First, the legislation that required a re-bid was surely going to bring in some other food-service hopefuls; in today's economy, it's possible Sodexo would have lost the contract anyway.

Secondly, the program — which produces some 1.6 million meals a year, according to district officials — was beginning to see a decline in meals served, which would have triggered rising prices. The district wanted to avoid that and, in fact, believes it can actually save some 5 to 6 cents per meal.

So James Larson-Shidler, the district's new assistant superintendent for business services, had a consultant come in to crunch some numbers and offer an opinion on whether the district could run the program more efficiently in-house. The consultant looked at the books and offered an opinion: Yes, you can.

Here's the rub that raised the aforementioned hackles: The consultant was reportedly a friend of Larson-Shidler's from Toledo. That friend, the story goes, is now in line to replace longtime food services director Teresa Allen, one of three Sodexo employees whom the district can't rehire because the Sodexo contract makes it cost-prohibitive.

We agree that would look fishy, but Larson-Shidler has been adamant no such move is being contemplated. The hiring of a new food services director, the district has adamantly proclaimed, will be an open process. There's no reason to doubt that.

Meanwhile, some 85 of 88 food-service workers are keeping their jobs. The district plans no cuts in staffing, and would probably rehire the three Sodexo employees, including Allen, if the company would provide contractual relief to do so.

In a frighteningly stagnant economy, a school district already facing a potential \$3 million deficit is duty-bound to look everywhere for possible savings. Looking at programs such as food service, transportation and the like keeps cuts out of the classroom, at least for now.

Finding efficiencies in non-educational areas — even popular, well-run ones like the food service program — vs. forcing educational side effects such as increased class sizes?

Which do the critics find more palatable?

Join the discussion

What do you think about ...?

Have you damaged your car, tires, or rims by hitting a pothole in the past year?

■ Yes

■ No

■ Unsure

Go to hometownlife.com to give us your feedback.

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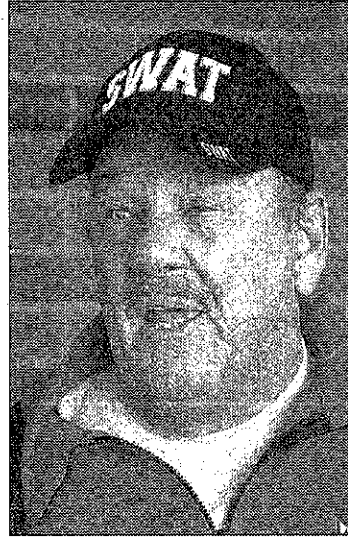
COMMUNITY VOICE

Asked at the Summit on the Park in Canton: Do you think the federal government should keep giving General Motors and Chrysler more money or is there a limit to the bailout loans?



"Everything should have a limit. It's just like your children, the more you give them the more they'll want."

Kim Thrams, 63, Canton



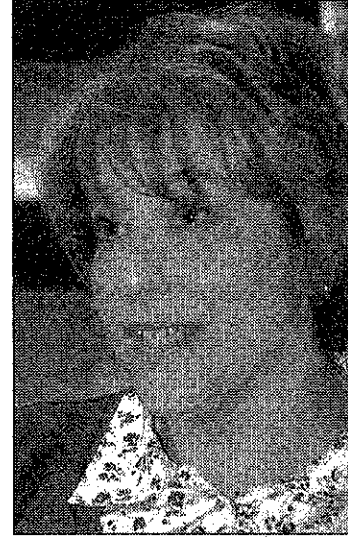
"Give them as much as they need. Right or wrong, if they don't give it to them we might as well get out of town."

Dewey Colbert, 68, Novi



"They shouldn't have an unlimited amount. They need to manage what they've been given so far. The CEOs need to learn to live within that structure."

Bob Mosher, 69, Canton



"I think there should be a limit because we can't keep giving and giving. How about some of the people still taking these wonderful bonuses and making the big bucks, how about they give some back."

Susan Doughty, 54, Canton

LETTERS

TARP won't help

"Yes, We Can" use your money (and your children's and your grandchildren's) to buy your debt, while leaving your balances intact. "Yes, We Can" use catchy marketing terms like "toxic assets" as a disguise for poor business decisions to sell you a bailout for the rich. "Yes, We Can" use your money to pump enough cash into the banks to fund their acquisitions and bonuses with plenty left over to loan out so you can dig yourself further into debt. "Yes, We Can" use this financial crisis to create hundreds of new government regulatory jobs to give you a false sense of security that someone making \$100,000 a year has authority over someone making \$10,000,000 a year. "Yes, We Can" use "trickle down economics" to sell you a trickle down recovery.

The Troubled Assets Relief Program (TARP) is the worst debt consolidation plan in history. It's as though our government is suffering from schizophrenia and can't decide if it's in the public or private sector, functioning like an investment bank and treating taxpayer money as if it's their own. The question needs to be asked if TARP as currently executed is even legal.

"The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States." Funds have not been uniformly distributed, congress has determined which private sector companies succeed and which fail or at minimum will operate with a distinct disadvantage, and the purpose is to regulate the private sector production of loans. United States vs. Butler draws similar parallels to the unconstitutionality of the purpose and execution of the TARP legislation.

Our money buys (pays off) our debt with no benefit to us? We already use our money to buy our debt; it's called a monthly payment. The root cause of this economic crisis is debt, consumer (tax payer) debt in particular. Multiplication of debt is not a solution, it merely delays and magnifies the current crash. Spending to free up the credit market only promotes the growth of this cancer of debt.

It's easy to solve a problem with a difficult solution; it's difficult to solve a problem with an easy solution. An easy, ethical, and legal solution already exists and amazingly it's called Debt Consolidation. Just like every other debt consolidation plan on the market, issue checks payable to both the taxpayer and their respective mortgage bank. The money reaches the desired destination and the taxpayer receives the benefit. Simple, elegant, and regulator-free. It is our money, after all. What better way to invest it than in ourselves?

Tackling the problem from the bottom up and attacking the root cause will absolutely jump start consumer confidence and spending. Banks flush with cash and improved balance sheets get back to the business of lending money to make money. Consumers who now possess real equity, refinance their

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.

reduced debt with fixed rate mortgages at today's lower interest rates avoiding foreclosure and creating hundreds of dollars per month in discretionary spending capital. Consumer demand is the greatest job creator. While we're at it, why don't we call in the loan on the first \$350 billion and redistribute it in the same fashion towards credit card debt?

So who loses in this plan? I shall answer with the words of the Rev. Joseph Lowery, "deliver us from the exploitation of the poor or the least of these and from favoritism toward the rich, the elite of these."

Jim Demarest
Canton

Disgusted with county

As a 30-year resident of western Wayne County, I feel that we all should take a better look at the leadership of Wayne County and its facilities. It appears that several of those in power will be attempting to climb up the political ladder of success and many seem to feel that they are qualified for higher offices.

I recently had the most unpleasant experience of having to visit two of our most notorious pillars of justice; the Wayne County Jail and the Frank Murphy Hall of Justice. I was treated with rudeness, disrespect and incompetence by the deputies and court employees. As a law-abiding citizen all of my life, I left those two facilities wondering why I was treated like a common criminal.

When I attempted to pay a bond that had been posted for a family member who was arrested and incarcerated in the Wayne County Jail for six days, I was subjected to a total disregard of my rights as a citizen and taxpayer. My son was charged as an uncooperative witness, even though he had not received a subpoena to appear, and was incarcerated at the Wayne County facility for several days before anyone there was able to determine what his charges were or where he was located. He did not receive medication for his disability for almost four days, and when a judge, who had been conveniently out of town, finally returned, a reasonable bond was posted for him, but no one was able to handle the paperwork involved.

I was sent at least five or six different times from the courthouse and back across the street to the jail. Each individual I spoke with responded to me in a rude, unprofessional manner, stating that it was not their job to do the paperwork required for bond posting, and they would not take my money. One individual could not find the prisoner's name on the computer system and kept asking me what the charge was. After sitting for five hours in the lobby of that "hell hole" they call the

Wayne County Jail, someone decided to complete the paperwork, and take my money. But not after sending me to a nearby ATM for an additional \$22 charge that they claimed was needed to do the paperwork.

As a 71-year-old lifelong resident of Wayne County and a taxpayer, I am thoroughly disgusted. And to add insult to injury: when the bond was released by the judge a few days later, I was unable to retrieve my money, and was told by the cashier at the courthouse that I would have to wait six to eight weeks for it to be returned to me by mail. I feel the whole system is filled with corruption and incompetence. Since I have been a dedicated member of the Democratic Party all my life and a political activist, I think I may have to change my party affiliation. More change is definitely needed.

Mary Young
Canton

Puzzled with police

I am writing in response to the article, "P-CEP employee charged with stealing money from school," printed in Thursday, Feb. 5th's, edition of the Observer.

Kudos to Canton Township for using resources available to them in order to make an arrest and to plant money in order to catch the person responsible for stealing \$58 from P-CEP and in such a prompt manner as well.

If Canton Township can respond in this manner to a \$58 theft and implement the measures they did in order to catch a thief, I am truly disappointed and confused as to why the Canton Township police did not respond in the same manner to us when we filed report after report, for four malicious destruction of property incidents, and theft from a building, all occurring within a six-month period of time.

These incidents included: slashing of our pool with a knife, resulting in an irreparable 8-inch gash, our house being shot at, resulting in the destruction of a second, newly installed, brand new pool, destruction of our storm door, and security lights. Our rear window of our truck was shot at and destroyed, wires to our house were cut, trespassing, and theft of our personally installed surveillance system (at the suggestion of the Canton Township police,) all resulting in a total amount of about \$1,000 in damages and \$300 worth of property stolen. Is this not considered enough to warrant an investigation?

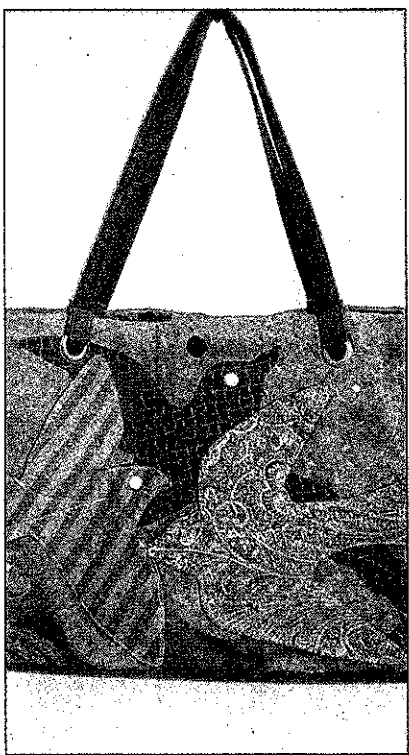
We experienced theft from a building, but it was never considered "larceny from a building" which is the very crime that Deputy Chief Robert Kerr stated as being the cause of Sheila Honeycutt's arraignment. Perhaps laws are different for public vs. private entities. Regardless, it is truly amazing how quickly Canton Township police responded to P-CEP's pleas and was not hesitant in investigating the matter and was able to implement resources to help with their investigation.

Kimberly Nichols
Canton

MALLS & MAINSTREETS

Magic Bag
purse show

Canton handbag designer Michele Kramp will preview her Spring 2009 Magic Bag Lady line, made from recycled fabrics and findings, during a trunk show at Heavenly Metal in Ann Arbor 6-9 p.m. Friday, March 6. Shop for handbags and browse the store's clothing, jewelry and artwork while enjoying wine and hors d'oeuvres at the shop, located at 207 E. Ann St. Call (734) 663-4247, visit www.heavenlymetal.com, or RSVP at themagicbaglady@yahoo.com.



E-mail items for consideration in Malls & Main Streets at least two weeks in advance to Wendy Von Buskirk at wvnb@hometownlife.com.

NEIMAN MARCUS BEAUTY EVENT

TROY — Purchase \$100 or more in cosmetics or fragrance and receive an NM Exclusive tote in pink, turquoise or orange filled with nine colorful treats during The Beauty Event, through March 8. Spend \$1,000 in cosmetics or fragrance and get \$100 off your total purchase on the spot. Visit Neiman Marcus at the Somerset Collection in Troy or online at www.neimanmarcus.com.

ADELE WECHSLER 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 movement. 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 at Silver Garden in Southfield.

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 — Shop for a cause as Parisian hosts Community Day Feb. 28. Purchase a \$5 booklet stocked full of discounts good for that day only, and proceeds from the sale of the coupon books will benefit various local charities. The Bon-Ton Stores, Inc. recently announced over \$10 million was raised for local non-profit organizations and agencies through its 2008 semi-annual Community Day events. Parisian is located at Laurel Park Place in Livonia and The Village of Rochester Hills.

BEAUTY FROM THE INSIDE OUT

ROYAL OAK — The Relationship Institute will stage "Beauty From the Inside Out," a women's workshop on using food, meditation and mind/body integration to enhance natural beauty, 9 a.m.-noon Saturday, Feb. 28. It's three hours with three dynamic women — Kelly Hale, founder/director of Inspired Wellness in Birmingham and Brain Gym instructor; Andrea McNinch, culinary arts educator specializing in raw/vegan foods and founder of Regeneration Raw; and Shirley Bavonese, social worker and founder of the Relationship Institute. Cost is \$45 per person or \$75 for two people attending together. The Relationship Institute is located at 27172 Woodward Ave., Royal Oak. Call (248) 546-0407 or visit www.relationship-institute.com.

PENDLETON TRUNK SHOW

NORTHVILLE — Pendleton in downtown Northville will hold

its Fall 2009 Trunk Show March 4-7. The Pendleton passion for intense color, exceptional fabrics and wearable on-trend style captures the heart of the Fall season. Customers attending the show may view samples and place orders with no obligation — a great opportunity for petite, plus and tall customers. Pendleton is located at 117 N Center St. Call (248) 596-9820 or visit Pendleton Woolen Mills at www.pendleton-usa.com.

WOMEN'S WARE/WOMEN'S WEAR

YPSILANTI — Fashionistas and artists might want to schedule a road trip to see Women's Ware/Women's Wear at the Eastern Michigan University's Ford Gallery through March 25. The exhibit explores women's art in various media including textiles and jewelry. Works by 15 artists use clothing, accessories, broaches, embroidered pillows and button sculptures to reflect feminist themes. An installation explores shopping and its meaning. For more information call (734) 487-1268 or visit <http://www.emich.edu/fordgallery/>.

HERSH'S HOSTS ZELDA TRUNK

WEST BLOOMFIELD — Hersh's will hold its annual ZELDA trunk show with beautifully designed separates for Spring March 12-14. Hersh's is located on The Boardwalk at 6901 Orchard Lake Road in West Bloomfield. Call (248) 626-7776.

WHIMSICAL WEDDING EXPO

ROYAL OAK — Brides-to-be can find a variety of Whimsical Occasions Wedding Expo 1 p.m. Sunday, March 15, at the Royal Oak Music Theatre, 318 W. Fourth St., Royal Oak. For tickets, \$8 advance, \$10 day of show, Call (248) 399-2980 or visit www.whimsicaloccasions.com.



Wendy Von Buskirk, Editor, (313) 222-8883, wvnb@hometownlife.com

Spring fashion is unleashed
at benefit for BBYO

BY WENDY VON BUSKIRK
O & E STAFF WRITER

Times may be tough, but it's still easy to be fashionable.

Just take some cues from Fashion Unleashed, 8:30-10:30 p.m. March 7 at Orchard Mall in West Bloomfield. The annual runway event benefits Michigan Region B'nai B'rith Youth Organization, and BBYO teens model the clothes each year.

This year, they'll be wearing the latest looks from The Shirt Box, Guys 'N Gals and Moosejaw.

Lois Levenson, owner of Guys 'N Gals at the Orchard Mall, will act as emcee.

Levenson has been in business for 33 years, and has lent clothing from her trendy shop to Fashion Unleashed since it began.

Her daughter, Julie Feldman, served as president and treasurer for BBYO as a teen. Now, as co-owner of Guys 'N Gals, she helps to organize the fashion show.

"It's a great organization," said Feldman, who graduated from West Bloomfield High School. "It keeps kids busy and involved in their community, it promotes community service and lets them meet different kids from all over."

Feldman said the outfits she's sending down the catwalk will reflect the bright colors, ruffles and dresses that are in vogue.

"It's all spring and light and fun and airy," she said. "Dresses are huge, so I'll definitely be doing a segment with dresses."

The bohemian look is also hot, Feldman said, and there are many ways to wear it.

"It's 'hippie chic,'" she said. "Maxi dresses, loose fitting tops, maybe with embroidery, little hippie headbands with feathers at the end, long beaded earrings. How cute will all that look on the runway?"

But if a gal can only buy one

FASHION UNLEASHED

What: Runway show featuring clothes from The Shirt Box, Guys 'N Gals and Moosejaw

When: 8:30-10:30 p.m. Saturday, March 7

Where: Orchard Mall, Orchard Lake Road north of Maple, West Bloomfield

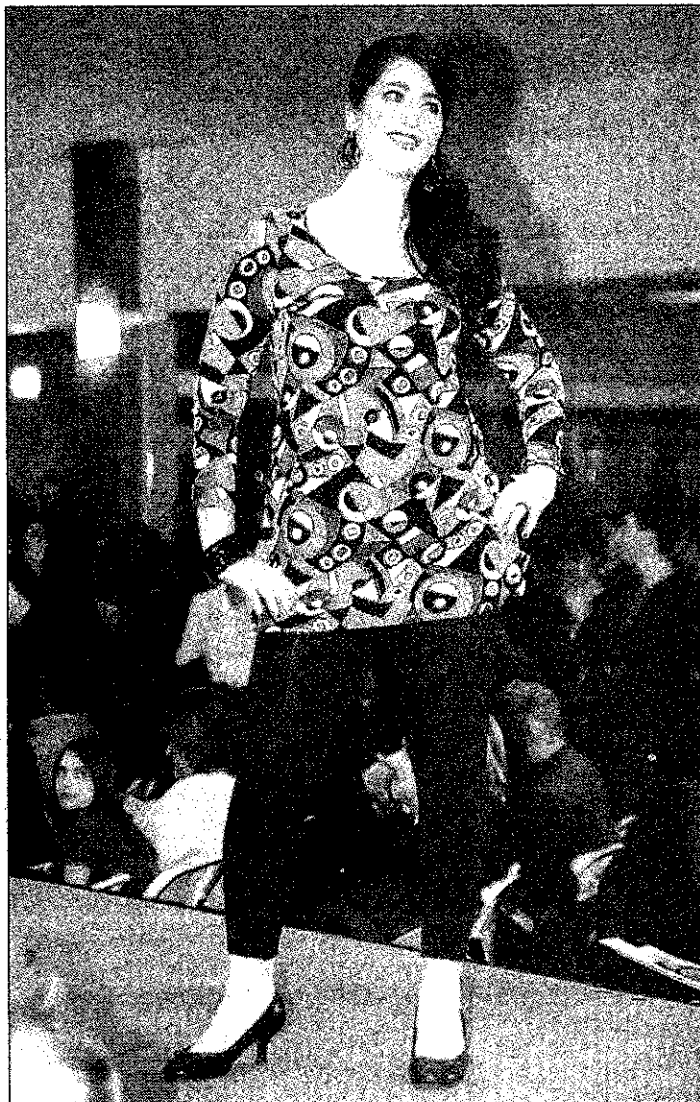
Tickets: \$15; \$10 students; \$250 pre-glow; proceeds benefit Michigan Region B'nai B'rith Youth Organization

item for spring it should be a scarf, Feldman said. Look for lightweight, colorful scarves, with or without fringe.

"That's a great way to update your wardrobe. Throw it on with a dress, or with tank tops and jean shorts or jeans," Feldman said.

Tickets to Fashion Unleashed are \$10 for students; \$15 for general admission; and \$250 for a pre-glow at Tapper's Diamonds and Fine Jewelry with wine and hors d'oeuvres, along with prime seats at the show.

All proceeds benefit Michigan Region BBYO, a non-profit organization that provides leadership training, educational, social, athletic and community service programs for Jewish teenagers from all backgrounds.



Stephanie Horwitz of West Bloomfield, regional president for B'nai B'rith Girls, models clothing from Guys 'N Gals at last year's Fashion Unleashed.

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Exclusive Poster

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INCLUDES EXCLUSIVE POSTER BY WATCHMEN ILLUSTRATOR DAVE GIBBONS

USA WEEKEND MAGAZINE

This Sunday in...

OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC NEWSPAPERS

MIRROR NEWSPAPER

Join us in beautiful Downtown Plymouth

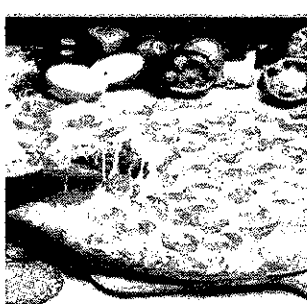


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—Silvia Rector-Detroit Free Press

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"Mmm, good: Fiamma's a gem" -Emiliana Sandoval the Detroit Free Press

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THURSDAY
February 26
2009

SECTION B
(CP)

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

Concerts, theater and more events in Get Out, B7

SPORTS, FILTER, FOOD & WINE

HOMETOWN LIFE



Girl Scout Cookie Gala challenge
- Food & Wine, B8

SALEM 50, LIVONIA FRANKLIN 39



Salem senior forward Tracy Whalen squares up for a jumper during Tuesday night's 50-39 victory over Livonia Franklin in the KLA Association championship game. Whalen finished with 12 points and 12 rebounds.

PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Salem's basketball team poses with the KLA Association championship trophy following Tuesday's 50-39 victory over Livonia Franklin.

Resilient Rocks

Salem overcomes 1-6 start to win title

BY ED WRIGHT
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Early this season, when his 1-6 team was performing as poorly as the economy, Salem girls basketball coach Fred Thomann offered the following stimulus plan to his out-of-sync squad: Let's start playing together.

The Rocks not only bought into the plan, they've executed it to near-perfection.

The ensuing dividends have included 11 wins in 12 games — the latest Tuesday night's 50-39 victory over Livonia Franklin in the Kensington Lakes Activities Association Kensington Conference title game.

Salem will take its 12-7

record into Friday night's KLA Association championship contest against White Lake Lakeland. The opening tip is set for 7 p.m. at Salem.

"When we were 1-6, this group of players said, 'Hey, let's change this thing around,' said Thomann. "They said, 'Let's come together. Let's play as a group. Let's make sure that we don't go out of here leaving something behind."

"And, at this point of time, they haven't left anything behind."

Salem rocked at both ends of the court, shooting 51.5 percent (17-for-33) from the field while forcing the Patriots into a 15-for-48 (31.2 percent)

Please see **ROCKS, B2**

Chiefs' honorees shine in 'Senior Night' victory

BY ED WRIGHT
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

If everything goes as planned, you get fireworks on the Fourth of July, candy on Valentine's Day and at least a few unforgettable senior moments on "Senior Night."

The memorable moments — and a few dazzling fireworks-worthy plays — came at a fast and furious pace Monday night for the Canton basketball team's seniors, whose final home game netted a 62-53 victory over Northville.

Led by Marlan Glenn's 21 points, seniors accounted for all but 13 of the Chiefs' offense.

Dietrich Lever, who unfortunately for KLA Association foes won't be a senior for two more years, added 11 points for the winners.

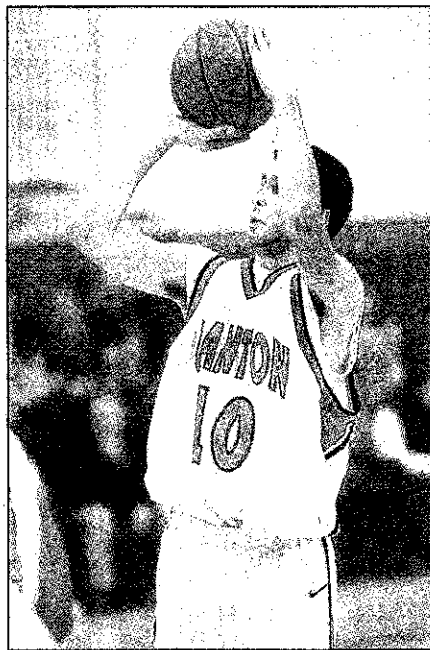
"Senior Night" is big for the guys — they were really fired up," said Canton coach Dan Colligan, whose team improved to 9-8 with the KLA Association triumph. "The seniors commented before the game that they only have one more game on this floor and you could tell they had a special focus tonight. And we also had a good opponent, which is just as important."

For three quarters, it appeared the young but talented opponents may spoil the Chiefs' special night as the Mustangs raced to a 25-22 halftime lead before clinging to a 37-36 advantage after three stanzas.

However, Dietrich Lever's steal-and-layup sequence 15 seconds into the final quarter gave the hosts a lead they would never relinquish.

"I thought we played well in spurts tonight, but we had a few big defensive breakdowns that cost us," said Northville coach Todd Sander, whose squad slipped to 5-12. "Give Canton credit. They made the big shots when they had to and they knocked down open triples when they needed to."

Joining Glenn in the senior spotlight were Sheriff Hassanien, who scored nine points by nailing three of four triple tries;



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

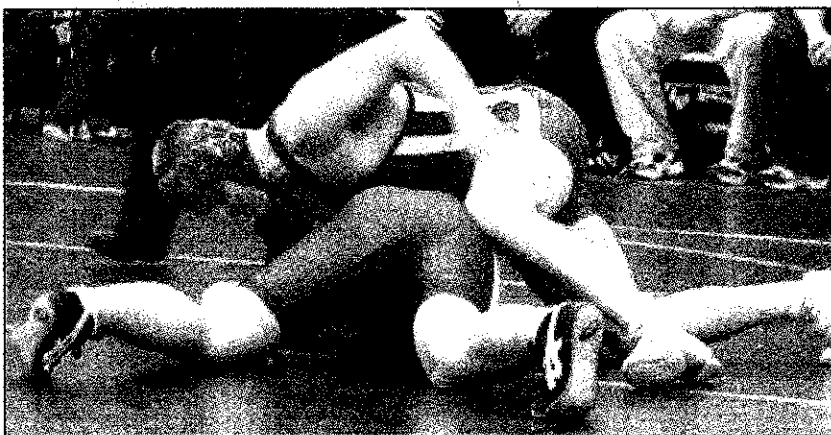
Canton senior Sheriff Hassanien, pictured above in a game earlier this season, scored nine points in the Chiefs' 62-53 "Senior Night" victory over Northville.

Kiere Daniels, who netted seven points, five rebounds and four steals; Kyle Biega, who scored six points, including four clutch free throws down the stretch; Daniel Stoney, who pulled down five boards; and Joey Krizanek, who contributed four points in his first start of the season.

Daniels was the most scintillating senior. The 5-foot-9 spring-loaded forward started the night by winning the opening tip against a player at least four inches taller and he capped it with a highlight-reel baseline drive that resulted in an and-one with 2:47 left.

"I think Kiere might be the best rebounder under 5-10 in the league, without question," said Colligan. "He

Please see **CHIEFS, B2**



BRIAN ABBEY

Salem senior wrestler Sam Lepper has emerged as the team's most consistent winner following some early-career adversity.

Lepper pulls inspiring reversal on adversity

Like a lot of Americans, I'm constantly searching for a dose of inspiration to help offset the gloomy headlines and dismal economic forecasts that greet us like menacing clouds most mornings.

That's why I paid extra close attention to the words of Salem wrestler Sam Lepper during a recent interview I conducted with him in a second-floor Salem classroom, just a stone's throw from the wrestling room where the senior's inspirational story has been written.

While Lepper is not a hero — at least in the police officer/firefighter/Spider-Man sense of the word — his uplifting story of perseverance, resilience and ultimate triumphs can teach us all a thing or two about executing a stunning reversal when adversity seems to have both of our shoulder blades pinned to the mat.

In the beginning ...

Following the urging of a football teammate his freshman year at Salem, Lepper joined the school's



Ed Wright

wrestling team.

He had never stepped on a wrestling mat prior to the Rocks' first practice — and it showed.

At least 35 times that winter — he's not sure of the exact number — Lepper competed in varsity matches in the 160-pound weight class.

And every time each of those 35-plus matches ended, the referee lifted the right arm of Lepper's triumphant opponent.

Lepper went 0-for-the-2005-06 season.

No relief

The grueling practices that fell in between the series of losses weren't trips to Disney World either, Lepper remembered.

"I was usually paired up at practice with Jeremy Epley my freshman

Please see **LEPPER, B2**

GAME WRAPS

Agape cagers triumph

The Canton Agape girls basketball team used a 13-4 third-quarter run to register a 52-36 victory over Mt. Carmel Tuesday night.

"We played a sloppy first half and only led by two at halftime," lamented Agape coach Dan DeWitt. "But the girls came out and played very well during the third quarter."

Madison Miller had a stellar game at both ends of the court for the Wolverines as she notched 10 points and six steals. Brooke Purcell also played well, notching 14 points and 12 boards.

Whalers triumph

After winning Friday in Sarnia and losing Saturday to Erie, the Plymouth Whalers — challenging the Guelph Storm for home-ice advantage in the first round of the Ontario Hockey League playoffs — defeated Saginaw, 4-1, before 2,421 Sunday afternoon at Compuware Arena. The victory improved Plymouth to 31-23-5-0.

Veteran Matt Caria assisted on all four Plymouth goals and goaltender Matt Hackett rebounded from being lifted in the first period in a 7-4 loss to Erie with 30 saves as the game's first star. Tyler Seguin (16), Ryan Hayes (23), Chris Terry (team-leading 34th) and Kaine Geldart (10th) scored for Plymouth. Jack Combs (28th) scored the lone Saginaw goal.

The Whalers scored the only goal of the first period and it came in transition when Caria hit Chris Terry with a pass on the left wing in the Saginaw zone and he found Seguin skating hard to the front of the goal. Terry threaded the puck from the left circle out in front to Seguin, who made no mistake in directing the shot past Saginaw goaltender Edward Pasquale at 3:20.

Plymouth took a 2-0 lead at 6:57 of the second period with the teams skating four-on-four. Whalers defenseman Beau Schmitz lifted a shot from the right point that was directed by Ryan Hayes from the right circle past Pasquale.

MU lady cagers win

Erin Bentley finished with a team-high 14 points, including a key triple with 25 seconds remaining Saturday to give host Madonna University (14-16, 9-5) a 57-55 Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference win over the University of Michigan-Dearborn (16-12, 3-11).

Seniors Christie Carrico and Alysa Guerin (Salem), both playing in their final home games, finished with 10 and eight points, respectively.

Kim Olech (Plymouth) added nine points and 15 rebounds.

Chanel Bridges paced the Wolves with 12 points and 16 rebounds. Yvonne Hamood added 12 points and eight rebounds, while Katie Roberts scored 11 points.

The Crusaders, seeded fourth, open the WHAC playoffs beginning at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday at home against Siena Heights (11-19).

CHIEFS

FROM PAGE B1

played at a high level tonight and we definitely fed off his energy."

Northville was led by sophomore Andrew Baldwin's 18 points and junior Tim Hasse's 13. Baldwin connected on seven of his first nine shots despite playing with a broken nose that he suffered in a triple-overtime victory over Salem earlier this month.

"Andrew does a lot of things for this team that don't show up on the score sheet," said Sander. "We count on him to make a lot of big decisions. Tonight, he kept us in it with his shooting."

Scott Wagner — one of just two seniors on the Northville roster — added eight points while sophomore Bryce Groshek chipped in with seven.

Canton hit half of its 42 field-goal attempts and 12 of 15 free throws (80 percent).

Northville shot 44.1 percent from the field (19 for 43) and 88.8 percent from the line.

NOVI 52, PLYMOUTH 45: On Monday at Plymouth, the green-clad Wildcats ruined the host Wildcats' Senior Night by draining 10 shots from beyond the arc.

"We played well defensively and we did a nice job of executing our offense by powering the ball into the post," said Plymouth coach Tom Van Wagoner. "But even though we got a lot of shots from close range, we only went to the line nine times."

Sophomore Brennen Beyer led the Wildcats with 18 points and 10 rebounds. Fellow 10th-

grader Justin Moss contributed 13 points and 10 boards to the 'Cats' cause.

Chris Bellamy lit up the scoreboard for Novi, registering a game-high 21 points — 12 the result of four triples.

Brandon Rydzewski also sparked for the winners, hitting four threes for 12 points.

Plymouth's fifth straight setback dropped its record to 8-9. Novi improved to 14-3.

"We started four of our five seniors tonight (the Wildcats' fifth senior, Brad Lineberry, was sidelined with an injury), and they played pretty evenly with Novi for the first four minutes," said Van Wagoner. "With the game tied late in the first half, we had the ball, but they got a steal and ended up scoring five points out of nowhere to take a 30-25 lead at the half."

Novi led 41-38 entering the final quarter.

Senior Cliff Buttermore added seven points for Plymouth.

The hosts canned 5 of 9 free throws while Novi was 6 for 13 from the charity stripe.

SALEM 58, FRANKLIN 53: Senior guard Joe Posler scored 20 of his game-high 24 points in the first half Monday as the visiting Rocks (7-10) held off a late Livonia Franklin (6-11) rally for a KLAAC crossover victory.

Salem led 35-23 at intermission before the Patriots made a game of it in the second half.

Junior guard Charles Williams added 11 points for Salem.

Connor Leidal, a senior forward, tallied 15 for the Patriots, while Jeff Poole, Jack Chinivare and Andy McCaffery added nine apiece.

LEPPER

FROM PAGE B1

year because he wrestled 152 and I was 160," Lepper reflected. "Well, Epley (who placed third in the state his senior year) beat the crap out of me in practice pretty much every day. But every day I wrestled him, I got a little bit better, a little bit stronger."

Personally, if I had a 35-match losing streak in anything — backgammon, shuffleboard, rock-paper-scissors — I'm moving on to something else, especially if I was being humbled in the activity on a daily basis at practice.

But that's why this story is about Lepper, not me.

Learning from adversity

"The two most important things I learned that first year," Lepper offered, "were that wrestling was hard and that you have to keep going at it."

"I learned that even if you don't win any matches, you can still help your team win. There were a couple times we won because I didn't get pinned, so the other team only got three points instead of six."

Instead of letting defeat get the best of him, Lepper used it as a motivating force to get better.

Tasting victory — at last

Buoyed by a supportive coaching staff and always-encouraging teammates, Lepper slowly started to turn the corner the following winter.

"At the beginning of my sophomore season, I was still losing — the same things were happening," he said. "But Wo (Salem wrestling coach Greg Woohuk) always told us not to worry about winning and that it was a byproduct of hard work."

Thanks to a workout regimen that would make an iron worker cringe — hourlong, pre-school practices that started at 5:30 a.m., to name one thing — Lepper finished his sophomore season with a winning record.

Last year, as a junior, he finished 26-13.

And this season, Sam Lepper — who three short years ago had a better shot at winning the lottery than he did a wrestling match — is 36-6 heading into Saturday's Division 1 Individual Regional tournament.

Through 'sick' and thin

Lepper's incredible mental toughness was exposed earlier this month during a match against Northville that he won, 13-3, despite battling a wicked flu bug.

Seconds after the final buzzer, he briskly walked off the mat, then bent over a waiting waste basket that caught the results of the nausea Lepper had somehow fought off throughout the six-minute match.

"A lot of the kids Sam wrestles may have better technical skills, but few of them have Sam's heart or Sam's dedication," said Woohuk.

"He's not one of those kids who beats his chest before he steps on the mat. But once he steps on the colors, he's focused in and it's go time. He doesn't let down until someone is getting their arm raised."

While it's obvious Woohuk is proud of Lepper's on-the-mat accomplishments, the pride in his senior who has come so far spreads much further than the wrestling room.

"Sam's success on the mat has also taken to other parts of his life," Woohuk said. "Like a lot of kids who come through our program, he's learned that he can take the same kind of effort he uses in wrestling and apply it to the classroom, his social life, his family life."

Inspiring indeed

On Saturday at Woodhaven High School, the odds are favorable that Sam Lepper — the kid who once went 0-for-an-entire-season — will earn a trip to the Division 1 state meet.

Now, I don't know about you, but for me, that's enough inspiration to offset an entire month's worth of gloomy economic forecasts.

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

ROCKS

FROM PAGE B1

shooting night.

Senior post players Chelsea Davis (17 points and nine rebounds) and Tracy Whalen (12 points and 12 boards) led the winners' onslaught. Junior guards Sara Stone and Brett de Bear added 11 and five points, respectively.

"When we were 1-6, I'm not sure we expected things to turn out like this," admitted a smiling Whalen, a few seconds after admiring her team's newest trophy. "But we did know that we'd come together eventually."

A transfer from Farmington Hills Mercy, it took Whalen a while to adjust to her new teammates — and vice versa.

"They've all been playing together for three or four years, so, yeah, it was tough at the beginning joining an established team," she said. "But I've gotten more comfortable as the year has gone on."

She looked as comfortable as Thomann has ever seen her Tuesday night.

"That's the best game Tracy has played this season," said Thomann. "She rebounded, defended and scored. She was awesome tonight."

"I thought Chelsea did a fabulous job, too, and our three perimeter players (Stone, de Bear and Victoria Brotz) did a nice job of helping on the twins."

The twins Thomann made reference to were Franklin senior dynamos Brianna and Brittany Taylor, who scored 13 and 10 points, respectively. Sophomore guard Chelsea Williams also played well, scoring eight.

The Patriots' biggest downfall was their performance at the free-throw line, where they connected on just 8 of 19 attempts (42 percent).

"It was a hard-fought basketball game," said Franklin coach Dave McCall. "We've been a good free-throw shooting team this season, but that's what let us down tonight. We missed our free throws and they made theirs."

"Plus, Salem made fewer mental errors than we did. That's what it boiled down to."

The game was knotted at 18-all at the half before Salem reeled off an 11-4 run to start the third and seize a short-lived 29-22 advantage.

Sparked by an inspired defensive effort, the Patriots closed their deficit to 33-32 with 5:31 to play on a steal-and-layup sequence by Brianna Taylor. However, Brotz drained a pair of free throws with 4:47 left, Whalen hit a jumper 37 seconds later and Davis drilled two freebies on the Rocks' next possession and, just like that, Salem's lead had expanded to 39-32.

The Rocks knocked down seven free throws during the final 94 seconds to seal the win.

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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 appear 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. 253 or 252.
Linda J. Langmesser, CMC
City Clerk
Publish: February 12, 19 and 26, 2009

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 2009
REQUEST TO ESTABLISH AN INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT FOR ONE PARCEL OF PROPERTY LOCATED AT 15090 BECK ROAD STARDOCK SYSTEMS, INC.
PLEASE TAKE NOTE: that a request from Stardock Systems, Inc., 15090 Beck Road, was received by the Charter Township of Plymouth requesting that an Industrial Development District be established, under Public Act 198, 1974, as amended. Public Act 198, requires that the Board of Trustees hold a Public Hearing on the establishment of an Industrial Development District at which the owners of properties within the proposed district and residents and taxpayers of Plymouth Township shall have the right to appear and be heard. Written comments, submitted prior to the March 10, meeting will also be accepted.
TAKE NOTE that the Public Hearing will be held on Tuesday, March 10, 2009, commencing at 7:00 p.m., in the Town Hall at Plymouth Township Municipal Offices, 9955 N. Haggerty Road, Plymouth, Wayne County, Michigan 48170. Phone Number (734) 354-3224.
LEGAL DESCRIPTION
Units 1, 2, 5, 6, and 7, Becktech Condominium, according to the Master Deed thereof, as recorded in Liber 42029, pages 82 through 153, Wayne County records, and any amendments thereto and designated as Wayne County Condominium Subdivision Plan No. 823, together with rights in general common elements and limited common elements as set forth in said Master Deed and as described in Act 59 of the Public Acts of 1978, as amended.
Joe Bridgman, CMC
Clerk, Charter Township of Plymouth
Publish: February 26, 2009

Chiefs' stiff defense cages Lions, 40-35

BY ED WRIGHT
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Canton's girls basketball team took care of business Tuesday night — despite carrying around the disappointment of being left out of Tuesday's KLAA Kensington Conference title game.

The Chiefs, ranked sixth in the state in Class A, registered an impressive 40-35 road win over South Lyon to improve their record to 17-2.

Canton tied Livonia Franklin for first in the KLAA's South Division, but drew the short straw in the league's complicated tie-breaking formula, thus, the Patriots played Salem for the conference title.

Kayla Bridges paced the Chiefs with 10 points, including four in the crucial fourth-quarter when Canton held off a furious Lion rally.

Kari and Sara Schmitt both added nine points while CarolAnn Sexauer chipped in with six.

South Lyon was led by Kristin Short's 13.

"Kayla made a couple key baskets down the stretch after (Robyn) Mack was able to break down their defense," said Canton coach Brian Samulski. "Melanie Pickert added a big steal and free throws to seal it. "South Lyon has a solid team. They have two good sophomore guards. The key was we held their best player (Danielle Gotham) to four points."

Canton led 23-16 at the half and 30-25 with eight minutes to play. The Lions chiseled their deficit to two points late, but the resilient Chiefs hung on.

Canton made 16 of 23 free throws (69.5 percent) while the hosts drained 11 of 15 shots (73.3) from the charity stripe.

Canton will host either Howell or Walled Lake

CLASS A DISTRICT BRACKETS

All three P-CEP girls basketball teams will be participating in next week's Class A District tournament, which will be hosted by Livonia Ladywood High School. Following is the District tournament schedule:

Monday, March 2: (Game 1) Plymouth vs. Northville, 6 p.m.; (Game 2) Salem vs. Ladywood, 7:30 p.m.;
Wednesday, March 4: Novi vs. Game 1 winner, 6 p.m.; Canton vs. Game 2 winner, 7:30 p.m.;
Friday, March 6: Championship game, 7 p.m.

GIRLS PREP HOOP

Western in its regular-season finale on Friday night. The opening tip is set for 7 p.m.

NOVI 43, PLYMOUTH 30: On Tuesday at Novi, the hosts built a 24-15 halftime lead and never trailed in the second half.

Stacey Klonowski led Plymouth with 12 points while Shaakira Haywood added seven.

Caroline Johnston paced the winners with 10. Alyssa Almek added nine.

"We were done in by unforced turnovers and our inability to get into our offensive sets," said Plymouth coach Ted Sturdivant, whose team slipped to 7-12. "It was a good, competitive game for the most part. They just wore us down at the end."

Novi extended its lead to 34-20 after three quarters.

Plymouth was hampered by 8-of-17 free-throw shooting. Novi drained 6 of 10 from the stripe.

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Current Chief, future Laker

Canton senior two-sport standout Sarah Thomas (seated) recently signed a letter of intent to run cross country and track for Grand Valley State University. Also pictured are (standing from left) Canton cross country coach Eric Pahl, assistant coach Tracy Haratsaris and Thomas' parents, Donna and Tim.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Rock kickers UDM-bound

Salem soccer players Jace Bearden and Jeremy Stoychoff have signed letters of intent to play collegiate soccer for the University of Detroit-Mercy.

In addition to excelling for the Rocks' state-ranked soccer team, Bearden has also elevated for the Salem boys track team, qualifying for the Division 1 state meet in the high jump last spring as a junior.

He drew interest from several colleges for both sports, but opted to play soccer. Stoychoff was a three-year contributor for the Rocks' soccer team this past fall when it was ranked No. 1 in Division 1 for most of the season.

He served as a captain and mid-fielder.

Whalers' blood drive

Individuals who support the Red Cross blood drive March 6 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. will receive two free tickets to the Plymouth Whalers' game that night against Windsor.

Interested donors can register online at <http://www.plymouth-whalers.com/blooddrive.html>.

Former Whalers standout Jared Boll is scheduled to appear.

Canton Lions registration

The Canton Lions junior football organization is accepting veteran football and cheerleading registrations through Feb. 28. Beginning March 1, new player registration will begin.

Anyone interested in signing up or looking for additional information, should visit <http://www.eteamz.com/cantonlions/index.cfm>.

Mustang icers topple Salem to net first KLAA conference title

BY ED WRIGHT
RECORD STAFF WRITER

It's officially hunting season for Michigan high school hockey teams — a three-week period when the state's elite squads take aim at some much-coveted trophies.

And, not surprisingly, the team whose uniforms include hunter's orange trim is off to a blazing start.

On Saturday at the Novi Ice Arena, Northville overwhelmed Salem, 5-0, to capture the Kensington Lakes Activities Association's Kensington Conference title.

The victory improved the Mustangs, ranked No. 2 in Division 1, to 17-3-3 and propelled them into Friday's KLAA Association championship showdown against state-ranked Brighton.

The title game is at 7 p.m. at the Novi Ice Arena.

The Mustangs set the groundwork for the win by securing a 2-0 first-period lead while outshooting the Rocks, 17-5.

"The No. 1 thing we've been focusing on is playing three complete periods, which is something we've done our last two games," Northville coach Clint Robert said. "A lot of times this season, we've played well in two of the three periods, but Saturday the guys stayed focused from beginning to end."

"This was a nice win because Salem has been one of the five hottest teams in the state the past month. They're a very fast team that has proven they belonged in this game."

The contest remained scoreless for the first 11:40 thanks to a pair of stellar saves by Salem netminder Adam

Powers, who denied Alex Brewin of a breakaway goal at the 6:15 mark before stuffing Jake Atkinson's effort from the doorstep 46 seconds later.

The Mustangs eventually solved Powers with a pair of late first-period lamp-lighters, the first coming when Wesley Gates lased a slap shot over Powers' right shoulder from the top of the left faceoff circle.

Joey Close doubled his team's lead with 1:41 left in the period when he scored off assists from Matt Kreager and Gates.

Northville senior goalie Ted Keranen's 18-save shutout was highlighted by a glove save of a Sam Ott rocket 2:10 into the second period.

Salem's Nick Hayes barely missed cutting his team's deficit in half, but his wrist from in front of the net slid wide by less than a foot.

The Mustangs extended their lead to 3-0 with 8:21 left in the second when Steve Prince scored after securing a slick pass in front by Brewin.

Northville's defense rose to the occasion less than a minute late when it killed a Salem two-man advantage situation that lasted 72 seconds.

Northville all but sealed the win with 2:39 left in the period when Matt Kreager banged home a rebound shot past Powers. Kreager's goal was assisted by Gates.

The Mustangs' final goal came with 7:15 left to play when Alex Belanger scored off assists from Matt Dembicki and Greg Taylor.

The Mustangs outshot Salem, 37-18.

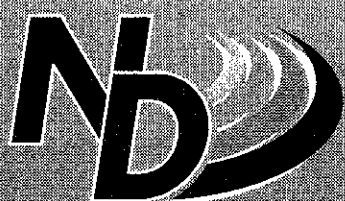
The loss dropped the Rocks to 12-8-3.

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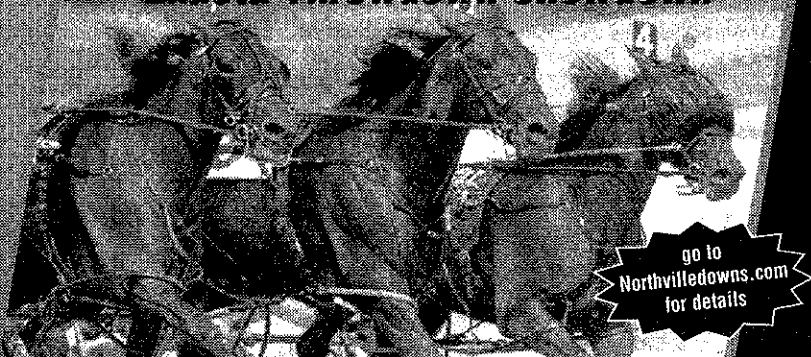
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<p>0001-2450 Home & Service Housecleaning (1080) LIGHT HOUSEKEEPING AND ERRANDS Call Jan 248-425-9250</p>	<p>3000-3800 Real Estate For Sale Mobile Homes (3750) WESTLAND - New carpeting throughout, freshly painted. 3 bdrm, 2 bath, C/A, fridge, washer/dryer, dishwasher, disposal, gas furnace/stove, storage shed, large deck-partially covered, 2 car parking. At Westland Meadows. Avail now, \$12,000. (734) 595-7535</p>	<p>4000-4900 Real Estate For Lease Apartments/Unfurnished (4000) GARDEN CITY - 1 Bdrm. apt. newly updated. \$540/mo. Heat & water included. Ask about our specials! (734) 516-5088</p>	<p>Condos/Townhouses (4020) BIRMINGHAM - DOWNTOWN 2 bdrm townhouse, 1.5 bath, hardwood floors, a/c, bsmt, washer/dryer. No pets, non-smoking. \$1100/mo. 248-901-0425 FARMINGTON HILLS 2 bdrm, wooded view, pool, patio, all appliances, a/c. \$795/mo. incl. heat + water. 248-539-0534</p>	<p>Homes For Rent (4050) LIVONIA 3 bdrm., 1 full bath, 1000 sq. ft., appliances. lg. backyard. \$950/mo. (248) 342-0314 NOVI, MI 3 bdrms, 2 baths. Shared beach & dock on Walled Lake, 1 block away. \$1100. 248-302-3986 REDFORD - 16355 DIXIE 3 bdrm, 2 bath, full bsmt, all appliances, hardwood floors, \$895/mo. (248) 669-5265 REDFORD 3 bdrms, full bsmt, fenced in yard. Appliances included, non-smoker. \$825 plus security. 616-292-9410 REDFORD Lg. 3 bdrm, 2 bath, attached gar., full bsmt, all new, double lot. \$1000/mo. 248-535-2300</p>	<p>Homes For Rent (4050) WESTLAND 1200 sq. ft., 3 bdrm, 1.5 bath, finished bsmt, fenced yard, newly remodeled. \$1150/mo. + 1st & last months rent. 734-344-2221 WESTLAND 3 bdrm ranch. Finished bsmt, attached garage, fenced yard. Close to schools, nice area. \$875. 248-425-0200 WESTLAND Just remodeled ranch style duplex. 2 bdrm, full bsmt, all appl., rent negotiable. 734-335-7365 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</p>	<p>5000-5900 Employment Business Opportunities (6740) AWESOME OPPORTUNITY Get paid to use your cell phone! 800-391-3103. Free 2 minute call. Call Emma 248-202-5101</p>	<p>6000-6900 Announcements LOOK HERE (6360) LOST WEDDING BAND & ENGAGEMENT RING Possibly lost at Troy Community Center. Generous Reward. 248-647-3816</p>	<p>7000-7700 Merchandise 7100 Estate Sales (7100) FARMINGTON HILLS, Feb 26-28, 9-5. 35165 Hillside Dr., E off Drake, N of Grand River. Thomasville entertainment center, 5 piece. Dixie bdrm set-king size, exquisite merchandise throughout. Pcs: estatesales.net ESTATE SALES PLUS (248) 674-7340</p>
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THERESA M. ANTCHAK

Age 85. Of Farmington Hills, MI. Passed away February 8, 2009. Arrangements by THAYER-ROCK Funeral Home, Farmington, MI.



PENLOPE S. AVESIAN

February 24, 2009. Age 61. Beloved wife of Paul. Dear mother of Berge, Rachel Rabadoux (Jason) and Katie. Sister of Sam Halkias (Carol). Memorial service Friday 11 a.m. at Highland Park Baptist Church, 28600 Lahser Rd. (south of Twelve Mile), Southfield. Memorial tributes to the LUNGevity Foundation, Penelope Avesian Memorial Fund, 435 N. LaSalle St., Ste 310, Chicago, IL 60654 or Detroit Country Day Friends of the Arts Association, 22305 W. Thirteen Mile Rd., Beverly Hills, MI 48025. A.J. Desmond & Sons (248) 549-0500. View obituary and share memories at www.DesmondFuneralHome.com

CHERYL A. BELL

February 22, 2009. Beloved wife of Robert. Dear mother of Robert (Jennifer), Chris (Elaine), Heather Tuggle, Sean (Brandy). Daughter of the late Michael and Pauline Jarvis. Loving grandmother of Bobby, Katie, Allie, Evan, Emily, Trysten, Lydia, Skylar, Megan, Shelby, Alexis, Erik, Ryan and Alicia. Sister of Paul, Sue, Jeanne, Pam, Michael, Patrick and the late Larry. Visitation was at O'Brien/Sullivan Funeral Home, 41555 Grand River Novi Tuesday 2-9 p.m. Funeral was Wednesday 2:00 p.m. On-line sympathy message www.obriensullivanfuneralhome.com

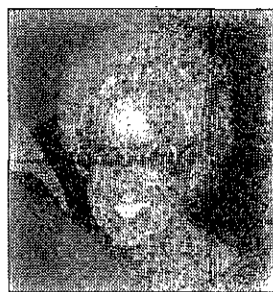
WILLIAM P. BENTON

Age 85, of Bloomfield Hills. Died Feb 19, 2009 of cancer. He was born Nov 4, 1923 in Laurinburg, NC. He is survived by his wife Blanche, daughters Barbara Benton, Roxanne Darling, and her partner Shane Robinson, Judy Dennis & her husband Mike Dennis, Nancy Lievois & her husband Jim Lievois, and grandchildren Carlisle, Annie, and Christina Dennis, and Jordan and Tyler Lievois. The funeral service will be at St. Hugo of the Hills Church in Bloomfield Hills, MI on Sat., Mar. 21, 2009 at 11 a.m. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Henry Ford Hospital, Schepens Eye Clinic, Hospice of Palm Beach County or the Multiple Sclerosis Society. Mr. Benton was a well-known and loved automotive executive. For more information please visit www.williampbenton.com.

May You
Find
Comfort in
Family &
Friends

RAYMOND MORRIS COLE

Age 78, of Twin Lake. Passed away Saturday, February 21, 2009 at a Muskegon hospital. He was born October 20, 1930 in Gary, Indiana to Hubert and Luella (Carey) Cole and he spent the majority of his childhood in Hatboro, PA. Mr. Cole earned a Bachelors degree from Purdue University and a Masters degree from Penn State. He was formerly employed as a mechanical research engineer for General Motors. Ray enjoyed scenic road trips, logging thousands of miles across the United States. He was an avid collector of antique pattern glass, stamps, and anything "Disney". He was a published photographer, model airplane enthusiast, with his happiest times being when he was surrounded by mountains and deserts. Survivors include three daughters: Karen (Bill) Tombs of Grand Haven, Debbie (Jamie) Jones, Lisa (Jason) Hubbard, both of Rochester, MI, and their mother, Betty Jane Cole; six grandchildren: Kimberly (Jason) Rykse, Jesse Tombs, Cole Jones, Carly Jones, Mallory Hubbard, and McKenna Hubbard; and two great-grandchildren, Hailey and Maddox Rykse. He was preceded in death by his parents, a brother, Robert Cole and his step-father, Morris Todd. A memorial service will be held at 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 28, 2009 at the Potere-Modetz Funeral Home, 339 Walnut Blvd., Rochester, MI 48307. In lieu of flowers, please consider memorials to the Arthritis Foundation. Share memories with the family at their online guestbook.com www.modetzfuneralhomes.com



BERTHA ELAINE "SWEETIE" DANAJ (nee McDONOUGH)

Age 80, of Petoskey, a woman of extraordinary faith, died February 7, 2009, surrounded by her children. She was born January 11, 1929, on Beaver Island, the daughter of William Patrick and Sophia Regina (Haugen) McDonough. She married the late Thaddeus Edward Danaj on June 28, 1952, and celebrated almost 54 years of marriage before his passing in 2006. They made their home in Detroit and later in Westland. She came to the Detroit area as a high school graduate. She did secretarial work and was a nanny for the children of a dentist. On a return visit to Beaver Island, she met her future husband, Ted, who was also visiting relatives on Beaver Island. They continued their courtship in Detroit with him properly calling on her at the Evangeline, a boarding house for single, young ladies. They started their family immediately after they were married and Bertha remained home raising her young children. In 1967, she began working for Deluxe Check Printers and retired from there in 1987, making many lifelong friends during that time. Bertha and Ted traveled for many years to Las Vegas to escape the Michigan winters. In recent years, they returned to northern Michigan and made their home in Petoskey. Bertha was a member of St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church. She faced the physical challenges of the final 8 1/2 years of her life with grace, humor and wit, as her husband lovingly tended to all her needs. She is survived by her children, Pamela (Gary) Malo of Livonia, Lawrence (Becky) of Livonia, Timothy (Lorraine) of Alpharetta, Georgia, Susan (William) Wright of Lake Leelanau, Beth (Thomas) Burke of Petoskey, twenty grandchildren, sisters Mary Ellen Monachino of New York, Charlotte (Richard) Sanderson of Florida and brother Anthony (Mardee) McDonough of Australia. She was preceded in death by her husband, infant son Kenneth, infant granddaughter Brandee Danaj, brothers Glen and Kenneth. Internment at St. Mary's Cemetery in Charlevoix.

Paying
Tribute
to the
Life of
Your
Loved One

CAROLINE M. DeBRINCAT

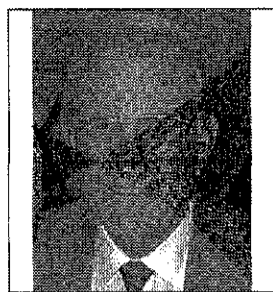
Age 91. Of Farmington, MI. February 21, 2009. Arrangements by THAYER-ROCK Funeral Home, Farmington.

ELIZABETH DELANEY

Age 86, of Ann Arbor. Passed away February 21, 2009. She is survived by her children, Cornelia (Phil) Johnson, Stuart (Beth), and Barbara Delaney; her grandchildren, J.C. and William Johnson, and Sean and Cara Delaney; her sisters, Janet Phylle and Barbara Hart; and many nieces and nephews. Memorial service at First Presbyterian Church, 701 Church St., Plymouth, Saturday, February 28, 11 a.m. Memorial visitation at Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 280 S. Main St., Plymouth, Friday 3-9 p.m. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Plymouth Community Band or the Plymouth Community Arts Council. Share memories at schrader-howell.com.

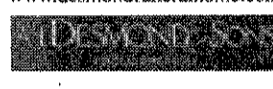
MAJOR LAWRENCE EDWARD HOPP

Age 86. Passed away on Saturday, February 21, 2009 at Indian Creek Healthcare Center in Corydon, IN. He was born in Rochester, MI on January 2, 1923. The son of Albert and Viola Demming Hopp. He was a retired Air Force Veteran and he served during the WWII, Korea and Vietnam eras. He is survived by two sons, Thomas Hopp of Greenville, IN and Lawrence Edward Hopp, Jr. of Trenton, MI; one daughter, Marilyn Muth of Hanover, Ontario, CA; a brother, Richard Albert Hopp of Venice, FL; four grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. A Memorial will be held at the Gehlbach & Royse Funeral Home in Corydon, IN on Saturday, February 28, 2009 at 1:00 p.m. Visitation will be held at the funeral home on Saturday from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m.



RICHARD W. JOHNSON

February 23, 2009. Age 85, of Bloomfield Hills. Proud veteran US Army WWII. Retired design engineer, Ford Motor Co. Beloved husband of the late Ruthann. Dear father of Alan Johnson (Patricia), Susan Johnson, James (Deborah), Carol Burke (Terry) Judy Johnson (Bruce Weigman) and Melinda Smith (Robert). He was devoted to his 11 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren. Family will receive friends at A.J. Desmond & Sons (Vasu, Rodgers & Connell Chapel), 32515 Woodward (bwn 13-14 Mile), Thursday 5-8 p.m. and Friday 10 a.m. until funeral service 11:30 a.m. Memorial tributes to New Horizons Rehabilitation Services, 1814 Pond Run, Auburn Hills, MI 48326. View obituary and share memories at www.desmondfuneralhome.com



DEBRA LYNN KINE

Age 52, of Traverse City. Died Saturday, February 21, 2009 at Bortz Heath Care following a valiant battle with multiple melanoma. Born on Sunday, April 22, 1956 in Plymouth, Debra was the daughter of Robert and Shirley Gayle (Thompson) Kine. The family resided in Dearborn and later moved to Traverse City where Deb graduated from Traverse City Central in 1973. Known to her family and many friends as Deb, she had been employed for 13 years at Munson Medical Center as a CSR for the laboratory send out department. She loved to read, sail and loved the color purple. She loved her dog Jazzmine, but the joy of her life was her son and grandchildren. Deb is survived by her son, Nathan (Sarah Hansen) Kine of Buckley, her grandchildren, Logan and Nolan Hansen and Allanna and Ashlynn Kine; her father, Robert Kine of Traverse City; her sister, Sheryl (Mark) Irving of Maple City; her brothers, Dale W. (Carol) Kine of Traverse City and Jon (Wendy Matthews) Kine of Interlochen. Many cousins, nieces, nephews and friends also survive. Deb was preceded in death by her mom, Gayle and sister Paula. Visitation will take place at the Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home 305 Sixth St., Traverse City, on Thursday, February 26 from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. A celebration of Deb's life will take place on Friday, February 27 at 1 p.m. also at the funeral home, with Pastor Ted Smith officiating. For those desiring to remember Deb through a memorial contribution, the family suggests Hospice of Michigan or the American Cancer Society. You may share your condolences and memories of Deb with her family at her on line guest book at www.reynolds-jonkhoff.com.

EVELYN JEAN KINNEY (RYSKA)

Age 77. Of Sedona, Arizona. Died suddenly February 19, 2009 after a brief illness. Born in Brownsville, PA February 13, 1932 to John and Julia (Thomas) Ryska. Evelyn resided in Michigan prior to retiring to Sedona in 2003. She was actively engaged as a court reporter for over 50 years. Evelyn enjoyed skiing, traveling, and was a talented designer and decorator. She leaves her devoted and loving husband of 25 years, Bruce M. Kinney of Sedona, a sister Patricia Boczenowski (Ryska) and her husband John Boczenowski of Framingham, Massachusetts, and nephews Derek, David, and Brian Boczenowski. Funeral arrangements were conducted by Greer's Mortuary of Sedona. Funeral Service was conducted at St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Sedona. Burial was at Green Acres in Scottsdale, AZ. Donations in Evelyn's memory may be made to the American Heart Association.

MARJORIE A. MILLER (nee BROWN)

Age 82, February 21, 2009. Of Beverly Hills, MI. Beloved wife of 58 years of George L. Miller. Loving mother of Laura L. Miller and son, Lindsay B. (Elaine) Miller of Dallas, TX. Marjorie was born June 21, 1926, to Harold M. Brown Sr. and Gladys (Baldwin) in Royal Oak, MI. Proud grandmother of Brian Miller. Sister of Harold M. (Betty) Brown of Rochester Hills, MI. Also survived by many loving family and friends. A Memorial Service will be held in March at Nativity Episcopal Church, 21220 W. 14 Mile Rd. (east of Lahser), Bloomfield Twp., MI. Please sign Marjorie's online guest-book at www.cremationmichigan.com



DONALD A. SCHARCHBURG

Age 101, February 21, 2009. Beloved husband of Eleanor for 69 years. Loving father of Martha (Bruce Beyer) Scharchburg, Dear grandfather of Cameron. A Funeral Service was held on Wednesday at the R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home in Livonia. Memorial contributions may be directed to St. Joseph Mercy Hospice. Please share a memory at www.rgharris.com.

EVA SPANN (STOOPS)

Age 78, passed away Feb. 17, 2009. Loving mother of four daughters and three sons. She leaves four sisters, a brother and 22 grandchildren.



MARY CATHERINE "KITTY" STOREN (nee: COONEY)

February 20, 2009, of Bloomfield Hills. Director of Development, Loyola High School, Detroit. Beloved wife of Bob. Dear mother of Tricia Van Faussien (Mark), Katie Shafer (Tim), Meghan Carter (the late Rich), Elizabeth Kent (Jason), Stephanie Jett (Randy), and Julie Lupo (Scott). Grandmother of Hannah, Bobby, Zachary, Henry, Joe, Charlie, Mackenzie, Richie, Maggie, Mary Kate, Jack, and Alex. Sister of Bill Cooney, Pat Hathaway, Margaret Casey, Ann Nordloh, Henry Cooney, Eileen Finney, Julia Cooney, and Michael Cooney. Services and Burial have taken place. A. J. Desmond & Sons Funeral Home, 248-362-2500. Memorials to Kitty Storen Memorial Fund at Loyola High School, 15325 Pinehurst, Detroit, MI 48238. View obituary and share memories at www.DesmondFuneralHome.com

SHARON LEE WALK

February 24, 2009, after surviving cancer for 23 years. Age 66, of Livonia. Loving wife of James. Beloved mother of Keith (Kimberly) and Kevin (Jennifer). Proud grandma of Makenna, Brendan, Cristian and Kyle. Dear sister of Dottie Smith and daughter of Eve Hutchings. Visitation Thursday 2-4 and 6-9 p.m. at Vermeulen Funeral Home 46401 West Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth (between Sheldon and Beck). In state Friday 9:30 a.m. until 10:30 a.m. Funeral Service at First United Methodist Church of Plymouth, 45201 N. Territorial Rd., Plymouth. Entombment Cadillac Memorial Gardens-West. Memorials may be made to the Susan G. Komen for the Cure, P.O. Box 650309 Dallas, TX 75265. To leave a message of condolence please log on to vermeulenfuneralhome.com



GARY E. WOODS

Born August 24, 1940, passed away at Piedmont Hospital Atlanta, GA, February 17, 2009. He is survived by his loving wife, Zoe Darling-Woods; brother Ron, of N. Palm Beach, FL; daughter Ami, of Good Hart, MI and his devoted dog, Bob. Woods worked as a graphic artist in the printing and advertising field in Atlanta and Detroit. Burial will be in Michigan at a later date. In lieu of flowers, please make donations in memory of Gary Woods to Piedmont Hospital Transplant Fund, 1968 Peachtree Rd, NW, Atlanta, GA 30309.

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RELIGION CALENDAR

To submit an item for the religion calendar, e-mail lchomin@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

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, 13, 20, 27, and April 3 in the cafeteria of St. Michael School, 11441 Hubbard, south of Plymouth Road, between Farmington and Merriman, Livonia. Dinners feature 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.

Bethany singles

Saturday, Feb. 28, Annual Chili Cook-Off and Uno tournament, 7:30-10 p.m. at St. Mel's Catholic Church, 7506 Inkster Road, 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.

Free movie night

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church (14175 Farmington Road, north of I-96, Livonia) will show the movie "FireProof" 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 27, doors open at 6:30 p.m. Register at www.christsaviors.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 Road, Plymouth. Register at www.givelife.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.-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.

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 at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday evenings. For information, call (313) 532-8655 or (734) 968-3523.

Lenten services

7 p.m. every Wednesday through April 1, at St. James Presbyterian Church, 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford, Call (313) 534-7730. 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 Levee, 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

Evening Prayer 7:30 p.m. Wednesdays, at Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA), 30650 Six Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 427-1414.

Fish fry

Continues 4-7 p.m. 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.

Families in action workshops

The National Association for Mental Illness 10-week educational program began 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 limited, so pre-registration required.

UPCOMING

House of worship tour

Tickets are now on sale for the Detroit Historical Society's Historic Houses of Worship tour Monday, March 2, in Oakland County, features Temple Beth El, Christ Church Cranbrook, St. Hugo Stone Chapel, and National Shrine of the Little Flower. Tour leaves the Detroit Historical Museum parking lot (Kirby at Woodward) at 10 a.m. and returns at 4 p.m. The price, which includes the guided tour, bus transportation, and lunch at one of the churches, is \$30 for Detroit Historical Society members, \$40 for guests. For reservations or more information on the 2009 tour series, call (313) 833-1801 or visit www.detroithistorical.org. No tickets will be sold on date of tour.

Hungry for God

7-9 p.m. Tuesdays March 3 to April 7, in the church building of St. Colette, 17600 Newburgh Rd. Livonia. The 6-week Hungry for God series helps adults and teens enjoy an even deeper, closer love-relationship with the God who is loving them first, best, and always. This series will be facilitated by Deacon Bob Oves, former director of the Detroit Archdiocesan Office for Family Life. Each session focuses on one of the following themes: Hungry for God's love, Hungry for Salvation, Hungry to Know God's Plan for your Life, Hungry for Jesus, Hungry for the Power to Forgive, Hungry for Faith & God's Spirit. Register at religious@stcolette.net or call (734) 464-4435.

Evenings of reflection

St. Michael the Archangel Parish of Livonia offers special Lenten Evenings of Reflection with the first 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 3, featuring Rev. Daniel Trapp, professor of theology and graduate spiritual director at Sacred Heart Major Seminary, speaking on "The Mystery of Christ Within Us" from St. Paul's Letter to the Colossians, and the second on Wednesday, March 18, with Rev. Daniel Jones, a priest of the Archdiocese of Detroit and Assistant Professor of Theology at Sacred Heart Major Seminary in Detroit. The public is invited. Both events will be in St. Michael's Church, 11441 Hubbard, south of Plymouth Rd., Livonia. For information, call (734) 261-1455, ext. 200 or visit the parish website at www.livoniastmichael.org.

School open house

If you have children ready to enter pre-school through eighth grade in the fall, Guardian Lutheran School is holding an Open House 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, March 7, at 24544 Cherry Hill Road in Dearborn. During the Open House, families will have an opportunity to receive personalized tours of the facility, spend time in the classrooms, enjoy light refreshments and talk with teachers, parents and board members. For details, call (313) 274-3665, email walter.krone@guardianlutheran.org or visit www.guardianlutheran.org.

Bethany Suburban West activities

Saturday, March 7, Monthly Dance 8 p.m. to midnight at St. Robert Bellarmine 27101 W. Chicago and Inkster Rd., Redford. Dance lesson; Swing, cost \$10, refreshments included. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. Call Diane for information, (734) 261-5716.

Sunday, March 15, annual 9 a.m. Lenten Mass at the Felician Sister House Chapel on the Madonna College Campus, 36600 Schoolcraft, Livonia. Uuse the Newburgh entrance and breakfast will follow service. For details contact Kathy, (734) 513-9479.

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

Church services a time to paws for reflection

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
O&E STAFF WRITER

Beginning Sunday, March 1, customers coming into Dunk N Dogs Spa in Livonia can not only wash their dog but pray. The Rev. Claudia Barber says as long as pets are under control and not trying to eat their neighbors, they're welcome to attend All Creatures Universal Life Church. The service allows humans to worship with their pets.

"I think it's a really good idea," said Sharon Robinet, spa owner. "People like me who are single and have a lot of animals do almost everything with their animals. They go almost everywhere with me. Now I can incorporate them into my spiritual life."

Robinet likes the idea so much she's renting space to Barber at a reduced rate. As a business owner, the Redford woman spends long hours away for home so it was only natural that when Barber approached her with the idea of holding services at the shop, she was all ears.

For many church-goers, Sundays usually mean leaving their pets behind to attend to spiritual needs. Not anymore. Beginning March 1 and every Sunday thereafter, Barber will be holding regular services for pets of all kinds and their owners in the 1,000-square-foot indoor

ALL CREATURES WORSHIP

What: Church services for pets of all kinds and their owners

When: Begins 1 p.m. Sunday, March 1, and continues every Sunday

Where: Dunk N Dogs Spa, 27911 Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Inkster Roads, Livonia. For information, call the spa at (734) 422-WASH or Rev. Claudia Barber at (313) 563-0162

dog park at the spa which usually functions as a self serve pet wash and doggie day-care, grooming and obedience training facility as well as a cat rescue.

"What's nice is we're all animal people. We've all been to church where you line up in the parking lot for a blessing but it's only once a year and never inside. Why not have a weekly service where people can come with their animals?" said Robinet. "We have no idea how many people will be there or what kind of animals they're bringing so we decided everybody has to be on a leash or in a crate or carrier. We don't want birds or cats to set off the dogs."

Barber says pets must be up-to-date on vaccinations and friendly to people and other pets. She plans to bring her four dogs and six birds to

the hour-long services which will be very informal and centered around pets.

"My pets have done so much to help me spiritually as well as emotionally to connect more to God that it's a shame I have to leave them home. I want them to share this part of my life with me. We say our prayers in the mornings and they're always peaceful during that time," said Barber, who was ordained in the nondenominational church based in Modesto, Calif. in 2003. In addition to leading the services she provides Christian counseling for owners whose pets are ill or have died.

"It's not a fancy church atmosphere. I didn't approach any churches but wanted to have a place where there wouldn't be a problem if a dog has an accident," said Barber, of Dearborn Heights. "I've already had several people respond to the flyers I've been putting out. I've sent e-mails to all the rescues trying to get the word out and put ads on Craig's List."

"I believe what the bible says that God created all the creatures, human and otherwise. Jesus said when the smallest sparrow falls God knows. I believe they will be in heaven, that all creatures go back to God."

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The Rev. Claudia Barber leads worship services for all creatures at Dunk N Dog Spa in Livonia every Sunday beginning March 1. Here she's pictured with Muffin, one of her four dogs.

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FILTER

Local 'Foes' join 199 other bands at Blowout



CelloBella! is Mike Wilhelm, of Dearborn Heights, on guitar and vocals, and Alison Donahue of Royal Oak on cello and vocals.



The Friendly Foes will take the stage at 1 a.m. Saturday, March 7, at The Belmont during Metro Times Blowout 12. They are (from left) Liz Wittman (bass and vocals), Ryan Allen (guitar, lead vocals), and Brad Elliott (drums).

Blowout Family Hootenanny set

This year, Metro Times Blowout will include an afternoon of shows for parents and children. The Blowout Family Hootenanny, featuring the Mydols, CelloBella! and Danny Kroha, will take place 1-4 p.m. Saturday, March 7 at Cafe 1923, 2287 Holbrook, Hamtramck. Parents who buy \$20 wristbands for the Blowout can bring their children to the Hootenanny for free.

"I think this is the first time we've had a family-friendly show at the Blowout," said Maria Stella, promotions manager for Metro Times. "We really wanted to open up the event more and draw some people to Hamtramck during the day to benefit the businesses."

Call Cafe 1923 at (313) 319-8766 or visit www.metrotimes.com/blowout.

Visit us online at hometownlife.com

BY WENDSY VON BUSKIRK
STAFF WRITER

The Friendly Foes, fronted by Livonia native Ryan Allen, will be among 200 bands playing at this year's Metro Times Blowout 12.

Set for March 5-7, the annual music festival is designed to celebrate homegrown bands and spans 15 venues throughout Hamtramck. It also includes a pre-party at the Majestic Theater Complex in Detroit on Wednesday, March 4.

Friendly Foes will headline Saturday night at The Belmont, 10215 Jos Campau. The music starts at 10 p.m. with Leaf Erikson followed by Lightening Love and Midnight Smoke.

Friendly Foes are expected to go on at 1 a.m.

The band consists of Allen on guitar and vocals; Liz Wittman, of Oak Park, on bass and vocals; and Brad Elliott, formerly of Plymouth, on drums. Both Allen and Elliott currently live in Ferndale.

It's the second Blowout for the Friendly Foes, who have been together a little more than a year, but Allen has played many more with other lineups.

"I think this will be my sixth or seventh Blowout total, and I've played it with many other bands that I've been in in the past, including Red Shirt Brigade, Tiny Steps, Scott Allen & the Breakdance, and the Sharp Hearts, none of which exist anymore," Allen said.

Concurrently, Allen played Blowouts with Thunderbirds are Now!, a successful post-

Please see **BLOWOUT, B7**

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2009 BLOWOUT SCHEDULE

What: 200 bands

Where: 15 venues throughout Hamtramck

When: March 5-7

Tickets: \$20 for Metro Times Blowout 12 and Pre-Party

PRE-PARTY

When: 9 p.m. March 4

Where: Majestic Theatre Complex, 4120 Woodward Ave., Detroit

Entertainment: Mustache in Your Face at the Garden Bowl; Silverghost, The Octopus, Child Bite, and Electric Fire Babies at the Magic Stick; The Meatmen, Outrageous Cherry, The Wrong Numbers, Punk Fitness Interlude, Gepetto Files and Fluent at the Majestic Theatre

Contact: (313) 833-9700, www.metrotimes.com/blowout

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THURSDAY
February 26
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SECTION C
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Julie Brown, editor, (313) 222-6755
jcbrown@hometownlife.com

REAL ESTATE

online at hometownlife.com

Realtors keep their spirits up in tough market

BY JULIE BROWN
O&E STAFF WRITER

Local Realtors agree it's a tough time to keep their enthusiasm, but they focus on helping clients keep their chins up.

"Since I've joined this team, I'm very optimistic," said Realtor Nancy Austin, with Keller Williams Realty. Her license is in Saline, but she works leads in western Wayne and southern Oakland counties.

"Buyers are there," said Austin, a Canton resident. "Most of them are first-time buyers." In her 25 years in the field, she's enjoyed working with first-time buyers.

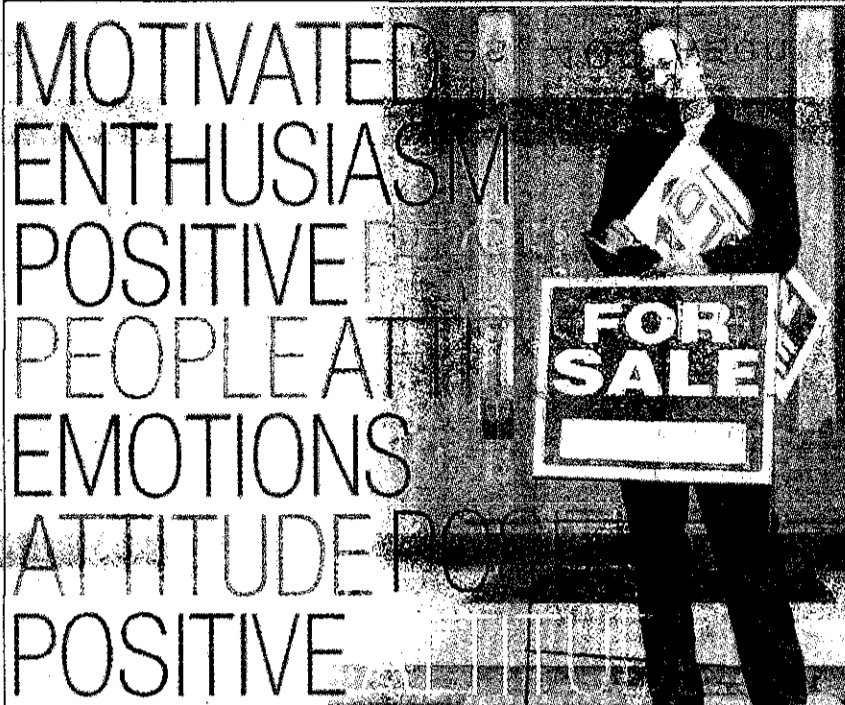
"Absolutely, without a doubt," Austin said of this being the toughest time in her profession. When she started, interest rates were 17-20 percent.

"This is triple the difficulty level. It's much more difficult than anything I've ever been through."

One person she knows calls Austin "Pollyanna" for her relentless optimism. "I put on my blinders and I just keep on going. I pray a lot. I make sure I surround myself with positive people."

"I know what has to be done and I do it. You've got to keep going." She's fortunate in that 80-90 percent of her business comes through referrals, based on her data bank "of wonderful clients." She joined her current team last August "and almost immediately started to notice a difference."

Team leader Andy Piper is Internet-savvy. "He is just phenomenal," Austin



said. "That's made a big, big difference. I get leads almost every day."

She'd been with her old team 12 years, and it was tough but necessary to change.

Agreeing it's a challenging time is Dale E. Smith, executive vice president of the Western Wayne Oakland County Association of Realtors.

"Very much so," said Smith, a West Bloomfield resident.

Once professionals get over the initial shock, they can hone up on learning new skills to assist clients. The Farmington-based association offers extensive training, some in new areas.

"We're finding our members enjoy

coming to those classes," Smith said.

There's training on unintentional leasing, generally a different discipline focusing on helping the homeowner and including legal implications.

WWOCAR offers basic courses in commercial real estate, through an alliance with the Commercial Board of Realtors.

WWOCAR has new appraiser courses, and a number of appraisers have joined the association. Smith noted sales numbers are improving, although property values remain in decline.

"I'm finding that our members are much more active than they were even

two or three months ago," Smith said.

He finds it's human nature to get depressed over the current market. Smith has focused on visiting real estate offices to let pros know what's available, including client help for foreclosure and bankruptcy issues.

Realtor Will Weaver of Century 21 Town & Country in Troy has been in the field 11 years.

"It is tough to stay motivated," said Weaver, a Madison Heights resident who agreed this is the toughest market he's seen. Waking up with the thought of helping is necessary: "Then you feel a little better," he said.

Weaver finds it's best to get to the office daily by 9 a.m., pick up the phone and find people in distress. If he talks to two-three homeowners daily and helps them, he gets help as well.

"Then it can build more motivation for the next day," Weaver said. "That's really the most important thing. The more people you can help, the more help you'll get yourself."

Weaver doesn't see Michigan's housing market improving soon, not until 2011 or 2012. "Our economy is centered around the auto industry," he said, noting layoffs in the Big Three. An extra house selling tomorrow will improve statistics for sales, but he doesn't see days of properties moving quickly coming soon.

Weaver is a state-certified real estate educator, including the Foreclosure Avoidance Comprehensive Training program. In training he's received and given, his focus is helping agents and homeowners avoid foreclosures.

Check with lawyer to protect interests

Q: One of the units in our condominium which owes our association assessments is being foreclosed upon by an assignee of the mortgage company. Our lien was recorded prior to the time of that assignment from the first mortgagee to the new mortgage company. Do we have any recourse?

A: In several decisions in which our firm has been involved, we have been successful in getting a circuit



Robert M. Meisner

judge to find that there is priority on behalf of the association vis-à-vis the assignee of the mortgage. This is one of the ways in which ingenuity and creativity is absolutely necessary in protecting the interest of the association vis-à-vis mortgagees who are, of course, engaged in foreclosing condominium units. You are best advised to consult with an attorney knowledgeable about community association law and mortgagee priority to ensure that your interests are protected.

Q: Our developer has walked away from the project and left us with only a mortgage company to assist in the operation of the association. The mortgage company doesn't want to assume any of the back responsibilities of the developer and says that it has no such responsibility. What do you think?

A: It of course depends upon the facts of each case including the manner in which the mortgage company took over from developer. The mortgage company may well be a successor developer and may well have liability for many, if not all, of developer's responsibilities depending upon the nature of the arrangement between the mortgage company and the developer and the number of units that the mortgagee took over from the developer. You are best advised to consult with an experienced and aggressive community association attorney who will have the ability to negotiate vigorously with the mortgage company as frequently they have the power and willingness to play hardball with community associations who they presume are underfunded.

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

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.

Investors

Come and learn from accountant Joseph Simasko as he discusses accounting related to real estate investing. Presented by Real Estate Investors Association of Oakland on Thursday, March 12, 5:30-9:30 p.m. at MSU Management Education Center, 811 W. Square Lake Road, Troy. Seminar free to members, \$20 nonmembers. Call (800) 747-6742 for additional information. (www.REIAofOakland.com)

Awards

Kelly Sweeney, president and CEO of Weir Manuel Realtors, announced the recipients of its corporate awards for 2008.

The highly prized Eagle Award, given to the agent in each WMR office who has the highest closed sales production for that year, was presented to Robert and Barbara Dundon (Birmingham office), to Ann Stanzel-Kilgore (West Bloomfield office) and to Stella Bosnyak (Rochester office).

The Sherwood Awards, given to the agents who most exhibit the "Weir Manuel Way" in their approach to business, and who have the highest increase in closed sales production from the prior year, were Kathy Manooogian (Birmingham office), Patricia Stokes (West Bloomfield office) and Mickie Schulte (Rochester office).

Highest-performing agents were inducted into the President's Circle:

Birmingham Office: Don Amalfitano, Steve Cole, Kathleen Dalton, Jennifer Doctor, Barbara Draplin, Deidre (Didi) Etue, Kathleen Goodrich, Tim Holden, Kathy Manooogian, Mark Marangon, Rebecca Meisner, Erin O'Neill, Kathy Parker, Dawn Rassel, Robert Taylor, Todd Zachary, Jennifer Zardus.

West Bloomfield Office: Ann Stanzel-Kilgore, Karen Lambert, Greg Morad.

Rochester Office: Stella Bosnyak, Mickie Schulte.

"The outstanding performances last year by our elite sales professionals is a testament to the diligence they exhibited throughout the year," said Sweeney. "Though the market is down, these agents were able to outperform the market by consistently

delivering superior client experiences."

BIA

■ Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan (BIA) presents Advanced Green Built™ Builder Training on Tuesday, March 10, from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at association headquarters, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100, in Farmington Hills. Chris Pratt of Construction and Development Services, LLC will present an in-depth course offering specific applicable building practices to build greener, better homes. Members of Green Built™ Michigan are strongly encouraged to attend.

The cost is \$85 per person for Green Built™ Michigan members and \$105 for nonmembers.

For registration information, call (248) 862-1033 or register online at www.builders.org.

■ Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan's (BIA) NAHBR Professional Remodelers Council presents a Product & Services Showcase on Wednesday, March 11, from noon to 1:30 p.m. at association offices, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100, Farmington Hills.

Brad Hinkson, council chair, of Hinkson Construction Inc., will moderate the showcase of products and services offered by associate members of the council. Fees for council members are free; \$15 for guests. Advance payment is required. For registration information, call (248) 862-1033 or register online at www.builders.org.

HOMES SOLD

These are the Observer & Eccentric-area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Nov. 3-7, 2008, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office, plus some from Oakland County. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

Canton		
212 Alexandria Ct	\$380,000	
1621 Bennington Ct	\$113,000	
39532 Cather St	\$117,000	
49677 Courtyard Ln	\$195,000	
1976 Echo Woods Dr	\$248,000	
43155 Fernwood St	\$179,000	
40050 Finley Dr	\$188,000	
46750 Glengarry Blvd	\$309,000	
44823 Glengarry Rd	\$250,000	
45681 Graystone Ln	\$130,000	
49865 Jackson Ln	\$200,000	
45358 Lathrop Dr	\$284,000	
2517 River Woods Dr N	\$300,000	
49225 Rockefeller Dr	\$255,000	
1845 Scenic Dr	\$193,000	

Farmington Hills		
6021 Willow Creek Dr	\$168,000	
27977 Brandywine Rd	\$135,000	
29682 Canterbury Ct	\$225,000	
31115 Country Blf	\$66,000	
38949 Country Cir	\$94,000	
30012 Foxgrove Rd	\$260,000	
21704 Jefferson St	\$29,000	
29976 Pipers Ln	\$173,000	
32011 Tareyton St	\$163,000	
Garden City		
29896 Ford Rd	\$190,000	
Livonia		
19308 Bainbridge Ave	\$195,000	
15114 Fairfield St	\$37,000	
18604 Foch St	\$76,000	
29617 Hillbrook St	\$120,000	
9037 Hubbard St	\$179,000	
17920 Lathers St	\$109,000	
18551 Laurel Dr	\$220,000	
27917 Lyndon St	\$123,000	
18892 Mayfield St	\$350,000	
9913 Melrose St	\$225,000	
30316 Navin St	\$183,000	
14397 Norman St	\$185,000	
29733 Nottingham Cir	\$124,000	

Milford		
14568 Richfield St	\$125,000	
17159 Rougeway St	\$121,000	
32446 Wisconsin St	\$152,000	
Northville		
2214 Lone Tree Rd	\$175,000	
3872 S Shoreline Dr	\$695,000	
22291 Heatheridge Ln	\$223,000	
39450 Legend Ln	\$270,000	
19645 Neptune Ct	\$75,000	
48975 Rainbow Ln S	\$387,000	
16677 Sherwood Ln	\$341,000	
17176 Victor Dr	\$363,000	
39433 Village Run Dr	\$240,000	
16338 Westminster Dr	\$320,000	
17024 Yellowstone Dr	\$132,000	
Novi		
45547 Addington Ln	\$325,000	
27598 Albert St	\$277,000	
28017 Hopkins Dr	\$138,000	
27158 Maxwell Ct	\$379,000	
45337 Pines Dr	\$285,000	
25315 Sullivan Ln	\$265,000	
30202 Willowcrest	\$247,000	
Plymouth		
46380 Academy Dr	\$235,000	

Redford		
9446 Marilyn Ave	\$172,000	
11560 Spicer Dr	\$212,000	
South Lyon		
9142 Columbia	\$105,000	
14990 Kinloch	\$163,000	
17626 Kinloch	\$81,000	
9927 Nathalie	\$75,000	
19788 Wakenden	\$58,000	
20030 Woodworth	\$60,000	
Westland		
1344 Coach House Ln	\$295,000	
26304 Shumans Way	\$65,000	
143 Singh Blvd	\$375,000	
37100 Baker Dr	\$264,000	
33448 Balmoral St	\$132,000	
29184 Brody Ave	\$119,000	
1451 Elias St	\$75,000	
29825 Lacy Dr	\$121,000	
6010 N Carlson St	\$60,000	
38247 S Jean Ct	\$79,000	
1233 S Sutton St	\$145,000	
38470 Terry Ln	\$152,000	
7575 Woodview St	\$47,000	



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Amicus Mortgage Corp.	(248) 740-2323	5	0.25	4.625	0.125	J/A
BRINKS Financial	(800) 785-4755	4.75	0.625	4.375	0.75	J/A/V/F
Client Services by Golden Rule	(800) 991-9922	4.875	0.375	4.375	0.75	J/A/V/F
Co-op Services Credit Union	(734) 466-6113	5.375	0	5	0	J
Comerica Community Financial	(800) 777-6728	5.5	1	4.5	1	J/A/F
Countrywide Home Loans	(800) 641-2384	4.625	2	4.375	1.5	J/A/V/F
Dearborn Federal Savings Bank	(313) 565-3100	5.25	0	5.125	0	A
DFCU Financial	(800) 739-2770	5.25	2.25	4.75	2.25	J/A
Fifth Third Bank	(800) 792-3630	5.125	0	5	0	J/V/F
Gold Star Mortgage	(800) 784-1074	5	0	4.5	0.25	J/A/V/F
Golden Rule Mortgage	(800) 991-9922	5	0	4.5	0.25	J/A/V/F
Group One Mortgage	(248) 282-1602	5.125	0	4.875	0	J/A/V/F
Mortgages by Golden Rule	(800) 991-9922	5	0	4.625	0	J/A/V/F
Michigan United Mortgage	(810) 844-2222	4.75	0.625	4.25	0.875	J/A
Northern Financial	(248) 982-5468	5.125	0	4.625	0	J/A/V/F
Shore Mortgage	(800) 678-6663	4.5	2	4.375	2	J/A/V/F

Above information available as of 2/20/09 and subject to change at anytime. Rates are based on a \$200,000 loan with 20% down & credit score of 740 or above. Jumbo rates, specific payment calculations & most current rates available Fridays after 2:00 P.M. at www.rmcreport.com. 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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Very clean Apartments
Excellent Maintenance
(734) 729-6636

Westland
VENNY PINES APTS.
Rent Starting
at \$449
* 1 & 2 bedroom apts.
with fireplace.
(734) 261-7394
www.yorkcommunities.com

Westland-LIVONIA SCHOOLS

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

Condos/Townhouses **4020**

AUBURN HILLS 1500 sq. ft.
1st fl., 2 bdrm, 2 bath,
attached gar., patio, gas fire-
place. \$1000 246-801-9111

BIRMINGHAM - DOWNTOWN

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

COMMERCE/
WALLED LAKE
15 Mile & Beck. All appli-
ances. 2 bdrm, 2 bath,
garage, stairs, pool &
patio. \$1095/mo.
(248) 474-9302

Observer & Eccentric
NEWSPAPERS

Classified
HOMETOWNlife.com

Contact Us:
PHONE..... 1-800-579-SELL (7355)
FAX..... 586-826-7318
ONLINE..... www.hometownlife.com
EMAIL..... ceads@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 also reserves the right 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.

CE08624257

THE

APARTMENT SPECIALISTS

Even in these

trying times,

we still have

the best prices!

Westland

Parkcrest Apts. Designed with ROOMMATES in MIND! Across from Meijers
(734) 522-3013

Livonia Schools

Wilderness 2 Bdrms, 1000 sq. ft. CARPORTS/POOL WASHER & DRYER inside unit
(734) 425-5731

Livonia Schools

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

Garden City

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

Take advantage of one of these great specials today!

734-451-5210
www.sleasing.com

CE08624712

Condos/Townhouses **4020**

FARMINGTON HILLS 2 bdrm, wooded view, pool, patio, all appliances, a/c. \$795/mo. incl. heat + water. 248-539-0534

LIVONIA 1 bdrm, screened balcony, carport, bsmt storage, all appliances, pool, heat/water incl. \$650.
734-522-0357 / 734-748-2537

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

Duplexes **4030**

CANTON - 1741 ELMHURST
3 bdrm, 1 1/2 bath, move-in March 1st. \$900/mo. + sec dep. Call: (734) 455-1215

Flats **4040**

PLYMOUTH TWP
Large 1 bdrm upper flat, \$625/mo.
Call: (248) 735-5464

Homes For Rent **4050**

BELLEVILLE LAKE 1 or 2 bdrm, dock, appl., quiet, 15 min. to Ann Arbor or airport. \$875 or \$935. 734-274-0625

BIRMINGHAM, 1 bdrm condo, \$995/mo. Also 3 bdrm bungalow, \$1140/mo. Both hardwood floors. 248-252-3863

CANTON - 3 bdrm, 1.5 bath, partially finished bsmt, sun-room, 2 car gar, appl, extras, \$1400/mo. 734-981-2793

CANTON - 42608 Hanford. 1800 sq. ft., newly remodeled, family room with 2 fireplaces, attached garage, C/A, 4 bdrm, 2 bath, bsmt, fenced yard, deck, patio, \$1495/Mo. By appointment only. 734-444-5212, 313-920-5966

CANTON - 45686 Augusta. Executive home, 2700 sq. ft., located across from golf course, 4 bdrm, 3 1/2 bath, family rm w/fireplace, bsmt, 3 1/2 car attached garage. \$1995/mo. Showing Wed. & Sunday at 6:30 pm. \$0 dep if qualified. Paula: 734-444-5212

Homes For Rent **4050**

CANTON- AFFORDABLE HOMES FOR RENT
3 BR, 2 Bath, all appliances incl washer/dryer & C/A. FROM ONLY \$599
Call College Park Estates & Sun Home Sales
888-264-4080
APPLY ONLINE:
www.4collegepark.com

Dearborn Heights/Southfield
3 bdrm houses, new construction, \$895 & \$945 + utilities & sec. No sec 8. Pets ok. Call after 5pm. 248-737-1795

DETROIT - 18971 Westbrook 2 bedroom, basement, 7 mile & Laster, \$500/mo.
Call: 248-476-6499

DETROIT - 6 Mile & Telegraph Sharp 2 bedroom Ranch, basement, \$575/mo. 16580 Woodbine. (248) 476-6498

FERDALE 9 1/2 & Woodward, 4 bdrm, fireplace, appliances, new paint throughout, wood floors. Avail. March 1. \$1050 + dep. 734-968-9253

GARDEN CITY Nice updated 3 bdrm, garage, 1000 sq. ft., new paint & carpet. \$950/mo. Rent to own. 586-530-5161

Manufactured HOMES FOR RENT
Located in Canton
Starting at \$499/mo
3 Bedroom, 2 Bath, Appliances included. 924 to 1400 sq. ft. available. Pets welcome.
Free Rent until April 1st*
OPEN SATURDAY 10-2 PM
Sun Homes 888-264-5842
www.academywestpoint.com
*Select homes only. Restrictions apply. Expires 2/27/09

INKSTER Clean 3 bdrm bungalow, garage, Wayne/ Westland Schools, option, bad credit okay. \$700, (248) 788-1823

LIVONIA 3 bdrm., 1 full bath, 1000 sq. ft., appliances. Lg. backyard. \$950/mo. (248) 342-0314

Thursday PUZZLE CORNER

Challenging fun for ALL ages

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS

1 Silence
4 By Jove!
8 Spring bloom
12 Way back when
13 MOMA artist
14 Phi — Kappa
15 Forest creature
17 Tongues do it
18 Early garden?
19 Irritates
21 Teen events
22 Nutmeg and cloves
25 Moo goo — pan
26 Strongly advise
27 Pina —
30 Profile
31 Rather
33 Director — Lee
35 Terra firma
37 Perched on
38 Wretched
39 Places of safety
41 At bay
44 Where hackles rise

45 — cowl!

46 German name part
47 Do horoscopes
51 Fully qualified
52 Bard's river
54 Luau strings
55 Must-have
56 Mouse
57 "A pox upon thee!"

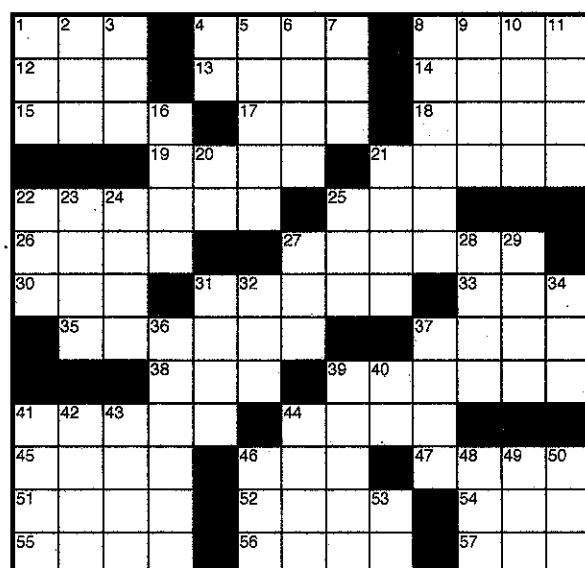
DOWN

1 Chatter
2 Birthday count
3 Region of India
4 Magazine exec
5 Stares stupidly
6 Woeful cry
7 Groove on
8 Spain and Portugal
9 Try again
10 Object
11 Without
16 Kind of pudding
20 Note before mi

Answer to Previous Puzzle

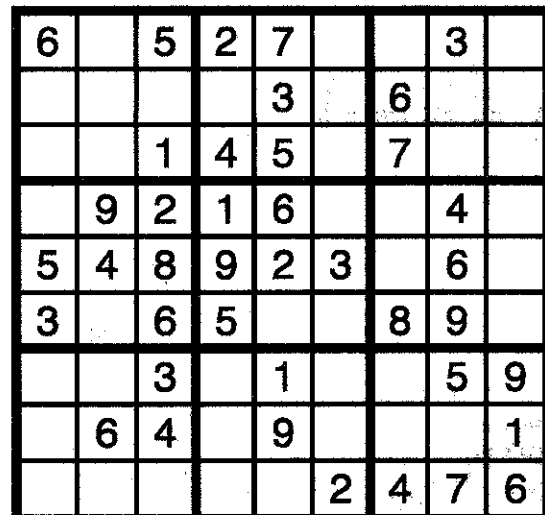
ALP	ANKA	TIDY
LIL	PAIN	EDIE
EMU	PITA	CELL
ENSLAVE	SHELL	
OLE	ARI	
MOGUL	QUIETED	
OWN	YUK	ORE
ALUMNAE	RANGE	
YEW	GAS	
SHARE	AIRPORT	
LEVI	SURE	BAA
AREA	ITLL	OIL
WARD	POSY	ELK

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21 Bleached-out
22 Periscope site
23 Fuddy-duddy
24 1939 Lugosi role
25 Caught on
27 England's FBI
28 See each other
29 By and by
31 Dorm view
32 And, for Wolfgang
34 Location finder, briefly
36 Did as told
37 With, to Maurice
39 Where to celebrate Tet
40 Billing dept.
41 Rather you — me
42 Flowing garment
43 Fashion magazine
44 Exploding star
46 Caudron
48 —
49 Wiederschen
50 Tie-dyed garment
53 Baseball assn.

SUDOKU



Fun By The Numbers

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

Level: Beginner

Here's How It Works:

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

SEEK AND FIND

FIND THESE WORDS IN THE PUZZLE BELOW.

ANGRY
ANNOYED
ENRAGED
FUMING
FURIOUS
INFURIATED
IRATE
IRRITATED
MAD
RAGING
RILED
WROTH

THE WORDS READ UP, DOWN AND ACROSS.

I	R	I	T	A	T	E	D	F	G
R	H	J	K	F	U	M	I	N	G
R	E	L	P	U	O	M	H	D	I
I	N	F	U	R	I	A	T	E	D
T	R	Y	U	I	R	D	O	Y	E
A	A	A	T	O	A	R	R	O	L
T	G	N	E	U	T	W	W	N	I
E	E	G							

APARTMENTS

HOMETOWNlife.com

Homes For Rent (4050) NORTHVILLE 2 bdrm house with laundry, \$800/mo. 248-921-7161 REDFORD Lg. 3 bdrm, 2 bath, attached gar., full bsmt, all new, double lot. \$1000/mo. 248-535-2300 Call to place your ad at 1-800-579-SELL(7355) REDFORD - 7 & Inkster 18441 Poinciana, 3 bdrm, bsmt, \$825/mo., Ravine Lot. Call: (248) 476-6498	Homes For Rent (4050) TROY - 4 bdrm, 2.5 bath colonial 2 car garage, bsmt, walk to Somerset, \$1500/mo. Avail March 1. Call: (248) 709-0201 WAYNE, Remodeled 3 bdrm ranch finished bsmt, 2.5 car, fenced, option, bad credit okay. \$750, (248) 788-1823 Westland - Norwayne 2 bdrm, \$550-\$575 total move-in. For appt. 734-968-2636 hometownlife.com	Homes For Rent (4050) ★ WESTLAND 3 bdrm ranch. Finished bsmt, attached garage, fenced yard. Close to schools, nice area. \$875. 248-425-0200 Sell it all with Observer & Eccentric 1-800-579-SELL WESTLAND Just remodeled ranch style duplex. 2 bdrm, full bsmt, all appl., rent negotiable. 734-335-7365	Homes For Rent (4050) WESTLAND Palmer/Newburgh area. Very clean 3 bdrm, full bsmt, hardwood floors, family room with fireplace, doorwall to patio, 2 car garage, all appliances incl washer/dryer, \$1000/mo. Call: (248) 425-4853, see pics at: www.bekammanagement.com 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	Living Quarters To Share (4120) CANTON Executive home on 5 wooded acres, \$450 master suite w/private bath, incl. utilities. 734-658-8623 FARMINGTON HILLS Professional roommate. Furnished convenient, \$425, incl. util., cable, internet. 813-205-9926 LIVONIA Full house privileges. \$425/mo + half utilities. 248-777-8468 Call after 5pm. Call to place your ad at 1-800-579-SELL(7355)	Living Quarters To Share (4120) PLYMOUTH Great neighborhood. 1600 sq. ft. home, room w/ access to house. \$425/mo. Call after 7pm. 734-262-3500 WESTLAND - Cherry Hill & Wayne. Mature male, \$375 includes utilities. No pets. All appliances. (734) 261-2397 Rooms For Rent (4140) CANTON - Near I-275 No-smoking & no-drinking. Male. Quiet. \$295/mo. New. No lease! Call: (734) 394-1557	Rooms For Rent (4140) INKSTER CHERRY HILL AREA Want mature male, private, lg upper furnished room/bath. A/C, \$95/wk + \$200 sec. dep. 313-561-3922 LIVONIA SUNRISE STUDIOS \$159/wk. A/C Deluxe Rms, TV/Phone/HBO, Low Rates. Call: (734) 427-1300 LUXURY MOTELS. A/C, Jacuzzi Suites, Comfort Suites \$330 off w/ky + \$40 off daily w/ad. 248-504-5080. Low rates @ Fairlane 248-347-9999. Royal 248-544-1575. Sunrise 734-427-1300.	Rooms For Rent (4140) NORTHVILLE or PLYMOUTH Downtown. 1st week with full deposit. Furnished sleeping rooms. Newly decorated. \$85 weekly. Security deposit. 734-355-6453, 248-305-9944 Observer & Eccentric Classifieds Just a quick call away... 1-800-579-SELL	Office/Retail Space For Rent/Lease (4220) FARMINGTON Prime Victorian office space in historic downtown, 190 - 230 sq. ft., \$400-\$450/mo. Call: 248-442-2500 REDFORD TWP. OFFICE SUITES from 320 sq.ft. & up. Beautifully redecorated. Several locations. Great Rates incl. utilities. CERTIFIED REALTY INC. (248) 471-7100
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APARTMENTS AVAILABLE

Your Weekly Guide to Apartment Living

FARMINGTON/LIVONIA
APPLE RIDGE APARTMENTS
Seniors Welcome!!
 Ask us about our Specials for 1 & 2 bedrooms
 31200 Morlock • On Merriman 1 block S. of 8 Mile
248-471-0001

ROMULUS
BIRCH RUN TOWNHOUSES COOPERATIVE
 Now accepting applications for 1, 2 and 3 bedroom townhomes. Prices range from \$435 to \$511 per month. For more information call 734-728-5311

What a great place to find your next...or maybe your first apartment!
 Pick your community and give them a call to take advantage of some really great values.

WESTLAND
La Villa & Margo Capri Apartments
 Warren Avenue
 Spacious 1 bedrooms starting at \$525
 One Month FREE Rent with Acceptable Credit
734-779-9800
HEAT & WATER INCLUDED

WAYNE
TAE KEUK VILLAGE
 KOREAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY HOUSING SERVICES, INC.
 3712 WILLIAMS ST. WAYNE, MI 48184
 Phone: 734-729-7920, 729-3432
 Fax: 734-729-0938
 TTY: 866-656-9826 TDD: 800-649-3777
 ■ 1 Efficiency Studio available in February
 ■ Section 8 apartments for the elderly and disabled
 ■ Applicant must be either at least 62 years of age or disabled before age 22
 ■ Emergency Medical Call System
 ■ Rent includes Heat, Water and Trash Removal
 Professionally managed by Midwest Management, Inc.

WESTLAND
SENIORS: Stay Warm with FREE HEAT!
 Stay Cozy and Warm with us at Westgate Tower this season! For your convenience we offer group transportation, and we have plenty of fun activities planned each month!
Rent starting at JUST \$414.00!!
 Lots of fun activities - 24 hour laundry rooms - Lounge
 Free Heat & Water - Ample Parking - One small pet allowed
Call (734) 729-2900 Today!
 *Must be 62 or Older; Income Limits Apply.

CALL TODAY FOR A GREAT RATE... **1-800-579-7355**

careerbuilder

HOMETOWNlife.com

Help Wanted-General (5000) Circle Me \$14.25 Base-Appt Growing USA Company, flex hours, great for students, second income, homemakers, we train. Call Today: 248-426-0636/ 617-333-1700 CLEANING MEDICAL FACILITY Novi Area. \$8/hr Mon-Fri evenings 7pm-10:30pm •OFFICE CLEANING Livonia area Mon-Fri evenings 7pm-10pm •SCHOOL FACILITY Farmington Hills Mon-Fri evenings 4pm-8pm Call btwn 10am-4pm ONLY. (248) 676-1012 Concierge Full time, for luxury building in downtown Birmingham. Candidate must be polished, professional, dependable and have excellent customer service skills. Duties include managing the lobby, answering phones, assisting home owners, providing services and other similar duties. Only experienced apply. Call 248-258-3925 DIRECT CARE STAFF \$8.20 wages & benefits. Must be trained/valid license. 313-256-6295 DIRECT CARE STAFF To work with developmentally disabled adults. Westland area. Call 734-728-4580 x14 DIRECT CARE-- Make a difference! Support people with disabilities living their life the way they want to! Assist with personal care, meals, taking care of their homes, getting places etc. Many locations, many shifts! If you are at least 18 years old, have a valid Michigan's Driver's License & are CLS, Inc. trained, call our Job Line 734-728-4201, # ELECTRICIAN-Licensed Industrial door manufacturer. 2 yrs. industrial electrical exp. to repair & troubleshoot doors/control panels. Serious inquiries only. Apply at: 8001 Ronda Dr., Canton MI 48187 HEAVY TRUCK DIESEL TECHNICIANS Livonia based VOLVO Heavy Truck dealership has openings for qualified technicians. Must have own tools. Great benefits, 401k, E.O.E. m/f/h/v Send resume to JOBSVIP@ADL.COM or fax to HR Dept 734.591.7520	Help Wanted-General (5000) HVAC SERVICE TECHNICIAN Growing, well established mechanical contracting co. located in Detroit metropolitan area seeking hvac technician experienced in the commercial and industrial field for immediately available position. Base salary negotiable, full medical benefits, AFLAC and retirement plan. Strong leadership skills, good customer relations, professionalism and dependability highly recommended. Great benefits base with guaranteed steady year-round work. Serious applicants only please must have at least 5 years field experience. Please call: (734) 287-4111 or fax resume: (734) 287-4011 LEASING AGENT Detroit/ Redford Area. Outgoing, friendly. Detailed oriented. Basic computer and clerical skills. Fax resume to: 248-649-0775 Legal Secretary Experienced legal secretary needed for new bankruptcy firm located in Farmington Hills. Must be efficient and well organized. Experience with Best Case, TABS9, Microsoft Word and Excel preferred. Experience with CM/ECF required. Please call 248-539-5500 or email resume to mileberman6160@yahoo.com MACHINE OPERATORS LATHE OPERATOR 20" Monarch. Exp'd. only. BORING MILL Toshiba-Shitaura manual type. Exp'd. on this machine only. Both positions Livonia area. Resume: 39500 14 Mile, Box 129, Walled Lake, MI 48390	Help Wanted-General (5000) Maintenance Technician Reliability Technician-Industrial Maintenance Technician Leading national beverage company seeks self motivated Mechanical Technician to work at our manufacturing plant in Plymouth as we continue our growth. Join a leader in the industry with over a century of proven performance! The career orientated position includes maintaining fillers, labelers, packaging equipment, water processing equipment etc. This is a hands on position with tremendous opportunity to be accountable for productivity improvements within a work cell and to be a part of a team dedicated to exceeding customer expectations. Excellent comprehensive benefit package with competitive wages. Email resume to: hr25@cofidential.com Please include RT-#14 in the subject line of your e-mail. E.O.E.	Help Wanted-General (5000) ROUTE DRIVERS No experience necessary. Apply: TruGreen 48932 Wixom Tech Dr. Wixom. 248-960-1216 or Fax: 248-960-1468 EOE/M/F/D/V/A Summer Seasonal Positions Available The City of Birmingham, MI is seeking applicants for multiple seasonal positions. Duties include landscape maintenance, cleanup of golf courses, parks, & athletic fields; monitoring of City Parks & State Parks; & assistance with street, sewer, & water maintenance duties; & other general duties within the City's Public Services Department. Applicants must possess a high school diploma, or equivalent, & a valid Michigan Driver's License. Flexible schedule up to 40 hours/week; starting at \$8/hour. Additional information and applications are available at the City of Birmingham HR Department, 151 Martin, Birmingham, MI 48009 or www.bhamgov.org/jobs VTL Operator If you are an exp. VTL Operator or a good engine lathe operator with a desire to learn how to run a VTL, we want to hear from you. Will train the right person. Full time with benefits. Fax resume: 734-595-0148 or call: 734-595-6400 WE BUY CARS We'll sell on consignment. Get top dollar for your car. We have customers waiting for all types of vehicles. TYME AUTO 248-924-0820	Help Wanted-Office Clerical (5020) ADMINISTRATIVE ASST Looking for a mature person for PT, possibly FT. Prior DME exp & Quickbooks knowledge a plus. Answer phones, filing, computer work and other office functions. Fax resume: 734-422-5807 or email: al.mobilitycenter@sbcglobal.net LEGAL ASSISTANT Thriving Troy law firm seeks full-time legal assistant. Must have a minimum of 2 years experience in probate and estate planning, long term care and/or Medicaid planning a plus. Excellent communication, organization, and computer skills (including WordPerfect) required; familiarity with TimeMatters is a plus. Competitive salary and benefits. Please fax resume to (248) 641-7073 or email to ahillman@brmmlaw.com IF YOU DO NOT MEET ALL OF THE ABOVE QUALIFICATIONS - PLEASE DO NOT APPLY. LEGAL SECRETARY Part-time, 10 yrs. + experience. Bingham Farms Call: (248) 594-0009 Help Wanted-Dental (5040) DENTAL ASSISTANT & FRONT DESK Exp req'd for both positions. Plymouth area. 734-459-7110 DENTAL ASSISTANT 12 Mile/Evergreen area. Part-time, Thurs. & Sat. 3 yrs. exp. X-Ray certified. Call Toni: 248 353-4747 Front Desk for dentist office. Part-time, M, W, Fri. Some exp. preferred. Email resume: Anjdentistry@att.net Help Wanted-Medical (5060) Attn: HHA's Health Partners is seeking experienced caregivers for nice private duty home care cases. Great pay/benefits. Call Maria at: 800-569-7723	Help Wanted-Medical (5060) MANAGER For Group home Must have minimum 2 yrs Group Home Management experience Previous experience in Traumatic brain injury a plus. Excellent wage/benefits package. Please send resume: Attn: Stephanie Semi-independent P.O. Box 3450 Farmington Hills MI 48333 Or fax: 248-442-1180 MEDICAL ASSISTANT Part-Time. Exp. Resume to: 43422 West Oaks Drive, PMB #167, Novi, MI 48377-3300 Medical Assistant Westland. Full time, 3 yrs + exp. In fam. practice. EKG, Lab, Venapuncture, X-Ray, Immun. Fax Resume 734-522-7012 Medical Receptionist Needed for busy Westland practice. Medical insurance background a must. Exp'd only need apply. Full time and part time positions available. Occasional Saturdays. Fax resume & cover letter w/position desired to: 734-525-2550 PHLEBOTOMY EDUCATION Sat. accelerated classes beg. April/May, 10-4pm. Garden City & Troy; \$925. Incl. book. (313) 382-3857 Site Managers & LPNs FULL-TIME Exp'd Site Managers & LPNs are needed for a busy, personal care company in Rochester Hills. Good communication skills, management experience a must, as well as, strong background of working with senior citizens. Please fax resume to: 586-751-2917	Help Wanted-Sales (5120) ACCOUNT MANAGER For News/Talk 760 WJR - Join Michigan's leading sales team. High earnings potential. Prior media sales and college degree preferred. Send resumes to: donna.boots@citcomm.com or fax to (313) 873-9705. EEO GREAT OPPORTUNITY for Professionals, Homemakers, Students, & Retirees TO SUPPLEMENT YOUR INCOME! Weed Man Lawn Care is looking for outgoing, competitive people to join our sales staff. We believe in an honest and professional environment, and with our training and your attitude you will excel in phone sales. Base pay is \$9/hour + 4% commission and bonuses. Hours are Mon-Thurs 6am-9pm, and Sat 9am-1pm. Call us today and join our team! 248-477-4880 Weed Man SALES REPRESENTATIVE A 75 year old Michigan based company has immediate openings for two Salespeople in our West & North Suburb areas. We offer salary plus comm. with earning expectations in the low to mid 30's the first year. Cold Calling is required, some leads will be provided. Benefits are medical, prescription & dental insurance, paid vacation, 401K & auto allowance. We provide good initial training and ongoing professional sales development. To schedule an interview call Cindy at 248-477-4800 Dial 0 Position Wanted (5340) CAREGIVER - I will take care of your loved ones day or night. 20 yrs exp. Ref. Pay negotiable. Karen. 734-895-7950 CHRISTIAN WOMAN Would like to clean your home, Livonia area. Many references. 248-476-1406.	Business Opportunities (5740) AWESOME OPPORTUNITY Get paid to use your cell phone! 800-391-3103. Free 2 minute call. Call Emma 248-202-5101 High Tech Dental Practice Prime location, Westland, MI. Flexible terms & cond for a tight economy. Turn key operation. Call Dale: 540-290-8829 Earn extra money! Advertise in Observer & Eccentric To place an ad call: 1-800-579-SELL or fax: 734-953-2232 It's all about results!
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MARKETPLACE

HOMETOWNlife.com

6000-6920
Announcements

LOOK HERE

Personals 6000

BLOOMFIELD SUBSTANCE ABUSE & RECOVERY CENTER
Offering take home therapy for Opioid dependent patients. Call for appt: (248) 705-9300

Legal & Accepting Bids 6220

Simply Self Storage

Notice is hereby given that on March 18, 2009 on or after 9:30 a.m. that Simply Self Storage will be offering for sale under the judicial lien Process by Public Auction the following units. The goods to be sold are generally described as household goods. Terms of the sale are cash only. Simply Self Storage reserves the right to refuse any and all bids. The sale will be at the following location: 34333 E. Michigan Ave. Wayne MI. 48184 (734)726-8204.

A206-Ruth Walker 23 Boxes, 5 Totes, Table
A402-John Cheney 2 Dressers, 2 Totes, 5 Boxes
B137-Victor Berger Sofa, Bike, 5 Totes
C111-Alexander Mihaly Desk, 20 Boxes, 2 Totes
C135-Joyce Powell 10 Boxes
C188-Phillip Greenfield Tools, 4 Speakers, 5 Boxes
Observer Newspapers 2-26 and 3-8-2009

7000-7780
Merchandise

Antiques/Collectibles 7020

RECORD SHOW March 1st, 10-4. \$Cash Prizes LPs, 45s, CDs, VFW, 25671 Gratiot (N of 10), Roseville 586-759-5133

Southfield Pavilion ANTIQUES EXPO!
Southfield Civic Center
Evergreen Rd. at 10 1/2 Mile.
FEB 27 28 MARCH 1
OVER 75 MERCHANTS!
Fri 2-9, Sat 10-6, Sun 11-4
www.antiquet.com/M&M
\$1.00 off with adv.

Auction Sales 7060

AUCTION - Feb. 28th, 6:30 pm, Old Winery General Store, 31505 Grand River, Farmington. (248) 982-0105

ESTATE AUCTION Saturday-Feb. 28th - 7pm
Cultural Center
525 Farmer
Plymouth, MI
Furniture & Accessories
Collectibles/
Glassware
T. Kinkadee Prints
Vintage
Women's Hats
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Auction Sales 7060

Notice is hereby given that on March 18th, 2009 at 12:00pm the following will be sold by competitive bidding at National Storage Center of Redford at 9125 W. Telegraph Rd. Redford, MI 48239. Unit(s) may or may not incl the following: Household items, recreational items and/or misc. goods. 345-Tanya Moody, 403-Rhonda Batayeh, 404-Aleta Hollins, 470-Duana Alsop, 495-Barbara Smith, 512-Roosevelt Clark, 607-Billy Robinson, 615-Stephen Kantos, 702-Deborah Martin, 713-Stacey Gee, 715-Karen Thomas, 723-Tenisha Porter, 789-Derrick Wilbourn, 770-Trudy Johnson.

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Notice is hereby given that on March 18th, 2009 at 1:00pm the following will be sold by competitive bidding at Stor-N-Lock Self Storage, 7840 N. Wayne Road, Westland, MI 48185. Unit(s) may or may not incl the following: Household items, recreational items and/or misc. goods. Unit # M22 Deanna Wade

Notice is hereby given that on March 18th, 2009 at 2:00pm the following will be sold by competitive bidding at National Storage Center, 39205 Ford Rd. Westland, MI, 48185. Unit(s) may or may not incl the following: Household items, recreational items and/or misc. goods. 094-Christopher Williams, 154-Jerome Cleaves, 343-Raymond Miller, 346-Raymond Miller, 440-Barbara Duffer, 516-Craig Ellis, 533-Patricia McMillon

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FRI. 9-4 SAT. 10-4 (ST. S OK)
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PLUS: 1950's floating vanity bdrm set. Many couches & chairs. Coffee tables. Butcher block. Dining room set. Old wall mirrors. Rooster collection. Stereo system & entertainment center. Dressers. Lot's of art work including old litho's & A. Morrison. Lg. pots. Marble top credenza.
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4 door, gold, only \$12,495
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SALE INFORMATION
FOR SIX DAYS ONLY, U.S. FLEET LIQUIDATORS WILL BE AT THE LOCATION LISTED BELOW TO OFFER THESE VEHICLES FOR SALE TO THE PUBLIC FOR AS LITTLE AS 10% OF THEIR ORIGINAL LIEN AMOUNT.

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TUESDAY
WEDNESDAY
THURSDAY
FRIDAY
SATURDAY

9AM - 6PM
9AM - 6PM
9AM - 9PM
9AM - 6PM
10AM - 5PM

Map:
Canton Center Rd. | Lilley Rd. | Haggerty Rd. | Michigan Ave. | N | 275

* RIGHTS RESERVED TO END SALE WHEN EVERY VEHICLE DISPOSED • VEHICLES/BANKS/LENDING INSTITUTIONS & CREDIT UNIONS SUBJECT TO CHANGE • ALL VEHICLES PLUS TAX, TAG, TITLE & DEALERSHIP FEES. Example: 2001 Chevy Cavalier, Sale Price \$5,850, \$79/MO FOR 86 MOS. @6.5% APR (or lower with approved credit), \$29 down plus tax. Total amount financed \$5,821 plus tax. Additional down payment may be required for credit approval. Subject to credit approval and prior sale. Subject to lenders final approval.

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OR **ZERO DOWN LEASE \$299***** PER MO. LEASE
TOTAL DUE \$820 - 36 MO., 36,000 MILES

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GM EMPLOYEE \$15,902**
OR **ZERO DOWN LEASE \$239***** PER MO. LEASE
TOTAL DUE \$667 - 36 MO., 36,000 MILES

2009 CHEVROLET SILVERADO EXT CAB
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GM EMPLOYEE \$17,544**
OR **ZERO DOWN LEASE \$316***** PER MO. LEASE
TOTAL DUE \$883 - 36 MO., 36,000 MILES

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